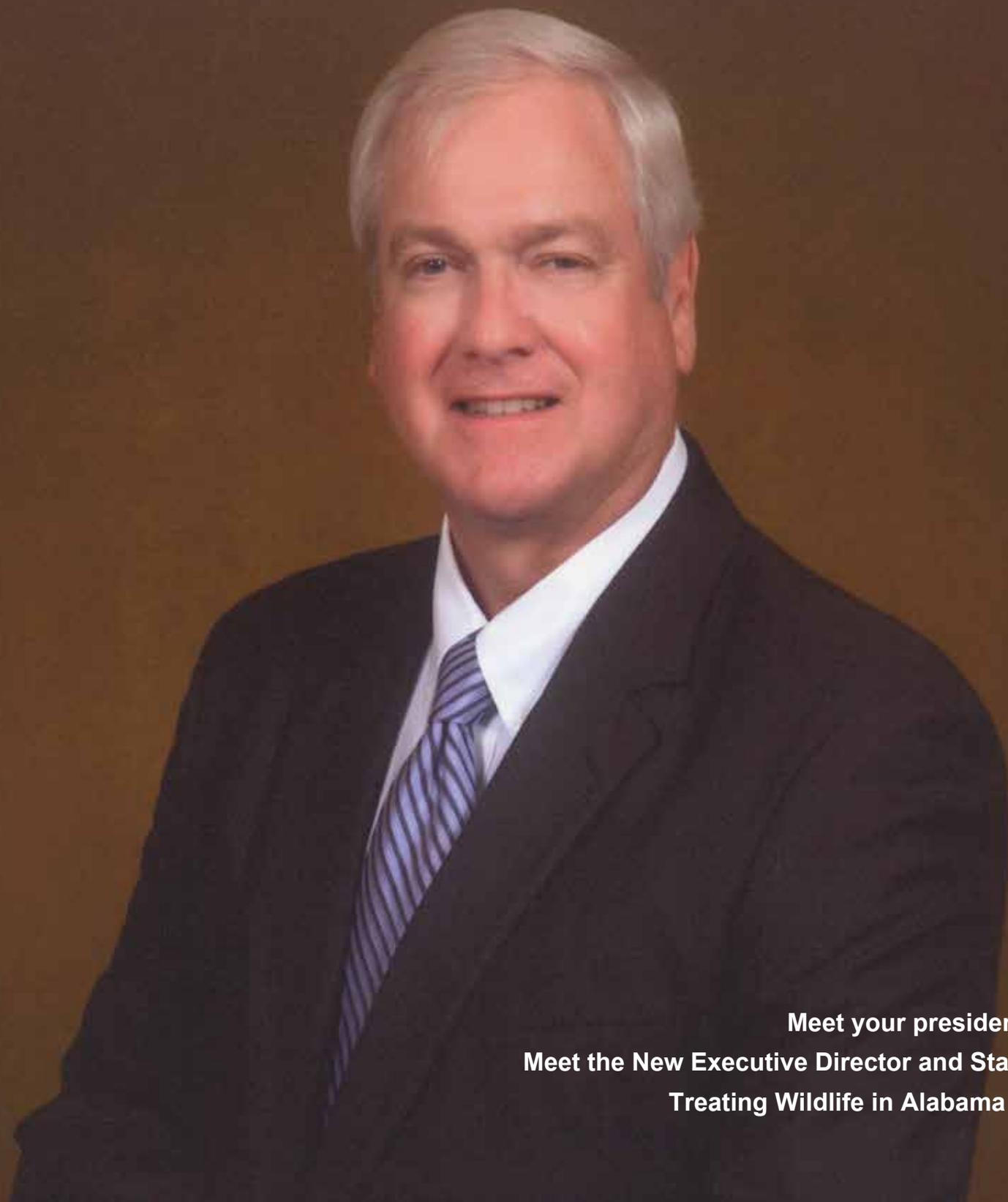


Alabama Veterinarian

A Biannual Publication for ALVMA Members, Veterinary Students and Friends of the ALVMA
Fall 2017 | Volume 28 | Number 2



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27th Annual Conference for Food Animal Veterinarians
 February 23-25, 2018
 Columbiana, Alabama

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Alabama Veterinary Medical Association Executive
Director Deloris Green Gaines



From the executive director

Dear ALVMA Members,

It is a pleasure to be working with the ALVMA! While I have enjoyed working with several associations representing other professions, veterinarians have always held a special place in my heart. That's why my company's focus is set on serving only veterinary associations.

The climate for the veterinary profession and veterinary medicine in general has changed since the early 1990s when I first started working with the Tennessee VMA. Nowadays, the issues are greater in number and, in many cases, they more seriously affect the profession. With so much more happening, it requires a team to deal with the issues and push forward with goals set by the association. We are willing and ready to work alongside ALVMA to push forward your goals and deal with any issues that pop up.

It didn't take long to realize that ALVMA has many service-minded volunteers and that you have a great team in place. We want to continue to nurture each of you who are volunteering and encourage others to get involved.

As staff, we understand that you are busy in your practice and don't have the time to handle all the pieces involved in meeting ALVMA's goals. That's where we become a part of the team. Once the leadership and volunteers have used their expertise in putting together programs which will benefit the membership, we will be here to carry out the day-to-day functions and assist in any manner possible.

Always feel free to contact us by email or phone. Please make sure to check out the introductions of our staff included in this issue. We want to get to know you and want you to feel comfortable working with us.

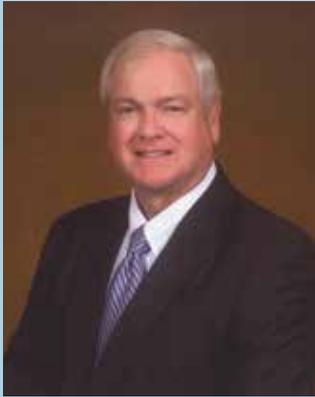
Thank you for your confidence in us and we promise to make every effort to provide the best service possible for ALVMA.

Sincerely,

Deloris Green Gaines
Executive Director, ALVMA



2017 – 2018
Alabama Veterinary Medical Association President
Dr. Charles Ashwander



A letter from the president

Dear ALVMA Members,

We belong to the greatest and most respected profession of all. I want to thank all of the previous leaders of the ALVMA for laying a foundation on which we can continue to grow . After being in practice for many years, I have come to realize more and more the importance of organized veterinary medicine. After attending the 2017 AVMA , I was amazed how many political forces can change how we practice veterinary medicine in the future. The AVMA and the ALVMA does it best to keep you abreast of all issues facing us. One of our objectives this coming year is to reach out to all veterinarians and grow our memberships so we may have a stronger voice to represent our association.

The ALVMA needs you and your support to continue to move forward. Your association has many programs for its members (veterinary students and veterinarians) . Please visit ALVMA.com to see all the benefits of being an ALVMA member. As a member you make a difference in your profession and in your community. You are the professional voice on issues that affect animal health and public health in your community and state.

I would like to welcome Deloris Green Gaines as our new Executive Director. She and her staff Heather Vaughn, Darlene Clendenon, and Adele Reed bring many years of knowledge and experience to our association.

In closing I would like to thank Dr. Charles Franz and Dr. Brad Fields for their years of dedicated service to the ALVMA .

Respectfully yours,

Charles Ashwander, DVM
ALVMA President

MEET YOUR President

Dr. Charles Ashwander
Decatur, Alabama

What inspired you to pursue a career in veterinary medicine?

My father was a veterinarian , grew up around it.

What type of veterinary medicine do you practice and why did you choose it?

Mixed practice accompanied by Small animal practice. Bought my Dad's practice and he had quit large animal practice 10 years earlier.

Where did you study?

Auburn University.

Who is your role model/mentor?

My mother and father.

What advice can you offer someone coming into this profession?

Do not get discouraged. Hard work pays off.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Working with animals and their owners.

How did you get involved with the ALVMA?

My father was involved with organized veterinary medicine for over 50 years, so I saw the importance of the association.



What is the hardest part of your job?

Giving a client a poor diagnosis for their pet.

Why would you recommend that someone join the ALVMA?

For the continuing education and advocacy to have our voice heard on important issues.

Where would you go if you could go anywhere? Why?

The Grand Canyon North Rim. It is one of the most peaceful and awesome places I have been .

What is the last movie you watched?

Cars 2 with grandchildren.

When I'm not working, you'll find me...

Playing with grandchildren or on the river.



What five adjectives best describe you?

I was having a hard time with this question, and Barbara said she could answer it. Caring, compassionate, generous, and gentle. She said just to keep me humble, she had to throw in pack-rat!

What is your simplest pleasure?

Floating on the Tennessee River on my pontoon boat.

How has being a member of ALVMA helped you professionally?

Camaraderie with my colleagues.

If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you want to have?

Barbara (wife), water, and a fishing pole.

When was the last time you did something for someone else and what was it?

When my neighbor across the street passed away, I cut his yard before visitors came by.

What is the most memorable experience of your career?

The opportunity to practice and learn from my father for a number of years. I just thought I knew it all!

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

In my opinion raising two fine sons.

What is your favorite quote?

“Life is about making an impact, not making an income.” ~Kevin Kruse

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Semi-retired.

What makes you laugh out loud?

Grandchildren.



Professionally, if you could change something, what would it be?

Students graduating with lower student debt.

What do you think has been the most significant change/ advancement in veterinary medicine?

Flea and tick control.

What was the last song you sang?

What a Wonderful World – Louis Armstrong

What book are you reading?

Lessons Learned the Hard Way by Newt Gingrich

I still want to learn how to...

Play the guitar.

If you could meet anyone (dead or living) who would it be and what would you ask them?

Jesus Christ. How can we get everyone to get along together?



Why the Change in Recommended Age of Sterilization of Cats?

by Philip A. Bushby, DVM, MS, DACVS ~AVMA

In June of 2017, the AVMA formally endorsed the consensus document put forth by the Veterinary Task Force on Feline Sterilization for Age of Spay and Neuter Surgery, which recommends cats not intended for breeding be gonadectomized by five months of age. This joined endorsements from other veterinary medical and cat breeding associations including the American Association of Feline Practitioners, Association of Shelter Veterinarians, American Animal Hospital Association, Winn Foundation, Catalyst Council, Cat Fancier's Association and The International Cat Association. Feline Fix by Five (FFF) is a campaign promoted by the Marian's Dream Foundation to share this recommendation that has garnered such broad support. FFF was born out of awareness that cats can be reproductively active by 4 to 5 months of age, yet most veterinarians recommend spay/neuter of cats at 6 months of age or older. The result of this mismatch between age at which cats can become pregnant and the recommended age of sterilization is demonstrated any time one walks into a local animal shelter.

Animal shelters are generally overrun with kittens, the vast majority of which are the result of unplanned and unexpected pregnancies of young cats. A survey conducted in the State of Massachusetts revealed surprising results. While many people believe that pet-overpopulation is the result of pets that are left intact for their entire life, the opposite is true. Cats that were eventually spayed accounted for 87% of all litters born.¹ Cat owners who are unsure of when to have their cat sterilized or simply wait until 6 months of age or later are faced with the dilemma of what to do with an unexpected litter of kittens. Too often those kittens are relinquished to local shelters and too often those kittens are euthanized. The problem was not that the owners refused to spay or neuter their pet; it was that they didn't

have it done in time.

Esther Mechler of the Marian's Dream Foundation, who initiated the FFF campaign, has stated that "the number of births prevented - simply by changing the recommended age for spay/neuter of cats from 6 months to between 4 and 5 months - could reduce the numbers of shelter intakes enough to balance the number of potential adopters with available cats and kittens. We could end the overpopulation of cats by this one simple change."²

As a profession, we need to recognize that there is, at present, no scientifically sound basis for



waiting until 6 months of age or older to sterilize cats and no contraindications for spay/neuter at 4 to 5 months of age. Anesthetic concerns about juvenile surgery voiced in the 60s and 70s are no longer valid. There are many anesthetic drugs and protocols in use today that are safe in cats as young as 6 weeks of age. Old fears that castration of juvenile male cats would predispose to urinary obstruction were disproven in the 90s.³ There are numerous known health benefits for spay/neuter in cats, in addition to the population management benefits, and there is "no evidence to suggest that pediatric gonadectomy by 5 months of age is linked to any increased risk of disease."⁴ A survey conducted in 2000 of veterinarians who were, at that time, spaying and neutering cats under 5 months of age, confirmed that the surgeries were easier, faster, and had fewer

complications than spay/neuter of cats at 6 months of age or older.⁵

So, what should the practicing veterinarian do to make this change? Simply add one more appointment to your standard kitten wellness protocols. Make no changes in current vaccination and parasite control recommendations except add an appointment for spay/neuter two to three weeks after the last kitten vaccination. Owner compliance will be increased, surgeries will be easier, and, in time, local shelters will not be overrun with kittens.

For more information on Feline Fix by Five go to <http://www.felinefixbyfive.org/endorsements/>.

For more information on the AVMA's position on spay neuter go to <http://www.avma.org/spayneuter>.

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1. Manning MM & Rowan AN, Companion animal demographics and sterilization status: Results from a survey in four Massachusetts towns. *Anthrozoos* 5 (3).
2. Esther Mechler, Personal Communication, October 25, 2017.
3. Stubbs WP Scrogges SL, et al BMS. Prepubertal gonadectomy in the domestic feline: Effects on skeletal, physical and behavioral development. *Vet Surg*. 1993;22.
4. Dale S. When to Spay/Neuter Cats? *Vet Consensus Says Fix by Five Months*. *Vet Pract News*. 2016.
5. Land TDVM, Wall SDVM. Survey of the Coalition of Spay/Neuter Veterinarians. *J Am Vet Med Assoc*. 2000;216(5).



