

# AVSAB

## Newsletter of the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior

DECEMBER 2000

Lynne Seibert DVM, MS, Editor

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## Call For Papers and Posters

### Submissions for 2001 AVSAB Paper and Poster Sessions Being Accepted

Anyone interested in presenting a paper or poster at the AVSAB annual meeting is invited to submit an abstract for consideration. The 2001 meeting of the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior will be held on July 16, 2001 in Boston, Massachusetts in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Veterinary Medical Association. The meeting will follow approximately the same format as last year with 20-minute paper presentations, regularly scheduled question and answer sessions, and an early evening poster session and reception.

#### 1. Send submissions to:

Dr. Petra A. Mertens  
Assistant Professor, Behavior Medicine  
University of Minnesota  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences  
315, Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
1352 Boyd Avenue  
St Paul, MN 55108  
612-625-0227  
612-624-0751 (fax)  
mertee006@tc.umn.edu

2. Abstract should be submitted as a Microsoft Word document via email attachment or hard copy with disk included
3. Indicate on the abstract whether you are submitting as a paper only, poster only, or either paper or poster
4. Deadline for submission is March 1, 2001. Authors will be notified by April 15, 2001
5. Submissions must include:
  - a. Brief request to present a paper or poster
  - b. Title and abstract (one-page maximum, 12 font, 1 inch margins)
  - c. Confirmation that speaker can present material in 20 minutes
  - d. If more time is desired, this can be requested. However, speaker must be prepared to present in allotted 20 minutes. If a longer paper is possible, the speaker will be notified in advance of the meeting
  - e. If a paper topic is submitted, indicate whether or not you would be willing to present your topic as a poster if it is not selected as a paper
6. Copies of the abstracts accepted for presentation will be provided to meeting attendees and included in a subsequent AVSAB newsletter

## From the Editor's Desk...

This is my first installment as the new editor, and I would appreciate feedback from the membership. I would also like to see more of the opinions and ideas of the membership represented in the newsletter. The deadline for submissions for the March newsletter is **February 16, 2001**.

Please submit news items, articles, recent appointments, events, awards, position openings, upcoming meetings,

student chapter news, abstracts of recently written articles, kudos or anything else of interest for future issues of the AVSAB newsletter to:

Dr. Lynne M. Seibert DVM, MS; Department of Anatomy and Radiology, University of Georgia Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Athens, GA 30602; lseibert@vet.uga.edu; 706-542-0051 (fax); 706-542-8116.

# Behavior Rx: The TCAs

Barbara S. Simpson PhD, DVM, DACVB

## Introduction

The tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs) represent a class of drugs that have had an enormous, positive impact on the treatment of human behavioral disorders during the past 30 years. Originally used to treat depression, the TCAs are now used to treat a range of problems, including obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), panic disorder, enuresis (bedwetting), narcolepsy, and chronic pain. The TCAs have shown great promise in the management of behavioral problems in dogs and cats.

## Mode of Action

All TCAs block reuptake of both serotonin and norepinephrine. However, specific TCAs vary with respect to their potency for inhibition of the serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake pumps. For example, clomipramine is a potent serotonin reuptake inhibitor; desipramine and nortriptyline are more selective for norepinephrine (Table 1). It is the effect of the TCAs at serotonin and norepinephrine sites that is thought to be responsible for the therapeutic activity of the TCAs.

## Side Effects

All TCAs have affinity for other receptors in the CNS, including alpha 1 adrenergic receptors, H1 histamine receptors, and muscarinic cholinergic receptors. Blockade activity at these sites is thought to be responsible for the side effects of the TCAs in humans, as well as animals. Blockade of alpha 1 adrenergic receptors causes orthostatic hypotension in humans, drowsiness and reflex tachycardia. Blockade of H1 histamine receptors causes sedation. Blockade of muscarinic cholinergic receptors causes dry mouth, urinary retention, constipation, and sinus tachycardia. The relative activity at the five named receptors are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Name	NE	5HT	alpha 1	H1	MUSC
Imipramine	+	+	++	+	++
Desipramine	+++	0	+	0	+
Amitriptyline	+/-	++	+++	++++	++++
Nortriptyline	++	+/-	+	+	++
Clomipramine	+	+++	++	+	++
Trimipramine	+	0	++	+++	++
Doxepin	++	+	++	+++	++
Protriptyline	++	0	+	+	++
Amoxapine	++	=	++	+/-	0

Note: Data from Potter et al 1998, Table 10-1, p. 202.

Other actions can complicate use of TCAs. TCAs block sodium channels to the heart, which can cause cardiac arrhythmias and cardiac arrest in overdose. They can cause slowed impulse conduction, which may result in a benign prolongation of ECG parameters in healthy individuals, but may precipitate conduction delays in human cardiac patients. The TCAs may lower seizure threshold in predisposed animals. The TCAs interact with a number of other drugs, particularly those that induce or impair certain hepatic metabolic pathways. Neuroleptics may increase TCA levels by blocking metabolism. Concomitant SSRIs (except fluvoxamine) can increase TCA levels significantly and require TCA dose reduction. Cimetidine can block the metabolism of TCAs. Monoamine oxidase inhibitors should not be used concurrently with TCAs. Veterinary MAOIs include selegiline (Anipryl) and amitraz (PrevenTic collar, Mitaban dip).

TCAs have a fairly narrow therapeutic range. Overdoses can be fatal to humans or animals. Thus, it is advisable to prescribe not more than a 30 day supply of TCAs to a patient.

