June 2015 - In This Issue:

PRESIDENT'S CORNER
PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
REGISTER FOR THE SYMPOSIUM
DIPLOMATE FEES PAYABLE
DIPLOMATES IN THE NEWS
CALENDAR

2015-2016 Diplomate and Emeritus Diplomate Fees Payable

Diplomate and Emeritus Diplomate fees are now payable. Fees are for the July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016 year. Fees for Diplomates are $305 and for Emeritus Diplomates $66.

If you have not yet paid your fee, you can do so by logging into your ABVP online account. Invoices are located beneath the 'Open Task' heading towards the left hand side of your screen.

If you do not wish to pay online, a payment can be mailed to ABVP, 618 Church Street, Suite 220, Nashville, TN 37219.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Kimberlee A. Buck

By now you all know that Marisa has resigned as our Executive Director and has been replaced by Betsy Hilt. While change is a scary thing, one of the tenets of ABVP is the opportunity for growth and self-improvement. The Executive Committee and Council of Regents have embraced this period of transition as an opportunity to improve and grow ABVP. There will be challenges and "bumps in the road", but with hard work and some patience on everyone's part, I am confident that we will come out the other side a stronger organization.

Two years ago, Dr. Dutton, Dr. Nollner and I sat down and set up a three-year plan outlining what we wished to accomplish. With the help of the Council of Regents and all of the committee members we are moving through that list of objectives at a good pace. ABVP has a lot to be proud of. Our MOC system is the model for all other RVSOs as they begin to require MOC in 2016. This past year we revamped the way in which we critique MOC materials to make the process fairer and more defensible. A new committee has been formed to oversee that process. We are also the only RVSO with totally on-line submission. This has not been accomplished without expense, however. In your last Diplomate fee notice there was a call for donations to support the further development of the portal. Please consider making a contribution. The portal is something ABVP can be very proud of.

The ABVP Foundation is continuing to move forward. We are nearly 1/3 of the way to where we need to be before we can start distributing funds. We anticipate another great auction at the Symposium (thank you Denny and Nina French!).

Another big thank you to Dr. Dutton for all of his work this past year. I think we can keep his momentum going this next year with everyone's support and yes, some patience as inevitable issues crop up. I truly believe that with change comes growth.

-Kimberlee A. Buck, DVM, DABVP (Avian Practice), DABVP (Canine and Feline Practice)
The following is a listing of the 39 Diplomates who maintained their certification this spring. Congratulations to each and every one of you!

Avian Practice
Kimberlee Buck  
Sue Chen  
Cheryl Greenacre  
Tarah Hadley  
Vickie Joseph  
April Romagnano  
Agnes Rupley  
Marcy Souza  
Scott Stahl  
Ken Welle

Canine and Feline Practice
Lara Bartl  
Bradley Book  
Kimberlee Buck  
Mark Dew  
Diana Eubanks  
Susan Gogolski  
Deborah Hadlock  
Douglas Huber  
Tracey Jensen  
Lauren Lane  
Chris Miles  
Michael Miller  
Chrisann Ohler  
Mark Thompson  
Susan Zobler

Equine Practice
Etta Bradecamp  
Julaine Hunter

Feline Practice
Cathy Eastman  
Nicole Hird  
Susan Little  
James Olson  
Wendi Rekers-Braun  
Ilona Rodan  
Dale Rubenstein  
Margie Scherk  
Diane Steinberg  
Elaine Wexler-Mitchell

Food Animal Practice
Sameeh Abutarbush

Swine Health Management
Suzanne Burfatschenko  
Brad Thacker

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Michael Dutton

As my year as President comes to a close, it has been a privilege to serve ABVP in this capacity.

It was my plan that the last twelve months be spent completing unfinished business. In that regard, I feel the Council of Regents (COR) made significant headway. Some items that were addressed included:

1. 99% finished integrating the new Shelter Medicine Practice Group into ABVP. The first examination for this Group will be at the 2015 Symposium in New Orleans.