Meet the ALVMA New Executive Director and Staff

In September 2017, DG&Co, Inc. became the new management team for the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association. The main office is located in Fayetteville, TN, just over the Alabama state line, near Hazel Green, AL. Deloris Green Gaines, the new Executive Director, and staff are excited for the opportunity to represent and work for ALVMA and look forward to a meaningful and productive relationship for years to come. We are happy to introduce you to our staff so that you may get to know the people you will be speaking to when you call the ALVMA office.



Deloris Green Gaines, Executive Director

Deloris Green Gaines, received a BS degree from the Blue Mountain College and MEd from Mississippi State University. From 1991 until 2000, she served as the Director of Convention & Meetings for Walker Management in Nashville, TN. During this time, she worked closely with the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA). In 2000, she left to start her own association management company, DG&Co Inc. In November 2006, TVMA became one of her clients and she stepped into the role of Executive Director. Other clients include, American Academy of Veterinary Acupuncture, Nashville Academy of Veterinary Medicine, and last but not least, Alabama Veterinary Medical Association. Along with overseeing the overall management of these associations, Deloris works directly with the board and committees and handles the financial management of the association. She also negotiates contracts and handles site search for meetings.

Deloris has more than 30 years of experience in association management and meeting planning, and has worked with numerous associations including local, state, national and international groups. Professional memberships include the Veterinary Medical Association Executives, currently serving as President of the association; American Society of Association Executives; and Tennessee Society of Association Executives. Church and community activities include serving on the Church Finance Committee, serving on the Foster Care Review Board for several years, and volunteering for Relay for Life.

She is married to Rick and they are the proud parents of five daughters (Michelle, Meredith, Nikki, Brittany and Brooke) and grandparents to two grandsons (Christian and Jagger) and one granddaughter (Marlee). Their family includes a toy poodle (Pippi who is boss), a miniature poodle (Charlie who keeps us entertained with his goofiness) and two female cats (Gracie Mae and Rambo--don't ask why her name is Rambo!).



Heather Vaughn, Assistant Executive Director

Heather Vaughn is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science in Mass Communications. She has over 10 years of experience in meeting and conference planning, plus an additional 15 years of experience in graphics, communications and printing. Heather has worked as a contract employee for DG&Co since 2007, providing graphic design and print consulting.

As one of the newest members of DG&Co, Heather will be taking on the Assistant Executive Director role, shadowing Deloris at Board Meetings, Conferences, and other events. She will also work with Adele with meeting planning, paying special attention to exhibit and sponsorship sales. Heather will be responsible for working with the Power of Ten Leadership chair, helping to bring new life to the program for the coming year. She will also oversee any PR and Communications needs for the association. In

addition to these duties, she will be the point person for any printing needs required by ALVMA, ensuring the best price and quality are provided.

In her spare time, Heather enjoys spending time with her husband, Michael, and their 5 year old daughter, Natalie, on their 63 acre farm. Their farm is bustling with 7 registered Nubian dairy goats, 2 chickens and 1 rooster. The family dogs, Gidget (a Black Lab/Golden Retriever mix) and Sweet Pea (a Great Pyrenees/Anatolian Shepherd mix), help to manage the farm animals. Their two tabby cats (Cher and Punkin) help to keep the dogs in line and maybe catch a mouse or two when they are in the mood.



Adele Reed, Director of Meetings

Adele joined DG&Co nine years ago as administrative assistant and moved to the position of meeting planner in 2010. It is a little misleading to say she is just a meeting planner since she does much more, including handling awards program details, website maintenance, assisting me with various projects and committee work, and assisting with reception duties. In her meeting planner role, she works directly with the program committee, speakers, exhibitors and sponsors. She has been known to use her magic in fixing issues with logs, online registrations and hotel reservations.

Adele is married to Stuart and has three sons (Ryan, Austin, and Connor), three grandsons (Blaine, Braden, and Brevan) and two dogs (Smokey and Chica).



Darlene Clendenon, Membership Director

Darlene has been with DG&Co for eight years and holds the position of membership director. She is likely the first voice you will hear when calling our office. She processes all membership applications and dues renewals, prepares and sends dues invoices, compiles membership reports, works on membership recruitment and retention, processes meeting registrations, oversees the on-site registration desk, and has experience working with Peer Review Committees for other associations. You can be sure that Darlene will follow through with you in a professional, friendly manner.

Darlene has a son (Kyle) and daughter (Callie) and a cat (Tuck). She loves UT and Tennessee Titans football.



Brooke Cross, Administrative Assistant

Brooke began working with DG&Co in September but you may have met Brooke previously at MCVC as she has been a temporary worker there for a few years. She is being trained to assist in the office in any way needed. Her main focus will be working with Darlene with the membership records and preparing information for membership recruitment.

She is married to Mick and they are proud parents of a daughter (Marlee) born in July. They have a Jack Russell (Riley) who keeps their lives lively.

Please always feel free to contact our office at (334) 603-6227 if you have questions or issues. We will do the very best to help you. We look forward to meeting each of you at future meetings and events.

AVMA Board of Director's Update

By: Dr. Michael Whitehair, AVMA Board of Directors Chair; Dr. Michael Topper, AVMA President; Dr. Douglas Kratt, House Advisory Committee Chair; Dr. Janet Donlin, AVMA Executive Vice President

Whether the topics were related to the AVMA's budget, our advocacy efforts on behalf of the profession, veterinary economics or furthering our focus on leadership development, the interests of our members were at the heart of the AVMA's recent Board of Directors meeting.

2018 budget

The AVMA's commitment to meeting member needs was evident in discussions that focused on the 2018 AVMA budget and strategic operating plan. The Board approved the \$38 million spending plan Friday.

Dr. Rena Carlson, AVMA Board member and chair of the AVMA's Strategy Management Committee, said of the budget and planning process, "I'm seeing a real connection between what our members want and need, and the Board's objectives. Staff has delivered a realistic and actionable plan. Our plans are focused on the member and how we can improve what we are doing."

Advocacy efforts

The Board voted to support the recommendations from the AVMA Legislative Advisory Committee on a number of advocacy-related initiatives, including:

- Support of the Federal Perkins Loan Program Extension Act of 2017. This legislation would extend the Federal Perkins Loan Program for two additional years by moving the authorization expiration from Sept. 30, 2017, to Sept. 30, 2019. The federal program is a campus-based student aid program through which colleges and universities provide subsidized, low-interest loans to undergraduate and graduate-professional students demonstrating financial need. In the past year, approximately 539,000 students received Perkins loans, totaling \$1.2 billion in new loans.
- Support of the Student Loan Relief Act, which would, among other things, eliminate origination fees, create a new loan refinancing program for loans made under certain programs, and lower and cap interest rates.
- Nonsupport for the Horseracing Integrity Act of 2017. Included in the bill is language that prohibits the administration of any substance within 24 hours of a horse's next racing start, effectively eliminating administration of race-day medications. The Board agrees with the American Association of Equine Practitioners and the AVMA Animal Welfare Committee positions that to protect the health and welfare of the horse, we must preserve the use of race-day furosemide until an alternative treatment for exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage is developed.

Supporting women's veterinary leadership

The Board also voted to continue support of the Women's Veterinary Leadership Development Initiative (WVLDI) by funding events co-hosted by WVLDI and the AVMA in 2018. This year, the groups hosted networking events at the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference, the North American Veterinary Conference, the Western Veterinary Conference and the AVMA Convention. Another co-branded networking event is being planned for December at CVC San Diego.

These events allow AVMA leadership to connect with a broad and grass-roots cross-section of the veterinary profession and provide a forum for attendees to hear about AVMA initiatives.

Veterinary technician news

In the veterinary technician arena, the Board agreed to establish the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) Selection Committee. In an effort to model best accreditation practices recently established by the AVMA Council on Education (COE), the CVTEA recommended that the selection process of its members be modified by establishing the selection committee. Under the newly formed committee, the appointment of CVTEA members would be a shared process between the new AVMA CVTEA Selection Committee, the CVTEA, the COE and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association.

Also, the Board agreed to support the goals of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) Veterinary Nurse Initiative without taking a position on the use of the title "veterinary nurse." The goals of the Veterinary Nurse Initiative include the standardizing of credentialing processes requiring the same level of education and competency throughout the United States, and unifying of the credential title to clarify the profession's role in the veterinary medical team.

Human-animal bond

The Board also took steps to enhance our relationship with the Human Animal Bond Research Institute (HABRI) by approving AVMA participation in the group as a member of its Board of Trustees. The AVMA recognized the institute as an organization that is key for veterinary medicine when we joined its steering committee upon the group's inception seven years ago. The HABRI's reach and impact has only grown since that time. Founded by the American Pet Products Association, Zoetis and Petco in 2010, the HABRI is a nonprofit research and educational organization that seeks to improve understanding of the human-animal bond, demonstrate the positive health impacts of companion animals, and encourage public policy that makes good human-companion animal relationships easy to form and maintain.

Entity elections

Wrapping things up, we'd like to congratulate the following people who were elected to AVMA volunteer entities. Thank you for your commitment and service to your colleagues and our profession. The entities and those elected are:

- American Board of Veterinary Specialties: Drs. Jill Stetz and Vito Del Vento
- Convention Education Program Committee: Drs. Tam Garland and John Sanders
- Veterinary Leadership Conference Planning Committee: Dr. Jeff Thoren and David Foley

AVMA Delegate Report

The times indeed are a changin', and the 2017 House of Delegates meeting held at the AVMA Annual Convention certainly reflected that reality.

From marijuana therapies for pets, to telehealth, the opioid epidemic and the use of service and assistance animals, discussions held and actions taken at the meeting are representative of the changing – and perhaps challenging – times in which we live.

Each of these topics and more was addressed during the HOD's Veterinary Information Forum (VIF), and the HOD's efforts to address them are examples of how your AVMA continues to represent the interests of all veterinarians in this diverse profession. HOD-2017-Summer

Marijuana therapies

As the use of medicinal marijuana products continues to grow in the realm of human medicine, more and more pet owners are wondering if their animals might benefit from similar therapies. In response to the discussions held during the HOD meeting, delegates agreed to recommend to the AVMA Board of Directors that the association consider creating and disseminating informational pieces on:

- The current legal status of cannabis as it applies to veterinary practitioners
- Unified definitions of cannabis and its derivatives
- The current research available, and
- The signs, symptoms and treatment of cannabis toxicosis in animals for both practitioners and clients

The HOD also recommended that the AVMA investigate working with other research organizations and medical stakeholders to attempt to reclassify cannabis from a Schedule 1 drug to a Schedule 2 drug to facilitate research opportunities for veterinary and human medical uses.

Telehealth

Delegates also approved a new AVMA Policy on Telemedicine and a revised Model Veterinary Practice Act to help begin to address advances in technology that are leading to more people seeking remote delivery of health information and education for themselves and for their animals.

The AVMA is committed to ensuring access to the convenience and benefits afforded by telemedicine, while promoting the responsible provision of high-quality veterinary medical care.

Given the current state of technological capabilities, available research and the current regulatory landscape, the AVMA believes that veterinary telemedicine should only be conducted within an existing Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR), with the exception for advice given in an emergency until that patient can be seen by a veterinarian.

Without a VCPR, any advice provided through electronic means should be general and not specific to a patient, diagnosis or treatment. We also recognize that future policy in this area needs to be informed by evidence-based research on the impact of telemedicine on access to care and patient safety.

Opioids and prescription monitoring programs

We're all aware of the nation's growing opioid epidemic, and more states are looking to require more veterinarians to participate in prescription drug monitoring programs. In an effort to better understand the issue and to better educate our members and others about the veterinarians' role in

opioid prescribing, the HOD recommended that the AVMA develop model language related to:

- Information on how to positively interact with state boards of pharmacy
- Recommendations for reporting that are practical, reasonable and realistic
- Development of appropriate reporting software
- Methods of permanent identification for animals
- Veterinarians' responsibility in monitoring, and
- Continuing education for veterinarians, such as best prescribing practices and identifying diversion and abuse

Service and assistance animals

The AVMA has been actively researching the role of service, emotional support and therapy animals over the course of the last two years. We've developed policies and drafted a white paper titled "Assistance Animals: Rights of Access and the Problem of Fraud."

Given recent concerns specifically about service animal fraud raised by AVMA members, the AVMA HOD approved a policy expected to serve as a foundation for further educational and advocacy efforts that will promote appropriate use of service, emotional support and therapy animals, and discourage misunderstandings or fraudulent activities.

