

Alabama Veterinarian

A Biannual Publication for ALVMA Members, Veterinary Students and Friends of the ALVMA
Spring 2022 | Volume 33 | Number 1



It's Better at the Beach!

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**2022
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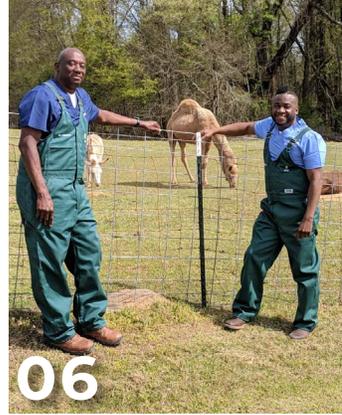
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2021–2022

Alabama Veterinary Medical Association President
Steven T. Murphee D.V.M.



A LETTER FROM the PRESIDENT

Dear ALVMA Members,

It seems like yesterday that I was writing for the fall magazine. The time seems to have flown by, but when I think of it, a lot has happened in the last six months. I have talked to many of you about your vision of the ALVMA. I have had the opportunity to meet many of the incoming freshmen at both Auburn and Tuskegee, coat the juniors of our veterinary schools as they move into clinicals and talk to many of the seniors who will be joining our profession in the next few months. In my 39 years of practice and 63 years of living on this earth, I have never seen so much uncertainty and concern. The Covid-19 pandemic has refused to go away, supply chain and worker shortages are creating stress and hardships for all business and now we are staring down the barrel of World War III. At the same time, we as an industry have never been busier. After meeting the leadership of our future, I am convinced that veterinary medicine as a profession will be just fine. As I learned a long time ago, you need only worry about the things that you have some control over. So, we as a profession must move on, trying to make that part of the world we have some control over better than we found it.

Our strategic plan is in place and we are moving forward trying to make the ALVMA more relevant to your life, making your life better, helping you retain the value of your license and helping you be a better veterinarian. Our continuing education committee is working to provide new skills labs to help you do a better job. The legislative affairs committee is working hard to monitor and propose legislation that may affect your license and our profession. The executive director and her team are working to update our interface with the membership with updates to our logo and web site. All this is being done to help you and our profession move forward in the new world. All these things are happening and will have an impact on your life. If you want to make a difference, you need to be a part. Please consider joining us in our efforts to make veterinary medicine better. If you are already a member of the ALVMA, thank you. If you are not currently a member, please join us and get involved. As I have said before, we can do so much more together than we can do alone.

Your Colleague,

Steven T. Murphee D.V.M.
ALVMA President



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza 2022

Written by Dr. Tony Frazier

It has often been said that history repeats itself and I think that may be true to an extent. We humans sometimes say we should look at the past and try not to repeat some of the mistakes society has made in generations before us. I do believe above that we are on a more linear path ultimately laid out by the uncaused cause, our creator, God Himself.

But that's for another discussion. I am writing to report if you have not already heard that Avian Influenza has been detected once again in the United States. As you probably know, Avian Influenza (AI) is caused by influenza Type A virus. AI viruses are broadly categorized based on a combination of two groups of proteins on the surface of the influenza A virus: hemagglutinin or "H" proteins, of which there are 16 (H1-H16), and neuraminidase or "N" proteins, of which there are 9 (N1-N9). Many different combinations of "H" and "N" proteins are possible. AI viruses are also classi-

fied as either "low pathogenic" or "highly pathogenic" based on their genetic features and the severity of the disease they cause in poultry. The current outbreak is Highly Pathogenic H5N1.

The detection of HPAI H5N1 started earlier this year with samples from wild migratory waterfowl collected by state and federal wildlife agencies testing positive. These samples were from the Atlantic migratory flyway that extends from Maine to

This virus has now spread easily to domestic poultry both commercial and backyard type birds in 25 states from North Carolina to Maine to Montana to Texas. There are more details about this virus, but I can sum up by just saying if you are a turkey or chicken this is a bad deal. Since Alabama is the second largest broiler producing state in the nation, we are on highest alert. We have had a robust active and passive surveillance plan for many years along with a de-

This virus has now spread easily to domestic poultry both commercial and backyard type birds in 25 states from North Carolina to Maine to Montana to Texas.

Florida. This testing is a part of routine surveillance program in all four major migratory flyways including the Atlantic, Mississippi River Valley, Central and Pacific flyways. Occasionally there is detection in these type birds as migratory waterfowl represent a virus reservoir and they are usually asymptomatic. The virus usually detected is characterized as a North American lineage and is usually low pathogenic. The low pathogenic virus struggles a little bit to cross the species barrier into gallinaceous birds, but it can and does especially in turkeys, quail and guinea fowl and can reassort to become highly pathogenic. What is unique about the detection this year is that the virus has been confirmed as a Eurasian strain that is highly pathogenic without mutation or reassortment. And as history repeats itself is like the HPAI outbreak of 2015. It must be stressed that this virus has not shown to be zoonotic.

tailed response and containment plan that we exercise regularly. AI detection is a high priority for our diagnostic lab system of which we have one of the best. We are working with the poultry industry to enhance biosecurity plans to try to stop the virus before it enters commercial poultry farms.

An area that we struggle with lately is reaching backyard poultry growers and providing diagnostics for sick birds. We do have a large participation in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) but there is just not enough of us to go around sometime to test backyard birds. So, as I close this if you are a licensed, accredited veterinarian and would be interested in testing sick poultry owned by clients, please let me know. We can help train you on collection techniques and provide supplies.

History warns us to learn from the past but often it seems there aren't enough students. 🐾





Critter Fixers: Country Vets

Written by
Staci Corder



DR. TERENCE FERGUSON



DR. VERNARD HODGES

I sat down this week to take a little time to talk with the WILD-ly popular veterinarians of Nat Geo WILD's - *Critter Fixers: Country Vets*; Drs. Terrence Ferguson and Vernard Hodges. Both gentlemen hail from rural Georgia and completed their undergraduate at Fort Valley State University in Fort Valley, Georgia, where they became great friends. They later went on to receive their Doctorates in Veterinary Medicine from Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine: Dr. Hodges in 1997 and Dr. Ferguson in 1998.

They both admit that just as they were nearing close to 20 years in veterinary medicine, they were already thinking of pulling back from practicing. Dr. Hodges says that spending a little more time on his boat was looking nice. Slowing down was just a fleeting thought though, as they were soon approached about starting a show for Nat Geo WILD. The show would then catapult them onto a whole new platform: a platform that would span countries. This unexpected twist in their career has allowed them to be a face for veterinary medicine especially in the African American community as only about 2% of veterinarians

are Black. They began the "Vet for a Day" program there locally as they wanted to introduce kids to veterinary medicine. The kids attend along with their parents starting out the day in Fort Valley and ending at the Critter Fixer Veterinary Hospital. They want kids to know that veterinary school is more than "just petting puppies" as Dr. Hodges explains. They want them to know you have to work hard and make good grades. The Critter Fixer veterinarians initially funded the program themselves but has since been picked up by the Zoetis Foundation and will be launching at various locations across the United States this year.

Another project they are proud of is the book, *C is for Critter Fixer*. Dr. Terrence Ferguson and Annette Coward-Gomes co-wrote the book which is based loosely on Dr. Ferguson's life. Dr. Ferguson says it was not until his junior year of college that he would meet a Black veterinarian. He wants kids to know at an early age they can be anything, no matter their color. Dr. Ferguson tells them, "If you can dream it, you can achieve it. If you set your mind to it, you can do it. It does not matter if it is veterinary medicine or becoming an astronaut."

When I asked what they wish they had known upon graduating or what they would share with new graduates today, Dr. Ferguson admits that he wishes they had learned more about the business aspect of being a veterinarian. He stresses that they came out of school with a wealth of knowledge pertaining to veterinary medicine but learning the business side has been more trial and error and learning from mistakes. Dr. Hodges says he would offer this piece of advice to new graduates: "Just be nice. Be nice to everybody from the drug reps to obviously the client." He goes on to explain that he has learned that people do business



with people they like. Obviously, clients are going to return if they are treated well and he also says that reps will also give deals or discounts to veterinarians they enjoy working with.

We discussed that maintaining a healthy work/life balance is hard for any practice owner or associate, but I asked with their show and special appearances added on top of that, how do they manage to keep that balance? They stressed that you must have other interests. Dr. Hodges says. "Have hobbies. Have other outlets. You have to have something else you are looking forward to besides veterinary medicine. You are going to save a

lot of animals, and unfortunately, you are going to have bad outcomes in a lot of animals, but the biggest thing is you've got to have something else to look forward to because you will get consumed."

Finally, I mentioned that I had seen several of their crazy cases they have worked on. For example, they have saved orphaned rabbits, performed pregnancy tests on pythons, and removed a toenail from the neck of a shiz tzu, but I was curious as to what animal they were most apprehensive of treating. Dr. Ferguson says that for him it would definitely be some of the exotics. He says the animals they see are becoming

more exotic and that they encounter diseases or illnesses that they are not that familiar with, "but you just do your best and do what you can to try to pull them through." As for Dr. Hodges, he says "you just have not lived until you have been spit on by an alpaca!"

You can watch more of these guys on Nat Geo WILD's - Critter Fixers: Country Vets. Season three launched March 26th and Seasons 1 & 2 are now streaming on Disney Plus. You can also see them LIVE during the 2022 Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference, June 1-5, where they will be presenting the Keynote Address! 🐾



Welcome New ALVMA Members

Please Welcome those members who have joined the association since Fall 2021

NEW ACTIVE

Dr. Sylvia Moore
Prospect, TN
Tuskegee 2007

Dr. Beth Cobb
Birmingham, AL
Florida 2006

Dr. Stephanie O'Brian
Gurley, AL
Auburn 2002

Dr. Blake Dewitt
Decatur, AL
Auburn 2015

Dr. Rebecca Claire Bellman
Birmingham, AL
Royal London England 2018

Dr. Allison Trotter
Prattville, AL
Auburn 2008

Dr. Howard A. King
Tuskegee, AL (TU CVM)
Tuskegee 1976

Dr. Michele Tucker
Auburn, AL (TU CVM)
Auburn 1997

Dr. Gemechu Wirtu
Tuskegee, AL (TU CVM)
Addis Ababa Univ. Ethiopia

Dr. Jana Korsch-Dismukes
Birmingham, AL
Mississippi State 2003

Dr. Mee-La Lee Fowler
Birmingham, AL
Wisconsin 2015

NEW 3-4 YEAR GRAD
Dr. Jose Luis Hernandez Cruz
Trussville, AL
St. Georges 2020

Dr. Rebecca Colleen Parker
Trussville, AL
St. Georges 2020

Dr. Sofia Castello Milner
Daphne, AL
Auburn 2020

Dr. Emily Baggett Black
Chunchula, AL
Auburn 2020

NEW GRADUATES
Dr. Brittany Killian
Harvest, AL
Auburn 2021

Dr. Moriah Lorge
Athens, AL
Auburn 2021

Dr. Alexandria O'Mary
Gardendale, AL
Auburn 2021

Dr. Jennifer Kerlin
Birmingham, AL
Georgia 2021

RE-INSTATES

Dr. Elizabeth Taylor
Foley, AL
Auburn 1992

Dr. Carolyn Wright
Demopolis, AL
Auburn 2003

Dr. Theodore Stuedeman
Demopolis, AL
Auburn 1987

Dr. Megan Goldman
Mobile, AL
Auburn 2018

Dr. Bobby Snell
Ozark, AL
Auburn 1986

Dr. Denty Paul Vaughn, Jr.
Birmingham, AL
Auburn 2011

Dr. Chris Parmer
Willmar, MN
Tuskegee 2018

Dr. Cathleen Forester
Bay Minette, AL
Auburn 1991

Dr. Charles Flowers
Silverhill, AL
Auburn 1982

Dr. Mark Anthony Colicchio
Spanish Fort, AL
Georgia 1988

Dr. Kathryn Stieh
West Palm Beach, FL
Auburn 1997

Dr. Alexandra Epps Giambrone
Westover, AL
Auburn 2017

Dr. Phil Gault
Hartselle, AL
Mississippi State 1988

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP
Dr. Andrew Duke
Mobile, AL
Auburn 1975

