

North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians



Fall 2011

President's Letter

Hello. I would like to wish everyone a wonderful fall and I hope you had a great National Veterinary Technicians Week! The board appreciates your hard work. We would not be here without your support. The first NCAVT Fall Conference went very well. The scenery was beautiful! We had a good turnout and plan to make it an annual event. We are still working on our non-profit status. Jeannie (Secretary) and Sandi (Treasurer) have been feverishly working on all the necessary paperwork, which seems to be multiplying like rabbits! I want to thank them for the countless hours they have dedicated to this process and thank you our members for your continued patience. Fall is my favorite time of year. I hope you all are able to take a moment to enjoy the cooler weather before the mad rush of the holiday season begins! Please send us some pictures of you or your pets from Halloween – we would love to hear from you and be able to share what is going on in the lives of our members.

~Amanda Dillard, RVT, RALAT

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Special points of interest:

- Beautiful Asheville finally enjoyed Fall CE!!!
- Congratulations to AB Tech and CCCC Grads!!!!

Meet The Member: Rebekah Boan, RVT

I'm a 40-year old wife and mother to a large pack of Chihuahuas and a Mastiff mix, three cats, 2 snakes, and a guinea pig. I started off in human medicine where I worked as a medical secretary for several years and then as a Certified Pharmacy Technician for over 8 years before deciding to pursue my dream of working in an animal-care related field. With the support of my amazing husband, I was able to graduate from CCCC's Vet Med Technology program with honors and entered the working world. My first goal was to do either equine or exotic medicine, but with the economy falling apart right at the time of our graduation, that didn't happen so I ended up working at a couple of small private practices before moving to the Wake Forest area and getting my current job in Laboratory Animal Resources at NC State.

My main role at State is animal caretaker to the dogs and cats (and a few other species occasionally) used for teaching and research purposes at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. This includes their daily feeding, cleaning, treatments, and enrichment. So far, enrichment has been my most favorite part of this job because I never grow tired of seeing how happy an animal can be with a new toy or being able to go outside with their "buddy". I have had a lot of people ask me why, as an RVT, am I "wasting" my time doing husbandry work and I have to say that my education and skills DO come in handy, even in the most routine ways. I've had the opportunity to help a cat who was choking on part of a broom head, noticed skin conditions that may have gone unrecognized, and brought attention to animals that just didn't seem "right" to the people who work in Vet Services. In doing this job, I believe I help bring these animals a greater quality of life and hopefully provide them with the love and respect they deserve. Many of these animals will make the ultimate sacrifice to help bring us new procedures and medicines used not only for animals, but humans also, and I believe they need to be recognized as heroes and treated as such. Hopefully I have been a good advocate and voice for their needs.

As far as what the future holds, who knows? I worry sometimes that I am letting my technical skills get too rusty and need to be in a more "medical" field versus doing husbandry work. The one thing I am certain of is that the veterinary field has so many wonderful opportunities for technicians and I can't imagine doing anything else.

Recruitment and Retention

Hello fellow NCAVT members! I had quite an enjoyable experience at the CCCC graduation this year. I was able to present gifts from the association to the top two students for highest GPA. After speaking to the students about what a journey they have ahead, we enjoyed a slideshow that fellow board member and instructor Jonathan Loftis put together. My favorite part of attending the CCCC graduation was my one on one time with the fellow graduates. I was able to give them their technician oaths and talk to them about their future plans.

A handful of the Board members were able to attend and talk to students and the public about our Association at this year's Doggie Olympics. This was such an amazing event that we plan on attending each year. This year it was held at NC State College of Veterinary Medicine.

We still want to get our profession out there to the public, so if you have any events that you know of that we can attend and speak at, don't hesitate to e-mail us!

~Heather Sidari, RVT

AB Tech 2011 Pinning Ceremony

AB Tech in Asheville, NC had 19 students graduate from the Vet Tech program. JoEtta Newman, RVT led the ceremony, with music, speeches, and a heartfelt slide show. Students were surrounded by family, friends, peers, and mentors. Awards for \$100 each, provided by NCAVT, were given out for highest GPA, Jamie Pawlik, and student choice, Peggy McCutcheon. NCAVT memberships, until Dec 2012, and Veterinary Technician Oaths were also given out by Beth Green, Information Officer. And it was followed by a lovely reception. Congratulations to AB Tech's, 6th ever, graduating class!

Katie Aiken	Lisa Ballew
Farrah Carroll	Brittany Foley
Ashley Fuller	Lindsay Hornbuckle
April Kormanec	Peggy McCutcheon
Kathryn Miller	Rachel Mueller
Audria Pace	Jack Pahle
Jamie Pawlik	Carrie Pelletier
Julie Porter	Miranda Ruff
Tanya Snart	Kendra Somers
quelyn Weaver	

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National Veterinary Technician Week Oct 9th - 15th

Dear NCAVT Members,

It's that time of year again to celebrate our profession and all we do to help animals, pet owners, veterinarians and support staff. The NAVTA website has some great ideas and the NCAVT Officers have always looked forward to sending you a small gift during this week. As discussed at our Annual Spring Conference in March, this year we took on the expense of hiring a CPA for about \$2,600.00 to pursue official non-profit status. We feel that this is an important step for improving the association and that it will be beneficial to our members in the future. Unfortunately, this has temporarily depleted our cash reserves and left little money to spend on Vet Tech Week gifts for our members. Therefore, this year we are asking for your understanding in not receiving one as we move forward. Please know that we appreciate your continued membership and support during this time and plan on reinstating gifts once our financial situation has improved.

