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President's Message

Greetings Friends:

As we prepare for our annual meeting in Denver, I am becoming more and more excited about seeing new friends and learning new information. If you haven't already registered for the AVSAB meeting, it's not too late. If I receive your registration fees by July 10, I will still be able to reserve your lunch for the meeting. Registration for AVSAB, on Monday, July 21 and for ACVB, on Sunday, July 20, can still be sent to me at 15123 - 78th Avenue NE, Kenmore, WA 98028. Early registration has been overwhelming, so it should be one of best attended meetings in years.

My special thanks go to our sponsors: Duskocil, Novartis, and Premier; the Society of Veterinary Behavior technicians for their assistance with the booth, the Executive Board for all their diligent work on the meeting, and the members who are consistently available to assist us: Rolan Tripp, Margaret Duxbury, and many others.

The meetings (AVSAB and ACVB) are scheduled for Salon F at the Denver Marriott City Center. The AVSAB meeting on Monday will feature an Italian buffet (sponsored by Premier Pet Products), so be sure to pre-register so you can participate in lunch. Duskocil Manufacturing (makers of PetMate brand products) will contribute products for a raffle, the proceeds of which support our Student Chapter Service Award. The meeting will also feature our student research award (sponsored by Novartis Animal Health and Premier Pet Products).

If you are going to be in Denver, please plan to attend the AVSAB General Business Meeting on Monday after the Scientific presentations (4:15 - 6:00 PM) so that your opinions can be heard. If you have any items for the agenda of the meeting (even if you won't be attending) please send them to me directly so they can be addressed.

I wish you all peace and safe travels,
Lynne

American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior Paper and Poster Sessions

Monday, July 21, 2003

7:30 to 8:15 AM	REGISTRATION, COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS
8:15 to 8:40 AM	The Role of Urinary Tract Disease in Feline Urine Marking Valerie Tynes, DVM, Benjamin Hart, DVM, Ph.D., DACVB Kelly Cliff, DVM, Melissa Bain, DVM, DACVB
8:40 to 9:05 AM	Analysis of Off-Leash Dog Exercise Parks in the State of California Melissa Bain, DVM, DACVB; Benjamin L. Hart, DVM, Ph.D., DACVB; Kelly Cliff, DVM; Lynette A. Hart, Ph.D.
9:05 to 9:30 AM	Validity of the Dominance Tube Test When Used with Domestic Ferrets Valerie W. Staton, Ph.D.
9:30 to 9:55 AM	Puberty in the Dog: Differences Between Males and Females in the Development of Assertive Behaviors Patrick Pageat, DVM, Ph.D., DBFVS
9:55 to 10:15 AM	BREAK
10:15 to 10:40 AM	Effects of a Synthetic Dog Appeasing Pheromone (DAP) on Behavior Disorders During Transport Emmanuel Gaultier, DVM, MS; Patrick Pageat, DVM, Ph.D.
10:40 to 11:05 AM	Behavioral Responses to a Physiologically Provocative Test for Anxiety: Sentinel Signs and Concurrence with Physiological Changes Karen L. Overall, MA, VMD, Ph.D.; Arthur E. Dunham, Ph.D.
11:05 to 11:30 AM	Mild Polycythemia in Canine Compulsive Disorder Mami Irimajiri, BVSc; Elizabeth E. Jay, DVM; Andrew U. Luescher, DVM, Ph.D., DACVB; Lawrence T. Glickman, VMD, Ph.D.
11:30 to 1:00 PM	LUNCH and POSTER SESSION
1:00 to 1:30 PM	THE AVSAB STUDENT PAPER PRESENTATION AND AWARD
1:30 to 1:55 PM	How Important is Roughage to a Horse? Katherine A. Houpt, VMD, Ph.D.; Jaimie Elia, BS, MS
1:55 to 2:20 PM	Human Directed Aggression in the Miniature Pig Valerie Tynes, DVM
2:20 to 2:40 PM	BREAK
	PRACTICE TIPS / PANEL DISCUSSION
3:00 to 3:20 PM	Case Reports in Combination Drug Therapy Marsha Reich, DVM, DACVB
3:20 to 3:40 PM	Assessing the Risk of Aggression in Dogs Wayne Hunthausen, DVM
3:40 to 4:15 PM	QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION/PANEL DISCUSSION Muhovich, Reich, Hunthausen
4:15 to 6:00 PM	BUSINESS MEETING

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www.gentleleader.com

Sponsor of the AVSAB luncheon and poster reception and sponsor in part of the Student Award for Excellence in Behavior Research.



"Veterinary Medicine Is Our Only Business"
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Sponsor of the AVSAB Breakfast

American College of Veterinary Behaviorists Scientific Paper Session

**In association with the Annual Meeting of the AVMA
July 20, 2003**

Presiding Officer: Dr. Gary Landsberg

Please plan to attend the inaugural American College of Veterinary Behaviorist paper session to be held in Denver in conjunction with the AVMA Annual Meeting on Sunday, July 20, 2003, at the Denver Marriott City Center, Colorado F, from 5-10:00 p.m. Many thanks to our sponsors; Dorskocil, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Lilly, Novartis Animal Health, Pfizer Animal Health, Premier Pet Products and VPL. Registration is \$25.00 and includes a box dinner. Many thanks also to the executive board of AVSAB for helping with organization and registration, we could not have done this without them. A separate registration is needed for each meeting, the AVSAB meeting and the ACVB meeting. Additional information is available at our website www.veterinarybehaviorists.org and registration is available at the AVSAB website www.avma.org/avsab.