The HOD also recommended the following:

- That the AVMA create educational materials on service and assistance animals for the public, veterinarians, businesses and human medical professionals
- That the AVMA advocate for unified definitions for service, assistance and emotional support animals
- That the AVMA Steering Committee on Human-Animal Interactions create a working group, that includes human healthcare providers, to develop communication materials in support of the exchange of information between human healthcare providers and veterinarians

Bylaws amendments and resolutions

The HOD also approved the following during its regular meeting session:

- Bylaws Amendment 2: Student Chapters of the AVMA
- Bylaws Amendment 3: Constituent Allied Veterinary Organizations
- Resolution 4: Therapeutic Use of Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine
- Resolution 6: The Importance of Federal Veterinarians in Emergency Response
- Resolution 7: The Importance of Federal Veterinarians in Food Safety (Also coming out of the VIF was a recommendation that the AVMA include information about careers in public veterinary practice, specifically the federal government and the Food Safety and Inspection Service, when making presentations to veterinary students and veterinarians in other career stages.)
- Resolution 8: Handling of Companion Animal Remains
- Resolution 9: Revised Policy on End-of-Life Care

Elections

- Delegate James Brett from Mississippi was elected to the HOD House Advisory Committee.

The HOD also voted to elect the following AVMA members to AVMA councils:

- Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents: Dr. Bruce Coston, Dr. Brian Lubbers, Dr. Brad Tanner
- Council on Public Health and Regulatory Veterinary Medicine: Dr. Allan Drusys, Dr. Patricia McKane, Dr. Christopher Olsen, Dr. Misha Robyn
- Council on Research: Dr. Alicia Bertone
- Council on Veterinary Service: Dr. Duane Colmey, Dr. Manuel Himenes, Dr. Robert Sager
- Judicial Council: Dr. George Cuellar

Please visit www.AVMA.com to see the list of recent retiring members and for the full HOD report.

New Graduate Member Profile

Dr. Alexandra Giambrone
Birmingham, Alabama



What inspired you to pursue a career in veterinary medicine?

I have loved animals since I was a little girl, but I never considered it as a profession until my junior year of undergraduate. I was studying Middle Eastern Archaeology at Princeton University, and The Arab Spring had just taken away all of my job opportunities. I didn't know any veterinarians, but I was on vacation with my parents. We were on a boat in the Panama Canal, and Dr. David Fuller happened to be on the boat celebrating his mom's 90th birthday. He invited me to come shadow him, and that is when it all began. I fell in love with the unpredictability of the workday, and the ability to fix things, all while getting to be around animals.

What type of veterinary medicine do you practice and why did you choose it?

I am a small animal general practitioner. I see mainly cats and dogs, but I have been known to do a rabbit spay/neuter occasionally. My only experiences with large animals were in school. I knew I wanted to be working with the public and building long-term relationships with my clients, so general practice was a perfect fit.

Where did you study?

I studied at Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine!

Who is your role model/mentor?

I don't really have one mentor. Dr. David Fuller really helped me in my journey to vet school. While in vet school I had amazing mentors like Dr. Robert Lofton and Dr. Bob Kennis. I learned so much from my preceptor, Dr. Jay Crisman both professionally and personally. I owe so much to his guidance. My bosses have also been amazing mentors, Dr. Gregg Tucker and Dr. Brian Davies. Finally, my husband, Dr. Pete Giambrone, has helped me so much in the first few months of practice.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I enjoy getting to know my clients and taking care of their pets. I especially love the 1st puppy and kitten visits when I can share in their joy of adding a new member to their family.

How did you get involved with the ALVMA?

My husband is a member of the ALVMA, and when I graduated, I wanted to join as well.

What is the hardest part of your job?

The hardest part about my job is diagnosing a dog with a grave disease and having to break the news to the client.

What advice can you offer someone entering veterinary school?

Make sure to have a good work-life balance. Give your all to your work when you are at work, but make sure your off time is your time to do something for yourself. It is so easy to become all-encompassed with your job in this profession.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Professionally, I hope to be a part-owner in my practice doing more complicated procedures. Personally, I see myself with a kid or two.

Why would you recommend that someone join ALVMA?

Being a part of organized veterinary medicine is very rewarding, and it is great to have contacts with other veterinarians all over the state.

How has being involved with the ALVMA helped you professionally?

It has introduced me to a lot of great veterinarians.



What is the most memorable experience of your career?

My most memorable experience

was probably my first solo amputation. It was my first big surgery without another doctor scrubbed in. As I was cutting the femur, the gigli wire broke and fell on the floor.

What is the last movie you watched?

Wonder Woman

When I'm not working, you'll find me...

Working around my house. The projects are never done.

What was the last song you sang?

I sing along to every song that I hear, and I listen to music at every possible moment. The last song I sang acapella was "One" by Three Dog Night jokingly to my husband.

Where would you go if you could go anywhere? Why?

Istanbul. There is so much history in that town, and I would love to spend some time there.

If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you want to have?

My pets, some music, and a pocket knife.

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Graduating vet school.

What is your favorite quote?

"Don't look at the glass as half full or half empty, think of the glass as the wrong size and go forth." – James Epps. My dad said that to me one day when I was having a hard time, and I have never forgotten those words.

What is your simplest pleasure?

A purring cat on my lap.



What makes you laugh out loud?

I am very free with my laughter. Anything in the least bit funny will make me laugh out loud.

If you could meet anyone (dead or living) who would it be and what would you ask them?

I would like to meet Cleopatra. I would talk with her about Egyptian history.

What book are you reading?

I just brushed the dust off my kindle yesterday and plugged it in after the years and years of only reading textbooks and articles. I have yet to download a new book, so I am open to suggestions. I used to really enjoy reading mysteries.

What do you think has been the most significant change/advancement in pharmacy?

I'm not sure that my extremely short career gives me the knowledge to answer that question, but I have polled my colleagues, and they seem to think the advancements in parasite prevention have been the most

significant.

What five adjectives best describe you?

Motivated, diligent, generous, loyal, organized-chaos

Professionally, if you could change something, what would it be?

I am very happy professionally, and once again, I'm not sure I have the experience yet to really know what I want to change. I am still getting my feet wet in my career, but things have been going great so far!

When was the last time you did something for someone else and what was it?

My 86 year old grandfather lives with me, and I am constantly taking care of him. I make sure he has food to eat, make sure he gets to his doctor's appointments, and generally help him out.

I still want to learn how to...

There are a lot of things I still want to learn how to do. Mostly surgeries. I have only been out of school 6 months, and there are a lot of things I have yet to learn.

Relief Veterinarians

Dr. Lauri Bates, AUB '96

8207 Lochwood Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
Phone: 334.590.8525
Email: drlauribates@yahoo.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL & GA
Kind of Practice: SA
Region of Relief: Central/East Alabama, West Georgia

Dr. Mary Battistella, AUB '83

39 Alabama Drive
Alexander City, AL 35010-3050
Phone: 256.825.6202
Cell: 256.496.3013
Fax: 256.825.6202
Email: marybdvm@mindspring.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: SA
Specialty Training: Acupuncture, Chiropractics and Nutrition

Dr. Nikki N. Brown, UGA '07

P.O. Box 2994
Phenix City, AL 36868
Phone: 706.577.4365
Email: drnikkibrown@gmail.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL, GA
Kind of Practice: Mixed
Region of Relief: East Alabama, would prefer within 50 miles of Auburn or Phenix City

Dr. Emily Davis, TUSK '14

702 McDONALD DR.
Opelika, AL 36801
Phone: 225-938-7962
Email: partnersreliefvet@gmail.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL, GA
Kind of Practice: SA
Region of Relief: Lee County, willing to travel extended distance

Dr. Devin Doherty, St. George's - West Indies '11

1800 Century Lane
Opelika, AL 36801
Phone: 908-884-9440
Email: devin.dd@gmail.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL, GA
Kind of Practice: SA and exotic
Region of Relief: Alabama and Georgia

Dr. Richard Green, AUB '68

233 David Drive
Montgomery, AL 36105

Phone: 334-312-5863
Email: shishimarieregren@yahoo.com
State(s) where licensed: AL, FL
Kind of Practice: Small Animal
Region of Relief: within 50 mile radius of Montgomery preferred

Dr. Tom Harbin, AUB '79

3847 Hayneville Ridge Road
Mathews, AL 36052
Phone: 931-212-6633
Email: tharbin52@gmail.com
State(s) where licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: Small Animal
Region of Relief: Montgomery area
Additional Information: Will travel up to one hour

Dr. Joe Hastings, AUB '81

904 2nd Ave. E
Oneonta, AL 35121-2506
Phone: 205-446-0938
Email: onevet2000@yahoo.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: SA, mixed
Region of Relief: Central and North Alabama

Dr. Dayna Haupt, STG '11

152 Caliente Drive
Hoover, AL 35226
Phone: 954-205-9978
Email: DHauptDVM@gmail.com
State(s) where licensed: AL, GA
Kind of Practice: Small animal- General Practice and Emergency
Specialty Training: Internship trained
Region of Relief: Jefferson, Shelby county- will consider traveling 1 hr

Dr. Emily Hertlein, AUB '09

150 Hertlein Drive
Newton, AL 36352
Phone: 334.791.1405
Email: erhvet@yahoo.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL, FL & GA
Kind of Practice: SA
Region of Relief: Alabama, Georgia, Florida

Dr. H. Winston Pirtle, Sr., AUB '67

8237 U.S. Hwy 331
Montgomery, AL 36105
Cell Phone: 334.399.2059 on call 24/7
FAX: 334.284.5173
Email: pirtledvmjd@aol.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL

Kind of Practice: Mixed
Region of Relief: State of Alabama - prefer within 100 miles of Montgomery
Additional Information: Will bring vehicle stocked and equipped for equine and cattle calls

Dr. Jordan Towns, AUB '12

1016 Narrows Point Drive
Birmingham, AL 35242
Phone: 205.706.2541
Email: townstj@auburn.edu
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: Small Animal, Emergency
Region of Relief: Jefferson and Shelby counties
Additional Information: Will consider travel up to 1 hours drive

Dr. Ashley Warren, AUB '09

20 Castaway Island Road
Eclectic, AL 36024
Phone: 334.301.0371
Email: awarrendvm09@yahoo.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: Small Animal
Region of Relief: Central Alabama
Additional Information: Will travel



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becoming a relief
veterinarian?

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Visiting your neighborhood

The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association is offering two hours of legal continuing education to all Alabama veterinarians free of charge. This CE course has been held in Mobile and will be held in Birmingham, and Dothan in 2018. CE on "Employee Communications and Tax Strategies" will be presented by Ethan Dawe from Innovative Financial Solutions, LLC. Check the alvma website "Calendar of Events" for registration information.

Save the Date!

Birmingham, January 18, 2018

Dothan, TBD

Registration is required. You must register no later than two days prior to the event. Register online at www.alvma.com.

Course Description:

This presentation provides a wonderful overview on how to improve communication with employees while maintaining legal guidelines. It provides a thorough examination of a proper employee handbook as well as discussions on pay models. It also offers unique in depth commentary on specific sections of the Internal Revenue Service tax code. This is a terrific alternative to your traditional Legal/Financial CE.

Key Points:

1. Communication with Employees
2. Proper Employee Handbook Protocols
3. Discussions on Associates & Staff Pay
4. Clinic Production Analysis
5. Business Tax Strategies
6. Personal Tax Strategies
7. How to Hold Ownership of your Business



What are the chances of needing Long Term Care?

70% of people turning age 65 can expect to use some form of long-term care –either at home, in an assisted living facility, or in a nursing home – at some point in their lifetime.*

For information on an individual policy that provides protection from the high cost of Long Term Care call the **BENEFITS HOT LINE** at **800-557-5721** for more details.

*National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, <https://longtermcare.gov>, Last Modified 2-21-17



Welcome New ALVMA Members

Please welcome those who have joined the Association since May 2017

Emily Auringer	Auburn, AL	AUB '16
Dominica Avery	Auburn, AL	AUB '21
Candice Berden	Cropwell, AL	AUB '08
Ronald Vance Beck, III	Phenix City, AL	AUB '21
Mitchell Belue	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Catarina Benavides	Auburn, AL	AUB '21
Lorrie M. Benningfield	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Christa Fry Bragg	Enterprise, AL	AUB '98
Ciji A. Brewer	Phenix City, AL	AUB '20
Brandon J. Cash	Vernon, AL	MISS '94
Jeff Cavanaugh	Montgomery, AL	AUB '83
Sarah Christie	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Carl Wesley Clendinen	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Toi Collins	Auburn, AL	TU '18
Tramaine Creighton	Tuscaloosa, AL	PUR '16
Austin McCormick Deese	Tuskegee, AL	TU '21
Lauren Downey	Auburn, AL	AUB '21
Elisabeth Duplantis	Mobile, AL	AUB '08
Johnathan Elliott	Trussville, AL	MISS'10
Hee Young Eng	Tuskegee, AL	TU '18
Julia Anna Mary Ezell	Auburn, AL	AUB '16
Alexa Danielle Ferrell	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Shakera Fudge	Tuskegee, AL	TU '18
Jackie Garrett	Gadsden, AL	AUB '90
Alexandra E. Giambrone	Birmingham, AL	AUB '17
Maya Gifford	Tuskegee, AL	TU '21
Jennifer Nicole Glass	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Katie Goebel	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Willie Earl Graham, IV	Tuskegee, AL	TU '21
Emilia Hand	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Megan Hardy	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Carolyn Hubbard	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Zachary Hulbert	Auburn, AL	AUB '18
Lyndsey A. Jackson	Waverly, AL	AUB '11
Amanda M. Kaiser	Auburn, AL	AUB '18
Sarah Kezar	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Lindsay Lawreck	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Jordan Lee	Auburn, AL	AUB '18
Kara Lauren Maneval	Auburn, AL	AUB '21
Anne Whitehouse Marcum	Auburn, AL	AUB '21
Mary Alys McCulloch	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Mary Moody	Prattville, AL	AUB '06
Samantha Morici	Auburn, AL	AUB '18
Johneisha Motley	Tuskegee, AL	TU '21
Kimberly Moyers	Auburn, AL	AUB'20
Eugenia Nelson	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Kayla Diane O'Connor	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Samuel Parker	Auburn, AL	AUB '00
Brandon Pate	Hayneville, AL	MISS '19
Sheila Pham	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Cary Phillips	Montgomery, AL	TU '79
Laura Anna Raines	Auburn, AL	AUB '21
Morgan Michelle Roberts	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Amanda Roden	Auburn, AL	AUB '18
Camille Esther Roemhild	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Linde Shae Saunders	Decatur, AL	SGU '17
Hilary Seals	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Adriel Danil Otero Sequi	Tuskegee, AL	TU '18
Steven Shirley	Atmore, AL	AUB '12
Allison Siu	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Ashley K. Spann	Auburn, AL	AUB '18
Kileigh Speed	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Lauren Elizabeth Spivey	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Ingram Stephenson	Auburn, AL	AUB '21
Carlayna Stone	Tuskegee, AL	TU '18
Kelsey Summerford	Tuscaloosa, AL	AUB '20
Matthew Taccone	Selma, AL	AUB '17
Matthew D. Tanaka	Atmore, AL	AUB '17
Mary Margarette Thompson	Auburn, AL	AUB '18
Emily Gabrielle Thornton	Auburn, AL	AUB '19
Rebecca Jillian Trippi	Mobile, AL	AUB '17
Jonathan Tubbs	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Britney Washington	Tuskegee, AL	TU '21
Kelly Watson	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Imani Williams	Tuskegee, AL	TU '21
Courtney Lanai Williams	Tuskegee, AL	TU '18
Steven Williamson	Auburn, AL	AUB '20
Anthony James Young	Piedmont, AL	AUB '17
Jennifer Zech		MIC '98

