



Newsletter of the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior

JUNE 2006

John Ciribassi DVM, Editor

VOLUME 28, NO. 2

Table of Contents

AVSAB/ACVB Meeting in Hawaii	2
New Officer Nominees	4
Case Report: Aggression in an Australian Cattle Dog	6
Interesting Posts from the AVSAB Listserve	8
Websites Related to Animal Behavior ...	12
Upcoming Behavioral Meetings	13
Proposed Bylaws Change	14
Welcome New Members!	16

Contact information for AVSAB newsletter 2005-2006

Dr. Melissa Bain
University of California School of Veterinary Medicine
Center for Animals in Society
1 Shields Ave. • Davis, CA 95616
530-757-8449 • fax: 530-792-8165
e-mail: mjbain@ucdavis.edu

President Elect

Dr. John Ciribassi
Chicagoland Veterinary Behavior Consultants
1042 Mountain Glen Way • Carol Stream, IL 60188
630-231-1544 • fax: 630-231-1544
drjdvm@msn.com

Past President

Dr. Sharon Crowell-Davis
Department of Anatomy and Radiology
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Georgia • Athens, GA 30602
scrowell@vet.uga.edu

Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. Lisa Radosta
Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital
at the University of Pennsylvania
3900 Delancey Street • Philadelphia, PA 19104
215-573-6213
lradosta@vet.upenn.edu

Recording Secretary

Kathy Meyer, VMD
Veterinary Behavior Clinic
9039 Gaither Road • Gaithersburg, MD 20877
301-947-3333 (ph) • 301-977-7196 (fax)
EKathyMeyer@comcast.net

Member-at-large

Dr. Laurie Bergman
Diplomate American College of Veterinary Behaviorists
University of California Veterinary Medical Center,
San Diego, Behavior Service
PO Box 9115 • Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92024
858-759-6837
lbergman@ucdavis.edu

Member-at-large

Dr. Petra Mertens
University of Minnesota
315 Veterinary Teaching Hospital
1352 Boyd Ave. • St. Paul, MN 55108
612-625-0227 • fax: 612-624-0751
e-mail: merte006@tc.umn.edu

President's Message

Aloha!

We are nearing the end of the long road to plan for the upcoming meeting in July in Hawaii. Many, many thanks to the people involved in this program development. I know I'm missing people, but the following have been instrumental in making this meeting what should be a great one: John Ciribassi, Sagi Denenberg, Gerry Flannigan, Debbie Horwitz, Gary Landsberg, Kelly Moffat, Lisa Radosta-Huntley, Marsha Reich.

Please read the article below about the quick survey regarding input on manner(s) in which to spend money received from the meeting last year. Since we are a non-profit organization, we cannot make a "profit," but, instead, need to disperse this money in an appropriate manner. I realize that a lot of you had filled out the survey last year, but please take a couple of minutes and answer the 2 questions on this one.

If you have any items that you want addressed at the meeting, please e-mail your suggestions to me, or call me.

Again, we hope to see many of you this year in Hawaii!

Take care,
Melissa

AVSAB Members: We Need Your Help!

AVSAB has a budget surplus thanks to our generous corporate sponsors and the success of last summer's combined IVBM/AVSAB/ACVB meeting. Our accountant tells us that in order to maintain our non-profit status (something we definitely want to do), we must disperse some of this money. Since we, your executive board, are pretty sure you don't want the money to go to all expense paid trips to Fiji for board members :), we want some input from you, the members, about how best to distribute the money. We've put together a 2-question web based survey with some of the ideas that we've been discussing amongst ourselves. Please take a couple of minutes to fill out the survey (feel free to add additional suggestions). We will be tallying the results and presenting some of the more popular and feasible options for discussion at the annual meeting on July 17th in Honolulu. We will be collecting data until June 25th so that we have time to compile the information prior to the annual meeting. In order to access the survey, please go to:

[http://intercom.virginia.edu/SurveySuite/Surveys/AVSAB\\$](http://intercom.virginia.edu/SurveySuite/Surveys/AVSAB$)

If you're unable to access the survey, please contact Laurie Bergman at lbergman@ucdavis.edu.

Thanks and Aloha,
AVSAB Executive Board

Behavior Workshops at AVMA in Hawaii

There are still spots available for the two behavior workshops at the AVMA. The first is on Sunday July 16, from 11:30 to 3:00 which is an interactive workshop for veterinarians and technicians entitled Behavior Management Products and Their Role in the Prevention and Treatment of Unruly Behaviors in Dogs (Horwitz, Landsberg, Anderson instructors). The second is a workshop for veterinarians on Wednesday July 19 from 7:00 am to 10:30 and is entitled Anxiety in Dogs and Cats: A case based approach to history taking and treatment protocols (Horwitz, Landsberg, Ogata instructors). For further description or to register please visit the AVMA website at www.avma.org.

G.M. Landsberg BSc, DVM
Diplomate ACVB (Behaviour)
Doncaster Animal Clinic
99 Henderson Ave.
Thornhill, ON, L3T 2K9
www.doncasteranimalclinic.com
905-881-2922

Booth Volunteers Needed

Dear fellow AVSAB members,

The AVMA annual convention is just around the corner and the AVSAB booth committee has been working hard to create a booth that well represents our organization. The purpose of the booth will be to provide information about animal behavior, as well as to recruit new members. As an incentive for stopping by the booth and providing contact information, there will be an IPOD raffle.

AVMA requires that the booth be staffed by at least one volunteer for the majority of the conference. In addition, we need people available to answer questions about AVSAB and to collect contact information for the IPOD raffle. We are working on a schedule in which AVSAB members could volunteer to work in 2 hour shifts.

As a token of appreciation for booth volunteers, there will be a separate raffle for gift certificates to Amazon.com and Starbucks. Volunteers will earn 1 raffle ticket per 2 hour shift worked. In other words, if you work a total of three shifts at the convention, you will have three chances to win multiple gift certificates!

Please email Mami Irimajiri at mamii@vet.uga.edu if you are able to volunteer for a 2 hour shift and, if so, what day(s) you would be willing to work. Your help in volunteering is greatly needed and appreciated, as it will be a major contribution in expanding the organization.

Thank you!

AVSAB Booth Committee 2006

AVSAB/ACVB Meeting Scheduled for Hawaii

Are you heading west this summer to the 50th state? Then join us for the second annual cooperative CE seminar put on by AVSAB and ACVB (American College of Veterinary Behaviorists). The meeting will be held:

**Monday July 17th
Renaissance Ilikai Hotel in Honolulu**

Registration begins at 7:00am and the meeting will run from 8:00am to 4:30am.

