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ASK, SEEK AND KNOCK Dr. Conrad Van Dijk, Executive Director

The principle of asking, seeking and knocking should be a continual part of our relationship with God. Prayer is *asking*, *seeking* His will is the next step, and *knocking* is moving into the situation. God stands ready to open the door and bless us.

In writing this editorial, I wanted to give an example of asking, seeking and knocking from my own experience. I discovered that I very rarely ask for specific things. Rather, my requests are generally in response to crises— sickness or loss of something important - which leads me to pray and I eventually recover or find the item. But so often I do not follow through beyond the asking.



I'll share a recent profound experience, however, which witnesses to what the Lord can do when we seek His will and persist in knocking. Fund raising for our Sierra Leone Poultry Project has been difficult in the past year, and we ran into a short fall. In April, we started praying earnestly for blessings upon our work and finances through weekly prayer requests sent to our Sierra Leone Project prayer support groups. Money continued to trickle in, but not enough. We sent over a container of goods in June slated to arrive in August, and I made plans to go to SL in August to distribute these goods as well as to further the project work. But I felt that I should not spend money on my trip if there was not enough money to help more farmers get set up, so in June we set the goal of raising \$25,000 before I would go. In both Canada and SL, our prayer groups prayed for money (ask), prayed for discernment as to when to go and what to do (seek), and moved ahead by ordering plane tickets and planning our trip (knock). On July 30th, the final \$16,000 was received or pledged, making up the total of \$25,000! We were able to leave on August 4th for Sierra Leone. We are already praying that God will provide another \$20,000 by the end of August, as we seek to set up more farmers who need an income.

Isn't God good? "Ask, seek and knock..., and the door will be opened "(Matthew 7: 7-13) - an incredible promise with life changing results. Try it out for yourself!

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AGENDA

CVMC Annual General Meeting Sept 23-25, 2005

Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Saskatoon, SK



- Friday:** **1 PM** Board Meeting
6 PM Student Night @ WCVM. All are welcome! Pizza free for students; All others \$5.00. Presentation by Chris Riley on trip to Haiti.
- Saturday: 9 AM – 5 PM "GETTING A GRIP ON TIME AND MONEY"**
Seminar by Michel Bell FCCA, SM, & former Alcan executive
The cost for this seminar is \$50.00 which includes lunch (\$15.00 for students). All are welcome to attend.
- 6 PM ANNUAL BANQUET** (Erindale Alliance Church)
Cost: \$20.00 (\$10.00 for students) Presentations on Mongolia and Sierra Leone.
- Sunday: 8:30 AM** Worship followed by Board Meeting.

Contact Conrad Van Dijk @ cvandij@attglobal.net or (905) 304-6146 for more info.

CVMC at the CVMA CONVENTION July 13-16, 2005, Victoria BC

By Dirk Jol

The CVMA Annual Convention was held this year in Victoria, the capital city of beautiful British Columbia. In a state-of-the-art convention center (part of the famous Empress Hotel, where a high tea now costs close to \$60), I was the fortunate person to be standing in the CVMC booth. Attendance at the convention was excellent—registration was just as high as the last 3 conventions combined, with approximately 650 Veterinarians registered! We were blessed in many ways that we were not in the exhibition hall but in the lobby, as we had 4 full days of great exposure and met with many delegates. And, thanks to the board of CVMA, we had a free booth. We also developed a great rapport with members of a new organization 'Veterinarians without Borders' who launched their organization at this meeting.

I talked to many people and told them all about CVMC and invited them to the Fellowship Breakfast on Saturday morning. We were very happy that 18 people showed up at that early time of the day!! **We promoted the annual meeting in Saskatoon and the Loveline cards, and gave updates on CVMC's many projects.** Chris Riley gave a very moving presentation on his recent shuttle to Haiti, which was well received with many follow-up questions. We could not afford to rent a projector so I held up the lap top and displayed it so everyone could see the pictures. I ended up staying later than planned because of all the interest, and **I left with a wonderful feeling of God's guidance and support in the 4 days there.**

CVMC Ontario BBQ Highlights – by Dr. Corrine Loh



Saturday, Aug. 6th was a perfect day for the first ever CVMC Pool Party & BBQ at Dr. Len and Carol Anne Carr's house. As families arrived, we began to catch up. We heard wonderful news that one of our members is now in remission from lymphoma after a tough year of chemotherapy and radiation. Praise God for His mercies. One veterinarian also shared in amazement how his associate veterinarian came to know Christ!

