



Congress Hotel Monteleone, French Quarter,
Royal Street, New Orleans

Hello friends of IVAS!

Again we had a very special and wonderful congress this year in New Orleans. The mood of this city made this congress unique. The music anywhere you went underlined the IVAS spirit at its best. Please read the reflections from Liz Hassinger:

Hello all friends of veterinary acupuncture,

I just want to share some reflections from the recent congress of the International Veterinary Acupuncture Society (39th annual IVAS congress), which just took place in New Orleans.

As usual, it was a wonderful mix of practical information and informative research regarding acupuncture and herbal veterinary medicine. The best thing is the array of attendees and presenters, coming from as far as Australia, China, Europe, Brazil, Chile... in so many ways, we are all alike, and yet there are wonderful insights, practices and theories that are being developed around the globe, which further the advancement of veterinary medicine. This congress allows us to meet and learn from each other in a unique setting.

For all colleagues who are not familiar, IVAS was the first organization in the US which brought together veterinarians with alternative interests, obviously focusing on acupuncture, but also Chinese herbal medicine. IVAS paved the path for the growing awareness and interest in Chinese medicine in this country, it offered the first US veterinary acupuncture and TCM herbal training programs and it continues to offer excellent educational programs for veterinary acupuncture around the world. I would like to highly recommend that members who are active in oriental veterinary medicine practice join IVAS and one of the IVAS affiliates, to support their excellent work, and to consider attending future congresses to be able to experience a truly international outlook on Chinese veterinary medicine.

Thank you IVAS, Vicki Weber, Susan Wynn, and everyone else who have worked to make this a great organization and a wonderful congress!

Liz Hassinger DVM



HOD meeting with some members of the International Continuous (Advanced) Education Committee

From House of Delegates President:

At the congress is always a very busy time for all the committees who work a lot to hold the big ship IVAS running. The main topic at the HoD committee was to decide about developing advanced courses which will lead to an advanced certification in several fields of veterinary acupuncture.

On one hand the first importance is to extend the knowledge from the basic course. On the other hand we want to show on the IVAS website who is qualified in which of these special fields. We will start with "Advanced Courses" in the near future and will let you know in time. Maybe the first will be held together with the Italian Congress next year.

But what would be an IVAS congress with only listening to lectures and making politics. IVAS congress is the main social event for most of the colleagues who attend this congress. There is a very special mood on these congresses every year, when so many open minded people from all over the world stay together and talk about their experience in veterinary acupuncture but also about any other subject one can imagine. It is an international spirit of respect, friendship and camaraderie that makes an IVAS congress so special. I met many people who came to the congress the first time in their life who were overwhelmed from this friendship and promised themselves that from now on they will not miss any in future. But even the town was special. New Orleans made all of us became Jazz fans. Wherever you walked in the French Quarter music was there all the time, especially "Steamboat Willie" and his band where many of us met every evening. He and his musicians set the "congress mood" which is still in us even though we're home for nearly one week. This gives a lot of power one needs for work.



Isn't that beautiful? Mardi gras at Banquet

The banquet dinner was special as well. We had the motto "Mardi Gras" (Carnival) and all the people looked great with their wonderful masks and nice necklaces.



At Cafe Beignet with Steamboat Willie



„Guest Star“ Guitar Bryan at Steamboat's band



Steamboat's „very cool drummer“ John Lowery



At the French Market



Alligator feed by hand from Captain Allen



Dinner at courtyard of "Two Sisters"



Skyline of New Orleans from the StB Natchez



Fun and Jazz at the Steamboat Natchez



Garden at Houmas House

The post congress tour like every year was a great event as well.

15 people who can't get enough "congress mood" stayed for the trip. We enjoyed a cocktail tour on Bourbon Street, had nice dinners in courtyard restaurants, had an excursion to the swamps where we were swimming close to the alligators (alligators in the swamp, we on the boat) and saw how an 130 year old alligator took a piece of chicken out of Captain Allen's hand.

Another highlight was the Jazz dinner at the Steamboat Natchez, cruising at the Mississippi into the sunset - good meal, good music, good friends and much fun!

Another great experience was the visit to Houmas House a former sugar cane plantation: wonderful garden, excellent lunch and a nice insight into a plantation owner's very big home.

Hopefully someone reads this and gets a feeling of the unbelievable IVAS congress mood. One cannot describe it. You must just come and join to be part of it.

Next chance is Bologna in Italy, Sept. 17. 2014!

Bologna has like veterinary acupuncture a 3000 - year history and is one of the most beautiful and best preserved old towns in Europe with many towers from the Middle Ages. There is about 40 km arcades that connect the sprawling downtown with its pedestrian streets, squares, churches and palaces.

Far away from mass tourism, but with well-preserved buildings and great culture and history, Bologna was appointed in the year as the 2000 European Capital of Culture.

For motor sports fans Bologna and the surrounding area is a mecca, you can admire the museums and some of the factories of Ducati, Maserati, Lamborghini and Ferrari.

You can see a film about Bologna at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=CS0C7oPgzyC

Make a mark in your calendar for Sept. 17th 2014 and let's meet in Bologna for 40th International Congress on Veterinary Acupuncture! Put 100\$ a month under your pillow to save for being part of this event!

Uwe Petermann