

AVSAB

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Lynne Seibert DVM, MS, Editor

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President's Message

Greetings for the Year 2001 and all the good things it brings. AVSAB is quite fortunate, and grateful, for the help that corporate sponsors continue to provide for us.

Novartis Animal Health underwrites the production and distribution of AVSAB newsletters to senior veterinary medical students. **Novartis** also houses the AVSAB booth and ships it for us to major meetings as well as funds the production of our brochures. Our membership currently consists of 352 regular members, 14 affiliates, 30 students, and 38 subscribers. There are 55 non-US members of our society.

Novartis and Premier Pet Products sponsor the Student Award for Research, which is presented at the Annual AVSAB meeting.

Premier Pet Products and Animal Behavior Systems, Inc. fund the AVSAB lunch (for pre-registered attendees) at the Annual Meeting.

Pfizer Animal Health sponsors the Wine and Cheese Poster Session, which follows the paper presentations at the Annual Meeting. Hint, hint — register in advance.

This year's meeting looks like it will be as great a success as the last. We hope you all come.

North America is doubly blessed this year. Not only is the Boston Meeting loaded with interesting lectures on behavior, but also The Third International Congress on Veterinary Behavioral Medicine is being held in Vancouver this August in conjunction with the World Small Animal Veterinary Congress. (See elsewhere in the Newsletter for specifics about this meeting.) I urge all who can possibly attend this meeting to do so. International meetings are unbelievably exciting — not only intellectually but also socially. You'd love it. Trust me.

HEADS UP ABOUT NEXT YEAR'S MEETING IN NASHVILLE! Deadline for submission of proposed topics for papers and posters will be in DECEMBER 2001. To have our program topics listed in the Convention Issue of JAVMA, which draws attention to our program and existence to non-members, we have to submit the program to JAVMA by January. We realize this is a major shift in our modus operandi — but we can do it. The other allied groups already do — as well as most presenters for the scientific sessions. So, start thinking about the 2002 meeting now. Nashville and the Grand Ol' Opry — it ought to be a hoot!

Exchange on the List-Serve is growing — a real perk for the members. Mucho thanks to Steve Feldman and Iona Smith who have shepherded us into the computer age. A word of caution, however. Although this is a closed list-serve, a monitor does not verify the validity and reliability of information exchanged.

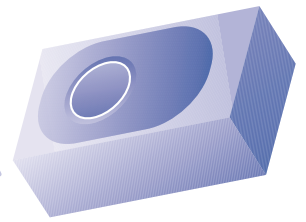
Much of what is exchanged are clinical impressions and individual opinions — which can be helpful — but realize this for what it is. Also, what you write can always be copied and distributed elsewhere. While you are writing to a small closed group, the information may not stay there. Be aware of how what you write may appear to others.

A **registration committee** for the AVSAB meeting at Boston, July 16, 2001 has been formed. Dr Steve Feldman has been appointed chair. Everyone interested in helping, please contact Steve at avsabe@yahoo.com. Now's your chance to get involved!

Have a good spring and think ahead.

Sincerely,
Victoria L Voith

Clicker Training: Concept and Applications



Article submitted by:
Valli Parthasarathy, MS
University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Animals have a natural tendency to repeat behaviors that have a pleasant consequence, and not repeat behaviors that have an unpleasant consequence. When the animal obtaining something creates a pleasant consequence, it experiences learning via *positive reinforcement*.

What is clicker training?

“Clicker training” is the colloquial term used to describe a specific method of positive reinforcement training. When clicker training, the trainer pairs a specific stimulus (generally a click made by a clicker, which is a small plastic box with a metal strip in it) with a primary reinforcer (food, play, praise, etc.). After many successive pairings, the click becomes a secondary reinforcer, capable of indicating to the animal what behaviors the trainer wants it to repeat. This is also called “marking” the behavior. While the clicker is the most common secondary reinforcer that is used, a whistle, flashing a penlight, or another novel stimulus will work as well.

The concept of clicker training is not new. It has been used to train marine mammals for decades. Karen Pryor, who worked with marine mammals, began applying this training technique to other animals, including pets. It has been used successfully in a wide variety of species, including dogs, cats, parrots, horses, and iguanas. The key to clicker training is finding a strong positive reinforcer for the animal in question—what is reinforcing for a cat may not be reinforcing for an iguana. By using any positive reinforcement training

method, the animal is being classically conditioned to have a positive emotional response to the experience. Therefore, training becomes a fun thing to do rather than work, or in extreme cases, something to be feared.

Many clicker trainers argue that clicker training is the best way to teach animals new behaviors, citing from personal experience that the animals learn the behaviors faster than with just food, praise, and/or petting, and are willing to offer behaviors that can be later shaped. Many theories abound for why this may be the case. The click is initially a novel stimulus, which is consistently paired with a reward. The only time the click is heard is when a primary reinforcer is soon to follow. However, praise is often given and may not be specific enough to encourage rapid behavior acquisition. In addition, the click is a very short-duration noise, capable of marking a behavior the instant it happens, while praise takes more time. Finally, clicker training may involve more “problem solving” on the part of the animal, since the animal needs to repeat and change its behavior “in order to get the trainer to click”, possibly resulting in a more active learning environment.

Possibly the strongest benefit of clicker training is that it allows the trainer to reinforce behaviors instantaneously, without needing to be close to the animal. Imagine that you are trying to teach a puppy to lie down, but whenever you try to give her a food reward she keeps standing up. Even if you drop the food on the ground, she stands up. If you give the food reward then, you would be reinforcing standing up. However, you could click the dog while she was lying down (thus, marking the lying down behavior), then when you give the treat it does not matter what the puppy is doing since the behavior she’s

being rewarded for has been indicated.

How does clicker training work?

As mentioned before, the click becomes a secondary reinforcer that indicates to the animal what behavior will be reinforced. To teach an animal the meaning of the click, the trainer needs to repeatedly click, and then give the reinforcer; click, then give the reinforcer. After a number of repetitions, the animal begins to understand that when a click occurs, the reinforcer will follow.

The trainer starts off with a behavior that loosely approximates the goal behavior she wants the animal to perform. She then waits, and reinforces the animal every time it performs a behavior slightly closer to the goal behavior. The reinforcement of gradually more and more accurate behaviors is called *shaping*.

Shaping can be a slow process, but it allows the trainer to teach new behaviors without touching, or even being near, the animal. For example, if the trainer wants her cat to bat a bell with her paw, she may click and reinforce (c/r) the cat several times for looking at the bell, then approaching the bell, then sniffing at the bell. She may then need wait until the cat is near the bell and c/r when he lifts his paw a little. She would then c/r when the cat lifts his paw more, and then when he touches the bell with it. Finally, she would c/r when the cat bats his paw towards the bell.

