

Friday, September 18, 2009

Cardiac and Abdominal Ultrasound Wet Lab – Lee Garrod, DVM, DACVECC
8:30am to 4pm – 6 CE Credits

External Fixation Wet Lab – Geoffrey Clark, DVM, DACVS
12:30pm to 4:00pm – 3 CE Credits

Communications Workshop – Jim Humphries, DVM
8:45am to 3:45pm

Saturday, September 19, 2009 – 8:00am to 5:15pm – 6 CE Credits

Small Animal

Internal Medicine – Todd Tams, DVM, DACVIM

Orthopedics – Donald A. Hulse, DVM, DACVS

Feline Behavior – Hazel Carney, DVM, DABVP

Practice Management – Karyn Gavzer, MBA, CVPM

Equine – Thomas J. Divers, DVM, DACVIM, DACVECC

Technician Program – Rehabilitation - Sandra Hudson

Sunday, September 20, 2009 – 8:00am to 4:00pm – 6 CE Credits

Small Animal

Ophthalmology – Wendy Townsend, DVM, MS, DACVO

Canine & Feline Rehabilitation – Sandra Hudson

Practice Management – Charlotte Lacroix, DVM, JD

Equine – Omar Maher, DVM, DACVS

Technician Program – Feline Behavior – Hazel Carney, DVM, DABVP

**Cardiac and Abdominal Ultrasound Wet Lab – Lee Garrod, DVM, DACVECC
Friday, September 18th, 8:30am to 4pm – 6 CE Credits – Limit 16 participants**

This lab will focus on point-of-care ultrasound in general practice. Ultrasound should be in the hands of the veterinarian, whether in the emergency clinic, the referral hospital, or a veterinary institution. The ability to perform basic ultrasound examinations can improve patient care within the scope of a general practice. How can ultrasound help? It can be used as a point-of-care tool to diagnose intra-thoracic, intra-abdominal fluid collections, improve patient procedural safety and accuracy (cystocentesis, abdominocentesis, thoracocentesis), abdominal organ abnormalities, trauma evaluations, pericardial evaluations, lung sonography and evaluation of acute respiratory distress, and is it heart or is it not? Ultrasound has many applications that can help the veterinarian in making more accurate decisions, and perform procedures with greater patient safety.

Lee Garrod, DVM, DACVECC received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada in 1989. She worked at Tufts University as a Resident in both Emergency & Critical Care Medicine and Cardiology from 1993 to 1996. She worked for New England Veterinary Specialists before starting Veterinary Critical Care in 2002 and then in 2008, opening The Veterinary Emergency, Critical Care and Cancer Treatment Center of New Hampshire, the first cancer treatment and critical care center in New Hampshire and one that focuses on the client; with overnight facilities for clients who wish to remain close with their hospitalized pets. She is currently a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Medicine. The center provides medicine consultations and critical care services including ultrasounds, cardiac consultations endoscopy, and bronchoscopy to patients of animal hospitals throughout New England, in addition to cancer treatment and surgery services.

External Fixation Wet Lab – Geoffrey Clark, DVM, DACVS
Friday, September 18th, 12:30pm to 4:00pm – 3 CE Credits

This laboratory is designed to introduce the concepts of applying an external fixator to fractures. Unilateral and bilateral fixators will be applied to plastic bones using the Securos External Fixator System, the most widely used fixator system in the US and Europe. Proper technique will be emphasized including pre-drilling pin holes; use of positive profile pins; proper use of full or half pins, and tricks on fracture reduction and alignment.

Geoffrey Clark, DVM, DACVS, an orthopedic specialist, is a 1986 graduate of the University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and became Board-certified in surgery in 1992. In 1999, he started Veterinary Surgery of New England, a mobile surgical referral practice based in Durham, NH.

