A quarterly conversation starter about Veterinary Technology in North Dakota

Virtual CE Conference

October 9, 2020  7:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Unusual times call for unusual measures, but the NDVTA is dedicated to providing you with quality continuing education…..this year VIRTUALLY via the online format ZOOM!

Here is a sneak peek at topics you can expect to learn about:

- Nutraceuticals
- Parasite Protection for Dogs & Cats
- Update from the State Veterinarian
- Exotic Animal Encounters
- Immunology and Vaccinology Truths and Myths

EARN 6.5 Hours of CE

Deadline for registration is September 25, 2020

$70 NDVTA Member
$100 NON-Member

For your registration form visit our website
www.ndvta.org

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Be BOLD,
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Knife River Veterinary Clinic

1701 N. County Rd 21, Beulah, ND 58523-0427
(701) 873-5525

Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00-6:00
Saturday: 8:00-noon  Sunday: Closed

Want to see YOUR clinic featured here? Send photos and information to our newsletter editor stacev.ostby@ndsu.edu

www.kniferiverveterinaryclinic.com
Job Opening:

West Dakota Veterinary Clinic in Dickinson, ND is looking for a Licensed Veterinary Technician with an interest in both large and small animal medicine and surgery. We are an AAHA accredited small animal hospital and are proud to be one of the most progressive practices in the region. We have a state-of-the art equine facility complete with a surgical suite for colic surgeries, hernia repairs, cryptorchids, etc. We also have a bovine wing for haul in medicine and surgery. We have a fully equipped inhouse lab and a multitude of diagnostic and therapeutic tools. We utilize our LVTs to the fullest and are looking for a career-minded, friendly, self-motivated individual who wants to be part of a team. This position will involve being a part of an on call and weekend rotation. We offer a competitive wage, health insurance, IRA, 12 vacation days annually as well as paid holidays, sick days and a CE allowance. You can expect to earn $40,000-$55,000 annually depending on experience. If you are interested in the position, please fill out the online application on our website www.westdakotavet.com
CONGRATULATIONS NOMINEES!

Kayla Bergan, BS, LVT – Lewis & Clark Animal Hospital, Bismarck, ND
Kayla is a ray of sunshine every day! Of course, Kayla is an extremely knowledgeable, hard-working and capable veterinary technician. Kayla expertly handles patients and interacts with clients in a very professional manner. Kayla is a great teacher to vet assistants, technicians and veterinarians. She calmly and easily explains the topic while giving the recipient confidence and support. However, one of Kayla’s greatest attributes is her positive attitude and great smile. Regardless of how stressful a day or how tired the veterinary team is, Kayla is always able to lighten the mood.

LeAnna Klaphake, BS, LVT – Prairie Winds Veterinary Service – Fargo, ND
It is my pleasure to recommend LeAnna Klaphake for the North Dakota Veterinary Technician Award. LeAnna has been working at Prairie Winds Veterinary Center for five years, the last two as a licensed technician. Having worked alongside LeAnna daily for the last few years, I can honestly say there is no doubt in my mind she upholds all the qualities frequently sought after in veterinary technicians. LeAnna has exceptional time management skills and abilities of being a quick learner and hard worker. Her efficiency is one to be commended. She’s a hard worker, always eager to help the team in anything that needs to get done. This is exemplified by her completing daily technician duties and clinical skills to helping receptionists and assistants. Due to her level of maturity and high degree of responsibility, she is in charge of numerous tasks at the clinic. For example, she volunteered to be in charge of our controlled drugs and the drug logs. Another example is when she steps up and takes on extra shifts if we are down people; she also volunteers for numerous evening shifts for our urgent care services. She has a special interest in behavior cases and helps the doctor(s) with these cases. Her interest in behavior has been recognized and demonstrated by the behavior modification she has taught her own fearful puppy – it’s been very impressive and fun to watch and learn from her. She was able to figure out a way to help our clinic accept online prescriptions from outside and online pharmacies to help expedite the approval process. She takes pride in her skills, utilizing them to the best of her ability and always having a positive attitude. She is dedicated to her job and those she works with. Due to these reasons, LeAnna is well-regarded by all those who have had the pleasure to work alongside her. In summary, I give LeAnna my highest recommendation to be nominated for the NDVTA’s Veterinary Technician of the Year Award. Her positive attitude and eagerness to help others and be proficient in her duties are remarkable attributes for a veterinary technician. She is a dedicated, remarkably hard working and reliable individual. Our clinic is incredibly lucky to have someone whom I feel truly desires to spend her life in the pursuit of helping animals through her knowledge and skills.

Shania Wilson, BS, LVT - Lewis & Clark Animal Hospital, Bismarck, ND
1. I have had the pleasure of working with Shania Wilson since April 2020. As a large animal vet transitioning to small animal, I am grateful to work with someone as patient and knowledgeable as Shania. Shania is extremely diligent and detailed in any work that she completes. She is extremely thorough during appointments and when collecting diagnostics. I have seen Shania work with after-hour cases and the care that she provides to each patient is individualized, compassionate and consistent. Shania has a very calm and level headed demeanor that helps keep the veterinary team cohesive and flowing throughout the day.
2. There are so many technicians who deserve this award & I’d love to vote for all of them. I am choosing to recognize Shania Wilson. She works full time including taking after hour ER and after hours treatments for hospitalized patients. She has demonstrated leadership by implementing newer techniques & training new staff. She is very hard working, honest, compassionate, & gets along well with everyone. The veterinary profession is better with her in it!

