

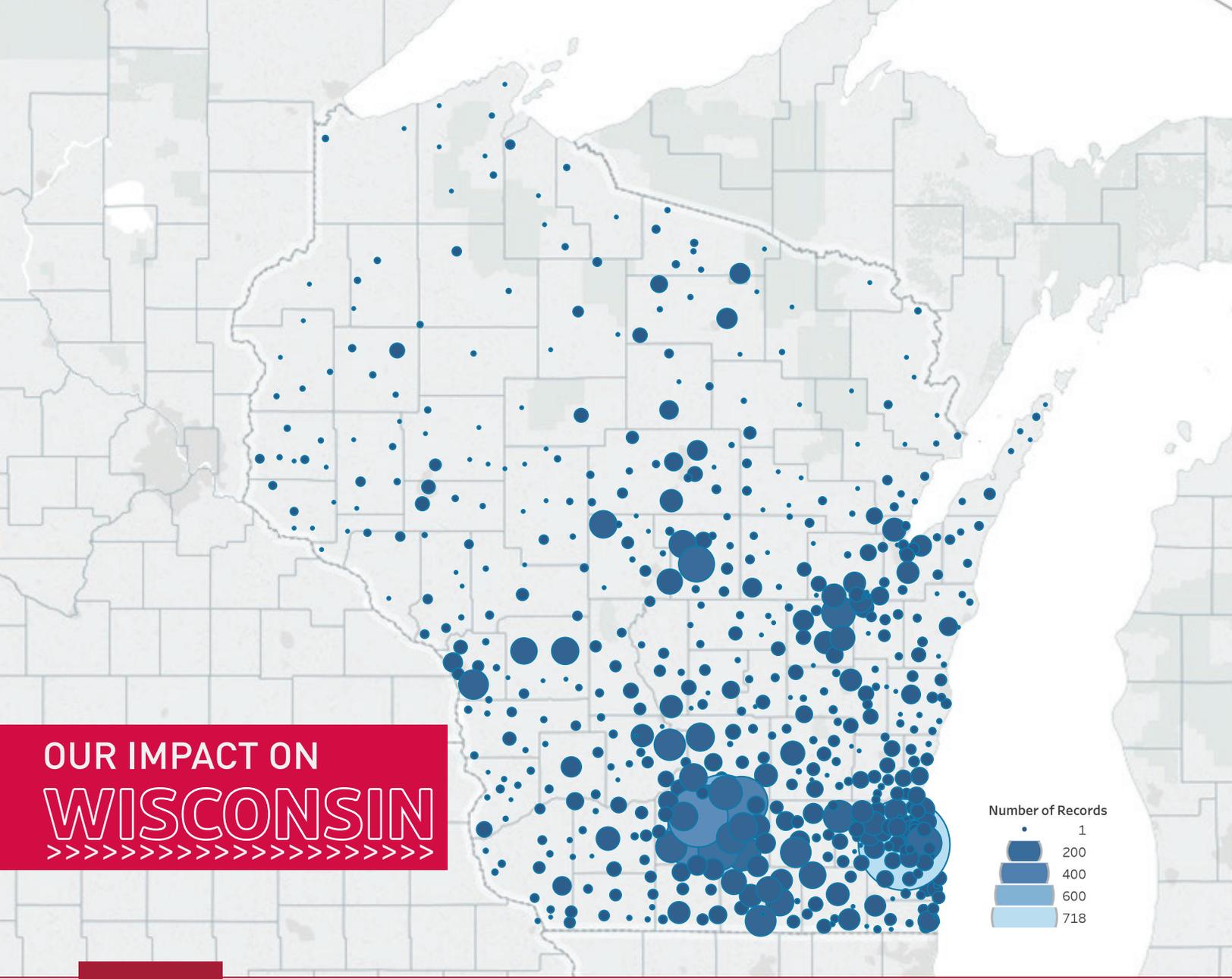


School of
Veterinary Medicine
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

SVM ALUMNI CLASS NOTES



**Updates from DVM Alumni
1987-2016**



**OUR IMPACT ON
WISCONSIN**



The UW School of Veterinary Medicine's reach extends to almost every county in the state.

