President's Message
Gregg Takashima, DVM

Welcome to our Convention Newsletter, which will highlight our track of speakers and topics related to specialists and the Human-Animal Bond. This will also be my final message as the president of the AAH-ABV, as I pass the gavel on during this meeting.

Most outgoing presidents will reflect on past accomplishments and milestones, but I will happily break that tradition and look to our future as an organization. In this age of globalization and communication, it has become increasingly clear to us that the need for inclusivity and collaboration at all levels is not an option, it’s mandatory. To that end, during our strategic position session earlier this year, the board endorsed pursuing a name as well as a constitution and bylaw change that would do just that. So, as our organization moves forward, we will begin this arduous process over the next months.

The Human-Animal Bond does provide for much joy, companionship and beneficial effects. However, there are some darker sides to this bond that we will explore in 2017 including how, ultimately, the HAB can be a source of healing severely needed in cases of depression and suicidal thoughts.

I would like to introduce you to your incoming president, Dr. Tim Lee, an orthopedic specialist. He will detail his background and comment on the HAB including the mission of our organization.

In respect of the bond,
Gregg

Greetings from the next president of the American Association of Human-Animal Bond Veterinarians. That is a mouthful. One of the first possibilities in the future is to consider if the name could be a shorter, more inclusive name. We encompass members from the US and Canada, we have veterinarians and technicians, students and those a part of the companies serving the profession.

Initially, I began the first two years of my professional career in the Air Force. Following my time of service, I worked as a general small animal practitioner. For the last 35 + years, I have focused on performing surgery on a referral basis. I enjoyed the opportunity to serve on the AAHA board as Secretary/Treasurer for five years where I met both Gregg Takashima and Rod Jouppi, the new President-Elect of this board. Their dedication to, and experience with, Human-Animal Bond organizations outshines mine and I will rely on both of them during my term.

The concept of the Human-Animal Bond seems a given to an old veterinarian who graduated in 1964. We didn’t have a name for it, it was just a big reason we worked hard to be a part of the profession. We took it for granted that all in the profession felt a bond with animals, big or small, and wanted them to do well with our care. It was an added bonus that some of that bond was reciprocated. We didn’t appreciate the other aspects of the bond such as the health benefits for pet owners or the impact it could make in our profession to alleviate stress.

We, as a profession, can help further the Human-Animal Bond for our clients, our staff and our fellow professionals. The benefits of the bond continue to be documented. How do we make the bond a positive part of our practice? That is what we continue to explore in the meetings we organize at AVMA and NAVC.

Thank you for having an interest in the Human-Animal Bond. With your help, we will continue our organization’s mission of education about the bond and, more specifically, how to make it a greater part of practice life.
AAH-ABV TRACK AT AVMA IN SAN ANTONIO ON MON AUG 8, 2016
AVMA 2016, Companion Animal Section
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
Moderator, Laird Goodman, DVM
Theme: Specialists Viewpoints on the Human-Animal Bond

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<td>Leo Bustad Award Presentation: Welfare...It's Not Just for Animals</td>
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<td>9:00am - 9:50am</td>
<td>Bess Pierce, DVM, DABVP, DACVIM, DACVSMR</td>
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<td>Greg Ogilvie, DVM, DACVIM</td>
<td>Care Beyond a Cure: How to Become a True Healer Through the Bond</td>
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<td>3:00pm - 3:50pm</td>
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<td>Justine Lee, DVM, DACVECC</td>
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<td>5:00pm - 6:00pm</td>
<td>Panel, Drs. Ogilvie, Christensen, Rawlings, Pierce, Liska, and Lee</td>
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Speaker Information

Melissa Bain DVM, MS
University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Melissa Bain is the Chief of Service of the Clinical Animal Behavior Service at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, and is board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists and the American College of Animal Welfare. She received her DVM from the University of Illinois in 1994, and worked in a small animal exclusive veterinary practice in the Chicago suburbs for 1 1/2 years, as well as a mixed animal veterinary practice in rural Wisconsin for 2 1/2 years. In 2007, she completed a Master’s degree in Advanced Clinical Research from the UC Davis School of Medicine. She is a past president of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists and the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior. She also is the Director of Professional Student Clinical Education, and received the 2016 Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian award. Her responsibilities include student and resident education, clinical case management, and research.