## Veterinary Use

The TCAs have demonstrated usefulness in the treatment of behavior problems in animals, although placebo-controlled clinical trials are lacking, with the exception of clomipramine. In general, the TCAs promote behavioral calming. Thus these drugs can be extremely useful in conjunction with a behavioral program, particularly in cases when anxiety or impulse control are problematic. Clomipramine (Clomicalm<sup>tm</sup>, Novartis Animal Health) has been shown to be beneficial, in conjunction with behavioral therapy, in the treatment of canine separation anxiety. It is also been shown to be useful for the treatment of compulsive/stereotypic disorders, such as tail chasing. Table 2 compares uses in humans and animals for three TCAs.

Recently, because of their more favorable side effect profile in humans, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) have largely replaced the TCAs as first-line drugs for the treatment of depression. However, their efficacy, low cost, and application for conditions beyond depression retain the importance of the TCAs in the armamentarium of psychotropic drugs.

**Table 2**  
**Selected TCAs in Common Veterinary Use**

TCA Name	Use in Humans (in addition to depression)	Use in Dogs (Dose range: 2-4+ mg/kg/day)
<b>Amitriptyline</b>	bulimia, anxiety/panic, enuresis, migraine, neuralgia	Aggression, generalized anxiety, separation anxiety
<b>Clomipramine</b>	OCD, anxiety/panic, cataplexy/narcolepsy, enuresis	Separation anxiety, compulsive/stereotypic behaviors
<b>Imipramine</b>	anxiety/panic, bulimia, cataplexy/narcolepsy, enuresis, neuralgia, ADHD	Separation anxiety associated with urine house-soiling, urinary incontinence, excitation/submissive urination, narcolepsy

## Recommended Reading

Schatzberg AF, Nemeroff CB. *The American Psychiatric Press Textbook of Psychopharmacology (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*; American Psychiatric Press, Washington DC: American Psychiatric Press, 1998.

Stahl SM. *Essential Psychopharmacology: Neuroscientific Basis and Practical Applications (Second Edition)*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000.

# AVSAB Listserv Moving To Egroups

In December, we will be closing down the LISTSERV and moving to the Egroups. There are many advantages to this medium, and the Executive Board has had positive results using their own Egroup for the past several months. Access to the new Egroup will be granted to regular, affiliate, and student members who are current on their dues.

## How to join the AVSAB Egroup

1. Go to the internet site <http://www.egroups.com>. In the left column of the home page, where it says "New Member" click on "Sign up today for free."

2. Step 1 of registration prompts you to choose a password. **THIS WILL BE YOUR EGROUPTS PASSWORD.** Remember the password that you choose. With your password and email address that you entered, you will be able to log onto the AVSAB Egroups site from any computer and from any location.

3. Read the agreement, and put a check mark if you want to receive the Egroups newsletter (NOTE: This is not the same as the AVSAB quarterly newsletter, which will be mailed to you). Accept, and go on to Step 2 of registration where you can include your special interests. Checking spe-

cial interest boxes is optional.

4. Now you are registered. You can fill out your member profile here that will be seen only by other AVSAB Egroup members. The AVSAB Egroup is a CLOSED GROUP.

5. You now must READ YOUR EMAIL. Open the email that was just sent to you that says "Confirm your acct with Egroups." Hit the REPLY button and then SEND. You do not need to write anything in the reply.

6. In a few minutes, you will receive an "Egroups Notification" that says you have been confirmed as an Egroups registrant. BUT WAIT!! THERE'S MORE...

7. Current members have to be invited by the Egroup moderator before they can join the new Egroup. The moderator has approved AVSAB regular, affiliate, and student members where email addresses were available, dues payments were current, and a list of current student chapter members was provided by the advisor (for student chapter members who wish to have access to the Egroup).

8. **If the Moderator (Dr. Steve Feldman) has not already approved your membership to the Egroup, he can be contacted via email at [avsabe@yahoo.com](mailto:avsabe@yahoo.com) and request authorization to the AVSAB Egroup.**

9. Only regular and affiliate members who have paid current dues will be invited to join the Egroup. Student members are invited to join provided their advisor has provided a list of current members for the year to Dr. Margaret Duxbury.

8. Once you have joined the Egroup, you can post messages by sending email to [avsab@egroups.com](mailto:avsab@egroups.com). You can also post messages from the website [www.egroups.com](http://www.egroups.com) by going to "My Groups." A message will be sent to you when you join with guidelines for posting messages.

9. Please remember, these messages will be distributed to everybody on our Egroup. They are not private. Please use appropriate etiquette in all Egroup postings.

## Haven't joined AVSAB yet?

Haven't renewed your membership for 2001? What are you waiting for?