The AVSAB business meeting will follow the scientific meeting.

Included in this year's program will be:

- A variety of long and short presentations
- Three ACVB Resident's papers and a resident's award
- AVSAB student paper and award
- Poster Session
- Exhibitor's Area

NEW FOR 2006 will be the inaugural "How I Treat" Session including three presentations from AVSAB members discussing personal treatment approaches to treating common clinical behavior issues. The intention is to spur practical discussion on diagnostic and treatment options for cases.

A registration form for the meeting is included in this newsletter as well as on the AVSAB web site (www.avsab.us) and the ACVB site at www.dacvb.org. Additional details of the program will also be available at these sites in the next few weeks as well as in the next edition of the newsletter.

So, if you are joining us this summer print the form and return check, money order and credit card to Dr. Lisa Radosta (address on the form). And for you Jack Lord fans, feel free to write on the form "Book 'em, Lisa." I've always wanted to use that line.

Remember, if you are also attending the behavior session on Saturday and Sunday as part of the AVMA convention, you must register for the AVMA meeting. Further information can be found by going to www.avmaconvention.org.

John Ciribassi DVM, Editor

HAWAII

Registration Form

Circle Prefix: Dr Mr Ms Degree/Suffix for badge: Circle one only DVM VMD PHD RVT LVT other_____

Last (family) Name: _____ First (given) Name: _____

Address: _____

City and State/Province: _____ Postal code: _____

Country: _____ e-mail: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____ - _____ Fax: _____ - _____

Students: College _____ Year of graduation _____

Registration Categories/Fees

Fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, refreshment breaks, proceedings and scientific and poster session July 17, 2006 at Renaissance Ilikai Hotel. For updated conference information visit the AVSAB website at www.avsab.us or the ACVB website at www.dacvb.org

Conference Registration

ACVB/AVSAB members	\$125.00	_____
SVBT members	\$125.00	_____
Non-members	\$125.00	_____
Veterinary Students	\$ 25.00	_____
Total Enclosed		_____

Please mail completed forms with accompanying check or money order in U.S. Funds made payable to "AVSAB"

Please Mail Forms to:

AVSAB
3 Fox Valley Lane
Glen Mills, PA 19342

You may also fax the completed form to 610-459-5981 and pay by credit card through Paypal at www.paypal.com. **Credit card payments can only be taken through Paypal. Forms sent with credit card numbers written on the form or included in any other way, cannot be processed.**

Registration does not include admission/attendance to AVMA Annual Convention July 15-19

For additional information about the AVMA convention or for housing information please contact the AVMA at www.avmaconvention.org

Welcome New Officer Nominees!

Our Bylaws allow us to elect officers at the Annual meeting. Since all of our candidates for Board positions are uncontested this year, we will be taking the official vote on the officer slate at the Annual meeting in Honolulu. Anyone who wishes to vote for a write-in nominee can send a written vote to any member of the Executive Board.

Immediate Past President Melissa Bain, DVM, DACVB

President John Ciribassi, DVM



Dr. Ciribassi was born and grew up in Jersey City, NJ, attended Southern Illinois University and graduated with a BS in Biology from the University of Illinois. He graduated from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 1984. After graduation he practiced dairy medicine in Pennsylvania along with his wife, Elise, also an '84 graduate of Illinois. In 1988, they established the Gary at North Veterinary Center, a small animal practice in Carol Stream, Illinois a Chicago suburb. John became interested in veterinary behavior in 1997 and began working in a non-conforming ACVB program with Dr. Andrew Luescher at Purdue University in 1998. In 2002 he began the Chicagoland Veterinary Behavior Consultants, seeing behavior cases part time at specialty referral practices in the Chicago area. His reasoning for running for President of AVSAB is to try to give something back to the behavior community. "There has been a long line of dedicated individuals who have made organized veterinary behavior a reality and have been driving force for advancement of behavior as a respected specialty. I hope to continue that tradition."

President Elect Kathy Meyer, DVM



Kathy graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School in 1986. She had her first introduction to veterinary behavior through working in Dr. Voith's behavior lab as both an undergraduate and veterinary student. After nine years in general, small animal practice, she operated the Practitioner Reporting Program for adverse events associated with medical products used in animals at the United States Pharmacopoeia for five years. Since 2000, she has "returned" to veterinary behavior, observing cases with Dr. Reisner at the University of Pennsylvania over a two-year period. She currently has a behavior-exclusive practice for companion animals in Gaithersburg, MD. Hobbies included skiing, tennis, and running, as well as nagging, irritating, and embarrassing teenager children. She has a neurotic Doberman Pinscher, a flock of budgies, and child-phobic Senegal parrot.

Treasurer Lisa Radosta, DVM



Dr. Radosta graduated from University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine in 2000. Immediately afterwards she completed a small animal internship at Coral Springs Animal Hospital. For the next two years, she worked in private practice in Coral Springs,

Welcome New Officer Nominees!

Florida. In September, 2003, she began a residency program in Veterinary Behavior at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. She has been the treasurer for AVSAB for the past two years and edited the proceedings for the 2003 Scientific meeting. She has competed actively in obedience competition with her personal dogs for the past 12 years, and now currently resides in Pennsylvania.

Recording Secretary Sophia Yin, DVM

Dr. Sophia Yin, a 1993 graduate of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, is the author of *The Small Animal Veterinary Nerdbook*[®], a best-selling text book for veterinary students and the past award-winning pet columnist for the San Francisco Chronicle. She earned her Master's in Animal Science in 2001 from UC Davis where she studied vocal communication in dogs and worked on behavior modification in horses, giraffes, ostriches, and chickens. She currently teaches three upper division undergraduate courses in domestic animal behavior in the UC Davis Animal Science Department, and sees animal behavior consults both at San Francisco Veterinary Specialists and in Davis through her behavior housecalls business. She is also the creator of the *Treat & Train: Dog Training System* sold by the Sharper Image and the author of *How to Behave So Your Dog Behaves*.

Member-at-large Laurie Bergman, VMD, DACVB



Dr. Bergman grew up in Englewood, New Jersey, received her BS from Barnard College and her VMD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. After Veterinary school, she entered into an internship in Wildlife

Medicine at Tufts University, and also worked in small animal practice, as a relief veterinarian, as a director of a wildlife Clinic in Massachusetts, and for a Behavior-only practice in the East Coast. Laurie completed a residency in Clinical Animal Behavior at the University of California-Davis, becoming one of the newest members of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists. She currently is a Clinical Specialist at the University of California Veterinary Medical Center-San Diego Behavior Service. She is the mother to Daniel Owen Long, born on December 29, 2003, and two Australian Terriers, Wilbur and Fern, with whom she competes in agility.