Bess Pierce DVM
VA-MD College of Veterinary Medicine

Bess Pierce is a small animal internal medicine and sports medicine/rehabilitation specialist who graduated from Auburn University with a DVM in 1992. Following graduation, she completed 15 years of active military service around the world in the US Army Veterinary Corps, and then joined the faculty at Virginia Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine. Recently in June 2016, she transitioned jobs to move to Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine in Harrogate, Tennessee where she leads the small animal internal medicine group. She has remained in the US Army Reserve, Veterinary Corps since leaving active military duty, totaling more than 24 years of service, and is currently assigned as the reserve senior veterinarian in Europe. Dr. Pierce has a passion for four-footed canine heroes and their human partners, and was honored with the 2015 Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year award given by the AVMA. She enjoys spending time with her veterinarian husband and 2 dogs traveling, hiking and kayaking.
E’Lise Christensen Bell DVM, DACVB
Veterinary Behavior Consultations of CO and NYC

E’Lise Christensen DVM is a DACVB, international lecturer and author. The only DACVB in Colorado and NYC, she sees patients with a variety behavioral issues. Dr. C received her DVM from Iowa State University in 2002. She became interested in veterinary behavior as a student while working at a veterinary practice and training animals for pet therapy at a local substance abuse facility. While in veterinary school she researched separation anxiety in shelter dogs, was an assistant trainer at an animal shelter, and studied with numerous DACVBs. After veterinary school Dr. C began a small animal internship while continuing her studies in veterinary behavior. She practiced feline-only and general medicine before entering the Behavior Residency Program at Cornell University in 2004 where she researched the behavior of dogs, cats, and horses and treated behavioral problems in a number of species. Her most cited research involved evaluating the efficacy of canine temperament tests in the shelter system.

Clarence Rawlings DVM

Dr. Rawlings is a general surgeon who transitioned from Professor to Professor Emeritus on June 2007 after spending 33 years on the staff at the University of Georgia. He continues to practice as a part-time surgeon and surgery consultant. Most consultation is providing endoscopic training in veterinary hospitals throughout the United States. He is past president of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons and directs Veterinary Endoscopy Training Symposia at the University of Georgia (www.vet.uga.edu/mis). Dr. Rawlings is co-editor of Small Animal Endoscopy, 3rd edition, published in 2010 by Elsevier. In addition to his clinical practice, he has conducted basic and clinical research into several areas involving heartworm disease, abdominal surgery, incontinence, and minimally invasive surgery (active projects). He works closely with surgical device companies. He is passionate about helping more veterinarians integrate endoscopy into their practices.

Gregory Ogilvie DVM, DACVIM (IM, O), DECVIM-CA
UCSD/CVS Angel Care Cancer Center

Dr. Ogilvie is director of the Angel Care Cancer Center at California Veterinary Specialists and president of the Special Care Foundation for Companion Animals. There, he cares for patients and their families: teaches interns, residents, and veterinary students; and has an active cancer research program. Prior to his move to Southern California, Dr. Ogilvie was a full tenured professor, internist, head of medical oncology, and director of the Medical Oncology Research Laboratory, Animal Cancer Center at Colorado State University (CSU) from 1987 until 2003. During this 16 year period at CSU, he also spent one year on sabbatical teaching and developing new, innovative cancer therapies at the medical school and the Laboratoire Nutrition, Croissance et Cancer at the Université François Rabelais in Tours France.

