



VET TECH TIMES

Official Newsletter of the New York State Association of Veterinary Technicians

A Letter from Your President

Greetings and welcome to another exciting year for Veterinary Technicians across the state! Please allow me to introduce myself, again. My name is Kathleen (Kathy) Bliss. I am the NYSAVT president this year and am serving for my second time in this position.

WHY would I do this you ask? I love my profession and want to be a part of helping us to advance our standing and protect our licensure status. I also believe in education- which is why I am so excited about the new mandatory CE bill. More on that later in the newsletter! In addition to serving you as president I am a full time Assistant Professor in the Veterinary Technology Program at SUNY Alfred, a mother of two and owner to an odd array of pets ranging from tortoises to horses with a smattering of dogs, cats and other critters mixed in.

What a year we have had! Mandatory CE is a reality for us now and we just had one of the most successful Spring Seminars ever! We also have an almost completely new executive board and are looking forward to advances in the organization as well as the profession! We are all here to serve you, so if you need us let us know!

We also have district representatives that have volunteered to help out for the different areas of the state. Who is your district representative you ask? Check out our new and improved website for names and contact information at www.nysavt.org/leadership. Want to volunteer? Email nysavt@gmail.com!

We are working on updating the NYSAVT executive board bios too. This new site is so much easier to navigate-Check it out! Check out our Facebook page too at www.facebook.com/pages/NYSAVT/260732059124. We will be posting all kinds of information there about conferences, videos and other things related to the profession, so keep your eye out!

We are planning for the Spring Seminar in 2012 (see page 3). If there

is anything that you would like to see or do let us know! Have a person you would like to suggest as a potential presenter (or if you would like to present yourself) we would love to hear about it. Remember that this is your chance to learn about the latest and greatest as a very reasonable cost. Let's make the 2012 conference GREAT!

I hope to serve you all to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,

Kathy Bliss, LVT

Happy Winter!



Photo from www.baxterboo.com/catdogblog/post.cfm/ready-or-not-here-comes-winter

In this issue...

- Continuing Education Overview.....2
- CE Proration Schedule.....3
- Spring Seminar 20123
- An Update from the President.....4
- Finger Lakes Hosts CE.....4
- Membership Application5
- Classified Ads.....4

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Continuing Education Overview

ABOUT THE BILL

This bill requires veterinarians and veterinary technicians to complete continuing education during each three-year registration period and provides various exemptions. Beginning January 1, 2012, anyone renewing (registering) their license will have to produce proof that they have fulfilled the prorated CE requirements, which are based on date of license registration. (For proration schedule see page 3.)

Vet techs that do not complete mandatory CE will be unable to practice until they have met these requirements and have received a registration or conditional registration certificate.

Exemptions

- A vet tech is exempt from mandatory CE for the first three years after licensure.
- A vet tech teaching veterinary medicine full-time at a veterinary education program registered with or accepted by the NYS Education Department is exempt from mandatory CE.
- Non-practicing licensed vet techs are exempt from mandatory CE upon notifying the Education Department. Prior to returning to practice, you must notify the department and meet mandatory CE requirements.

CE Requirements

- During each three-year registration period, licensed vet techs must complete a minimum of 24 hours of acceptable, formal continuing education.
- Of these hours, no more than 12 may be self-instructional coursework accepted by the department.
- Proration: The first three years of the mandatory CE requirements may be confusing. See chart on page 3.
- If you have not satisfied the mandatory CE requirement, you will not receive a triennial registration certificate and will be unable to practice until a conditional registration certificate is issued or you have met the mandatory CE requirements.
- Vet techs are able to determine their individual courses or programs of study.

Conditional Registration

- At the department's discretion, a conditional registration may be issued to a vet tech who fails to meet the CE requirements but who agrees to make up any deficiencies and take additional education that may be required.
- If your registration is denied because you do not submit proper evidence of CE, because you fail to complete required CE, or because you continue to practice without proper registration, you may be subject to disciplinary action.

Acceptable Formal Continuing Education

- In order to fulfill the mandatory CE requirement, programs must be offered by sponsors of Veterinary Technician Continuing Education which include:
 - New York State or National professional associations established to further the veterinary professions (this includes NYSAVT);
 - Any affiliates of state or national associations, including local veterinary medical societies and local veterinary technician societies;
 - State, national and international veterinary and veterinary technician conferences at which professional continuing education is a major component;
 - Universities and colleges offering programs leading to licensure in the veterinary medical professions.

Cost

A mandatory CE fee of \$45 will be collected from licensees and must be payable on or before the first day of each triennial registration period and must be paid in addition to the triennial registration fee.

