

# North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians

## President's Letter

Hello everyone & Happy Fall! I hope to see you at our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fall Conference in beautiful Asheville! As we move into the new season, I want to take this time to inform you of some changes with our Board of Directors. As you know from our last newsletter Jonathan Loftis recently accepted a 5 year appointment to the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board as the Veterinary Technician representative. Jonathan has also been serving as President-Elect for NCAVT since the election at the Spring Conference in March of this year. Due to his new commitments to the Board, Jonathan has elected to step down from his position as President-Elect with NCAVT. We are sad to lose Jonathan and wish him all the best with his position on the Board. He has been an instrumental member with our Board of Directors and has made lasting impacts with his work on our By-laws and preparing us as an official 501(c)(3) organization. Effective August 2012, Beckie Mossor will be immediately moved from the role of Vice President & Public Relations to President-Elect & Public Relations. I am very excited to have Beckie in this position. I know she will do a great job. Jeannie Losey agreed to step into the Vice President position. She will continue to maintain her Secretary duties until the position will be filled at the next elections. We will hold elections at the 2013 Spring Conference for the following positions: President-Elect, Secretary, Newsletter Coordinator and Education Coordinator Please let us know if you would be interested or have any questions about the positions.

Amanda Dillard, RVT, LAT

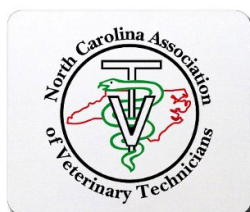
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### Inside!

- Exciting, New Membership Changes
- Register for the Fall Conference in Asheville!

NCAVT is on Facebook! Look for us NCAVT-National Association of Veterinary Technicians and be sure to "Like" our page to receive updates, information, and to stay active in your Association.



## Associate Staff Memberships

Did you know?....

Did you know that the NCAVT now offers Associate Memberships? Associate memberships are open to Assistants, Groomers, Receptionists, Kennel Technicians, and any other personnel that are not qualified to be "Active" members. Associate memberships are only 25.00 and are non-voting positions. All Associate members are welcome at meetings and will receive the NCAVT Newsletters. Help us build our Veterinary community by encouraging all members of your practice to join!!

Respectfully,  
Beckie Mossor  
Public Relations Coordinator

## Membership Update

The NCAVT membership has reached a milestone. We have exceeded over 200 members! This may not seem like a huge number compared to other states but this is a great achievement for the association, since I have taken over the secretary duties in March of 2009. When I originally took over the books membership stood at 77 members since then we have slowly increased our numbers to consist of 18% of the Registered Veterinary Technicians in the state of North Carolina with a few members living in other states. Memberships allow us as an association to exist, offer the scholarships for VMT students, donate to deserving rescues, offer continuing education, visit with the NC legislation in hopes of updating the practice act and educating the public.

Thank you and we hope that you will continue to support the association.



## NCAVT Board members to Attend 2012 NAVTA Annual Conference

Beckie Mossor, NCAVT President Elect and SCNAVTA advisor for veterinary medical technology students at Central Carolina Community College, and Anne Myers, NAVTA Representative for the NCAVT will be attending the 2012 NAVTA Annual Conference being held in Washington, D.C., the weekend of November 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. This meeting is a great opportunity to represent the veterinary technicians of North Carolina, hear about updates regarding the profession and network with technicians, assistants and support staff from other states. If anyone in the general membership has any questions or concerns they would like Anne or Beckie to discuss with the NAVTA Executive Board at this conference, please email them to [info@ncavt.org](mailto:info@ncavt.org).

Submitted by Anne Myers RVT, VTS (Cardiology)

## Meeting 9.2.12 NCAVT Board at NCSU @2:30

Attending: Amanda Dillard, Sandy Portilla, Anne Myers, Beckie Mossor, Jonathan Loftis, Jeannie Losey, Jasmin Walthour and Cindy Davis and Beth Green by skype