## Dues Payment Deadline is December 1<sup>st</sup>

Send check or inquiry to:  
AVSAB  
c/o Dr. Steven Feldman  
9414 Brandywine Road  
Clinton, MD 20735  
[avsabe@yahoo.com](mailto:avsabe@yahoo.com)

# Something For Everyone...

## Recently published behavior articles

**Please send abstracts or citations of recently published articles for upcoming newsletters!**

**Also, send the internet addresses of any animal behavior-related websites that you have found to be useful. They may be included at the new Egroups site, and printed in the next newsletter.**

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### The role of phenylethylamine during positive human-dog interaction

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**Odendaal, JSJ, Lehmann, SMC; Acta Veterinaria Brno | vol 69 no 3 | pp.183-188 | Sep 2000  
Reprints: Odendaal, JSJ | POB 12855, ZA-0116 PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA**

Abstract: Physiological parameters for positive human-companion animal behaviour have been few and limited to changes in humans only. Studies of positive interaction among humans and animals of the same species stated that phenylethylamine could be an additional physiological indicator for such behaviour. The purpose of this study was thus to evaluate this neurotransmitter on an interspecies interaction basis. The method was to use a decrease in bleed pressure of between 5-10% from baseline values as parameter, to measure changes in plasma phenylethylamine during positive interaction between humans (n = 18) and dogs (n = 18). Results indicated that phenylacetic acid, catabolite of beta-phenylethylamine, increased significantly (p < 0.05) in both species after interspecies interaction that lasted between 5-24 minutes. If this

physiological reaction is mutual, animals used in animal-facilitated therapy can experience the same benefits from such reactions as humans and this is of importance from an animal welfare point of view. Effects on animal welfare and dog ownership have implications in companion animal veterinary practice, because positive interaction between owner and dog may strengthen the psychological bond between the two species.

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### Behavioural indicators of cow comfort: activity and resting behaviour of dairy cows in two types of housing

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**Haley, DB; Rushen, J; dePassille, AM Canadian Journal Of Animal Science | vol 80 no 2 | pp.257-263 | Jun 2000  
Reprints: Haley, DB | WESTERN COLL VET MED, DEPT HERD MED & THERIOGENOL, SASKATOON, SK S7N 5E3, CANADA**

Abstract: We explored which aspects of dairy cow behaviour provide measures of cow comfort and how housing affects resting time. Following a cross-over design, we observed the behaviour of eight lactating Holstein cows kept for three weeks in stalls believed to represent a contrast in comfort. Cows individually housed in large pens with a mattress flooring lay down 4.2 h d(-1) longer than cows housed in tie-stalls on a concrete floor, while cows in tie-stalls stood idle (without eating) for longer. Cows stood up and lay down more often in the large pens and the duration of individual standing bouts was longer in tie-stalls. We

found no differences in eating time and few differences in body, head or leg positions cows assumed while lying. There was little evidence of diurnal rhythm in activity. A lower frequency of standing and lying and an increase in the duration of lying bouts suggests that in tie-stalls cows are more reluctant to change position from lying to standing. The type of pen or stall in which cows are housed can have a substantial impact on resting time. The duration and frequency of lying behaviour and the time spent standing without eating appear to be probable behavioural indicators of cow comfort.

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### Prevalence of behaviour problems reported by owners of dogs purchased from an animal rescue shelter

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**Wells, DL; Hepper, PG; Applied Animal Behaviour Science | vol 69 no 1 | pp.55-65 | Aug 2000  
Reprints: Wells, DL | QUEENS UNIV BELFAST, SCH PSYCHOL, CANINE BEHAV CTR, BELFAST BT7 INN, ANTRIM, NORTH IRELAND**

Abstract: This study examined the prevalence of behaviour problems exhibited by dogs within 4 weeks of acquisition from a rescue shelter in Northern Ireland. One thousand five hundred and forty-seven people who had purchased a dog from a rescue shelter in Northern Ireland were sent a postal questionnaire designed to collect information on the behaviours exhibited by their dog within the first month of acquisition. Five hundred

and fifty-six people responded to the survey, representing a response rate of 37%. The majority of respondents (68.3%) reported that their dog exhibited a behaviour problem, the most common being fearfulness. Most of those respondents (89.7%) who returned their dog to the shelter did so because the animal exhibited behaviour that they considered undesirable. Male dogs showed more unacceptable behaviours than females, specifically inter-male aggression, sexual problems and straying tendencies. More stray dogs displayed undesirable behaviour than unwanted, specifically straying tendencies. Puppies were less likely to exhibit unacceptable behaviours than juveniles or adults, particularly fearfulness, sexual problems and straying tendencies. More juvenile dogs showed excessive activity and excessive barking than puppies or adults. More adult dogs displayed aggression towards other dogs than juveniles or puppies. Findings indicate that dogs purchased from rescue shelters do exhibit behaviour problems that may lead to their return. The number of dogs admitted or returned to rescue shelters with behaviour problems may be reduced by raising public awareness regarding the value of behaviour therapy and introducing behaviour therapy schemes to rescue shelters.

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### **The effect of increasing visual horizons on stereotypic weaving: implications for the social housing of stabled horses**

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**Cooper, JJ; McDonald, L; Mills, DS**  
**Applied Animal Behaviour Science |**  
**vol 69 no 1 | pp.67-83 | Aug 2000**  
**Reprints: Cooper, JJ | DE MONTFORT**  
**UNIV, SCH AGR, CAYTHORPE NG32**  
**3EP, LINCOLN, ENGLAND**