Time: 5:00 – 10:00 pm

5:00 – 5:30 Registration and Introductions

5:30 – 5:50 Amy Marder VMD

Predictability of a Shelter Dog Behavioral Assessment Test

6:00 – 6:20 John Ciribassi DVM

Comparative Bioavailability of Transdermal Versus Oral Fluoxetine in Healthy Cats

6:30 – 6:50 Gerrard Flannigan, DVM

Canine Sibling Rivalry: Characteristics, owner compliance, and factors affecting prognosis for positive treatment outcome

7:00 – 7:20 Terry Curtis DVM

The effects of hierarchy, gender, relatedness and familiarity on allogrooming in the domestic cat (*Felis catus*)

7:25 – 8:00 box dinner / refreshment break

8:00 – 8:20 Katherine Haupt VMD, PhD, DiplACVB

The effect of diet on cribbing

8:30 – 8:50 Kelly Moffat DVM

An Investigation of the Incidence of Clinical Signs of Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (CDS) in Cats

9:00 – 9:20 Ilana R. Reisner, DVM, PhD, DiplACVB

Diagnosis of canine generalized anxiety disorder and its short-term management with paroxetine (Paxil®)

9:30 – 9:50 Petra A. Mertens DVM, DiplACVB

The use of clomipramine hydrochloride for the treatment of feline psychogenic alopecia

Case Report

Karen Sueda, DVM
University of California
School of Veterinary Medicine
Resident – Behavior Service

Presenting Complaint

Charlie presented for obsessive/compulsive shadow chasing.

Signalment

Charlie was a one-year-old, male, castrated German Short-haired Pointer.

History

Two weeks prior to presentation, Charlie's owners, DJ and Kathleen, obtained him from a local shelter where he lived approximately one month after being picked up by animal control officers as a stray. Charlie's owners first noticed the shadow/light chasing behavior at the shelter. Charlie visually fixated on shadows on the ground and tracked their movement. Shelter staff felt that the behavior was due to boredom and told the owners that it would dissipate once the dog was adopted into a permanent home.

Once in his new home, Charlie's shadow chasing behavior worsened in frequency and intensity. He exhibited the behavior six to ten times per day, each bout lasting between 5 minutes to one hour if he was not either verbally or physically distracted or physically restrained. Charlie's owners called him to them when he fixated on shadows, distracting him with toys or food in an attempt to prevent him from engaging in the behavior. He would immediately cease staring at shadows to interact with his owners. However, he resumed the behavior when attention from his owners ended.

Although Charlie tended to ignore shadows just after waking in the morning or prior to going to bed, during the day he would engage in the behavior most consistently just after returning home from a walk or having just en-

gaged in physical activity with his owners, such as playing ball. His owners walked him for 45 minutes per day and played ball with him for approximately an hour every evening.

Charlie's owners were unsure if he chased lights and shadows when they were not at home. A few days prior to presentation, Kathleen heard him moving downstairs, presumably chasing shadows. She did not go downstairs to investigate his behavior. Every few minutes, Charlie would stop, run up stairs, find Kathleen, then return downstairs and began moving around, presumably chasing shadows again.

Charlie's medical history prior to being adopted was unknown. Since adoption, he had not exhibited any major medical problems other than conjunctivitis, which resolved after one week of treatment with topical ophthalmic triple antibiotic ointment^a. His owners never noticed any problems with his vision during this time.

Examination

A physical examination and fundic examination using an indirect lens were performed and were unremarkable. During the exam, Charlie was bright, alert, and responsive and engaged in a variety of activities including jumping and pawing at the door, chewing on his leash, and performing a "play bow" in front of his owners. His owners respond verbally and physically to Charlie's behavior (eg. saying "down" or pushing him away from them). After about 40 minutes, Charlie began pacing the room, visually fixated on the ground while moving about the room for about 10 minutes until Kathleen called him to her, after which he settled down next to her on the couch and slept. No further laboratory tests were performed.

A video provided by the owners showed Charlie fixating on shadows in the car ride to the appointment. During this episode, the behavior stopped when his owner called him over to him,

but resumed when attention was withdrawn.

Diagnosis

Differential diagnoses for Charlie's shadow fixation/chasing behavior included: 1) attention-seeking behavior, 2) compulsive disorder, 3) ophthalmologic/ocular disease or abnormalities, or 4) neurologic disease or partial seizure episodes. Based on the ability of the owners to stop the shadow chasing behavior through mild interaction with the dog, a history that included receiving attention while engaged in the behavior, as well as the absence of any other discernible medical causes, a provisional diagnosis of attention-seeking shadow chasing behavior was made. Attention-seeking behavior is any behavior that an animal performs in an attempt to gain the attention of its owner and can include behaviors commonly seen in animals thought to have a compulsive disorder, such as fly-snapping or shadow chasing³. Charlie's behavior had been consistently reinforced by his well-meaning owners who had successfully distracted him while engaged in the behavior by offering him attention, toys, play time and treats instead. Thus Charlie learned that engaging in shadow chasing got the attention of his owners.