Dr. William Goodwin
Vestavia Hills, AL
Auburn 1977

Dr. Charlotte Cotton
Muscle Shoals, AL
Auburn 1983

STUDENTS
Grace Jones
Auburn 2024

Victoria Roe
Kansas State 2023

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Colbert-Lauderdale

Matt Connolly
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North Alabama

Steve Murphree
256-734-2181



ALVMA Legislative Committee Report

Written by

Jeff Martin, Governmental Affairs Director



In a hurry to get home and start campaigning, the Alabama Legislature adjourned the 2022

legislative session Sine Die around the midnight hour Thursday April 6th, leaving one legislative day unused. Legislators are expected to return for a brief special session to appropriate another \$1.1 billion federal relief funds later this summer.

It was nice to be back in person at the state house and not lobbying from a computer monitor after almost two years of limited access due to COVID-19. This legislative session the ALVMA did not have any specific legislation introduced, however, we did advise and provide amendments on several bills.

The legislature passed and the Governor signed legislation that should save Alabama small businesses \$23 million. The \$100 minimum business privilege tax is being phased out. The tax which is currently required to do business in the state is being reduced to \$50 next year and will be totally eliminated in 2024.

Also passing was SB272 setting up a regulatory structure for telemedicine. The legislation makes the standards of care for remote medical visits be the same as in-person visits. It also provides for unlimited healthcare visits and prescribing rules for practitioners. It does not involve Veterinary medicine.

Campaign season is in high gear with primary elections being held May 24th. Several of our allies serving in the legislature have primary opponents and are in need our financial support. The ALVMA PAC committee will make sure we do what we can to protect those in the legislature who support our efforts. Please consider contributing to the PAC so we can maximize our contributions.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns or advice feel free to contact me. It continues to be a pleasure to represent the ALVMA as your lobbyist for almost two decades. 🐾

Best,
Jeff



Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee of the Alabama VMA has announced its recommendations for candidates for the 2022-2023 Executive Board. **Voting will be done strictly through mailed ballots.** Please make sure these ballots are returned to the Association office by May 13th. If you did not receive your ballot, please contact the Association office at 334-603-6227.

Dr. Frances Kendrick automatically advances to president, the recommendations include:

PRESIDENT - ELECT

Dr. Bradley Harris – Dothan, AL

Dr. Bradley Harris is a 1990 graduate of AUCVM. A native of Kentucky, Dr. Harris has spent his entire practice career in Alabama. Beginning his practice career in Greensboro, he moved on to Headland and finally to Dothan. Currently practicing at Dothan Animal Hospital, Dr. Harris has been in partnership with Dr. Ben Garrett (AU'87) for the last 21 years. Since graduation, he has been a member of the ALVMA and the AVMA. Dr. Harris has been privileged to serve in leadership roles in both his professional and personal careers. Locally, he has served as president and vice-president of the Greater Dothan VMA, which included coordinating the rabies clinic for Houston County. Dr. Harris is currently on the Jefferson State Veterinary Technician Advisory Committee and is the current ALVMA Executive Board representative for the Greater Dothan VMA.

Through the practice, Dr. Harris has been able to either sponsor or participate in community pet events. Much as in practice, these public events present the challenge of misinformation and misunderstanding, and he enjoys helping to educate people and increase awareness of their pets. Civically, Dr. Harris has been a member of Rotary and Kiwanis, having served as an officer and as a committee member. He especially enjoyed civic involvement in a small-town environment and the impact on the lives of clients and neighbors. Dr. Harris has also been active the past four years as president of the high school football booster

club. Dr. Harris has been an active member at his current church for 25+ years. He has served in a variety of leadership roles, from Sunday School teacher to committee chairman to chairman of deacons.

Dr. Harris's philosophy of leadership is service based. The ALVMA is composed of many members with a wide variety of gifts and talents. There is great potential for the ALVMA (and our profession) by tapping into those gifts and talents through encouragement of membership service in any capacity and at any level. Coupled with a cooperative spirit amongst the membership, the ALVMA can build on the work of its founders as we move forward.

Dr. Harris is married to the former Sharla Beaty and has three sons. He enjoys fishing, golf, fish fries and shrimp boils, playing piano, and officiating high school football and wrestling.

VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Babette D. Authement – Fairhope, AL

Dr. Authement is a small animal practitioner in Fairhope, AL where she has practiced since graduation from Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine in 1991. Dr. Authement has participated in organized veterinary medicine since 1994 as the Gulf Coast Veterinary Medical Association representative to the state board and has served as the President of the Gulf Coast Veterinary Medical Association as well. Dr. Authement believes that the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association has helped make significant strides in our profession within our state and on the national level. We have

been through a lot in the last 10-15 years as a profession and as an organization and Dr. Authement would like the opportunity to continue positive leadership into the next decade.

TREASURER

Dr. Susan Parsons – McCalla, AL

Dr. Parsons fulfilled her childhood dream of becoming a veterinarian by graduating from Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2007. As a veterinarian, she works hard to provide compassionate care to all her patients and develop lasting relationships with their owners. Dr. Parsons takes this role very seriously and strives to improve the field of veterinary medicine for those who will follow her path. Dr. Parsons graduated from Kingwood Christian School in 1999. In 2003, she graduated from Samford University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. Dr. Parsons was accepted into AUCVM for the fall class of 2003. After graduation, Dr. Parsons worked for a few months at a small animal clinic in Trussville, AL. In 2008, she quickly found her way to her current employment at McAdory Veterinary Clinic. Currently, Dr. Parsons has the pleasure of serving as a Board Member on the Board of Directors for the Alabama Veterinary Medical Foundation. Over the last four years of serving, Dr. Parsons has had the opportunity to learn about the many aspects of veterinary medicine and considers this a wonderful experience. Dr. Parsons currently resides in



Dr. Bradley Harris



Dr. Babette D. Authement



Dr. Susan Parsons



Dr. James B. Lovell

McCalla with her husband of nine years and their two sons, ages 6 & 2. They also have two dogs and two cats that frequently take over their home. On a personal note, she teaches the first-grade class each Sunday at her church. Although Dr. Parsons and her husband are busy raising their family, he counts it a blessing to be a veterinarian and enjoys her daily work with pets and their owners. Dr. Parsons understands that she has a responsibility

to serve her colleagues and to help meet the challenges that may lie ahead in the veterinary profession. Dr. Parsons is always willing to serve in any capacity that furthers the profession of veterinary medicine.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Dr. James B. Lovell – Athens, AL

Dr. Jim Lovell grew up in North Alabama and graduated from Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2005. Af-

ter two years working in a mixed animal clinic after graduation, he went strictly to small animal medicine in which field he still practices today. He opened Eastside Animal Hospital twelve years ago in Athens, AL where he continues to practice. He and his wife, Erica, live in Ardmore, AL on a hobby farm with their two daughters Ava and Aubrey. They are all Disney fanatics and when there is free time, he also enjoys playing the piano and painting. 🐾

Committee Chairs 2022-2023

COMMITTEE

- Awards
- Constitution/By Laws/Practice Act
- Convention/Program
- Finance
- Large Animal Affairs
- Legislative
- CVM - Liaison
- Membership/Member Services
- Nominating
- P.A.C.
- Power of 10
- Public Health/Rabies
- Small Animal Affairs
- Veterinary Emergency Management
- Veterinary Student Relations
- Vet Tech Advisory
- Veterinary Wellness

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- Steven Murphree
- John Hammons
- Bradley Harris
- Bradley Harris
- Soren Rodning
- Hank Lee
- Frances Kendrick
- Tom Fell
- Hal Pate
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- Babette D. Authement
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- Lynlee Nichols
- Jan Strother
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Early Career Member Profile

Dr. Wesley Clendinen • Huntsville, AL



Q. What inspired you to pursue a career in veterinary medicine?

I've always had a passion for science and grew up with a love for animals. Additionally, I have an extroverted personality and enjoy interacting with people and helping them. During high school and college I drifted toward pursuing a medical career but wasn't sure in what direction exactly. The sudden realization that veterinary medicine combines all three of these factors pushed me toward a career in the field.

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

I practice in small animal general practice and small animal emergency medicine. I find all aspects and specialties of veterinary medicine interesting; but my passion lies in all facets related to the day to day treatment of companion animals.

Q. Where did you study?

Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine

Q. What is something you wish you had known/learned/ or been told coming out of school that you have learned in the job setting?

Spending time working as a veterinary assistant in general practice prior to veterinary school really helped to manage my expectations for private practice. Stepping into a role as a doctor and practice owner has really emphasized the importance of clear communication with clients and clear management of expectations. I'm glad to see veterinary school curriculum integrating more targeted coursework related to communication.

Q. Who is your role model/mentor?

I have been fortunate to have a number of mentors throughout my life, both professionally and personally. Most of these relationships have never been labeled officially "mentor-mentee" but have served as such. Professionally I have been continually impressed by the willingness of older veterinarians to offer advice and encouragement since graduation. Dr. Glen Puckett helped to guide me through the process of acceptance into vet school and staying patient to trust the process when in school. Recently, he has provided advice and support that has accelerated my growth since graduation – I'm very grateful for his help.

Q. What do you enjoy most about your job?

Nothing is better than starting the day by expressing some juicy anal sacs. Totally kidding on that! Truthfully, the ability to help people by helping their animals and to create a positive work environment for staff/coworkers mark the two

aspects of each day that I find the most rewarding.

Q. What is the hardest part of your job?

Supporting owners and helping them to navigate end of life situations with their beloved pets.

Q. What advice can you offer someone just coming out of school and entering this profession?

Join your local veterinary association as well as other local organizations for professionals. Developing a network of friends and colleagues can provide help or opportunities when you least expect it. Be confident in yourself and your abilities but also recognize that we are always learning new things and a diagnosis may not always present itself immediately.

Q. What is the most memorable experience of your work/college career thus far?

It's hard to label one experience as the most memorable because each memory holds its own unique





place in my heart. I will forever hold dear the relationships I formed during veterinary school with my classmates and the members of Alpha Psi. After graduation, sitting as a board member of the Greater Huntsville Humane Society and serving as their lead veterinarian was an enriching experience. We had many success stories of animals transitioned out of hard situations, treated medically, and transitioned into a new home. The positive change in these animals' demeanor throughout the process and the joy they bring their new owners is hard to forget.