**Abstract:** Stabled horses commonly perform stereotypic patterns of weaving, where the horse shifts its weight from side to side often swinging its head. Ten warm-blood types, of which five were known to reliably weave, were housed in similar 12 x 12 ft wooden loose boxes in a single stable block surrounding a courtyard. Each horse was exposed to each of five stable designs. These were: the conventional front top-half of the door open only with a view of the stable courtyard (F); front half-door open and a similar half-door open at the back of the stable with a view to the surrounding fields (FB); back open only (B); front and one-side panel open with a view into the adjacent stable (FS); and front, back and both sides open (A114). During observation days, horses were brought in from the field at 0830 h, fed concentrate at 0930 h, fed haylage at 1005 h and turned out at 1600 h. Behaviour was recorded from 0900 to 1040 h, 1200 to 1300 h and 1500 to 1600 h. Weaving was most common prior to feeding in the morning and prior to putting out to pasture in the afternoon. There was a significant effect of stable design on weaving, with less weaving in the FS and A114 designs than the F treatment. There was also a significant effect of stable design on repetitive nodding, though in this case, FB, B, FS and A114 designs each reduced nodding compared with the F treatment. The effect of stable design can be explained in a number of ways. Firstly, it could be the novelty of the environmental change, though there was no evidence in this study of an increase in stereotypy with prolonged exposure to the new stable designs. Secondly, opening windows may increase opportunities for environmental interaction, and the expression of new activities may compete with stereotypic behaviour for the horse's time. Thirdly, the open windows may allow expression of specific activities

such as environmental monitoring or social interaction that are denied by the conventional stable

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### **Differences in food preferences between individuals and populations of domestic cats *Felis silvestris catus***

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**Bradshaw, JWS; Healey, LM; Thorne, CJ; Macdonald, DW; Arden-Clark, C.**  
**Applied Animal Behaviour Science |**  
**vol 68 no 3 | pp.257-268 | Jun 2000**  
**Reprints: Bradshaw, JWS | UNIV**  
**SOUTHAMPTON, SCH BIOL SCI,**  
**ANTHROZOOL INST,**  
**SOUTHAMPTON SO16 7PX,**  
**HANTS, ENGLAND**

**Abstract:** The food preferences of 64 cats, of which 28 were domestic pets and 36 were free-ranging animals on three farms, were tested using five food types; a sixth type was also tested on the farm cats. Information was also gathered on the background diet of the house cats (individually) and of each farm cat colony. Consistent differences were found between the predefined groups of cats in their preferences for three foods, Hard Dry (HD), Canned Meat (CM) and Raw Beef (RB), the greatest differences being between house cats and farm cats as a whole. The three colonies of farm cats showed distinct differences in preference, for RE and/or CM, and for the sixth food, Soft Dry (SD). Differences between farms could be explained by a reduced preference for items similar to major components of the background diet of each colony, i.e. selection in favour of foods that were temporally rare. Differences between house and farm cats, and within the house cats, could not be explained in this way; the house cats were neophobic towards RE, and the farm cats ate little of the HD food, possibly because they found it difficult to ingest.

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## The organization and control of grooming in cats

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Eckstein, RA; Hart, BL; *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* | vol 68 no 2 | pp.131-140 | May 10 2000

Reprints: Hart, BL | UNIV CALIF DAVIS, SCH VET MED, DEPT ANAT PHYSIOL & CELL BIOL, DAVIS, CA 95616

Abstract: Grooming in small felids has received little attention compared with grooming in rodents, bovids and primates where grooming is also common. This study set out to describe the general pattern, time budget and degree of cephalocaudal sequencing of self-oral grooming in the domestic cat. In 11 cats confined for the purposes of videotaping, sleeping and resting accounted for 50% of the time budget. Oral grooming, 91% of which was to multiple body regions, accounted for 4% of the

overall time budget or 8% of non-sleeping/resting time. Scratch grooming, always directed to single regions, occupied about 1/50 of the time of oral grooming. There was a moderate and significant cephalocaudal trend to grooming. An increased likelihood for oral grooming to follow periods of sleep or rest was indicated by a significant negative correlation between sleep/rest duration and latency to the subsequent grooming bout. The effect of enforced deprivation of grooming on the subsequent occurrence of grooming was explored by the 3-day application of Elizabethian collars, which prevented oral grooming or control collars that did not prevent grooming. In the 12 h immediately after removal of the Elizabethian collars, oral grooming increased by 67% and scratch grooming by 200% compared with the grooming rate after removal of control collars. By the second 12 h, the apparent catch-up effect of grooming had disappeared. The occurrence of cephalocaudally-directed, multiple-region oral grooming and deprivation-enhanced grooming would appear to represent aspects of a central control mechanism for the organization and regulation of grooming.

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## The effect of environmental enrichment on the behaviour of caged rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)

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Hansen, LT; Berthelsen, H; *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* | vol 68 no 2 | pp.163-178 | May 10 2000

Reprints: Hansen, LT | UNIV COPENHAGEN, INST ZOOL, TAGENSVEJ 16, DK-2200 COPENHAGEN N, DENMARK

Abstract: Behaviour and use of the cage area were studied in 96 rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) kept in an enriched cage system - with access to shelter and raised height at the back of the cage - and in a conventional cage system to estimate the effects of the environmental enrichment on the rabbits' welfare. The rabbits' behaviour and placement in the cage were observed, using continuous video recording through 24 h and direct scan sampling during the daytime. In addition, an open-field test was carried out with each rabbit, and after every single test, the rabbits' timidity of being captured was recorded. Rabbits kept in the conventional cage system, especially the females, showed more restlessness, excessive grooming, bar-gnawing and timidity than rabbits kept in the enriched cage system. This indicates increased stress in the rabbits kept in the conventional, cage system. All the rabbits performed most of the active behavioural elements in the daytime and were resting mostly at night that shows that the rabbits in both cage systems were adapted to the daily activity in the animal unit; the enrichment had no effect on the daytime activity. Only a few rabbits, particularly the females, used the box as a shelter or resting-place. On the other hand, they more often used the roof of the box as a look-out or resting-place. Furthermore, the rabbits' behaviour showed that they utilised the raised height in the enriched cage system. These results indicate that rabbits kept in an enriched cage system, par-

ticularly the females, had better welfare than rabbits kept in a conventional cage system because they had access to shelter and a better chance of interacting with the environment.