Emergency Preparedness

A news article from your State Veterinarian, Dr. Tony Frazier

The area of emergency preparedness is nothing new. The Alabama EMA (Emergency Management Agency) has been around for a long time. They were given their authority by the Alabama Emergency Management Act of 1955 as amended. So that predates me and many of you who are reading this article. Alabama, being a state that occasionally must deal with hurricanes and tornadoes, needed an agency to deal with those types of natural disasters and to coordinate with the federal government, who writes the checks in such situations.

We were always grateful that they were there and those of us in agriculture worked with them as the need arose. However, on January 30, 2004, Presidential Directive 9 directed that agriculture would be directly involved in emergency preparedness. Here is what the background of Directive 9 says, "The United States agriculture and food systems are vulnerable to disease, pest, or poisonous agents that occur naturally, are unintentionally introduced, or are intentionally delivered by acts of terrorism. America's agriculture and food system is an extensive, open, interconnected, diverse, and complex structure providing potential targets for terrorist attacks. We should provide the best protection possible against a successful attack on the United States agriculture and food system, which could have catastrophic health and economic effects." So, in early 2004, we began honing our ability to respond to disasters, intentional or unintentional, natural or otherwise.

Supported by homeland security money that was available back in the early 2000's, we were able to purchase equipment, set up an emergency operation center at the agriculture department,

and develop communications. We have performed exercise operations that keeps various groups and many of the other state agencies that we would work with during an emergency. And we have been better prepared to work through disasters because of the evolution of our emergency programs here at the Department of Agriculture and Industries. Maybe one of the most important outcomes of our efforts is that we are the coordinating agency that manages the resources available so that emergencies are dealt with as efficiently and quickly as possible.

local veterinarians were put on standby in case any veterinary assistance was needed. With the help of Commissioner John McMillan, the ADAI staff, the Garrett Coliseum staff, and volunteers, over 200 horses and various other livestock were safely sheltered at this facility until the hurricane passed and it was clear for them to return home. The owners of the animals also stayed on the grounds in campers, RVs, or tents and helped to care of their own livestock. ADAI and the Garrett Coliseum staff were able to provide free hookups for the RVs and campers, dry stalls, fresh hay for



Back in September, the Alabama Department of Agriculture & Industries (ADAI) managed the influx of livestock that were evacuating out of the path of Hurricane Irma. Ben Mullins, the Emergency Programs Director for ADAI, activated the Garrett Coliseum in Montgomery, AL as the State Emergency Livestock Shelter, coordinated the movement of evacuated livestock into Alabama with the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, and monitored the status of seven additional livestock shelters throughout Alabama to assure that all the evacuated livestock had a safe place to ride out the hurricane. I worked with the state veterinarians of Florida and Georgia to waive certain veterinary health certificates so that people would not hesitate to get their animals out of danger. The public was notified of the availability of Garrett Coliseum and these other emergency livestock shelters through local news outlets, the ADAI website (www.agi.alabama.gov), and various social media platforms.

During the sheltering mission at Garrett Coliseum, the State Veterinarian's Office and

the livestock, and even complimentary meals to the evacuees.

Many thanks to all the veterinarians and veterinary technicians who reached out to ADAI and volunteered to assist at the emergency livestock shelter, especially the large animal veterinarians from the Alabama Veterinary Medical Foundation, Auburn University, and Tuskegee University. These groups are an important resource in this state and thankfully, their assistance was not needed for this event.

If you would like to be involved, contact, Ben Mullins, Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, Emergency Programs Director. His office phone number is 334-240-7278 (334-240-State Emergency Response Team.) And I am always available to discuss such issues. My office phone is 334-240-7253. Just remember, the time to prepare is when the sun is shining and the wind is not blowing. Then we can be ready when the storm arrives.

The POWER OF 10

REGISTRATION DEADLINE DECEMBER 29TH!

the 2018 Power of 10 program. Dr. Agnew graduated from Auburn in 2013 and was a Power of 10 participant last year. She was also selected to attend the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference in Chicago in 2017. Dr. Agnew currently works at McCurdy Animal Hospital in Huntsville,

AL. She is an active member of Alabama VMA and the local Madison County VMA.

Kickoff for the 2018 Power of 10 program has been scheduled during the Food Animal Conference in February, in Columbiana, AL. Participants will enjoy a Meet and Greet dinner on February 24, followed by a full day of training on February 25. Dr. Heidi Hulon, sponsored by Elanco will help the participants to discover important personality traits and how to develop their interpersonal skills.

In order to participate, you must be a member of Alabama Veterinary Medical Association, have graduated been 2009 and 2017 with a DVM and register no later than December 29th. Visit alvma.com for more information.

The Power of 10 Leadership Program provides 10 recent graduates (graduated from a college of veterinary medicine with a DVM degree in the years 2009-2017) with four leadership development sessions over a twelve-month period. ALVMA provides topic experts and meeting expenses at no charge for participants to attend sessions that not only convey the key learning points about leadership, but also deepen the understanding of class members on a number of related topics.

Dr. Shelby Agnew is the program chair for



Dr. Shelby Agnew, ALVMA Power of 10 Program Chair



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REGISTRATION

27th ANNUAL ALABAMA CONFERENCE FOR FOOD ANIMAL VETERINARIANS

February 23-25, 2018

Name _____

Nickname (Please print name, as it should appear on nametag) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

(No spouse/guest activities have been planned. If your spouse/guest would like to have a nametag printed, please print his/her name below)

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

* Main conference registration fee includes 20.9* hours of quality CE. If you are not from the state of Alabama, please check with your state board for their policy on CE credit.

Registration also includes meals for one person for Friday lunch and dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner (a steak dinner with all the fixins), Sunday breakfast and lunch, and all breaks during the conference. Additional meal vouchers are available for purchase below.

	Pre-Registration	Late/On-Site (After Jan. 23)	
Member of the _____ Veterinary Medical Association (Must be a member of one of the 50 state VMA's for member discount)	\$275.00	\$350.00	\$ _____
Non-Member	\$375.00	\$450.00	\$ _____
Veterinary Technician	\$225.00	\$300.00	\$ _____
Veterinary Students (Student responsible for payment of meals and hotel room)	\$ N/C	\$90.00	\$ _____
Meals and Breaks (for Veterinary Student, Spouse or Guest - includes Saturday Dinner)	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$ _____

	No Lunch	With Lunch	
Special two-hour Legal Only CE session - Friday, 1:00 pm			
Member of the _____ Veterinary Medical Association (Must be a member of one of the 50 state VMA's for member discount)	\$50.00	\$65.00	\$ _____
Non-Member	\$90.00	\$105.00	\$ _____

MEALS

I will attend the following meal functions, PLEASE ONLY CHECK THE MEALS THAT YOU WILL BE ATTENDING:

Friday, February 23 Lunch Dinner
 Saturday, February 24 Breakfast Lunch Dinner
 Sunday, February 25 Breakfast Lunch

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- Enclosed is a check payable to the ALABAMA VMA
- MasterCard Discover
- Visa
- American Express

Card # _____

Expires ____/____ 3 Digit Code on Back of Card _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

ACCOMMODATIONS

Occupancy in the 4-H Center motel is two per room. If you have a roommate preference, please indicate that person below. If a preference is **NOT** listed, rooms will be assigned as registrations are received (on first come, first serve basis).

Roommate preference (if any) _____
 (All rooms are non-smoking)

**You may request a room to yourself, but please note that you will be charged the \$100.00

_____ Roommate 4-H Center Friday		
Double occupancy (registrant)	\$50.00	\$ _____
Registrant & Spouse Occupancy	\$100.00	\$ _____
Single occupancy (registrant)	\$100.00	\$ _____
_____ Roommate 4-H Center Saturday		
Double occupancy (registrant)	\$50.00	\$ _____
Registrant & Spouse Occupancy	\$100.00	\$ _____
Single occupancy (registrant)	\$100.00	\$ _____

GRAND TOTAL _____ \$ _____

You may also register online at www.alvma.com

Make all checks or money orders payable to: ALABAMA VMA
 MAIL TO: Alabama VMA, PO Box 803, Fayetteville, TN 37334 or Fax (931) 433-6289
 For further information contact Adele Reed by calling (334) 603-6227 or via e-mail at reed.adele@gmail.com



AGENDA

27th ANNUAL ALABAMA CONFERENCE FOR FOOD ANIMAL VETERINARIANS

February 23 - 25, 2018

Friday, February 23, 2018

- Noon** Lunch
- 1:00 PM** Current Veterinary Pharmacy Laws, Rules, and Regulations - Pharmacy/Legal Review
Drs. Sue Duran and Starr Miller
- 2:45 PM** Break (visit with exhibitors)
- 3:00 PM** Backyard Poultry Diseases and Management
Dr. Tami Kelly
- 4:30 PM** Poultry Diagnostic Wet Lab
Dr. Tami Kelly
- 6:30 PM** Dinner

Saturday, February 24, 2018

- 7:00 AM** Breakfast
- 8:00 AM** Cow-Calf Herd Health: Are you missing something?
Dr. Christine Navarre
- 10:00 AM** Break (visit with exhibitors)
- 10:15 AM** Parasite control in horses & small ruminants (diagnosis, treatment, and attempted prevention)
Dr. David Pugh
- Noon** Lunch
- 1:00 PM** Parasite Control in Cattle: It's a New Day
Dr. Christine Navarre
- 3:00 PM** Break (visit with exhibitors)
- 3:15 PM** Diagnostic Lab Submissions: A Pathologist's Perspective
Dr. Heather Walz
- 4:00 PM** Panel Discussion with the AL, FL, GA, MS, and TN State Veterinarians
- 5:00 PM** Updates from the Alabama Beef Cattle Improvement Association, Alabama Cattlemen's Association, Alabama Farmers Federation, Alabama Veterinary Medical Association, Auburn University Department of Animal Sciences and the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine.
- 6:30 PM** Dinner – steak with all the fixins!
- 7:30 PM** Happy Hour, Practice Tips and Downie Awards.

Sunday, February 25, 2017

- 6:45 AM** Devotional
- 7:00 AM** Breakfast
- 8:00 AM** Update from the United States Department of Agriculture and presentation of two APHIS approved supplemental training (AAST) modules in partial fulfillment of USDA accreditation
Dr. Mel Stephens
- 9:30 AM** Break (visit with exhibitors and check out of rooms)
- 10:00 AM** Update from the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries
Dr. Tony Frazier
- 11:00 AM** Common diseases in sheep and goats
Dr. Misty Edmondson

Noon Lunch

Meeting adjourned

ALVMA General Membership Meeting

The next general business meeting of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association will be held during the Conference for Food Animal Veterinarians on Saturday, February 24th at 3:00 pm. The meeting will take place in Classroom 1 which is located in the Environmental Science Education Center downstairs. The conference and business meetings will be held at the Alabama 4-H Center, 892 4-H Road, Columbiana, AL 35051. All ALVMA members are invited to attend.

****Program and titles are subject to change. Visit www.alvma.com for the most up to date information.**

'Awards and Officers'

2017 ECVC Wrap Up

by Heather Vaughn



The Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference offered a unique and rewarding experience to its participants. CE in the morning, family and beach time in the afternoon were key components of this joint meeting between the Alabama and Georgia Veterinary Medical Associations. The 2017 ECVC recorded 665 participants were in attendance, representing over 36 states! The four-day event offered 20 hours of CE in the mornings, and endless opportunities for relaxation and fun on Florida's Gulf Coast. Loaded with informational sessions and fun activities, this was an opportunity to learn, relax, network, and put your toes in the sand.