Q. What has been the most unusual client/case to date?

Just prior to COVID-19 (funny how we navigate the past several years in relation to the pandemic) through a rescue operation, I was presented with an estimated 8 year old intact, male, mastiff mix with no known history. He was acutely dyspneic, BCS 4/9, arthritic, PU/PD, had multiple epithelial masses, and just in general looked awful. Through various testing modalities and diagnostics, I diagnosed him with lower urinary tract infection, moderate prostatomegaly, suspected benign epithelial tumors, epithelial abrasions/ulcerations, dental attrition, pulmonary edema, dilated cardiomyopathy, lumbosacral disease, and discospondylosis. Based on all of this, fostering and hospice care while treating what we could was recommended as I



felt his long term prognosis was poor to grave. Through a roller coaster of multiple hospitalizations, a litany of medications, follow-up appointments, and some near death moments, he remained an outstanding patient and his fosters were Grade A. Two years later he is a different dog. His cardiac abnormalities have resolved; his urinary tract infections have disappeared; several of his masses were removed; and his degenerative joint disease is managed. I've never been happier to be wrong about a prognosis.

Q. What accomplishment are you most proud of?

My marriage to my wife stands as the best thing to happen in my life while convincing her to date me prior to our marriage was a definite accomplishment. Aside from that, I'm very proud that I was able to establish my veterinary hospital within a timeline that I had previously determined for myself during veterinary school.

Q. What do you think has been the most important thing you have learn about yourself so far?

I have learned to become patient with myself and others. Striving for excellence is an important goal, but we are human and therefore inherently imperfect.

Q. Where do you see yourself in five years?

Successfully balancing family and work life. Making memories with my wife and daughter, spending time with friends, and exerting a

positive influence in the community as the owner of a thriving small animal practice.

Q. I still want to learn how to...

Personally— fly a plane; professionally – confidently conduct echocardiograms.

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

Aside from short-lived segments of calm watching a movie or reading a book with the family, I'm generally very active. I love spending time in the outdoors, engaging in any number of solo or team sports, volunteering in the community, visiting the local breweries with friends, or just throwing the ball for our two golden retrievers.

Q. How did you get involved with the ALVMA?

During veterinary school we were encouraged to join and learn more about the ALVMA during a dinner presentation – you can't turn down an opportunity for a free meal. The association offered an opportunity to learn more about organized veterinary medicine on a regional basis and has remained a fantastic resource.

Q. Why would you recommend that someone join ALVMA?

The ALVMA serves as a great source of information for updates or changes in the profession, a way to connect with other veterinarians, and as an advocate for veterinarians.

Q. How has being a member of ALVMA helped you professionally?

The ALVMA has provided opportunities for professional growth as well as networking with other veterinarians in the state. I look forward to maintaining my membership and finding ways in the future to help the organization meet the needs of veterinarians and remedy future challenges in our field. 🐾

Relief Veterinarians

Dr. Shelby Agnew, AUB '13

103 Canoebrook Lane
Huntsville, AL 35806
Phone: 256-361-9871
Email: southpawveterinary@gmail.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: SA
Region of Relief: Madison, Limestone and Morgan Counties (will consider travel)

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. Philip Baxter, AUB '78

108 Country Church Road
Rainbow City, AL 35906-6104
Phone: 256.490.1728
Email: pwbaxter@bellsouth.net
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: SA
Region of Relief: Birmingham, Huntsville and surrounding. Others considered.

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. Ben Cashion, AUB '81

20452 Hwy 79
Mentone, AL 35984
Phone: 205.269.4981
Email: bscashion@yahoo.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: Mixed
Region of Relief: Northeast AL

Dr. Emily Davis, TUSK '14

702 McDonals 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: oliviagomez927@gmail.com
State(s) where licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: Small Animal
Region of Relief: anywhere in AL

Dr. Lauren Grider, AUB '08

Huntsville, AL 35801
Phone: 256-384-6911
Email: laurengrider@dvm.com
State(s) where licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: Small Animal Exclusive
Region of Relief: AL - ER shift work (Day Only) and select weekends available

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. 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. Mike Kern, KSU '85

12415B Dauhlin Island Pkwy
Codon, AL 36523
Phone: 727.514.1178
Email: mkern369@gmail.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL, FL
Kind of Practice: SA and Exotic (Medicine and Surgery)
Region of Relief: Greater Mobile Area

Dr. Stephanie Kitchens, AUB '99

6912 Heathermore Loop
Montgomery, AL 36117
Phone: 256.429.8006
Email: svhelms@hotmail.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: SA
Region of Relief: Montgomery, AL and surrounding areas

Dr. Megan Simpson AUB '11

4530 Blairmont Drive SE
Owens Cross Roads, AL 35763
Phone: 205.532.3500
Email: Simpsme@auburn.edu
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: SA
Region of Relief: Huntsville, AL

Dr. James Thorsen, AUB '87

PO Box 216
Fortson, GA 31808
Phone: 706.587.9842
Email: jrthorsendvm@aol.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL, GA
Kind of Practice: Small Animal
Region of Relief: Any county

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 county
Additional Information: Will consider travel up to 1 hour drive

Dr. James Warren TUSK '95

825 Murphrees Valley Road
Springville, AL 35146
Phone: 205.999.0358
Email: dogdoc1960@gmail.com
State(s) where Licensed: AL
Kind of Practice: Small Animal
Region of Relief: Baldwin County

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Dr. Jerome B. Williams, Director





Food Animal Conference Update



tendance of a mixed animal conference, but it sure packed a punch in content, information, networking and not to be overlooked, family, as this specialty group conference has been likened to that of a family reunion drawing attendees from several southeastern states, including Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Louisiana, and Florida.

Each year the conference kicks off on Friday afternoon with lecture-type CE sessions that include the latest information in Food Animal Veterinary Medicine. This year, Dr. Christine Navarre of LSU CVM presented on Internal Parasite Control, Pain Management, and Secure Beef Supply Chain, Dr. Lee Jones of UGA CVM discussed *Trace Mineral and Vitamin Diagnostics in Cattle*, Mr. Bob Green, Lane Manufacturing, Inc, presented *The Evolution and Science of Electroejaculation*, and Drs. Jason Shumaker and Jody Wade of Newport Industries/Boehringer Ingelheim presented *Using Diagnostics as a Practice Builder*. We are blessed to be able to reach right into our own backyard to Auburn University CVM for great speakers like Drs. Russell Carol, Kim Mullenix, and Jason Sawyer to

The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association (ALVMA) held its 30th Annual Conference for Food Animal Veterinarians on February 11-13, 2022, at The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center. This year attendees were happy to be back in person after Covid-19 caused a year's hiatus. Since 2022 marked the 30th Annual Conference, the weekend gave a nod to years past and honored Dr. James G. Floyd for his vision in starting the conference all those years ago.

Dr. Floyd set out in 1992 to supply continuing education focused on timely topics for veterinarians engaged in food animal practice. For thirty years the mission of this conference has been to bring together practitioners, industry, regulatory and academic veterinarians in an environment that is conducive to free exchange of ideas and issues important to food animal veterinary medicine.

This conference may not have boasted the larger numbers in at-



Dr. Jason Shumaker of Newport Labs leading the Bovine Field Necropsy lab



Dr. David G. Pugh leading Sunday morning's devotion



Photo display from the past 30 Conferences for Food Animal Veterinarians

complete the remaining hours of CE the conference has to offer. The close of Saturday sessions ended with a special presentation to Dr. James Floyd to commemorate the last 30 Food Animal Conferences. Dr. Soren Rodning, Food Animal Conference Program Chair, presented Dr. Floyd with a sculpture crafted by Dr. Arvie Marshall. The sculpture was a replica of the cartoon drawn by well-known California cartoonist, Robert M. Miller, aka RMM, at the request of Dr. Floyd to stand as the first Downie Award to ever be presented.

Attendees gathered just after the sessions closed on Friday evening for a Meet and Greet with the exhibitors. Exhibitors in attendance this year were Boehringer Ingelheim, Cambridge Technologies, Elanco, HazComReady, Lane Manufacturing, Inc., Multimin, Newport Laboratories, Society for Theriogenology, and Zoetis. The exhibitors and sponsors were especially important in making the conference a huge success and we could not thank those companies enough for showing their support of ALVMA by participating in our Food Animal Conference.

On Saturday, the conference lectures continued with the addi-

tion of industry updates. Drs. Tony Frazier and Misty Edmondson presented updates from the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries to include a discussion on African Swine Fever. The Southeastern State Veterinary Panel, or "Dream Team," as Dr. Tony Frazier described them gathered to discuss issues that affect veterinarians throughout the Southeast. This year's panel was made up of Dr. Samantha Beaty, TN State Veterinarian; Dr. Janemarie Hennebell, GA

State Veterinarian; Dr. Jim Watson, MS State Veterinarian, and Dr. Michael Short, FL State Veterinarian. Alabama State Veterinarian, Dr. Tony Frazier, moderated the panel discussion. Dr. Scott Squires presented USDA APHIS updates.

Saturday evening was loaded with attendee favorites, the Steak Dinner, which is sponsored by Lane Manufacturing, Inc., and the Downie Awards. Attendees gathered for dinner in the Lowder Barn that is located on the Auburn Campus. The beautiful red barn's walls are adorned with antique tools and farming apparatuses. A vintage Allis Chalmers tractor is tucked nicely into one of the corners. Once everyone finishes their steak dinners with all the fixings, it is time for the Downie Awards. The Downie Awards is the tradition where anyone - veterinarian, staff member, and even a spouse or two - takes turn passing the microphone around to tell a short story from their veterinary life. Sometimes the tale is inspirational, motivational even, but mostly the tales are told by exceptional story tellers who know how to embellish (just a bit) leaving you with tears running

continued on page 18



Dr. Dan Tracy, President Elect of Society of Theriogenology; Dr. Soren Rodning, Food Animal Conference Program Chair; and Dr. Jody Wade, 2022 Downie Award Winner



Food Animal Conference Update

continued from page 17

down your face from laughter and wishing you had not just eaten so much. There is a ‘judges panel’ who judge the best story by the amount of applause and cheers that are offered up by the audience. The winner is awarded a uniquely hand-crafted metal-on-wood bovine statue sponsored by the Society of Theriogenology and fashioned by Dr. Arvle Marshall. Dr. Arvle Marshall has been making these statues for the Downie Awards for about 10 years now. Those that have the bragging rights as winners know how special an award it is. 2022 Downie Award winner, Dr. Jody Wade, captured his fourth Downie Award with his tale of a horse napper scared straight.

