

NCAVT Newsletter

July 2009

Hello everyone,

I hope everybody is having a great summer so far. On behalf on the North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians, we would like to thank all of our members for your patience and support. We are all very excited about the new website and the new yahoo group site. 2009 has turned out to be a great year so far for our group. This year's group of officers have a lot of enthusiasm about moving the association forward, but we cannot do it alone. Please visit our website or feel free to contact us about how to get involved.

Amanda Dillard, President



Exciting Legislative News!!

We are happy to announce that there is an amendment to the current rabies law in process with the General Assembly.

The current law states:

- ~All dogs & cats over 4 months must be vaccinated
- ~Each county must have at least 1 clinic per year with a current administrative cap of \$4
- ~All vaccinated pets must wear tags
- ~Animal control must canvass their county to look for untagged pets
- ~Rabies vaccines can be administered by a licensed veterinarian or a certified rabies vaccinator (CRV)

The amendment to current law would change a few things:

- ~All dogs, cats, & ferrets over 4 months must be vaccinated
- ~Each county must have at least 1 clinic per year & each county board of commissioners would be allowed to establish an administrative fee
- ~All vaccinated pets must wear tags
- ~Animal control must canvass their county to look for untagged pets
- ~Rabies vaccines can be administered by a licensed veterinarian, a Registered Veterinary Technician under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian, & certified rabies vaccinator (CRV)

We have been working closely with the State Veterinarian's Office, the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board, & the North Carolina Veterinary Association to ensure that this amendment goes through. This act is supposed to become effective October 1, 2009. What a fantastic early gift for National Veterinary Technicians Week! Thank-you to the members for the opportunity to represent our profession and association

Presented by Amanda Dillard, President

Many, many thanks to Amanda and Jonathan Loftis for attending these legislative meetings. Their time and effort are greatly appreciated by all of us.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 President's Letter & Legislative News
- 2 New Advisor & Meet Our Members
- 3 Cont. Ed & New from Gaston College
- 4 Treasurer's Report
- 5 Research Study
- 6 June Meeting Minutes
- 7 June Meeting Minutes Cont.
- 8 Useful Information

We have a new ADVISOR!

Welcome Dr S. Annie Noeller

Dr Noeller was born July 31, 1978 in Fredonia KS. She was raised on a farm by her parents, Richard and Tandy Noeller. Following graduation from high school in May of 1997, she entered Independence Community College (ICC). She was awarded her Associates of Science Degree in 1999. After graduating from ICC, she moved to Wichita KS where she attended Newman University. In 2002 she graduated with honors in Chemistry and Biology and was awarded her Bachelor of Science Degree. She was accepted into the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University in the fall of 2002. She was awarded with her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree in May of 2006.

In June 2006 she moved to Greensboro NC, where she worked as an intern at Carolina Veterinary Specialist. Following completion of her internship in July of 2007, she began working as a small animal practitioner with Dr J. Linwood Jernigan at The Animal Hospital at Lake Brandt.

She has been recognized with a number of awards and honors: Was one of the key roles in completing certification of the hospital with the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) during her first year of employment. She received the Compassionate Animal Care award during Veterinary school. The Claire Boothe Luce Scholarship, Ralph Pearson Memorial Scholarship, Phi Theta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude, Valedictorian, and many others.

She currently lives in Jamestown NC with her wonderful dogs, Squat and Nibbles.

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The ophthalmology service is conducting a clinical trial of a new eye drop medication for the treatment of keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS), or dry eye. This is a sponsored study which pays for ocular examinations and related medications for 2 months. There is a financial reward if the clinical trial is completed (\$\$\$).

If you or someone you know has a dog that is currently being treated for KCS in one of both eyes and are interested in this clinical trial, please contact Sandy Machon, ophthalmology CT, by calling 513-6659, or emailing her at [sandra\\_machon@ncsu.edu](mailto:sandra_machon@ncsu.edu).

This study is only taking up to 20 dogs and is a double-blind study with half of the patients receiving a placebo.

## Meet Our Members

Welcome to the newest section of our newsletter. Each quarter we will be introducing a different member of our organization. We, the board, are striving to create a network of technicians who want to work together to better ourselves, our state and our profession. What better way to do that than by meeting our fellow members?

The First member I would like to introduce is Vickie Barham. Vickie has been an NCAVT member for many years. She entered the veterinary medicine field in 1971. She is a graduate of Central Carolina Community College. Vickie graduated from the school when it was Central Carolina Technical Institute.