On Wednesday, June 28, the ALVMA held its general business meeting at 4:00 p.m. in the Baytowne Wharf Conference Center, followed by the exhibit hall opening reception on Wednesday evening. The exhibit hall was packed with exhibitors offering new information on the latest veterinary products and services. Attendees and their families enjoyed light refreshments and games for the kids provided by the vendors.

Thursday began with plenary speaker Dr. Gatz Riddell speaking on "The VFD, Antimicrobial Resistance and Veterinary Medicine," followed by sessions on Critical Care Medicine, Endocrine/Renal, Infectious Disease, Backyard Poultry and Pediatrics. Immediately following the morning CE sessions, ALVMA members

were recognized for their achievements and new officers were installed at the ALVMA

families to paint photos of their own pets, yoga experiences, and a healthy dose of beach time.



Saturday offered another full morning of terrific CE courses in Nutrition, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Poultry, Reproduction, Toxicology and Mindful Veterinary Practice. The Poultry session continued at Linkside and a track for Veterinary Technicians, sponsored by Zoetis, was also held. Alumni receptions were held at various locations

Awards Luncheon. Golfers enjoyed a round on the greens at the Baytowne Golf Course on Thursday afternoon.

Saturday evening by Auburn, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi State, and Tuskegee colleges of veterinary medicine. Sunday, the final day of the conference, kicked off with a Fellowship Breakfast followed by another great day of CE programs on Cardiology, Feline Medicine, LEAP- OSHA, Nutrition, Ophthalmology and Veterinary Technician programs.

Conference guests made new friends at the Spouses' Meet and Greet on Friday morning while attendees caught up on the latest information on Alternative Medicine, Critical Care Medicine, Endocrine/Renal, Infectious Disease, One Health Approach and Orthopedics. A separate Poultry Program was offered for industry veterinarians on Friday and Saturday. A friendly tennis tournament was held Friday afternoon on the resort's world-class HydroGrid clay courts. This year's conference hosted a painted pet party for

Thank you to all of our sponsors and exhibitors for your support in making ECVC successful! Make plans to join us for the 2018 Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference, June 14 - 17, at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort!

Business Meeting and Officer Installment

The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association (ALVMA) held its annual general business meeting Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in conjunction with the Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference held June 28-July 2. During the ALVMA Annual Awards Luncheon on June 29, award recipients were honored and Dr. Michael Topper, AVMA president, installed new ALVMA officers.

New officers were sworn in on Thursday, June 29, 2017 as follows: President Charles Ashwander, DVM of Decatur; President Elect Hank Lee, DVM of Atmore; Treasurer Mark Russell, DVM of Huntsville; Vice President Alan Jones, DVM of Hazel Green and Board Member at Large Randy Davis, DVM of Decatur. Harold Pate, DVM of Lowndesboro will serve as Immediate Past President.



ALVMA officers from left to right: Drs. Harold Pate, as Immediate Past President; Randy Davis, as Board Member at Large; C. Alan Jones, as Vice President; Mark Russell, as Treasurer; Hank Lee, as President Elect; and Charles Ashwander, as President. Administering the Oath of Office was Dr. Michael Topper from AVMA.

2017 Awards Luncheon

On Thursday, June 29, the ALVMA held their Awards Lunch to honor and present awards to the 2017 recipients.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:

Dr. Charles Franz, the highest award given by the Association; given only to ALVMA members that have given of their time and energies beyond all reasonable expectations and have made exceptional achievements and contributions to the advancement of the profession. The recipient of this Association's highest award is no stranger to anyone in the ALVMA. His dedication to the advancement and growth of this association are impossible to duplicate. Charles F. Franz, DVM owns Franz Management Services and served as the Executive Director of the ALVMA from 2001 until his retirement in March 2017. Under Charles' leadership, the ALVMA experienced tremendous growth, both in member services and financial stability. He stuck with this Association through its most trying legal battles and handled himself with dignity and respect, and this Association will be forever grateful.



He currently serves as the executive director for three veterinary associations: Society for Theriogenology, American College of Theriogenologists and the Theriogenology Foundation. He was born and raised in Montgomery, Alabama and graduated from the Auburn University CVM in 1981. Earlier in his career he practiced small and large animal medicine and surgery in the Montgomery area. Afterwards, he co-founded and served as CEO of Sunbelt Veterinary Supply, a veterinary distribution company servicing veterinarians in ten southeastern states. He is the proud father of two sons, and welcomed his first grandchild in 2016. He and his wife, Nita, reside in Montgomery with their dog, George.

LAYPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Jeanne Brock, awarded to a non-veterinarian who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the profession and the Association. The award was accepted by Dr. James Floyd on behalf of Ms. Brock.

Jeanne is a consummate professional-- a licensed veterinary technician (Snead State, 1979) who has devoted over 40 years of her career to the training, care, and scientific development of dogs used for detection of explosives. She is recognized nationally for her dedication to enhancing the welfare of working dogs, perfecting their relationship with handlers, and applying canine detector capabilities to our nation's public security. Jeanne is a co-inventor of the VaporWake™ dog (known worldwide as the "Auburn Dog"), which is the industry-standard for canine detection of hand-carried or body-worn explosives. Jeanne developed a program for training Auburn's young detector dogs in correctional institutions throughout the Southeast. She developed and implemented a 1,600 hour curriculum in performance canine care for inmates, resulting in a certificate program through Auburn University's continuing education program, by the State of Florida Corrections and Education Departments, and for AA/BA degrees by Adams State University in Colorado, which specializes in inmate training at correctional institutions. This program was featured by the New York Times.

Jeanne has freely contributed her extensive technical and scientific skills to Auburn University students, faculty, and staff, and as a result has richly enhanced teaching, research, and outreach in Auburn's College of Veterinary Medicine.

VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Dr. Kenneth McMillan, awarded to a member of the Alabama VMA who displays unselfish dedication to the association for advancement of the profession.

Dr. McMillan was visibly humbled as his name was announced at the President's Luncheon and Awards Banquet on Thursday, June 29. Dr. T.C. Branch, who presented the award, praised Dr. McMillan for his "Unselfish dedication to the association by providing persistent and effective leadership while leading our legislative affairs committee".

Dr. McMillan, partner at Pell City Animal Hospital, is past president of the local VMA in his area and has been instrumental in organizing the Association's



legislative affairs, which has been instrumental in getting several pieces of legislation that protect the profession and our Alabama animals managed. He has been very active in representing veterinary interests as liaison to the ALVMA lobbyist and the executive board.

Dr. McMillan received his DVM from Auburn University's College of Veterinary Medicine in 1981. Dr. McMillan has been married to Priscilla since 1991 and they have 2 sons, 4 dogs, 7 cats, 1 horse, and 50 cows. He enjoys farming, gardening, tennis, boating, travel, football, and baseball.

SERVICE AWARDS:

Dr. Charles Ashwander of Decatur; Dr. William Bledsoe of Camden; Dr. James Floyd of Auburn; Dr. Jack Goodman of Athens; Dr. John Hammons of Athens; and Dr. Frances Kendrick of Selma, awarded to members who have contributed generously of their time and energies to the Association for the advancement of the profession.



SPECIAL AWARDS:

Senator Larry Stutts, DVM of Tusculumbia and Representative Ron Johnson of Sylacauga. Senators Stutts and Representative Johnson were instrumental in getting the legislation passed that exempted veterinarians from the prescription drug monitoring program in Alabama. These awards will be presented at the start of the Alabama legislative session to both recipients.

The Emergence of Campylobacter and Salmonella as Pathogens Transmitted to Humans by Contact with Infected Animals

by Dr. Jim Wright, Alabama VMA Public Health Committee Chair

Campylobacter and Salmonella species primarily are food-borne pathogens; however, recent outbreaks in humans have resulted from direct contact with infected animals. Private practice veterinarians play an important role in educating clients concerning preventive approaches for these diseases. Of importance also is consideration of campylobacter in cases of diarrhea in puppies recently adopted or purchased.

Salmonella from Backyard Chickens

Raising back yard chickens has become a popular endeavor and this has increased the risk from infection with Salmonella species. A large number of outbreaks of salmonella caused by contact with backyard flocks have occurred in 2017. So far there have been 1120 cases in 48 states that have resulted in 249 hospitalizations and one death. A wide range of Salmonella serotypes were involved in these outbreaks. All 10 outbreaks in 2017 were linked to contact with live poultry in backyard flocks. Five hundred forty-two (542) of 774 ill people (70%) reported live poultry contact the week before onset of illness.



Veterinarians play an important role in educating clients about approaches for prevention of salmonellosis from backyard chickens. The importance of handwashing after handling or touching live poultry should be emphasized. Adults should supervise handwashing for children and live poultry should not be allowed in the house. Children younger than 5 years of age should not be allowed to handle live poultry without adult supervision.

Campylobacter from Recently Purchased Puppies

In September of this year the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and USDA-APHIS began investigating a multistate outbreak of human Campylobacter infections associated with puppies recently purchased from Petland stores. Thirty-nine (39) cases of multidrug-resistant human campylobacteriosis in 7 states were detected. As of October 23 this ongoing outbreak now includes 67 total cases in 15 states. No cases have been reported in Alabama; however, there have been cases in Florida (14), Georgia (1) and Tennessee (2). The antibiotic resistance of this outbreak strain of Campylobacter is especially troubling. Four of the cases had contact with puppies from other sources and this may indicate that the outbreak strain has spread from the original source or the original source has not been identified.

Campylobacteriosis in humans is a self-limiting gastrointestinal illness characterized by diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps. The diarrhea may be loose and watery or bloody. Some patients have little or no diarrhea with cramps and acute abdominal pain. These cases may be mistaken for appendicitis and subjected to an unnecessary laparotomy.

Studies have shown that puppies can shed Campylobacter species asymptotically but they often exhibit diarrhea (mucous-like and watery to bloody or bile streaked) and tenesmus. Fever may be mild or absent and the puppies likely will be anorectic and could have intermittent vomiting. Initial diagnosis can be made from a fecal smear counter-stained with carbol-fuchsin to more readily demonstrate the "gull wing" forms of the bacteria. Antibiotics are recommended if there are signs of systemic illness or if signs persist for more than a week. Treatment with antibiotics should be determined by culture and sensitivity of the isolate on specialized media. Antidiarrheal drugs that reduce intestinal motility are contraindicated in cases of campylobacteriosis.

Clients should be educated on the importance of handwashing and care in cleaning up the inevitable accidents of puppies in the house. Parental oversight and good hygiene are especially important when there are children in the home.



The fact that Petland employees have been infected with Campylobacter in the present outbreak illustrates the importance of good biosecurity practices and hygiene in veterinary clinics since clinic personnel and veterinarians are at risk from infection from ill puppies that they see. The presence of asymptomatic carriers in both puppies and adult dogs further emphasizes the importance of frequent hand washing and general good hygiene.

References

Information on the current outbreaks: www.cdc.gov

Campylobacter and pets

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Hald B, Madsen M. Healthy puppies and kittens as carriers of Campylobacter spp., with special reference to Campylobacter upsaliensis. *Journal of Clinical Microbiology* 35:3351-3352, 1997.

Mughini Gras L, Smid JH, Wagenaar JA, Koene MGJ. Increased risk for Campylobacter jejuni and C. coli infection of pet origin in dog owners and evidence for genetic association between strains causing infection in humans and their pets. *Epidemiology and Infection* 141:2520-2525, 2013.

General information on campylobacter

Acheson D, Mishu Allos B. Campylobacter jejuni infections: Update on emerging issues and trends. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 32:1201-1206, 2001.

ALVMA 2018 Awards Nomination Form

The Alabama VMA (ALVMA) conducts an awards program to honor individuals whose service has contributed significantly to the veterinary profession in Alabama. The 2018 Awards Program will be presented during the 2018 Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference, June 14 - June 17. Deadline for nominations is **January 15, 2018**.

SERVICE AWARD: To be awarded to members who have contributed generously of their time and energies to the Association for the advancement of the profession. Candidates shall be recommended by a member of the Association and receive the unanimous approval of the Awards Committee. Not more than two recipients shall come from a constituent association and a plaque shall be the award. The immediate past president is not eligible for this award.

VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD: One shall be awarded each year to a member distinguished by unselfish dedication to the Association for the advancement of the profession. Candidates shall be nominated by a constituent association and receive unanimous approval of the Awards Committee. A plaque shall be the award. The immediate past president is not eligible for this award.

LAYMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD: To be awarded to a non-veterinarian who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the profession and the Association. Candidates shall be nominated by a member in good standing of the Association and receive unanimous approval of the Awards Committee and the Executive Board. A plaque shall be the award.

SPECIAL AWARDS: From time to time, other awards may be given to individuals for exceptional and outstanding service to the veterinary medical profession. The awards may be proposed to the Executive Board by any member of the Association in writing, documenting the achievements of the individual. The award will then be conferred by the unanimous approval of the Executive Board. The award shall be a plaque. The immediate past president is not eligible for this award.

ALVMA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: The highest award of the Association shall be given only to members dedicated to the profession who have given of their time and energies beyond all reasonable expectation and have made exceptional achievements and contributions to the advancement of the profession. The candidates shall be nominated by a constituent association, endorsed by two additional constituent associations and have the unanimous approval of the Awards Committee. The award shall then be conferred by unanimous approval of the Executive Board. A plaque shall be the award and not more than one award shall be given each year. The immediate past president is not eligible for this award.