Early Sunday morning attendees



Dr. James G. Floyd and Dr. Arvle Marshall

joined together as Dr. David Pugh led everyone in a short devotional and moment of prayer before heading to their wet labs. The Bovine Field Necropsy lab, sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim and Newport Laboratories, was held at the Thompson-Bishop-Sparks Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Drs. Clay Reynolds, Jason Shumaker,



Steak Dinner and Downie Awards

Jody Wade, Heather Walz, Jenny Pope, and Mr. Glen Parks served as lab facilitators. The second lab was a Food Animal Barn Rounds led by Dr. Thomas Passler and aided by Auburn CVM students. Dr. Passler led attendees through the Wolfe Barn reviewing active cases. The conference wrapped up shortly after noon. 🐾

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The Alabama Veterinary Technician Association (AVTA)

Written by Hayley Pritchard, LVT, Vice President, Alabama Veterinary Technician Association

Upcoming Events:

- Summer School CE Beach Bash- July 23 in Gulf Shores, AL
- Annual Continuing Education Conference - October 22 in Birmingham, AL

Our Commitment:

The AVTA is committed to the career growth and advancement of veterinary technicians and veterinary support staff within the State of Alabama. Whether you are a veterinary technician student, a new graduate, a veterinary assistant, a receptionist, an office manager or an experienced veterinary technician, AVTA is here for you!

Executive Board Members for 2022-2023 term:

President - Cindy Pearson, LVT

Secretary - Danielle Glarrow, LVT

President Elect - Hayley Pritchard, BS, LVT

Treasurer - Unfilled position at this

Vice President - Elena Graves, LVT

time until a re-election is held

AVTA Membership:

The Alabama Veterinary Technician Association welcomes and encourages new membership. We are committed to helping our members become leaders in our field by hosting continuing education programs for fellow technicians and support staff, pet emergency responder training, veterinary technology student instruction, aspects of animal shelter personnel training, community service, and more. Our members sit on the board of the ASVBME and act as liaisons to the ALVMA to ensure that our voice is being heard.

*We accept new membership applications and renewals at any time during the year, but all memberships and privileges expire December 31st of each calendar year.

Membership is available for credentialed veterinary technicians (\$25 annually), veterinarians and industry professionals (\$20 annually), and is free for students with proof of current enrollment in an accredited veterinary program (college of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology/nursing program).

AVTA is active on social media

(Facebook and Instagram) and several AVTA board members and members are connected on LinkedIn.



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/alvettech/>



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/alvettech/>



Website: <http://www.alvettech.org/>



In Memoriam



Joseph Frank Gravlee, DVM, MS, CNS

Dr. Frank Gravlee peacefully passed away at his home just prior to his 91st birthday surrounded by family. It is with sadness and heavy hearts that family, friends, employees, and colleagues must bid farewell to a cherished being that brought hope, inspiration, and vision to all who knew him. He often advised young people starting their life journey to surround themselves with good people that will share your passion.

Dr. Frank Gravlee is survived by his wife, Linda Harland Gravlee; sons, H. Scott Gravlee, DVM, CNS (Amy) and Van C. Gravlee (Mary); special nephew, Phil Oliver (Joyce); special family member, Eileen Nunnelly (Bill); grandchildren, Joseph F. Gravlee III, Stacie G. Coduto (Gage), Ben Gravlee (Jill), R. Scott Gravlee, Elizabeth G. Ladd (John), Martha Gravlee, Steven S. Gravlee (Jennifer), Michael Gravlee, Sarah Gravlee; great grandchildren, Olivia Coduto, John Frederick Ladd, Caroline Ladd, Mary Gravlee, Margaret Gravlee, Catherine Gravlee, and Adalynn Willmon.

Dr. Frank Gravlee is preceded in death by his father, Leland Clark Gravlee; mother, Mary Wright Grav-

lee; a sibling, L. Clark Gravlee, Jr., MD; and son Joseph F Gravlee, Jr., MD (Glenda).

Dr. Frank Gravlee was born at the family farm in Fayette, AL. He was the youngest of two boys born to Leland and Mary Gravlee. Even as a young child he tended to many animals. He developed a passion for animal care, especially horses. He attended college at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, now known as Auburn University, earned a BS in Agricultural Science, and followed with Veterinary School.

After graduating from Auburn University Veterinary School in 1956, he opened a veterinary practice in Florence, AL. In his veterinary practice he saw animal health issues that did not have any established treatments. He believed many of these issues were nutrition related and became determined to learn more about nutrition.

Dr. Gravlee closed his veterinary practice to attend MIT where he earned a master's degree in Nutritional Biochemistry and Metabolism in 1968. He returned to Birmingham, AL and worked in a private research facility; however, after several years he realized his

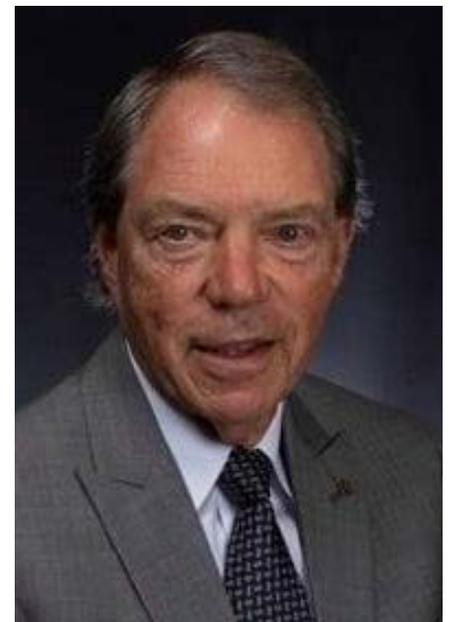
goal of conducting animal nutrition research was still out of reach.

He decided to re-open his veterinary practice in Florence, AL to fund his own research later developed Farrier's Formula and selling it locally. Eventually retail stores and wholesale distributors took Farrier's Formula into the US mainstream market, and then he decided to take the product internationally.

Dr. Gravlee's intense life-long passion for helping horses created an industry that did not exist when he founded Life Data Labs. His latest projects include building a 282 kW solar plant to run the Life Data offices, manufacturing facility and warehouses, and also further automating the manufacturing with updated computer systems and a robotic packaging line.

Dr. Gravlee actively worked at the business he founded, Life Data Labs, well into his 90th year of age.

A private service was held for Dr. Gravlee's family on Saturday, January 29th, 2022.



Dr. Robert Lofton

Dr. Lofton passed away Saturday,

January 1, 2022, after a yearlong battle with ALS. He died at home surrounded by family and friends.

Robert was the oldest of three boys born to Matt and Frankie Lofton. He was born in Alexandria, Louisiana and raised in Ball, Louisiana. By the age of 16 he knew he wanted to be a veterinarian and he set his sights to meet that goal by working in local vet clinics making plans to attend LSU where he continued to work in local clinics and work on campus. He attended Auburn School of Veterinary Medicine and made lifelong friends and colleagues while a student.

After graduation he practiced for a year in Roanoke, Virginia then moved to Lake Charles, LA where he built a small animal practice, University Animal Clinic and worked for 40 years. While in Lake Charles he was involved in many areas of veterinary medicine on local, state and national levels. He was a deacon at Trinity Baptist Church where he taught Sunday School for young marrieds for most of his years at Trinity.

He was also active in the community with Little League, Scouts and Kiwanis. Upon retirement Robert moved to Opelika, AL to move to his wife's hometown and to help take care of his mother-in-law. At this time, he was able to fulfil another dream of being on staff at AU Veterinary School. At Auburn he worked with Fourth Year students in the Community Practice and still be able to work with clients while teaching the students to put into practice what they had learned the three years previous.

Most of all he loved people! He could talk to anyone and

find out more about them in a short period of time. He loved the young and the old, the successful and those who needed a hand up. Most importantly he loved the Lord and wanted to be sure that people knew the Lord as their personal savior. His first prayer about ALS was that God would be glorified in the process.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Matt and Frankie Lofton, a niece Lynne Lofton Walker, his in-laws, John and Margaret Melson, and sister-in-law, Barbara Lavallet, who also died from ALS, and her husband, Phil.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Lela and their son Jesse Robert Lofton, brothers and sister in laws Dewey and Karen Lofton, Terry and Brenda Lofton, sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Sally Melson Phillips and Jody Phillips and numerous nieces and nephews, and of course his faithful dog, Grace.



Dr. Mark Miller

Dr. Mark Miller passed away Wednesday, December 15, 2021, as a result of a cycling accident. He grew up a military brat, graduating from Cullman High

School where he was a star on the Cross-Country Team, and in the summers spent time on his family's farm in Illinois. He was a man of integrity and character, "he was the kind of guy you hope becomes your friend." Mark was a member of the Army 20th Special Forces.

He attended Auburn University where he was in the Alpha Psi Veterinary Fraternity and President of his class. A few days after Vet School graduation, he married Margaret (Midge) Rountree Stockham. They lived in Jensen Beach for two years before moving back to Birmingham and starting Cahaba Valley Animal Clinic, where Mark worked for the majority of his career.

He was a founding member of the Emergency and Specialty Animal Medical Center. After retirement in 2016, Mark maintained friendships from all walks of his veterinary life, traveling to conferences and going on trips.

The greatest joy of Mark's life arrived in 1993 when his daughter Elizabeth Lee Miller was born, and he was so proud to walk her down the aisle last year as she married Trent Coleman.

Mark was an avid cyclist and golfer, typically splitting his retirement days between these two beloved activities. He created an amazing community of cyclists and golfers in both Birmingham and his summer home – Harbor Springs, Michigan.

Dr. Miller is survived by his wife, Midge Stockham Miller and daughter Elizabeth Miller Coleman (Trent) of Birmingham; parents, Mary and Bob Miller and sister Robyn Miller of Lexington, Kentucky; an extensive extended family, and his many wonderful friends. 🐾

It's Better at the Beach!

Please continue to check the ECVC website at emeraldcoastvc.com for the most up-to-date program information.



Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference

**June 1-5,
2022**

Sun SHINE & CE

The 2022 Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference, is scheduled for June 1-5, 2022. The conference will be held at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in Miramar Beach, FL. The Alabama and Georgia State Veterinary Medical Associations work side by side to provide outstanding continuing education at an event unlike any other. White sand beaches and a world-class golf and beach resort create an environment that attracts attendees from all over the country, as well as, the best speakers. Join us and find out why so many attendees return year after year.

At ECVC we know that veterinarians need quality continuing education, but we also know that the life of a veterinarian, regardless of the setting, can be rather stressful. So, we have made a conference that isn't. The four-day event offers 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 will be an opportunity to learn, relax, network, and put your toes in the sand. The ALVMA will hold its general business meeting at 4 PM in the Baytowne Conference Center, followed by the Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception on Wednesday evening. The exhibit hall will be packed with exhibitors offering new information on the latest veterinary products and services.

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Hotel Reservations

Group Discount is available through May 2, 2022.

ECVC discounted room rates are available before and after the event when you use our Group Code 23Y2XE. Choose from traditional hotel rooms, or upgrade your stay to a villa, condo or suite in the location that suits you best. All convention sessions and most activities are in The Village, which offers the only lodging within walking distance. If you would rather stay in a different area, the complimentary tram and water taxi provide free transportation to The Village but waits can be long at peak times. Some sessions begin before the tram runs, so please plan accordingly. The conference is being held in the Baytowne Conference Center. To reserve your room, please visit www.sandestin.com/23Y2XE or call 1-800-320-8115.

Special Events

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

Exhibit Hall Welcome
Grand Opening
5:00pm – 6:30pm

FREE to attend!