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## Thoroughbred bedding preferences, associated behaviour differences and their implications for equine welfare

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Mills, DS; Eckley, S; Cooper, JJ; *Animal Science* | vol 70 pt 1 | pp.95-106 | Feb 2000

Reprints: Mills, DS | DE MONTFORT UNIV LINCOLN, FAC SCI APPL, SCH AGR, CAYTHORPE CAMPUS, CAYTHORPE NG32 3EP, LINCOLN, ENGLAND

Abstract: Choice tests are an effective means of assessing the short-term environmental preferences of captive animals. The preferences shown by eight thoroughbred horses (*Equus caballus*) for three commonly used bedding materials (paper, straw and shavings) were investigated. For each preference test two choices were presented in separate boxes joined by an unbedded corridor. Time spent in each compartment and associated behaviours were recorded. Despite a positional bias,

horses clearly showed a preference for straw bedding (42.9 (s.e. 3.6) %) over shavings (35.2 (s.e. 3.4) %,  $P < 0.05$ ), straw (42.0 (s.e. 3.7) %) over paper (29.3 (s.e. 3.4) %,  $P < 0.05$ ) and shavings (41.6 (s.e. 4.3) %) over paper (27.7 (s.e. 3.7) %,  $P < 0.001$ ) based on percentage of observed time spent on the substrate. Straw bedding increased the occurrence of bedding related activities, with more of these activities in choices where straw was available ( $P < 0.001$ ) and in these choices the activities being preferentially expressed in the straw alternative ( $P < 0.001$ ). Straw may therefore be preferred as it allows the expression of a wider number of motivationally significant activities.

# American College of Veterinary Behaviorists Report

**Dr. Bonnie V. Beaver**  
Executive Director

The College has just welcomed three new Diplomates, Drs. Walter Burghardt, Patrick Melese, and Vint Virga. Congratulations Gentlemen! This brings the total number to 26 diplomates. There is a growing list of individuals in residencies and non-conforming programs, ensuring that the numbers will continue to grow.

ACVB has been listed as provisionally recognized by the American Board of Veterinary Specialists of the AVMA since it was first recognized in 1993. Through a lot of hard work by a number of people, the College has grown at a steady rate and has now applied for full recognition. This will be a big step of ACVB in gaining recognition for animal behavior as a specialty. The actual decision will not be made until February.

This is a reminder that February 1, 2001 is the deadline for applications for examination for that year. When the examination was moved back to October, the deadline for application was also

moved. This information is not in all the ACVB application packets, so there may be some confusion. Please check with Dr. Beaver if there are any questions about deadlines.

As a point of information, the ACVB Applicant packet (currently the blue packet) is undergoing revisions. The newest edition will be available in February 2001. AVSAB members can request an updated copy from Dr. Beaver after February 1, 2001. With your request, please indicate your membership in AVSAB. The packet is available to non-members for \$10.00.

Those people interested in the process of board certification by the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists should contact the executive director, Dr. Bonnie Beaver at the following address:

Dr. Bonnie V. Beaver  
Dept. of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, TX 77843-4474  
bbeaver@cvm.tamu.edu

## Student Chapters News

As a student chapter, the chapter members receive the quarterly newsletter, admission to the annual meeting held in conjunction with the AVMA meeting, and participation in an online group. In order to receive access to the egroup or meeting, the AVSAB club advisor must provide a list of current members to Dr. Margaret Duxbury, Student Chapter Committee Chairperson. In order to be an advisor for a Student AVSAB Chapter, the individual must be a current regular or affiliate member of AVSAB. For additional information about starting a new student chapter or enhancing an existing one, please contact:

Dr. Margaret Duxbury  
1299 South Shore Drive  
Amery, WI 54001  
715-268-2691; 715-268-9900 (fax)  
mduxbury1@yahoo.com

### Current Student Chapters

**Colorado State University**  
Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
300 W. Drake Road  
Fort Collins, CO 80523

**The University of Georgia**  
Advisor: Dr. Sharon L. Crowell-Davis  
President: Ms. Lynne Gallitz  
University of Georgia  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Athens, GA 30602

**University of Illinois**  
Advisor: Dr. JoAnne Eurell  
President: Ms. Jill Demers  
3516 VMBSB  
2001 South Lincoln Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801

**Iowa State University**  
Advisor: Dr. Donald Draper  
President: Ms. Elise Christensen  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
2526 Veterinary Administration  
Ames, IA 50011-1250

**Washington State University**  
Advisor: Dr. Mary Smith  
110 Bustad Hall  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Pullman, WA 99164-7010

## DR. ROBERT K. ANDERSON AWARDED WACO F. CHILDERS AWARD

The American Humane Association has awarded Dr. Robert K. Anderson its Waco F. Childers Award for outstanding contributions to humane ideals. Dr. Anderson was honored at the annual AHA conference October 16 in Atlanta.

"Each year the American Humane Association honors an individual for work that has truly made a difference in the lives of animals," said Timothy O'Brien, president of AHA. "This year, I am especially proud to present this award to Dr. Robert K. Anderson. From the time he was a child and knew he wanted to be a veterinarian to his groundbreaking work at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Anderson's career is one that exemplifies a commitment to humane ideals."

