PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Kimberlee A. Buck

It's been an eventful couple of months, to say the least! We have our new staff in place. Betsy Hilt is our new Executive Director and Stephanie McDaniels is our Associate Executive Director. Both have been doing a great job tackling the daunting task of getting up to speed on our organization. Thank you so much, ladies!

We did send out a request for management proposals and had a much bigger response than anticipated with 19 companies submitting bids. Who knew we were so popular? The search committee has narrowed the field to seven and will soon winnow that down to the final three. Many thanks to Mike Dutton, Carondelet Nollner, Norris McGehee, Nick Nelson, Tracey Jensen, Tim Kraabel, Steve Foulke, Craig Datz, and Ted Vlahos for generously donating your free time to plow through all of the proposals in a short period of time. It is much appreciated.
ABVP Certification and MOC Exam

November 11-12, 2015
New Orleans, Louisiana

If you are an active Candidate for ABVP certification or a Diplomate who last certified in 2005, 2006, or 2007, you are eligible to sit for the exams on November 11-12, 2015.

Specialty exams are Wednesday, Nov. 11. Practical exams are Thursday, Nov. 12.

Diplomates maintaining certification only need to take the Specialty Exams on Wednesday, November 11. Candidates (not current Diplomates) must pass both the Specialty and Practical Exams for their practice category to become board certified.

The exam schedule can be found in the 'Forms and Documents' tab once logged into your ABVP online account. You will also register for the exam via your online account. The exam fee is $575 for Candidates and $440 for Diplomates maintaining certification.

The exams will be held at the New Orleans Marriott in conjunction with the Symposium. Room reservations can be made online here.

The NAVC Institute presented its first ABVP Exam Review course. It turned out to be the most popular course they have ever offered and they plan on repeating it next year. We have had several of the attendees express an interest in pursuing ABVP certification.

Work is continuing on all of the improvements to the online platform. This is a huge undertaking and will be ongoing over the next couple of years. We appreciate everyone's patience with the process. If you run into any glitches, please let us know!

And finally, I look forward to seeing all of you in New Orleans for the Symposium!

Laissez le bon temps rouler!

-Kimberlee A. Buck, DVM, DABVP (Avian Practice), DABVP (Canine and Feline Practice)

FROM ABVP HEADQUARTERS

Betsy Hilt

It has been a drinking-from-the-firehose beginning to my tenure as your Executive Director! The first, and most important, lesson I have learned is that ABVP is an active, vibrant organization with passionate Diplomates and leadership. That enthusiasm truly makes what we do at the organization's headquarters more interesting and enjoyable. We know what we do really matters to you.

A number of you have already spoken to, or emailed with, ABVP's newest staff member, Associate Executive Director Stephanie McDaniels. Among a number of other things, Stephanie is handling many of the phone and email inquiries that come into the office. Please feel free to contact either of us if you have questions, comments or concerns about ABVP.

We both look forward to finally having the opportunity to meet many of you in person in November!

- Betsy Hilt, CAE

2015 Symposium News

Early Registration Ends TODAY!
All exams will take place in Galerie 1-3 room at the New Orleans Marriott.

**Wednesday, November 11, 2015**
8 pm - 12 pm
Specialty Exams for all categories, Part 1

2 pm - 6 pm
Specialty Exams for all categories, Part 2

6 pm - 7 pm
Reception for all examinees

**Thursday, November 12, 2015**
8 am - 12 pm
Practical Exam for all categories

Registration for the November 12-15 20th Annual ABVP Symposium in New Orleans has already surpassed the final 2014 attendance number of 375! Attendees may earn up to 27 hours of RACE-approved continuing education -- the most CE ever offered at an ABVP Symposium!

Review the complete registration brochure, then join more than 400 of your colleagues in NOLA and register by the end of the day today, September 25, as the registration prices will go up at the stroke of midnight tonight!

Once you've registered, make your hotel reservation online at the [New Orleans Marriott](http://www.neworleansmarriott.com) or call them at 888-771-4429 and tell them you are attending the "American Board of Veterinary Practitioners Symposium." The room rate is $185 per night, but reservations must be made by October 27 to receive the ABVP rate.

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**Sunrise Sessions Set**

The ABVP Symposium will once again offer early-morning CE opportunities with Sunrise Sessions beginning at 7 am each day! Below are this year's options:

- **Friday, Nov. 13**
  Nutritional Approach to Chronic Kidney Disease in Cats and Dogs
  Speaker: Melinda Wood
  Sponsored by [Royal Canin](http://www.royalcanin.com)

- **Saturday, Nov. 14**
  Feline Vaccines & Vaccination: Issues and Controversies
  Speaker Rich Ford
  Sponsored by [Merial](http://www.merial.com)

- **Sunday, Nov. 15**
  Update on Selected Infectious Diseases: Hot Topics for 2015
  Speaker: Julia Veir
  Sponsored by [Bi](http://www.bi.com)

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**Diplomate Achievements**

Eleanor Green, Emeritus Diplomate ABVP (Equine Practice), has begun her term as president of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges. She assumed the presidency at the annual meeting of AAVMC in Boston in July.

