



**HUMANE SOCIETY
VETERINARY MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Blackwell, DVM, MPH
Knoxville, TN

Gary Block, DVM, MS, DACVIM
East Greenwich, RI

Holly Hazard, JD
Washington, DC

Barry Kellogg, VMD
North Port, FL

Barry Kipperman, DVM,
DACVIM, MSc
San Ramon, CA

Paula Kislak, DVM
Santa Barbara, CA

Gwendy Reyes-Illg, DVM
Morganton, GA

Andrew Rowan, Ph.D.
Washington, DC

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Holly Cheever, DVM
Voorheesville, NY

Nicholas Dodman, BVMS,
MRCVS, DACVB
Grafton, MA

Leo Egar, VMD
Phoenix, AZ

Brian Forsgren, DVM
Cleveland, OH

Brenda Forsythe, MS, Ph.D., DVM,
Guadalupe, CA

Madeline Graham, DVM
Los Angeles, CA

Annie Harvilicz, DVM, CVA
Santa Monica, CA

Zarah Hedge, DVM, MPH,
DACVPM, DABVP
San Diego, CA

Joann Lindenmayer, DVM, MPH
North Grafton, MA

Andrea Looney, DVM, DACVA
Chesterfield, MA

Katy Nelson, DVM
Alexandria, VA

Jeff Newman, DVM
Fairfax Station, VA

Erin Spencer, M.Ed., CVT,
VTS (ECC)
Derry, NH

Gordon B. Stull, VMD
Vincetown, NJ

Liz White, RVT
Woodland Hills, CA

HSVMA Endorsement of NAVTA's Veterinary Nurse Initiative

February 2018

The Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association (HSVMA) announces its endorsement of the Veterinary Nurse Initiative (VNI), a coalition formed by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) to pursue the establishment of the title of Registered Veterinary Nurse (RVN) for all credentialed veterinary technicians in the United States. The HSVMA recognizes the role of veterinary technicians as indispensable within the veterinary profession and integral in the mission to promote animal welfare.

Uniting veterinary technicians under a single title will not only serve to lessen confusion regarding the nature of the profession, but it will educate the public about the role of veterinary technicians in their pets' health and welfare and the progression of the veterinary field.

Credentialed veterinary technicians will benefit from this new title as it better represents their role within the veterinary team, and highlights the high level of care they give our patients and other animals. Additionally, as the veterinary field evolves, it has seen an increase in veterinary technicians with specialty certification in areas such as emergency medicine, behavior, and dentistry. As the roles of technicians have become more specialized, they have become an increasingly vital key to the success of the hospital in which they are employed and to promoting good animal health and welfare.

We look forward to supporting the change in status from veterinary technician to veterinary nurse as the VNI proceeds with its legislative efforts across the country.

The Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association is a national professional veterinary association with a focus on animal welfare. HSVMA membership includes veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary students and veterinary technician students.