Clinical applications of clicker training

Since clicker training is a non-forceful way of teaching an animal to perform behaviors, it lends itself well to applica-

tion for veterinarians and behaviorists.

- *Teaching animals to accept handling by veterinarians.* Owners can train their pets to accept having their ears and feet examined, and to make visits to the veterinarian's office fun. Veterinarians can participate in this as well.
- *Teaching animals to accept general maintenance.* For example, teaching a puppy to sit still for nail trimming, or a kitten for grooming.
- *Basic obedience.* Dogs, and other animals, can be taught basic obedience using the clicker in combination with removal of reinforcement for inappropriate behaviors. Since no force is involved with this type of training, there is less of a chance that training will damage the dog-owner bond.
- *Introduce children to training.* Having children use clickers to train will teach them the importance of timing reinforcements, but also give an appropriate way for them to interact with their pet. In addition, since the child would be associated with good things, the development of fear in some pets towards children may be prevented.
- *Generally fearful animals.* Some animals may be too afraid for the owner to get close enough to deliver reinforcements effectively, or may be ner-

vous so often that relaxation is a very brief occurrence. These animals can benefit from clicker training since the owners would not need to move or be near to mark the appropriate behavior, and they can instantly reinforce short-duration behaviors.

- *Shaping of body postures.* An animal's posture and other communication signals can be shaped using clicker. For example, a fearful dog can be shaped to bring her ears forward, a posture associated with being calm and relaxed.

Additional Resources

Books:

Kurland, A. (1999). *Clicker Training for Your Horse*. Sunshine Books.

Pryor, K. (1985). *Don't Shoot the Dog: The New Art of Teaching and Training*. Bantam Books. (Note: this book focuses on a variety of species, not just dogs).

Pryor, K. (1999). *Clicker Training for Dogs*. Sunshine Books.

Spector, M. (1998). *Clicker Training for Obedience*. Sunshine Books.

Websites:

Braslau-Schneck, S. (1998). *An Animal Trainer's Introduction to Operant and Classical Conditioning*

(www.geocities.com/Athens/Academy/8636/Clicker.html). *General discussion of operant and classical conditioning, including reinforcement schedules and secondary reinforcers.*

Burmaster, C. (1998). *Clicker Train* (www.clickertrain.com). *Good introduction about clicker training, information about and subscription to the Clicker Journal.*

Kurland, A. *Clicker Training for Your Horse* (www.crisny.org/users/kurlanda). *Introduction to clicker training horses.*

Logan, A. (1998). *Click and Reward* (members.aol.com/snowridge1/index.click.html). *Introduction to llama clicker training.*

TeSelle, E. (2000) *Training Iguanas*. (www.geocities.com/Heartland/Meadows/4159/training.html). *Some practical behaviors to teach iguanas using clickers.*

E-mail Lists:

BirdClick (www.geocities.com/Heartland/Acres/9154). *Discusses clicker training birds.*

ClickRyder (www.clickryder.com). *Discusses clicker training horses.*

Clicker Training List (www.click-l.com). *Discusses clicker training, primarily with dogs.*

Kudos!

Dr. Caroline Schaffer — 2000 Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year

Dr. Schaffer was selected by the AVMA, Delta Society, and Hill's Pet Nutrition to receive this award, presented to her on October 12, 2000 in Boston. The Bustad Award is named for the late Dr. Leo K. Bustad, former president of the Delta society and champion of the importance of the human-animal bond.

Dr. Schaffer is founder and director of the Center for the Study of Human-Animal Interdependent Relationships at Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine. Among her many accomplishments and contributions, Dr. Schaffer has worked with immunocompromised individuals and nursing home residents to promote safe pet ownership. Throughout her 30 year career, her contributions to our understanding of the

human-animal bond have touched peoples' lives and will continue to inspire us.

Dr. Wailani Sung — Veterinary Research Day Poster Exhibition Winner

On February 12-13, 2001, the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine sponsored a poster exhibit of school-wide research projects. Something strange and wonderful happened. Dr. Sung's poster, "The elimination behavior patterns of domestic cats with and without elimination behavior problems," was a winner in its category. None of the judges for the competition had any background in behavioral research. It is encouraging to see such important behavioral research being acknowledged by such a diverse group of veterinarians and scientists.

People are e-talking...



Excerpts from our eGroup conversations

"We need another and a wiser and perhaps more mystical concept of animals. Remote from universal nature, and living by complicated artifice, man in civilization surveys the creature through the glass of his knowledge and sees therefore a feather magnified and the whole image in distortion. We patronize them for their incompleteness, for their tragic fate of having taken form so far below ourselves, and therein we err, we greatly err. For the animal shall not be measured by the man. In a world older and more complete than ours they move finished and more complete, gifted with extensions of the senses we have lost or never attained, living by voices we shall never hear. They are not brethren, they are not underlings; they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendor and travail of the earth."

Henry Beston, *The Outermost House*
Contributed by Myrna Milani DVM,
Charlestown, NH

NBC Dateline Feature

December 18, 2000

"Concerning last night's NBC Dateline feature on aggressive dogs and children—does anyone have problems with the way they approached the topic? It seems like the trainers were successful only after getting bitten and establishing "dominance" by making dogs go through the alpha rollover. Would any of you trust the chow at the conclusion as being truly "cured" of the aggression towards the baby?"

Steven Feldman DVM,
Clinton, MD

"I have been stewing about this all day. I watched the dateline special last night (I have it on tape too), after several friends & family members called me to let me know that there must be one of 'those behaviorists' on TV tonight discussing dog aggression directed toward children. This segment could not have been more disturbing. Not only did it fuel the idea of punishment based training, pinch collars, and alpha rolls, but it led people to believe that these dogs are "cured" and no longer need supervision around very small children. I felt like we just took two big steps back in educating the public about scientifically-based treatment protocols for these pets."

Traci Shreyer

"I did watch the Dateline segment on dogs and babies and it was bad. I think they missed the boat — they never mentioned a possible fear component to the problem. Then they showed a video clip of a trainer doing a roll over/pin down with a Chowchow after inflicting a bite upon the trainer. It is frightening to think that this is what is being portrayed to the general public through the media.

Jacqueline Neilson DVM, DACVB,
Portland, OR

"I too saw the Dateline piece and was troubled by the whole segment. Training involved choke chains, pinch collars, the use of physical force to make the dogs sit and lie down. Food lures and head halters weren't mentioned for training ideas. The video clip of aggression with the American Eskimo towards a child showed a dog in conflict (fear based), not one that was trying to dominate the family pack as the whole piece

suggested. It seems this Dateline segment didn't provide any current information and in fact further reinforced the use of having to become physical with dangerous dogs in order to keep them in line within the family. They may have misled a lot of dog owners and certainly didn't educate them as you think a national program should have."