Communications Workshop – Jim Humphries, DVM
Friday, September 18th
Morning Session: 8:45am - 12:00noon

Media training has become mandatory for business executives and professionals. Take it from *The New York Times*: "*The chances of an executive getting through his or her career without facing the press are growing slim indeed.*"

Do you want newspaper coverage that reflects what you've actually said? Would you like TV stations to use your best quotes? Would you like to professionally and ethically promote your hospital using the power of the press? That's what Media Communications Training can do for you. You should learn how media people think, how you can approach TV and radio with a good solid news story, learn how to avoid being taken out of context and how to get your message across *no matter what they ask!*

Media training is also an excellent foundation for ALL types of communications skills. Client communications become more focused, more clear and consume less time when these same media training techniques are applied to the exam room.

This morning intense workshop will be divided into four sections:

1. How To Sell Your Story To The Media
2. What To Do When The Media Calls
3. Essential Interview Skills
4. Mock Interview Practice!

In this seminar you will learn:

1. How to develop a relationship with members of the media
2. How to turn that into valuable publicity for your practice or your association
3. How to react properly when the media calls you – even in a crisis
4. What questions to ask before deciding to do an interview.
5. How to anticipate the questions you will receive
6. How to craft your answers
7. How to develop message points from these answers
8. How to bridge to positive points

Afternoon Session: 1:30pm - 3:45pm

Using The Power Of The Press and the "New Media" To Promote Your Practice

Whether your practice is well established or you are planning a grand opening, you will want publicity to be a part of your marketing strategy. Media attention draws crowds, establishes your credibility and brings in clients already convinced that you are the right service provider for them.

Professional Promotional Techniques For Veterinary Practice

Managing a veterinary practice can be expensive. The clever use of promotion techniques can dramatically increase new clients, referrals and help practices grow. This lecture spells out the top 24 promotion and publicity techniques that are proven to work. It covers marketing mistakes and basic techniques of approaching media for free publicity.

Jim Humphries, DVM is a 1977 graduate of Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine and has spent 24 years in the public media.

Dr. Humphries built a full-time media career from a once a week reporter slot on the ABC affiliate in Dallas-Ft. Worth to appearances with CNN Morning News, Discovery, Animal Planet, and many others. Jim was the regular veterinarian on CBS The Early Show for 12 years.

Jim has served as spokesperson on 24 national media tours and has given well over 4,500 television interviews. His talk radio show was syndicated in over 1,200 radio stations and has written columns for major newspapers and magazines.

He currently heads The Veterinary News Network, a network of 400 veterinary reporters delivering local news reports in the US and Canada. He is the President of the American Society of Veterinary Journalists.

Small Animal - Internal Medicine – Todd Tams, DVM, DACVIM
Saturday, September, 19th – 8:00am to 5:15pm

Small Animal Gastroenterology & Wellness Programs

Session 1: The Vomiting Pet: Diagnosis and Therapeutics

Vomiting (a clinical sign of an enormous variety of disorders that can involve any organ system in the body!) is amongst the most common reasons that dogs and cats are presented for evaluation. This presentation provides the attendees with a systematic approach to the diagnosis and management of vomiting in companion animals. Dietary sensitivity, gastric hypomotility, use of antiemetics, and esophagitis, an important sequela to vomiting in some animals, as well as the more common causes of vomiting in cats will all be discussed.

Session 2: Acute and Chronic Diarrhea in Dogs and Cats

The best diagnostic approach for the problems of both acute and chronic diarrhea will be reviewed. Emphasis will be on Giardia, Clostridium perfringens enterotoxigenesis, cryptosporidiosis, Tritrichomonas foetus of cats, inflammatory bowel disease and chronic colitis in both dogs and cats. Therapy will be discussed for each of the disorders, including the benefits and appropriate use of probiotics in the overall management of diarrhea and maintenance of gastrointestinal health.