This is a great opportunity to get a first look at the Exhibit Hall and visit our wonderful vendors!

This event is sponsored by the ECVC Industry Council.

Thursday – June 2, 2022

1pm – ALVMA
Awards Luncheon
Juniper Ballroom of
the Hotel Effie adjacent to the Baytowne
Conference Center

1:30pm – Beer by
the Pool – Sponsored
by Dan Scott and
Associates

Friday – June 3, 2022

Join your colleagues and save on greens fees on Friday afternoon while you play 18 holes on Baytowne Golf Course, one of the Southeast's finest greens. Be sure to thank the sponsors at each hole – golfers will save more than \$100 off of ticket price, thanks to these companies!



Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort

The Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort is nestled on 2,400 spectacular acres between the emerald waters of the Gulf of Mexico and the Choctawhatchee Bay. The resort offers everything you can imagine making your stay perfect. In addition to the ECVC group activities each day, please take advantage of the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort and everything it has to offer. Bikes, canoes, boogie boards, kayaks, pontoon boats, sailing, wave runners and yolo boards are all available. The Baytowne Village offers a variety of restaurants for every culinary liking, and other fun activities are available such as charter fishing from the Baytowne Marina or Sunset Dinner Cruises. Oh, and did we mention – there is also the beach!

2022 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

EMERALD COAST VETERINARIAN CONFERENCE

Drs. Vernard Hodges and Terrence Ferguson of Nat Geo Wild's *Critter Fixers: Country Vets*



Vernard Hodges, DVM



Terrence Ferguson, DVM

Join us Thursday morning, June 2 at 7:00am as Tuskegee University Alumni Dr. Vernard Hodges and Dr. Terrence Ferguson present *Becoming the Critter Fixers: Why mentorship matters.*

ALVMA Business Meeting



The next general business meeting of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association will be held prior to the Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 3:00 PM. The meeting will take place in the Camellia I Boardroom which is in the Baytowne Conference Center on the second level. The Baytowne Conference Center is a part of the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort.

EMERALD COAST VETERINARY CONFERENCE 2022 GET THE APP!

We have made the Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference even more stress-free with our meeting app. Whether you want to create your own agenda, contact another registrant, find a vendor, or a map of the resort, the new ECVC meeting app has everything you need to make your conference easier, even while you are relaxing by the pool or enjoying our white sand beaches.



2022 ECVC Conference Topics

Thursday, June 2, 2022

- Hematology/Serology
- Radiology/Digital Photography
- Small Ruminants
- Neurology
- USDA
- Poultry

Friday, June 3, 2022

- Orthopedic Surgery
- Ophthalmology
- Immunology
- Pulmonology
- Infectious Disease
- Poultry

Saturday, June 4, 2022

- Alternative Medicine
- Soft Tissue Surgery
- Feline Behavior
- Backyard Poultry
- Internal Medicine
- LEAP
- Veterinary Technician

Sunday, June 5, 2022

- Endocrinology
- Cardiology
- Wellbeing
- Pharmacology
- Pediatrics
- Veterinary Technician

2022 ECVC Exhibitors

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Zi Nova, Inc.
Ackerman Group
Alliance Animal Health
American Regent
Animal Health
AmeriVet Veterinary Partners
Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine
Bank of America Practice Solutions
Blue Frog, LLC
Blue Ridge Imaging Technologies
Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health (Pet Vet)
Boehringer Ingelheim-Poultry BU
CARR
Ceva Animal Health, LLC
Choice Medical Systems, Inc.
Christian Veterinary Mission
CityVet
clearonhold & Fragrant Solutions
Companion Animal Health
Covetrus
CP Medical
Dan Scott & Associates
Doctor Multimedia
DVM Consulting and Recruiting
Elanco
Epicur Pharma
ExeGi Pharma
Esaote North America
First Financial Bank
HDA Architects, Inc.
Huntington Practice Finance
IDEXX
Imperial Imaging Technology
Lakefield Veterinary Group
Legacy Veterinary Advisors
MAI Animal Health
Medi Lazer</p> | <p>Merck Animal Health
Microvet Diagnostics
MILA International, Inc.
Morton Construction Inc.
MWI Animal Health
Nelson & Associates
Nestle Purina Pet Care
Norbrook, Inc.
Nutramax Laboratories
Veterinary Sciences, Inc.
Ocu-Glo by Animal Necessity
Patterson Veterinary
Paws Whiskers & Wags
People, Pets & Vets
PetFolk
Provide
PSIvet
Revo Squared LLC
Schultz Technology
Simmons & Associates
Skoped Micro
Southeast Design, Inc
Southeast Medical Books
Southeast Vet lab
Southern Financial Consultants
Southern Veterinary Partners
Summus Medical Laser
Talkatoo Inc.
Taylors Pharmacy
The Vet Assured/Natural
Vet Companies LLC
Torigen Pharmaceuticals
Total Practice Solutions Group
Universal Imaging, Inc.
University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine
VenomVet
Weave
Wells Fargo
Western Veterinary Partners
Xoran Technologies
Zoetis</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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Registration Form

Early-bird Deadline – 5/2
Register Online Now at www.EmeraldCoastVC.com

Attendee

**Only ONE registrant per form (includes purchasing agent).
Make copies as needed.**

Name: _____
First Name for Badge: _____
Company/Practice: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____

Select the description that best fits you

- Practice Owner Associate Vet Licensed Tech Practice Manager
- Other: _____

License # (if applicable): _____ State associated w/ License #: _____

CE

Please select the continuing education tracks you plan to attend on each day.

- Thursday, June 2** Keynote
 Hematology & Serology Radiology & Digital Photography Neurology
 Small Ruminants USDA Modules Poultry
- Friday, June 3**
 Immunology Infectious Diseases Ophthalmology
 Orthopedic Surgery Pulmonology Poultry
- Saturday, June 4**
 Alternative Medicine Backyard Poultry Feline Behavior
 Internal Medicine Soft Tissue Surgery GA & FL Regulatory CE
 Veterinary Technicians
- Sunday, June 5**
 Cardiology Endocrinology Pediatrics
 Pharmacology Wellbeing Veterinary Technicians

Services

- Tram Service Needed** – I plan to use the resort tram service to the convention center (not needed for Grand Sandestin and Baytowne buildings)

Payment

Registration Subtotal \$ _____ Proceedings Subtotal \$ _____ Total Due \$ _____
Name: _____ Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Signature: _____

Registration

Are you a State VMA Member? Yes No
Please list your VMA: _____

	Member'/Non-member	Early Bird Rate	Late Rate
		On or before 5/2/22	After 5/2/22
<input type="checkbox"/> DVM Full Registration (4 Days)	\$495/\$645	\$595/\$725	
<input type="checkbox"/> DVM 2-Day Registration	\$395/\$445	\$445/\$495	
Select 2 Days: <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs <input type="checkbox"/> Fri <input type="checkbox"/> Sat <input type="checkbox"/> Sun			
<input type="checkbox"/> Vet Tech/Staff Upgraded Full ³	\$495	\$595	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vet Tech/Staff 2-Day ²	\$315	\$415	
<input type="checkbox"/> Recent Graduates ⁴ (2020, 2021 or 2022)	\$275	\$275	
<input type="checkbox"/> DVM Student (limited to first 15 students)	\$100	\$100	
<input type="checkbox"/> Technician Student (limited to first 5 students)	\$100	\$100	
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest ⁵	\$75	\$75	
Name for Guest Badge _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing Agent ⁶ (limited to exhibit hall only - 10:30 am to 12:30 pm - 6/2 - 6/4)	\$25	\$25	

Proceedings⁷

Select ONE (only one version available per attendee):

- Electronic Proceedings (FREE) Printed Proceedings (\$75)

Activities/Events

ECVC cannot guarantee space for any activities after May 2.

	Cost	Number	Total
Exhibit Opening (Wed, 5-6:30 pm)	Free	[]	\$ _____
ALVMA Luncheon (Thurs, 1pm)	\$45	[]	\$ _____
Golf Outing (Fri, 1:30pm)	\$60	[]	\$ _____
Alumni Meeting	Free	[]	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> AU <input type="checkbox"/> UGA <input type="checkbox"/> Tuskegee (contact your university for date/time)			

- Member pricing includes ALVMA/GVMA members and members of any other state VMA. Does not include AVMA.
- "Vet Tech/Staff 2-Day" registration includes the technician tracks on Saturday and Sunday. Veterinary Technicians may attend other sessions outside of the technician tracks through the "Vet Tech/Staff Upgraded Full" registration.
- "Vet Tech/Staff Upgraded Full" registration includes access to all tracks.
- Recent graduates are DVMs who graduated from veterinary college in 2020, 2021 or 2022.
- Guest badges are required for guests who wish to access the exhibit hall, including the daily breakfast. No one will be allowed admission to the exhibit hall without a badge. Children under 16 are not permitted in the exhibit hall 6/2 - 6/4.
- Admission to exhibit hall only from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm from Thursday, 6/2 - Saturday, 6/4. Does not include breakfast.
- Proceedings are available to download from our website for free. Printed books may be pre-purchased for an additional cost. Both options contain notes from all conference tracks. Availability of printed proceedings is not guaranteed after May 2.

Cancellation Policy

80% refund if received by May 2, 2022. No refunds after this date.
Refunds will not be available for activities cancelled after May 2, 2022.

Registration includes: conference proceedings downloaded from website, admission to the exhibit hall and all CE sessions on the selected day of attendance, breakfast and beverage breaks each registered day, and free special events that occur during your attendance.
Fax to: 678-309-3361 or Mail to: Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference, 6050 Peachtree Parkway, Suite 240-381, Norcross, GA 30092 or email to info@emeraldcoastvc.com.



Veteran Member Profile

Robert A. Martin • Dothan, AL



Q. What inspired you to pursue a career in veterinary medicine?

I grew up on a traditional small farm with row crops, cattle, pigs, chickens, and horses. I loved that environment and was impressed by our local veterinarian who came out predominantly for bovine health care.

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

I am a veterinary surgeon (DACVS) and always wanted to be a surgeon. My granddad wanted to be a surgeon, but his father made him pursue farming (his story).

Q. Where did you study?

Auburn (1972 - 1976) and New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell U.

Q. Who is your role model/mentor?

I mentioned our family veterinarian (James F. Jordan) above. Also, Arthur Moore (local veterinarian while in high school and college) and John Saidla (I worked as a practice employee for him while at Auburn) were colleagues that impacted my future.

Q. What do/did you enjoy most about your job?

Making a difference in the lives of people who love their pets truly as family members.

Q. What is/was the hardest part of your job?

Not being able to provide care for everyone who seeks it.

Q. What was your most unusual client/case you have had in your career?

I worked with dolphins and sea lions while in the Air Force Veterinary Corps and learned how to restrain these animals as patients.

Q. What advice would you give a new student entering the study of veterinary medicine?

Develop study habits that will sustain you for a life of learning since veterinary medicine like all medical fields is a career of change and new information application.

Q. What advice can you offer a new graduate entering this profession?

Choose carefully your first year or two out where you work because having a good practice mentor(s) is critical to one's development as a practitioner. Also, our profession is remarkably broad and choosing to serve outside the traditional practitioner role is a commendable and worthy pursuit.