**To submit nominations fill out the online form on the ALVMA website, email vaughnheatherb@gmail.com, mail this form to ALVMA, PO Box 803, Fayetteville, TN 37334, or fax to 931.433.6289. Please remember to include supporting documents.

Please fill out form below and attach a statement about each nominee including their qualifications, professional activities and any other information that would be helpful to the Awards Committee.

Date _____ Nominated by _____

From the _____ VMA, a Constituent Association

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Service Award Nominee _____

Veterinarian of the Year Nominee _____

Layman of the Year Nominee _____

Special Award Nominee _____

Distinguished Service Award Nominee _____

New Graduate Member Profile

Dr. Matthew Tanaka

Atmore, Alabama

What inspired you to pursue a career in veterinary medicine?

Growing up, I was always interested in various species of wildlife, their life cycles, habitat and roles each plays in their respective ecosystems. I always wanted to understand more about mammalian anatomy, physiology and medicine. Veterinary medicine just seemed to be the most suitable path to obtain that knowledge. I will admit, becoming a surgeon was a big motivation as well. Human medicine has been a part of my family for many generations so that played a part also.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I really enjoy the variety of cases that you get as a veterinarian. No day is ever the same. I may be spaying a cat one minute and pulling a calf the next. Surgery is my favorite aspect of veterinary medicine.

How did you get involved with the ALVMA?

My practice owners, Hank and Lacey Lee, are very involved with the organization. I began going to local chapter meetings with them shortly after I started working for them.

Where did you study?

B.S. Business Administration, the University of Alabama in 2010 and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Auburn University College of Veterinary medicine 2017.



Who is your role model/mentor?

This is a tough question. The path to becoming a veterinarian starts way before veterinarian school. So many individuals have had an impact on my career and where I am today. My father is my role model. As an emergency room physician, minor emergency care owner, and medical software developer he's taught me a lot more than he will ever know. Dr. Cade Armstrong and Dr. Scott Welch of Montgomery Veterinary Associates have always offered advice and allowed ample learning opportunities. Dr. Passler at Auburn's Veterinary school has always made himself available for a friendly phone call or drug dose delivered with a snazzy German accent. And then there is Dr. Hank Lee. Well, he is just Hank Lee... you can trust that guy. All of these veterinarians have played their own role in how I have decided to practice veterinary medicine. My clients definitely see a conglomerate of each of them on every visit.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

I'm not really sure at this point in my career. Honestly, my plans change on a daily basis. I will be practicing large and small animal medicine and surgery. I do know that much.

What is the hardest part of your job?

For me, facilitating the end of the human animal bond is the hardest part of the job. It's never easy and

a very hard thing to go through yourself, but I find solace in the fact that I am entrusted with such a remarkable feat.

What advice can you offer someone entering veterinary school?

Stick with it, have fun, pay attention over taking notes and continue to learn. Leave work at work and home at home. Show up, want it, and consider yourself lucky because everyone isn't blessed enough to have this opportunity.

What type of veterinary medicine do you practice and why did you choose it?

Mixed animal practice. The majority of my appointments (60-70%) are with our canine and feline patients. The rest is mostly a mix of equine, bovine, and caprine patients. I see pigs and the occasional camel or alpaca. I chose mixed animal practice because I want to be, as they say, "a real veterinarian."

Why would you recommend that someone join ALVMA?

It's good to stay involved and up to date on a state level. As a member of the ALVMA you can also attend regional meetings. These are a lot of fun and a great way to meet and get to know the established vets in your area.

How has being a member of ALVMA helped you professionally?

The ALVMA is my avenue for staying in touch with the veterinary industry. It's very beneficial to get to know veterinarians in your area as well.

What is the last movie you watched?

Forrest Gump, better known as the best movie of all time.

When I'm not working, you'll find me...

In Destin on the boat fishing, at my farm, or just riding on the gator with my dog Fisher.

What is the most memorable experience of your career to date?

I castrated a camel on my

preceptorship at Lee Veterinary Clinic. The camel wouldn't load so I used a golf cart (with the owner's consent) to motivate him to move down the alleyway and into the trailer. A few odd vocalizations may have helped get the job done.

What was the last song you sang?

"In Bloom" by Sturgill Simpson

What is your favorite quote?

"So live your life that the fear of death can never enter your heart. Trouble no one about their religion; respect others in their view, and demand that they respect yours. Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life. Seek to make your life long and its purpose in the service of your people. Prepare a noble death song for the day when you go over the great divide.

Always give a word or a sign of salute when meeting or passing a friend, even a stranger, when in a lonely place. Show respect to all people and grovel to none.

When you arise in the morning give thanks for the food and for the joy of living. If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies only in yourself.

Abuse no one and no thing, for abuse turns the wise ones to fools and robs the spirit of its vision. When it comes your time to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with the fear of death, so that when their time comes they weep and pray for a little more time to live their lives over again in a different way. Sing your



death song and die like a hero going home." ~Chief Tecumseh

Where would you go if you could go anywhere? Why?

Russia in 2018 for the FIFA world cup. I've been out of the country a dozen times or so, but never to Europe or Asia; perfect opportunity to shorten the bucket list.

If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you want to have?

Water, Fried Blue Crab Claws, and a fishing pole

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Becoming a veterinarian.

What is your simplest pleasure?

A good Saturday dove shoot and college football to follow with family and good friends.

What makes you laugh out loud?

Chuck Norris jokes get me every time.

If you could meet anyone (dead or living) who would it be and what would you ask them?

Thomas Edison. Why did you have to take all of the good ideas?

What book are you reading?

Ettinger's Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine, now and forever.

What do you think has been the most significant change/ advancement in pharmacy?

Give me a few years and I'll let you know. Not much has changed for me since I started practicing in June of this year so my outlook is minimal. As far as pharmaceutical options, the most advancements have been in the dermatology field. Pred and Tamaril-P aren't the only options anymore.

What five adjectives best describe you?

Compassionate, Dedicated, Intuitive, Diligent, Ambitious

Professionally, if you could change something, what would it be?

The notion that new vets aren't who owners/clients want to see. New isn't always bad. Give us a chance and get to know us. We may surprise you.

When was the last time you did something for someone else and what was it?

Last week, I bought a meal for a young man that just looked like he could use it

I still want to learn how to...

Speak Spanish fluently and fly a helicopter. If we are talking veterinary learning, I'd like to learn every surgical procedure written.



Treating Wildlife in Alabama... What You May Not Know

by Marianne Hudson, Conservation Outreach Specialist of the Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries – Wildlife Section

Helping animals. It's what you do. But if a client brings injured or orphaned wildlife to your clinic, there is more to consider. If a wild animal shows up at your door, it is important to be aware of the legal and practical issues involved in "rescuing" wildlife. Both state and federal laws are involved when it comes to possessing these animals.

Laws and regulations vary throughout the country, but in most states, possession of native wildlife is prohibited without special permits. In Alabama, veterinarians may not hold native wildlife unless they already carry a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit or are handling wildlife held on another individual's Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit. In the case of migratory birds (this category includes most native bird species), both a federal and state rehabilitation permit must be procured before wildlife possession. This means that all native wildlife – from Bluejays to deer, may not be held in your clinic very long before being transferred to a permitted Wildlife Rehabilitator.

There are permitted wildlife rehabilitators throughout Alabama, and these individuals and facilities have the enclosures necessary to tend to and house convalescing wildlife. Wounded and ailing animals must be transported to those with a permit, and may not be kept in the care of the finder or a veterinary clinic which lacks a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit. Anyone who unlawfully possesses native wildlife is subject to ticketing, arrest, fines, and confiscation of the animal. If you are interested in working with native wildlife, there are ways for you to get involved.



Obtain a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit.

Veterinarians are encouraged to apply for a permit to possess and treat native wildlife. Note that you must have a permit before possessing any wild animals. Application and state policies are available at: www.outdooralabama.com/alabama-wildlife-rehabilitation-policies. Main considerations are the required housing (must be separate from domestics), enclosure sizes (varies by species but to be permitted for squirrels you must have an outdoor enclosure measuring at least 8X8X8), disease risks, and investment of time and money to non-paying cases. Alabama follows housing and care guidelines established by the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, and has adopted the minimum standards of care outlined by that organization: www.nwrawildlife.org.

Transport Wildlife to a Permitted Rehabilitator

You are not obligated to accept wildlife from a client. If you choose to do so, you should have a plan regarding how to immediately transport the wild animal to a permitted rehabilitator. Licensed veterinarians are not required to obtain a Federal migratory bird rehabilitation permit to temporarily possess, stabilize, or euthanize sick and injured migratory birds. However, a veterinarian without a migratory bird rehabilitation permit must transfer any bird to a federally permitted migratory bird rehabilitator within 24 hours after the bird's condition is stabilized, unless the bird is euthanized. If a veterinarian is unable to locate a permitted rehabilitator within that time, the veterinarian must contact his or her Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office (www.fws.gov) for assistance in locating a permitted migratory bird rehabilitator and/or to obtain authorization to continue to hold the bird. In the case of mammals and reptiles, the expectation is that veterinarians will immediately transport wildlife to a state permitted rehabilitator, or instruct the public to do so without accepting



the animal at your clinic. All permitted rehabilitators in Alabama are listed online at: www.outdooralabama.com/current-wildlife-rehabbers.

Euthanize Wildlife

In Alabama, a veterinarian may euthanize a wild mammal or reptile without specific permits unless it is a threatened, endangered, or species of special concern such as a Gopher Tortoise. Even healthy wild mammals can be euthanized if there is no intention of taking them to a permitted rehabilitator. There is no requirement to report these euthanized mammals and reptiles to the state. Federal regulation does require some record-keeping if you have euthanized a suffering bird. Veterinarians must keep records for 5 years of all migratory birds that die while in their care, including those they euthanize. The records must include: the species of bird, the type of injury, the date of acquisition, the date of death, and whether the bird was euthanized. Before euthanizing, veterinarians must Notify the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services Office immediately upon receiving a threatened or endangered migratory bird species: www.fws.gov/offices. Bird euthanasia and carcass disposal must be done in accordance with related federal regulations.

Provide Medical Care to Wildlife held on a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit

Some wildlife rehabilitators accept hundreds or even over one thousand wild animals each year. They are not permitted to charge the public a fee for the care of this wildlife. This equals a large investment of resources. When they are working in cooperation with a veterinarian, they can provide even higher quality care to the animals. If the wildlife is legally held on a rehabber's permit, you may treat and see that patient just as you would any other client. Rehabilitators may ask for your assistance in obtaining low-cost medications or euthanasia

services. How you choose to offer those services (low cost, pro bono, regular client prices) is entirely up to you. Trauma and emaciation are common problems in wildlife rehab patients. Wild animals that have serious injuries should be euthanized, even if surgical methods are an option. They cannot remain in permanent captivity and permit stipulations disallow long recovery times. If they are not going to have a quick and complete resolution of their presenting issue, euthanasia is the only course of action.

Advise Your Clients

Most of the time, wildlife that has been found by the public is not in need of rescue at all. Many mammals leave their young alone for most of the day, and are very rarely abandoned despite appearances. Fawns and young rabbits are especially susceptible to being erroneously picked up by a well-meaning client. Young birds finish their growth and development on the ground and are fed by their parents – they don't need help. Some people make the mistake of monitoring the baby animal to see if mama returns. If your client can see the area, this means that the parent can also see them, and will not return because of their proximity. They should leave the area and keep in mind that some species are only visited by their mother twice in a 24-hour period. This is normal, and not cause for alarm. If the animal is at risk from dogs or cats, it is the responsibility of the pet owner to control domestic animals – this is not an acceptable reason to remove wildlife from nature. Leaving or returning the animal to where it was found is almost always the right thing to do. Refer clients to the www.outdooralabama.com website if they'd like to call and discuss their situation with a permitted rehabilitator.

If you have the desire to work with injured wildlife, please consider obtaining your Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit. If you do, you can choose how many individuals and what species you are willing to treat. After your application is received by the Alabama Department of Conservation, your designated wildlife enclosures will be inspected for compliance with minimum housing guidelines. Please note that no further permits are being issued for rabies vector species such as foxes, raccoons, bats, coyotes or skunks. Our greatest need is for more permitted migratory bird rehabilitators. Your first step in being permitted for bird rehab is to visit www.fws.gov for information on federal permit requirements.

Much of what a wildlife rehabilitator does is instruct the public to simply leave wildlife alone. Allowing the natural parent of a young animal to care for its offspring is the best way to ensure its healthy development and avoid the violations and fines sometimes associated with unlawfully possessing native wildlife. If you have any questions about the wildlife permitting process in Alabama, contact Marianne Hudson with the Alabama Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division at: 334-242-1814 or: marianne.hudson@dcnr.alabama.gov.



ALVMA Working for You...

Practice Membership Savings

ALVMA has developed a new Practice Membership dues category that will allow you to save up to 20% on annual dues. The annual dues statements were mailed on November 1st, 2017 and include information on this new category. If you have more than two veterinarians working in your office, you will be able to take advantage of this new benefit.

1st and 2nd Veterinarians	Full Price
3rd and 4th Veterinarians	10% Discount
5th and more Veterinarians	20% Discount

Payments for all veterinarians in a practice must be made in one payment via check or credit card. Practice Membership is not currently available via the ALVMA website. For more information, call Darlene Clendenon at (334) 603-6227.