She has always had a love for animals. Vickie grew up on a farm and always had animals (cats, dogs, cows, horses, pigs, rabbits). She loved caring for all of them, but never knew that would be her calling as a career. Vickie had no idea what she was going to do after high school. Before graduation she saw an article in the News and Observer about CCTI's Veterinary Medical Technology Program. After reading that article her decision was made. Her first experience working in an animal hospital was at Willowrun Animal Hospital with Dr Swearingen and Dr Reed in Smithfield. After graduation she worked in Smithfield at Johnston Animal Hospital with Dr John Booker. She remained a vital member of Dr Booker's team for 16 years. Over the years she has met a lot of great owners and pets.

Presently Vickie works in a Quality lab at Talecris Biotherapeutics in Clayton, NC. She lives with her husband, Newton, in Pine Level. She has a daughter, Alison, and a son, Will. Alison is a phlebotomist and works for LabCorp. Will is a third year law student at Campbell University. Along with her own children, Vickie gets to boast about two wonderful grandchildren. Her grandson, Austin is 12 years old and her granddaughter, Christina, is 10.

The last additions to the Vickie's family are her four legged "grandchildren". She is very proud of her two grand dogs, a boxer named Parker and a chihuahua named Coco and two grand horses, Luke and Thunder.

During the interview, I asked Vickie if she had any advice for our new graduates and what she told me is good advice for all of us.

"Strive to learn something new everyday. Don't spend too much time or effort at something that does not give you joy."

Mrs. Vickie Barham has a wonderful attitude about life and our field. She has been a long standing member of our association. We are very fortunate to have people like her representing the Technicians of North Carolina. I am sure all will agree with me when I say, "Thank you for your service and dedication."

-Sandi Portilla

## Continuing Education

NC State College of Veterinary Medicine

Website: [www.cvm.ncsu.edu/conted](http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/conted)

E-mail: [cvm-ce@lists.ncsu.edu](mailto:cvm-ce@lists.ncsu.edu)

Phone: (919)513-6259

Fax: (919)513-6689

July 25, 2009      Advanced Education for  
Veterinary Technicians: Cytology      6 CE hours

August 22              Parasitology      6 CE hours

Sept. 4-12            Destination Education: A Walk  
In James Herriot's Footsteps      20 CE hours

Sept. 16              Veterinary Medical Forum:  
NSAIDs      1 CE hour

October 3            Animal Emergencies for the Pet  
Owner      0 CE hours

October 8-10        Fish Health Management      20  
CE hours

November 6-8       North Carolina Veterinary  
Conference      20 CE hours

November 18        Veterinary Medical Forum:  
Ocular Emergencies      1 CE hour

December 5           Critical Care      6 CE hours

December 12        Shelter Medicine      6 CE hours

The NAVTA Leadership Conference, sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition will be held August 29- September 1 2009 at the Marriott Kansas City in downtown Kansas City Mo.

Many great events and workshops, including a concert with Lee Ann Womack.

For more information go to [www.navta.net](http://www.navta.net).

**Mark your calendar!**

**Our Spring Conference will be held on March 13, 2010!**

## Congratulations Graduates!

By Sandy Portilla

The NCAVT Board would like to send a huge "Congratulations" to the Gaston Collage Veterinary Technology Class of 2009. We had the wonderful opportunity to join the class at this year's pinning ceremony. Gaston College graduated twenty-four students this year. We are very happy to welcome each of them into our noble profession.

As a representative of the NCAVT, Sandy Portilla had the pleasure of awarding two of the students with monetary awards. These awards are given to student with the highest GPA for the class and Most Outstanding Technician. A \$100 gift was presented to Natalie Hoffman for her 4.0. Well done and congratulations on all your hard work! Celenna Glennon was voted as Most Outstanding Technician by her peers. Thank you, Celenna, for representing our profession so well.

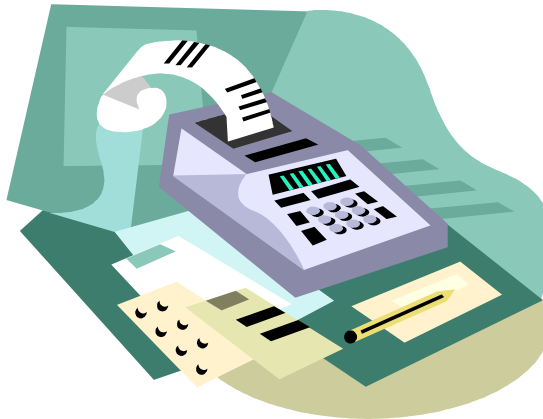
The Association also awarded each of the graduates with a one year free membership. Again, congratulations and welcome. I know we will be hearing great things from this class.



The 2009 NCAVT Scholarships for Gaston College were awarded to Amber Seaman and Gemma Annies. Congratulations!