Charlie originally presented for having compulsive shadow chasing behavior. Compulsive behaviors are usually repetitive behaviors performed in order to reduce anxiety or conflict^{5,6}. These behaviors occur in both the absence, as well as presence, of the owner, usually requires a very strong stimulus to disrupt them, and typically occur initially in response to stressful situations^{6,7}. Charlie displayed shadow chasing behavior at the shelter, though it may have started prior to that in a former household. The fact that the behavior was easily disrupted (eg. calling his name) also makes a diagnosis of compulsion less likely. Without videotaping Charlie's behavior in the absence of people (re-

moving an “audience effect”), compulsive disorder cannot be entirely ruled out. However, it is interesting to note that Charlie stopped the apparent shadow chasing behavior to go to Kathleen when she did not pay attention to him while upstairs.

Ophthalmologic or ocular causes of shadow chasing behavior include, but are not limited to, vitreous opacities, asteroid hyalosis, synchysis scintillans, persistent hyaloid artery, corneal or lenticular opacities, etc.^{1,2} However, based on Charlie’s unremarkable ocular and fundic examination and apparent normal visual acuity between episodes of shadow chasing, ophthalmologic causes were felt to be less likely, though Charlie’s owners were asked to pursue further diagnostic testing should Charlie fail to respond to the treatment plan.

Neurologic etiologies of Charlie’s behavior include any degenerative, infectious, metabolic, neoplastic, etc. conditions that could disrupt normal neurologic function. Based on Charlie’s young age or lack of other clinical signs, underlying diseases affecting the nervous system resulting in behavioral manifestations were less likely. However basic blood work (CBC and chemistry panel) and urinalysis may have assisted in ruling out in situ disease processes and were recommended should the behavior modification plan be ineffective. Other neurologic causes include psychomotor or focal seizures^{3,4}. However, psychomotor seizures are usually followed by a postictal period, which Charlie did not exhibit⁴. Psychomotor seizures may be difficult to differentiate from a compulsive disorder without utilizing trial treatment with anti-seizure medication, such as phenobarbital³. A complete neurologic evaluation, EEG and/or MRI would also be useful tools to determine if underlying brain pathology exists and further diagnostic testing were also recommended and could be performed should behavior modification fail to reduce the severity of the behavior.

Treatment

Initial treatment for attention-seeking behavior consisted of extinguishing the behavior through active ignoring of

the shadow chasing behavior by the owners combined with structured delivery of attention.

Charlie’s owners were asked to videotape his behavior in their absence to determine whether the repetitive behavior only occurred in his owner’s presence. Additionally they were asked to actively ignore the behavior by either walking out of the room or completely ignoring him (i.e. not making eye contact with him or interacting with him in any way, even to reprimand him) every time he began engaging in the behavior. Charlie’s owners were informed that they had to be consistent and that everyone, including visitors to the house, must abide by these rules. Furthermore, they were warned that an extinction burst may occur during which time Charlie may temporarily engage in shadow chasing at a higher frequency, duration, or intensity⁶.

While they actively ignored the inappropriate behavior, they were also instructed to reward Charlie intermittently with treats, verbal praise and attention when he was calm and not engaged in shadow chasing throughout the day. Providing other physically and mentally stimulating activities, such as food-dispensing toys, clicker training, or teaching him tricks was also recommended.

Follow-up

Two days following the appointment, Charlie’s owners reported that they had not yet videotaped Charlie’s behavior in their absence. However, his shadow chasing had dramatically diminished in duration after they began consistently leaving the room at the onset of the behavior. Although Charlie initially appeared intensely focused on a shadow, 15-30 seconds after his owners left the room, he would stop his behavior to follow them. Charlie continued to display the behavior most intensely at the end of walks. However, when he began staring and following shadows, his owners ignored his behavior and continued to walk home. They had also purchased a food-dispensing toy^b which Charlie loved playing with.

After two additional days of treatment, Charlie would pass a shadow with a toy in his mouth, look at it, and then

continue on. His owner’s were very pleased with his behavior, as previously he would have dropped the toy in order to chase the shadow. Two months after the initial appointment, Charlie infrequently chased lights and shadows when he was especially tired, they ignored him for long periods, or when searchlights from nearby businesses lit the sky in their neighborhood. However, he continued to be easily distracted from the behavior and his owners were very satisfied with the improvement he had made.

^a Trioptic-P[®], Ophthalmic topical ointment, Pfizer Animal Health

^b Buster Food Cube[®], Kruuse, Denmark

References

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5. Beaver B. Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders. In Beaver B. Canine Behavior: A guide for veterinarians. Philadelphia: WB Saunders Co, 1999; 81-83.
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7. Hewson C, Luescher U. Compulsive Disorder in Dogs. In Voith V, Borchelt P, eds. Readings in Companion Animal Behavior. Trenton: Veterinary Learning Systems Co., Inc., 1996; 153-158.

Upcoming Behavioural Meetings

June 4-8, 2003

Principles and Techniques of Behavior Modification

DOGS!



The DOGS! Course is directed mainly toward veterinary technicians and dog trainers, but veterinarians and anyone interested in dog behavior are welcome. The course format includes lectures and hands-on workshops. The following topics will be covered:

- Normal canine behavior
- Puppy development
- How to run a puppy class
- Prevention of behavior problems
- Principles of learning
- Humane and effective training techniques
- Behavior modification techniques: systematic desensitization, counter-conditioning, response substitution
- Understanding behavior problems
- Application of behavior modification techniques as part of the treatment of behavior problems

There will be in-class workshops focusing on how to apply the principles of learning and behavior modification techniques to problem cases. Four hands-on practicum sessions will focus on puppy classes, training normal dogs, and on applying behavior modification techniques to problem dogs.