~Anne Myers, RVT, VTS (Cardiology)

NAVTA Rep for NCAVT

Fall Conference

Fall Conference in Asheville was a success!

Thank you to A-B Tech for allowing us to come and reach out to the technicians in the western part of the state. The campus was beautiful and the venue couldn't have been better.

Thanks to the technicians the made it to our very first conference in Asheville! We had a great time in the mountains and learned a great deal from each of our speakers.

We received excellent information on disaster relief and the technician's role. As well as, ways that everyone can become involved.

Research affects everyone and every animal whether they are in research or not and our second speaker taught us the many ways that animal research has impacted the world and how it has made so many advancements over the years.

In some situations we may let certain aspects of anatomy and physiology float out of our brains that we may need to administer the proper care to our patient. We received a refresher from our third speaker into why we administer fluid therapies to specific patients and the best steps to take to decide which therapy fits best.

Some of us love math, while others dislike math but in our field we have to perform math daily. When calculating dilutions, continuous rate infusions, or any drug dosage we must follow the 6 Rights, so we learned techniques from the fourth speaker to make those calculations simpler.

The personalities of our patients vary immensely. Our final two speakers discussed great methods for handling our animals with minimal stress. Socialization is one of many first lessons in a puppy's life. We learned many steps to ensure that our patients and owners receive this important information and will be able to properly interact with people and other dogs.

Thanks so much to our vendors that provided great food for breakfast and awesome door prizes!



20th Annual Dog Olympics

The 20th Annual Dog Olympics was located on the campus of the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine on September 10th, 2011. This event was hosted by the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine's Student Chapter of the American Animal Hospital Association to raise money for local animal rescue groups and to celebrate the human-animal bond. Canine friends competed in a variety of Olympic events including "Best Trick," "Musical Sit," "Look-A-Like," "Limbo," "High-Jump," and many more.

Those who were not feeling competitive were able to spend time with their four-legged friends on the beautiful campus by watching demonstrations of canine agility, training, and service dogs. Informational booths were available with learn how to activities and demonstrations. There were also various vendor booths with dog themed products and apparel for everyone in your family. There were numerous rescue groups in attendance for the attendees to learn more about the adoption process or how to become a foster family for dogs and cats or even a forever home.

This was the third year that the NCAVT had a booth at the Dog Olympics, to distribute information about Veterinary Technicians and how crucial we are in the veterinary medical field and to announce National Veterinary Technician Week dates. The booth was manned by Heather Sidari, Jeannie Losey, Anne Myers, and Kirsten Cromly. We had a great attendance with lots of eager young adults looking for career opportunities and others looking for career changes.



Jeannie Losey (left) and Heather Sidari.

Income Statement for 1/1/11 to 09/30/11

INCOME

Conference Registration	7,770.00
Interest Income	11.62
Membership Dues	3,550.00
Contributions Revenue	450.00
Sales	765.00

TOTAL

12,546.62
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EXPENSES

Bank Fees Expense	6.00
Conference Expense	3,395.56
Federal/State Fees	60.00
Administrative Expense	2950.23
Mailing Expense	642.78
Storage Expense	582.00
Miscellaneous Expense	90.25
Office Supplies Expense	255.63
Paypal Expense	132.15
Phone Expense	365.19
Printing Expense	578.36
Free Membership Expense	540.00
Tax Expense	0.00
Free Memberships	(540.00)
Website	107.40

TOTAL

9165.55
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Net Income

3381.07
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Donated space expense	3,387.00
Donated space	(3,387.00)
Donated Services	(300.00)
Donation Expense	2,131.86
Donations	(1,720.12)

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www.ncavt.com

The North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians is a non-profit organization designed to support the veterinary technician profession. It began as a small group of dedicated veterinary medical technicians in the Wake County area in the early 1980s. The number of members grew to 62 in 1987 and became the North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians. In 1992-93, officers of the NCAVT were instrumental in helping Bill 747 pass in the NC General Assembly. The bill essentially kept the North Carolina Veterinary Practice Act from becoming open to individuals who had not graduated from an AVMA accredited program of veterinary medical technology and successfully completed the National Veterinary Technician Exam and State Boards.

AVMA Accredited Programs

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College

340 Victoria Rd
Asheville, NC 28801
828-354-1921
www.abtech.edu
Director: JoEtta Newman, RVT

Central Carolina Community College

1105 Kelly Dr
Sanford, NC 27330
919-775-5401
www.cccc.edu
Director: Dr. Paul Porterfield, DVM

Gaston College

201 Highway 321 South
Dallas, NC 28034
704-922-6200
Director: Dr. Kristine Blankenship, DVM



Fall in WNC