- **Nearly 1,300 of our DVM alumni live in Wisconsin.** They serve the state in private practices and lead the veterinary medical community in high-level positions at organizations such as the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, the International Crane Foundation, and the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association.
- **In the past year, more than 1200 participants from across the state completed courses offered through our Office of Continuing Education.**
- **Our teaching hospital, UW Veterinary Care, helped treat the animals of more than 7,400 Wisconsin residents in 2016-17.**
- **Our specialists advised the state's farmers and veterinarians in areas of expertise ranging from anesthesia to food animal production to zoological medicine.** UW Veterinary Care began with 10 specialties in 1983; today, it has 23.



Learn more about how the School of Veterinary Medicine is advancing animal and human health at AnimalsNeedHeroesToo.com

A Special Message from the SVM Alumni Advisory Board

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Welcome to the fifth edition of **SVM Alumni Class Notes**. Thank you to all who took the time to send in your news from the past year.

Reading this year's updates, which were submitted by members of the Class of 1987 to the Class of 2016, it's hard to believe the UW School of Veterinary Medicine is already more than three decades old! With more than 30 graduating classes, the school now has over 2,500 alumni who have gone on to careers in a range of areas — from private practice and food safety to public health and policy, academia to zoo and wildlife medicine.

Collectively, we have plenty of great stories to share — and we want to hear them all. Therefore, in addition to the school's annual Class Notes newsletter for DVM graduates, we plan to highlight alumni in a new publication later this year.

This will be the school's first publication for alumni by alumni, and we hope it will help alumni connect and build an even stronger UW School of Veterinary Medicine alumni community. We will also include updates on interesting things going on at the school such as the addition of the Renk Learning Center and other efforts to improve how the school trains the next generation of veterinarians. Additionally, we are considering the best way to honor outstanding SVM alumni as other schools do but "Badger style."

Again, thank you for staying in touch, and stay tuned for more details from us soon.

Sincerely,

Monica Bender DVM'91
Diane Larsen DVM'90, PhD'99
Jennifer Lorenz DVM'09
Kathy Reilly DVM'90
Jean Sander DVM'87
Ty Vannieuwenhoven DVM'89

On the cover

Top row (left to right): Evelyn Mae Beck, daughter of Laura (Wunsch) Beck DVM'13; Kari Musgrave DVM'15 and Tyler Majerus DVM'15; Rheba Zimmerman DVM'16 with husband, Nate, and son, Jack; Erica Carroll DVM'95 at the Future Leaders Exchange program in Baku, Azerbaijan; Kristin Setz-Williams DVM'10 with Bucky and family.



Scott Fellenz with his daughter, Alexis.

[1987]

Scott Fellenz

My wife and I will be celebrating our 22nd anniversary this year. We have two daughters, Alexis (19) and Ashtyn (17). Alexis is in her second year of pre-vet education. My clinic just celebrated its 25th anniversary and has grown into a five-doctor practice with 23 support staff in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. We offer everything from soft tissue and orthopedic surgery to ultrasound and chemotherapy. I was awarded the Alumnus of the Year in 2010 for UW-Washington County. In my spare time, I am still an avid cyclist, riding about 1,000 miles every summer. I also enjoy hiking with my Dobermans, cross-country skiing, tennis, and recently have taken up performance driving on the Milwaukee Mile road course. I still enjoy practicing the best profession on earth.