Tom Favale DVM
St Charles, IL

"I too was very concerned by the dateline piece. They even showed the father putting his baby down on the floor next to the aggressive dog and saying something like "I wasn't comfortable putting my baby on the floor with the dog but the trainer said it was the best." Later they show the dog licking the baby's fingers and show how successful the training was for the dog. People will believe this irresponsible program. I agree that someone needs to suggest a follow up program for Dateline or their competition!"

Theresa DePorter
Clinton Twp., MI

Reproductive Status and Hunting Drive

"A client addressed the following question to me, and I thought someone out there might have a ready answer to the question. Does spaying or neutering alter the strength of the hunting drive in sporting breeds?"

Nicole Hird VMD
Columbus, OH

"As someone who is involved with training and competing in hunting retriever tests, reproductive status has no

real effect on working ability. Many of the dogs that compete are intact but this has mostly to do with the fact that many of them are breeding animals. I have seen several high performance altered dogs that work equally well after being neutered or spayed.”

Gerry Flannigan DVM, MSc
Greensboro, NC

“I don’t believe spaying or neutering will affect the hunting drive in a sporting dog. Hormonally, a spayed bitch is not unlike an anestrus bitch. I personally haven’t heard of any dogs’ hunting drive affected by spaying or neutering. I used to train Springer Spaniels for field trials, and have had many of them.”

Carl Flinkstrom DVM
Lunenburg, MA

“Just from anecdotal experience working with hunting dogs that have been sexually altered, including 3 of my own — it didn’t change their drive to hunt.”

Lecreca Taliaferro DVM
Haslet, TX

Aggressive Dogs and Medication

“I am curious how you all handle medication and canine aggression cases. What medications do you use? What types of aggression are you treating with medication? How often do you use medication? What are your criteria for deciding to use medication? How predictable is the response? Do some dogs become more aggressive? How much more successful is medication plus behavior modification than behavior modification alone?”

Theresa DePorter
Clinton Twp., MI

“The discussion about drug use in aggressive dogs makes me nervous. First, no drug has been proven to be effective for any type of aggression. Second, any anxiolytic drug can disinhibit aggression. This may be due to the drug reducing fear (that inhibited the dog from attacking), or just a pharmacological effect. Therefore, I avoid the use of drugs in aggressive dogs as much as possible. If I use drugs, I ask the owners to keep the dog muzzled for at least the

first 5 days, and I have them sign a waiver that states the risks of drug use in the treatment of aggression. I attach part of some lecture notes I put together on aggression below:

It has been shown that aggressive dogs have lower serotonin metabolites in CSF. Also, destruction of serotonergic neurons increased offensive aggression, while increased serotonergic activity at synapses decreases offensive aggression. Injection of serotonergic agonists into the amygdala decreased aggression. This leads us to believe that serotonin receptor blockers should be useful for treating affective aggression in dogs. Affective aggression excludes predatory aggression and probably play aggression, which are neurologically very different from all other types of aggression. Predatory aggression is part of ingestive behavior and controlled by the appetite and satiety centers in the hypothalamus.

However, the relationship between serotonin and aggression may be complicated. One study found that serotonin agonists actually increased aggression, while serotonin antagonists decreased it (J Chen Shih, personal communication). Also, serotonin agonists increased social status, while antagonists decreased it. The neurohormonal role of serotonin in aggression has not been elucidated.

A clinical trial has been performed investigating the use of the serotonin reuptake blocker, fluoxetine, in the treatment of “dominance aggression.” It was concluded that fluoxetine was effective in the treatment of that disorder (Dodman et al, 1996). However, there were serious flaws in the design of the study. A comparison with a properly designed trial involving clomipramine, in which clomipramine was shown not to be effective, (White et al, 1999) suggests that the apparent effect of fluoxetine was likely a placebo effect.

When using drugs in the treatment of aggression, the possibility of a disinhibition of aggression needs to be kept in mind (particularly with benzodiazepines). The dog should be muzzled initially, and the owners should sign a liability waiver, attesting that they understand that risk.

Recently it has been reported that tryptophan supplement to a low protein diet was successful in diminishing signs

of owner-directed aggression (DeNapoli et al, 2000). Tryptophan is a precursor of serotonin and competes for uptake into the brain with other large nutritive amino acids- hence the requirement for a low-protein diet.”

Andrew Luescher DVM, PhD, DACVB
West Lafayette, IN

“I have had several anecdotal reports from my clients that medication has reduced the aggression seen in their dogs and cats. Whether this is a placebo effect or the effect is from the behavior modification that I stress is not known. I tend to advise clients on following a protocol of behavior modification for 6 to 8 weeks prior to ever prescribing anything for aggression. As a result, I prescribe meds for aggression in a very small number of cases, and I am relatively confident that the behavior modification protocols are in place before the meds are initiated. I agree with Dr. Luescher to use caution in the use of these drugs as there is little evidence for their effectiveness. BUT as long as the clients understand the risks, are not using the medication as a quick fix, and I make myself available for any queries that the client has, I see no reason to not prescribe them.”

Gerry Flannigan DVM, MSc
Greensboro, North Carolina

Phenylpropanolamine

“Has anyone had any cases that have had side effects related to steroids and/or phenylpropanolamine? I have a case of a 4 yr old, FS, Doberman who was already on PPA for urinary incontinence for approximately 6 months before being placed on high doses of steroids for inflammatory bowel disease following a diagnosis by an internist. The dog began to have compulsive circling and lethargy. She was gradually weaned off of the prednisone and has been off of it since 11/14/00. The behaviors have diminished but are still present, and the owner is concerned about the dog. The dog is still currently on PPA (which controls her urinary incontinence), but the owner is willing to take the dog off of it if it will make her feel better. The dog is no longer alert like she was before being placed on the steroids, and when she walks the circles, she does so with her head down acting

depressed. The circling is not done quickly but in a slow methodical manner. Since the side effects of PPA in humans include nervousness, headaches, insomnia, and restlessness, I wondered if anyone has seen any of these side effects in dogs.”

Lecreca Taliaferro DVM
Haslet, TX

“I had a dog owner contact me recently to inform me that his dog had suffered a stroke while under treatment with PPA. This owner had then turned to “the web” to find out more about the side effects of PPA and found that stroke was a possible side effect in humans. The FDA has indicated its intention to withdraw PPA from human use. I think it was DVM magazine that reported this story to us vets saying that the withdrawal of PPA would leave many owners of incontinent dogs to have to consider the unthinkable (since there is little by way of alternative treatments). It sounds like your client’s dog may have had some adverse cerebral event, and considering its age the medications may have played a role. I don’t think it is necessary for vets to panic though. While PPA is around it should be used at the minimum dose required to produce the desired effect, and if it disappears there are other treatments that can be substituted (tricyclic antidepressants or estrogen, for example).”