Q. Where do you see yourself in five years?

...Retired:)

Q. What is the most memorable experience of your career?

Anesthetizing a lioness at the Syracuse Zoo.

Q. What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Making a positive impact in the students (didactic and clinical) and practicing veterinarians (hands-on surgical CE) I taught during my 25-year career at Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech.

Q. What words of encouragement would you offer someone struggling with compassion fatigue or burnout?

Count your blessings at being trained and skilled to provide the service you do for people and their pets or whatever your field of professional service is, reflecting on the positive impact we as veterinarians make in the lives of others.

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

Development of pain drugs and promoting their use in veterinary medicine.

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

Develop a more cost-effective way for educating veterinarians that does not bury them in debt before they earn a sustainable income to service that burden.

Q. In my spare time, you'll find me...

At home with my wife reading or doing things together outside.

Q. I still would like to learn how to...

Speak Spanish.

Q. How did you get involved with the ALVMA?

I became an honor roll member of the AVMA (70 years old + 40 years of membership) and have always recognized the value of and supported organized veterinary

medicine at the national, state, and local levels. It is a professional responsibility to me to participate as a member.

Q. Why would you recommend that someone join ALVMA?

Contributions to the professional organization by its members sustain all that we do in this broad array of professional opportunities that a veterinarian can pursue. Membership is both a responsibility and a privilege to provide a voice, future direction, and contribution to one of the best service professions in a state.

Q. How has being a member of ALVMA helped you professionally?

I can offer my opinion about issues pertinent to our profession in AL and be kept aware of activities that are important to our profession 🐾





Power of 10 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

As we diligently press forward in our daily veterinary work lives, it serves us well to pause and look around at where we have been and who has been there with us. Having a visible support group with us in the trenches and a partner protecting professional practices remains essential. Our Alabama VMA recognizes the importance of all aspects of colleague support.

The Power of 10 Leadership Academy sponsored by ALVMA is one way this happens. PO10 provides interactive seminars hosted by subject matter experts to develop priceless skill sets that stay relevant over the years. ALVMA is just one of numerous state VMAs who recognize this year-long initiative as worthwhile. Take one of these pauses to recognize the ten-year anniversary of the Power of 10 Leadership Academy. Perhaps you will be a participant for 2023 and keep this peer network going!

**INSIGHTS DISCOVERY
WORKSHOP – FEBRUARY 13, 2022**
The 2022 Power of Ten Leadership Academy began their year with an Insight’s Discovery Workshop lead by Dr. Heidi Hulon of Elanco. The

workshop provides a personality assessment based on seemingly random word pairings. The participants’ responses are analyzed and then presented with the most comprehensive interpretation of

what makes them who they are. While learning about themselves, they also learn how to better read and understand others to facilitate healthier and more productive interactions. 🐾

THE 2022 LEADERSHIP CLASS PARTICIPANTS ARE LISTED BELOW:

- DR. JOSE HERNANDEZ – ST. GEORGE’S UNIVERSITY 2020**
- DR. SHEREE MILLIGAN – TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY 2021**
- DR. REBECCA PARKER – ST. GEORGE’S UNIVERSITY 2020**
- DR. BRANDON PATE - MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY 2019**
- DR. CAMILE REDING – AUBURN UNIVERSITY 2019**
- DR. LISA TENNY – KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY 2019**
- DR. WHITNEY TERRELL – UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN 2016**



Pictured: Drs. Jose Hernandez, Rebecca Parker, Sheree Milligan, Whitney Terrell and her dog Dobby.



ALVMA is proud to continue the Power of Ten program. If you are interested in becoming a part of the leadership class for 2023, please contact Staci Corder via email corder.stacil@gmail.com or via phone 334.603.6227. 🐾



Veterinary LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2022

Written by Dr. Lisa Tenny



Dr. Lisa Tenny was selected by the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association (ALVMA) as Alabama's Emerging Leader. As the Emerging Leader, Dr. Tenny was sponsored by the ALVMA to attend the 2022 Veterinary Leadership Conference (VLC) in Chicago. Dr. Tenny

is a poultry veterinarian for Aviagen working in Elkmont, AL. Originally from Leawood, Kansas, Dr. Tenny moved to Alabama to pursue her dream of becoming a poultry veterinarian. She completed the Alabama Power of Ten program in 2020 after becoming connected with the ALVMA.

The Veterinary Leadership conference is the veterinary profession's premier conference for leadership development. Through a unique mix of CE sessions, AVMA governance meetings, and networking, Dr. Tenny was able to expand and hone her leadership skills while connecting with a diverse network of colleagues from all walks of the veterinary profession.

As a part of the VLC meeting, Dr. Tenny was paired with a House of Delegates (HOD) representative from Washington- Dr. Gary Marshall- to be a mentor for the conference. Dr. Marshall was able to provide Dr. Tenny with advice and wisdom about navigating the conference and recommended sessions that would be of particular interest to her. Dr. Marshall introduced Dr.



Tenny to several of his colleagues in the HOD, including one of the representatives

from Alabama, Dr. Harold Pate. Organized veterinary medicine provides the backbone and support for the interests of veterinary professionals as a whole. The AVMA and HOD works to support the needs of the profession in a non-partisan approach to better the entire field of veterinary medicine.

Dr. Tenny attended many CE sessions and workshops geared towards specific professional development skills. One of Dr. Tenny's professional interest is student development. She was able to learn about specific strategies in becoming a better mentor to undergraduate and veterinary students alike. Creating marketing platforms using popular social media tools, like Instagram can be a creative and effective method of showing prospective veterinarians what the culture of caring looks like in modern veterinary practices.

Dr. Tenny was also able to meet professionals from many aspects of the industry, listening and learning from their stories. The importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the veterinary field is paramount. Differences in age, culture, and background make the totality of a team greater than the sum of its parts, because each perspective is more likely to be uniquely different from those of their colleagues. These differences are the strengths that bring value and creative problem solving to any team. There are several veterinary organizations dedicated to this cause. Pawsibilities and Pride VMC are great resources for anyone interested in learning more about DEI in veterinary medicine.

Dr. Tenny was able to return home with an abundance of insightful information she will be able to use in her work as a poultry veterinarian. She encourages everyone who has not had the chance to attend as a student or as a professional to consider attending the Veterinary Leadership Conference next year! 🐾

Mark Your Calendars for these Future ECVC Contracted Dates!

- June 1-5, 2022
- May 29 – June 2, 2024
- May 31-June 4, 2023
- May 28 – June 1, 2025

What is the ALVMA PAC?



It is the Political Action Committee for the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association; a nonpartisanvoluntary committee of Alabama veterinarians who contribute funds to aid in the election of candidates for state office. Through the PAC, financial support is provided to those candidates who best represent the needs and concepts of the veterinary profession.

The Alabama Legislature is made up of 105 Representatives and 35 Senators. These 140 elected legislators make key decisions that affect your patients and your practice. It is through ALVMA PAC that the views and interests of veterinary medicine are represented regarding such decisions.

The ALVMA PAC is nonpartisan and does not support candidates based solely on his or her party affiliation. Support of a viable candidate is based on several factors including his/her past voting record, recommendation from an ALVMA member, and the willingness to listen to the view of veterinary medicine.

Using the above criteria helps determine which candidates will receive the support of the ALVMA PAC. Your suggestions are absolutely essential to our success. Without such input, it would be impossible to know each candidate.

It is important that ALVMA supports those elected officials who support us and to do so we need your help. A contribution of any amount will help fund the campaigns of our legislative allies and endorsed candidates as we approach the 2022 legislative session.

**Donations are accepted at www.alvma.com/donations
or by mailing a check to:**

PO Box 803
Fayetteville, TN 37334

Disclaimer: ALVMA PAC is the state political action committee of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association. Contributions to ALVMA PAC are not tax-deductible for income tax purposes. The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association will not favor or disadvantage anyone based on the amount or failure to contribute.

Premiering Summer 2022!

ALVMA is getting a facelift!
ALVMA Logo, Website, and Membership
Database to be unveiled SOON!

Save the Date!



February 24-26, 2023

Marriott Resort Auburn- Opelika

Auburn University

College of Veterinary Medicine vetmed.auburn.edu

Written by
Mike Jernigan
Auburn University



Largest research contract in Auburn University history awarded to Auburn Vet Med to advance detection canine science in collaboration with Homeland Security

Auburn Vet Med awarded \$24 million Homeland Security contract to advance detection canine science; research contract Auburn's largest

The Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine has been awarded a five-year, \$24 million contract by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) to advance detection canine sciences and enhance operational threat detection capabilities. The award is the single largest research contract awarded to Auburn University.

The contract will support initiatives in Auburn's recently established, transdisciplinary Detection Canine Sciences, Innovation, Technology and Education (DCSITE) program, which will serve as the primary academic resource to the DHS S&T for expertise in all areas of detection canine sciences. The program will integrate the best scientific practices in analytical chemistry, genetics, genomics, reproduction, veterinary and sports medicine, olfactory neuroscience, behavior and cognition, metrology and engineering to advance detection canine sciences.

Anchored in Auburn's College of Veterinary Medicine, the endeavor represents a collaborative effort

involving subject-matter experts from multiple Auburn colleges and allied supporting educational and technical units. Capabilities will be further leveraged through targeted external partnerships involving experts at other academic institutions, national laboratories and private research and development enterprises.

"No other detection option currently available can locate and track-to-source small-quantity odors in real time, providing law enforcement with critical threat intelligence and enabling immediate deployment of countermeasures to reduce the risk of successful attacks," said Frank "Skip" Bartol, College of Veterinary Medicine associate dean for research and graduate studies and DCSITE program project investigator.

More information about the DCSITE program is available at www.dcsite.org.

Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine honors 2022 Wilford S. Bailey Award Recipients

Three outstanding alumni of Auburn University's College of Veterinary Medicine — Clayton D. Hilton '97, Gregory B. Daniel '83 and Robert M. Lofton '72 — were honored as the 2022 winners of

the Wilford S. Bailey Distinguished Alumni Awards during a ceremony at the Auburn University Club on April 7.

The award is the highest honor given to Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine alumni to recognize their professional accomplishments in veterinary medicine, outstanding contributions to their communities and the overall advancement of animal and human health. Awardees are recognized in three different areas of eligibility: public policy and research, veterinary practice and academia.

The 2022 recipient in public policy and research is Clayton D. Hilton, currently a professor and Jo and Bruce Gunn Endowed Director of Veterinary Technology in the Department of Animal Science and Veterinary Technology at TAMU-K. In addition, he serves as wildlife veterinarian at the Caesar Kleberg

The Wilford S. Bailey award is the highest honor given to Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine alumni to recognize their professional accomplishments in veterinary medicine, outstanding contributions to their communities and the overall advancement of animal and human health.



2022 Wilford S. Bailey Distinguished Alumni Award recipients, from left, are Clayton Hilton; Lela Lofton, who accepted on behalf of her late husband, Robert Lofton; Dean Calvin Johnson; and Gregory Daniel.

Wildlife Research Institute and unit manager at the Alkek Captive Ungulate Research Facility, both located in Kingsville, Texas. Dr. Hilton has been honored with various awards for his many achievements, including the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians Presidential Service Award in 2020 and the Dick and Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences Junior Faculty Teaching Award in 2017.

