

MVTA Newsletter



MVMA Annual Conference Highlights

Our board of directors just returned from a long weekend in scenic St. Charles, MO at the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) annual Convention. In attendance were about 375 Veterinarians and 77 veterinary technicians, veterinary technology students and practice staff. The technician and practice staff CE track included renowned pathologist Dr. Alan Rebar discussing topics such as blood film and cytological evaluation, Dr. Elizabeth Martinez discussed anesthetic complications/considerations with co-existing disease, and Dr. Julie Ryan-Johnson spoke about how to write a disaster plan, among other speakers and topics.

We co-hosted the 3rd annual Academia Bowl this year (with the MVMA) at the convention. Multiple choice questions/answers were compiled from all categories of the VTNE study guide and answered by Missouri veterinary technology students. Right answers were worth 5 points each in a single elimination tournament play bracket.

Through the generosity of MVMA's sponsors, all participating students were provided complimentary admission to the veterinary technician and practice staff portion of the conference (a \$50 value) as well as having their \$50 bowl participation fee waived. As a result, seven of the eight Missouri veterinary technology schools were able to participate: Maple Woods Community College (Kansas City), Crowder College (Neosho), Brown Mackie College (Fenton), Sanford Brown College (Fenton), Sanford Brown College (St. Peters), The Vet Tech Institute at Hickey College (St. Louis), and Jefferson College (Hillsboro). Anthem College (Kansas City) plans to participate in 2013.

The game was another close finish! It was a tie between the Vet Tech Institute at Hickey College and Crowder College until the very last question, resulting with team Crowder taking "home" the trophy for a second consecutive year! Team Crowder students were: Meg Storey, Mandie Matthewson, Tiffany Edwards, Jessi Medeiros, and Allison Moret. Congratulations to team Crowder as well as all of the students who participated! We are incredibly proud of ALL of you! Each of the students was provided with a bag of goodies to take home as well as a bag of books to take back to each of their schools.

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**Congratulations to the
Crowder College Team!**

MVMA Annual Conference Highlights cont.

Although we did host a booth at the convention, it was more difficult than ever to keep it manned with all of the meetings the Missouri Veterinary Technicians Association (MVTA) participated in this year! We appreciate all of you who stopped by to say hello, ask questions, or offer your help to support the MVTA!

The MVTA is providing assistance to the MVMA in coordinating speakers for the 2013 MVMA conference, which will be held at the Westin Crown Center on January 18-20, 2013 in Kansas City, MO. We are pleased to announce the addition of a practice management track of CE to the lineup as well as an impressive list of speakers and interesting topics!

MVTA Annual Conference

In other exciting news, we have chosen a date and location for our MVTA annual membership conference! We had the opportunity to tour the Purina Events Center in Gray Summit, MO while we were in town for the MVMA convention and we were thoroughly impressed! The Founder's room (where our conference will take place) is located upstairs in the events center which overlooks two large indoor arenas which will be in use during our event. Through the large glass walls we will be able to view the dogs competing in shows below! We will also be able to tour other areas of the farm by way of a wagon ride to witness milking demonstrations, to interact with farm animals, and much more!

What would such an extravagant event cost you ask? As full, paid members of the MVTA, this opportunity will be COMPLIMENTARY! ANYONE is welcome and encouraged to attend, whether they are a technician, student, or assistant; member or non-member of the MVTA. Registration for members who are students or assistants will be discounted, all others are still welcome to attend but will pay a higher registration fee. This annual event is one of the biggest membership benefits we offer our members; what a great reason to join today!

The date of this all day event will be September 15th, 2012. We will announce more details about event times, speakers and topics in future editions of the MVTA newsletter, MVMA Quarterly, on the MVTA website and Facebook page, and in the future editions of the NAVTA Journal. You will NOT want to miss this event!

Scholarship Report

We have chosen a winner for our 2011 MVTA Student scholarship! The decision was quite difficult considering all of the entries submitted were very well written. Our winner, Kathleen Thomas, a student at Maple Woods Community College, will be awarded her \$100 scholarship as well as an honorary plaque (donated by Teri Kado and her incredibly talented crew at Living Art N Life / Kado gallery). We will feature Kathleen's picture as well as her article in our next edition of the MVTA Newsletter. Julie Al-Thalathini (our scholarship chair) should have more news soon regarding future scholarship opportunities for students as well as other categories of our membership.

