2018 Veterinary Technician Continuing Education Conference

Morning Lectures

- **“Don’t Go Breaking My Heart: Anesthesia in the Cardiac Compromised Patient”:** An overview of common cardiac diseases and ideas on how to safely anesthetize these patients.

- **“There’s Nothing Basic About Baseline Bloodwork”:** A lot of information can be gained on your patient based on the “Big 4” basic bloodwork. But as technology and veterinary medicine advances, many practices consider a blood gas to be basic as well. Learn what various parameters are, what they may indicate, and how to potentially treat based on the results. Discussion will also include an introduction to acid-base and electrolyte derangements.

- **“Small Animal Orthopedic Gait Analysis”:** TBD

- **“Feeding the Critically Ill Patient”:** Feeding tubes are an accepted way of providing nutritional support for animals unable or unwilling to consume adequate calories on their own. This lecture will provide information on the indications for use of feeding tubes in small animals, the types of tubes available, and ways to initiate nutritional support once the tubes are in place. The pros and cons of the various tubes are discussed, as well as potential complications.

- **“Cancer Cytology: What the Cell Are We Looking At?”:** Cell cytology can be difficult for every the most experienced veterinary professional. In this lecture, we will discuss the nuclear and cytoplasmic features of cells to help distinguish neoplastic cells from other abnormalities seen on cytology.

- **“What’s That Twitching?: Seizures vs. Non-Seizures in Dogs and Cats”:** Seizures are a disorder seen in every aspect of veterinary medicine, from the general practitioner to specialty medicine. Many other metabolic and systemic diseases, however, can mimic seizure activity. This presentation will review seizures and their origin, but will also explore other disease processes that can manifest as a seizure-like appearance.

- **“Small Animal Ocular Anatomy and Pharmacology”:** A detailed introduction to the structures and function of the eye along with a discussion of topical ocular medications and how they work.
• **“Medication Education: Pharmacology Review for Technicians”:** This lecture will provide a brief overview of medication education for various medications commonly administered in a veterinary hospital setting. An emphasis will be placed on important considerations regarding patient safety such as drug interactions and special administration information. There will also be a brief introduction to how to establish a patient safety program in your practice and/or perform patient safety and quality rounds to inspire improvements in hospital practices and procedures.

• **“Follow the Flow: An Overview of Liver Shunts in Small Animals”:** We will discuss the different types of shunts that can be seen in dogs and cats, as well as the different treatment options. This talk will be geared toward the surgical aspect of liver shunts and we will also discuss the technician’s role in helping maintain medical management and monitor liver shunts.

• **“The Importance of Dentistry”:** The purpose of this lecture is to teach technicians why small animal dentistry and dental radiography is important. Our discussion will include adverse systemic side effects and pathologic jaw fractures that can occur in patients who do not receive regular dental care.

• **“Don’t Just Poke It: Providing Proper Post-Anesthetic Care”:** TBD

• **“Pearls of Wisdom When Working With The Feline Patient”:** Understanding feline behavior is critical to safe and effective handling of these often fearful patients. We will cover safe techniques and options to help the whole hospital staff and owners to be on board with making each visit smooth for our feline friends.