Session 3: Update on the Management of Liver Disease in Companion Animals

This presentation will provide an overview of the pros and cons of liver screening tests as well as discussions of the clinical utility of bile acids and liver biopsy techniques (including the benefits of laparoscopy). Chronic active hepatitis, cholangiohepatitis, hepatic lipidosis in cats, recognition and management of steroid hepatopathy and copper hepatotoxicosis will be covered. Conventional therapies, newer drugs and the use of nutritional supplements for the management of liver diseases in dogs and cats will be reviewed, richly illustrated with case examples.

Session 4: Wellness Programs in General Practice: What, Why and How to Implement

This lecture reaffirms the rationale for routinely testing apparently well patients, covers the components of test programs for both younger and older pets and ways to successfully implement wellness testing. Case examples will be shown with an emphasis on follow up once abnormalities have been identified. The importance of maintaining health and preventing disease, through a multi-modal approach embracing proper weight management, diet, exercise and supplements (including long chain Omega-3 fatty acids, chondroprotectants, and antioxidants) will be highlighted.

Todd Tams, DVM, DACVIM received his DVM degree from Ohio State University and joined a mixed practice in Vermont. He subsequently completed an internship at the West Los Angeles Animal Hospital, followed by a residency in internal medicine at Colorado State University. He was a staff internist at the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston and achieved board certification in internal medicine. Dr. Tams is now Chief Medical Officer for Veterinary Centers

of America, as well as a staff internist at the VCA West Los Angeles Animal Hospital. Dr. Tams was named as a Distinguished Alumnus of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2000. Dr. Tams has published two textbooks and has presented numerous seminars in the U.S. and abroad on his special interest area of gastroenterology.

Small Animal - Orthopedics – Donald A. Hulse, DVM, DACVS
Saturday, September 19th, 8:00am – 5:15pm

Session 1: Cranial Cruciate Ligament Injury in the dog and cat; new methods of treatment for the practicing veterinarian.

This topic will focus upon methods for the diagnosis of partial ACL injuries. Physical findings and imaging modalities will be used to differentiate between lameness caused by hip pathology vs lameness caused by knee pathology. Current thoughts on isometric extra-articular repair of CCL injury and meniscal injury will be addressed. Additionally, post operative care and management of complications are discussed

Session 2: The problematic forelimb lameness in the dog

this topic will address conditions causing forelimb lameness in dogs. Signalment, history, physical findings will be applied to discussions of clinical cases to enable the attending Veterinarian to differentiate between conditions causing forelimb lameness. Emphasis will be placed upon modalities to differentiate between shoulder problems and elbow problems.

Session 3: Decision making in fracture treatment

The focus of this lecture is methods to make appropriate choices in cases having sustained a fracture. Considerations such as biologic factors, the application of direct vs indirect reduction technique, and clinical considerations will be addressed. This lecture is a prelude to the application of implant systems. New fracture fixation systems (LCP, CRIF) will be presented.

Session 4: Tips for surgical management of rear limb joint problems

This lecture will focus on the conservative and surgical management of the juvenile and adult dog having lameness associated with hip dysplasia. Practical tips for modalities such as femoral head and neck ostectomy, rehabilitation, and medical treatment for the painful hip will be addressed.

Donald A. Hulse, DVM, DACVS graduated from Texas A&M in 1970 and completed his surgical training at Kansas State University in 1973. Commencing in 1970 and continuing until his appointment as a Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Texas A&M University in 1984, Dr. Hulse served as a clinician in general practice and as a Staff Surgeon at Louisiana State University and Oklahoma State University. He successfully fulfilled the requirements for admission into the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1977. He is a recognized leader in veterinary orthopedics and is frequently an invited speaker at National and International Veterinary conferences. He has developed techniques commonly used for treatment of bone and joint disorders in dogs and is a co-author of *Small Animal Arthroscopy*. His clinical research interests focus on minimally invasive surgery for joint disorders and for fracture treatment.