Nicholas H. Dodman BVMS, MRCVS,
DACVB, North Grafton, MA

“Here in the UK lethargy and inappetence are recognized and recorded as a potential side effects of over-dosage (2.5mg/kg 3 times a day instead of 1.5 mg/kg bid; the margin is small). However, in my experience the most common side effects are aggression and irritability, which might suggest it has similar central effects in dogs as it does people. Steroids can also induce aggression.”

Daniel S. Mills BVSc, MRCVS
United Kingdom

Melatonin

“Do any of the AVSAB or ESVCE members have any information about the use of melatonin for correction of

sleep cycles in geriatric dogs — dose, duration of treatment, etc? Is it freely available in other European countries and in the USA?”

Sarah Heath BVSc, MRCVS
England

“Melatonin is available over-the-counter in the US. There are 200 ug, 1 mg, and 3 mg sized tablets. We use it quite a bit at approximately 3 mg per mid-sized dog. The preferred variety for us is “Melatonex,” which is (a) chemically pure (not derived from cow pituitaries) and (b) compact and therefore long lasting. I have co-authored a behavior case of the month (in JAVMA) on melatonin to induce winter torpor and treat stereotypy in a black bear. My colleague Dr. Linda Aronson has written up a case report of melatonin’s successful use in the treatment of a dog’s phobia of red-winged blackbirds. Both case reports contain some useful references if you are interested in pursuing the subject further. Also, you might find it interesting that an MD at MIT is doing a multi-center trial on the use of melatonin to treat separation anxiety in dogs.”

Nicholas H. Dodman BVMS, MRCVS,
DACVB
North Grafton, MA

“I have used melatonin for the purpose of correcting sleep cycles in geriatric dogs that were showing no other signs of cognitive dysfunction at the time. I use a dose of 3 mg half-hour before “bedtime” for dogs in weight range 30 - 100 lbs, 6 mg for dogs over 100lbs (so far only a Newfie), 1.5 mg for dogs weighing 15 to 30lbs, and 1 mg for dogs < 15 lbs. Melatonin has proven very safe, and I have only had one negative reaction in several hundred dogs treated to date — that one resolved completely within 4 hours, and the dog suffered no long-term effects. Currently melatonin is available over-the-counter only in the US, and not in Canada, Europe (including the UK), or Australia.”

Linda Aronson DVM
Norfolk, MA

“I have incorporated melatonin into the pharmacological support of four feline patients with nocturnal activity patterns in the past year. Two of these pa-

tients were not diagnosed with cognitive dysfunction syndrome, the other two were diagnosed with CDS. Both patients w/o CDS responded to 1- 1/2 - 3 mg melatonin PO SID 1 - 2 hours prior to bedtime; one of the CDS patients responded to a similar treatment regimen while the other was refractory to melatonin treatment. In the two CDS cases, I prescribed melatonin prior to considering pharm support w/ selegiline (Anipryl).

Although I am not aware of similar research in animals, studies on sleep patterns in geriatric humans, particularly with sleep disorders, tend to show a reduction in the deeper stages of sleep and greater fragmentation of nighttime sleep with periods of wakefulness. The data on efficacy of melatonin in managing such sleep patterns are equivocal (and limited) in humans, with some authors suggesting that melatonin may effectively promote sleep onset and maintenance in geriatric humans while others do not support this hypothesis. There has been concern noted in the literature regarding dosing of melatonin and duration of effect.

Interestingly, 2 of the 3 feline patients noted earlier initially responded at lower levels of melatonin but later required higher doses to sustain the clinical effect. The formulation of individual melatonin products should be considered, as noted previously by Dr. Dodman. Studies to date show dramatic variations and inconsistencies of specific product contents compared to the manufacturers’ labels.

While I have not observed any adverse side effects of melatonin and few are reported, it is worth considering that melatonin is considered an inhibitor of hepatic cytochrome P-450 isoenzymes, which may result in reduced oxidative metabolism in the liver (and possibly kidney, brain, small intestine) and may effect the plasma concentration of other drugs metabolized by the same enzyme pathways. This is a particular consideration in geriatric individuals with compromised hepatic function as well as those receiving “polypharmacy” treatments.”

Vint Virga DVM, DACVB
New York, NY

News notes

ACVB Report: American College of Veterinary Behaviorists

Dr. Bonnie V. Beaver
Executive Director

The ACVB is currently processing applications for the 2001 examination. It is exciting to see the level of interest in the board certification process, and we are looking forward to the successful completion of this by several.

The new 2001 ACVB Applicant's Packet (in a teal colored cover) is hot off the press and has been mailed to those who have expressed an interest in having the latest version. As a reminder, the ACVB Applicant's Packet is free to AVSAB members who request one (please state that you are an AVSAB member and let me know your snail mail address) and is available for \$10.00 to other veterinarians.

FYI for those interested in behavior residencies...

There are currently 7 universities that have behavior residencies approved by the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists: University of California - Davis (Ben Hart), Cornell University (Katherine Houpt), Texas A&M University (Bonnie Beaver), University of Georgia (Sharon Crowell-Davis), University of Pennsylvania, Tufts University (Nick Dodman), and Purdue University (Andrew Luescher). To get specific information about each program, it would be best to contact the ACVB Diplomate who is heading the program. In general a residency is 2-3 years depending on the behavior background of the individual. Most that are 3 years require course work, and some require completion of an MS degree. At some there is also an opportunity to work on a PhD, but it is not required in any of the 7. Since most of the programs only have one resident at a time, they would not be taking new residents every year. And several of the schools did happen to start new individuals in 2000. I believe Texas A&M is the only program that uses the matching program. I hope this will be helpful to

all AVSAB members who are interested in formal behavior residency programs. You should also keep in mind that the ACVB does have nonconforming program opportunities; although, as has been noted before, the availability of diplomates to mentor such programs is extremely limited.

Bonnie V. Beaver, BS, DVM, MS, DACVB
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Student Chapters News

SENIORS:

AVSAB offers a reduced membership fee for new graduates!

For information about starting a new student chapter or enhancing an existing one, please contact:

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

Recent executive board decision:

Student Chapter constitution and by-laws shall always be in agreement with the AVSAB constitution and by-laws. Therefore, any changes to the AVSAB constitution or bylaws shall automatically apply to the student constitution and by-laws.

