

Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Anesthesia and Analgesia

Newsletter
June 3, 2020



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Under the Drape

Hello Family!

What challenging times we have had of late. I hope everyone is well and continues to be safe. The Board of Regents met May 11 and made the horribly difficult decision to cancel the examination for the 2020 approved applicants, due to the unknown nature of the Covid-19 virus, and the ability to safely travel nationally, as well as internationally, for the exam candidates. All candidates will be deferred till next year. They will still be able to submit an essay for the **Louise O'Dwyer VTS Aspiration Award**. This is a scholarship award between AVTAA and AVECCTN to honor the memory of Louise. A winner is jointly chosen by committee.

Other board business included discussion on:

ACVAA has potentially decided they will not be present at IVECCS if the conference occurs in person for 2020. IVECCS has been unable to confirm if an in-person conference will occur. Since the AVTAA track is managed by VECCS, contingency plans are being made for either an in-person or virtual platform.

NAVAS has offered to host 3 tracks of CE through zoom. The Society has asked AVTAA to have our own track (maybe 8 hr of content) within this virtual meeting. This is still in the works and a call for proposals will be sent via the listserv once concrete details have been determined. I'm joining the joint education committee so keep an eye out. This has been discussed as a one off type of venture due to the pandemic and is not meant to replace AVTAA's IVECCS conference track.

We are discussing the feasibility of having a Zoom platform meeting for the annual business meeting, in lieu of an in person gathering. The platform can handle polls so that we can elicit votes for any/all proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws. These are currently under review and it is hoped to have any proposed changes to the membership by July as well as a slate of nominees for the open positions of President Elect, Treasurer and Member at Large. I'll have more information on date and time and will update everyone.

I hope everyone has had the opportunity to visit the "facelift" for the website. Let us know what you think.

Katy

WELLNESS

Life sucks.

It's busy.

Some of us have been isolated for WEEKS....

There are not enough people, and the hours do not end.

Some days it's hard to put on pants.

Our patients and clients sometimes make us question life decisions.

In all sincerity, take a time out...take a moment...reach out...go for a walk. Enjoy the silence and equally enjoy the chaos.

Mental Health Monday should be Mental Health Everyday....

1-800-273-TALK



Good, I have your attention :)

Ready for the next step in your career?? The AVTAA has open positions coming up. Consider adding one of the following positions to your resume:

Member at Large (6 year term)

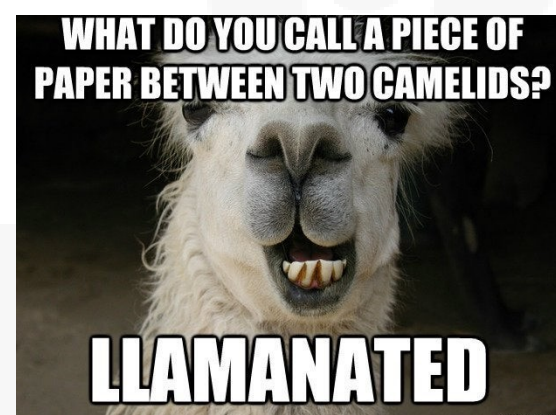
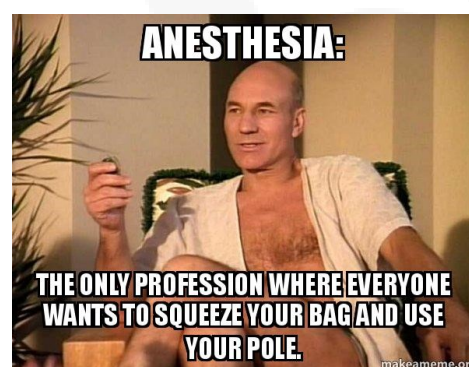
President-Elect (6 year term)

Treasurer (2 year term)

No experience, no worries! All positions will be given guidance from the previous holder.

This will be the last call for nominations for this year.

If you'd like more information on each position or would like to nominate yourself/someone else contact: Meagan Smith- megnsmith86@gmail.com



WE WANT YOU!!!!-

Volunteers Needed for Applicant Mentors!!

Contact Brynn if Interested.

The Credentials committee will need help this upcoming year

Contact Darci if Interested!

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.

Ever want to try public speaking? Send your CV, list of topics and descriptions to

Brenda Feller

Need Online CE?

Check out many resources...

VSPN, VetFolio, VETgirl, Today's Veterinary Nurse, ThinkAnesthesia, VANS

***And don't forget your free subscription to**

NAVAS

<https://www.mynavas.org/>



Louise O'Dwyer VTS Aspiration Award Application Form

What: This \$500 USD cash award is awarded annually to a VTS applicant in Anesthesia & Analgesia or Emergency & Critical Care.

Requirements: An applicant who has been accepted to sit for the certifying examination in Anesthesia & Analgesia or Emergency & Critical Care within the same calendar year. Applicants must provide a 500-word essay answering the question **"What do you hope to accomplish once you obtain your VTS?"**.