[1988]

John Been

Wow, time goes by in a hurry. Who would have believed these 30 years since graduation could go by so quickly? Ranju and I will celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary in 2018, as well, so it is a big year for milestones. I am still practicing as a relief large animal veterinarian, doing mostly dairy work, and loving the work as much as ever. Many hobbies and three grandkids provide lots of other entertainment. I stay close to the VMTH as a member of the Board of Visitors for the UW School of Veterinary Medicine and am really excited with the pending expansion of clinical, research, and administrative spaces. The completed renovations in the Renk Learning Center and student learning area are already very impressive. Note to 1988 classmates: The SVM Building Expansion Fund for future efforts is a great place for contributions! Hope to see you at the alumni celebration this summer!

Lisa Lindesmith

I am now a Certified Veterinary Acupuncturist. A little over a year ago, I decided to add a new tool to my tool box and am pleased to say that this old dog can still learn some new tricks. This has been good timing as we have also been expanding our practice. We leased the space next door and are just about done with blowing out the walls and adding exam rooms, treatment space, and laboratory space. Marshfield Labs will place a local lab for the Twin Cities within our walls — a win-win for both of us!



Paul Lindstrom sits outside his newly constructed garage clinic.

[1989]

Paul Lindstrom

I retired in 2013 but spent this past fall and winter building a small clinic off of my garage. I am a one-man show now, only open three days a week and loving it.

[1991]

Ron Biese

My wife, Michele, and I don't have a whole lot of news to report from this year. However, I will update the latest in our world. Our son, Kevin, is happily married to his wonderful wife, Nikki. They have two of our grandchildren held hostage at their house in Madison — how dare they! My son is attending UW working toward obtaining a PhD in athletic training. Nikki works in the HR department at the Madison Target store. She loves it and is moving up in the company. They are expecting their third child in April.

Our daughter, Kayla, was wed to Connor Medbery, who happened to be UW-Madison's heavyweight wrestler and captured second place at the NCAA tourney two months before their wedding. He was named Male Athlete of the Year at UW in September for last school year. They now live in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, because he started his first year at Penn State Medical College. Kayla is working as a nurse at Penn State Children's Hospital in the NICU.

Michele and I love spending time with our grandchildren. Practice is still fun and busy here in Kaukauna, Wisconsin.

Ruthanne Chun

2017 was a year of ups and downs. We were sad to say goodbye to my husband Jim's mother this past summer; she was 96 years young, a vital force in our lives, and we miss her. We also brought new lives into our family, starting with Lizzie (a mare) and shortly thereafter adding a beautiful (and unexpected) filly, Penelope. Our third horse (Donovan) still provides challenges and joys, as do the dogs (Poquito, Quincy and Hazel). Ubu is joined in household bird citizenship by Figaro. Pipsqueak, our adopted guinea pig, holds her own against the dogs and birds in regards to loud and persistent vocalizing. Cornelius the corn snake, Calvin and Hobbes (the turtles), and a flock of enthusiastic egg-laying chickens round out our family. Sadly, Cole the anole slipped away from this earth as quietly as he had spent his life, hunting crickets and keeping our son, Elliot, company.

The kids are busy with the animals, diving and swim team, school and friends. **Jim (Polikowski DVM'96)** is deep into his next major house remodel: a complete deconstruction and remodel of our study, mudroom and guest bathroom. I enjoy my work, the animals, and my garden. We are all grateful to able to spend quality time with my mother, as well. We feel lucky to have each other and all of you in our lives. We wish you and yours a rich and fulfilling 2018 and we look with hope into the future.



On a volunteer mission in Otavalo, Ecuador.

Donna Krochak

Well, I have to say there have been some big changes for me in 2017. I think perhaps having our 25th anniversary prompted me to reassess and act upon dreams and desires.

In April 2017, and again in January 2018, I participated with a volunteer mission to Ecuador to the mountains of Otavalo to provide health care for dogs and the few cats we can help as well. The group eagleYcondor was created by some dear friends, and I have been strongly involved since the beginning. If you are possibly looking for some adventure, come join us. You can learn more at eagleycondor.org.