Dana Liska DVM, DACVD
Animal Dermatology Referral Clinic

Dr. Dana A. Liska received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Kansas State University in 1999. Following graduation she completed a rotating internship in medicine, surgery, and critical care at Mission MedVet in Mission, Kansas. Dr. Liska then practiced general, small animal, veterinary medicine for 4 years in Helena, Montana. In 2004 she began a dermatology residency at the University Of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. Upon completion of her residency she remained at the University of Florida CVM as a clinical instructor of Dermatology until she moved to the Dallas area to join the Animal Dermatology Referral Clinic. She became a member of the American Academy of Veterinary Dermatology in 2001 while in private practice and achieved Diplomate status in the American College of Veterinary Dermatology in 2006.

Justine Lee DACVECC, DABT
VETgirl, LLC

Dr. Justine Lee is the CEO and founder of VETgirl, a subscription-based podcast & webinar service providing RACE-approved, online veterinary continuing education (CE). She currently also practices at the Animal Emergency & Referral Center of Minnesota. Formerly, she was on faculty at University of Minnesota and the Associate Director of an Animal Poison Control Center. Dr. Lee trained at Cornell University, Angell, and University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Lee has been published in numerous veterinary journals including JAVMA, JAAHA, JVIM, and JVECC. She has authored several veterinary textbooks and book chapters, along with two humorous pet reference books. Dr. Lee is board-certified in both emergency/critical care and toxicology, and lectures throughout the world. She is passionate about providing clinically relevant CE, and was awarded the Speaker of the Year at NAVC (2011, 2015, 2016). More information can be found at www.drjustinlee.com and www.vetgirl-lontherun.com.
I’m Cassandra Schettine, a second year and current President of HABC at The Ohio State University. I am from Buffalo, NY originally but have enjoyed living in Columbus with my husband and two dogs the past 2 years! I have loved being President this year and think as a whole our chapter did a great job of organizing a variety of different guest speakers for lunch lecture sharing the importance of the bond.

Our first lunch lecture of the year we had guest speaker, Dr. Heather Lane, co-founder of Veteran Companion Animal Services (VCAS) a charitable organization whose purpose is to serve veterans and military families through the benefits of the human-animal bond. VCAS focuses on placing rescue animals with veterans and military families where a companion animal ownership will be beneficial. Another lecture we hosted during first semester was how a local prison dog program works with a local animal rescue to benefit both the dogs that need adopting and the inmates’ well-being and sense of purpose. We had Amy Richardson from the Correction Center in Orient, OH who coordinates the dogs on the prison side of the program and Kira Girschow from A.D.O.P.T Rescue to coordinate the rescue dogs for the program come speak to the club. We were able to hear moving testimonials from letters of inmates who said the dogs’ presence really helped them feel driven to train and care for the dogs and take initiative to be on good behavior so they would continue to get this privilege.

The second semester the club focused our lunch lectures on the important topic of pet grief and loss in the veterinary field and how to be compassionate and empathetic to clients during this critical time. Roerta Knauf from Schoedinger Funeral Home came to talk to club members about the Pet Services they offer and how important understanding and being sensitive to the process is for veterinarians and the pet owners.

Throughout the school year our club also organizes Wednesday Wellness therapy teams to come into the veterinary school lobby during our lunch hour. We have several different teams we work with that take turns bringing their dogs in for the vet students to pet, snuggle or even just sit with. This allows students to destress after a busy week of exams or just to keep spirits up when a heavy work load and long hours start to weigh them down. Overall we’ve had very positive feedback from everyone involved in the program.

Over the summer our club was asked to represent the College of Veterinary Medicine at OSU during the annual Health and Wellness Expo held in June by the School of Nursing. Two of our Wednesday Wellness therapy teams, which are shown in the pictures, graciously volunteered their time to join me at the event to help educate attendees on therapy teams and what the Human-Animal Bond Club is at OSU. The dogs’ presence at this event was a huge success and everyone loved stopping by our booth to visit them!

I hope our club continues to branch out and represent the college at other health and wellness events since the human-animal bond really ties in the idea of One Health so uniquely. The more we integrate the idea that animals can be beneficial in so many professional fields and programs the stronger the bond will become. I’m excited to see what this year holds for our OSU chapter and look forward to coming up with more lunch lectures and even some hands on wet-labs for our club members to get more involved!