Small Animal - Feline Behavior – Hazel Carney, DVM, DABVP
Saturday, September 19th, 8:00am to 5:15pm

Session 1: If You Want to See More Cat Patients, Your Clinic Must be Cat Friendly

Owners bring cats to veterinarians less and less often because clinic visits “upset the cat.” This lecture offers suggestions about how to make any clinic cat friendly. This lecture gives a potpourri of hints for successful restraint, medicating, hospitalization and boarding of cats.

Session 2: You Can't Blame the Cat's Mind if its Body is Sick: how to do a thorough physical exam on all cats that present for behavior problems

This lecture shows how a cat doctor successfully looks in all the nooks and crannies of a cat's body. It contains hints about clinical problems that appear as subtle physical exam findings.

Session 3: How a Practicing Cat Doctor Approaches Feline Out of Potty Cases

Primary clinicians can solve the majority of feline OOP problems if the veterinarian understands what motivates the cat to leave the litter box and what encourages the cat to return to it. This lecture gives a step-wise approach to the diagnosis and management of feline OOP cases.

Session 4: How Feline Feeding Behavior Affects Medical Case Management

This discussion integrates feline behavior with nutritional precepts. It will offer some novel ways to use eating habits to optimize cat health, to help sick cats to recover and to more successfully diet fat cats.

Hazel Carney, DVM, MS, DABVP graduated in 1981 from Colorado State University Vet. School. She also has an M.S. in Physiology and Biophysics. She has practiced feline medicine exclusively since 1982 when she opened the 13th registered feline only clinic in the US. She was an adjunct professor at Louisiana State University vet school for 10 years and developed the Louisiana Veterinary Nuclear Medicine Group. In 1986 she started providing I-131 therapy. In 1989 she published the first report of a papovavirus in cats. She achieved ABVP Diplomate status in 1994 and re-certified in 2004. She has lectured and published in the areas of feline medicine and behavior, most recently being one of the authors of the *Feline Behavior Guidelines* released through the AAFP. She is a member of AVMA, IdahoVMA and AAFP as well as her local association. She currently sees referral patients in the Treasure Valley area of the Idaho-Oregon border as well as provides I-131 therapy.

Practice Management – Karyn Gavzer, MBA, CVPM
Saturday, September 19th, 8:00am to 5:15pm

Session 1: Ideas, Strategies & Tips to Survive & Thrive in a Tough Economy

People's behavior changes in different economic scenarios. Learn new ideas, strategies and tips to use now to protect your practice and survive and thrive in today's uncertain economy.

Session 2: 5 Future Trends to Understand & Use in Practice

Veterinary practices, like all businesses today, face the need to reinvent themselves in response to changing consumer expectations or risk falling behind. Learn how to harness trends that can work for you and use them to stay ahead in practice.

Session 3: Uncommonly commonsense answers to key marketing questions in practice

There are so many marketing choices today that it can be hard to know what to spend money on and what not to. Learn commonsense answers to key marketing questions in practice that will save you money and help you make smart marketing choices to grow your practice.

Session 4: Teamwork! Why it works & what to do when it doesn't

Today, it takes a winning team to run a successful practice. No one person can know it all or do it all alone. Today is the age of teamwork and getting it right has never been more important but even the best practices make mistakes. Learn the common mistakes to avoid and how to get teamwork right in your practice.

Karyn Gavzer, MBA, CVPM is a practice management consultant specializing in marketing and training. She says her job is to help practices “go and grow” with new ideas and practical plans. She has worked with industry, associations, and veterinary practices for over 18 years. She is best known, however, as the former director of marketing for the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) where she created public campaigns with industry, such as “Pets Need Dentistry, Too” and training programs to help veterinarians and their staffs market their services more effectively.

Karyn is one of less than 200 certified veterinary hospital managers (CVPM) in North America. She is a member of the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), an AAHA faculty member and one of the founders of VetPartners (formerly the Association of Veterinary Practice Management Consultants and Advisors).