Participants will have the opportunity to take a written, closed book exam to earn a DOGS! course certificate. Participants will designate a proctor in their area to administer the exam. After having passed the exam,

participants should be qualified to:

- Offer high-quality puppy classes and obedience training classes
- Educate owners on pet choice and prevention of problems
- Educate owners on training and learning
- Assist a veterinarian or certified animal behaviorist in the treatment of behavior problems. A **veterinarian is responsible for the diagnosis and differential diagnosis** of a behavior problem, as well as for the medical work-up, pharmacological treatment and the development of a treatment plan (including behavior modification techniques to be used on the case). The veterinarian or applied behaviorist would then refer clients with this treatment plan to the veterinary technician or trainer who can help the client to implement the required behavior modification techniques.
- In cooperation with the veterinarian, incorporate a behavior program into a veterinary service

Participants of the DOGS! course will thus become an essential part of the "behavior team", sharing responsibilities for a comprehensive behavior program with veterinarians and/or certified animal behaviorists. We believe that this is a niche with great potential.

The registration fee for the course is \$700 and includes course notes, training equipment, snacks, lunches, banquet dinner, DOGS! 2003 T-shirt, and a trip to Wolf Park.

Email Julie Shaw RVT, (shawjk@purdue.edu) with your mailing address if you would like to be added to the DOGS! 2003 waiting list. People on the waiting list will be sent registration information in early March 2003. The first 40 registrants will be accepted into the DOGS! 2003

course. You can also visit the website at www.vet.purdue.edu/animalbehavior.

June 11, 2003

Chicago Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) Seminar

Oak Brook, IL

Dr. Karen Overall will speak on various behavioral topics, including behavioral modification drugs, canine and feline aggression, canine and feline anxiety problems and feline elimination disorders.

Contact: CVMA, Phone 630-325-1231; Fax 630-325-4043; Email ce@chicagovma.com; Website www.chicagovma.com

June 14 – 15, 2003

Canine Behavior

Madison, NJ

Two-day conference given by Suzanne Hetts, Ph.D. and Daniel Estep, Ph.D. on canine behavior.

Contact: Linda at Phone: 973-377-0116 x 250; Email: sperc@comcast.net; St. Hubert's Dog Training School, 22 Prospect St., Madison NJ 07940; Website: <http://www.sthuberts.org/>

June 15 – 21, 2003

NAVC-PGI Behavior Survey Course

Intensive ~ 60 hour certificate short course. Maximum 32 participants. Requires pre-exam and exit exam. Contact: North American Veterinary Conference, Phone 352-375-5672

June 20 – 21, 2003

Lifelearn Behavior Continuing Education Seminar

University of Guelph
2 day seminar and optional workshop on head halter fitting for veterinarians and staff. Featuring Dr. Gary Landsberg, Dr. Debra Horwitz and Dr. R.K. Anderson.
Contact: Email: abehnan@ovc.uoguelph.ca; Website: www.lifelearn.com.

June 24 – 28, 2003

36th International Congress of Applied Ethology (ISAE)

Abano Terme, Italy
Including topics on human-animal interaction, behavior testing, and welfare issues. In addition, a special workshop on the behavior of shelter dogs and a satellite meeting on horse behavior.
Contact: www.newteam.it//ISAE2003 (for registration); Via C. Ghiretti, 2 - 43100 Parma - Italy - Tel. +39-0521-293913 - Fax +39-0521-294036; e-mail: francesca.corona@newteam.it; Website: www.isae2003.org

July 19 – 23, 2003

Animal Behavior Society (ABS) 40th Annual Meeting

Boise State University, Boise, ID
Website www.animalbehavior.org/ABS/Program; contact Emilia Martins at emartins@bio.indiana.edu or Meredith West at mewest@indiana.edu

July 19 – 23, 2003

American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting

Denver, Colorado
Many hours of topics covering animal behavior, welfare, and human-animal bond.
Contact: Website: www.avma.org

July 20, 2003

American College of Veterinary Behaviorists Scientific Paper Session

Denver, Colorado (in conjunction with AVMA Annual Meeting)
Evening session of scientific research and papers presented by leaders in the field.
Contact: Website: www.avma.org See registration form for more information.

July 21, 2003

American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB) Annual Meeting

Denver, Colorado (in conjunction with AVMA Annual Meeting)
Contact: Dr. Steven Feldman, 1535 Rugby Circle, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360, Email: avsab@yahoo.com, Website: www.avma.org/avsab See registration form for more information.

July 30 – August 3, 2003

International Conference on Scientific and Clinical Aspects of Canine Behavior

The Center for Companion Animal Health, School of Veterinary Medicine, in conjunction with the Canine Health Foundation of the American Kennel Club
University of California – Davis
Major topics include: 1) Genes and behavior, 2) Domestication, 3) Cognition and learning, 4) Dogs in Society, and 5) Clinical disorders. Registration will be limited to no more than 200 participants. This is a preliminary announcement and more information will be forthcoming. A call for abstracts will be forthcoming as well.
Contact: Ms. Sharon Anglin, Management Service Office, Center for Companion Animal Health, UC Davis, Phone 530-752-9183.