Deadline July 31st, 11:59 EDT of the calendar year.

Formatting instructions: Page margins cannot exceed 0.5" on all sides, 12-point font in Calibri. Maximum 500 words. Files must be submitted as PDF files.

Purpose: Louise O'Dwyer spent her professional career tirelessly advancing herself and never ending her own education. After obtaining her VTS in ECC in 2011, and then later in 2014 her second VTS in Anesthesia/Analgesia, Louise quickly used her VTS to teach and grow other veterinary nurses and technicians in the UK, Europe, Australia and the United States. This led to world-wide educational opportunities for Louise. Besides utilizing her VTS to the fullest, Louise brought together many colleagues around the world creating otherwise unlikely friendships and literally opening communication and networking between specialty colleagues from around the world. Her dedication to lifelong education is further evidenced by the fact that she was pursuing a Master in Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia through the University of Edinburgh.

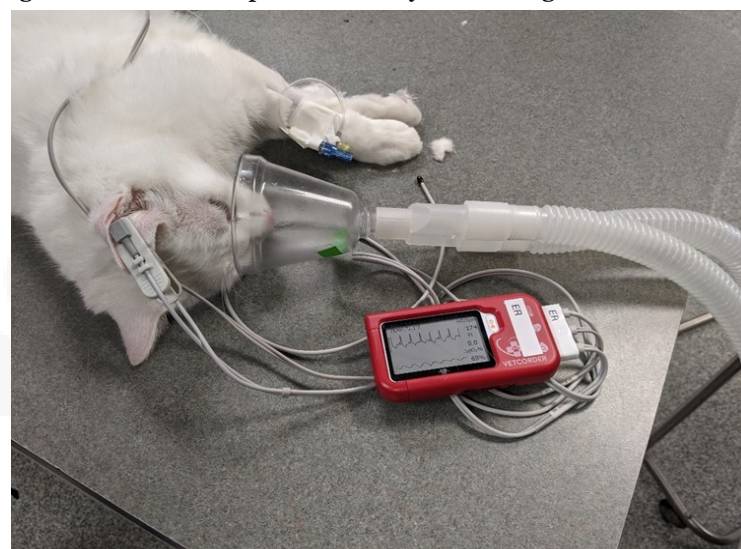
This award is to not only help offset the costs of sitting for the VTS exam but providing a cash award to the applicant who best exemplifies the spirit of Louise. The applicant should aspire to push themselves, bettering both themselves and the veterinary world around them after obtaining their VTS.

Selection: A panel of 2 VTS in ECC and 2 VTS in Anesthesia/Analgesia will review all essays beginning August 1 through September 1st and determine a winner. The Award recipient will be announced at the VTS reception at IVECCS annually which follows the exams of both AVECCTN and AVTAA. The essay will be graded using a rubric, judged on grammar, creativity, how the applicant plans to utilize their VTS, embodying the characteristics and spirit of Louise O'Dwyer. It should be noted for an example of how Louise represented the profession that Louise contributed to over 35 books, journal articles and book chapters, and lectures worldwide on all aspects of anaesthesia, emergency and critical care, surgery and infection control. While it is understood that not everyone is comfortable with public speaking, we would like to see the applicant provide goals that might include authoring journal articles, working with online education courses, participation in group wet or dry labs in addition to lecturing.

Candidates accepted to sit for their examination for 2020 have been notified of the award, and are eligible to apply. If you know of any candidates, "Be a Louise" and encourage them to apply!! **#BeALouise**

Equipment Highlight

Hello Fellow-VTSers, I hope you have had an opportunity to work with the newest versions of the VetCorder! Besides improved probe connections, it has a new esophageal or rectal temperature probe along side the ECG and pulse oximetry. The thoughtfulness of the ECG clips to avoid trauma to the patient, ability to easily convert to electrode pads for a telemetry application. The blue tooth connectivity of this unit really makes it a wonderful device for quick monitoring of the extubated, critical patient before and after surgery or monitoring from a distance if you need to anesthetize the next patient in a busy practice. My personal favorite is using it for sedated wound debridement, monitoring immediately following induction when my multiparameter monitor is with a more critical patient, unblocking cats, monitoring critical patients, continuous monitoring with patients in the oxygen cages and critical patients in radiology! The applications are endless in emergency and critical care. Of course, as an anesthetist, I want more....Capnography!! But this company has taken this into consideration and provided a small handheld unit to compliment the VetCorder. Coupled excellent technical and customer support, I'm excited to have this unit within an arm's reach for my busy emergency and referral hospital!



UPCOMING CE:

RIGHT NOW...



IVECCS
St. Louis, MO
September 16-20, 2020

Connexity 2020
Denver, CO
September 30-October 3, 2020

VANS
Las Vegas, NV
October 26-28, 2020