

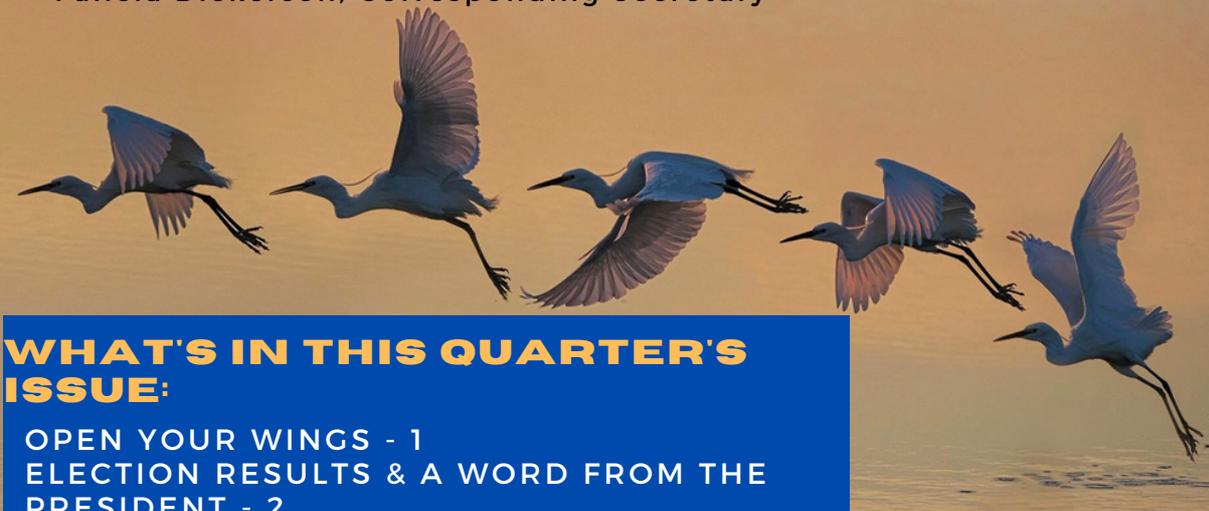
April – June, 2022 Issue

# THE FVTA UPDATE



Dewey Maddox - President  
Karen Moss - Past President  
Ariel Gilpin, Treasurer  
Vicki Rhodes, Recording Secretary  
Falicia Dickerson, Corresponding Secretary

Newsletter Editors  
Vicki Rhodes & Carole Falucho



## WHAT'S IN THIS QUARTER'S ISSUE:

OPEN YOUR WINGS - 1  
ELECTION RESULTS & A WORD FROM THE  
PRESIDENT - 2  
A DAY IN THE LIFE - 3  
TID BITS - 4

Remember that feeling when you started at a new job/position? There was excitement, nervousness, and likely even fear. Having a champion to show you the ropes, make you feel included, and encourage your ideas is key to becoming an engaged part of the team. We should all strive to be champions to our team members and peers. We each choose to either stay in our own lane and focus on our own goals or **open our wings** and invite those around us to become a part of a much bigger goal. Our profession has individuals from all walks of life, an array of eclectic personalities, and best of all lovers of animals. Be genuine and positive when you are welcoming a new team member, and you will find that others will follow your example! Opening your wings sets a tone - bring your team members into the circle for this is a time of inclusiveness and everyone has something to offer. We are part of a multi-talented profession that can commit to bringing up the next generation of veterinary professionals that will carry the flag far into the future! Remember to **"OPEN YOUR WINGS"** every day, it does make a lasting impact!

Thank you for coming to my TED talk and allowing me to undertake this Newsletter editing position! I will give it my best shot because I love my profession and want to encourage others to lift each other up and be their best! Carole Falucho CVT



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT VOTED DURING THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS!  
THE RESULTS ARE IN!**

**FVTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESIDENT**

**DEWEY MADDOX, CVT**

**PAST PRESIDENT**

**KAREN MOSS, CVT**

**TREASURER**

**ARIEL GILPIN, CVT**

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

**VICKI RHODES, CVT**

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

**FALICIA DICKERSON, CVT**

**Keep your email address updated on  
our website to receive the most up to  
date news.**

***Looking for  
a Job?  
Check our  
website for  
listings.***

We have changed our  
mailing address.