August 15 – 16, 2003

International Society for Anthrozoology (ISAZ) The Social Lives of Animals: Human/Non-human Cognition, Interactions, Relationships

Kent State University Stark Campus, Canton, OH
Contact: Dr. Penny Bernstein, Kent State University Stark Campus, 6000 Frank Avenue, Canton, OH 44720; Email: pbernstein@stark.kent.edu; Website: <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/ccab/isaz2003.html>

August 17, 2003

Genetics and Behaviors

Madison, NJ
Conference given by Alice Moon-Fanelli, Ph.D., on the role of genetics on the behavior of dogs.
Contact: Linda at Phone: 973-377-0116 x 250; Email: sperc@comcast.net; St. Hubert's Dog Training School, 22 Prospect St., Madison NJ 07940; Website: <http://www.sthuberts.org/>

August 18 – 20, 2003

Fourth International Veterinary Behaviour Meeting

Queensland, Australia (Caloundra)
Latest information in clinical behavioural medicine from around the globe will be presented in lecture and poster format from leading experts from all nations. Also includes the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Behaviour Chapter meeting
Contact: Doreen Culliver, Conference Manager, AVA Conference Organising Service, PO Box 4259, Kingston ACT 2604, Australia; Phone: 61-2-6273-8855; Fax: 61-2-6273-8899; Email: avacos@ava.com.au; Website: <http://www.ava.com.au/> (for information and registration)

August 20 – 22, 2003

12th National Urban Animal Management Conference

Queensland, Australia (Caloundra)
Information on relationship between private client behavioural services and community based animal control services, social assets and liabilities associated with companion animals and their behaviour, information access in urban animal management and behaviour, rationalizing funding for animal management, community/public expectations about urban animal ownership, microchip performance testing, vertical and horizontal integration the pro pet approach to urban animal management, pest management.

Contact: Doreen Culliver, Conference Manager, AVA Conference Organising Service, PO Box 4259, Kingston ACT 2604, Australia; Phone: 61 6273 8855; Fax: 61 6273 8899; Email: avacos@ava.com.au; Website: www.ava.com.au/uam

August 20 – 27, 2003

28th International Ethological Conference, sponsored by the International Council of Ethologists and the Brazilian Society of Ethology

Florianópolis, Brazil
Program of invited and submitted research in the field of ethology.
Contact: LETA – Laboratório de Etologia, Dept. de Zootecnia e Des. Rural, Centro de Ciências Agrárias - UFSC Caixa Postal 476 Itacorubi, CEP 88034-001 Florianópolis-SC, Brazil; E-mail: cruiz@uenf.br; Website: <http://www.iec2003.org/>

August 23 – 26, 2003

Central Veterinary Conference

Kansas City, MO
Four days of behavior lectures by Drs. Crowell-Davis and Hunthausen in the veterinarian program, and Dr. Hunthausen and Julie Shaw, RVT in the veterinary technician program.
Contact: CVC 8033 Flint, Lenexa, KS 66214; Phone (800) 255-6864, ext. 6 or

(913) 492-4300, ext. 6; E-mail: cvc@vetmedpub.com; Website: <http://www.vetmedpub.com/cvc/index.html>

August 25 – 29, 2003

Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV) Annual Conference and Expo

Pittsburgh, PA
Avian behavior included
Contact: AAV Conference Office, 90 Madison Street, Suite 502, Denver, CO 80206;
Phone: 303-756-8380; Fax: 303-759-8861; E-mail: aav@conferenceoffice.com; Website: www.conferenceoffice.com/aav/

September 10 – 14, 2003

Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT) 10th Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show

Sheraton World Resort, Orlando, FL
Cutting-edge training and behavior information for dog trainers around the world. The APDT is moving into the next decade with a line up of speakers who are innovative, interesting, educational, motivational, and just plain fun!
Contact: Phone: 1-800-PET-DOGS or 916.443.3855; E-mail: apdt@details2.com; Website: www.apdt.com

September 19, 2003

European Society of Veterinary Clinical Ethology, 9th Annual Congress

Hotel Schaffenrath, Salzburg, Austria
Contact: www.esvce.org

September 21 – 24, 2003

International Working Dog and Breeding Conference

Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX
Contact: Phone 210-671-3991; Fax 210-671-2308; Email Mail@iwdba.org; Website www.iwdba.org

October 8 – 12, 2003

Wild West Veterinary Conference Reno, Nevada

Small animal and equine behavior lectures
Contact: Website: www.wildwestvc.com

October 19, 2003

Behavior Problem Prevention

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Contact: Phone: 765-494-7225;
Website: <http://www.vet.purdue.edu/animalbehavior/>

October 19 – 22, 2003

World Small Animal Veterinary Association 28th World Congress

Bangkok, Thailand
Contact: Mr. Sarnit Karunyavanij, Phone +662-960-0141; Email Sarnit@bkkrai.com; Website www.wsava2003.com

November 1 – 2, 2003

Veterinary Psychopharmacology: Drug Selection and Patient Monitoring

The University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine, Athens.
Enrollment limited to veterinarians.
Contact: Sandi Kilgo, Phone: 706-542-1451; E-mail: skilgo@vet.uga.edu; Website: <http://www.gactr.uga.edu>

Other Continuing Education Opportunities

Dr. Kersti Seksel, BVSc (hons), MRCVS MA (hons), FACVSc (Animal Behaviour), Dipl ACVB, teaches a Distance Education course – a 10 month program through the Post Graduate foundation, University of Sydney. Contact details are: DISTED@pgfvvet.usyd.edu.au.



4th International Veterinary Behaviour Meeting

August 18 – 20, 2003 • Caloundra Queensland Australia

The date is fast approaching for the 4th International Veterinary Behaviour Meeting, which also includes the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Behaviour Chapter meeting. There will be three full days of scientific sessions along with a poster session from a diverse range of international participants. For further information on registration and accommodation please see the Australian Veterinary Association website at www.ava.com.au and click on "Conferences." The program is listed below for your information.

