

Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Anesthesia and Analgesia

Newsletter

August 2019



A Letter from our President: *Under the Drape*

Welcome AVTAA family! This is an inaugural issue of the AVTAA newsletter for our members. What an exciting time for the AVTAA! We, as an Academy, will mark our 20th anniversary at IVECCS in Washington D.C. this year. Kate Lafferty has selected a fun place for the event, and Darci Palmer has designed a stunning 20th anniversary pin to mark this occasion.

We have been quite busy this year and I want to thank you, the members for helping our Academy through this growth and restructure. Here are some of the items, projects and updates we have been working on behind the scenes, or better still, from Under the Drape....See what I did there?

The board and membership responded to many discussions regarding the hours of requirement for incoming applications. The membership responded by passing a majority vote to increase the number of hours required. This takes effect for the 2021 application cycle.

Darci, has been busy accomplishing a “facelift” for the website, assisted by our current website provider. Please help with the membership list by making sure she has your correct contact information.

The Exam committee reports that 27 applicants are sitting for the exam this year! Huzzah. Representatives from ACVAA have reviewed the multiple-choice portion of the exam and given feedback. One ACVAA member commented that this was the best exam from AVTAA to date. Kudos to the hard work of that committee and much gratitude to Denise Prisk for handing off the committee to Brenda Feller with many updates and a written SOP.

The Recertification committee is following a new timeline this year, with all questions and applications due June 1 and October 31, respectively. There are members who have failed to meet the June deadline of submitting questions. To sustain the viability of the question bank and allow the exam committee time to assess the submitted questions, it is the responsibility of those recertifying to submit questions within the prescribed time period. In other words, it's your professional responsibility to the academy as a whole and to future applicants. Thank you Jennifer Sager for creating an SOP and a checklist for your committee, as well as all the witty emails.

For those curious about the Mentor committee, 38 applicants have signed up for a mentor, a number of which have not had applications accepted previously. There is always a trickle of more requests as we near the application deadline, and if you're interested in helping the next generation of AVTAA members, please contact the chair Brynn Schmidt.

AVTAA will join AVECCTN in establishing an annual cash award for a winning essay in honor of Louise O'Dwyer submitted by an individual sitting for either AVTAA or AVECCTN exam. The details of the essay submission are being worked out, and AVTAA is happy to support Louise O' Dwyer's passion for the profession and dedication to teaching.

The AVTAA/ACVAA liaison Jody Nugent-Deal has had many open and fruitful conversations with the ACVAA committee chair during the year. AVTAA and ACVAA joint committees will meet again at IVECCS.

There is some new business on the horizon, that we will need your help with, so be on the lookout for voting announcements and calls for volunteers for nominations! A 2013 membership vote to amend the Bylaws regarding honorary membership was approved, and we need to update the constitution to reflect those changes. A ballot for vote will be sent out next week. Nominations for President Elect, Treasurer and Member at Large will be opening up for 2020. A nomination committee will be announced in late September. And finally, as a long-term project of the AVTAA, the Constitution, Bylaws and Committee SOPs are being reviewed with a goal of membership vote by August 2020.

As we grow, our newsletter will hopefully be a source of member case reports, interesting facts, all the relevant hashtags, and maybe a funny meme or two. If you would like to submit any of the above, please contact Jenn Sager.

I hope to see many of you in September at IVECCS!

Katy W. Waddell, LVT, VTS (ECC) (Anesthesia & Analgesia)
President AVTAA
Member at Large AVECCTN

UPCOMING CE

IVECCS Conference
Washington, DC
September 6-10, 2019

Southwest Veterinary
Symposium
San Antonio, TX
September 26-29th, 2019

ABVP Symposium
Denver, CO
October 10-13, 2019

ACVS Surgery
Summit
Las Vegas, NV
October 16-19

Anesthesia Nerds Symposium
Las Vegas, NV
October 28-29, 2019

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IMPORTANT DATES:

AVTAA Exam
September 5, 2019

Recertification Packets
Class 2004, 2009, 2014
due :
October 31, 2019 11:59pm
EST