Congratulations from all of us, Dr. Anderson!

# Pay Dues Online Using Paypal.com

Instead of mailing dues to AVSAB, you can safely use Paypal.com to remit money from your credit card or checking accounts. Non-U.S. members, please read the note at the end.

1. Go to internet site <http://www.paypal.com>. Click on "Send Money." Click on "Sign up today for your free Paypal account." Fill out the quick on-page registration.

2. In a few minutes, check your email. Click on the link in your email, and enter your Paypal password.

3. Click on "Add credit card" or "Add checking account."

4. Now you can "Send Money." Put in the recipient: AVSAB's email address "avsabe@yahoo.com." Enter amount (typically \$40.00; international members please remit an additional \$10.00). Then you will have a chance to inform AVSAB of your current address, phone numbers, and email address.

5. The recipient should read: American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior. Click on "Send Money" and you will be prompted to say whether you want this money to be deducted from your checking account or credit card. (Non-US members can use credit card only, no non-US checking accounts via Paypal).

6. You will receive notification email from Paypal confirming the transaction.

## International members including Canada

We will only be able to accept credit cards through Paypal.com if you are a resident of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, or United Kingdom.

Paypal charges a modest fee on all transactions involving a credit card. AVSAB dues from international members sent to us through Paypal cannot come from non-US bank accounts, only credit cards.

# AVSAB COMMITTEES

## Come Join the Fun!

*Committee chairpersons and executive board members would like to encourage member participation in committees. The individuals listed below can be contacted for information about joining.*

### Program Committee

Selects and organizes paper and poster presentations for annual meeting in conjunction with AVMA meeting.

**Chairperson:** Dr. Petra Mertens  
University of Minnesota, College of  
Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Small Animal Clinical  
Sciences  
315, Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
1352 Boyd Avenue  
St Paul, MN 55108  
612-625-0227; 612-624-0751 (fax)  
merte006@tc.umn.edu

**Current members:** Dr. Terri Derr, Dr.  
Amy Marder, Mr. Randall Wolfe  
**Executive Board Liaison:** Dr. Victoria  
Voith

### Booth Committee

Arranges booth space at meetings,  
schedules AVSAB members to work at  
booth, provides materials for booths.

**Chairperson:** Dr. Amy Marder  
Email: [ARMVMD@aol.com](mailto:ARMVMD@aol.com) or  
[amym@aspc.org](mailto:amym@aspc.org), or [Amy\\_Marder/  
Aspca@aspc.org](mailto:Amy_Marder@Aspca@aspc.org)

**Executive Board Liaison:** Dr. Victoria  
Voith

### International Meeting Committee

**Chairperson:** Dr. Karen Overall  
Email: [overallk@vet.upenn.edu](mailto:overallk@vet.upenn.edu)

**Current members:** Dr. Diane Frank,  
Dr. Gary Landsberg, Dr. Ilana Reisner

**Executive Board Liaison:** Dr. Debbie  
Horwitz

### Student Award Committee

Advertises, selects, and verifies fund-  
ing for the AVSAB Student Award in  
Behavior Research to be awarded at  
the annual meeting.

**Chairperson:** Dr. Ilana Reisner  
P.O. Box 105, Brooktondale, NY 14817  
[ilanaR@aol.com](mailto:ilanaR@aol.com)

**Members/Reviewers:** Dr. Margaret  
Duxbury, Dr. Scott Line, Dr. Andrew  
Luescher, Dr. Karen Overall

**Executive Board Liaison:** Dr. Lynne  
Seibert

### Listserv/Egroup Committee

**Chairperson/Moderator:** Dr. Steven  
Feldman  
[avsabe@yahoo.com](mailto:avsabe@yahoo.com)

**Members:** Dr. Ione Smith

**Executive Board Liaison:** Dr. Steven  
Feldman

### Student Chapters Committee

Provides guidelines for the develop-  
ment of new AVSAB student chapters,  
assists current chapters and advisors,  
keeps lists of current student mem-  
bers and officers.

**Chairperson:** Dr. Margaret Duxbury  
[Mduxbury1@yahoo.com](mailto:Mduxbury1@yahoo.com)

**Members/Chapter Advisors:**  
Dr. Sharon L. Crowell-Davis – Georgia  
Dr. Donald Draper – Iowa  
Dr. JoAnne Eurell – Illinois  
Dr. Mary Smith – Washington

**Executive Board Liaison:** Dr. Margaret  
Duxbury

# Review of Recent Conference

## “The Pit Bull Dilemma” Submitted by Dr. Amy Marder

Over the past 15 years, pit bulls have gained more than just a foothold in the public's awareness. Unscrupulous breeding and negative media attention have resulted in many housing complexes, neighborhoods, towns and even countries imposing bans on the breed, citing them as “inherently dangerous” to the public. As a result, the number of pit bulls entering animal shelters, especially in urban areas, has risen dramatically (pit bulls and pit bull mixes make up more than 20% of the dog population in one out of four shelters). On November 4, 2000, the ASPCA's Center

for Behavioral Therapy held an all day conference addressing the problems and offering solutions to the severe overpopulation of pit bulls. Entitled “The Pit Bull Dilemma: The moral, ethical and practical issues created by urban America's #1 Shelter Dog,” the conference drew over 75 people including veterinarians, trainers, behaviorists, shelter workers, and animal control officers. The conference was covered by the New York Times (even though Bill and Hillary were in town!) The program will be repeated at the 2001 Tufts Animal Expo in Boston.