## NCAVT Treasurer's Report June 14, 2009

|                                                                                      | <b>Expenses</b> | <b>Deposits</b> |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| <b>Beginning Balance:</b>                                                            |                 |                 | <b>\$ 12,022.40</b> |
| Check # 579 Natalie Hofmann- Gaston Grad.                                            | \$100.00        |                 |                     |
| Check # 580 Celena Glennon- Gaston Grad.                                             | \$ 100.00       |                 |                     |
| 581 AT&T - phone                                                                     | \$19.61         |                 |                     |
| Check # 582 - Sarah Hodges - Gift                                                    | \$200.00        |                 |                     |
| Dep. March Conference                                                                |                 | \$2,764.65      |                     |
| Dep. Membership & refund from USPS                                                   |                 | \$ 108.50       |                     |
| Deb. SECU Maint./Serv. Fee                                                           | \$1.00          |                 |                     |
| Dep. SECU Int.                                                                       |                 | \$ 7.05         |                     |
| Dep. PayPal                                                                          |                 | \$ 0.09         |                     |
| Dep. PayPal                                                                          |                 | \$ 0.18         |                     |
| Check # 583 The Standard Register Company<br><i>(Printing for 2009 Spring Conf.)</i> | \$772.43        |                 |                     |
| Dep. Jeannie made                                                                    |                 | \$50.00         |                     |
| Deb. USPS -for stamps (Jeannie)                                                      | \$ 8.80         |                 |                     |
| Deb. SECU Maint./Serv. Fee                                                           | \$ 1.00         |                 |                     |
| Dep. SECU Int.                                                                       |                 | \$ 8.26         |                     |
|                                                                                      | \$1,202.84      | \$ 2,938.73     |                     |
| <b>Ending Balance</b>                                                                |                 |                 | <b>\$ 13,758.29</b> |



## CATS WANTED FOR A RESEARCH STUDY

Does your CAT seem to be:

- Walking funny?
- Stiff when getting up?
- More isolated?
- Not as playful?
- Unable to jump as he used to?

If your cat has any of these signs, he may be suffering from osteoarthritis or degenerative joint disease.

The purpose of this research trial is to assess the potential benefits of a nutritional supplement that may offer pain relief in cats with this disease.

Participation takes 8 weeks. We will provide capsules of the nutritional supplement which can be sprinkled on your cat's food. During that time, your cat will also need to wear a small activity monitor on his or her collar. Information from that monitor will be collected once every 2 weeks along with a questionnaire. Your cat will only need to be seen twice, at the beginning and end of the study.

Requirements:

- Fore-limb and/or hind-limb x-rays confirming osteoarthritis within the last year (we can take these if needed)
- No clinically significant blood cell or biochemical abnormalities
- No urinary abnormalities
- No corticosteroids, antibiotic drugs with neuromuscular blocking properties, NSAIDS or analgesics

Benefits:

- Complete orthopedic evaluation by Board Certified Surgeon
- Complete blood counts free of charge
- Complete biochemical profile and urinalysis free of charge
- Survey x-rays (if required) free of charge
- Helping other cats live more comfortably with osteoarthritis!!!

Contact:

Andrea Thomson or Mimi Schultz in the Comparative Pain Research Laboratory 919-513-6854 or email at [cvm\\_cpri@ncsu.edu](mailto:cvm_cpri@ncsu.edu).

This research is conducted under the direction of: Dr. B. Duncan X. Lascelles, Department of Clinical Sciences

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Sarah L. Joyner  
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College of Veterinary Medicine  
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4700 Hillsborough Street  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
Phone: (919) 513-6524 or 513-6230



**North Carolina Association for Veterinary Technicians**

06/14/2009 at 6:30 pm at the NCSU-VTH

Minutes prepared by Jeannie Losey (secretary)

Attendees: Amanda Dillard (President), Jonathan Loftis (President elect), Sandra Portilla (Vice President), Jeannie Losey (Secretary), Gail Harrell (Treasurer), Anne Myers (NAVTA Rep.), Janice Moseley (Information Officer), and Heather Hopkinson (Recruitment and Retention Officer).

Non-attendees: Sharon Lord (Information Officer elect), Jennah Bosch (Public Relations/Historian), and Beckie Dunn (Education Coordinator).

1. Website Complete
  - a. Website is complete and the membership application is located on the right-hand corner of the webpage. Once an application is filled out an e-mail will be sent to the Secretary with payment notification.
  - b. The floor was open for any recommended changes - none were suggested at that time.
  
2. Technician Week
  - a. Technician week is October 11 thru 17. The floor was open to suggestions on gift ideas for the NCAVT members.
  - b. Last year gift cards from Petsmart were given.
  - c. Possibly send copies of the Technician oath on parchment paper that could be framed.
  