Member-at-large Petra A. Mertens, Dr. med. vet., FTAV, CAAB, DECVBM-CA, DACVB



Dr. Petra Mertens received her veterinary degree from the University of Munich. After completing her doctorate in Animal Behavior and Animal Welfare (Dr. med. vet.), she enrolled in the Behavior Residency program at Tufts University. In 1995, she returned to the Veterinary School in Munich, Germany. Since 1999, Petra has held her current position as Assistant Professor in Behavior Medicine at the University of Minnesota, College of Veterinary Medicine. Petra is certified in her specialty through the German Veterinary Association (FTAV), the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists (DACVB), the European College for Veterinary Behavior Medicine (DECVBM-CA), and the Animal Behavior Society (Certified Applied Animal Counselor). She is the author of numerous articles, book chapters, as well as a speaker at national and international veterinary meetings.

Aggression in an Australian Cattle Dog

Submitted by Dr. John Ciribassi

Signalment

“Bruno” is a 34 kg, 3 yr. old MN Australian Cattle Dog presented by his owners, Cheri and Yvonne, who are sisters.

Presenting Complaint

Howie is displaying aggressive behavior toward strangers while on walks or when they visit the home and also shows aggression towards the owners.

History

Bruno was obtained from a local humane society at 18 months of age. He was neutered at this time. He is loose in the living area when left alone and when the owners sleep at night. He is walked three times per day on a pinch collar. He has attended obedience class and did fair. Punishment has been used to treat aggression and it has resulted in an escalation of aggression directed at the owners. Aggression towards guests began soon after getting Bruno and commonly occurred when guests reached towards Bruno to pet him. This has also been accompanied by jumping/lunging at guests and barking aggressively. The owners have tried treating the problem with obedience classes, spraying him with bitter apple and using the pinch collar. All these efforts did not result in successful treatment. They have also tried yelling at him and pulling him back by the collar with improvement. Bruno has showed similar behaviors to unfamiliar dogs (lunging, growling and barking) and merely chases familiar dogs in a non-aggressive manner. The owners were uncertain of body posture at the time of these incidents.

The owners also report that Bruno shows aggression when they walk in the

door. He will nip at their ankles and will chew on their clothing as the change. In these situations, the owner’s response has been to put Bruno into a crate. He will also growl when he is on the bed and the owners enter the room. He may even lunge as the owners try to get into bed. He will also mouth owner’s arms after licking them. He will also jump at and bite their arms while they are playing ball with him in the yard. Will whine and lunge at other cars while riding so the owners have muzzled him. Within one week of getting Bruno Cheri and Yvonne noted him trying to herd them and he resisted any attempts by the owner to direct his behavior. The owner’s response has been to try to hold him down to the ground. These behaviors have occurred on a daily basis.

The referring veterinarian noted some history of thunderstorm phobia 3 months prior to presentation which was treated with Acepromazine. No further episodes were noted by the owner.

Physical Examination/ Laboratory Findings

There were no physical problems noted on the exam or reported by the referring veterinarian. A blood sample was drawn and submitted to Idexx diagnostic laboratory where a CBC, Chemistry Profile and Total T4 were performed. Normal laboratory values were present. The referring veterinarian noted mild Otitis Externa 1 month prior to presentation which was successfully treated. Follow up CBC and Chemistry profile 6 months after presentation also revealed no abnormalities.

Differential Diagnosis

Aggression directed toward people can have several possible causes. When the behavior is directed primarily towards unfamiliar persons, consider-

ation must be given to a diagnosis of fear-based aggression. **Fear-based aggression** occurs when a dog perceives the presence of unfamiliar persons as being threatening and responds with aggressive displays such as growling, teeth baring, lunging, snapping and biting. Submissive or deferent body postures are commonly seen with this behavior. Postures often seen with fear-based aggression may include the tail being tucked, ears lowered, underbelly exposed, head lowered, and an indirect stare. A lack of appropriate early socialization to people during the critical or sensitive period (up to 14 weeks of age) can exacerbate inherited fearful or anxious tendencies. The use of punishment can compound the problem. Aggressive responses to threatening stimuli can be reinforced through successful outcomes such as having the stimuli leave or having a cessation of the advance. As a result of this learning process, the dog may appear more confident in its use of aggression as a response to threatening circumstances. There are some thoughts that abnormalities with communication between limbic centers and the cerebral cortex may play some factor in the dog’s inability to inhibit aggressive responses. Neurotransmitters such as serotonin and norepinephrine appear to play a role. Territorial aggression may also be involved in this case since the behavior was also occurring in the home. Territorial aggression involves aggression directed at people or animals that approach the dog’s perceived property. This can include the home, yard, car, or a person who is socially bonded to the dog. Fear and anxiety can also play a role in territorial aggression. Fearful dogs may be more highly-motivated to use aggression to defend a secure, safe environment. Bruno’s aggression in the home was most likely just another manifestation

of fear based behavior, and not so much a territorial response, since the majority of the aggression in the home also occurred when a guest approached Bruno.

It was also felt, at this time, that Bruno's behaviors towards Cheri and Yvonne were a variant of **attention seeking behavior** since his biting of them involved situations in which he was engaged in play and his emotional level was elevated (throwing the ball). However, there was also situations in which Bruno used aggression to prevent the owners from directing his behavior (such as when they tried to remove him from the bed or when they entered a bedroom when he was on the bed). As a result, a diagnosis of Conflict Aggression was made as well (in addition, to Fear Based Aggression and Attention Seeking Behavior). **Conflict Aggression** is a learned set of behaviors in which the dog has learned to use aggression as a means of achieving desired goals. This can be cessation of certain activities (petting, movement, brushing, etc.) performed by owners or to obtain resources (food, resting areas, etc.). Punishment tends to create conflict in that the dog becomes more anxious in being not certain how various encounters will turn out with owners. At times the dog may receive attention and at others, punishment. Inconsistency can make this situation worse.

