

PENN VET VISITOR NEWSLETTER

June 2021

From the Chair

As spring turns to summer in Philadelphia, there's optimism in the air. The Visitor Program reopens in **September**, in an environment that is safe and vaccinated!

In the meantime, we bid a fond farewell to Dr. Hiroshi Miyagi, a Taiwanese veterinarian whose year with the Visitor Program drew to a close just as the pandemic hit.

Here he is, finally receiving his Certificate of Attendance from Dr. Garden. He has not been idle in the intervening year, however: he remained at Penn Vet as a rotating intern.

Our best wishes, Dr. Miyagi, for your next venture: a surgery residency at Oregon State.



Continuing Education Opportunities

Penn Vet's [Annual Conference](#) takes place on September 22-23, and you can participate from wherever you are in the world. It will also be recorded, with additional, asynchronous sessions available for viewing until December 1. The conference offers the opportunity for you to earn up to 15 CE credits.

Check out Penn's [Online Learning](#) platform for more CE opportunities coming in the second half of the year. We'll be adding Radiology and Dentistry sessions, and one on total hip replacement. For veterinarians, and for nurses and technicians, we're planning a session on cardiac medications. For breeders, we'll be holding the Feline Breeder Symposium on October 23; there's also a [Canine Breeder seminar](#) covering topics such as urinary incontinence and pediatric emergencies.

Seminars are fresh and diverse, delivered by highly skilled and experienced practitioners and educators. If there's a topic you would like to see covered, please let us know. Questions? Email us at docsam@vet.upenn.edu.

Quills, Quills, and More Quills



Daisy, an American Staffordshire Terrier had an altercation with a porcupine, resulting in a seemingly endless number of quills in her face – and traveling throughout her body.

Although these were removed promptly, Daisy developed worrying new symptoms: her breathing was labored, she'd lost interest in eating and drinking. Thoracocentesis was performed to tackle the pneumothorax that had developed.

Daisy was then referred to Penn Vet for further imaging and surgery. Drs. Aronson, Curcillo and Holt found that her body was still riddled with quills – in her heart, lungs, liver, spleen, pancreas, kidney, diaphragm, and body wall.

"We removed each gingerly," said Dr. Aronson, a pioneer in small animal surgery and one of the first veterinarians in the world to perform renal transplants in dogs and cats. "We identified penetrating wounds in one of her lung lobes and performed a lung lobectomy. And we leak tested the other lobes, repairing a defect in one."

Also a noted small animal surgeon, Dr. Holt made news recently for charting an innovative approach to cancer surgery that helps surgeons clearly see whether they've left any diseased tissue behind in cancer excision surgery.

There's more. Read the full story of Daisy's harrowing ordeal in the Spring issue of [Bellwether](#) magazine.

From Animals to People and Back Again?



"It's scary to think of the spread of a disease from wildlife to humans because if there is spillover back into wildlife populations that could make it hard to contain," says Eman Anis, Assistant Professor, Pathobiology at Penn Vet.

Read [more](#) about Penn's research work on SARS-CoV-2 in this context.

COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement

With well-grounded confidence in the safety, effectiveness and broad availability of COVID-19 vaccines, it is now a requirement for all Penn Vet students to be vaccinated for the fall semester (exemptions provided only for medical and religious reasons), and for all faculty, staff and post-doctoral trainees to be fully vaccinated by August 1.

Social Media

Penn Vet's [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages are a good way to get a sense of the place as you prepare for a visit, and so you don't lose touch with us afterwards.



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