3. Public Awareness
  - a. The NCAVT board would like to have public awareness for Technician week. Several suggestions were made on how accomplish this.
  - b. Amanda will look into having the NC 24-hour news cable station air a piece on local Technicians in the area.
  - c. We are all encouraged to check in to our local news stations, newspapers and magazines to see if they would like to do any articles for free on RVT's in NC.
    - i. The NAFTA website has pre-printed ads and handouts on Tech week and Ann will get copies for everyone.
  - d. Amanda is also in the works to contact the Government office to see what we need to do to get Technician week officially recognized by the State of North Carolina.
  
4. State Exam
  - a. The NC State Exams will be held in September. Heather will be manning a booth.
  
5. Newsletter
  - a. The deadline for the newsletter is July 1<sup>st</sup>. All materials need to be turned in to Janice no later than the 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - i. Heather will do a write-up on Sarah Hodge's
    - ii. A list of the 2009 Gastonia Grads will be included in the next newsletter.
    - iii. A joint effort is being made to see if we can get a sponsor for the printing of the newsletter.
  - b. Next letter will be due out on the 1st of October, all articles need to be turned in to Janice no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of September.
  
6. 2010 Calendar
  - a. A 2010 calendar is in the works for a fundraiser product. We are looking for pictures of members' pets (encouraging multi-species)
    - i. Anyone with exotics, large animals, and even zoo medicine are welcome.
  - b. Dates need to be submitted for activities, promotions (such as dental month) and other important functions to be printed in the calendar.
  - c. All items for the calendar need to be turned in by September to Janice.

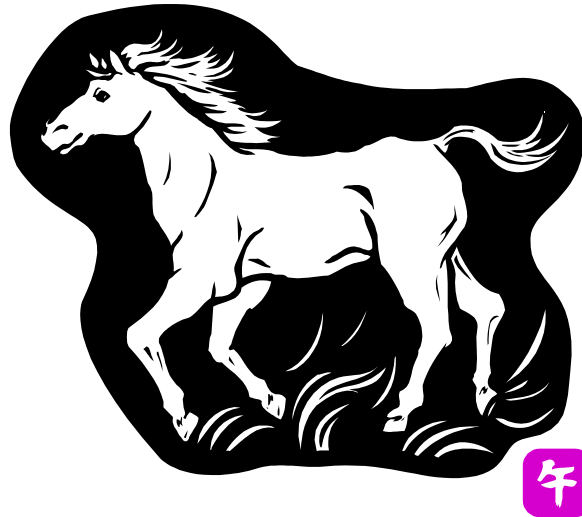
7. NCAVT Gift
  - a. Each year the NCAVT gives a gift to the community to promote the work of RVT's.
  - b. The gift will be given during Technician week.
    - i. Amanda will be taking nominations for the gift and gift recommendations, which will be voted on at the next meeting
  
8. Spring Conference
  - a. We are still looking for vendors for the spring conference. Give all who are interested Becky's name and e-mail address.
  
9. Rabies Law
  - a. Changes to the rabies law should be finalized by October 7<sup>th</sup>.
  
10. Practice Act Changes.
  - a. At this time the changes that were proposed for the practice act by Dr. Davidson are not going to be pursued due to the time commitment and we are still working on the rabies law. This will be looked into again next year (2010).
    - i. Making changes to the practice act could take multiple years to do and the board feels we would need to look into hiring a lobbyist.
  
11. Laural Williams
  - a. A meeting is to be set up with member of the house Laurel Williams for sometime in August or September in Greensboro. This will be arranged by Amanda.
  - b. This meeting would be set up to take Ms. Williams out to lunch and to get advice on how to go about getting October officially the month to recognize RVT's in North Carolina.
  - c. It was voted on and past that the NCAVT will pay for the meeting
    - i. All board members are invited to attend the meeting
    - ii. Amanda will send out an e-mail for the appointed date, time and location.
  
12. Leadership Conference
  - a. NAVTA is hosting their leadership conference on August 29<sup>th</sup> thru 31<sup>st</sup> in Kansas City, Kansas. Ann Myers would like to attend.
    - i. This conference is all paid for by NAVTA, except for the plane ticket.
    - ii. Vote was taken to approve the trip for Ann and the NCAVT will pay for the plane ticket.
  
13. Web link
  - a. A motion was made for a web link to be made on the NCAVT website that would take viewers directly to the AVMA's website on all accredited programs for future RVT's.
  
14. Next meeting
  - a. The next NCAVT meeting will be a conference call on Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30pm.



Make sure to check out our web site at [www.ncavt.com](http://www.ncavt.com)! Applications, news, upcoming events.....all in one place!

Staying in touch is even easier at our yahoo group site. Go to yahoo.com and search for NCAVTMEMBERS to join today!

And we're on Facebook!



**NCAVT**  
**P.O. Box 33006**  
**Raleigh, NC 27636**

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