7-1-2013

Dean's Alumni Council Welcomes New Members
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**DEXTER ARCHER, V’97**

Dexter Archer, VMD, the practice owner of Shirley Veterinary Hospital, graduated with honors from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 1997. He spent his first three post-graduate years at a specialty animal hospital. While there, Dr. Archer worked alongside various board-certified specialists in different fields of veterinary medicine, including Surgery, Oncology, and Internal Medicine. He then became the Medical Director for a small animal hospital in Oakdale, NY. After a year in this position, he decided to purchase his first animal hospital, which was located in Riverhead, NY.

Dr. Archer successfully practiced there for over six years, building lifelong, compassionate relationships with his clientele. A large portion of these patients followed Dr. Archer when he purchased Shirley Veterinary Hospital in February 2007. Dr. Archer has expanded his role as General Practitioner to include special interests in Internal Medicine and Ophthalmology. His hobbies include fishing, boating, and other outdoor activities. Dr. Archer attends three to four continuing education seminars per year and is dedicated to excellence in veterinary medicine.

**GIA CROCE, V’92**

Dr. Croce is the anchor of the surgical department at the Delaware County SPCA in Media, PA, and is committed to the collaborative effort for animal welfare. She also is the Lead of the Husbandry Team at Penn Vet's Working Dog Center. She enjoys training volunteers and veterinary students in performing physical examinations and transferring skills with positive reinforcement to support the pups and acclimate them to veterinary care.

Dr. Croce is honored to be a “foster mom” of Kaiserin, the Center’s Dutch Shepherd. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 1992 and then completed a one-year small animal internship in medicine and surgery at Cornell University, New York State College of Veterinary Medicine in 1993. The next several years were spent practicing at a progressive, eight doctor hospital in northern New Jersey. Dr. Croce then returned to the Philadelphia suburbs to continue general practice. In 2001, she opened, owned, and managed Havertown Animal Hospital for over seven years and became involved with SART (Small Animal Rescue Team) task force.

Dr. Croce became accredited in Stem Cell therapy in 2008 and provided primary care to several top competitive dogs. The need to balance family and career then allowed her to step down and practice as an associate until electing to pursue a new concentration in shelter medicine. Dr. Croce trained with the Medical Director at the Humane Alliance in Asheville, NC, and became proficient in performing high volume, high quality spays and neuters, gaining invaluable insights into shelter organizations. Her diverse background allowed her to emphasize the health of the population while still ensuring individual animal welfare.

Dr. Croce is knowledgeable in American Sign Language and Cued Speech for the hearing impaired, and is involved in a fellowship to help family and friends affected by the disease of alcoholism. Her hobbies include scuba diving, photography, horseback riding, and outdoor exercise, especially with her husband and son (and Kai).

**JOHN LEWIS, V’97**

Dr. John Lewis is assistant professor of dentistry and oral surgery and residency director at Penn Vet. He is a Diplomate of the American Veterinary Dental College and a Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry. Dr. Lewis graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 1997 and spent five years in general practice prior to returning for a residency in dentistry and oral surgery at Penn. Dr. Lewis’ clinical interests include endodontics, feline tooth resorption, feline stomatitis, oral surgical oncology, noninvasive jaw fracture repair, and lasers in oral surgery and dentistry.

Dr. Lewis is Immediate Past President of the American Veterinary Dental Society, and he is active on various committees of the AVDS, AVD, and AVDC. He serves as faculty advisor to Alpha Psi Veterinary Fraternity, the student chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association, and the Shelter Animal Medicine Club. When not treating patients or teaching veterinary dentistry and oral surgery, Dr. Lewis enjoys spending time with his wife, four sons, two dogs, and two cats.