2. Continued creating the Maintenance of Certification (MOC. Formerly termed 'recertification') online portal. Unfortunately the portal became a big issue as the lead programmer who was designing the portal left the software design company during a major coding upgrade. Additionally, numerous little interface tweaks have been needed as Diplomates and the Main Office were encountering delayed response times and other errors. More unfortunate, this has stretched the ABVP's budget more than expected.

3. Rewrote the ABVP contract with the XMi management group. ABVP had been using intermittent addendums to a contract that was a few years old. Additionally, it had been a few years since the last XMI performance review so the Executive Board completed a review of XMI and their staff. We set metrics by which ABVP will monitor XMI over the next year. This has become very important now that XMI is supplying a new management team.

4. Created a MOC committee and separated its function from the Credential Committee (which had dealt with initial credentialing and MOC). Having one Committee doing both was proving too burdensome a task for our group of very dedicated Diplomate volunteers. The Credential Committee now deals exclusively with initial applicant credentialing with the MOC Committee dealing with recertification. Additionally many of the Resident credentialing items have been moved from Residency Committee to the Credential Committee. The Residency Committee now deals primarily with oversight of the actual residency program. So thanks to Drs. Nollner, Pittenger, and Datz for helping align the Committees better with their duties.

5. Continued developing the Outreach Committee. Dr. Kraabel has been front and center on that and has a good group of volunteer Diplomates helping.

6. Lastly, it did not come as a surprise that Marisa Hackemann, our Executive Director, was probably leaving XMI. COR has been proactive behind the scenes in mitigating any disruption that this will cause and look forward to working with the new ABVP management team that XMI has put in place.

See you in New Orleans!

-Michael Dutton, DVM, MS, DABVP (Canine and Feline Practice), DABVP (Avian Practice), DABVP (Exotic Companion Mammal Practice), CVPP

Executive Director's Message

Thank you to everyone at ABVP for the warm welcome as your new Executive Director! I also appreciate your continued patience, as I get settled into working with the organization.

Nearly 28 years ago I responded to a classified ad in the newspaper for something called an association management company, and I have been in the association management field ever since. During those years I have worked for associations of various sizes and scopes. I joined the staff of the Tennessee Bar Association in 1993 as the Young Lawyers Division Director, and served as director of the Programs Department and Special Events by the time I left 10 years later. I became the executive director of the
Auction Items Needed!

The ABVP Foundation will again be hosting a silent and live auction at the 20th Annual ABVP Symposium. We are in need of items for both auctions. If you are interested in donating, please contact ABVP Foundation board member Dr. Rick Wearing at wearingvets@frontiernet.net. No item is too big or too small! Examples of past items include: bottles of wine, jewelry, artwork, spa packages, iPod, iPad, holiday decorations, maple syrup, and honey. Use your imagination and let us know what we can expect from you in the auction this year!

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. Diplomates maintaining certification only need to take the Specialty Exams on Wednesday, November 11. Candidates 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.

Welcome to the 2015-2016 COR

The 2015-2016 Council of Regents is comprised of the following members:

President, Kimberlee Buck
President Elect, Carondelet Nollner
Vice President, Norris McGehee
Treasurer, Nicholas Nelson
Past President, Michael Dutton
Avian Regent, William Olkowski
Beef Cattle Regent, Robert Sager
Canine and Feline Regent, Gary Thompson (pictured at right)
Dairy Regent, Jonathan Townsend
Equine Regent, Ted Vlahos
Exotic Companion Mammal Regent, Angela Lennox
Feline Regent, William Folger
Food Animal Regent, Billy Smith
Reptile and Amphibian Regent, Eric Klaphake
Shelter Medicine Regent, Brenda Griffin
Swine Health Management Regent, Keith Erlandson
Regent-at-Large, Tracey Jensen
Appeals Chair, James Young
Continuing Education Chair, Paula Colletti
Credentials Chair, Stephen Pittenger
Examination Chair, Dennis French
Nominating Chair, Michael Dutton
Outreach Chair, Timothy Kraabel
Residency Chair, Craig Datz
ABVS Representative, Dennis French
Executive Director, Betsy Hilt

If you would like to contact any member of the COR, their individual contact information can be found on the ABVP website HERE.
You will also register for the exam via your online account. Registration must be completed by September 1 at 11:59PM Central Time. 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. Reservation information can be found on the ABVP website www.abvp.com/symposium.