She is particularly well known for helping practices with strategic planning and with implementing improvements from the AAHA compliance study. She is a sought-after consultant, speaker and writer on this and other management and marketing issues. Above all else, Karyn says she is a pet lover and one of the people that walk through the front door of your office every day. She makes a point of sharing that perspective in all of her work.

Equine – Thomas J. Divers, DVM, DACVIM, DACVECC
Saturday, September 19th, 8:00am to 5:15pm

Session 1: Equine medicine news hour- this 1 1/2 hr presentation will review some of the highlights on newer discoveries in equine medicine that was published in the past 12 months.

Session 2: Equine Lyme Disease- What we know and don't know about this controversial disease

Session 3: Equine Endocrine Disorders- management of equine metabolic syndrome and Cushing's disease

Session 4: Maximizing the Use of laboratory testing in equine practice- When to test, what to test for

Thomas J. Divers, DVM, DACVIM, DACVECC is a professor in the Department of Clinical Sciences at Cornell University, College of Veterinary Medicine. He received his DVM at the University of Georgia, and after completing an internship in Equine Medicine at the University of California, School of Veterinary Medicine he went on to complete a Residency in Large Animal Internal Medicine at the University of Georgia. Dr. Divers is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. He is internationally renowned for his expertise in equine neurological diseases and has been awarded many teaching and research awards and has published and lectured extensively on his research.

**Technician Program – Canine & Feline Rehabilitation - Sandra Hudson
Saturday, September 19th, 8:00am to 5:15pm – Limit 30 participants**

This is a hands on session with both cats and dogs used in the afternoon. Topics to be covered include the following:

- 1. Outcome Measurements** - This course will focus on the outcome measurements that help determine how an animal is progressing as objectively as possible. Gait analysis, range of motion, and thigh circumference are among the measurements that will be covered.
- 2. Rehabilitation Modalities for the Cat** - This course will focus on specific modalities and techniques designed to reduce pain and return the cat to as normal movement as possible following surgery. Immediate post-op recovery to conditioning and gait training will be covered.
- 3. Aquatic Therapy** - Aquatic therapy is the use of the therapeutic properties of water to provide appropriate exercises for strength, range of motion and endurance while reducing the risk of injury. This course will cover the information and techniques to optimize exercise in the underwater treadmill.
- 4. Canine Rehabilitation Exercise Therapy** - Canine exercise therapy is an active rehabilitation technique using the dog's natural ability to perform activities. This course will cover the specific exercises and training techniques designed to return the dog to function sooner and to lessen the risk of future injuries.

Sandra Hudson graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Animal Science. She is recognized nationally and internationally in the area of canine exercise therapy and conditioning. Sandra is committed to continuing education and has extensive training in

rehabilitation methods and modalities including electrical stimulation, therapeutic ultrasound, and aquatic therapy. She is a consultant with the Texas A&M rehabilitation unit and has completed the certification program for Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner from the University of Tennessee (NES).

Small Animal - Ophthalmology – Wendy Townsend, DVM, MS, DACVO
Sunday, September 20th, 8:00am to 4:00pm

Feline Ophthalmology: Herpes to Hypertensive Retinal Detachments. Sessions I and II. Do you dread the cat with an ocular complaint? Fear no more. We'll cover the common feline ocular problems over these two, 90-minute sessions. Lesion recognition, common sense diagnostic approaches, and treatment plans that cats and their owners can tolerate will be emphasized.

Canine Ophthalmology: A to Z. Sessions III and IV. Is a dog with a red eye one of your favorite appointments? Do you feel comfortable with your eye examination skills? Do you know which ophthalmic drugs are worth stocking in your practice? Unless you answered yes to all of above questions, these two, 90-minute sessions will be valuable to you. We'll cover common canine ocular complaints, the key examination skills needed to make the correct diagnosis, and the latest drugs to use as you battle canine ocular disease.