ABVP Vice President Norris McGehee was presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award for private practice from the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine during Commencement for the graduating class of 2015.

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**Foundation Auction**

As we prepare for the 2015 ABVP Symposium in New Orleans this fall we are also gearing up for another successful Foundation Auction. As a result of the generous support of all of you, the Foundation is now more than 1/3 of the way to our goal of $100,000. Once we reach that number we can begin to
Dr. McGehee graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine in 1987.

UT’s Distinguished Alumnus Award recognizes involvement in organized veterinary medicine, education, research and service, animal and human health related public service and civic contributions to the community.

In addition to being ABVP’s Vice President, Dr. McGehee serves on the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. He is Past President of the Memphis and Shelby County Veterinary Medical Association and Past President, Officer, Director and Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Memphis East. He received the “Top 40 under 40” award from the Memphis Business Journal in 1998 and was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International.

Calendar of Events

November 11-12
ABVP Certification Exams, New Orleans, Louisiana, New Orleans Marriott

November 12-15
20th Annual ABVP Symposium, New Orleans, Louisiana, New Orleans Marriott

January 15, 2016

...And Now For Something

We are asking for donations of items and services for this year's auction. Items may be brought to the Symposium or shipped to either of the following people prior to the meeting (note the dates for each address). If you plan on donating something, please let us know so that we can publicize the auction offerings prior to the meeting.

Lorraine Jarboe (packages must arrive by Oct. 28)
604 Lang Road (Hidden Cove)
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

Nina French (packages must arrive by Nov. 7)
1985 cr 600 n
Sidney, IL 61877

Thank you all for your support! We look forward to another great auction!

- ABVP Foundation Board

Symposium Sponsors & Exhibitors

Please help ABVP say “Thank You” to the sponsors and exhibitors who help support your Annual Symposium!

The full exhibitor list can be found here.

Special thanks to the following 2015 Symposium Sponsors:

Platinum Sponsor:
Merial

Gold Sponsor:
Sound

Silver Sponsors:
Bayer  Bi  Royal Canin

Bronze Sponsor:
Dechra

Additional support received from the following:
Zoetis  Partners for Health Pets

...And Now For Something
We Want to Promote You!

We want to continue to profile a Diplomate every other week on our Facebook page, but have run out of profiles! If you would like to be profiled, please send an email to abvp@xmi-amc.com along with a photo of yourself. We will, in turn, send you a list of questions to complete before we feature you.

Completely Different!

It was good seeing those of you who attended ExoticsCon in August. One comments brought to my attention was the need to have more presentations that are geared to Board Certified Specialists, rather than typical "canned" lectures we have all heard before! An example was the great presentations given by Dr. Schoemaker and Dr. van Zeeland on *Critical Thinking and Evidence-Based Medicine with a Clinical Care Report*. The participation of the audience "thinking" through a case was dynamic!

An Evidence-Based Medicine Master Class will be part of this year's Avian/Exotic Program at ABVP's Symposium! We have chosen several "hot topics" you have asked about and will determine the true evidence of the current data available, exploring what we know, what we thought we knew, and what we really should know based on current evidence-based data! If you are looking to be "spoon-fed" on how to treat a problem, this is not for you. This is geared toward the thinking Board Specialist who wishes to expand working knowledge on assessing data and using that knowledge in practice to tackle the many difficulties presented to us on a daily basis! Non-boarded associates are always welcome, and those practitioners who wish to raise their level of practice will also benefit. Whether it is "Feather Damaging Behavior," learning the current insights on etiologies/diagnostic approaches and exploring the evidence behind current and future treatment and management, or "Cockatoo Prolapse Syndrome- Are they all surgical, medical, behavioral?" learn the evidence behind these assumptions!

For the ECM Group, explore the *Options for Dental Abscess in Rabbits*. We have heard the lectures, attended the labs, but how do we select the best treatment option for our patients with evidence-based and multi-institutional evidence? It is still lacking!

We will also be exploring the evidence behind Ferret GI Disease, which diagnostic tests do we chose, and what treatment options are based on evidence? *E.Cuniculi* still remains a challenge for all practitioners. We always "hear" about treatment options, but where are the statistics in regards to these options, and how can the current evidence-based data assist us with the controversies in treatment, prognosis and preventative options? This will be truly a dynamic session!

Download the Symposium brochure to see all the Avian/Exotic presentations!

Oh did I mention that this year's Symposium will be in New Orleans -- not in sweltering hot August like AAV, but rather in the
cooler temps of November! If you have not enjoyed New Orleans at this time of year, it is time to explore the Big Easy! Learn, and Enjoy! See you there!

Sincerely,
Bill Olkowski

American Board of Veterinary Practitioners

The American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) advances the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence in species-oriented clinical practice.