Treatment Recommendations

The treatment plan outlined for Bruno involved teaching the owner how to react when Bruno displayed aggressive behavior and working on counter conditioning protocols. Bruno was fitted with a Gentle Leader[®] head collar in order for Cheri and Yvonne to achieve better control of his behavior and to attempt to achieve a reduction in his arousal level. Bruno was to wear the collar at all times except when he was alone and overnight while sleeping. She was instructed not to use verbal or physical punishment in response to aggressive behavior from Bruno. In place of punishment, the owners were told to utilize response substitution. This involved distracting Bruno when his behavior was inappropriate, then redirecting him to an alternate set of responses for which he was rewarded with palat-

able treats. The behaviors used in these situations were from Dr. Karen Overall's Tier I Relaxation Protocol, which focused on having Bruno assume a relaxed posture (sitting or lying down) while exposing him to increasingly more distracting activities. In addition, the Tier I activities were to be practiced in multiple locations without the inciting stimuli present. The goal was to develop a set of behaviors which were inconsistent with aggression (commonly termed "counter conditioning"). The owners were instructed not to respond to Bruno's attempt to initiate attention-seeking behaviors and to have Bruno sit for a treat reward before any interaction. The purpose of these suggestions was to teach him that all interactions with Cheri and Yvonne were structured and consistent. They were instructed to isolate Bruno when they had unexpected visitors until the guests had entered the home and settled down. At that point, Bruno was to be allowed to greet the person while wearing the Gentle Leader and an indoor drag line. The owners were told to allow Bruno to investigate the guest but she was to maintain control of the leash in case he became aggressive. She was also told to use a muzzle if, at any time, there was a concern for the guest's safety. The visitor was instructed to completely ignore Bruno. If he became aggressive, the owners were to remove him from the

room and engage him in the Tier I exercises until he was relaxed and then attempt interaction with the guest again. If Bruno was non-aggressive at this time, the guest was instructed to toss small treats in an attempt to achieve classical conditioning between the guest's presence in the home and positive outcomes. The owners were instructed to prevent Bruno from having access to elevated surfaces and also be prevented from being on their bed at night in an attempt to prevent him from using aggression successfully in these situations. They were also instructed to leash walk Bruno regularly (1-2 times per day) and engage him in regularly scheduled periods of play.

Follow-Up

Four weeks after the initial consult, Cheri reported that Bruno was whining and barking when riding in the car. She also reported that he lunged at her in the back yard after coming home from a walk. He also chewed up several items in the home (while the owners were home with him) and was up pacing until 2 AM. One month later, the owners reported that, with continued application of the behavior modification protocol, Bruno seemed more responsive and focused better on the owners in stressful situations (such as

(continued next page)



(Case Report from page 9)

when passing dogs and people on walks). On follow up consultation, 4 months after the initial appointment, the owners were not following the protocol as to having Bruno on their bed at night or making use of the Gentle Leader in the home. He was still very active during any play activity with the owners and they had not had guests over the house yet. No aggression seen towards the owners. Since compliance was poor, it was decided to re-focus on the treatment plan and schedule a follow up visit in 1 month. At follow up things were going well and it was recommended that they practice having Bruno go to a spot near the front door in order to teach him to assume that position when guests arrive. A follow up was scheduled for 1 month. At this appointment the owners reported Bruno was active. He chewed through his Gentle Leader, whining/crying in the car again, bit at a guest who was ignoring him but they were putting dishes away, lunging at dogs, people and vehicles on walks, grabbing Cheri by the arm while they were in the yard together and overall he does not seem to be able to relax. At this point, the

decision was a trial on anti-anxiety medication. Bruno was begun on 40 mg Fluoxetine (Appx. 1.25 mg/kg) PO every 24 hours in an attempt to raise the levels of the neurotransmitter, serotonin, by blocking the presynaptic re-uptake pathway. By increasing serotonin levels, we hoped to alter post-synaptic membrane receptors to affect a reduction in Bruno's level of anxiety. A two week email follow up revealed some sedation and anorexia but not excessive. The decision was to continue this dose until follow up appointment in 6 weeks. At follow up, the owners reported that Bruno was much more relaxed. He seemed much more able to focus during training and exercise. The owners were not seeing pacing and chewing behavior in the home. Bruno also did not react aggressively to people approaching the car while he was in it. The decision was to continue the dose of Fluoxetine for a total of 6 months before attempting to gradually decrease the dose and monitor for reoccurrence of the behaviors. A telephone follow up six weeks later revealed that Bruno was continuing to do well and were working on the behavior modification exercises with the help of a trainer.

Footnotes

- a. Gentle Leader, Premier Pet Products, Richmond, Virginia

References

1. Scott JP, Fuller JL. The Critical Period. In: *Genetics and the Social Behavior of the Dog*, 1st Ed. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1965; 117-150.
2. Landsberg G, Hunthausen W, Ackerman L. Canine Aggression. In: Edney ATB, ed. *Handbook of behaviour problems of the dog and cat*, 1st Ed. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann, 1997;129-150.
3. Horwitz DF. Neurological and Pharmacological Basis for Fear and Anxieties. Atlantic Coast Veterinary Conference 2001.
4. Voith V. Behavioral Disorders. In: Davis, LE, ed. *Handbook of Small Animal Therapeutics*. New York: Churchill Livingstone, 1985; 519-547.
5. Overall KL Protocol for Relaxation: Behavior Modification Tier I. In: *Clinical Behavioural Medicine for Small Animals*, 1st Ed. New York: Mosby, 1997; 413-423.
6. Simpson BS, Simpson D.M. Behavioral Pharmacotherapy. Part 1. Antipsychotics and Antidepressants. *Compendium for Continuing Education*. 1996; 1067-1081.

Call for Paid or Pro Bono Writers



As part three of the AVSAB media effort, I am searching for members who are interested in writing for magazines, newspapers, etc. Our first media release will announce the AVSAB/AVCB paper presentations. The topics may interest media groups that are unable to attend. However, if we can offer the option for these groups to hire an AVSAB at-

tendee, this may increase the chance of having behavior topics covered. If you're even remotely interested, please send e-mail to me by June 30, 2006 and include the following information:

- Your Name
- Your e-mail address
- Your writing experience (for small local newspapers

you will not need much (or any) previous experience so don't be embarrassed to include yourself on the list).

- List any magazines/newspapers you've written for.
- Are you interested in writing pro bono for small local papers?
- Are you primarily interested in paid writing?

For those interested in paid writing, please have copies of some of your past writing (tear sheets, magazine or newspaper articles) scanned and readily available to e-mail to interested editors.