FVTA

PO Box 11

Odessa, FL 33556

## **A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**Hello Members!**

Florida has had a very busy spring with several events happening around the state. Two of these events were sponsored in part by the FVTA. A very special thank you to Walter Brown for visiting St. Petersburg College and to Stephanie Stowell for visiting Eastern Florida State College and filling the minds of our members with knowledge.

Our 2022 election has concluded and we are proud to announce that your president, treasurer, and corresponding secretary have all been re-elected for another term. I want to send a special thank you to everyone that took the time out of their very busy schedules to vote and those that ran in the election. This organization is run by technicians, for technicians that are working hard to do what it takes to keep our profession moving forward. We are still seeking industry support for legislation, and we need your help! Please try to get everyone on your team to send in a signed letter to - [president@thefvta.net](mailto:president@thefvta.net). We especially need to try to develop a strong partnership with our veterinarians and work in conjunction with them to develop legislation that works for Florida's future. We need their support! Our hope with these letters of support is to show the FVMA that our state's veterinarians are ready for change and ready to move forward!

Thank You,

Dewey Maddox

**Newsletter ideas, submissions, or questions -**

**Please email Carole Falucho at**

**[FVTAnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:FVTAnewsletter@gmail.com)**

# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF..... A VTS-DENTAL MENTOR

I've had the privilege of having several mentors over the course of my 20-year career as a CVT and VTS-Dentistry. Those people took the time to share their experiences and wisdom and really take an interest in me as I grew through my veterinary technician journey. I firmly believe that if it wasn't for them, I wouldn't have lasted this long in a profession where most walk away after only 5-10 years. It is because of their example that I love to share my passion with others by being a mentor.

What does it take to be a good mentor? Patience, enthusiasm, and a desire to see others succeed. It also takes good listening skills and the ability to guide in a way that builds confidence in your mentee. You can't scruff them and make them drink the kool-aid by force-feeding them with a 60cc syringe. They must do it on their own. And don't forget humility. A great mentor is a lifelong learner themselves. I personally want to be as well-rounded as possible. I've worked in large animal medicine, general small animal practice, teaching, emergency, and surgery, and I finally found my personal passion in the dental specialty. As a VTS-Dentistry I have the privilege of mentoring fellow technicians through the two-year program that leads them to be a candidate eligible to sit for the exam. I help them understand their application packet, review case logs and case reports. I teach them important skills, like how to take quality dental x-rays. I frequently answer questions via text message and email. I also help the other technicians in my practice with their skills. We often take on veterinary technician students from the local community college and I love helping them complete their skills list. The best part of being a mentor is watching someone grow and succeed in their field. It makes my heart even fuller when they then share that knowledge with someone else. So find something to be passionate about, find a mentor with the same passion, never stop learning and become a mentor yourself. The rewards are plenty.

Katie Holthusen CVT, VTS-Dentistry  
The Pet Dentist at Tampa Bay



# TID BITS

## Sources for CE:

**VetMedTeam FREE** - <http://www.vetmedteam.com/classes-free.aspx>

**NAVTA FREE** - [http://navta.site-ym.com/page/continuing education](http://navta.site-ym.com/page/continuing%20education)

**VetFolio (sponsored by NAVTA) FREE** - <http://www.vetfolio.com/pages/trial-page>

**Pet Poison Helpline FREE** - <http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/veterinarians/webinars/>

**IDEXX Learning Center** - Variety of FREE CE

**Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine** - offers a variety of CE in all species for \$40.00 per credit hour

Did you know that the FVTA made a donation to EAZA to support Ukrainian zoological facilities during their time of need during the beginning of the invasion by the Russian military?

Until next time, remember a little self-care goes a long way, and laughter is the best medicine..... next to Veterinary Medicine!