News from the Board

In other association news, we are sad to report that Shawna Estep has made the difficult decision recently to step down from her position on the board. We appreciate all that she has done to help support our association over the years and pray for peace, happiness, and success to surround Shawna, her family, and her students at Crowder College. She will remain a friend, mentor, and a symbol of strength to all who know her.

In happier news, we also wish to welcome a new member to our board! Samantha Fansher, a recent Sanford Brown (St. Peters) graduate, has joined our fantastic board of directors recently. She is very passionate about veterinary medicine and will be a real asset to our team! We are thrilled to have her "on-board"!

Rhonda Haywood, RVT

MVTA President



MVMA/MVTA Academia Bowl Winners - Crowder College

L to R- Meg Storey, Mandie Matthewson, Tiffany Edwards, Jessi Medeiros, and Allison Moret

Crowder Vet Tech Students Staying Busy

By Cady Meyer

The MVTA Vet-Tech Club at Crowder College has been very busy this semester! In August, the second year students attended the Central Veterinary Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. It was very fun and educational for everyone. Students were exposed to many different kinds of lecture seminars and vendors that offered free samples of new products for pets. Also in August, the officer team of the Crowder Vet-Tech Club set up our first annual big sister program. The officers, (second year students), felt that more camaraderie would be beneficial to both first and second year classes. This involved matching personality/lifestyles of first and second year students to team up, so that everyone was assigned a sister. The “big sisters” (second year girls), then help the “little sisters” (first year girls) to become better acclimated to study habits, homework assignments, and an overall idea of what to expect as a first year vet-tech student. Giving second year vet-tech students an opportunity to review what they have already learned while offering themselves as an experienced tutor to their “little sister”.

September brought our annual dog wash fundraiser, where students, staff, and alumni set up appointments to have their furry friends groomed, teeth cleaned, anal glands expressed, toe nail trims, microchipping, and ear cleaning done by current vet-tech students. This raised money for the club for future veterinary convention trips and additional tools to use in class.

In October, during National Vet-Tech Week, four of the program dogs were taken to visit the local nursing home to socialize with the elderly residents. This activity was very advantageous to the patients/residents, animals, and students. During the entire month of October, students participated in community service, by volunteering their time, energy, and skills to local animal shelters by walking, playing, assisting feeding/watering, and socializing animals.

November brought an intense month of lecture, studies, and tests all in the pursuit of becoming Registered Veterinary Technician. Now, in December, finals week is fast approaching and the Vet-Tech wing at Crowder College is buzzing with activities of students preparing for finals and the end of another challenging semester.

MVTA Board of Directors

President

Rhonda Haywood, RVT

Vice-President

Charlotte Waack, CVT, RVT

Membership Chair/Secretary

Jodelle Rhodes, RVT

Scholarship Chair

Julie Al-Thalathini, RVT

Board Members

Debbie Bauer, RVT
Nancy Roth, RVT, SRA
Samantha Fansher

Visit us on our website!

www.mvta.us

We're on Facebook!

[Missouri Veterinary Tech-Assoc](#)

Do you have news to share?

We welcome all submissions from our members from veterinary medical articles to SCNAVTA chapter news! If you have news or an article you would like published, please email your submission to Charlotte Waack (Charlotte@vspn.org) or Rhonda Haywood (rjhay@hughes.net). Article submissions should be in a Word-document format. Pictures are preferred to be in .jpg format. We look forward to hearing from our members!

Did You Know?

You can receive a \$10.00 discount off NAVTA membership dues by being a member of your state veterinary technician association! NAVTA membership renewal was due December 31, 2011. If you have not renewed your NAVTA membership, do so now and make sure to mark that you are a member of the MVTA. Remember, NAVTA is OUR national association and our voice on the national level.



MVTA Board of Directors at the Academia Bowl

Front: Julie Al-Thalathini

L to R Back: Rhonda Haywood, Jodelle Rhodes, Charlotte Waack, Nancy Roth, Debbie Bauer