Contact details: 02 6273 8855; Email avacos@ava.com.au

The conference registration, accommodation, and program information can all be found on the conference website at <http://www.ava.com.au/>. Click on "Conferences" to find the IVBM meeting. In addition to the program and conference details, preconference social activities have been planned.

At this meeting, the latest information on clinical behavioural medicine from around the globe will be presented in lecture format, as well as posters, by leading experts from all nations.

In conjunction with **The National Urban Management Conference**. Two and half days of sessions, discussing topics of interest to many including the relationship between animal behaviour and the management of urban animal management (animal control).

Contact details: Same as above.

Conference Program

Monday August 18th, 2003

8.30-10.30

Maya Bräm & Joël Dehase — Switzerland & Belgium —
Methodological Factors to Consider when Comparing Methods of Evaluation of Canine Behaviour

Karen L. Overall & Arthur E. Dunham — USA —
Behavioral responses to a physiologically provocative test for anxiety: sentinel signs and concurrence with physiological changes

Clara Palestrini, Emanuela Prato Previde, Caterina Spiezio, Gaia Fallani & Marina Verga — Italy —
Separation and Attachment: Heart Rate and Behaviour of

Dogs with Anxiety-Related Disorders

Patrick Pageat — France —

The breath control therapy in dog: interest and use in the treatment of phobic and anxious dogs.

11.00-12.30

M.C. Osella, L. Bergamasco, P. Badino & S. Pagliasso — Italy
Learned behaviours in service dogs: plasma neurophysiological correlates

Emmanuel Gaultier & Patrick Pageat — France —
Effects of a Synthetic Dog Appeasing Pheromone (Dap) on Behaviour Disorders during Transport

R.A. Casey, T.A. Barlow, J.W.S. Bradshaw BA PhD & P. Graham — U.K. —

An investigation of the relationship between thyroid status and behaviour in dogs

1.30-3.00

Gill Sheppard & Daniel S. Mills — U.K. —

The validation of scales designed to measure positive and negative activation in dogs.

Paul McGreevy, Tanya D. Grassi & Alison M. Harman — Australia —

The visual field of in dogs is influenced by skull shape

Walter F. Burghardt — USA —

Behavioral Issues In The Management Of A Large-Scale Working Dog Breeding Program

3.30-5.00

Debora Groppetti — Italy —

Behavioural Disorders In Pseudopregnant Bitches: Treatment With Acupuncture

Patrick Pageat — France —

Puberty in the dog: differences between males and females in the development of assertive behaviours.

Jacqueline C. Neilson — USA —

The use of oral fluorescein in cats to identify participants in house-soiling.

Tuesday August 19th, 2003

8.30-10.30

Sabine Schroll & Joël Dehasse — Belgium —
Aggressive behaviors in cats: a new classification

Wolf-Dieter Schmidt — Germany —
Some cats are not big enough for their body weight

Gary Landsberg & Kelly Moffat — Canada —
Prevalence, Clinical Signs and Treatment Options for Cognitive Dysfunction in Cats

Sabine Schroll — Austria—
Feeding strategies and behaviour in cats

11.00-12.30

Daniel.S.Mills — UK —
A survey of the behaviour of UK household dogs

AJ Kobelt, PH Hemsworth, JL Barnett & GJ Coleman — Aust —
The behaviour of dogs in suburban backyards and the relationship to environmental variables.

Robert John Young — Brasil —
Studies into dog learning and cognition

1.30-3.00

Jolanda Pluijmakers, David Appleby & John Bradshaw — UK —
Sensitive periods in the development of behavioural organization and the role of emotional homeostasis

Gaille Perry — Aust —
The Veterinarian, the Veterinary Behaviourist and the Trainer - a Symbiotic Relationship

Joël Dehasse & Anne-Catherine Cornet — Belgium & France —
Dog bites dangerousness, a validated evaluation

3.30-5.00

Amy Marder, Joan Engel & Diane Carle — USA —
Predictability of a Shelter Dog Behavioral Assessment Test

Nicola Phipps, Kevin Stafford and Vicki Erceg — New Zealand —
An Evaluation of Animal Shelters in New Zealand

Colette Pillonel — Switzerland —
Video and leaflet on the prevention of dog bite injuries of 4 to 8 year old children; a realisation of the Swiss Veterinary Office.

Civic Reception – 6 to 8 pm

Wednesday August 20th, 2003

8.30-10.30

Katrina Gregory & Andrew Tribe — Aust —
Conditioning Of Captive Wildlife – The New Trend In Environmental Enrichment

Kerrie Haynes-Lovell, Des Spittall, Sharon Holden and Erin Nicosia — Aust —
Reduction of stereotypic behaviour in Polar Bears (*Urus maritimus*) at Sea World utilising innovative exhibit design and flexible management techniques

Emmanuel Gaultier & Françoise Blonz — France —
Frequency of Application of Intense Neonatal Foal Handling and Interests of this Method to enhance Tractability of Riding Horses

R.A. Casey — U.K. —
Factors influencing stereotypical behaviour patterns in horses: a review of 52 clinical cases

11.00-12.30

Wolf-Dieter Schmidt — Germany —
The therapeutic-cage – another way of desensitization in fear or aggression treatment of cats and dogs.