**Wednesday, November 11, 2015**
8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
Specialty Exams for all categories, Part 1
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Specialty Exams for all categories, Part 2
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Reception for all examinees

**Thursday, November 12, 2015**
8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
Practical Exam for all categories

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**Diplomate Achievements**

Congratulations to Tracey Jensen, DVM, DABVP (Canine and Feline Practice) for being featured in Trends Magazine as AAHA President. Read the entire article [HERE](#).

We would also like to recognize the following Diplomates for being recognized as 2015 WCV Continuing Educators of the Year!
- **Avian and Exotics Winner:** Douglas Mader, DVM, MS, DABVP (Avian Practice), DABVP (Reptile and Amphibian Practice), DECZM (Herpetology)
- **Small Animal Winner:** Gary Norsworthy, DVM, DABVP (Feline Practice)

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**Registration is Open!**

The 20th Annual ABVP Symposium is taking place November 12-15 in New Orleans, Louisiana! Each attendee has the ability to earn 27 hours of RACE-approved continuing education. You can review the complete registration brochure [HERE](#) and then head on over to register [HERE](#)

You especially do not want to miss the two labs being offered this year.

**Bovine Foot Care Lab, J. K. Shearer**
Thursday, November 12, 1:00PM-5:00PM
This lab will include trimming and corrective trimming techniques, proper use of angle grinders to make the task easier, knife sharpening, and proper application of foot blocks in lame cows. We will also review IV regional and ring block anesthesia techniques and do surgical procedures such as surgical approaches to retro-articular space abscesses and localized digital sepsis conditions. We will also do facilitated ankyloses and claw amputation. Fee is $200. Limited attendance. Lab will be held onsite.

**AFAST, TFAST and Vet BLUE Canine Lab, Gregory Lisciandro**
Sunday, November 15, 8:00AM-11:50AM
Hands-on scanning of live dogs performing all three abbreviated ultrasound techniques of AFAST, TFAST and Vet BLUE. Fee is $325. Limited attendance. Lab will be held offsite.

Don't forget to book your hotel room, too!

New Orleans Marriott
555 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70130-2349

Reservations can be made by calling 888-771-4429. Please indicate you are attending the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners Symposium when making reservations.

Room rate is $192 per night and does not include all state and local taxes. Reservations must be made on or before 5:00PM Central Daylight Time on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 to be eligible for the ABVP group rate.

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**A Message From AVTCP**

AVTCP would like to thank the members of ABVP who offered to help review questions for our exams, we appreciate your support! Review questions will be sent soon.

We are now going to ask for your support/advice in a different way. At our April Council of Regents meeting, it was brought to our attention by the treasurer that our current financial situation is very poor. As a new organization, we are still in a probationary phase where lack of funding could cause us to lose our VTS status. All of the tremendous effort of our current members could be lost. As ABVP members, we know you all understand how hard earning specialty status is, and how frightening the idea of losing it due to financial problems is for us. Money is used for funding our conference which is held annually in conjunction with ABVP, paying our speakers, website maintenance, certificates and plaques for our passing examinees, and promotional material to help motivate potential candidates.

Our goal in asking help from ABVP members is to ask for any help. This could be in the form of a $5 donation, or helping connect us with potential sponsors you may be affiliated with. We know many of you have earned trusted connections with sales representatives and pharmaceutical companies, and...
John Dascaino, VMD, DACT, DABVP (Equine Practice) was recently promoted to Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine in Harrogate, TN.

Congratulations to you all! If you would like to be featured in a future edition, please email abvp@xmi-amc.com with your accomplishments!