## PROGRAM

8:30 to 9:00 a.m.	<b>Breakfast and Registration</b>
9:00 to 9:30 a.m.	<b>Keynote Address</b> Stephen Musso, Senior Vice President, ASPCA Animal Services and Chief of Operations
9:30 to 10:30 a.m.	<b>Brief Historical Perspective and Survey Data</b> Stephen L. Zawistowski, Ph. D., Senior Vice President, ASPCA Animal Sciences and Science Advisor and Jacque Schultz, Director, Special Projects, ASPCA Animal Sciences
10:30 to 10:45 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	<b>Behavioral Aspects and Issues</b> Dr. Amy Marder, Vice President, Behavioral Medicine, ASPCA, and Michelle Siegel, Dog Obedience Instructor, ASPCA Center for Behavioral Therapy
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00 to 1:45 p.m.	<b>Veterinary Perspectives</b> Dr. Andrew Lang, Manager, ASPCA Animal Health
1:45 to 2:30 p.m.	<b>From an HLE Point of View</b> Mark MacDonald, ASPCA Humane Law Enforcement Officer
2:30 to 2:45 pm	<b>Break</b>
2:45 to 3:30 p.m.	<b>Testifying in Court on Their Behalf</b> Peter Borchelt, Ph. D., animal behavior consultant
3:30 to 5:00 p.m.	<b>Issues and Answers Panel</b> Moderator: Dr. Amy Marder Panelists: Dr. Stephen Zawistowsky, Senior Vice president, Animal Sciences, ASPCA, John Richardson, pit bull rescue; Marilyn Haggerty-Blohm, Executive Director and Westley Artrope, Trainer/Coordinator, New York City Center for Animal Care and Control; Steve Crosby, Commissioner of Boston Animal Control

## AVSAB Award for Student Excellence in Applied Animal Behavior Research

### DEADLINE IS March 1, 2001

Papers should be submitted to:  
Dr. Ilana Reisner, P.O. Box 105,  
Brooktondale, NY 14817

1. The author must be a current veterinary student
2. Papers are due March 1, 2001
3. Papers must meet the following criteria:
  - a. The paper must be in the format for application to a scientific publication; it must have a title page, an abstract, materials and methods section, discussion and references
  - b. Research must have been completed within the last calendar year
  - c. The paper should not have been previously published, and not yet received final acceptance for publication in a journal prior to the submission deadline
  - d. Three copies double spaced and devoid of all references to location and author except for the cover page should be sent to Dr. Ilana Reisner
4. The recipient will be notified by April 30, 2001
5. The recipient must attend and present their paper at the AVSAB Paper and Poster Presentation session held in conjunction with the AVMA Annual Meeting
6. The award will be given at the AVSAB meeting after the presentation of the paper by the winner
7. An abstract of the award winning paper will be printed in the AVSAB newsletter
8. The award shall be \$1500.00 part of which shall be used to defray cost associated with attending the AVSAB meeting
9. If no suitable papers are submitted the award will not be given

# Welcome New Members!

(Current membership directory will be available soon)