As of October 9, I have left private practice and am now employed as a professional services veterinarian for Boehringer Ingelheim. (Don't worry, you can just say B.I.) Lastly, I am an empty nester, so if you are looking to visit the D.C. area, please come and we can have some fun seeing the sights.

To all my wonderful classmates, best wishes for another successful year in whatever passion you choose to pursue.

Jeff Lohmiller

There was much activity with the family this year. Brittney moved to Jasper, Indiana as a newspaper photographer since her job in Michigan was eliminating the photographers and transitioning to a mostly online publication. Alexis is an interior designer in Dallas, Texas. Lauren is finishing a semester in Shanghai studying Chinese. She'll graduate from Norwich University in May and immediately commission into the Army for Military Intelligence. Lauren will be married in March, as her fiancé is already in the Army and may be deployed in the spring so the wedding date was moved up. Jacob, our youngest, is still at home and studying to be an automotive technician at a local community college.

We're almost empty nesters. Sue and I took a couple of trips this year, one celebrating our 30th anniversary. Sue continues doing financial planning, which she enjoys. My administrative job continues to be challenging. We are seeking financing that will allow growth and investment in new products/services. We wish all a safe and prosperous 2018!

[1994]

Michele Gaspar

I received my master's in pastoral counseling from Loyola University Chicago in 2012 and am a licensed clinical professional counselor (LCPC). I am no longer involved in day-to-day clinical practice and enjoy being a consultant in the Veterinary Information Network's (VIN) Feline Internal Medicine Folder, as well as providing initial mental health consultation/referral to colleagues with professional and personal challenges as part of the VIN Foundation's Vets4Vets program. For the past seven years, I have facilitated an annual mindfulness retreat for veterinarians, their hospital staffs and interested spouses. I also have a psychotherapy practice (individual adults) at Live Oak Chicago and am a second-year psychoanalytic candidate at the Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis. My hope is to bring a new perspective to mental health issues within the veterinary community, and I have given lectures, written and offered rounds and courses on relevant topics. My website is www.themindfulveterinarian.com.

[1995]



In Baku, Azerbaijan with alumni from the Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX) program and volunteers of the American Councils for International Education. (Erica Carroll DVM'95 is at far right.)

Erica Carroll

Greetings! After 39 total years of military service, I retired from the army January 31, 2017 and began a follow-on career in drug discovery/safety testing (as a toxicologic pathologist) with a contract research organization in Indiana. Although I miss the intensity and excitement of the national capital region, the cost of houses in Indiana was a delightful surprise, and I am beginning to find like-minded professionals with whom to socialize and volunteer for change in our community.

My father and uncle, based in the D.C. area, have volunteered for American Councils for International Education for years, selecting high school students from former Soviet republics to spend one year in a U.S.. Through that program, we have travelled to Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, and recently, to Armenia and Azerbaijan to meet alumni of the exchange program and further the international friendship. I recently joined American Councils as a volunteer myself, another great way to serve.

[1996]

Kristen Weiss-Reiter

In March, I became a half-owner of Useless Bay Animal Clinic on scenic Whidbey Island, Washington. For the past seven years, I have felt it was a piece of veterinary heaven, and now I can call it my own.

In May, I ventured out with my Appaloosa on the retired Milwaukee Railroad to ride 226 miles across Washington from Cle Elum to Idaho. In addition to the cross-state ride, we enjoyed our annual adventure on the Chief Joseph Trail Ride. Having completed the entire route of the Nez Perce Trail at the Bear Paw Battlefield in Montana last year, we returned to Joseph, Oregon this year to begin our second cycle. The award-winning Appaloosa Journal requested an article and printed my coverage and photography of the ride in an 18-page spread.

Finally, I have been showing my Labrador in obedience and conformation shows, accruing titles and more letters behind her name than my own. Our most recent accomplishment was the presentation of a UKC Reserve Best in Show placement.