Robert Stabler — Aust —
Review of Interdog Aggression Sibling Rivalry 1998-2002

James Harris — Aust —
Bird Behavior: The Avian Species and Client Expectations

Pre-Conference Activities

Saturday, August 16th: Visit to the famous Eumundi Markets. Eumundi is a charming little town in the hinterland of the Sunshine Coast in Queensland, Australia. Its markets are a meeting place for locals and visitors from all over the world. Vendors include artisans with local craft and farmers with a variety of fresh produce. There is also a local brewery.

See the driver on your Sunair coach during your transfer from the airport or visit the Sunair website www.sunair.com.au.

Sunday August 17th: Today we have arranged a whole day trip to see two of the Sunshine Coast's most famous landmarks - the Big Pineapple and Australia Zoo (home of the Crocodile Hunter, Steve Irwin).

Your Sunair coach will collect you in the morning and head for the Big Pineapple. There you will be able to ride the cane train through a plantation of tropical and subtropical fruits, and visit the macadamia factory. Make sure you try one of the many tropical fruit parfaits! Take the opportunity to sample and purchase the many local products available for sale.

Then it's back on the bus to arrive at Australia Zoo in time for the shows, including snake handling and the crocodile show. You will have ample time to visit all exhibits before the bus collects you for the return trip to Caloundra.

The cost of this day trip (which includes admission to Australia Zoo) is: Adults: A\$48; Children (up to 14 years): A\$38

Please note that this trip will be conducted subject to a minimum number of 20 participants.

For more information on the venues please visit their websites www.bigpineapple.com.au and www.crocodilehunter.com.au

SO BOOK NOW AND COME AND ENJOY THE CONGRESS AND THE SUN!

Australian College of Veterinary Scientists (Animal Behaviour Chapter) Invited Papers

1.30-3.00

Sarah Heath — UK —

Canine sound phobias - a review of treatment approaches

Nicola Rooney J.W.S. Bradshaw and S.A. Gaines — UK —

How predictive are puppy tests and what are the effects of different rearing conditions on adult dog behaviour? Evidence from a puppy walking programme for military search dogs

Paul McGreevy — Aust —

Animal Behaviour Learning Environment (ABLE): Software

to Facilitate Learning in Canine and Feline Behaviour Therapy
NSW

Linda Beer — Aust —

Recognition Of Stress Behaviour In Dogs Participating In Competitive Dog Sports

3.30-5.00

Mike Cannon — Aust —

Behaviour Problems in Avian Practice.

Debbie Calnon — Aust —

Behaviour Modification Classes for Dogs Diagnosed with Aggression Problems

Cam Day — Aust —

Alprazolam for anxiety disorders in dogs – a retrospective clinical study of dose rates, side effects and efficacy.

Kim Kendall — Aust —

Selection of Cats and Kittens for Rehoming in urban and confined environments including the Cat Adoption Scheme

Mick McAuliffe & Brent Smith — Aust —

Human Involvement In Somatic Communication

Melissa Lindeman — Aust —

Is the severity and outcome of behaviour problems in cats and dogs predictable after a telephone consultation? Results of 80 phone contacts with pet owners.

AVSAB Budget for 8-1-03 to 7-31-04

INCOME

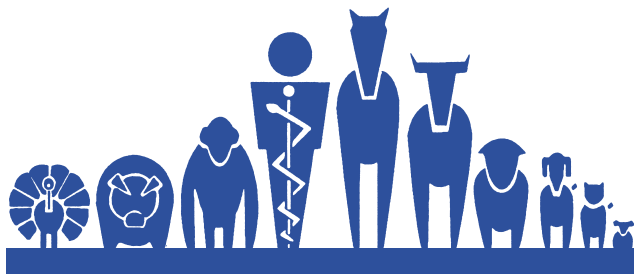
Potential Corporate Sponsors	\$8,000.00
Membership dues and Registration fees	15,000.00
Interest Income	1,000.00
Advances from checking/CD	2,725.00
Raffle	200.00
Total Income	\$26,925.00

EXPENSES

Student Award Expense	\$1,575.00
Bank Fees	300.00
Office Supplies Expense	600.00
Telephone Expense	50.00
Postage and Shipping Expense	500.00
Cost of AVSAB 2003 Proceedings	2,000.00
Commercial Printing Expense	8,000.00
Annual Conference Expense – Hotel Luncheon	3,500.00

Annual Conference Expense – Hotel Breakfast/Break Food	2,500.00
Annual Conference Expense – Audiovisual (AVSAB Mtg.)	1,000.00
Annual Conference Expense – Audiovisual (ACVB Mtg.)	1,000.00
Annual Conference Expense – Poster Boards	1,000.00
Annual Conference Expense – Travel for Board Members	1,400.00
Annual Conference Expense – Board Meeting	200.00
Annual Conference Expense – Booth	350.00
Copy Shop Expense	500.00
Legal & Accounting	1,000.00
Hourly Clerical Labor	250.00
Discretionary Items	1,000.00
Student Chapter Award	200.00

Total Expenses **\$26,925.00**



American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior

SERVICE AWARD

The American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior is inviting submission of applications for a Student Chapter Service Award. This award will honor the student chapter that demonstrated the highest number of club meetings, educational activities, and individual involvement.