Members Only FaceBook Group

Join the new ALVMA members only FaceBook group. By creating this group, we will be able to share more information via facebook that would normally only be able to be shared via emails. The ALVMA facebook page will continue to share information for the general public regarding pet health issues and treatments. The members only group will focus more on continuing education opportunities, legislative issues, dues information, etc. You can share ideas and comments on this group and feel confident that your audience is a member of ALVMA. You can join this members only group by going to the web address below.

facebook.com/groups/alvمامemberonly

Vist the ALVMA website for more information:

www.alvma.com

Like us | Follow us





In memoriam

Dr. Robert Barlow, 80, of Mathews, Alabama, passed away Friday, October 20, 2017, surrounded by his family at his home. Dr. Barlow was a Lifetime member of ALMVA and was retired from The Alabama Department of Agriculture & Industries, after serving as director of the Meat and Poultry Inspection section for many years. He was preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Julie Thompson Barlow; his daughter Mary Penn Lavalley; and his granddaughter, Amanda Elaine Pounds. He is survived by his daughter, Kathy Barlow Pounds; his son, Robert Louis Barlow III (Roseanna); his grandchildren, Matthew Pounds (Whitney), Morgan Pounds, Kaitlyn Barlow, Robert Louis "Bo" Barlow IV; great grandchildren, Will, Lane and Jace.

Dr. Barlow earned his degree in Veterinary Medicine from Auburn University. He had a passion for cattle and a hard work ethic, which he passed down through his family.

The family has setup the Barlow-Pounds Memorial Scholarship at Ameri First at 8165 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36116 in honor of Robert Barlow and his granddaughter Amanda Elaine Pounds, a pre-veterinarian Auburn student, who passed away in 2010.

Dr. Louis Charles "Bud" Cardinal, Jr., Long-time Montgomery resident Dr. Louis Charles "Bud" Cardinal, Jr., 87, died peacefully at home Tuesday January 12, 2017. Dr. Cardinal was preceded in death by his parents: Louis Charles Cardinal and Ruth Watson Cardinal; a brother, Tom Watson Cardinal; two sisters, Ruth Maureen German and Winifred Davis Wells.

Dr. Cardinal graduated from Hurt Military School in Montgomery and Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn) with a B.S. Agriculture and a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine. While at Auburn he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta social fraternity and Omega Tau Sigma professional fraternity. He was a Lifetime member of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association and was a member of the Montgomery Rotary club. Dr. Cardinal was recipient of the Paul Harris Fellowship Award, as well as, a long-term member of First United Methodist Church.

Over his long career Dr. Cardinal practiced large and small animal medicine for the Montgomery Stockyard, Kenmore-Cardinal Animal Hospital and Cardinal-Dunn Animal Hospital. He served as president of both the Central Alabama Veterinary Medical Association and Alabama Veterinary Medical Association, 20 plus years as Legislative Chairman and was on the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. He was a charter member of the American Heartworm Society and served both on the Alumni Council of Auburn School of Veterinary Medicine and the Advisory Committee of the Animal Sports Medicine Program. Dr. Cardinal was the recipient of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association Distinguished Service Award. He was known for his innovative surgical procedures and passionate care of all his patients.

Dr. Cardinal, a dedicated outdoorsman, conservationist, inspired and mentored many. His legacy toward the preservation and care of the

flora and fauna of his beloved state of Alabama is evidence by his many contributions to the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Alabama Wildlife Federation. He served as a member and Chairman of the DCNR's Conservation Advisory Board, where he worked diligently for positive game-and-fish laws and regulations. With the AWF he served as an officer and participated in numerous AWF projects. Upon retirement from veterinary medicine, he worked as Legislative Liaison for AWF. Of particular note was his leadership and work toward establishment of the AWF Headquarters at Historic Lanark. Dr. Cardinal was a recipient of the AWF 1999 Walter L. Mims Lifetime Achievement Award and 2007 Conservation Educator of the Year.

Most of all, Dr. Cardinal is perhaps best known for his keen interest in quail and bird dogs. He was a leader in bird-dog field trials throughout the south and actively managed for both wild birds and development of workable quail release systems. He was a Board Member of the National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship Association and his white and liver pointer, War Eagle, is remembered by many for his win in the 1963 National Shooting Dog Championship at Union Springs, Alabama. At the time, Dr. Cardinal was one of the youngest, true amateurs to win the national title as owner, trainer and handler.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Clare Holmes Bowman Cardinal; children, Clare Cardinal-Pett (Steve), Louis Charles Cardinal, III (Lang) and Ruth Cardinal Seawell (Robert) as well as nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

The family deeply appreciates the loving care and support given to Dr. Cardinal over many years by Alonso Broaden and Dr. Harry Barnes.

Dr. Jack Robert Davidson, 70, of Prattville, AL, passed away on Monday, November 6, 2017. Dr. Davidson was preceded in death by his mother, Marion Elizabeth Davidson; and father, Robert Asa Davidson. He is survived by his three daughters, Shannon Elizabeth Davidson, Karstyn Nicole Davidson, Samantha Leann Davidson; three sons, Scott Davidson (Angela), Steven Davidson (April), Dalton K. Davidson; eight grandchildren, Bradon Chandler Watkins, McKinley Grace Tatum, Robert Cole Davidson, Mary Grace Davidson, Molly Brown Davidson, Andrew Ryan Davidson, Braxton Tucker Davidson, Mackenzie Hendry; and numerous extended family members and many friends.

Dr. Davidson graduated from Auburn University in 1975 and worked at the Animal Care Center in Prattville, AL. He was an active member of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association and a member of the Central Alabama VMA.

Dr. David Robert Sidel, born August 8, 1938, passed away at home on December 30, 2016 after a courageous battle with cancer. He is preceded in death by his wife Diane and survived by daughters, Risa (Ron), Leigh (Randy), Phyllis (Bronwyne) and Wendi; grandchildren; Celina, Michelle, Diane, Shelby, Arin and Missy; and great-grandchildren; Allen, Lucas, Britton, Tegan, Nate and Aven; one "adopted" son, Chris; and two very loved and spoiled Greyhounds. He graduated with honors from Murphy High School and Auburn University and remained a staunch fan of Auburn football. He was an active member of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association and the Mobile-Baldwin VMA. His great joy, besides his family, was caring for animals. He loved his work family at Theodore Veterinary Hospital and looked forward to going to work each day, doling out smiles and hugs to all. He was a wonderful father, mentor, and caregiver and will be missed by many. He did it his way!

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Tuskegee University

College of Veterinary Medicine
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Tuskegee Veterinary Alumna Dr. Danielle Spencer of TV's 'What's Happening' fame Visits Alma Mater on Oct. 23-24

The Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine (TUCVM) hosted former child television star Dr. Danielle Spencer, who earned her doctorate in veterinary medicine from Tuskegee in 1993, on campus Oct. 23 and 24. She is best known for her role as the bratty little sister Dee Thomas on the ABC sitcom "What's Happening, which ran from 1976 to 1979. She later reprised her role on the series' sequel, "What's Happening Now!!"



Tuskegee Alum Dr. Danielle Spencer ('93)

On Oct. 23, Spencer gave a presentation to the TUCVM faculty during her morning session entitled, "A Celebration of You - The Faculty" and shared the things that the faculty can do for students that will enhance their learning experience and guide them to success. She then did a lunch time session with the students that was co-sponsored with the Student Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA). Her session was titled "My Journey from Hollywood: Through the Peaks and Valleys, I'm Still Standing - You can make it!"

"THIRST for veterinary medicine; HUNGER for knowledge; and LOVE for animals" -- three powerful "Words of Wisdom" for veterinary medical students was shared by Dr. Spencer in her theme message of "Success is in our DNA." on Oct. 23. Spencer emphasized to the students the importance of wanting to be veterinarians and taking advantage of all the resources available to them at Tuskegee to ensure their success.



Tuskegee University administration, including Dr. Charlotte Morris – Interim President of Tuskegee University, faculty, staff and students pose with Dr. Spencer poses after a meet and greet reception held on Oct. 23.

On her final day, Oct. 24, an open forum, "My Journey from Hollywood: The Challenges along the Way – Success is in Our DNA," was held in the Kellogg Conference Center. The open forum also included an opportunity to purchase autographed copies of her book, "Through the Fire: Journal of a Child Star." Also, as a treat, Dr. Spencer autographed free souvenir photos for all students in attendance.

"We were excited to welcome Dr. Spencer home and invite the Tuskegee family to come out in support her presentations," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine. "The sharing of Dr. Spencer's story was intended to especially help our veterinary medical students as she focused on her journey and the incredible tactics



Dr. Danielle Spencer signs souvenir photographs given to all the students that attended her final presentation on her inspirational story to the Tuskegee University Family on Oct. 24.

employed to overcome the many obstacles she has faced in her personal and professional life."

Born in Trenton, New Jersey, Spencer became an actor around the age of 8. She originally began her veterinary medicine studies at the University of California-Davis, but placed those studies on hold during the height of her acting career. After broadcast of "What's Happening Now!!" concluded in 1988, Spencer resumed her veterinary medicine studies at Tuskegee University and graduated in 1993.

Spencer had been working as a veterinarian for more than 10 years when a diagnosis of

spinal stenosis — resulting from a childhood car accident she and her family experienced in 1977 — required her to take a break from her veterinary medicine career. After 25 years as a practicing veterinarian in California, Spencer recently relocated to Richmond, Virginia, where she often shares her veterinarian expertise with viewers of WTVR CBS 6 "Virginia This Morning," in addition to serving as a motivational speaker.

Alabama VMA Supports Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine's Freshmen Leadership Day

TUCVM says thanks to the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association (ALVMA) for participating in the 2017 TUCVM Freshmen Leadership Day on August 31 for VMED 800-01,

"Introduction to the Veterinary Profession, Veterinary Law & Ethics, and Financial Literacy."

Dean Ruby L. Perry is the instructor of VMED 800-01 and hosted the representatives from the ALVMA panel which included: Dr. Tony Frazier, Alabama State Veterinarian; Dr. Dan Kuykendall, Chair of ALVMA Student Relations Committee; Dr. Charles Ashwander, President, ALVMA; Dr. Jan Strother, Chair- AVMF Board of Directors and District III AVMA Board of Directors Representative; Dr. Bradley Fields, Executive Director-Alabama Veterinary Medical Foundation and ALVMA; Dr. Hal Pate, Immediate Past President-ALVMA; and Dr. Jerome Williams,



2017 Leadership Day: pictured from From Left to Right: Dr. Tony Frazier, Dr. Dan Kuykendall, Dr. Charles Ashwander, Tuskegee alum Dr. Jan Strother, Dr. Bradley Fields, Dr. Hal Pate, and Tuskegee alum Dr. Jerome Williams.

Director of the Alabama Veterinary Professional Wellness Program (AVPWP).

Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine salutes 66 Graduates at Inaugural Commencement

TUCVM bid farewell to 66 veterinary medical graduates during its inaugural commencement on May 6 in the Tuskegee University Chapel. Twenty-seven of the 66 students graduated with honors. Twenty-eight of the 66 students graduated with honors. This historic day was full of excitement as commencement speaker Dr. Christine Jenkins gave an inspiring commencement address and challenged the Tuskegee University Veterinary Medicine Class of 2017.



Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2017

Jenkins shared five main points with the Class of 2017 as they prepare to enter their professional careers in veterinary medicine. They included the following: “1. graduates are entering a profession with many choices in which you are prepared, 2. take advantage of every opportunity early on to develop clinical proficiency and take on the challenging cases that others avoid, 3. always be humble and honest and learn about business to be financially successful as well as put a plan in place to address financial debt from student loans, 4. most importantly, learn how to be healthy both mind, body and soul—work through your challenges then celebrate; and 5. take advantage of the strong Tuskegee network because ‘Mother Tuskegee’ has provided each veterinarian a great education,” Jenkins said.

“The first inaugural commencement, hooding and oath ceremony was truly a huge success and another historic milestone for the college,” said Dr. Ruby Perry, dean of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine.

“Having a separate commencement allowed our

veterinary medical graduates the opportunity to have the conferring of their Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree along with being hooded and participate in the administration of the Veterinarian’s Oath in the same venue.”

In previous years, the College of Veterinary Medicine always participated in the main Commencement Ceremony of the University,

and then convened afterwards in another building for the Veterinary Oath Ceremony.

In addition to the powerful message from Dr. Jenkins to the graduates, Dean Perry honored four veterinary medical alumni with the Presidential Distinguished Alumni Award during this historic occasion. The recipients included: Dr. Adam E. McKee (‘58), Dr. Willie M. Reed (‘78), Dr. William T. Watson (‘65), and commencement speaker Dr. Christine Jenkins (‘84). A reception followed for the graduates, family and friends at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center.

Tuskegee University and The University of North Carolina Pembroke Join Forces to Improve the Nation’s Pool for the Veterinary Workforce

TUCVM and the University of North Carolina Pembroke (UNCP) are partnering to launch a pathway program for UNCP graduates to enter the veterinary program at Tuskegee University. The long-standing relationship between the UNCP and the TUCVM has resulted into an

official agreement between the two aimed at improving the nation’s health status by increasing racial diversity in the veterinary workforce. A formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing ceremony was held on July 7 at UNCP’s Chavis University Center Lumbee Hall.