Suffice it to say, I have been living life to its fullest!



My Labrador, UKC RBIS CH Int Honors CH in Bronze Sunnydaze for Peep's Sake, TKN, CGCA. I know, it's a mouthful! One more successful show and she adds a BN and RN to her list of letters, as well.

[1997]

Susan McMillan

I'm still the (mostly) happy owner of Old North End Veterinary Clinic (a low cost storefront clinic in Burlington, Vermont) and Vet To Pet Mobile Veterinary Service (a not so low cost house calls service) with my partner of 17 years, Becky Roberts. I'm also the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Humane Society of Chittenden County, which has been a really big job for the past year, as we have transitioned through way more changes than anticipated.

Becky and I are looking forward to our yearly January adventure with classmate, **Amy Grobstein DVM'97**, and her partner, Deb. Last year, we visited Cuba with them — this year New Orleans. I had the great honor of officiating at their marriage in northern Wisconsin in July 2016. Spoiler alert: Amy and Deb sold Dorr Veterinary Clinic a year or two ago and are now partially retired, and we are pretty jealous.



Susan McMillan and Becky Roberts

[2001]

Mark Garry

It was a busy year like I am sure most of you had! I relocated to the east coast of Florida after 4.5 years in Naples but continued to work ER relief all over the state for the last nine months. I have recently become engaged to Ms. Alexandra Bazo. We now live in Wellington, Florida. Starting in January 2018, I will be the Director of Emergency Services at the new Jupiter Pet Emergency and Specialty Center in Jupiter, Florida. Here's to exciting new adventures in 2018! Cheers!

[2004]



Sarah Elizabeth Ramig

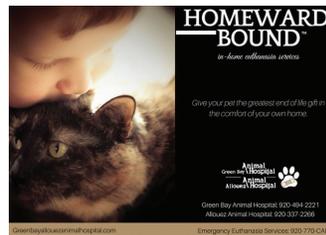
Tera Ramig

2017 was a great year. We welcomed a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, into our family on August 23. She joins big brothers Andrew (6) and Christopher (2). My practice celebrated its five-year anniversary in July. We threw a party at the local distillery to celebrate with our clients. We are continuing to grow and expand our practice every year and are excited for what 2018 will bring!

[2005]

Becky Krull

I'm co-owner of the Green Bay and Allouez Animal Hospitals, and in October 2017 we started a new service, Homeward Bound, offering an in-home euthanasia experience for Northeast Wisconsin. I was moved to offer this service for my clients after I had to humanely euthanize my own dog, Buddy, at the clinic and recognized what was lacking was a more personal experience. Saying goodbye is the hardest thing you will ever face as a pet owner; it's a very personal moment and by providing in-home euthanasia, it's our hope that we can to make it a better experience for everyone. Homeward Bound is rooted in my passion to provide the most comforting experience for families during difficult times. Clients had requested this service in the past, and we are pleased to finally offer it.



For more information about Homeward Bound head to greenbayallouezanimalhospital.com.



Class of 2006 Honors Kristin Rieser

A special thanks to the Class of 2006 for helping a tribute come true. Sarah Hanna VanderZanden DVM'06 successfully spearheaded the effort to name a counseling space in the Renk Learning Center in honor of classmate Kristin Rieser. During the dedication, Kristin's family toured the newly named counseling space and meditation room and met the counselors.



Members of the Rieser family outside of the Kristin Rieser counseling space inside the Renk Learning Center.



(Shown R to L) Donna Rieser with Sarah VanderZanden.

[2008]

Marilyn Arce

Our son was born on October 22, 2017. His name is Milán Andrés. He weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Erica Barkei

I am completing my third year of an anatomic pathology residency at the Joint Pathology Center in Silver Spring, Maryland. I am still active duty in the Army, serving as a Major.



Photo Credit: Col Derron Alves

[2009]

Rich Sim

I became a Diplomate of the American College of Zoological Medicine in October 2017 and continue to work as the Associate Veterinarian at the Birmingham Zoo.

