



**MCVMA**

**MARIN COUNTY VETERINARY  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 2493  
Mill Valley, CA 94942  
[www.marinvets.org](http://www.marinvets.org)



**Our Officers:**

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# MCVMA is pleased to invite you to a Dinner & CE Lecture

**Topic:** “Not another itch consult! - Maximizing value, minimizing headache”

**Speaker:** **Dr. Drew Fleischman**  
Drew Fleischman received his DVM from Washington State University followed by an internship at North Carolina State University and a Dermatology residency at the University of Pennsylvania. He's happy to be back home practicing at Golden Gate Veterinary Specialists in San Rafael, where he enjoys the diverse caseload the bay area has to offer, other than foxtails.

**When:** Tuesday, March 19, 2024

**Time:** 6 pm – **\*\*complimentary HAPPY HOUR\*\***, sponsored by MCVMA  
7 pm - Dinner/Lecture

**Where:** **McInnis Park Golf Center**  
350 Smith Ranch Road  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
(415) 492-1800  
[www.mcinnisparkgolfcenter.com](http://www.mcinnisparkgolfcenter.com)



**RSVP:** Space is limited - please RSVP by Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to Jana at [jana.st7@gmail.com](mailto:jana.st7@gmail.com).

**Please inform of meal choice with your RSVP:**

**Salmon** or **Chicken** or **Pasta with Pesto**  
**Picatta** or **Parmesan** (vegan)

**Fees:** This meeting is sponsored by



FREE to members! (you can join at the meeting).  
Non-members \$35.

**Attendees will receive 1 Hr of CE Credit Approved by AAVSB RACE!**

## Notes from the MCVMA President

Dear MCVMA members,

Hope everyone has survived the rainy winter months or what I refer to as the “dark ages” and is anxiously awaiting sunnier days ahead! We are excited to be hosting Dr. Drew Fleishman as our speaker in March. He will be enlightening us with all things dermatology. We will also be hosting a cocktail hour before the meeting.

Lastly we will be announcing the recipients of the MCVMA nursing scholarship.

Best,

Dr. Nicole Eckholm  
MCVMA Co-President

## *Pet Portrait Paintings by Veterinarian Ken Gorczyca*

COMMISSIONS, IN LIFE OR IN MEMORIAM



Ken Gorczyca, DVM  
VetDoula@gmail.com

Follow me on Facebook, Instagram and my Website Blog

[www.KenGorczyca.com](http://www.KenGorczyca.com)

## CVMA Update

Our January 2024 joint House of Delegates and Board of Governors meeting took place in Costa Mesa, CA the third weekend of January. To be frank it was frightening. Special interest parties (drug companies, corporations and other non- vet health care providers) have noticed the profits in the veterinary industry during the pandemic and are turning their eye to us to get a piece. I wish I had good updates but I don't. I could write a book about what happened legislatively in 2023 and what the future holds. We also had a lecture on AI and the current lack of regulation or even understanding of how its algorithms work. I will discuss most of the concerns in person at our March CE event. Please, please stay engaged. We have another huge legislative year ahead of us. We need to be writing and calling our local congresspeople. Stay current on your CVMA membership. They need numbers behind them. Grant Miller will be sending out updates with specific action items as each of the following legislative items come to a head.

### Legislative - Bills we are expecting to come up 2024

**1) Bill to allow RVT's to neuter cats in a shelter situation** - This bill although sounds not bad on the surface would be a foot in the door to more expansion of non-veterinarians performing things that are specified in our practice act that only vets can perform. Currently RVTs training does not include surgical training so we are expanding to a practice they are not trained for.

**2) Ban on Ear Cropping and Tail Docking** - This would be in the penal code so someone doing this could face a stiff fine / go to prison. A vet could lose their license. This includes anyone performing these surgeries. This would not prevent pinna or tail amputation for medical reasons. CVMA already has a policy position on this. (The CVMA opposes ear cropping and tail docking of dogs when done solely for cosmetic purposes. The CVMA encourages the elimination of ear cropping and tail docking from breed standards). The concern is the precedent of our medical practice being legally regulated when we already have a strong policy.

