Please notice the new look and title of this newsletter. Our graphic designers, Clint May and Travis Engelhaupt, have been hard at work creating a new visual appearance for our Center to match the dynamics of receiving and distributing information to our team of trainers. We will still present the same information but in a more appealing manner. Check out the new look of our website www.cfsph.iastate.edu after July 24th—you will notice easier navigation and other added features!

**UPCOMING TRAINING & INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Summer is in full swing and the staff at CFSPH is getting ready for another training session to be held at the AVMA Convention on July 24, 2004 in Philadelphia, PA. The session is titled Emerging Threats and Biological Risk Management Awareness Education, Train the Trainer Session. Participants will receive a copy of the newly merged Bioterrorism/Agroterrorism Awareness Education CD ROM and a draft copy of the Biological Risk Management (BRM) CD ROM. We have the pleasure of having Dr. Tom McGinn discuss the importance of veterinarians in educating others and Dr. John Fischer present about the link between biological risk management and wildlife, domestic animals and the human population. We are looking forward to their presentations and adding additional trainers to our team!

If you are attending the AVMA Convention, please join us on Sunday, July 25th, at a half day session entitled Emerging Threats and Biological Risk Management. If you would like to hear about the BRM materials, try to attend this session. We will also have a booth in the exhibit hall (1706) so stop by and see us!

**VETERINARIANS SERVE IN VARIOUS ROLES DURING THE 2004 G8 SUMMIT**

On June 8—10, 2004 the G8 (Group of 8) Summit was held in the United States at Sea Island, Georgia. World leaders from eight major industrial nations meet yearly at the G8 Summit to discuss important world issues. The G8 summit was designated a National Special Security Event (NSSE). Veterinarians were involved in planning the bioterrorism agenda, providing supportive veterinary care for the working animals, serving in the command center and staffing the food safety/mass casualty area, coordinating veterinary and public health resources, and working on active and syndromic surveillance for the summit. Two of our trainers were part of the teams participating in the G8 summit: Dr. Tom McGinn, medical advisor for the Department of Homeland Security’s Response Division, and Dr. Cherie Drenzek, Georgia Public Health veterinarian. The Democratic and Republican National Conventions will also be NSSEs. Veterinarians will be called upon to help ensure animal and public health and safety at those events.

**WALL CHARTS**

The wall chart pandemic is spreading across the nation. In the last few months we have had orders from Los Angeles County California, Michigan Department of Agriculture, New Mexico Health Department, North Carolina State University, Ohio Department of Health, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Texas Department of Health, and Denton County, Texas. Thank you for your orders and interest in educating those people on the front lines- veterinarians, medical professionals and public health officials.

**BT/AT AWARENESS EDUCATION UPDATE**

Your presentation reports are very important to us; please remember to fill them out and send them in. Our continued funding is based on the success of our training and awareness education programs. Many more of you are probably talking about bioterrorism and agroterrorism topics and we would love to hear about it. You can find a presentation report form on your CD-ROM or email us at www.cfsph.iastate.edu and we will get you an electronic form.

- Over 27,000 people have attended bioterrorism/agroterrorism awareness education sessions!!!
- 115 presenters have given 682 presentations to colleagues and clients
- Thank you all for your efforts and keep up the good work!!

**IN MEMORY**

Dr. Judy Violante, one of our trainers from Michigan, passed away on May 7, 2004. Dr. Violante was involved in a number of capacities with the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association and served as president in 1998-1999. Dr. Judy was the owner of House Calls Veterinary Hospital in Eagle, Michigan. Thousands of animals and their human companions knew of her learned abilities, her gentle touch and her compassion. She had many contributions to the world of veterinary medicine and will be missed.
HANTAVIRUS—NOT JUST IN THE FOUR CORNERS REGION OF THE UNITED STATES

Sixty cases of hantavirus have been reported in New Mexico between 1993 and March 2004. While this disease is on the radar screens of veterinarians, human and public health officials in the southwest U.S., a fatal case in Virginia highlights the importance of recognition of diseases outside their “normal” geographic area. On July 8, 2004, a 32-year-old master’s degree Virginia Tech student died as a result of pneumonia and acute respiratory distress due to hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS). The victim is only the second case in Virginia (the other occurred in a hiker in 1993). An investigation is under way, but health officials believe the student most likely came into contact with hantavirus while researching small-mammal communities in a private forest. Due to the zoonotic nature of HPS from rodent excrement, those who worked with the student and small mammals are being urged to closely watch for possible HPS symptoms. Concern was heightened on Friday, July 16 when it was announced that a second man known to frequent a cabin in the same county was hospitalized with HPS. Dr. Jane Rooney, a public health veterinarian in West Virginia and one of our trainers, has been involved with these cases and educating the communities about the disease. Your CD-ROM contains a PowerPoint and fact sheet on Hantavirus (a CDC Category C bioterrorism agent), which can be used to inform your clients and the general public. To watch how these cases unfold, visit Pro-Med’s website at www.promedmail.org.

VESICULAR STOMATITIS VIRUS

Officials in Texas reported an outbreak of Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) in May 2004. This recent outbreak affected cattle and horses and has also been found in New Mexico and most recently, Colorado. Previous to this, the last outbreak of VSV in the United States occurred in November 1998. There are two strains (New Jersey and Indiana-1) that are considered endemic to the U.S. It is important to recognize that VSV has similar clinical manifestations to foreign animal diseases such as foot and mouth, swine vesicular disease, and vesicular exanthema, making prompt recognition and diagnosis imperative. VSV is primarily transmitted by vector and contact, has a wide host range (horses are the most severely affected), and can produce high morbidity but mortality is rare. The virus is a zoonotic agent, producing flu-like symptoms in infected humans. Your CD-ROM contains a PowerPoint and fact sheet on Vesicular Stomatitis, which can be used to inform your clients and the general public.

Resources for infectious disease information include:
- CDC’s website at www.cdc.gov

STRENGTHENING THE SECURITY OF OUR NATION’S FOOD SUPPLY

The Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Agriculture are working closely together to secure America’s food supply by funding two Homeland Security University Centers of Excellence on Agro-Security:

- University of Minnesota Homeland Security National Center for Food Protection and Defense will receive $15 million over three years. The focus of this Center is to establish best practices and attract researchers to manage and respond to food contamination.
- Texas A&M University Homeland Security National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense will receive $18 million over three years. The focus of this Center is to address potential threats to animal agriculture.

KEEP ON TALKIN’

Amy Slagell,
Associate Professor of English, ISU
PUBLIC SPEAKING REVIEW: INTEREST & ENJOYMENT

A graduate student mentioned that when he listens to a speaker, nothing keeps him more engaged than realizing that the presenter is interested in the topic. I considered this a relatively low expectation; after all, why would a speaker address an audience about a subject in which he or she was not interested? But then I realized how on target this observation was; I have seen speakers who seemed uninterested in their topics—their monotone voice, limited facial expression or absence of movement—suggested a lack of engagement. Our goal as speakers and trainers should be to let our own interest serve as a contagion; we want nothing more than for the audience to be interested enough to learn from our presentations and to act on that learning.

TIPS TO SHOW SPEAKER INTEREST:
- Arrive early for the speaking engagement.
- Take time in the introduction to tell the audience why this subject matters to you. (And when you do this, look at them, not your notes so that they can see you speak from personal interest rather than a script).
- Make sure that your voice has good variety in rate, pitch and volume.
- Use body language that “speaks” your interest—eye contact, facial animation, appropriate gestures and even taking a step now and then—to tell an audience that you are enjoying the chance to share what you have learned with others.
- Back up that body language by thanking listeners for the opportunity to share this information.