Calendar of Events

**July 1**
2015-2016 Diplomate Fees payable via your online ABVP account.

**July 15**
Semi-Annual Residency Logs must be submitted via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time

**September 1**
- Exam registration (for candidates and Diplomates maintaining certification) must be completed via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time
- First-Time Credentials Application and fee must be completed via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time

**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**
-Credentials documentation must be submitted via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time (for both initial applications and re-applications)

Maintenance of Certification

We hope you are in agreement that by encouraging and supporting technicians to specialize and dedicate their professional lives to a specialty in clinical practice, this benefits you, the specialist veterinarian. The more expertise we have, the more we can support you as our team leaders!

Thank you in advance. Please direct any possible assistance or advice to our email at: avtcpinformation@gmail.com

A Letter of Thanks

We gratefully acknowledge the support of these organizations who provided the crucial funding necessary for the development of the Shelter Medicine web portal for credentialing.

ASPCA
Association of Shelter Veterinarians
Zoetis
Maddie’s Fund
HSUS/HSVMA
MSPCA
Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Inc.
Animal Assistance Foundation
Humane Society of Boulder Valley
Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region

-Brenda Griffin, DVM, MS, DACVIM
Dear Fellow Diplomates,

How many times have we performed a procedure or begun a course of therapy with a certain species of bird or other exotic animal, and "extrapolated" the drug dose or "modified" the treatment plan based on our own experience and good judgment? If you have been Board Certified for any length of time, or have worked in an Exotic Specialty Practice, the answer to the above question often is "all the time!".

With JAMS, JEPM and other publications, we are constantly adding to our knowledge base, however compared to our colleagues in Canine and Feline Practice, we are often called upon to practice with a paucity of specie-specific evidence-based data. When we do read a journal article, or proceedings, or listen to a lecture, how do we determine if the data presented actually reflects the conclusions that are drawn? How do we recognize and identify the level and quality of the evidence presented? How do we integrate published research into our daily practice efficiently? Finally, with limited independent double-blinded research on large numbers of multiple exotic/avian species, what steps should we go through regularly in order to build and maintain a reliable knowledge base as possible?

The 2015 Exotic Program at the ABVP Symposium to the rescue!!! This November (in New Orleans), the Avian/ECM Program at ABVP will focus the entire weekend on how to effectively utilize evidence-based medicine in our exotic practices. As Board Certified Specialists we are exposed to the latest and greatest info, practice ideas, and research at our individual specie conferences (like AAV, AEMV, ARAV), but, how good are we at truly assessing the quality of that data, organizing and evaluating the data as well as the conclusions, and assigning a degree of confidence to that information so that we can begin to incorporate it confidently into our practices? We all may “think” in terms of Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) when we are reading a journal article or attending a lecture, but wouldn’t it be great to have a simple “toolkit” of EBM Methodologies as we attempt to assess this information?

Dr. Brennan McKenzie, President of the EBM Assoc, will be spearheading a truly different and dynamic weekend geared to the Board Certified Specialist in Exotic Practice! No, not a formal, dry, cumbersome presentation on classic EBM methodology...but rather a dynamic and more pragmatic adaptation of EBM for use in our “real world” clinical, exotic practice settings. Dr. McKenzie will then be accompanied by some of our best Avian/Exotic speakers including; Dr. Angela Lennox, Dr. Doug Mader, Dr. Yvonne van Zeeland, Dr. Tracy Ritzman, and Dr. Lauren Powers, who will be presenting some of the "hottest topics" within avian/exotic practice and discussing the EBM of each! The entire program will be designed for interactive sessions to discuss and analyze our "current" knowledge of these subjects, and have Dr. McKenzie's EBM tools and guidance to recognize and explicitly identify the level and quality of evidence available for these topics, so we can use this knowledge appropriately in our everyday practices!

The sessions are geared to the Boarded Specialist or those working in a Specialty Practice, or certainly those avian/exotic practitioners wishing to attain certification and better their own practice abilities. This should prove to be an exciting weekend program, and no matter what your skill level, we all should be able to practice better EBVM within our own practices no matter how scarce or controversial the data available for these "hot topics" seems to be!

Head to the ABVP website and "click" on the Symposium for this November in New Orleans. I am always contactable at avianregent@abvp.com.

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.

STAY CONNECTED