1. 501©3 status: Letter (June) from IRS stating that our application is in review and we should get a call in 90 days but no call as of yet.
2. Jonathan announcement: Being on the NCVMB with a new set of responsibilities, Jonathan has decided to step down from president elect and off the NCAVT board and has asked Beckie Mossor (VP now) to take over as president elect which will become the President next spring. Jonathan will still be a member and attend the meetings. The board asked if Jeannie Losey (secretary) would take over the vice president position. All was accepted and all proposals were voted and passed.
3. Positions up for election in spring: President elect, secretary, newsletter coordinator (Beth) and education coordinator .
  - a. We will need to set up stipulations to hold a board position. Needs to be done before may to be drafted under the NAVTA by laws .
    - i. Treasurer would need a back ground check and at any point for any board officer.
    - ii. Fund raiser was optional for one or two year and Cindy would like to extend to the second year.
4. Fall conference: Amanda, Anne, Beckie, and possible Jeannie will be running the conference this year.
  - a. Jasmin to send the vendor list with what they are donating.
5. facebook: Beckie Mossor went over the demographics. We have a 186 likes and at 250<sup>th</sup> like the Association is to give away a fall or spring conference to a random like.
6. Anne NAVTA conference. she is working on registration and will pay for everything up front and get reimbursed.
  - a. Anne was asked to look into if there is talk about all the states regulated on the same credential requirements and to standardize the title.
7. Newsletter needs to be given to Beth before October 1<sup>st</sup>.
8. Tech gift: budget of \$600 Beckie to look into gift and the cost.

## Vet Tech Week October 15-21, 2012

NCAVT is excited to celebrate National Vet Tech Week, the 3rd week in October. This is a great opportunity to educate clients and the public about Vet Techs and how they contribute to the practice. NAVTA promotes this week every year with a theme and provides posters for practices to post. This years theme "T.E.C.H.- Technicians, Educators, Caregivers, Healers" helps to inform the public about the various roles Technicians play in the practice. NCAVT would love to hear more about how your practice celebrates Vet Tech Week!

NCAVT celebrates its Technician members each year with a small gift to show appreciation for our members, and this year decided to raffle off one FREE ADMISSION to our Annual Spring Conference as a Grand Prize Gift to one of our members. Congratulations Cheryl Kata for being our first ever Grand Prize winner! Cheryl is featured in this newsletter edition of Meet The Member. Congratulations again Cheryl and all Technicians and HAPPY NATIONAL VET TECH WEEK!

## 21<sup>st</sup> Dog Olympics at NCSU-CVM

This was the 4<sup>th</sup> year that the NCAVT set up a booth for the fund raising event which was sponsored by the CVM Student Chapter of the Companion Animal Association. The Dog Olympics celebrated the human-animal bond and raised money for local animal rescue groups. Canines of all breeds and sizes participated in athletic and non-athletic competition such as Rollover Rover, Musical Sit, Longest Tail, Limbo, Frisbee Toss, Howling Contest, Look-a-Like, Weiner Toss, Best Trick, Best Beggar, and High Jump.

The Raleigh Kennel Club provided free microchipping. Event demonstrations included the Durham Police K9 Unit, a Pawsitive Pooches training lesson, and the American Kennel Club (AKC) agility teams. The AKC also offered a free Canine Good Citizen testing opportunity. A Paralympics for dogs with spinal cord injuries focused on the bond owners of paraplegic dogs have with their pets. The special activity included Obstacle Course Navigation, Best Decorated Cart, and Cart Races.



*Cindy Davis covering the NCAVT Booth*



*Canine participant cooling off*

The Olympic Village featured canine health booths from the NC State University's Veterinary Health Complex and an educational booth with the North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technician board members; vendor tents offering canine-related goods and services; and some 11 rescue groups. 2 Paws Up, Best Friends, Boston Terrier Rescue of NC, Care for Animals, Carolina Care Bullies, English Springer Rescue of America, Neuse River Golden Retriever Rescue, Second Chance, Wake Animal Advocates Group, K9 Kindness and Doberman Rescue of NC.

Volunteers for the NCAVT booth were Anne Myers (NAVTA Coordinator), Cindy Davis (Fund raiser coordinator) and Jeannie Losey (secretary). This was the first year and the first venue that the NCAVT has started fundraising. The booth included the NCAVT informational board and video and homemade dog treats and bandanas for \$2 each. Money raised from fundraising events will go towards Student scholarships and our annual donations to 2 rescues. If you know of an event that the NCAVT can participate in, please e-mail us at [info@ncavt.org](mailto:info@ncavt.org).