**3) Chiropractors wanting to work on animals outside of a veterinarians supervision.** They are already allowed to work on animals if they follow a protocol in place already- working with a vet. This would eliminate that protocol / existing law. It implies that they (and other boards) can write treating animals into their practice act without consulting the VMB. This is scope creep and then it would be easier for Physical Therapists, Ophthalmologists etc to start diagnosing and treating animals.

**4) Shelter vets who write protocols for common conditions:** What timetable is needed / required to be examined by vet / RVT? After intake? Monitoring / rechecks after treatment initiated. Still being written

**5) Xylazine Scheduling Bill** - This would make it a controlled drug for everyone else except vets. This is something Gov Newsom is promoting / pushing - not necessarily with veterinarians in mind. AVMA working on a federal bill to schedule it but federal bills usually take longer to craft and implement.

**6) CVMA planning on sponsoring a HQHVSN bill** to offer elective tracts for vet students to learn those techniques while still in school and become comfortable and proficient at spay neuter before graduating. Having this available at both UC Davis and Western. This would help solve part of the access to care problem for ca residents / pet overpopulation. This is an expensive proposal and would need to be subsidized by the state. But this helps us be part of the solution and having vets not be bypassed in the process.

**7) Requiring Rodeo's to have vet / RVT on site for the event**

**8) Mid-level practitioner Bill-** may have been stopped for the year.

**Feel free to reach out directly with any questions,  
Kat Olson DVM, CVA  
katadanielson@yahoo.com**



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## Pet Safety Net

Marin Humane has been successfully assisting low-income families in Marin with their pets for 35 years. In 1988 the Pet Care Assistance program was first created to assist low-income seniors who were struggling and in need of financial and volunteer pet care support.



Today, the need in our community for pet care assistance, to keep pets and their people together, continues to grow. In 2018, after tracking more calls from younger pet guardians in need, we answered that call for help by evolving the program to fit current needs and starting the Pet Safety Net, this updated version the program helps all qualified people with an increased veterinary stipend, among other services. Since then, we have assisted thousands of pets and worked tirelessly to keep them home with the people who love them. Many of you may have treated Pet Safety Net clients in your practice, for which we are incredibly grateful.

The newest part of the Pet Safety Net began in December 2020: Community Clinics. These free clinics for cats and dogs are held quarterly. We focus our efforts on areas that have a higher percentage of low-income residents, as identified by the 2020 Marin census: Novato, West Marin, the Canal, and Marin City. In addition, The Pet Safety Net program works closely with local human service organizations, including San Rafael Police Department, Community Action Marin, and Downtown Streets Team. These organizations help us to identify areas where pets belonging to the unhoused are in need so that we can provide pet care assistance at targeted pop-up clinics to those with the greatest need.

At the quarterly and pop-up clinics, we offer free rabies, DA2PP, and FVRCP vaccines, microchips, flea medication, and supplies (pet food, leashes, collars, and beds). We recruit a small army of volunteers to work at each clinic and identified the best spaces in the community to host the events. Because we saw the need, we include experienced behavior and training volunteers to assist pet guardians and give tips on handling their dogs during the clinic and beyond.

The most vital part of the clinics are the veterinarians and experienced animal handlers such as vet assistants and RVTs who volunteer their time. Each animal receives a cursory exam by the veterinarian and then the RVTs vaccinate, microchip, trim nails and treat any minor conditions. Pets with more involved illness or injury are referred to a local veterinarian, with support from our Pet Safety Net program. Each veterinarian at the clinic has 2-3 RVTs or other assistants to make their work easier. Most of the animals seen are healthy and for many this is their first time being seen by a veterinarian. All other processes, paperwork, confirming past records and identifying needs are completed by Marin Humane staff and volunteers. The quarterly clinics are scheduled for three hours on Saturdays and the pop-up clinics are held during a weekday for about an hour, in coordination with human service organizations.

We are reaching out to recruit more veterinarians and experienced animal handlers to participate in the clinics. Our clinics support underserved Marin County residents and their beloved pets. Last year our Pet Safety Net assisted 1,785 pets, with 500 served at clinics.