- Cassandra Schettine
In the past year, the Human-Animal Bond Club at UC Davis hosted several speakers to bring supplemental education about the human-animal bond to students. In the fall, we welcomed Dr. Lynn Hendrix, owner of Beloved Pet Mobile Vet, who emphasizes the importance of involving children in the euthanasia process to ensure healthy grieving during the loss of a family pet. We also invited hospice veterinarian, Dr. Dani McVety, to speak about compassion fatigue and avoiding burnout as veterinary students and veterinarians. More recently we explored the idea of the human-animal bond in disaster medicine with Dr. John Madigan. He discussed the emotional aspects of this field both for human and animal victims, as well as the disaster responders. At our most successful event, Soli Redfield of the UC Davis Large Animal Clinic spoke to over fifty student about the difficulties of equine euthanasia, and current methods to achieving peaceful euthanasia for clients and equine patients. The Human-Animal Bond Club is excited to see what the next school year will bring for students and faculty at UC Davis!

A huge thank you to the AAH-ABV for making this all possible!

- Ashley Morris

Name: Khali Jones
College of Veterinary Medicine: Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine
Current Academic Year: 2
PUPS Coordinator (2013-2014); Secretary (2016-2017)

The Pets Uplifting People’s Spirits (PUPS) is an animal-assisted therapy/activity program that enables behavior-tested and health screened pets to visit nursing homes and VA hospitals in Tuskegee, AL. As former PUPS coordinator, I helped to organize monthly testing dates for animals to be evaluated as well as supervised routine visits with residents.

My interest in the human/animal bond aspect of veterinary medicine began 3 years ago in a summer program at the University of Missouri. During that time, I volunteered with the Research Center on Human Animal Interaction (ReCHAI). The “Walk a Hound, Lose a Pound” program focused on the issues of obesity and unwanted shelter pets. The Saturday community dog walks allowed adults and children to walk dogs on the Bear Creek Trail to increase physical activity and awareness of shelter needs. I witnessed the behaviors and emotions involved in this bond through senior adults and special needs children with neurological disorders. I also observed how the human animal bond relates to stress/anxiety reduction and obesity. It is my goal to one day serve society by promoting this special and valuable bond through education, research, and outreach on a global scale.

Note from the Editor-in-Chief

This year has flown by and I am excited for our upcoming track at the annual AVMA conference in August! It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the newsletter editor and chief for the past 3 years. As my term comes to an end, we are looking for someone to take the reins. If interested in the position, please contact me at dr.laurab@yahoo.com for further details.

Laura Baltodano, DVM
The relationship between humans and animals has been documented throughout history, across cultures and around the globe.

Archaeological & genetic evidence suggests the existence of dogs and cats with humans as far back as 14,000 years ago, concurrent with the first permanent human settlements.

The first known intentional use of animals for therapeutic support appeared in 11th century at a Belgian hospital, where patients cared for birds.

In 2008, there were an estimated 704 million companion animals worldwide, including 432 million dogs and 272 million cats.

“Human-animal bond” is a mutually beneficial, dynamic relationship between people & animals, that has proven benefits:

- emotional
- psychological
- social health
- physical
- economic

Did you know?

Dog ownership is associated with greater family cohesion.
Measuring the Benefits: **The Human Animal Relationship**

- In Connection with International Day of Friendship -

**Did you know?** Dog ownership is associated with greater family cohesion.

Most pet owners consider their pet to be an important member of the family.

**Recommendations:**

1. There is a need for a more sophisticated psychometric scale with which to chart the bond of attachment between humans and animals.

2. Complementary research is needed to assess the actual and perceived risk of animals as carriers of pathogens versus the advantages for older people’s mental, emotional and social health. This research should involve veterinarians.

3. In addition, the health risks of the animals need to be taken into account to assure the mutual benefit of human-animal companion relationship.

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Date __________________________

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