Visit www.nysavt.org to read the complete bill and for additional information related to CE. Regulations are currently being approved and set forth from the State Board for Veterinary Medicine. Once completed, the NYSAVT membership will be notified and the information will be posted to the NYSAVT website.



Continuing Education Overview, continued Proration Schedule

Registration Month	Next Registration Period	CE Hours Required Before Next Registration Period
January 2011	January 2014	16
February 2011	February 2014	16.67
March 2011	March 2014	17.34
April 2011	April 2014	18
May 2011	May 2014	18.67
June 2011	June 2014	19.34
July 2011	July 2014	20
August 2011	August 2014	20.66
September 2011	September 2014	21.34
October 2011	October 2014	22
November 2011	November 2014	22.67
December 2011	December 2014	23.34
January 2012	January 2015	24

Registration month	CE Hours Required for this Registration
February 2012	.67
March 2012	1.34
April 2012	2
May 2012	2.67
June 2012	3.34
July 2012	4
August 2012	4.67
September 2012	5.34
October 2012	6
November 2012	6.67
December 2012	7.34
January 2013	8
February 2013	8.67
March 2013	9.34
April 2013	10
May 2013	10.67
June 2013	11.34
July 2013	12
August 2013	12.67
September 2013	13.34
October 2013	14
November 2013	14.67
December 2013	15.34

SAVE THE DATE!

Spring Seminar 2012

April 20-22
Crowne Plaza
Syracuse



701 East Genesee St
Syracuse, New York

Keep an eye out
for details!



An Update from the President

Earlier this year the State Board of Veterinary Medicine (BOVM) brought to our attention a proposal by the Animal Care and Control of NYC (AC&C) to allow use of unlicensed “vet assistants” in the daily operation of their facilities in the same capacity as Licensed Veterinary Technician. In support of their proposal, the AC&C provided the following information:

AC&C operates five shelters in the five boroughs of NYC. According to information emailed to NYSAVT earlier this year the shelters collectively dealt with approximately 3,360 animals in the month of December 2009 alone—with an average daily population of 632 animals. Average daily intake of animals (excluding those for euthanasia per owner request) was 96 animals. They released 2113 animals in that same month, with approximately 1004 animals being spayed or neutered.

I did contact some other large city shelters in the state and they indicated similar numbers.

AC&C has indicated in the past that a major contributor to their need for use of unlicensed techs was the lack of licensed technicians willing to work due to low pay scale at the shelters. While I can fully appreciate the financial plight of shelters as I am involved with two in our area here in Alfred, licensed technicians are a valuable asset, and they need to be paid for their skills and training that they have received and developed.

Summarized, the latest proposed “special provisions” were requesting that an unlicensed person working at a large city shelter (city with over 1 million people) would be allowed to provide support to the veterinarian including performing such duties as administration of oral, topical or injectable meds, collecting samples and performing basic laboratory tests, taking of radiographs and developing those radiographs, administering and monitoring anesthesia, and assisting with legally required or emergency surgical or medical procedures. All of these individuals would have to be certified by the “Department.” The legislation goes on to state that the training program would be approved by NYS BOVM and would have to submit two written statements from either two veterinarians or a veterinarian and a licensed technician supporting their application to perform such duties.

The above would obviously violate the licensure requirements for Veterinary Technicians in the state, and possibly lead to further challenges to the integrity of our licensure and profession.

It should be noted that at the State BOVM meeting in June the topic was discussed, and NYSAVT, NYSVMS and the State BOVM unanimously turned down the proposal put forth by AC&C. Despite this, AC&C has continued with their efforts to enact legislation to allow them to proceed. We will be keeping an eye on the progress of the situation and will keep our members abreast of the latest developments. We also ask that you, as our members, do the same. In the meantime, if there are any licensed technicians out there that are in need of work in they NYC area, please contact AC&C and let’s get them the licensed technicians that they need.

Kathy Bliss, LVT
NYSAVT President

Finger Lakes District Hosts CE Event

Technicians in the Finger Lakes region met on September 14th at the Finger Lakes Animal Hospital in Canandaigua. We enjoyed a catered dinner, compliments of Bayer Animal Health, before attending the CE program, “Communication Within the Veterinary Healthcare Team.”

Trish Daly is a wonderful speaker, and her entertaining program left everyone with ideas to take back to their practices. We look forward to many more CE opportunities in our region.

Sherry Thompson, LVT
Finger Lakes District Representative



2011-2012 Membership Application/Renewal

Membership year: June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2012

Please send completed application with payment to NYSAVT at
119 Washington Avenue • 2nd Floor • Albany, NY 12210 • F 518-432-5902 • nysavt@gmail.com

Contact Information

Name _____ Credentials _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Phone _____

Email* _____

Employer Name _____

Employer Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Fax _____

Date of Birth _____ License Number _____ License Date _____

School attended _____ Graduation Date _____

NYSAVT District _____

*Please provide an up-to-date email address. NYSAVT sends e-updates and e-newsletters to members, including information regarding Spring Seminar, Fall Workshops, continuing education, legislation, etc.