*Dr. Olby introducing the Paralympic participants*

## Meet the Member: Cheryl Kata

I live in Clayton North Carolina. I just moved here 4.5 years ago. Before that I lived in CT. I graduated from Newbury Junior College in Holliston Ma a long time ago. I had a 4 month internship at New Bolton Center, in Kennett Square, PA. I live with 1 dog-a malamute, 1 very old kitty, Max and a gecko, Andrea and a super wonderful husband, John. I work at the college of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University in the anesthesia department; I am a VTS-anesthesia (Veterinary Technician Specialty) and am working on my pain certificate from the IVAPM.

I have never done anything else, except be a tech. When I was a kid I didn't have dolls only stuffed animals and the family cat had to endure being dressed up in doll clothes. I was in FFA and 4-H. I graduated from high school and went straight to tech school- I've been in this business a long time... the dinosaurs had just started to die off when I started... maybe from bad veterinary care...ha ha. My first real job was at a small animal practice, there were no equine positions available and that's where I stayed. I worked at a regular practice during the day and one night a week I worked at an emergency hospital to better my skills, which needed improvement. I lived over a practice for many years being their day tech and checking on the pets at night and on weekends. I worked at Angell Western New England (Angell West) in Springfield, MA for 3 years and started my journey for my VTS. When that practice closed I came to NCSU to finish my VTS and to get to do some large animal anesthesia as well.

I don't currently go to school, but the VTS and pain programs are kind of like school. They are an independent study program, where it's all up to you. I had a strict plan of 2-3 hours per day on the weekend for studying, and that increased to 1-2 hours per day when I was getting ready to send my paperwork in. After my paperwork was accepted, then the studying for the exam started and that was about 3-4 hours on the weekends with weekdays thrown in as needed to complete my reading list. It's not easy, but very do-able if you set up the right study plan and follow it. And yes there are days I couldn't pick up a book, and other days when I found it easy to study. Just set up a schedule you and follow with days that you can catch up.

When I went to tech school, I had limited experience with dogs and cats- lots of experience with horses and sheep and limited experience with cows (as a kid the local farmer would call to tell us when a calf was born and I helped feed dairy cows when needed). So I learned everything about small animals from school. I even took home my lab rats (which did not go over well at home). School taught me independence, and I was so lucky to somehow get in the premier study group and do well. Our study group consisted of 2 other people, one with lab animal experience and really smart and the other one was equally smart, with small animal hospital experience so we had it covered. One of my study partners is a veterinarian now and the other one is the ophthalmology tech at Michigan State University.

When I graduated there wasn't a national test for certification, it started 4 years later in CT- and everyone that I worked with thought I was crazy to take it. They said it would never mean anything- and now ## years later, employers seek out certified techs. So I feel it's imperative that technicians get certified and keep it by doing CE. CE is the only way to keep our career strong and growing. And seeking out advanced certification is important too.

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Being a Veterinary Technician is the best job, where can you have your clients kiss you and its okay? Our field is on the rise; we are getting more responsibility, and doing more exciting things every day. Be proud that you're a technician and remember our job is the patient's advocate. They can't speak for themselves and it's your job to keep them healthy, happy, clean, fed, AND educate the clients.



## AB Tech 2012 Graduation

The association would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 2012 A-B Tech Veterinary Medical Technology graduates. The pinning ceremony was held on August 3 at the Magnolia Dining Hall. JoEtta Newman was the faculty speaker. Sandi Portilla, our association Treasurer, was the main speaker for the evening. The class of 2012 had nineteen graduates. Meghan Fortner was voted to receive the Student's Choice award for being an exemplary veterinary technician. Lindsay Edwards received the award for having the highest GPA. Congratulations to both of these wonderful ladies and to all this year's graduates.

Alison Anderson, Leah Ball, Chandra Black, Jaclyn Burchell, Nikki Cox, Lindsay Edwards, Crystal Eisenhower, Meghan Fortner, Ashley Gardner, Casey Greger, Kathleen Hepburn, Kaylyn Higbea, Kelcey McMinn, Michael McWilliams, Caitlin Morrow, Lindsey Norris, Elisabeth Stone, Brent Wing

## 2012 Rescue Group Donations

This year our association has been fortunate enough to be able to donate funds to three rescue groups. Please take a moment to visit the websites of the groups. See all the wonderful work these great people are doing.