Thanks,

Sophia Yin, DVM

Davis, CA
Sophia@nerdbook.com
www.behavior4veterinarian.com

Interesting Posts from the AVSAB Listserve

Access via www.avsab.us or <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/avsab>



Inappropriate Litter Box Use

I have a co-worker that is dealing with a cat with inappropriate urination/defecation. Shadow is a 14 yr. old MN Persian. Owner reports he has always had inappropriate defecation (a few times a year). Recently start inappropriately urinating (does appear to be marking behavior). Blood work and urine results: BUN 56 (high), Crea 3.0 (high), T4 1.4, WBC 3.1 (low), Neuts 1581 (low), Lymph 930 (low), USG 1.014. There was no bacterial growth in Tryptic broth after 2 days (from the urine sample). The cat was treated with Clavamox for 7 days to r/o UTI. Owner does report the cat is pu/pd. The cat was started on k/d diet, but does not really like to eat it. The owners are at there wits end, so my co-worker started the cat on Amitriptyline 5 mg SID, but is looking for advise.

I was wondering if anyone had any thoughts on using drugs in this case? They have tried different types of litter and added litter boxes to every level in the house. I am not sure if they have eliminated the litter that he used to urinate in without problem. I will check into that.

I had a case somewhat similar to this during my animal behaviour residency so I thought I would share my thoughts/concerns.

Whenever I see a feline case of spraying in an older cat that has just started or has suddenly increased in fre-

quency, my first thought is that there is an underlying medical problem that has comprised the animal's coping ability and is manifested as spraying. In these cases, it is unusual, in my experience, for a change in litter to help the problem. Using medication is a double edge sword as the medication may exacerbate whatever underlying medical problem there is. I understand that the kidneys are compromised but am curious if other diagnostics have been done to look for something more insidious (lympho ect..) The case that I saw which reminds me of this one, I had the owners repeat blood tests and abdominal ultrasounds every couple of months and 6 months later, lympho was diagnosed.

As far as using meds, I understand needing to keep the client content (and therefore the cat alive!) but my concerns in this case are: 1. kidneys are compromised (primary or secondary?) and potentially something else may be brewing; therefore, if you think your co-worker's clients would be willing to try less "invasive" management techniques for the spraying (i assume from your email that indeed it is spraying) until further diagnostics can be done, that may be in the best interest of the cat.

These less invasive techniques would include using feliway diffusers in the home and or piddle pants (if the cat will tolerate these).

Best of luck with this case. I hope the kitty does well.

In a cat this age I always consider possible arthritis pain as well as potential declaw pain (if the cat is declawed). If arthritis, less litter in the box gives firmer footing, some of these old guys prefer that. You might want to try a little pain relief just in case.

I wouldn't worry about forcing k/d with a BUN less than 80; and you definitely don't want to add the stress of diet change when he's already got something bothering him.

I agree that we must first rule out all medical problems. I'd also add ruling out hyperthyroid disease in this cat. Since chronic renal disease and other conditions can lead to a "sick euthyroid" cat, I'd do a complete thyroid profile to Michigan State.

DJD is huge here in older cats. 90% of cats 12 years of age and over have radiographic changes showing osteoarthritis.

In my practice, I have seen a number of Persians who inappropriately defecate from early on. My next door neighbor owned one of these cats and I watched that cat go into the litter box, with all that fur trailing through the litter. She seemed pretty disgusted. She also had a lot of matts that seemed to pull as she got into the box. After she got a lion cut, she never missed the box again until she had a UTI. This has

worked for a few other Persians. I think the mats are the worst.

I think dog litter boxes (do dogs really use them?) make the best litter boxes for older, arthritic (and bigger) cats. They've got the high sides so non-squatting arthritic cats don't go over the high sides, and there's a low edge on one side to enter and exit the boxes so that the cat doesn't need to jump over a high edge. Lastly, it's great for all cats with polyuria of any cause (especially since some clients don't clean the box as often as we tell them).

For cats that like soft surfaces for elimination, and that won't use the unscented litter, I recommend disposable diapers or carpet remnants, the latter which can be purchased really cheaply in most carpet stores.

Neck Control and Eyes

Study Finds Use of Collars Increases Ocular Pressure In Dogs

Use of harnesses recommended for patients with certain ocular conditions

DENVER

In dogs with ocular conditions, such as glaucoma, or weak or thin corneas, increased intraocular pressure (IOP) may lead to severe eye damage and vision loss. A new study published in the May/June 2006 issue of the Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association (JAAHA) finds that the pressure created by the use of neck collars significantly increases IOP in dogs. In dogs with some types of ocular disease, such as glaucoma, even brief increases in IOP could have a detrimental effect on the eye, resulting in further damage to the optic nerve and retina, says Amy M. Pauli, DVM, ophthalmology resident at the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine and principal author of the study. Based on our study findings, it is highly recommended that harnesses, rather than neck collars, be used in dogs with glaucoma.

The JAAHA article tested the hypothesis that application of neck pres-

sure via a leash to a harness results in less of an increase in IOP than application of pressure via a leash to a neck collar. Intraocular pressures, measured before and after the test, were found to increase significantly from baseline levels when pressure was applied via a collar but not via a harness. The study findings indicate that dogs with weak or thin corneas, glaucoma or conditions for which an increase in IOP could be harmful should wear a harness instead of a collar. Many general practitioners are not aware of the anecdotal evidence that collars significantly increase IOP, says Ellison Bentley, DVM, DACVO, clinical assistant professor of comparative ophthalmology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine and study co-author. We hope that the results of this study will prompt them to routinely recommend harnesses for patients with certain ocular conditions.

Interestingly, a trend in breed differences in the degree of IOP change during tension against a collar versus a harness was also revealed. The study included 26 healthy dogs of both sexes, including the Alaskan malamute, Siberian husky, Staffordshire terrier, American cocker spaniel and Chinook. While the Alaskan malamute and Siberian husky generated the greatest tension when pulling against a collar, these two breeds experienced less of an increase in IOP when pulling against a collar than did the other three breeds. Evidently, dogs bred to pull objects may be somewhat resistant to an increase in IOP.

Pulling when being walked on a leash may be more than just an annoying behavior; it may have a detrimental impact on a dog's health, says Dr. Pauli.

Since the long-term risks of transient IOP increases associated with ocular disease are not fully understood, any pet that tends to pull while being walked on a leash may benefit from use of a harness rather than a collar.

Additional study authors included Kathryn A. Diehl, DVM, MS, DACVO and Paul E. Miller, DVM, MS, DACVO. The

article is available online at www.jaaha.org.

Too bad these releases never say something like:

Research suggests that dogs should be trained to walk on loose leash (without pulling/straining on the leash) because collar pressure can lead to transient detrimental increases in IOP.

Such training would solve a lot more problems than slapping a harness on the dog (and being dragged on a wild ride). Additionally, some vet chiropractors complain that head halters lead to neck damage. They neglect to state (or recognize) that it is inappropriate use of such collars (and lack of training) that is the problem.