The 2022 recipient in academia is Gregory B. Daniel. Dr. Daniel received a bachelor's degree in animal science from the University of Kentucky before earning his DVM at Auburn in 1983. From 2007 to the present, he has served as professor of radiology in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech University. He also served with distinction as interim dean of the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech from 2017-2020.

The 2022 recipient in private practice is the late Robert M. Lofton.

Dr. Lofton earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from Louisiana State University before completing a DVM from Auburn in 1972. Following graduation, he founded University Animal Clinic in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where he practiced for the next 36 years. He joined the Auburn faculty in 2013 as an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Clinical Sciences. During his 5-year tenure at Auburn, he was a principal developer of the Auburn University Veterinary Clinic, the Auburn Veterinary Academy and the Hoerlein Hall Spay-Neuter Program. Dr. Lofton fought valiantly against a rapidly progressing disease in 2021 and passed away in January 2022.

Baird Named Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

A. Nickie Baird, DVM, MS, DACVS has been selected as associate dean for clinical affairs and professor with tenure in the Department of Clinical Sciences at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine.

A tenured professor with four-

and-a-half years in rank and 20 years on faculty in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University, Dr. Baird served as chief of staff at Purdue for nine years, a member of the Teaching Hospital Administrative Council for 15 years and a member of the hospital's interim management team during a recent transition in directorship from 2019-20.

Dr. Baird earned a bachelor's degree from

North Carolina State University, master's degree from Texas A&M University and a DVM from Auburn University in the Class of 1984. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons or ACVS. Prior appointments include a 3-year faculty appointment at Penn and eight years as a faculty member — from 1990-98 — achieving tenured associate professor rank at Auburn University. 🐾



A. Nickie Baird recently named Assoc. Dean for Clinical Affairs

Tuskegee University

Information Submitted by
Anissa L. Riley,
Director of External Affairs

College of Veterinary Medicine tuskegee.edu/vetmed.com



Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine Hosts Virtual 56th Symposium and celebrates largest reunion classes donations

The Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine (TUCVM) welcomed alumni, students, faculty, staff, pre-veterinary students, friends and supporters to its 56th Annual Veterinary Medical Symposium held in a virtual platform on March 23-25, 2022.

This year's symposium theme was "Veterinary Medicine Preparing for a Post Pandemic World: New Norms, Mental Health and Innovation." It was timely and underscores the commitment the university, college and TUCVM's partners have to navigating the new normal and engaging all stakeholders to work together to have the best practices necessary for sustaining TUCVM's legacy of preparing students to be career-ready veterinary

medical professionals.

The opening general session keynote speaker, Barney S. Graham, MD, Ph.D., spoke on "*Rapid COVID-19 Vaccine Development and the Future of Vaccinology*" on March 24. Dr. Graham is a world renowned immunologist and former Deputy Director of the NIAID Vaccine Research Center, NIH.

Another outstanding keynote speaker presentation was from alumnus Dr. Eric Coleman, a two-time graduate of Tuskegee University earning his B.S. in Biology in 1986 and his DVM in 1991. Dr. Coleman was the T.S. Williams Speaker and his presentation exemplified the legacy of the late Dr. T. S. Williams, Dean Emeritus of the College. Dr. Coleman is a 2022 White House Leadership Development Program Fellow, and in his current position, he collaborates globally to bolster national security, advance

foreign policy objectives, and strengthen emergency response preparedness.

The culmination event, the annual alumni banquet, was also celebrated in a virtual format in which each of the reunion classes were recognized as their class video presentation was shared for all to view and enjoy. The reunion classes honored this year for the 56th Annual Veterinary Medical Symposium included: 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972 (50th year - golden class), 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997 (25th year - silver class), 2002, 2007, 2012, and 2017.

"The annual veterinary medical symposium is our largest fundraiser event. Our Reunion Classes did a phenomenal job with giving back. We raised a total of \$263,269.00 with more coming. Being an alumna, I am especially grateful to my reunion Class of 1977 for the \$122,022 donation given during this year's symposium, which was the largest amount in our history for an individual reunion class donation. I often boast about the strength of our alumni and how engaged they are in the success of our college in not only making philanthropic contributions but also serving as mentors and advocates to our veterinary students and educators with our faculty. Our alumni are one of the major pillars of our college in which I am grateful!" Dr. Perry said.

Theme: "Veterinary Medicine in a Post-Pandemic World: New Norms, Mental Health, and Innovation"

Honoring the Reunion Classes:
1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972 (50th year - golden class), 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997 (25th year - silver class), 2002, 2007, 2012, and 2017.

1972 (50th year - golden class)

1997 (25th year - silver class)

Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine presents 58 white coats to students at 2022 ceremony

After being able to only do a virtual white coat ceremony last year due to the coronavirus pandemic, 58 students were excited to have an in-person ceremony this year held on February 26 at the Tuskegee University Chapel. The event was sponsored by Zoetis Animal Health, the American Veterinary Medical History Society, Inc. in association with participation from Alabama, Kentucky and South Carolina Veterinary Medical Associations.

Dr. Roslyn Casimir, associate dean of Academic Affairs, with assistance from Mr. Anthony McCloud, director of Student Affairs, and the White Coat Ceremony

Planning Committee organized this year's event under the direction of Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the college. In-person greetings were given by Dean Perry; Dr. Calvin M. Johnson, dean of Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine; Dr. Steven T. Murphree, president of Alabama Veterinary Medical Association; Dr. Jason Rodgers, president of Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association; Dr. Mike Ferguson, president of South Carolina Association of Veterinarians; and congratulatory greetings were read



on behalf of faithful sponsor Dr. Harvey Crumm, senior academic liaison with Zoetis Animal Health, who was unable to attend.

For anyone who missed the ceremony, it can be viewed at the university's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/tuskegeeuiversity>.

THE 58 MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2023 WHO RECEIVED WHITE COATS ARE:

Alabama Students

Patricia J Bradley Gross., Colby E. Horne, Jane P. Hostomsky, Portia J. Hunt, Savannah S. Mashburn, Erin N. Pettibon, Vivian O. Randolph, Scarlett R. Robinson, Jordan T. Smith, Carley D. Tramble and Trijon Y. White

Kentucky Students

Serena D. Stoddard and Danny Taoia Gaytan

South Carolina Students

Allison B. Enfinger, Jocelyn M. McGill, Alexander J. Pierce and Bryanna G. Snipes

Non-Resident Students

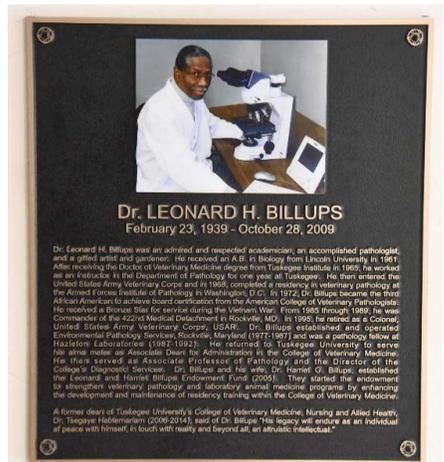
Natalie R. Adams, Amanda M. Aguiar, Ansleigh S. Banks, Brianna N. Brooks, Tyana O Brown, Jessica Camarillo, Erika J. Del Pilar, Sydney Dockery, Aaliyah M. Finley, Liza C. Godfrey, Shane P. Halbleib, Danielle A. Henry, Sabrina E. Holguin, Bethany J. Hurley, Atalani Jackson, Aaliyah E. Johnson, April A. John-

son, Kierra A. Johnson, Sierra A. Johnson, Stevi-Nichole M. Kincade, Kara D. Lane, María del Mar López Maldonado, Robert L. McGowan III, Jan J. Medina, Warren A. Miles, Kennedy V. Miller, Hannah A. Monroe, Courtney S. Moore, Breyanna J. Morning-Bush, Olivier Moussignac, Jade A. Nelson, Ashlie C. Parker, Bryce A. Peterson, Asia I. Phillips, Maya R. Rollerson, Christin A. Rouse, Ja R'eika D. Smith, Kiera C. Sweetenberg, Kristopher D. Vine, Crystal M. Ware and Hayley M. Yeepun.

Memorial Plaque Dedicated in Memory of the Late TUCVM Faculty Member Dr. Leonard H. Billups

In memory of the late alumnus Dr. Leonard H. Billups (Class of 1965) and former faculty member, a plaque has been erected in his honor, located in the front hall of the recently renovated TUCVM postmortem building. Dr. Billups served as a respected and beloved faculty member within the Department of Pathobiology from 1992 until his passing in 2009. He was an anatomic pathologist and trained scores of veterinary students and interns, often serving as a mentor, providing guidance and wisdom to help others achieve their aspirations.

Dr. Billups was an influential team member within the department and college and was a foundational leader who helped grow the Veterinary Diagnostic Services Laboratory. In honor of his legacy and memory, his wife Dr. Harriet Billups spearheaded the effort to erect a memorial plaque in his honor.. 🐾



SAVMA Auburn

Written by
Zach Wriedt

This spring semester has been marked with a shift back into normalcy for SAVMA, the AUCVM, and the Auburn community. With the University mask mandate being lifted, AUCVM faculty, staff, and students were able to enjoy seeing each other's faces again! While being able to meet without masks has been great, it has more importantly allowed our chapter to accomplish more this semester than previously attainable. Our executive board has worked hard to host multiple events and meetings to positively impact the CVM community.

To start the semester, we hosted our annual Coverall Bar Crawl. This allowed students to enjoy socializing with their peers in multiple bars around downtown Auburn, bringing multiple classes together.

AUCVM SAVMA's President-elect (Zach Wriedt), President (Maddie Hughley), Senior Delegate (Sommer Pollard), and Junior Delegate (Alia Johnson) at the National SAVMA Symposium.



This event ran smoothly, and students emphasized how much they enjoyed being able to spend time with their peers outside of the CVM. Next, our SAVMA executive board put together an event called "coffee and conversations." This was an amazing opportunity for underclassmen to seek advice through their upperclassmen. Multiple second-, third-, and fourth-year students were selected to be available for the first-year students to meet with personally and ask any questions they had about their time at AUCVM. Additionally, refreshments were provided for everyone who came allowing for a great evening of mentorship. This event was made possible through the generous funding of the All for Students funding provided through the AVMA, and we at the AUCVM are forever grateful for this essential resource.

Shortly afterwards, the beginning of Wellness Week started.

This was a week filled with lunch and dinner meetings every day of the week that highlighted different aspects of wellness within our education and future profession. Students had the opportunity to win different types of wellness baskets, such as a reading basket or kickboxing basket. This jam-packed week was made possible through our multiple sponsors including the AVMA All for



AUCVM students in their coveralls at the SAVMA annual Coverall Bar crawl!



AUCVM students in their coveralls at the SAVMA annual Coverall Bar Crawl!

Our AUCVM SAVMA chapter held a cornhole tournament that benefited the Shelby Safe Pet organization. Shelby Safe Pet helps women of domestic violence with fostering their pets while they find proper housing/resources.