AVSAB bylaws were changed in accordance with the vote taken last general meeting determining that a student does not have to be a member of the student AVSAB chapter, but can join as an individual student member even if a chapter exists at that school. The Student Chapter by-laws will be amended in order to agree with the change made to the AVSAB by-laws.

Current Student Chapters

Colorado State University

Veterinary Teaching Hospital, 300 West Drake Road
Fort Collins, CO 80523

Advisor: Dr. Mary Smith

Presidents: Amanda Varney and Michelle Wendell

Vice-president: Kristen Messenbaugh

Secretary/Treasurer: Amy Broussard

Open House Representative: Joyce Clark

Junior Class Representative: Catherine Etherington

Sophomore Class Representative: Julia Sowa

Freshman Class Representative: Hope Teyler

Speakers and Events: Dr. Mary Smith, Dr. Julia Brannan (puppy parties), and Mr. Ken Crump (use of flower essences), Cheyenne Kennel Club dog show, Puppy temperament testing, Puppy Party, Avian behavior and handling, Handling nasty kitties, Agility, obedience, police dog demos for Open House

The University of Georgia

goodpets@vet.uga.edu

Advisor: Dr. Sharon L. Crowell-Davis

President: Ms. Lynne Gallitz

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huggak9@hotmail.com

Advisor: Dr. JoAnn Eurell

President: Joel Huffman (2003)

Secretary: Jodi Duberstein (2003)

Treasurer: Kelly Ballinger (2002)

Speakers and Events: Dr. Debra Horwitz, Dr. Pete Sakas (avian behavior), Ms. Linda Case (clicker training)

Program Committee

Dr. Petra Mertens

Committee Chairperson

The 2001 meeting of the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior will be held in *Boston, Massachusetts on Monday, July 16 2001* in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Veterinary Medical Association. Our meeting will follow a similar format as last year with 20 minute presentations, regularly scheduled question and answer sessions, as well as an early evening poster session and reception. The annual AVSAB business meeting will be conducted during lunchtime.

The deadline for paper submission was *March 1, 2001*. Submitted abstracts are being reviewed and a program selected. Authors will be notified by April 15, 2001. A final abstract of 250 words or less will be required for papers and posters accepted for presentation. These abstracts will be printed in the AVSAB newsletter. We had wonderful presentations last year. I think everyone is eager to see what will be presented in 2001.

Dr. Petra A. Mertens

merte006@tc.umn.edu

Phone: (612) 625 0227

Fax (612) 624 0751

Listserv/Egroup Committee

The Yahoo Group is Alive and Well!

The evolution of our listserv into an eGroup (and then unexpectedly into a Yahoo Group) has happened in the last two months, and the dust is finally settling! We have 293 AVSAB members who are enrolled in the Yahoo Group, and the number is increasing daily. We have had postings on this eGroup (Yahoo Group) from AVSAB members that never were on the old listserv and this is very encouraging. Since most of you listed email addresses in our database, I decided to directly enroll all of the current full members, affiliates, and students. Having worked on NOAH for so many years, I assumed that communicating with colleagues via an electronic forum would be as important to you as it had been for me. Some of you have elected to "unsubscribe," but I hope you will reconsider and rejoin with the "web-only" option. Subscribing to the forum allows you to discuss clinical cases and timely issues, print recent AVSAB newsletters, register a vote when we hold a poll, and informs you of meetings and seminars. If you want to "lurk" and just read some messages occasionally without posting anything, that's OK too.

The eGroup takeover by Yahoo.com has been finalized now and you will see some minor differences. When you log onto www.egroups.com you will be logged onto the Yahoo.groups website and be prompted to "Convert my eGroup Account." You should click on that. Then you will register your eGroups password and your email address and that's it.

Here are some more things that I have learned about the new Yahoo Groups platform. You don't need a Yahoo ID unless you plan on visiting the website. However the website has the files (including the latest newsletters), the Calendar of behavior meetings, the Chat Room, and of course all the email messages that you can access from the net on any computer worldwide. Hopefully a member directory will be on the website soon.

The best feature of the Yahoo Group is being able to access the message board from any internet connection in any part of the world! This is very handy for our many international members. There are, unfortunately, a few bugs in the system, and some of you are seeing "phantom picture attachments" or missing an occasional email message. We are hoping that these glitches get worked out soon. In general, we have a reenergized veterinary behavior discussion group with many new members chiming in on excellent eclectic topics! Please feel free to email me at avsabe@yahoo.com or Dr. Ione Smith at amazondoc@mindspring.com if you have problems or want to join the Yahoo Group.

Steve Feldman DVM
Listserv Chairperson

Secretary/Treasurer Report

I want to thank all of you who have renewed your membership and responded to those obnoxious day-glow postcards and inserts. Keep in mind that US and international members alike can now use the secure PayPal online service where dues can be remitted directly to AVSAB by credit card (or debited from a US checking account).

If by chance you have not received your September or December 2000 newsletter, they are available on the Yahoo Group website in downloadable Adobe Acrobat format. If you are missing an issue, I can mail you a copy upon request. This March newsletter will also be uploaded to the website directly.

Steve Feldman, DVM
AVSAB Secretary -Treasurer

International Meeting Committee

Dr. Karen Overall
Committee Chairperson

The AVSAB Executive board voted to lend support to the 3rd Congress on Veterinary Behavioral Medicine in Vancouver.... \$1000.00 (intended to help fund the proceedings). The board also authorized the purchase of 50 proceedings to be sold to AVSAB members at a reduced fee.

Student Award Committee

The deadline for submission of papers for the Student Behavior Research Award has been extended until APRIL 1, 2001. Please encourage any veterinary students you know to submit. The award will also be advertised in the News section of the upcoming JAVMA.

AVSAB Award for Student Excellence In Applied Animal Behavior Research

[Deadline April 1, 2001]

Papers should be submitted to Dr. Ilana Reisner, P.O. Box 105, Brooktondale, NY 14817. The author must be a current veterinary student.

Papers must meet the following criteria:

- The paper must be in the format for application to a scientific publication. It must include a cover page, an abstract, materials and methods section, discussion, and references.
- Research must have been completed within the past calendar year.
- The paper should not have been previously published, and not yet received final acceptance for publication in a journal prior to the submission deadline.
- Three copies, double-spaced, and DEVOID OF ALL REFERENCES TO LOCATION AND AUTHOR, except for the cover page, should be sent to Dr. Ilana Reisner.

The recipient must attend and present their paper at the AVSAB Paper and Poster Presentation session held in conjunction with the AVMA Annual Meeting. The award will be given after the presentation of the paper at the AVSAB meeting. An abstract of the winning paper will be printed in the AVSAB newsletter. The award shall be **\$1500.00**.