Cool study. However, just going back to my grad school days where we had to critique research papers in my classes, I don't see anywhere where they measured relative benefits of head collars versus neck collars with intraocular pressure. The study measured neck collars (I am assuming flat collars, not the pinch or choke variety), against halters. It might be over-interpreting the data to include head collars as beneficial based on his study, as you did in your message, because they were not tested (at least it was not indicated in the information you included. Since I am not a member of AAHA, I can't get a look at the full text). However it would be nice if they repeated the study, this time with head collars, pinch collars and choke collars included. They may find that, because of the pain involved in pulling against a pinch collar, it generates a lower increase in the intra-ocular pressure (which, as an editorial comment, I would find sad, because I don't like the things). However, you can't say that head collars are better based on this study, unless they tested it specifically; that is an inference.

Another interesting corollary would be whether an epidemiologist could

find the correlation of an increase in blindness in dogs that are chained as a restraint method (and spend the better part of their day lunging against the restraint of their collar) versus dogs that are not chained. The time spent walking a dog could be miniscule in comparison to the amount of time a chained dog is putting pressure on a collar around its neck. Many older dogs lose their vision through a variety of mechanisms—would be interesting to find out if the dogs who do spend a portion of their life on a chain or were major pullers when walked. Perhaps a cumulative process is occurring?

Interesting info. The only part I objected to was:

Since the long-term risks of transient IOP increases associated with ocular disease are not fully understood, any

pet that tends to pull while being walked on a leash may benefit from use of a harness rather than a collar.

Additional study authors included Kathryn A. Diehl, DVM, MS, DACVO and Paul E. Miller, DVM, MS, DACVO.

A simple “or trained to walk on a loose leash” would have been enough to satisfy me:-). This statement though is just a reminder (along with the puppy class issue) of how much work we have ahead of us in terms of getting the general veterinary population up-to-date on behavioral issues.

I did not mean to imply that head halters were tested in this study; only that this study might support avoiding neck collars in favor of other products that do not pull against the neck since it was presumably the pressure against the jugular veins that may have lead to

the increased IOP in breeds and individuals that were predisposed. However, as stated in the press release, the study ONLY compared IOP pressure increases caused by pulling against neck collars to body harnesses.

It is unfortunate (but understandable) that the release did not focus on teaching dogs to walk on loose leash since any excess pulling could potentially lead to adverse medical, behavioral or humane consequences. The focus of the press release, of course was to share new and relevant research from their May/June 2006 issue. On the other hand, AAHA and their media department are generally quite amenable to suggestions for future topics and releases so I would encourage you to contact them to make this point. They also have a wide range of ACVB members that they use as expert consultants so please feel free to have them contact any of us for further input and support.

Member Background Information Needed

As part two of the AVSAB media effort, we'd like to link Media (most commonly for magazine or newspaper articles) up with those in our group who have the expertise and willingness to provide information. In the future this information can be collected upon membership renewal, but in the meantime, please take just a few minutes to e-mail the following information to me (for those who wouldn't mind being interviewed):

- Name
- E-mail
- City/State of behavior practice
- Your areas of research
- Areas of clinical interest

Sophia Yin, DVM
Davis, CA
Sophia@nerdbook.com
www.behavior4veterinarian.com

Call for Case Reports, Continuing Education and Textbook Reviews

We can't all be exposed to the wealth of behavior information that is available. There are some excellent CE opportunities, behavior text and references as well as published case histories. It would be a great benefit to our members to have brief reviews of talks, books and cases to be printed in the newsletter.

Whenever you attend a seminar, see an interesting case or read a newly available behavior text, consider sharing your experience with your colleagues. Write a brief review and send it to me via email or snail mail. Thanks much in advance.

John Ciribassi, DVM Ed.
drjdvm@msn.com
1042 Mountain Glen Way
Carol Stream, IL 60188

Websites Related to Animal Behavior



This is not an inclusive list, nor by listing these websites does AVSAB endorse their products or services (except, of course, the AVSAB website!!)

New Sites for This Issue

<http://vein.library.usyd.edu.au/links/behaviour.html>

The University of Sydney Veterinary Education and Information Network (VEIN) was launched at the beginning of May, 2001. VEIN is an information service for veterinary and animal scientists, and allied animal health professionals, with a focus on access to high quality information and lifelong learning in the 21st Century knowledge economy. Services are provided on and off the Web. VEIN is of particular relevance to professionals based in Australasia.

<http://asab.nottingham.ac.uk/>

Association for the Study of Animal Behavior

www.assab.org/

Australasian Society for the Study of Animal Behavior

www.applied-ethology.org

The International Society for Applied Ethology

<http://web.unbc.ca/isbe/index.htm>

International Society for Behavioral Ecology

www.bga.org/

Behavior Genetics Association

The purpose of the Behavior Genetics Association is to promote scientific study of the interrelationship of genetic mechanisms and behavior, both human and animal; to encourage and aid the education and training of research workers in the field of behavior genetics; and to aid in the dissemination and interpretation to the general public of knowledge concerning the interrelationship of genetics and behavior, and its implications for health and human development and education.

Organizations

www.avsab.us

American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior

www.dacvb.com

American College of Veterinary Behaviorists

www.svbt.org

Society of Veterinary Behavior Technicians

www.deltasociety.org

Delta Society

www.animalbehavior.org

Animal Behavior Society

www.apdt.com

Association of Pet Dog Trainers

www.apbc.org.uk

Association of Pet Behaviour Counselors

Animal Welfare and Human-Animal Bond

www.censhare.umn.edu/

Center to Study Human-Animal Relationships and Environment, University of Minnesota

<http://members.aol.com/guyh7/aahabv.htm>

The American Association of Human-Animal Bond Veterinarians

www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/Animal_Alternatives/main.htm