Volunteering at the Marin Humane Pet Safety Net Community Clinics is a commitment of a few hours, and you can commit to one or as many clinics as you would like. We need a larger pool of veterinarians and experienced animal handlers to recruit from when planning clinics. If you are interested in supporting our mission, we can add you to our request list and send the details as we plan each clinic. The support of veterinarians in Marin is so greatly appreciated and we have been blessed to have many donate their time, we could not provide the community with this much needed service without the generosity of local veterinarians. Please tell us if you have any questions or want to join us! Contact Shilo Landis, Community Engagement Coordinator, slandis@marinhumane.org.

Many thanks and much gratitude to the veterinarians who have donated their time to the Marin Humane clinics:

Erin Bennett  
Nicole Captanian  
Paige Farnell

Anne Miller  
Kathleen Olsen  
Monica Ortiz

Anna Pheils  
Robin Rodi  
Jeff Williams

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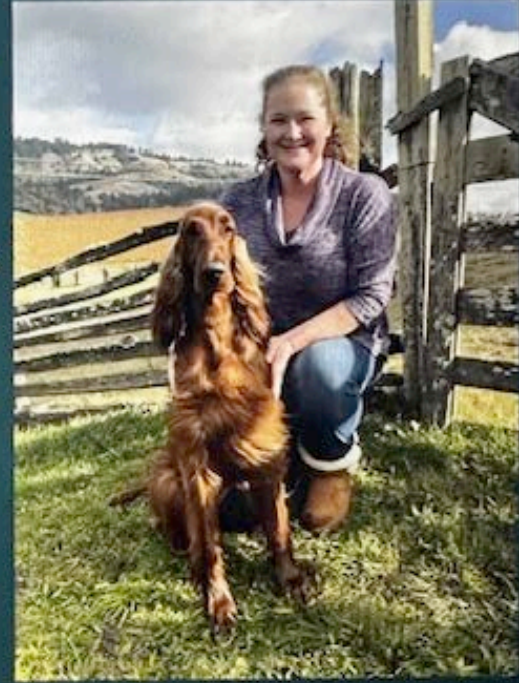


# Golden Gate Vet Specialists

## Introduces Dr. Caitlyn Glick, Internal Medicine

Dr. Caitlyn Glick received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Iowa State University. She went on to a rotating internship in small animal medicine and surgery and internal medicine in Rochester, New York, followed by an internal medicine residency on Long Island.

Dr. Glick is originally from California. She moved back to Sonoma County in 2015 and practiced at VCA Animal Care Center, prior to joining GGVETS in 2023. In her spare time, Dr. Glick enjoys traveling, photography, being outdoors and spending time with her dog, Lyra.



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## Classifieds

### **Holistic Veterinary Practice FOR SALE**

Location: San Francisco North Bay Area, California

Date Posted: 2/1/2024

Contact: [happyvets23-clinic@yahoo.com](mailto:happyvets23-clinic@yahoo.com)

Enjoy a high-potential practice with dedicated upscale clientele and a stellar reputation. Look forward to your work days filled with appreciative clients and high income potential at a well-honed practice known for our high-quality holistic care. The current owner is relocating out of the area. Owner loves working at this practice and would not be selling if staying locally.

- In business since 2002.
- Gross over 215K in 2023 with 7 1/2 months in the office.
- Very low overhead
- Voted Best Veterinary Services for five years.
- We are unique in our gentle focused approach with our patients in a quiet and calming atmosphere.
- You will have access to treatment protocols, transitional mentoring and continued referrals from one of the nation's most experienced holistic veterinarians.
- Practice focuses on preventive and holistic modalities in an out-patient setting.
- Located in beautiful Northern California. One of the best locations in the country for outdoor recreation and natural beauty.
- Option for longer or shorter lease (2-10years). Very responsive and supportive landlord.
- Currently offering Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Herbal medicine, Homeopathy, Nutrition, Nutritional Supplements, Massage and Low-Level Laser Therapy focusing on preventive care. All treatments currently outpatient.
- Options for both in-person and virtual appointments.
- User-friendly cloud-based veterinary practice management software allows easy access to records from any computer, phone or tablet.

Interested in learning more?