From the Editor's Desk

I would like to thank Valli Parthasarathy for her article submission, Dr. Bonnie Beaver and the other committee chairpersons for their committee updates (and for their hard work), Drs. Debra Horwitz, Andrew Luescher, and Robert Miller for letting me know about upcoming seminars, and Dr. Barbara Simpson for her psychopharmacology series in past newsletters. They are wonderful references. Thank you, Barbara. I would also like to thank those of you who participate regularly on the eGroup. I do not have a lot of time to keep up with all the messages, but I read them all recently in order to grab some material for the newsletter, and your comments have been so interesting and lively. So even though you weren't aware that you were contributing to this installment of the newsletter, thank you for your input anyway. I would like to apologize for not including an announcement about Dr. Caroline Schaffer's very prestigious award in the December newsletter. I was trying to get it ready early to beat the holiday mail, and that information was left out. You can read about her (if you haven't already) in this edition. We are very proud to have you among us, Dr. Schaffer. The deadline for submissions for the June newsletter will be May 23, 2001. Cheers all!

Lynne Seibert DVM, MS

Behavior Referrals

Referrals in Southern California

(as posted on Yahoo Group):

I have been seeing cases down here in San Diego since 1987 and was appointed to head up the Behavior service down here (under Dr. Ben Hart who is Chief of Service for the whole UC Behavior program) in San Diego since 6/99 at the new U.C. Veterinary Medical Center- San Diego located in North San Diego County. Like up at our Davis service we also have clinical residents in Behavioral Medicine seeing cases down here on a rotating basis. We continue to welcome referrals of behavior.

Respectfully Patrick

Patrick Melese MA, DVM, DACVB

Behavior Service

University of California Veterinary Medical Center- San Diego

6525 Calle Del Nido P.O. Box 9115

Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

Phone: 858-759-6837 Fax: 858-759-9896

e-mail for clients and public: vetbehavior@vmth.ucdavis.edu

private e-mail for veterinarians and U.C. staff only: pymelese@ucdavis.edu

AVSAB Member Referrals

While you are certainly welcome to query the membership for members who are willing to take referrals in a specific locale, there's another way to get referral information. If you email me at avsabe@yahoo.com I can pull the names, boarded status, phone number, fax and email information and compile a list by state. These are members who have indicated to me that they will see behavior cases. When I send the list by snail mail or email (you must have MS Word for this) a disclaimer letter is sent with it.

Eventually with the new directory that will hopefully be published in the spring you can get the same information as I have in the database but the request by state method will always get you the most current information. Anyway, feel free to use the eGroups to find information of any sort as you have been doing! Just wanted to clarify the referral service protocol.

Steven Feldman DVM

Educational Opportunities

For those with an interest in substance detection and controlled aggression in working dogs, selective breeding, assessment, and behavior problems in working dogs, we have occasional opportunities available. If interested, please message me.

Walter F Burghardt, Jr, DVM, PhD, DACVB

Chief, Behavioral Medicine and Military Working Dog Studies
Department of Defense Military Working Dog Veterinary Service

1219 Knight Street Lackland Air Force Base, Texas 78236-5631

Telephone: (210) 671-3991, DSN 473 FAX: (210) 671-2308

E-mail: Walter.Burghardt@Lackland.af.mil

Veterinary Students

I would be happy to have a preceptor. They would see general practice as well as behavior. There would also be the opportunity for horse handling, riding and horsemanship observation and participation. I usually do only one day of behavior per week (2 or 3 appointments). If I knew a student was going to be here I could probably switch my schedule so we did more those weeks. We also often have dogs in for board and training that would provide the student with hands on experience in behavior modification. We do behavior counseling in every puppy visit, the student could observe and even provide some of this. A student would also have the opportunity of observing and assisting with classes taught by a trainer that I work with closely. We could provide transport from airport, housing (couch in living room or very primitive living quarters in horse trailer) and a car (truck) to drive, but no stipend. They would work hard. An interested party could email me at doctors@harborvet.com.

I have six to nine preceptorship positions available each year. The next opening is in the spring of 2002. More information is available at:

http://westwoodanimalhospital.com/externship_program.htm

Wayne Hunthausen DVM wayneh42@aol.com

Animal Behavior Consultations

<http://westwoodanimalhospital.com/>

4820 Rainbow Blvd. Westwood, KS 66205

(913) 362-2512 FAX (913) 677-0203

The program at the **University of Florida** includes two classes: one required ethology class (10 hours) in the freshman year and an elective companion animal behavior class (20 hours) in the junior year. They have a board-certified behaviorist come in for a week to teach each class.

The **University of Georgia** currently has one board certified behaviorist, one board eligible behaviorist and one clinical resident in behavior. In our current veterinary curriculum, there is a required course the freshman year and elective rotations on the behavior service the senior year. In addition, some behavior is incorporated by the behaviorists into the routine outpatient rotations of the senior year. Beginning next fall, the veterinary curriculum will change dramatically, with a decrease across the board in required curriculum and an increase in elective curriculum. The required behavior course will be moved to the sophomore year (primarily because the freshman year is too early in the curriculum for the psychopharmacology). During the sophomore and junior years there will be elective courses available in the diagnosis and treatment of behavior problems in (I) Dogs (II) Cats and (III) Horses.

We do take students from other veterinary colleges for senior year clinical rotations. Interested students should contact me directly regarding exact dates.

Sharon L. Crowell-Davis DVM, PhD, DACVB
University of Georgia Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Practitioners

“Practitioner Sabbaticals” are available for private practitioners who wish to come spend one to several weeks observing activities in the behavior service at the *University of Georgia*. Practitioner sabbaticals can potentially be arranged with any service, e.g. small animal medicine, neurology, behavior, etc. If you’re interested in a sabbatic with a different service, I’d be happy to let you know who to contact. Individuals who do a sabbatic with the behavior service attend a mixture of behavior cases, courses that are ongoing at the time of their attendance, and various meetings that the behavior group has throughout the week, e.g. rounds, discussions of ongoing research. Sometimes they directly observe ongoing research projects. They can also take advantage of such resources as my file cabinets, in which I have collected many publications on behavior, including some that are rare or difficult to get.

To arrange specific dates for a sabbatic with the behavior service, contact Dr. Sharon Crowell-Davis directly (scrowell@vet.uga.edu). Registration for a practitioner sabbatic is done through Ms. Sandi Kilgo, skilgo@vet.uga.edu, College of Veterinary Medicine

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602. Phone (706) 542-1451. 20 hours of CE credit is awarded for a 40 hour weeks attendance.