Children splashed in the pool while the adults played a spirited game of "keep away". Amidst good-natured threats and a few major tussles for the ball, we built up an appetite for the BBQ. We worshipped under the blue sky, our hearts thankful to our Saviour for how blessed we were to share this wonderful time together. The evening continued with lots of laughter and sharing before we said our farewells. Thanks to everyone who came out.

We look forward to a similar gathering next summer, or even a winter gathering before then. We encourage you join in one of our Fellowship Groups and share the joy!

STM TRIP TO UGANDA- A Life Changing Experience!

By Kelly Pasma, OVC Student



On July 21, 2005, I left on a two week mission trip to Uganda with a team was made up of one veterinarian, three vet students and two undergrad students. We worked together with Dr. Val Shean, who is a missionary with CVM US in Uganda. **We spent our first week in Soroti doing goat trainings with two different churches for goat revolving loans.** CVM provides the money for the purchase of goats, the church decides who receives them, and we provide the training that enables the people to care for their goats. The first kid that the goat has is returned to the church to be given to another needy person. At Awoja Baptist Church the recipients were those affected by AIDS and the disabled, including widows, widowers, orphans and some with HIV. At the Pentecostal Assemblies of God Church, the recipients were all widows. We spent two days at each church, training on topics like reproduction, housing, diarrhea diseases, tick diseases, and coughing diseases. Each day ended with goat practicals so that everyone could receive experience in giving injections, deworming, spraying for ticks and hoof trimming.

We really enjoyed praising the Lord with the churches and made many friends. **We attended a church in Okoboi where goat revolving loans had been started 10 years ago** and were still continuing successfully. **One widow we met had even been able to acquire two cows out of her one goat!**

The second week, we drove up to Kangole in Karamoja where Dr. Val has her project site. She works with the Church of Uganda in a group called *Bozidep* to develop medicines from local plants. We learned to make a wound cream from one plant and then did trials on wounds on cows in Iriiri. The Karamojong people really appreciate the help they are receiving from Dr. Val and were very receptive to helping in the trials. Every member of our team received a bracelet from the women in the woodlots where the plants are grown to thank us for coming. We even almost sold one our teammates as a bride in exchange for 100 cows!

Perhaps the highlight of my time in Uganda was experiencing the worship during church. The people are so passionate about their faith and are very free in expressing it. I enjoyed the trip immensely and praise God for the time we could spend in Uganda. **I encourage everyone to consider going on a short-term shuttle with CVM – it will change your life!**



SIERRA LEONE PROJECT UPDATE

Dr. Conrad Van Dijk

What an exciting and busy time for our project!

I am spending the month of August in Sierra Leone, helping to set up farmers with poultry on a permanent basis. We are also working on obtaining government land for our project base (feedmill, hatchery, processing plant, etc).

Our 40 foot container with poultry equipment, medical and educational supplies, and tools **has arrived** and we will help distribute the goods once they are released. We are putting together a grant proposal to obtain long term funding from granting agents, such as the Canadian government.

We are thankful for God's provision so far to meet the project's needs, and **we solicit your prayers for the Lord to clear the way and help us in logistics and also to raise more funds.**

IT DEPENDS ON WHOSE HANDS IT'S IN...

A basketball in my hands is worth about \$19.

A basketball in Michael Jordan's hands is worth about \$33 million.
It depends on whose hands it's in.

A baseball in my hands is worth about \$6.

A baseball in Mark McGuire's hands is worth \$19 million.
It depends on whose hands it's in.

A rod in my hands will keep away a wild animal.
A rod in Moses' hands will part the mighty sea.
It depends on whose hands it's in.

A sling shot in my hands is a kid's toy
A sling shot in David's hand is a mighty weapon.
It depends on whose hands it's in.

Nails in my hands might produce a birdhouse.
Nails in Jesus Christ's hands will produce salvation for the entire world.
It depends on whose hands it's in.



As you see now it depends on whose hands it's in.

So put your concerns, your worries, your fears, your hopes, your dreams, your families and your relationships in God's hands because...

It depends on whose hands it's in.