Wendy Townsend, DVM, MS, DACVO is currently a faculty member at Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. A native of Lexington, Ky., Dr. Townsend earned her veterinary degree at Auburn University in 1995. She then joined a private mixed-animal practice in western New York State for 3 years before completing a small animal internship and ophthalmology residency at Purdue University. She strongly believes in taking a common sense, practical approach to the eye.

Small Animal - Canine & Feline Rehabilitation – Sandra Hudson
Sunday, September 20th, 8:00am to 4:00pm – Limit 30 participants

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Practice Management – Charlotte Lacroix, DVM, JD
Sunday, September 20th, 8:00am to 4:00pm

Session 1: Ethical Practice. It Ain't easy and its Getting Tougher

If practicing veterinary medicine was only about providing quality medical care, life would be easy. Too often medical decisions are complicated by “doing the right thing”. For example, 1) a pet's new owner requests to see the pet's medical records when it was owned by a former owner; 2) a kennel calls your office about one of its boarders that has bitten a kennel worker and wants to know if the dog had a rabies shot, or 3) you see a case treated by your colleague that is clearly malpractice and the client wants to know what went wrong. Ethical decision making is often challenging and this presentation will present some tools to facilitate the process.

Session 2: Why Veterinarians Should Take an Active Role in Preventing Animal Abuse

Because of the growing awareness of the potential link between animal abuse and family violence, it is likely that society is going to expect veterinarians to take on a greater role in preventing animal abuse. Additionally, the profession needs to take a closer look at what animal restraint techniques may be considered animal cruelty under current laws. Several veterinarians across the country have either been convicted or are being brought up on charges of animal cruelty based on their animal restraint techniques. The goal of this presentation is to sensitize veterinarians to this problem and suggest ways on how veterinarians can recognize and help reduce the incidence of animal cruelty.

Session 3: Everyday Zoonosis Lead to Everyday Lawsuits for Veterinarians
(12:45pm to 1:45pm)

The human-animal bond has evolved such that animals are often considered part of the family. This closeness has put our clients at greater risk of acquiring certain diseases. Zoonotic

transmission of viruses, bacteria and internal parasites poses a significant public health concern. Consequentially, the veterinarians play an integral role in preserving human health by addressing the problem in their patients. Veterinarians have a responsibility to educate clients and staff about the risks of disease transmission as well as adopt appropriate prophylaxis measures to prevent or limit such diseases. This lecture will address the principles of liability as well as some of the protections veterinarians can put in place to limit their liability.

Session 4: Practice Sales for Baby Boomers (2:00pm to 4:00pm)

Buying or selling a veterinary practice is an exciting opportunity for the parties involved. But as with all significant opportunities, there are also risks and pitfalls of which veterinarians should be aware of when they plan to buy or sell an interest in a veterinary practice. The best way for veterinarians to minimize the risks and avoid the pitfalls surrounding the purchase or sale of a veterinary practice is to gain a thorough understanding of how such practices are bought and sold and the principal business and legal issues that come up in these transactions. This presentation sets forth a general outline of the issues purchasers and sellers should consider in transferring the ownership of a veterinary practice.

Charlotte A. Lacroix, DVM, JD owns and manages Veterinary Business Advisors, Inc., a consulting firm which advises veterinarians and attorneys nationwide on veterinary business and legal issues. Dr. Lacroix received her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine in 1988 from the University of California at Davis. After completing a large animal internship at the University of Guelph (Ontario, Canada), she worked for several years at an equine medical and surgical referral practice serving northern New Jersey's large equine community. In pursuit of her goal to make greater contributions to the veterinary profession, Dr. Lacroix attended law school and receive her Juris Doctor from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Dr. Lacroix's legal and consulting activities include: legal document preparation and negotiation; assisting practice owners in selecting and forming business entities; advising on all aspects of veterinary partnerships, including associate buy-ins, specialty and general practice governance and management, and partner retirement and withdrawals; negotiating and facilitating the purchase and sale of practices of all types; consulting on specialty practice "shared leases" and other commercial leases; assisting with all employment law issues; and advising on malpractice cases, animal law and other legal and business problems. Dr. Lacroix is also an enthusiastic adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Lacroix is a regular contributor to JAVMA, Veterinary Economics, DVM Magazine, Veterinary Forum, Partners in Practice and AAHA publications. She has written numerous other articles, contributed to several books, and appeared on radio and television.