Sharon L. Crowell-Davis DVM, PhD, DACVB

Veterinary Behavior Residency at Purdue University

“Kenneth Scott Fellow in Animal Behavior and Population Medicine”

Institution: Purdue University
Address: Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences
1248 Lynn Hall, W. Lafayette, IN 47907-1248

The *Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine* is offering a two to three year clinical residency/graduate program in Veterinary Behavioral Medicine. The objectives of the residency program are:

- To advance the clinical skills of the resident in behavioral medicine of companion and food animals
- To provide necessary training to meet the credentials for the ACVB Board certification
- To provide experience in behavior related research
- To promote an understanding of animal learning, training, and human-animal interactions
- To provide experience in teaching veterinary and veterinary technology students, practicing veterinarians, and the public

These objectives are met under the supervision of an ACVB diplomate by giving the resident primary care responsibility for behavioral cases admitted through the small and large animal hospitals. The learning issues related these cases are discussed in resident and student rounds. In addition, journal clubs and resident seminars contribute to the education of the resident.

Aside from clinical behavioral medicine, the behavior clinic at Purdue University offers services in preventive behavioral medicine, grief counseling, and public and professional education. Contacts with many board-certified faculty members in various medical disciplines will allow for a broad scope of the resident’s education. Purdue University’s community practice provides a model for integration of behavioral services into small animal practice.

The residency position is integrated into the Purdue Center for Human Animal Bond, which is a leading research center assessing the quality and implications of the human animal bond. The residency can be combined with either a MS or PhD program. The research project will focus on pet management, behavior and welfare. An inter-departmental supervisory committee will review the progress of the resident at regular intervals.

Applicants must have a DVM degree or equivalent and have completed at least a 1-year internship or one year in practice. Application materials should include a complete resume, a letter indicating the reasons for seeking this program, the area of research interest, and the ways in which this training will be applied. Three letters of reference from professors or practicing veterinarians, and a university transcript also need to be provided. The application package should be mailed *no later than December 18, 2000* to Dr. A. Luescher. Interested candidates may request additional information by contacting Dr. A. Luescher @ Telephone 765-494-8775. E-mail luescher@vet.purdue.edu. Purdue University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Applications from minorities are encouraged.

Veterinary Behavior Residency at the University of Georgia

The next clinical residency position at the *University of Georgia* will be available in 2003. The residency here has a mandatory M.S. component, unless the individual enters already having an equivalent degree.

Individuals interested in a PhD degree in animal behavior combined with clinical behavior experience can apply to the graduate program. Individuals with sufficient qualifications to be acceptable as graduate students should be able to get at least minimal funding through the graduate school or other resources. Some form of assistantship is usually going to be critical (unless the individual is independently wealthy) since tuition and fees will be due for the coursework unless the individual is either a UGA employee or is funded through some sort of assistantship or fellowship. In these cases, tuition and fees are waived.

Sharon L. Crowell-Davis DVM, PhD, DACVB

Upcoming Meetings, Seminars and Call for Papers

National Meetings

2001 Midwest Regional Meeting of the Animal Behavior Society

We would like to invite all faculty and students interested in the study of animal behavior to the 2001 Midwest Regional Meeting of the Animal Behavior Society. The University of Missouri-Columbia will host this meeting on *March 16-18 of 2001*.

A group of graduate students and faculty have planned a variety of social and academic events in which to get acquainted and share ideas. Andy Sih from the Center for Ecology, Evolution and Behavior will present a plenary talk, and there will be an invited-speaker symposium on alternative mating tactics. In addition to oral presentations, we will host an informal poster session. To cap off the weekend, we will be hosting a dinner banquet on Saturday evening. We hope that many of you will be able to join us in Columbia, MO. To find out more about the meeting and registration, please go to our website at: www.mabs.missouri.edu. Registration can be completed over the web, or through the mail. Abstracts for presentations should be received by March 9th.

Sarah C. Humfeld, Mark A. Bee, Vincent T. Marshall, H. Carl Gerhardt, Rex Cocroft

March 24, 2001

Equine Behavior Seminar

Monterey County SPCA, Steinbeck Forum Theatre, Dr. Robert M. Miller. Contact Colleen Sayre (831) 724-2218.

April 20, 2001

Spring Conference on Feline Behavior

Bloomington, MN. University of Minnesota Extension Service, College of Veterinary Medicine, 800-380-8636, Drs. Horwitz and Mertens. Daylong behavior course on feline behavioral medicine.

April 21, 2001

Equine Behavior Seminar

Ventura County Farm Bureau, County Fairgrounds, Ventura, CA, Dr. Robert M. Miller. Contact Rex Laird (805) 289-0155.

May 9, 2001

Behavior Problems and Senior Dogs

Phoenix, AZ, Dr. Debra Horwitz.

June 3, 2001

Behavior Master Classes

(8:00 AM-5:00 PM), Athens, GA. For veterinarians only; In-depth discussions and case presentations on feline elimination behavior problems and human-directed canine aggression; 7.5 CE credits.

Drs. Crowell-Davis, Seibert, and Curtis; Contact Sandi Kilgo for registration information, (706) 542-1451, email: skilgo@vet.uga.edu.

June 3-17, 2001

Horseman's Roundup

Two weeks at the Home Ranch, Clark, CO, Dr. Robert M. Miller. Contact (970) 879-1780.

June 6-10, 2001

Southeastern Veterinary Conference

Myrtle Beach, SC, 9 hours of canine and feline behavior for veterinarians and veterinary technicians, Dr. Debra Horwitz.

July 14-19, 2001

AVMA Annual Meeting

Boston, MA, 2 days of behavior lectures (July 14, 15); www.avma.org; Conference registration: Advance: by April 12, Preconvention: by June 12, On-site: after June 12, 2001. Hotel reservation deadline through AVMA: no later than June 15.

July 16, 2001

American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior

Paper and poster presentations in association with AVMA.

July 26-August 1, 2001

Michigan Veterinary Medical Association Summer Conference

Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, MI, 6 hours on behavior, Dr. Debra Horwitz.

August 1-2, 2001

1st National Meeting of Nature in Legend and Story

(NILAS) held in conjunction with ISAE and International Society of Anthrozoology, University of California – Davis; theme: “Animals in Folklore and Literature.” See homepages: <http://www.hnet.msu.edu/~nilas/> / www.animalwelfare.ucdavis.edu.