University of California Center for Animal Alternatives

<http://animalwelfare.ucdavis.edu/>

University of California Center for Animal Welfare

www.soton.ac.uk/~azi/azi.htm

Anthrozoology Institute, University of Southampton

www.tufts.edu/vet/cfa/confsems.html

Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy

www.vet.purdue.edu/depts/vad/cae/

Purdue University, Center for the Human Animal Bond

University Websites

www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/CCAB/main.htm

University of California Center for Companion Animal Behavior

www.vet.cornell.edu/abc/

Cornell University Behavior Service

www.vet.uga.edu/erc/behavior/index.htm

University of Georgia Applied Animal Behavior

www.cvm.umn.edu

University of Minnesota School of Veterinary Medicine (has Behavior Service)

www.vet.upenn.edu/cias/

University of Pennsylvania, Center for the Interaction of Animals and Society

www2.vet.upenn.edu/labs/equinebehavior/

University of Pennsylvania Equine Behavior Lab

www.vet.purdue.edu/animalbehavior/

Purdue University Animal Behavior Clinic

Products

www.gentleleader.com/

Gentle Leader

www.kongcompany.com

Kong toys

www.ah.novartis.com/

Novartis Animal Health

www.premier.com

Premier Pet Products

www.clickertraining.com

Karen Pryor's website on clicker training

www.webtrail.com/petbehavior/

BehavioRx Pet Behavior Systems

Upcoming Behavioral Meetings

June 8-11, 2006

Pet Dog Training: Practical Application Of Learning Theory

Center for Applied Animal Behavior
San Diego, CA

Ian Dunbar Many pet dog trainers and dog behavior problem counselors are still struggling to achieve an optimal balance between education and experience, between the use of rewards and punishments, and between making training fun yet still producing precise and reliable results in timely fashion. None of these variables, techniques, or goals need be, nor should be, mutually exclusive. Indeed, this four-day seminars will present a comprehensive training program that provides the quickest and easiest route for pet owners to produce a good-natured, well-behaved, and mannerly pet dog.
www.jamesandkenneth.com

June 17-20

Tenth Annual Meeting of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

Pittsburgh, PA

Saturday June 17 through Tuesday June 20 at the Marriott Pittsburgh City Center in downtown Pittsburgh, PA, and has been planned to immediately precede and integrate with the 6th International Congress of Neuroendocrinology being held at the new Pittsburgh convention center. Expanding on the tradition of the Conference on Reproductive Behavior (CRB), established over 30 years ago, the SBN meeting fosters interactions among scientists interested in the neuroendocrine, social, and environmental factors that regulate reproduction, aggression, affiliation, ingestion, learning and memory. In addition, the meeting promotes interactions with neuroendocrinologists using multi-disciplinary and comparative approaches that study these behavioral endpoints. The scientific program will be composed of sessions of invited speakers integrated with contributed short talks and poster presentations.

www.sbn.org/Meeting/2006
gibbsr@pitt.edu

July 2006

Joint AVSAB/ACVB Paper Session Avma Annual Meeting Honolulu, HI

www.dacvb.org
www.avsab.us

August 12-16, 2006

Animal Behavior Society – Annual meeting

Snowbird, UT, USA
www.animalbehavior.org/

August 15-23, 2007

International Ethological Conference IEC 2007

Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

September 9-10, 2006

Emotions and Animal-Care Professionals

Dr. Myrna Milani
Upper Valley Humane Society and Training Center

Enfield, New Hampshire

This seminar begins with an overview of the history of the human-animal emotional link, then discusses key scientific studies essential to an understanding the relationship between companion animal health and behavior and human emotions. The seminar then explores those emotions that exert the greatest effect on animal-care professionals, their clients, and the animals with whom they work. It concludes with a discussion of the practical application of this material in three areas: gaining compliance, coping with end-of-life decisions and euthanasia, and preventing burn-out.

As it becomes available, registration and other information will be posted at <http://www.uvhs.org/upcoming.html>

September 11-15, 2006

A Equine Behavior Course for Residents

Cornell University and University of Pennsylvania

Cost: \$400.

Contact: Katherine Houpt
Email: kah3@cornell.edu

November 2-5, 2006

Pet Dog Training: Practical Application Of Learning Theory

Center for Applied Animal Behavior
Orlando, Florida

Ian Dunbar

Many pet dog trainers and dog behavior problem counselors are still struggling to achieve an optimal balance between education and experience, between the use of rewards and punishments, and between making training fun yet still producing precise and reliable results in timely fashion. None of these variables, techniques, or goals need be, nor should be, mutually exclusive. Indeed, this four-day seminars will present a comprehensive training program that provides the quickest and easiest route for pet owners to produce a good-natured, well-behaved, and mannerly pet dog.

www.jamesandkenneth.com

Patricia McConnell, PhD.

Patricia McConnell, Ph.D. gives speeches and seminars on behavior and training around the country. No matter what the topic, the focus is always on understanding both ethology and learning theory to humanely and effectively improve our relationships with other animals. For further information on upcoming events, go to: <http://www.dogsbestfriendtraining.com/>

November 4-5, 2006

Small Animal Behavior: A Team Approach

For further information: Contact Sandi Kilgo at 706-542-1451 or skilgo@vet.uga.edu for information on registration and lodging or Sharon Crowell-Davis DVM, PhD, DACVB at scrowell@vet.uga.edu for information on content.

A tuition scholarship is available for a technician. For further information on applying for the scholarship, contact the SVBT

Wolf Park Seminars

Battle Ground, Indiana (near west Lafayette-Purdue U.)

Wolf Park is a nonprofit education and research facility which was established in 1972 by Dr. Erich Klinghammer. Along with research and seminars on wolf behavior, particularly reproductive and inter-pack social behavior, Wolf Park provides interpretive programs to school groups throughout the year by prearrangement. We are also open to the general public from May through November and Saturday evening for Howl Nights. The park is home to several packs of gray wolves, plus foxes and bison. We are incorporated under the **North American Wildlife Park Foundation, Inc.** which is located in the small town of Battle Ground, Indiana. Wolf Park offers seminars for those interested in a more in-depth experience than just a tour or Howl Night. The topics of the seminars range from many aspects of wolves, such as behavior and mythology, to their canid cousins, dogs. All of the seminars (except the Photography Seminars) allow an individual to spend several days at the Park, getting to know the staff, and watching the wolves, often getting an opportunity to interact with wolves as well.

For further information on types of seminars and dates for 2006, please go to: <http://www.wolfpark.org/seminars.html>

Call for Publicity Contacts

As part one of the AVSAB publicity effort, we will be sending periodic media releases to targeted organizations. Our first release will be in regards to the AVSAB/ACVB Scientific Session. I have a short list of contacts (primarily veterinary magazines) but with your help, we can easily expand this list. If EVERY AVSAB member can send contact information on ONE pertinent organization (Local or national dog/cat newspaper, magazine, newsletter, or news station or radio program etc) we'll have a robust list.