Contact us at [happyvets23-clinic@yahoo.com](mailto:happyvets23-clinic@yahoo.com)

**Grace Bransford.** Just sold my practice and available for small animal relief work. Over 20 years experience.

Contact me at 415-238-3069, call or text.

**Mark Willett, DVM.** Experienced **relief veterinarian.** Small animal and exotics.

Contact: 415-686-6092, or [mwillett@ucdavis-alumni.com](mailto:mwillett@ucdavis-alumni.com).

Come join our team in wonderful, charming, quirky Fairfax! We are a growing and thriving, privately/locally owned practice that is currently expanding into a spacious state-of-the-art facility. With our team of 6 DVM's, we offer a collaborative and supportive environment where you can create and define your own niche, enabling you to have the career you imagined, back when you first decided you wanted to become a veterinarian. Some of our associates focus on cats and dogs exclusively, some see exotics and birds, or small mammals and pocket pets. Some of us have a passion for surgery and dentistry, others for acupuncture, internal medicine, or preventive care.

What passion will you bring to our practice? We are seeking an **associate veterinarian** who understands the importance of exceptional client service in obtaining good outcomes for our patients. We strive to provide top-notch medical and surgical services for our patients, excellent service to our customers, while maintaining an upbeat and enjoyable work environment. Convenient access to local specialists and emergency services allows us to always provide the very best care for our patients while maintaining work-life balance personally.

Excellent mentoring available. The majority of our associate veterinarians started as new grads or with only 1 or 2 years' experience and have remained at our practice. Our "practice culture" is one of support, compassion, and providing excellent customer and patient care while maintaining a light hearted work environment and a strong work-life balance.

We offer a generous and competitive compensation package with starting salary from \$120,000-\$200,000+, depending on experience level and work schedule. Ample PTO, CE allowance, health insurance including dental and vision, all veterinary organizational membership fees and dues covered, hospital discounts, bonus pay, profit share, retirement plan, flexible work schedule, etc!

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View our website at [www.fairfaxvet.com](http://www.fairfaxvet.com). See our excellent Yelp reviews 😊.

**Golden Gate Veterinary Specialists** is a boutique specialty clinic in northern Marin providing highly competent and compassionate care to the pets that need us. We currently offer veterinary dermatology, oncology, surgery, and internal medicine. We are an entrepreneurial, family-focused, doctor-owned practice where helping animals is our mission and taking care of our people is our priority. We are growing, and we are looking for superb **RVTs** and **Veterinary Assistants** that bring a positive attitude and a passion for pet care to join our incredible team.

In the tiring yet rewarding career we've chosen, it's critical we have each other's backs. We're proud of our culture of supporting each other as we all invest ourselves in the care of our pets. What we do is a big commitment, and GGVETS rewards your commitment by offering industry-leading benefits, including high pay, excellent health care plans, a matching 401k, paid holidays, and 3 weeks PTO. I know you have choices, but I truly believe you will not find a better place to work than here.

If you're excited about joining a special practice with an amazing team, or even if you're just thinking about it, then please let me know. I would love to talk to you. Email me directly at **Nicole.Eckholm@ggvets.com**. I look forward to hearing from you..

## Continuing Education

### Pathways to Payments: Leveraging Options to Help Clients Pay for Services

#### Online Seminar

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 | 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Thursday, March 28, 2024 | 5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

#### Speaker: Peter Bowie, DVM

This online seminar will be an open discussion and tour through the methods at a hospital's disposal to help clients pay for large or unexpected veterinary costs. Traditional means for client assistance are discounts, "phoning a friend," and hospital billing, all of which have significant downsides. Thankfully, now there are more options. We will focus first on the basics of pet insurance, then move through third party payment companies, third party billing, crowdfunding, and angel funds. By the end, we hope that you will have additional resources to bring back to your practices and your clients. This course qualifies for 1.5 CEU.



More info: <https://tinyurl.com/2rnzb8ka>

### PacVet San Francisco

#### July 11-14, 2024

Join us in San Francisco for 4 days of informative CE sessions, a two-day Vet Expo, and more! You might leave your heart in San Francisco, but you'll return with useful information by attending the 2024 Pacific Veterinary Conference!

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