Tammy Treitline, BS, LVT - Prairie Winds Veterinary Service – Fargo, ND

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Tammy for much of my 20 year career. She has been a technician since graduating from NDSU’s program in 1997. Throughout this time, Tammy has worked tirelessly, constantly advocating for her patients, her clients and her co-workers. Her value of education shows in her patience and thoroughness in sharing that knowledge with clients. This love of knowledge and education drove her to go through all the training, and writing, and the testing to become one of the few board certified technicians in our state – successfully achieving certification with the Academy of Equine Veterinary Nursing Technicians during 2011-2012. Recently (in the past year and a half), I have been able to re-connect with Tammy as she accepted a position with our clinic. She has been invaluable in taking on the role of our OSHA safety officer. Her patience again came through as she trained our staff and brought us up to date in hospital safety procedures. She additionally has been a key technician in both overseeing staff scheduling and training/education of our staff. What is very impressive is that throughout this short time she has been employed with our clinic, in addition to these duties, she has filled in on the floor as a technician at the hospital and has dramatically helped grow our equine base. Equine owners in the community know and respect Tammy’s knowledge and experience. She fields countless calls from clients, researching information for them. She schedules all of the equine visits and is instrumental in working closely with Dr. Alicia and Dr. Lacey in completing equine exams, diagnostics and procedures. She has also started working with clients on nutrition and cold therapy laser treatments for horses. Tammy has saved countless equine lives, has dramatically impacted the equine clientele in our community. At a time when equine veterinary resources are becoming scant in our region for equine owners, we are incredibly lucky (as are our clients) to have her working with us and for our clients. She has ran anesthesia machines for horses (equine ventilators are no small undertaking), assisted with procedures – especially colic cases, ran field anesthesia, researched testing and treatment options for cases, worked hand in hand with veterinarians on critical cases, and is currently learning how to be an AI tech (to name just a few of her accomplishments). Lastly, working with Tammy is the best part. There are great conversations about cases, how to serve clients better, and at the same time, having a lot of fun. Tammy brings a great attitude, sense of humor, and infectious laugh to work every day. Our clients appreciate this along with her practical approach to equine care and education. Our staff appreciates her knowledge and fun approach to veterinary practice. We are so grateful to have her as a critical part of our team and want the rest of the state to know what an incredible, valuable colleague we have here in North Dakota. It is with great pleasure that we nominate Tammy Treitline for ND Veterinary Technician of the Year.

Tiffani Vetter, BS, LVT – Missouri Valley Vet Clinic Bismarck, ND

A veterinary technician has many jobs that they perform on a daily basis. Things such as performing physical examinations, drawing blood, and taking radiographs are a few common things that come to mind. Technicians are taught these skills in school and these tasks are what are listed as part of the job description as a vet tech. This, however, is only a piece of what it means to be a veterinary technician.

To be a veterinary technician, you need to possess qualities that cannot be taught. Attributes such as patience, kindness, and compassion are innate behaviors that make a good veterinary technician. Qualities that make an even better technician include having a positive attitude, being a hard worker, and being a good listener. Mix all these traits together and throw in a good sense of humor and you get Tiffani Vetter, an exceptional veterinary technician.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Tiffani for the past 5 years and have yet to meet a more dedicated and inspiring individual in the field of veterinary medicine. From sunrise to sunset, you will see Tiff buzzing around the clinic going above and beyond her job description. I am nominating the very deserving Tiffani as veterinary technician of the year, as I believe she is all encompassing of what it means to be a veterinary technician.
I have been part of the field of Veterinary Technology since I started my first class as a student at NDSU in August of 1998. Just a small town farm girl in what I thought was a HUGE city and college. Seems like just yesterday I walked into Robinson Hall for the first time, like many of you, nervous as can be about what college was going to have in store for me. Looking back, it was only a few short weeks and I felt like one of the team, a part of something greater than just the college classrooms I found myself in. I was a part of helping animals and people and I was in love with all of it!

I remember finding things I agreed with, things I didn’t, people I enjoyed working with, people I did not, situations in which I used every piece of patience I had, and times I seriously felt my heart growing with love for all creatures great and small. I practiced in a small animal clinic for 7 years and learned so many great lessons, including things about myself, that helped me become who I am today.

I had visions of the great things I would do and places I wanted to go, and I can honestly tell you teaching was not even on my radar back then. Today, I find myself and my co-director leading a fabulous team of instructors at NDSU and trying to roll with the punches and educate the best entry level veterinary technicians we can.

I am a member of the NDVTA executive board and editing this newsletter, that I hope reaches many of you and makes even a small difference in your lives. Turns out, working with animals and their people is so much more than a career, it’s a deep seated passion. Where has this passion taken you?

Something amazing has happened for me since August of 1998, I have grown up (a little, lol) and become a wife, mother, LVT, teacher, program co-director, obtained a Master’s of Education degree, self-proclaimed comedian, singer, equine enthusiast………and member of this NDVTA team, all because of my love for animals and helping people. (Really, I met my husband through a vet tech friend) 😊

There is no such thing for most of us as spare time, but sometimes we just have to make time to make a difference and help with something greater than ourselves and our current mission in life. I love to see all the places my students go and meet all the technicians that have come to our great state from other places. Are you ready to help make a difference for our profession? Maybe you never thought about being on the NDVTA committee, heck, neither did I, but here I am killing it (so I hope) and I think you could too!

Stacey Ostby MEd, LVT

Nominate someone you know or yourself on your CE registration form or via e-mail through our NDVTA website. We are a TEAM, we have visions of how to help technicians in our state, but we NEED YOU!!

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- Treasurer (2 year term)