THE POWER OF RELATIONSHIPS

Mongolia Update -Dr Rodney Gale



As I write, we are in the middle of our 4th week-long veterinary CE seminar and are busy preparing curriculum for the 2006 year. Before the end of the year we will have 8 more seminars and 4 more follow-up trips to the countryside. These trips are taken in the hope that we can provide more hands-on training in the context of smaller group settings in order to help these vets begin integrating what they have learned into their day-to-day practice. As we get to know them better, **opportunities abound for our team members to talk about Jesus in a way that the veterinarians** (and their families and friends) **find easy to accept and, as in a number of cases already, lead them to accept the Gospel of Christ.**

VET Net teams enjoy morning devotions together and will invite CE participants to come and learn more about the bible and Christianity. They also take along Bibles when they go and invite the vets and others to accept them if they show any interest. Please pray that over the next months, as almost 300 Mongolian veterinarians come to UB to attend the CE seminars, that God would prepare their hearts beforehand to hear and accept the Good News of the Gospel.

At the same time, the Claim-a-County summer school project is winding down. Heather and I were in Hentiy aimag last month and visited the teachers there. Simply living amongst the people while teaching them to read, write, speak a little English and even how to play chess opens doors into people's lives that could not be accomplished any other way. **I have really come to see the power of relationship in helping to break down** the lies, mistrust and other **barriers to the Gospel.** It is because of these relationships that other doors are opening in these communities. Right now Heather is in Uvurkhangai aimag with a young nurse friend because the doctors and nurses of the local hospital were open to receiving English teaching from Heather in the spring and then asked if VET Net could help facilitate medical training as well. In this way we have found ourselves in a place of privilege in many communities; a place where we can speak into the lives of many of the more influential in those communities.

Again, please pray that God would continue to pour out His favour on all of VET Net and that He would give us wisdom and boldness so that, for the glory of His name, we may continue to be used to advance His Kingdom in Mongolia.



Please take the opportunity to look at our **webpage!**

www.cvmcanada.org

webmaster
Jim Fairles

Prayer Director:

Aviva Wielinga -

For Prayer or Praise, Contact:

frankavivaw
@sympatico.ca

Mission Trip to HAITI still tentatively planned for January 2006!

CVMC is hoping to send another group on a Short Term Mission trip to Haiti under the leadership of Dr. Chris Riley in January/February 2006. Please contact us at CVMC if you are interested.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE (2004-05)	EVENT/LOCATION	NAME /CONTACT
Second Saturday Monthly 5:30 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner	CVMC Fellowship Group Burlington, ON	Contact: <u>Corrine Loh</u> (905) 331-0238
Saturday, Sept. 17th 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner	Toronto Fellowship Grp. @ Sal & Effie Rocha's 22 Johnson Links Way, Markham ON	Contact: <u>Sal & Effie Rocha</u> (905) 472-4177 salefrocha1125@rogers.com OR <u>Eva Lee@</u> (416) 279-0098 evaleedvm@yahoo.ca
Saturday, Oct. (no date yet) 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner	Toronto Fellowship Grp.	Contact: <u>Ed Neufeld</u> (780) 434-7802 or eneufeld@shawbiz.ca
Every other Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Breakfast	CVMC Fellowship Group Edmonton, AB	Contact: <u>Ed Neufeld</u> (780) 434-7802 or eneufeld@shawbiz.ca
Every Tuesday 12:00-1:00 p.m.	OVC Staff Bible Study University of Guelph	Contact: <u>Bonnie Mallard</u> bmallard@ovc.uoguelph.ca
September 23-25, 2005	CVMC Annual Meeting WCVM, Saskatoon, SK	Contact: <u>Conrad Van Dijk</u> cvandij@attglobal.net
Saturday, Sept 24 9:00 a.m.- 5 p.m.	"Getting a Grip on Time and Money" Seminar by Michel Bell	
October 3-7, 2005	Animal Health Week	Contact: <u>Conrad Van Dijk</u>
January 25-28, 2006	OVMA Conference Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto	Contact: <u>Conrad Van Dijk</u> cvandij@attglobal.net

HERE'S A WAY TO GET INVOLVED...



During Animal Health Week (Oct. 3-7), consider holding a display about the work CVMC is doing. We'll make it simple, supplying you with all the display materials. Contact us for more info!

CVMC Board Member/Contact List

- Chairman - Dr. Wayne Lees** (204) 855-3000, wlees@escape.ca (Oak Lake, MB)
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- Ontario, Oakville - Dr. Len Carr**, (905) 844-6786 len_carr@hotmail.com (**Treasurer**)
- Saskatchewan, Saskatoon - Dr. Wally Kononoff**, (306) 373-3800 kononoff@sasktel.net (**Past Chair**)
- British Columbia, Coquitlam - Mr. Dirk Jol**, (604) 936-9885, jol@sfu.ca
- CVM USA, Seattle, WA - Dr. Kit Flowers**, (206) 546-7569, kflowers@cvmusa.org (**Exec. Director**)