Equine – Omar Maher, DVM, DACVS
Sunday, September 20th, 8:00am to 4:00pm

Lameness and poor performance in sport horses:

Session 1: Lameness conditions related to the distal extremity.

Session 2: Lameness condition related to the hock region.

Session 3: Ultrasound guided injections and procedures, applications in the field.

Session 4: Cervical stiffness, back pain and sacro-iliac pain in sport horses; Laparoscopy

Omar Maher, DVM, DACVS has a doctorate degree in Veterinary Medicine at the Hassan II Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Studies in Rabat, Morocco, interned at the National Veterinary School in Lyon, France, and participated in multiple externships, including one at the Equine Hospital of the University of Montreal's School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Maher recently completed a three year residency program in Equine Surgery and Lameness at the University of California at Davis and is a board certified veterinary surgeon. Dr. Maher's areas of expertise include high level sport horse lameness and maintenance, minimally invasive surgery (arthroscopy and laparoscopy), airway laser surgery, gastro-intestinal surgery and advanced imaging such as MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) and CT (Computed Tomography). Dr Maher has lectured and published nationwide and internationally on various topics including lameness in sport horses, back pain in horses, new therapeutics for equine orthopedics (stem cells, PRP, IRAP, Tildren...), pre-purchase examination for elite sport horses, and the diagnosis and treatment of soft tissue lesions of the foot using contrast enhanced computed tomography. He answered owner's questions on advanced diagnosis and treatment of lameness in June 2006 as the Expert of the Month for the American Association of Equine Practitioners and will provide that service again in July 2009.

Technician Program – Feline Behavior – Hazel Carney, DVM, MS, DABVP
Sunday, September 20th, 8:00am to 4:00pm

Session 1: Why Does a Cat Do Such Weird Things?

This lecture will give scientific answers to cat lore questions such as “why do cats eat grass,” “how do cats purr,” “can cats predict storms,” and many others that owners often ask.

Session 2: How to Grow a Good Cat: Start with a Good Kitten

What a kitten does, whether good or bad, it will do all its life unless veterinary hospital staff can help an owner mold the kitten's behavior. This lecture will explain kitten personality genetics, social development and behavior modification techniques.

Session 3: Preventing Feline Out of Potty Problems

This lecture will give techs a better understanding of feline eliminations behavior, suggests important questions for techs to ask clients and will encourage techs to work with their veterinarians to develop client education programs that will decrease feline OOP behaviors.

Session 4: Cat Fights

Feline aggression is the second most likely reason a cat will be relinquished to a shelter. This discussion explains the various forms of feline aggression, how to prevent the onset and escalation of problems and how to handle aggressive cats in clinics and homes.

Hazel Carney, DVM, MS, DABVP graduated in 1981 from Colorado State University Vet. School. She also has an M.S. in Physiology and Biophysics. She has practiced feline medicine exclusively since 1982 when she opened the 13th registered feline only clinic in the US. She was an adjunct professor at Louisiana State University vet school for 10 years and developed the Louisiana Veterinary Nuclear Medicine Group. In 1986 she started providing I-131 therapy. In 1989 she published the first report of a papovavirus in cats. She achieved ABVP Diplomate status in 1994 and re-certified in 2004. She has lectured and published in the areas of feline medicine and behavior, most recently being one of the authors of the *Feline Behavior Guidelines* released through the AAFP. She is a member of AVMA, IdahoVMA and AAFP as well as her local association. She currently sees referral patients in the Treasure Valley area of the Idaho-Oregon border as well as provides I-131 therapy.