



American Veterinary Medical Foundation

For more than 50 years, the Foundation has been helping veterinarians help animals with support for animal welfare, disaster relief, public education, veterinary student scholarships, research, and advocacy programs and activities.

Celebrating 55 Years of Helping Veterinarians, Help Animals

Former Green Beret now AVMF Scholarship Recipient



Robert Buntz

As a former medic in the elite U.S. Army Special Forces (“Green Berets”), Staff Sergeant Robert Buntz served his country with honor.

Now, nearly two years after his most recent deployment, he plans on giving back to his country once again — but this time as a veterinarian serving the Special Operations community.

And many times, it will be the medic who plays a lead role in building rapport and trust between the native population and U.S. forces. The caring of livestock, delivering babies, treating a host of diseases and sicknesses in the local population will go a long way in helping the locals get over their possible distrust of the U.S. or coalition troops in an area.

How did Buntz become interested in pursuing this new career? He said that during his training and deployments as a special forces medic, he was exposed to veterinary medicine through the treatment of multi-purpose canines and livestock.

“Throughout multiple combat deployments, I recognized the need for veterinarians in the care for animals, and through them, people, in the austere and suffering environment that currently plagues many nations,” he said.

While the AVMF scholarship made possible by Merck will be toward his veterinary education, Buntz says it will also allow him the flexibility to pursue other opportunities, including taking over the leadership on two veterinary community service programs that provide animal care to rural underserved communities.



Thanks in part to a \$5,000 scholarship as part of the Merck Animal Health Veterinary Student

Scholarship Program, Buntz will begin his third year as a veterinary student at Colorado State University.

You may be asking, “Do veterinarians serve in the Army?” The answer is a resounding, “Yes!”

While many assume that serving as a member of a Special Operations unit is all about combat, that’s not the case. In fact, it often involves working with the indigenous people as well as the host nation’s military forces to provide them the training and expertise to secure a future.



Support the AVMA/AVMF Scholarship for Veterans at AVMF.org/PROGRAMS



A Day in the Life of a Veterinary Student

STEPHANIE TARLOWE

Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Class of 2019

Career Interests: Ambulatory/Food Animal Production Medicine

One of my favorite vet school activities is working at the Teaching Dairy Barn, and I am thankful that our curriculum requires all first-year students to observe and assist during a milking shift.

During one recent shift, I found a cow in the dry pen with a single hoof sticking out of her backside. I moved her into the calving pen and let the visiting first-year students know that they were going to get to watch a calving.

However, on subsequent checks of the cow's progress, I determined that the protruding legs were hindlimbs and recognized that the cow would need help with the delivery. I returned to the parlor to alert the students that they could watch and help me deliver the calf. We grabbed all the necessary supplies and I set to work checking the calf's position and applying chains. I explained what I was doing as well as important things to be mindful of at calving time, from maternal instincts to colostrum feeding. They helped me pull out the calf amidst squeals of delight as he came bursting into the world.

It was rewarding for me to not only have the confidence to manage a case such as this, but to be able to share the experience and educate others who may not otherwise have been able to learn about the everyday workings of dairy production.

Did you know that more than 2,000 veterinary students apply for AVMF scholarships each year?

To support outstanding students visit:

 [AVMF.org/PROGRAMS/STUDENT-SCHOLARSHIPS](https://www.avmf.org/PROGRAMS/STUDENT-SCHOLARSHIPS)



Stephanie Tarlowe poses with a woolly friend.

Disaster Relief: Hay to Save Lives

In March, the AVMF approved a \$25,000 grant to provide hay to feed thousands of cattle and horses struggling to survive in the Fort Belknap, Northern Cheyenne and Blackfeet tribal reservations in Montana. A series of severe weather conditions, including summer drought and winter blizzards that battered the region, had combined to create a shortage that threatened these animals' lives.

Officials from the Montana Department of Agriculture and the Montana Department of Livestock recently sent a letter extending the state's "heartfelt thanks" to the Foundation for AVMF's "generosity" and assistance.



"We were pleased to be able provide support to these tribal nations," said Dr. Jan K. Strother, chair of the AVMF Board of Directors. "We hope we were able to help save the lives of many animals affected by the emergency."

 If you'd like to donate to disaster relief efforts, visit [AVMF.org/DONATE](https://www.avmf.org/DONATE).

Call for Proposals: Research Grants

AVMF RESEARCH GRANT FOR PAIN MANAGEMENT IN DOGS

Deadline for application: November 15

The AVMF is seeking proposals focused on the management of pain originating from osteoarthritis or other diseases prevalent in older dogs.



Learn more about
AVMF research grants at

[AVMF.org/PROGRAMS/
RESEARCH-SUPPORT](https://www.avmf.org/PROGRAMS/RESEARCH-SUPPORT)

VETERINARY PHARMACOLOGY/PHARMACOKINETIC RESEARCH GRANTS

Deadline for application: September 15



The American Veterinary Medical Foundation and the Veterinary Pharmacology Research Foundation have partnered to fund research grants with a focus on veterinary pharmacology. This funding will support research into new or currently approved medications for combating diseases and

conditions of companion and food animals as well as projects that ensure the safety of food products from treated livestock. Clinicians and scientists with an interest in veterinary pharmacology are eligible to serve as principal investigators.

The following grants are available:

- **Veterinary Pharmacology Research Grant up to \$30,000**
- **Dr. Brian Riviere Memorial Veterinary Pharmacokinetic Research Grant up to \$15,000**

Veterinary Students Recognized for Their Innovation/Creativity



This spring, Merck Animal Health, in partnership with the AVMF, launched the Veterinary Student Innovation Awards.