S.T.A.R. - Save The Animals Rescue - STAR is a rescue group dedicated to horses. Jim and Karen Owens moved to Waynesville in 2005 and fell in love with all it had to offer. They soon learned that Haywood County loved horses, too. They opened up their farm for horses and goats to have a place to 'be' until they can be adopted. There just wasn't room for those in need at the animal shelter! Sometimes a hooped animal requires a little extra care and this is a place where he/she can find just that until a forever home is found. <http://www.star-ranch-rescue.com>.

Carolina Tiger Rescue - The Carolina Tiger Rescue is a nonprofit wildcat sanctuary, whose mission is saving and protecting wildcats in captivity and in the wild. Carolina Tiger Rescue pursues its mission by providing lifelong homes to wildcats in need of rescue and educating the public about what threatens these animals: in the wild, in the pet trade, and in the entertainment industry. <http://www.carolinatigerrescue.org>

Brother Wolf Animal Rescue - Brother Wolf is a rescue group that rescues dogs and puppies, cats and kittens from local shelters, owner surrenders, and those who are strays. The group was initially formed in the fall of 2006 by a small group of volunteers and later incorporated in the spring of 2007. In early 2009, our cat friends joined us, and in June of 2009, we became a licensed shelter. Over just the next year, we found homes for 1,300 cat and dogs! <http://www.bwar.org>



NCAVT

Printed on :- 9/10/2012

# INCOME STATEMENT

Period :- 1/1/2012 to 9/10/2012

<b>INCOME</b>	
Conference Registration	5,900.00
Contributions Revenue	350.00
Donated Services	0.00
Donated space	3,527.00
Donations	(1,583.16)
Interest Income	17.51
Membership Dues	4,065.00
Sales	280.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,556.35</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Administrative Expense	1,700.00
Bank Fees Expense	8.00
Conference Expense	3,088.20
Donated space expense	3,527.00
Donation Expense	1,966.84
Federal/State Fees	0.00
Free Membership Expense	0.00
Free Memberships	0.00
Mailing Expense	395.26
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00
Office Supplies Expense	467.73
Paypal Expense	282.78
Phone Expense	398.37
Printing Expense	0.00
Storage Building Expense	636.00
Tax Expense	0.00
Website	107.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,577.58</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(21.23)</b>
Fundraising	(135.00)



## Fall Conference Schedule

8:00-8:50am: Sherrie Yuschak- Behavior Education: Why, How and What to Avoid

9:00-9:50am: Kimberly Chappell-Clinical Trials in Your Practice

10:00-10:50am: Adam Birkenheuer- Tick Transmitted Diseases in Dogs and Cats

11:00-11:50 am: Business Meeting

12:00-12:50pm: Lunch

1:00-1:50pm: Cheryl Kata- Pain Management

2:00-2:50pm: Casey Rinehart- Implementation and Utilization of Acid Base Analysis in the General Veterinary Practice

3:00-3:50 pm: Erin Mitchell -“How to get out of the heat” - Malignant Hyperthermia in Research Animals







**Fall 2012**

**North Carolina Association of Veterinary  
Technicians  
PO Box 815  
Elon, NC 27244  
Phone: 1-888-709-2789  
Email: info@ncavt.org**

We're on the Web:  
[www.ncavt.org](http://www.ncavt.org)

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

### LAKE BRANDT, NC



Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College  
340 Victoria Rd  
Asheville, NC 28801  
828-354-1921  
[www.abtech.edu](http://www.abtech.edu)  
Director: JoEtta Newman, RVT

Central Carolina Community College  
1105 Kelly Dr  
Sanford, NC 27330  
919-775-5401  
[www.cccc.edu](http://www.cccc.edu)  
Director: Dr. Kim Browning, DVM

Gaston College  
201 Highway 321 South  
Dallas, NC 28034  
704-922-6200  
[www.gaston.edu](http://www.gaston.edu)  
Director: Dr. Kristine Blankenship, DVM