AVSAB student chapters are asked to submit a detailed list of activities that the club and/or its members organized and attended between September 1, 2002 and June 1, 2003, including the following categories:

- 1) Behavior meetings that the club organized (e.g. field trips, lectures, wet labs for students and veterinarians)
- 2) Behavior meetings that club members attended (e.g. continuing education seminars at veterinary meetings, training seminars)
- 3) Community outreach and Public education programs that were organized by the club or its members (e.g. volunteer activities, fund raisers, open house booth, training classes, dog bite prevention programs)
- 4) Volunteer activities of club members in the area of animal behavior (e.g. shelter programs, wildlife centers, pet visitation programs, grief counseling, open house booth, fund raisers)
- 5) Behavior research projects conducted by club members.
- 6) Other relevant activities of the behavior club or its members.

The application must include the name and address of the chapter president and faculty advisor.

Send applications to:

Dr. Petra Mertens
College of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences
315 Veterinary Teaching Hospital
1352 Boyd Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108

Submission deadline: July 1, 2003

STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD WINNER

*The winner of the 2003 AVSAB Award for
Student Excellence in Applied Animal Behavioral Research is:*

Sagi Denenberg

University of Veterinary Medicine (UVM) in Kosice, Slovakia

“Cat toy play trial: A comparison of different toys”

*Thank you to all of the students and their mentors
who submitted for the award this year.*

Abstract

Object play is the most common way that owners play with their cats. This type of play type involves stalking, chasing, pawing, and biting of the object. Object play by adult cats is controlled by two mechanisms derived from predatory behavior: 1) responding to prey-like stimulus characteristics, such as texture and small size; 2) detecting change in the toy.

The aim of this trial was to evaluate several cat toys as a part of object play. The purpose was to determine which toy was most likely to stimulate play in cats. In cases where the cat plays by itself with a toy, it was expected that the cat will lose interest in a shorter time than if it were playing with predation toys.

Cats were presented with different toys (out of 10 toys in total), and their play with the toys was observed. For some of the toys the author attempted to stimulate the cat with the toy (predation toys), and for the other toys (food toys, self play toys) the cat was minimally stimulated.

Sixty seven percent of the cats played with toy number five (used hair band) for more time than other toys. The average playing time with this toy was approximately 219 seconds out of 300 seconds (73%). Toy No. 5 was significantly ($p < 0.0001$) preferred to other toys. The second preferred toy was toy No. 2 (food stuffed toy): 19.6% of the cats played with it the most. The average playing time with this toy was 197 seconds (66.6%). Toy No. 8 (a self play track toy in which the cat bats a ball) was the least favorite toy in this trial. No cat played with it the most, while 65.2% played with it as last preference. The average playing time with this toy was about 98 seconds (32.7%). The cats played with this toy without any stimuli except the toy itself.

In summary, the more static or “self-play” toys were not appealing to cats, and some cats completely ignored these toys, presumably because they did not stimulate predation or feeding.

Call For AVSAB Booth Volunteers

The booth shipment and display costs are generously underwritten by Novartis Animal Health. The AVMA will provide a non-commercial booth space for AVSAB during the AVMA Convention in Denver. The contract with AVMA for the booth space stipulates that the booth have a representative at all times. The booth is an excellent vehicle for sharing AVSAB's mission with over 8,000 practitioners, technicians, and guests. New members will be able to join at the booth this year. Unfortunately,

the exhibition times overlap with behavior presentations, so perhaps spouses, significant others, or friends attending the meeting can help out. We would particularly like to have the booth well-staffed on Saturday so that AVMA attendees can hear about our organization, join, and attend our meeting on Monday. A proposed schedule follows. Please contact Dr. Rolan Tripp at: Rolan-Tripp@AnimalBehavior.net to sign up for a shift.

YES! I would like to represent the AVSAB at the following times:

(please check)

Set-Up — Friday, July 18

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Saturday, July 19

- 9:15 – 10:30 am
- 10:30 am – 12:00 pm
- 12:00 – 1:30 pm
- 1:30 – 2:45 pm
- 2:45 – 4:00 pm
- 4:00 – 5:15 pm

Sunday, July 20

- 11:15 am – 1:30 pm
- 1:30 – 3:45 pm
- 3:45 – 6:00 pm

Monday, July 21

- 9:15 – 10:00 am
- 10:00 – 10:45 am
- 10:45 – 11:30 am
- 11:30 – 12:15 pm
- 12:15 – 1:00 pm
- 1:00 – 1:45 pm
- 1:45 – 2:30 pm
- 2:30 – 3:15 pm
- 3:15 – 4:00 pm
- 4:00 – 5:15 pm

Tuesday, July 22

- 9:15 – 10:00 am
- 10:00 – 10:45 am
- 10:45 – 11:30 am
- 11:30 – 12:15 pm
- 12:15 – 1:00 pm

Tear Down — July 22

- 1:00 – 1:30 pm

Your Information

Name

Address

Phone

E-mail

To sign up for a shift please contact:

Dr. Petra Mertens

E-mail: merte006@tc.umn.edu

1352 Boyd Ave.

Phone: (612) 625-0227

315 VTH

Fax: (612) 625-0751

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Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

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Regular

Dr. Kenyon Brewer
Johnstown, PA
Regular

Ms. Allison Canter
Holly Springs, NC
Student

Dr. Elisabeth Fitzhum
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Regular

Dr. Judith Gavin
Prince George, BC
Regular

Dr. Lisa King
Norcross, GA
Regular

Ms. Joana Krol
Ithaca, NY
Regular

Ms. Mary-Catherine Reese
Durham, NC
Student

Dr. Mary Wade
Indianapolis, IN
Regular

Dr. Jennifer Wilcox
Frisco, TX
Regular

Ms. Wendi Wilson
Stillwater, OK
Student