## New Regular Members

**Dr. Melissa F. Veenhuizen**  
Greenfield, IN

**Dr. Cameron M. Jones**  
Eugene, OR

**Dr. Steven Benscheidt**  
Longmont, CO

**Dr. Ashraf Khalil**  
Ismailia EGYPT

**Dr. Kari L. Amador**  
Plymouth, MI

**Dr. Creel Lancaster**  
Champaign, IL

**Dr. Rick Miller**  
Alamogordo, NM

**Dr. Renate Jones-Baade**  
Munchen GERMANY

**Dr. James L. Teare**  
Pleasanton, CA

**Dr. Elizabeth M. McKenna**  
Camano Island, WA

**Dr. Joc M. Rawls**  
Peoria, AZ

**Dr. Elizabeth P. Noyes**  
Yarmouth, ME

**Dr. Jenni A. Mitchell**  
Schofield, WI

**Dr. Grant R. Gugisberg**  
Lilydale, MN

**Dr. Patrick Pageat**  
Saint Saturnin les FRANCE

**Dr. Stewart Hilliard**  
Lakeland AFB, TX

**Dr. Alison Barnhill**  
Des Moines, IA

**Dr. Denise Dunlap**  
Surry BC CANADA

**Dr. Tamra L. Truesdell**  
Wichita, KS

**Dr. Julia Brannan**  
Fort Collins, CO

**Dr. Louisa Beal**  
Sumner, WA

**Dr. Kimberly Lewis**  
Abilene, TX

**Dr. Mia Wesselmann**  
Greensboro, NC

**Dr. E. Kathryn Meyer**  
Potomac, MD

**Dr. Kathleen A. Wilks**  
Littleton, CO

**Dr. Anissa Peneguy**  
Metairie, LA

**Dr. Daniela McLean**  
Calgary Alberta CANADA

**Dr. Bruce M. Feldman**  
Berkeley, CA

**Dr. Joseph Brewer**  
Springfield, IL

**Dr. Birgitte Tan-Coleman**  
North Hollywood, CA

**Dr. Kenneth Martin**  
Panama City Beach, FL

**Dr. Darnice E. Pettigrew**  
Timberville, VA

**Dr. Carol Popolow**  
Croton-On-Hudson, NY

## New Student Members

**Ms. Stephanie Shanahan**  
Ottawa, Ontario CANADA

**Ms. Chie Hashizume**  
Tokyo JAPAN

**Ms. Ruby Chan**  
Mississippi State MS

**Ms. Abby Cowan**  
Champaign, IL

**Ms. Jamie Bush**  
Manhattan, KS

**Mr. Christopher Pachel**  
St Paul, MN

## New Subscription Members

**Ms. Valli Parthasarathy**  
Athens, GA

**Mr. Sapir Weiss**  
Santa Rosa, CA

**Ms. Sue Webb**  
Wellesley, MA

**Ms. Nancy Gerstenfeld**  
Athens, GA

**Ms. Mary E. Daub**  
Erie, PA

## OUR MISSION

To advance programs of clinical animal behavior and research on animal behavior as it applies to veterinary medicine, to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of problems relevant to the field of veterinary animal behavior, to publish and distribute scientific information related and pertinent to the field of veterinary medicine dealing with animal behavior, and to act as liaison between members of the organization and the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists.

# Speaking Engagements and Seminars

## International Meetings

### April 5-8, 2001

**British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA) Annual Congress**  
International Convention Centre  
Birmingham, England  
congress@bsava.com; www.bsava.com

### August 3-4, 2001

**International Society for Anthrozoology**  
"Human-Animal Conflict"  
University of California - Davis  
<http://www.soton.ac.uk/~azi.isaz1.htm>

### August 4-8, 2001

**35<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the ISAE**  
University of California, Davis  
ISAE 2001  
c/o the Center for Animal Welfare  
3202 Meyer Hall, One Shields Avenue  
University of California  
Davis, CA 95616  
Email: isae2001@asmail.ucdavis.edu  
<http://animalwelfare@ucdavis.edu>

### August 7-8, 2001

**3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Veterinary Behavioral Medicine**  
(in association with WSAVA)  
Vancouver, BC Canada  
Contact Dr. Karen Overall for information [overallk@vet.upenn.edu]

### August 22-29, 2001

**The 27<sup>th</sup> International Ethological Congress**  
Tuebingen, Germany  
<http://homepages.uni-tuebingen.de/ethology01>  
Email: ethology01@uni-tuebingen.de

Call For Papers: spoken papers, poster talks, posters and films/videos.  
Deadline for abstract submission:  
**February 28, 2001.** Visit web site for specific instructions for submitting abstracts

### September 13-15, 2001

**9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Human-Animal Interactions**  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

## National Meetings

### December 10, 2000

**Senior Care Symposium**  
Raleigh, NC  
Contact Dr. John Santili: 919-467-6146  
Speakers: Drs. Debra Horwitz, John Dee, Ernest Ward

### January 13-17, 2001

**North American Veterinary Conference**  
Orlando, FL  
Conference registration  
4421 N.W. 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
Bldg 1-A, Gainesville, FL 32606  
800-756-3446  
Fax 352-375-4145 or 352-336-6827  
International 352-375-5672-6  
Email: TNAVCA@aol.com  
Register online at  
[www.navconline.com](http://www.navconline.com)

**Novartis Behavior Symposium**  
(January 16) Drs. Dianne Frank, Gary Landsberg, and Petra Mertens  
**Waltham Feline Symposium**  
(January 17) Dr. Dianne Frank

### February 10-15, 2001

**Western Veterinary Conference**  
MGM Grand Conference Center  
Las Vegas, NV  
Registration to:  
2425 East Oquendo Road  
Las Vegas, NV 89120  
Fax 702-739-6420  
Register online:  
[www.westernveterinary.org](http://www.westernveterinary.org)  
Drs. Horwitz, Landsberg, Nielson, Reisner. 20 hours on canine and feline behavior.  
Also: Avian behavior, Equine welfare symposium

### March 9-11, 2001

**BSAVA Behavior Short Course**  
<http://www.bsava.com>  
Email: adminoff@bsava.com  
Drs. Debra Horwitz and Sarah Heath

### March 10-14, 2001

**American Animal Hospital Association Annual Meeting**  
San Antonio, TX  
800-883-63301

### March 15, 2001

**BSAVA Canine Behavior Seminar**  
<http://www.bsava.com>  
Email: adminoff@bsava.com  
Drs. Debra Horwitz and Sarah Heath

### March 25, 2001

**Master Courses in Feline Elimination Behavior Problems and Canine Aggression (8 hours of CE credit)**  
University of Georgia

### July 14-18, 2001

**American Veterinary Medical Association**  
Boston, MA

### July 16, 2001

**American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior**  
Paper and poster presentations in association with AVMA

**ABS Annual Meetings**  
[www.animalbehavior.org](http://www.animalbehavior.org)

### June 16-20, 2001

Oregon State University Corvallis, OR

### July 13-18, 2002

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

### August 21-25, 2001

**Association of Avian Veterinarians Annual Conference**  
Orlando, FL  
AAV Conference Office  
2121 South Oneida Street, Suite 325  
Denver, CO 80224-2552  
303-756-8380  
Fax 303-759-8861  
Email: AAVConfOfc@aol.com  
[www.ConferenceOffice.com/aav](http://www.ConferenceOffice.com/aav)  
Behavior section speakers - TBA

### November 17-18, 2001

**Psychopharmacology in Animal Behavior Disorders**  
14 CE credits  
Georgia Center for Continuing Education  
University of Georgia Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
Drs. Crowell-Davis, Curtis, Seibert, Murray

Dr. Steven Feldman  
9414 Brandywine Rd.  
Clinton, MD 20735

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