

## 2023 NHVTA SPRING CONFERENCE LECTURES

### Dave Cowan BA, CVT, VTS(ECC)

#### ➤ THE ART OF TRIAGE

This lecture will cover some of the more commonly seen veterinary emergencies (Urinary obstruction, Trauma, V/D, etc...) There will be a focus on utilizing critical thinking skills to ascertain the best course of action for veterinary technicians dealing with emergencies. Attendees will gain an understanding of how to “sort” or “triage” presenting cases in order of priority to maximize and improve patient outcomes. Case examples will be presented to give attendees the opportunity to work through the potential diagnosis and treatment of specific scenarios.

#### ➤ BOOM SHOCK-A-LOCKA

The technician’s role in managing patients in shock is vital to successful patient outcomes. This lecture will discuss the pathophysiology of shock. We will go over the various types of shock as well as the different stages of shock our patients may be dealing with. Our main focus will be on the technicians role in managing patients in the various types of shock states.

#### ➤ THE DREADED BLUE DOT: OH NO! PARVO POSITIVE!

A discussion of Parvovirus starting with the pathophysiology of the disease including transmission, incubation periods and preventions. We’ll discuss diagnostics and monitoring of our parvo patients. We’ll talk about the different treatment options like medications and advanced catheter/feeding tube placements. At the end we will have a fun discussion dispelling some of the internet “myths” on how to treat parvovirus.

### Rosie Villers-LaRocque, CVT

#### ➤ The Cat Must Have Done It! Corneal Ulcers

Anatomy of the eye and specifically the cornea. Different types of ulcers and their treatments, complications, surgical options.

### Lynda Vermillion, CVT, VTS (SAIM)

#### ➤ FELINE AND CANINE THYROID DISEASE: TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN

This presentation will discuss the function of the thyroid gland and changes that occur when there is underlying pathology.

#### ➤ IMMUNOPATHOLOGY: WAIT...I'M NOT THE ENEMY!!!

This presentation looks at what can go wrong when the immune system attacks the body it protects. Multiple systems can be involved making diagnosis and medical management a nightmare!

## 2023 NHVTA SPRING CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

**Dave Cowan BA, CVT, VTS(ECC)** has been in the veterinary field for over 25 years. He has worked for an educational farm, the Animal Rescue League, general practice and

emergency/specialty practices in 2013, Dave passed the Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technician (AVECCT) exam and became a Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) in Emergency and Critical Care. He moved to North Carolina in 2016 and has spent time as a technician supervisor, an education and training coordinator, and was lead instructor for a Veterinary Technician Program. In 2019, Dave co-founded the Vet Tech Cafe Podcast with Jeff Backus. The podcast tackles difficult issues that veterinary technicians face as well as highlighting some of the many career opportunities available to technicians. Dave joined Action Vet Tech Services in 2020 and now works relief shifts at various practices both ER/referral and GP while also providing CE and training opportunities.

Dave has served on the New Hampshire Veterinary Technician board as the head of the credentials committee. He has been the chairperson of the AVECCTN credentials committee and is now one of the Members at Large on the AVECCTN Board. Dave lives in Hillsborough NC on a farm with his partner Robyn and her daughter Ruby. They have many animals to care for including goats, horses, chickens, and a donkey to go along with 2 dogs, and 2 cats.

**Rosie Villers-LaRocque, CVT** graduated from the Veterinary Technician program at North Shore Community College in 2008. Starting in general practice in 2006, she found her niche in 2010 when she started her path in Ophthalmology. Learning under Dr. Marrion at Bulger Animal Hospital for over 8 years, her passion for the specialty grew. She now works with Dr. Alario and Dr. Montgomery at New England Veterinary Ophthalmology in Manchester NH. Dr. Marrion joined NEVO in the fall of 2022. We now have 3 ophthalmologists! Rosie enjoys spending time with her husband, two kids, dog, and cat. They enjoy going to Block Island in the summer and she would live at the beach if she could work for NEVO from there.

**Lynda Vermillion, CVT, VTS (SAIM)** has worked in the veterinary field for more than 35 years, starting as kennel help and as a tech assistant at a general practice in Virginia. After graduating from NVCC and obtaining her LVT certification, she moved with her family to Wisconsin and worked in a mixed animal practice for a few years before settling in New Hampshire.

While working in GP she was afforded the opportunity to try emergency medicine and continued to do both for several years before deciding to pursue a VTS in small animal internal medicine. Achieving that VTS designation in 2016 she continued to work in various positions as well as SAIM and is currently working at the Veterinary Emergency Center of Manchester as a mentor for technicians looking to expand and deepen their patient care knowledge and skills.

In her rare spare time, Lynda enjoys reading, knitting, and traveling to visit friends and relatives.