The MOU signing ceremony highlighted the participation of Dr. Robin Cummings, chancellor of UNCP; Dr. Jeff Frederick, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UNCP; and Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the TUCVM, joining forces in an agreement of formal guidelines. The program is available to all students but the agreement gives a pathway for the recruitment and admittance of qualified underrepresented minority (URM) students with an emphasis on Native American students from UNCP to the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine. The primary focus of the institutional cooperation between the universities shall be mainly established between the TUCVM and the UNCP Department of Biology but can include other majors on the campus at UNCP.

“We are excited to be involved in the mission of UNC Pembroke which is rooted in a history of successfully educating underrepresented minorities to make significant contributions in professional and leadership roles in society; and continue to advance the rich legacy of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine,” said Dr. Ruby Perry, dean of TUCVM.

“The history at UNCP between Tuskegee University and the Lumbee Indian Tribe is monumental. In fact, Tuskegee’s own Dr. Ellis Hall, who is the first African American board certified veterinary radiologist, was bestowed the honor as the ‘Father of the Lumbee Veterinarians’ because he helped the first two students from the Lumbee Indian Tribe receive their DVM degrees several decades ago, Dr. David E. Brooks (‘78 alum) and Dr. Curt Locklear, Jr. (‘79 alum),” Perry said.

Tuskegee update continued on page 32.



TUCVM Dean Ruby Perry displays a customized T-shirt commemorating the partnership with UNCP Chancellor Robin Cummings.

Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine

Holds Annual White Coat Ceremony for Class of 2019

Faculty and staff, family members, friends, and special guests came out to show their support and honor the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine's (CVM) Class of 2019 on Nov. 6 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center on the campus of Tuskegee University. Fifty-four veterinary medical students were presented their "white coats" during the Annual White Coat Ceremony to welcome them to the clinical phase of the veterinary medical curriculum.



The representatives from the veterinary medical associations who sponsored and donated the white coats of the students from their states included Dr. Charles Ashwander - president, Alabama Veterinary Medical Association (ALVMA), Dr. Jennifer Quammen - vice president, Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (KVMA), and Dr. Wendi Lilly-Bare - president, South Carolina Association of Veterinarians (SCAV). Dr. Ashwander and Dr. Quammen were both in attendance also at the ceremony; however, Dr. Lilly-Bare was unable to attend but sent a congratulatory tribute.

Also in attendance were special guests who gave greetings from the Auburn University CVM - Dr. Calvin M. Johnson, dean; Dr. Harvey Crumm, senior academic liaison with Zoetis Animal Health, Tuskegee CVM alums Dr. Beverly Miller ('05) and Dr. Gay Smith ('99), both with Banfield Pet Hospital. Both Zoetis and Banfield also helped provide sponsorship for the event. Dr. Roslyn Casimir-Whittington,

associate dean for academic and student affairs for Tuskegee University's CVM presided over the program.

White Coats were presented to the following 54 students of the Tuskegee University CVM Class of 2019:

Jami Baraka, Fallon D. Blackwood, Daijah L.S. Dowe, Morgan E. Early, James N. Eason, India M. Howard, Russell L. Johnson, Alexandra L. Morgan, Esther I. Schow, Luis A. Torres, Brandi L. Tucker, Courtney K. Yates, Jennifer A. Weick, Kevin L. Cosentino, Mattie A. Wilkinson, Nasya F. Ali, Kenya J. Barton, Kayla S. Brown, Nicole A. Burke, Morgan Cornelius,

Bryttani S. Davis, Sahilis R. Delgado-Amador, Olivia S. Fraser, Jasmine R. Gabriel, Liz B. Griffin, Amber N. Hines, Adrianna M. Handis, Reina J. Jackson, Khali N. Jones, Aaron J. Judson, Greyshawn B. Kelly, Carlos Lloveras-Fuentes, Melissa Lopez, TayVon Q. Lucas, Karyn L. Lupoe, Brittney A. Massenburg, Jasmine N. McCoy, Jetaime M. Miller, Jasmine M. Nolan, Gizelle M. Peynado, Rae H. Pierce, Clarrissa A. Porter, Sara F. Prescott, Tara A. Renkes, Bianca C. Reyes, C'Aleah M. Rhodes, Charles E. Robinson, Alexia I. Sampson, Ravin L. Sanders, Danielle C. Silvia, Dianna V. Smith, Sharonika M. Spann, Christin N. Stobaugh, and Padilla Leyra Troche.

"We are proud of the Class of 2019 and appreciate the support of their families, friends and love-ones as they achieve their goal of becoming career-ready veterinarians," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the Tuskegee University CVM.

ALVMF License Plate Program



How to participate

Enroll in the program

We encourage your clinic to get involved. To participate, all veterinarians in the hospital must be members of the ALVMA or have applied for membership. The hospital must be located in Alabama. Once enrolled, surgeries are pre-approved at the ALVMF office by messaging through the ALVMA website, email, fax or phone. Reports from the hospital consisting of surgical forms, copies of Medicaid cards, photo ID, Program Report Forms and reimbursement amounts must be submitted to the ALVMF office on a monthly basis and then payment is disbursed to your clinic.

The ALVMF invites you to join us in this program designed to help the less fortunate and their pets! By spaying and neutering these pets, we will help reduce the needless deaths of dogs and cats across our state due to overpopulation. Visit www.alvmf.org for enrollment information and forms or call 334-513-2993.

Encourage tag sales

We are excited to have a fresh new look to the ALVMF spay/neuter tag. We hope you will encourage clients and friends to purchase a tag and/or make a donation to the Spay/Neuter Fund through the ALVMA website. Our primary source of funding for this program comes from the sale of these license plates and the donation check-off on the Alabama income tax return. Rack cards to distribute at your clinic promoting the license plate program are available for free through the ALVMF office. These have also been mailed to participating clinics. Please contact us for additional cards as needed and they will be sent upon your request at no cost to you.

College Honors 125 years of Veterinary Medical Excellence

As the South's original veterinary medical program and the nation's seventh oldest, the College of Veterinary Medicine has advanced in its scope and depth of academic and animal health care programs. What has remained constant is the college's commitment to preparing students for careers of veterinary excellence, advancing animal healthcare, and conducting research to improve the health of animals and humans.



Through 125 years and seven deans, the College of Veterinary Medicine As early as 1894, Dr. Cary and his students provided free Saturday clinics to area farmers, giving students valuable clinical education and assisting the industry. Today, students can volunteer with faculty to provide wellness checks and participate in a business practice management class that provides them with practical knowledge to run a business, and give veterinary practitioners recommendations to strengthen their practices.

Today, the College of Veterinary Medicine is the center of the university's One Health initiative, the combination of biomedical sciences and laboratory animal medicine. Our curriculum trains students to think critically, solve problems and communicate effectively.

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital will surpass 25,000 cases this year, providing students with clinical education and offering clients quality healthcare for large and small animals. The teaching hospital—the Wilford and Kate Bailey Small Animal and the J.T. Vaughan Large Animal—is ranked among the top five in the nation for client satisfaction from among 65 teaching hospitals and private referral centers.

The college's commitment to One Health focuses science on diseases in animals and humans toward a cure for cancer, spearheading



gene therapy and molecular medicine that is nearing human clinical trials.

College Graduates DVM; Professional Students; Honors Alumni

The College of Veterinary Medicine awarded 119 professional DVM degrees during its 110th commencement May 9 at Auburn Arena. Additionally, 11 Masters of Science in Biomedical Science (thesis and non-thesis) were conferred and four candidates were awarded the Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Science.

The 119-member DVM class included 40 students from Alabama and 36 students from the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The remaining 43 at-large students hail from 17 states, including California, Illinois, Washington, Georgia, North Carolina, Florida, Connecticut, South Carolina, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Oregon, Arkansas, West Virginia, Texas, New Hampshire and Tennessee, and one from Bandar, Mahshahar.

Dr. Harold Pate, president of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association, administered the Veterinarian's Oath, and Dr. Walter Haines, Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association's current president, brought greetings from the Commonwealth.



To date, the College of Veterinary Medicine has awarded 6,656 degrees.

Also during commencement, the college recognized four alumni with the Wilford S. Bailey Distinguished Alumni award, the highest award given by the college to alumni who have distinguished themselves professionally. The recipients individually addressed the graduates, each issuing their own words of encouragement and professional guidance:

Dr. Dale R. Eckert '77 of Versailles, Ky.,

Auburn University

College of Veterinary Medicine
www.vetmed.auburn.edu

spoke about the medical and technological advances that have occurred in the veterinary profession throughout his career. To students, he challenged them to look recognize their accomplishments and move forward. "I challenge all members of this class to take a moment to look back. Consider the many influences on your accomplishments. None of us have accomplished this on our own. Wherever you go from here, give back something of yourselves to the community. By doing so, we make a difference."



Dr. W. David Goosby '82 Spartanburg, S.C., spoke about values. "My parents taught my siblings and me the greatest values of faith, character, courage, love, and forgiveness. Auburn has given you the skills you need to be a successful veterinarian. I encourage you to take those lessons as well as those values with you."

Dr. Steven U. Walkley '76 South Salem, N.Y., spoke about mentoring and goals setting. "Veterinary medicine and human medicine are intimately intertwined. The role of veterinarians is prominent in the concept of one health and one medicine. Mentoring is a significant component of turning your lessons and training learned here into a career. Find a mentor, set goals and stick to them."

Dr. Roberta Relford '82 of Argyle, Texas, who also served as the keynote commencement speaker, encouraged the graduates to have the courage to pursue opportunities. "You will make a difference and you will have opportunities to make a difference in many different areas. You have joined a very diverse and flourishing profession. Have the courage to pursue opportunities when doors open."

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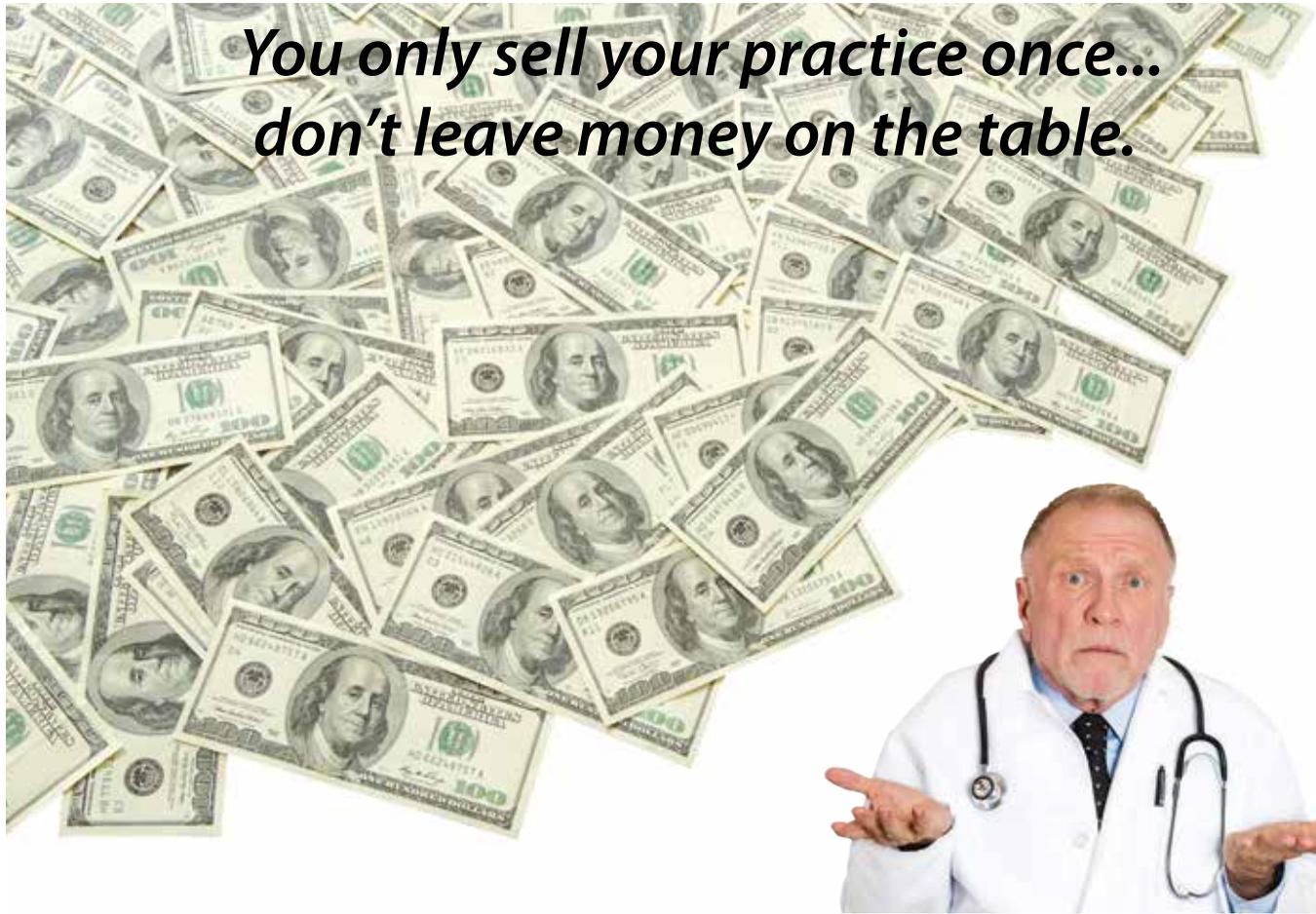
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