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Membership

Active (\$55)

Associate (\$55)

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New Grad (\$27.50)

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Delhi

Genesee

LaGuardia

Medaille

Mercy

Suffolk

Ulster

Other _____

Be sure to make all
necessary changes to your
contact information!

Volunteering

I am interested in volunteering in the association _____

Payment

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Check made payable to NYSAVT

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Exp. Date _____ Billing Zip _____ CC Code _____

Signature _____ Date _____

New York State Association of Veterinary Technicians, Inc.

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Classified Ads

LVT needed

Two doctor small animal/exotic practice in Monticello, NY needs another veterinary technician to join our team providing quality, compassionate care. Client communication/education skills are as important as technical skills in our small office setting. PetcareAnimalHospital.com or contact Richard Stein, DVM at veterinarydoctor@hotmail.com.

Licensed Veterinary Technician

Glove Cities Veterinary Hospital is seeking a Licensed Veterinary Technician with the perfect mix of technical and client service capabilities to join us in our new 10,000 sq. ft. facility. This is a FT position with excellent pay and benefits. Send resume with cover letter to: Kelly Semione, 35 Harrison St., Gloversville, NY 12078 or ksemione@citlink.net.

LVT Surgery Supervisor

Full time Specialty Supervisor position at Veterinary Specialists & Animal Emergency Services (VSES) located in Rochester, New York. VSES is the sole provider of 24 hour emergency care, specialty medical and surgical services in the greater Rochester area. Position oversees the management of all technical staff in the specialty/surgery department ensuring a high quantity and quality of medical support to the specialty team. NYS LVT license or reciprocity from other state, 1-2 yrs supervisory experience, and excellent communication skills required. Please visit www.monroevets.com for more information. Mail resume/application to: Monroe Veterinary Associates, 2816 Monroe Avenue Rochester, NY 14618 Attn: HR EOE

Surgery Technician

Full time opportunity for experienced surgery technician to work at Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Service located in Rochester, NY. Join our state-of-the-art facility that houses both a mulch-specialty and a 24-hour emergency/critical care hospital. Hospital includes three OR suites and has two board certified surgeons and a board-eligible surgeon on staff. Schedule to be determined but will include weekend hours, on-call responsibilities and two holidays.

Requirements:

Two or four-year Veterinary Technician degree and a NYS license are required. Minimum two years of experience in a similar environment is preferred. Excellent communication and teamwork skills are necessary.

Please visit www.vetspecialistsofrochester.com to learn more about our facility. For employment

information visit www.monroevets.com. Mail resume/application to: Monroe Veterinary Associates, 2816 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618 Attn: HR EOE

Part-time Veterinary Technician

Amherst Small Animal Hospital and Animal Pain Management Center is seeking a part-time veterinary technician. We are a patient care centered facility with an emphasis on quality medicine and client education. Interested applicants should be knowledgeable and a compassionate team member, but also able to work independently. Responsibilities will include outpatient care/client education, collecting and processing lab samples, radiology, dental care and anesthesia/surgical nursing. See our websites at www.asah.net and www.managingpetpain.com. Please fax resume to 716-839-1740.

Full-time LVT

Full time LVT for 2.5 DVM, small animal practice. Experience preferred. Some days, evenings, Saturdays and on-call after hours. Must be a team player with a great attitude, work ethic and dedication to the veterinary field. Contact Amy Smith with resume. MacedonVeterinaryCare, Macedonvetcare1@verizon.net, 315-986-4246

Licensed Veterinary Technician

Animal Care & Control of NYC seeks licensed veterinary technicians to assist in the provision of medical and surgical care for animals at locations in each of the five boroughs. Work under the veterinarians' direction and assist in providing compassionate, high quality care for animals in the shelter. Example job duties include but are not limited to medication administration, induction and monitoring of anesthesia, assisting in surgery, performance of basic laboratory tests, assistance with documentation of animal cruelty cases, humane euthanasia. Qualifications: Active NYS LVT license in good standing. Candidate must be motivated and compassionate with good written/oral communication skills, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills; attention to detail, ability to multi-task and prioritize. Previous experience working with animal shelter preferred but not required. Competitive salary and vacation allowance, full benefits inc. health, dental and vision, 401K. Join us in caring for NYC's homeless animals and getting them ready for their new lives!

To apply send resume and cover letter to HR@nycacc.org or fax to (212) 442-2066.

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