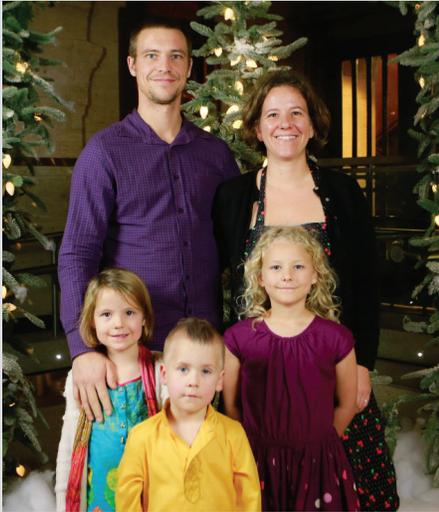
[2010]

Kristin Setz-Williams

We welcomed a new little girl, Johanna Frances Williams, into our family on July 7. She's already a Badger fan!



[2011]



Mickelsen Family

Natalie Mickelsen

Since graduating, I earned my MPH from the University of Minnesota and in 2017 passed boards to become a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventative Medicine. I've been working for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in human and animal foods. In 2018, our family, Alex, Olive (8), Daisy (6), and Aldo (3) is moving to New Delhi for two years, since I will be working for the FDA in India.

[2013]



Evelyn Mae Beck

Laura (Wunsch) Beck

My husband and I welcomed a daughter, Evelyn Mae, on September 8, 2017. I am still working in small animal private practice in Neenah, Wisconsin.



Sequoia Rain Stuntebeck

Becky Stuntebeck

We are overjoyed to share the news that we welcomed Sequoia Rain Stuntebeck to the world in June 2017. We may be biased, but we think she's pretty much perfect!

[2015]



Kari Musgrave

Kari Musgrave and Tyler Majerus DVM'15, were married on October 7, 2017 in Lodi, Wisconsin. Several other members of the Class of 2015 were in the wedding party, including Allison Schreiner, Daniel Kieler, Justin Hess and Kolby McIntyre. Kari recently finished an internship at the Phoenix Zoo and is now working as a zoo relief veterinarian. Tyler is an associate livestock veterinarian at Lodi Veterinary Care.



Nailah Smith

2017 was a wonderful year. In January, I started my first “real” job as an epidemiologist at the Tennessee Department of Health in Nashville. I also applied for the Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) fellowship and was accepted! I will start the fellowship in July 2018. I also adopted a beautiful cat named Dusty, thus ending my impressive pet-free streak that lasted throughout my tenure in the DVM/MPH program. (Photo is of me the day of my EIS fellowship interview.)



Laura (Olenski) Wagner

I finished a one-year equine internship after graduation and was hired on as an equine associate at Lodi Veterinary Care in June 2016. My husband, Andrew, and I were married in October 2016 and purchased a house in Sauk City, Wisconsin that winter.



Andrew and Laura Wagner

[2016]

Rheba Zimmerman

My husband, Nate, and I welcomed our first child, Jack Sterling Zimmerman, on January 27, 2017! Motherhood has been wonderful, but there are not enough hours of the day! When we are not enjoying the many activities living in Madison has to offer, I am spending time with animals as a small animal practitioner at Dodgeville Veterinary Service.



Rheba Zimmerman, her husband, Nate, and son, Jack, enjoy a Wisconsin Badgers football victory at Camp Randall Stadium.

SVM Alumni Class Notes is published by the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. We welcome your suggestions and contributions, though we reserve the right to edit submissions.

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UW School of Veterinary Medicine

Alumni Reunion

Saturday, June 23, 2018

All alumni and families are welcome as we celebrate graduates from the Classes of
1988 • 1993 • 1998 • 2003 • 2008 • 2013

vetmed.wisc.edu/alumni-reunion