August 21-25, 2001

Association of Avian Veterinarians Annual Conference

Orlando, FL, AAV Conference Office, 2121 South Oneida Street, Suite 325, Denver, CO 80224-2552, 303-756-8380, Fax 303-759-8861, Email: AAVConfOfc@aol.com; www.ConferenceOffice.com/aav. Behavior section speakers - TBA

November 17-18, 2001

Psychopharmacology in Animal Behavior Disorders

14 CE credits

Georgia Center for Continuing Education, University of Georgia Teaching Hospital
Drs. Crowell-Davis, Curtis, Seibert, Murray

November – December, 2001

Deadline for submissions for AVSAB Paper/Poster presentations at AVSAB 2002 in Nashville, TN

Purdue University Veterinary Behavior Seminar 2001

The Animal Behavior Clinic at Purdue University wants to expand its impact to the veterinary commu-

nity and the general public. We are therefore committed to continuing education of veterinarians, veterinary technicians and other individuals who work with pet animals, such as trainers and groomers. Our goal is to make the different professions work together in a team effort to help owners to enjoy their pets, and to reduce behavior-related relinquishment and euthanasia.

The basic concept of our courses is that we want veterinarians to diagnose behavior problems and to devise a treatment regimen. With that, they can then refer their clients to trained veterinary technicians or trainers for help with the everyday, hands-on training of the patients.

We offer a course called DOGS!, primarily for veterinary technicians and dog trainers. In this course, we teach the participants basic principles of learning, training and behavior modification, and their practical application to treatment of behavior problems of dogs. In that course, we do not teach how to diagnose behavior problems, since diagnosis, and especially differential diagnoses, and the establishment of a treatment protocol, are the role of the veterinarian.

We perceive that there is a need for continuing education for veterinarians, so that they are more comfortable in diagnosing and treating behavior problems, and thus can better fulfill their role on the team. We therefore offer a yearly course on selected behavior problems. This *course is for veterinarians and veterinary technicians only*. This year the course will take place in October (exact date to be determined). The topic is anxiety-related behavior problems. Diagnosis, differential diagnoses, treatment and prognosis of anxiety-related problems such as fear, separation anxiety and

compulsive disorder will be presented. Participants are encouraged to bring in their own cases for discussion. Speakers will be *Dr. Barbara Simpson* from North Carolina, and *Dr. Andrew Luescher*. We look forward to seeing you there.

Andrew Luescher DVM PhD DACVB

May 2002

DOGS!



Principles and Techniques of Behavior Modification

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:
- 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 op-

portunity 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 or certified animal behaviorist 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/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! 2002 T-shirt, and a trip to Wolf Park.

Email Julie Shaw, R.V.T., Animal Behavior Technologist (shaw@vet.purdue.edu) with your mailing address if you would like to be added to the DOGS! 2002 waiting list. People on the waiting list will be sent registration information in early March 2002. The first 40 registrants will be accepted into the DOGS! 2002 course.

International Meetings

May 2-4, 2001

Ontario Ecology and Ethology Conference

University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario
www.uoguelph.ca/CBS/conferences/oec.index

August 2-4, 2001

International Society for Anthrozoology

"Human-Animal Conflict"
University of California - Davis
<http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/CCAB/ISAZ.htm>

August 4-8, 2001

The 35th Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology

will be held at the University of California, Davis (to be held sequentially with the International Society for Anthrozoology meeting and Nature in Legend and Story meeting. There will be a discounted registration fee for individuals who register for more than one meeting). For all further details please follow the links on the Congress home page at: <http://animalwelfare.ucdavis.edu/conference/ethology/ethologyconf.html>

ISAE 2001, c/o the Center for Animal Welfare, 3202 Meyer Hall, One Shields Avenue, University of California, Davis, CA 95616; Email: isae2001@asmail.ucdavis.edu.

August 7-8, 2001

3rd International Congress on Veterinary Behavioral Medicine

(in association with WSAVA); Vancouver, BC Canada. 23 speakers, 40+ posters, over 15 countries represented.

Contact Venue West Conference Services, 645-375 Water Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 5C6 Canada, (604) 681-5226, Fax (604) 681-2503, email: congress@venuewest.com.

August 22-29, 2001

The 27th International Ethological Congress

Tuebingen, Germany
<http://homepages.uni-tuebingen.de/ethology01>; Email: ethology01@uni-tuebingen.de

September 13-15, 2001

9th International Conference on Human-Animal Interactions

"People and Animals, a Global Perspective for the 21st Century" Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Contact conference secretariat at AFIRAC, 32 rue de Treviso, 75009 Paris, France; email: rio2001@i-et-e.fr; www.afirac.org.

September 17-21, 2001

International Conference on Canid Biology and Conservation

Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, Oxford University; plenary and poster sessions

First Call For Paper Submissions: canid systematics, paleontology, ecology, behaviour, physiology, genetics, management, and conservation biology.

Contact: Dr. Claudio Sillero, Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, Zoology Dept, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PS, UK; email: Claudio.sillero@zoo.ox.ac.uk.

Equine Behavioral Pharmacotherapy References

Questions for AVSAB Members...

How do you treat cribbing in horses? Which psychoactive medications have you used in equine patients?

Bagshaw CS, Ralston SL, Fisher H. Behavioral and physiological effects of orally-administered tryptophan on horses subjected to acute isolation stress. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 40(1): 1-12, 1994.

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fects of diazepam. *Physiol Behav* 37: 503-505, 1986.

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Nurnberg HG, Keith SJ, Paxton DM. Consideration of the relevance of ethological animal models for human repetitive behavioral spectrum disorders. *Biological Psychiatry* 41(2): 226-229, 1997.

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Wilkins PA. Cyproheptadine: medical treatment for photic headshakers. *Compendium* 19(1): 98-111, 1997.

Welcome New Members!

Regular Members

Dr. Richard Berta
Newnan, GA

Dr. Thomas Eshbach
Fredericksburg, VA

Dr. Michael Good
Marietta, GA

Dr. Julie Flood
Virginia Beach, VA

Dr. Mary Smith
Ft. Collins, CO

Dr. Tony Buffington
Columbus, OH

Dr. Karen Wylie
Calhoun, GA

Dr. Lori Gutzmann
Santa Barbara, CA

Dr. Joyce Carnevale
Charlotte, NC

Dr. Katrina Gregory
Victoria, Australia

Dr. Carrie Gartrell
Troutdale, OR

Dr. Chaitanya Nolan
APO, AE

Dr. Sabine Schroll
Krems, AUSTRIA

Dr. Trisha O'Mara
Manhattan, KS

Dr. Ilona Rodan
Madison, WI

Dr. Kay Stephens
Navasota, TX

Affiliate Members

Dr. Joseph Stookey
Saskatoon CANADA

Student Members

Ms. Karen Sueda
Davis, CA

Mr. Clinton Dolen
Knoxville, TN

Ms. Joanna Krol
Ithaca, NY

Ms. Sara Barnhart
Madison, WI

Ms. Angela Rawlings
Columbus, OH

Subscription Members

Ms. Gaye Nelle Wyatt
New Market, TN

Ms. Julie Jackson
Richmond, VA

Ms. Michele McGrath
Dublin, OH

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

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