This program recognizes an outstanding graduating senior at each of the AVMA accredited schools in the U.S. and Canada who demonstrate innovative and/or entrepreneurial creativity leading to a project or idea that impacts or inspires others within the veterinary profession. A certificate of recognition and \$500 were awarded to 28 students.

“At Merck Animal Health, we believe in the science of healthier animals,” said Scott Bormann, Merck Animal Health Vice-President, North America. “Part of what drives that science is the identification of new challenges and the development of initiatives to address them in our ever-changing industry. We’re excited to partner with the AVMF to support these inspiring students.”

To the right are excerpts from the nomination applications of two award recipients.



Courtney Griffin
Mississippi State University

Courtney was instrumental in starting the Vets for Vets program. Started by the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine’s (MSU-DVM) Class of 2018, the program works to benefit the community and animal health by providing rehabilitation care for retired military dogs and police dogs. Most former service dogs with degenerative joint tissue can benefit from regular physical therapy. MSU-CVM offers the dogs treatment and rehabilitation through a team approach.



Ruben Pabon Padin
The Ohio State University

Ruben has been instrumental in helping the organization VOICE (Veterinary Students as One in Culture and Ethnicity). He planned and executed programming for VOICE, including the Mentoring in Medicine Program in conjunction with the other Health Science Colleges on The Ohio State University campus. This program introduced underrepresented minority high school students to various aspects of the Health Sciences through hands on activities and interactions with current health science students.

➤ Read about the other recipients at [AVMF.org/PROGRAMS](https://www.avmf.org/PROGRAMS)

A Message from the Chair

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the American Veterinary Medical Foundation, thank you for your support of our mission. Through your generosity, we will continue to provide resources to help advance veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health.

Since 2016, I have had the privilege and the pleasure of serving as Chair of the AVMF Board of Directors and I am very pleased by what our Foundation has accomplished. The Foundation's commitment to animal welfare programs, disaster relief, veterinary student scholarships and research grants has been our focus. New challenges arise every year – and with the help of our donors – the AVMF will be there to help and further our impact within the veterinary profession. It has been my honor to serve the Foundation in this role.

Thank you again for your support in helping veterinarians, help animals!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jan Strother
Chair, AVMF Board of Directors



WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The AVMF is pleased to welcome our newest Board Members.



DR. RONALD E. GILL is a mixed-animal practitioner and owner of Gill Veterinary Clinic in West Salem, Ill. He was recently elected to the AVMA Board of Directors representing Region 6.



KYRE LARRABEE is a veterinary student at the Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences and is the President-Elect of the Student AVMA (SAVMA).



DR. GARY MARSHALL is founder of Island Cats Veterinary Hospital, Mercer Island, Wash., and has served on the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association Board of Directors since 2016.



DR. DOUG MCINNIS owns two veterinary hospitals in Klamath Falls, Ore., East and West Ridge Animal Hospitals, where he is a small animal practitioner.



LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

beyond the science and practice of veterinary medicine



Legacy Society

AVMF RECEIVES \$200,000 BEQUEST

One of the simplest and most powerful ways to make a long-lasting impact to help veterinarians help animals is to include the AVMF as a named beneficiary in your will. AVMF officials were thrilled to learn recently that an anonymous donor had named the Foundation as beneficiary of a \$200,000 bequest from a family estate. This one act of remarkable generosity and forethought will help us make important strides to achieve our mission.

We are extremely grateful to the donors who make the heartfelt decision to include the American Veterinary Medical Foundation in their estate plans. The AVMF honors these donors by recognition in the Legacy Society.

For your convenience, we have included the sample bequest language below for you to share with your advisors as appropriate.

SAMPLE BEQUEST LANGUAGE

I give, devise and bequeath to the American Veterinary Medical Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization having its principal offices in Schaumburg, Illinois:

the sum of \$_____.

or

_____ percent of my estate.

or

all (or _____ percentage of) the rest, residue and remainder of my estate.

This gift is to be used to further the charitable purposes of the American Veterinary Medical Foundation at the discretion of its Board of Directors.

The American Veterinary Medical Foundation Employer Identification Number is 36-6117739.



If you have included the AVMF as a beneficiary of a planned gift through a bequest, life insurance, retirement plan, or trust please let us know so that we may recognize your generosity.

Contact Debborah Harp at 847-285-6773 or dharp@avma.org.



American Veterinary Medical Foundation

The American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Founded in 1963, the AVMF is the charitable arm of the American Veterinary Medical Association. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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It's All Happy Trails for Sheriff

The Scottsdale Sheriff's Department was called to investigate a downed foal. Upon arrival, the detective noticed that the foal had abrasions to face and body, was in obvious pain, passing diarrhea, and not nursing. The owner asked to euthanize the foal, but the detective suggested that the owner relinquish ownership to the Arizona Equine Rescue Organization instead.

The rescue organization brought the horse to Chaparral Veterinary Medical Center for treatment. Because Chaparral participates in the AVMF Veterinary Care Charitable Fund®, donations were available to help pay for medical care for this needy animal. The horse, now renamed "Sheriff," has a new home, is healthy, and is being trained to be an eventing horse.

The Veterinary Care Charitable Fund® provides veterinarians with a simple and effective way to offer charitable veterinary services to clients facing personal hardships as well as to support animals who are injured or rescued from abuse and neglect.

➤ To ensure that more animals in need receive veterinary care, please donate to the AVMF Annual Fund or to your local veterinary practice at AVMF.org/CARE.



There's a new "Sheriff" in town!