Please e-mail me with the following information. By June 30th is best! Send the following information:

- Organization
- Primary Contact person
- Person's Title
- Contact Person's e-mail address (most important)
- Mailing Address
- Phone

Thanks,
Sophia Yin, DVM

Davis, CA
Sophia@nerdbook.com
≤mailto: Sophia@nerdbook.com ≥
www.behavior4veterinarian.com

Proposed Bylaws Change

This proposed by-laws change is intended to correct an oversight that occurred when we changed the date in which dues were collected from August 1st (beginning of the fiscal year) to January 1st (beginning of the calendar year). Current wording states members are in default if dues are not paid by a period of four months from the “*beginning of the fiscal year.*” Since we made the change to calendar year, in order for the by-laws to be consistent they need to be changed to read a member will be in default if dues are not paid from the “*beginning of the calendar year.*” Here is the actual wording of the bylaws and the proposed changes:

Current Wording:

ARTICLE X

1. Annual dues of members shall be determined at the annual meeting. Any action taken shall require a 2/3 majority of the number of members present who are eligible to vote.
2. Dues shall be payable in advance on the first day of August in each fiscal year. *Starting January 2005 and thereafter, dues shall be payable in advance on the first day of January each year.*
3. When any member of any class shall be in default in the payment of dues for a period of four months from the beginning of the **fiscal year**, his or her membership will be terminated.

Proposed Wording:

ARTICLE X

3. Annual dues of members shall be determined at the annual meeting. Any action taken shall require a 2/3 majority of the number of members present who are eligible to vote.
4. Dues shall be payable in advance on the first day of August in each fiscal year. *Starting January 2005 and thereafter, dues shall be payable in advance on the first day of January each year.*
3. When any member of any class shall be in default in the payment of dues for a period of four months from the beginning of the **calendar year**, his or her membership will be terminated.

This change will be voted on at the annual meeting of AVSAB, in conjunction with the American Veterinary Medical Association Conference in Honolulu on July 17th, 2006.

Welcome New Members!

Dr. Andrea Morden-Moore
Urbana, IL

Dr. Jenny Price
Sharpsburg, GA

Dr. Jennifer Burgess
Mississippi State, MS

Ms. Sharon Wirant
Westmoreland, NH

Dr. Elisabetta Piva
Ripe AN, Italy

Ms. Catherine Otis
Blacksburg, VA

Dr. Mary Klinck
Lansdowne, PA

Dr. Peg Firth
Normal, IL

Dr. Sarah K. Kirk
Gates Mills, OH

Dr. Jeff La Huis
Battle Creek, MI

Dr. Sarah Ford
Hartville, OH

Dr. Graciela Guzman
Loveland, CO

Ms. Christine Hinze
Snook, TX

Dr. Jodi Wiktorowski
Creswell, OR

Dr. Rachel Kelly
Oldsmar, FL

Dr. Barbara Maurer
Grafton, MA

Dr. Crista Coppola
Urbana, IL

Dr. Marlene Mackie
Escanaba, MI

Dr. Rachel Klopfer
Arlington, MA

Dr. Margaret Gruen
Raleigh, NC

Dr. Christina Tran
Portland, OR

Dr. Mar Doring
Holts Summit, MO

Dr. Rebecca Ruch-Gallie
Fort Collins, CO

Dr. Geraldine Dalibard
New York, NY

Dr. Erika Mendez
San Mateo, CA

Dr. Melanie Goble
East Waterboro, ME

Dr. Jennifer Dumond Biglan
Eugene, OR

Dr. Amy Afek
Buckeye, AZ

Review of Behavior Technician Conference in Florida

The following review was submitted by Melissa Jones who is a technician working with Emily Levine, DVM, DACVB in a specialty practice in New Jersey. She sent Melissa to this conference in Florida to get some background in dealing with behavior problems so that she could assist Emily with her behavior cases. Emily thought Melissa's review of the conference would be helpful for others in a similar situation. – Ed.

The conference was two days starting at 8:00am and finishing up at 8:30pm with several breaks. The speakers were Dr. Karen Overall, Donna Dyer, CVT, Dr. Lynne Seibert and Dr. Jacqui Neilson. Since I have never worked as a behavioral technician I saw this as a great crash course.

The topics covered feline elimination problems, canine and feline signaling and behavioral development, managing problems in old dogs, behavioral issues with birds, roles of a technician in preventing behavioral problems, truth about breeds and dog bites, problem aggression by dogs to people. Along with the lectures were two lab sections, one for dogs and one for cats. For the dog lab, called “bratty dogs” we were all given our own dog where we were taught how to fit head collars and harnesses, as well as how to teach basic commands such as “sit,” “stay” and “look.” The cat lab consisted of a few cats and kittens where we practiced food motivation training along with socialization with other cats and with people.

Overall it was a great learning experience for all of us and I hope to attend again in January 2007.

Melissa Jones, CVT
Behavior technician
Animal Emergency & Referral Associates
Fairfield, New Jersey

American Veterinary Society Of Animal Behavior Membership Application

(Check one): Renewal New Member

If this is a renewal, is your address information on this form correct?

Yes No

Please add fax number and e-mail address below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____

Telephone: _____ - _____

(this number will be given to potential referrals if requested)

Fax: _____ - _____

E-mail: _____

Professional Memberships:

Current Employment:

Major interest in animal behavior:

Academic Degrees, schools and dates:

I hereby apply for membership in the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior

- \$40.00 Regular Membership. Open to veterinarians only.** Includes Newsletter, Yahoo Group and registration for annual meeting (voting privileges included).
- \$40.00 Affiliate Membership. Open to non-veterinarians who have been approved by the executive board.** To be considered for approval **you must have a Ph.D. in animal behavior or a closely related field** and be currently active in research and/or practice of applied animal behavior. Your curriculum vitae must accompany your application. You will be granted membership if approved by the board. Also includes newsletter, Yahoo group access and registration for annual meeting (voting privileges included). *Renewing affiliates who have not submitted a curriculum vita in the past 2 years, please submit one with renewal form.*
- \$7.50 Student Membership. Currently enrolled veterinary students.** Includes newsletter, Yahoo group access and registration for annual meeting (no voting privileges).
- \$30.00 Quarterly Newsletter** Subscription only (no voting privileges).
- \$10.00** Additional fee for membership or subscriptions outside North America.

\$_____ TOTAL ENCLOSED. MUST BE IN U.S. FUNDS. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "AVSAB"

e Credit card (international and U.S.) and checking account direct debit payments (U.S. checking accounts only) can be done via PAYPAL at the following web site: www.paypal.com. Remit PAYPAL payments to our account, avsabe@yahoo.com.

Check here if payment is being sent via PayPal.

I agree to abide by the principles of the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of faculty if a student: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Institution: _____

May we release your name to the public for referrals? Yes No

➡ Return to: Lisa Radosta DVM, 3 Fox Valley Lane, Glen Mills, PA 19342. For questions, email Dr. Radosta at avsabe@yahoo.com.