Students funding and ALVMA. Students were able to take this information with them throughout the rest of their semester as classes began to become more intensive.

Next, we had multiple meetings to educate students at the CVM about various aspects of the veterinary profession. First, we had a meeting with Dr. Hoffmeister, a professor of veterinary anesthesia at AUCVM, who spoke to students about medical errors. He explained to students how to minimize the risk of making mistakes and how to handle them appropriately when they do inevitably happen. Second, Thrive Pet Healthcare representative, Dr. Christina Moore, spoke to students about how to properly navigate negotiating employment agreements. A valuable educational opportunity for all students because eventually we will be tasked with navigating through this situation. Finally,

we had a meeting with Dr. Laura Aguilar who currently is in her third year of her residency program where she is working at the Georgia Aquarium. She explained to students what it is like to work in the aquarium as a veterinarian. Additionally, she spoke to students about what they should do if they also hoped to pursue a career in a zoo or aquarium in the future. All of these meetings gave students a great opportunity to learn from mentors of the veterinary profession and many took advantage of this.

By mid-March it was spring break and while some students went home to their families or the beach, some of our executive board team headed to the University of Minnesota for the SAVMA Symposium! This gave us the opportunity to represent the AUCVM in decision making at the national SAVMA level. Furthermore, executive members had the opportunity to attend educational



AUCVM students, Jon Bode (left) and Thad Hunter (right), play in the cornhole tournament for Shelby Safe Pet.

seminars and wet labs that helped them cultivate their growing veterinary medicine knowledge.

Finally, our AUCVM SAVMA chapter held a cornhole tournament that benefited the Shelby Safe Pet organization. Shelby Safe Pet helps women of domestic violence with fostering their pets while they find proper housing/resources. This was an opportunity for the CVM's classes to enjoy some healthy competition and watch cornhole throughout the afternoon. Ultimately the AUCVM raised \$670 for Shelby Safe Pet. We are grateful we were able to host a great event and help a cause that is important without our community.

While we have accomplished a lot this semester, there is still more we hope to do in the future. With the school year about to wrap up, we have over the summer to plan how we will facilitate bringing the AUCVM community closer together. This summer will be filled with brainstorming as we prepare for a new school year that will be filled with new experiences and new outcomes.

We thank the ALVMA for the constant support and all they do for the AUCVM SAVMA and the entire AUCVM community. 🐾



Multiple AUCVM students enjoying the cornhole tournament for Shelby Safe Pet.

SAVMA Tuskegee

Written by
Taylor T. Smith

Tuskegee's SAVMA Chapter continued in its momentum this Spring semester despite, yet another, hybrid learning environment. With many of our students attending classes virtually from various settings to the dedicated students who continued to show up in person, SAVMA was able to foster an environment of connectivity and engagement while hosting our many enriching and educative events. Below are some of the highlights from our exciting semester thus far.

We started the semester by hosting our first virtual speaker Dr. Blake Balog, owner of Bovine Livestock Health LTD. Dr. Balog is a partner with Coaldale Veterinary Clinic and operates out of Bow Valley Livestock Health in Brooks, Coaldale. He shared his story about becoming a veterinarian and working in bovine medicine with us and gave insight into being a content creator while managing work/life balance. Our next speaker was Dr. Jerry Klein, the Chief Veterinary Officer of the American Kennel Club. Dr. Klein acts as the AKC's official spokesperson and policy leader surrounding the preexisting and enhanced health commitments of the AKC as well as the principal authority on canine health, veterinary policy, and initiates relevant wellness campaigns. We learned a great deal about the structure and goals of the AKC through his presentation and also had a glimpse into world of dog showing as Dr. Klein has also acted as a judge for dog shows on both a national and international level including the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club dog show.

To start off the month of March, we partnered with the National

Veterinary Associates (NVA) and hosted Dr. Bruce Coston who founded Seven Bends Veterinary Hospital in Woodstock and has served on and chaired several AVMA entities including the Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents, the Clinical Practitioner's Advisory Committee, AVMA Working Group on Opioids, and the Council on Education. Currently, Dr. Coston sits on NVA's Medical Advisory Board and is a speaker for NVA's Campus Recruiting Department. Through his virtual presentation, Dr. Coston gave insight into the top 10 things he wishes he had known at graduation, and many students left with a greater sense of preparedness and an optimistic view of our futures after graduation. Our next speaker was Dr. Hunter Finn, a companion animal veterinarian operating out of Arlington, Texas and a very well known "Tiktoking Veterinarian".

Dr. Finn gave a virtual presentation about his journey through veterinary school, rules to follow as a new grad, and 10 steps to living our best lives as veterinary students and beyond. One of the highlights from Dr. Finn's presentation was the discussion on stress management strategies, providing students with different outlets to relieve stress and maintain a good work-life balance.

We began the month of April with a much needed and well-deserved Week of Wellness, hosted by our newly founded SAVMA Wellness Committee, spearheaded by SAVMA Wellness Representative, Danyelle Stroud. The week was full of daily events centered around mental health awareness, managing stress in healthy ways, and fitness. The first event began early Monday morning with a virtual meditative session hosted via Instagram with @rareform_yoga.



Students pose for a screen shot on zoom with Dr. Timbrala Marshall, Director of Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity for VCA Animal Hospital. She gave a virtual discussion about what DEI looks like for minorities in the vet med profession and how to ensure we are receiving the proper inclusion as vet students currently and veterinary professionals in the future.

Tuesdays' events were hosted by Not One More Vet (NOMV), an organization dedicated to suicide prevention and providing mental health resources for the veterinary community. During the lunch hour, students on campus were able to participate in an event called "Paws and Pals" which is aimed to serve as a mental health resource by bringing in animals to decrease stress hormones and increase dopamine levels. Later that afternoon, Dr. Erika Hendel of Not One More Vet Inc., gave a zoom presentation on dissecting the mental health realm and learning how to anticipate before complications. Wednesday afternoon, there was a yoga session held at The Yoga Room in Auburn, followed by a Real Talk session on Thursday evening, with Dr. Isaac Croudep, who shared his experience navigating mental health within the vet med profession as a black veterinarian. We finished up the week on Friday by hosting an event called "Make it Lit" at the Auburn Candle Company giving students the opportunity to connect and wind down together while create their own candles. This was an amazing and enlightening week which gave students to the chance to pause momentarily and focus on themselves and their mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health.

Continuing into April, we virtually hosted Ms. Renee Machel and Dr. Quincy Hawley, the founders of Get MotiVETed LLC, which is a company that provides wellbeing solutions for veterinary professionals and organizations. They spoke to us in an interactive virtual session about managing personal and professional wellbeing and development. After hearing Ms. Machel and Dr. Hawley speak so openly about overcoming wellbeing struggles,



Paws and Pals event hosted by Not One More Vet Inc (NOMV). First year veterinary students pose with fellow first year and NOMV representative, Shelby Walton, and her pups, Lily and Elvis, in the Patterson Hall Atrium during SAVMA's Week of Wellness.

many students were given the confidence to speak freely about different strategies they use themselves to overcome challenging times leading to a very positive and captivating meeting. Our next speaker was Dr. Timbrala Marshall, Director of Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity for VCA Animal Hospital. She gave a virtual discussion about what diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) look like for minorities in the vet med profession and how to ensure we are receiving the proper inclusion as vet students currently and veterinary professionals in the future. Dr. Marshall encouraged the students to engage in conversations with their classmates as well as professors and mentors about the ways in which they manage their stress and anxiety about, not only the veterinary medical profession, but also about the events that are happening currently all over the world. This presentation was as impactful as it was necessary as we are all trying to cultivate a safe space, environment of inclusiveness, and mental health awareness in veterinary medicine.

We plan to end our semester with a presentation from Dr.

Greg Echols, a recent graduate of Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine currently working as a general practitioner in Charlotte, NC. Dr. Echols also has a very strong presence on social media and plans to give a discussion on his journey through vet school, the importance of fitness, and managing your brand by creating social media content. Additionally, travel grant applications have been made available offering students the opportunity to apply for funding towards their extracurricular activities this summer break that involve traveling to conferences, symposiums, or other educational experiences. We also continue to support our clubs and organizations by providing funding for events and donating SAVMA store items to raffles and giveaways that clubs may hold for engagement. As finals week swiftly approaches, SAVMA hopes to have provided our students the necessary tools and outlets to manage stress and focus on their wellbeing through our many career advancing, stress relieving, engaging events and presentations. 🐾

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Alabama • New! Great New Listing: Make 2022 the year you step into practice ownership! 100% Small Animal Hospital with increasing revenues up 20% 2021 revenues of approximately \$1.15M. This 1.2 FTE DVM practice is located in Southeastern Alabama close to the Florida Panhandle and beautiful Gulf Coast. This very profitable & well-equipped small animal practice is a great opportunity to have a balanced lifestyle as well as the ability to easily pay off student loan debt as it currently provides ~\$245K in after debt income to a new owner. With a five-day work-week, the hours are conducive to a balanced life. Practice and Real Estate both available. (AL W22)

Louisiana • SOLD! This southern Louisiana veterinary hospital is a fantastic opportunity to start building equity in your own future. A 3 FTE DVM practice in 2020 with Gross Revenues of ~\$2.38M and after debt income ~\$285K. (LA S21)

Kentucky • Profitable Single DVM Practice. Located conveniently to both Louisville and Lexington, this community is a great place to reside. The practice is currently open 4 ½ days a week. The practice is located in an attractive 2,500 SF free standing hospital and is well equipped. 2021 Revenues in excess of \$655K; After-debt income estimated ~\$151K. Practice & Real Estate available. (KY W17)

Kentucky • Very profitable and well-equipped single DVM small animal practice with substantial growth located in beautiful western Kentucky. This is a great opportunity for anyone looking for a great place to live and practice. The practice is open Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm and Saturday from 8:00am – 12:00pm. 2021 Gross Revenues in excess of \$1.125M after-debt income estimated ~\$194K. Practice and Real Estate for Sale (KY 807)

Tennessee • SOLD – Corporate Sale Thriving Small Animal Hospital just southeast of Nashville. This growing veterinary practice is currently a 1.25 FTE/DVM practice. Perfect for a new owner. Practice and Real Estate Available. 2020 Gross Rev. \$970K+ (TN910)

Tennessee • New! Solo DVM Practice - Located on approximately 0.8 acres in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains and in close proximity to the Great Smokey Mountains. This well-equipped, 4,100+ square foot, free-standing veterinary building has the capacity to serve both small and large animal patients. With desirable Monday – Friday office hours and small animal emergencies referred to Knoxville, this opportunity allows for the perfect work-life balance. Gross Revenues for 2021 were ~\$1.2 million with 15.5% year over year growth. Estimated after debt income of \$182,000. Practice and Real Estate are both available. (TN R24)

Louisiana • Price Reduced! Located within the larger New Orleans–Metairie–Hammond combined statistical area. This well-established, full-service hospital has served the local community for many years. Convenient to the beaches of the gulf coast, this practice is well situated for the lover of the outdoors with numerous lakes, streams and forest lands to enjoy. Currently a single DVM, with 2021 Gross revenues estimated in excess of \$720K after-debt income estimated ~\$183K. Owner is motivated to sell and would welcome offers. (LA P18)



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