



# THE RADIOGRAPH

## MVC ALUMNI RECEPTION

Please join us on **Friday February 20, 2015** for our Annual MVC Alumni Reception. The reception will be held in Downtown Columbus at **Barley's Brewing Company** (467 N. High St.) following Friday's Midwest Veterinary Conference events. Please provide your RSVP at: <http://tinyurl.com/AYrsvpMVC15>

Alumni at the 2014 Reception



## SINCE LAST TIME

Happy New Year! The members of Alpha Psi have been busy since last year. We said goodbye to our graduating seniors with a rousing Senior Send-off at Marshall's in Grandview Heights; and over the summer, our members kept busy with externships, conferences, classes, and vacations. This issue of The Radiograph spotlights trips to New Orleans, Spain and even Ethiopia. Also included in this issue are ways to connect with members including Adopt-An-Active and a new Alumni Externship Network. Alpha Psi has already taken off with events in the 2014-15 school year. New this year, we have hosted professional development lunch lectures and happy hours, and formed an intramural volleyball team that played at Fred Beekman Park. This fall we initiated 13 new brothers, and are looking forward to an exciting year!



Alpha Psi would like to introduce our new advisor, Dr. Eric Green! Dr. Green has been at OSU since 2002, and is a Clinical Professor of radiology and radiation oncology. He grew up in Waukesha, WI; and completed his DVM at The University of Wisconsin in 1995. He discovered his passion for radiology while in vet school, but growing up he aspired to be a marine biologist. As a senior veterinary student, he even spent three months in Washington DC working on marine husbandry issues with the Center for Marine Conservation.

Dr. Green enjoys all aspects of teaching, from students in the classroom and clinics to radiology residents. He was

kind enough to share a few radiology tips, including that practitioners should know what makes an image a good image, and to keep proper technique and positioning in mind. Dr. Green also encourages both students and alumni to take advantage of any CE opportunities, at both the local and national levels. He would like to remind alumni that he, along with other clinicians, serve as great resources, even without a formal consultation.

The brothers of Alpha Psi are excited to have Dr. Green as our advisor and look forward to working with him in the future!

## ALUMNI EXTERNSHIP NETWORK

Are you interested in hosting a vet student for an externship? Alpha Psi would like to build an externship network for current members to obtain hands-on experience and connect with alumni.

Go to [tinyurl.com/AYextern](http://tinyurl.com/AYextern) for a brief info survey about your practice!



Stephanie Spignesi with one of the galgos scheduled for a castration that day.

### Running With the Galgos *by Stephanie Spignesi*

This past May, I was fortunate to travel to Medina del Campo, Spain with Dr C. Guillermo Couto to help with a spay and neuter program. I arrived at the Scooby Shelter with five other OSU students, not really knowing what to expect, other than that I'd get to work with the Spanish greyhounds, or galgos. We worked in teams with the Spanish vet students to collect dogs, calculate anesthetic drug doses, place catheters and prep them for castration. We had several veterinarians present to guide us through our surgeries and help us with our technique. Although there was a bit of a language barrier at first, we worked together well.

After a few days of castrations, we spotted a dog that had a wound on his side. My classmate and I were assigned to bring the dog to the clinic area and triage his condition. Once inside, we saw that the wound was old and necrotic, and we elected to remove the dead tissue. We named the dog "Gash" and under the guidance of a veterinary surgeon, my classmate and I performed an en block debridement and wound closure. Although Gash was shy at first, he did very well and proved to be a very sweet dog!

My experience at Scooby was truly once in a lifetime. I got to work with amazing people and animals and I got to see and do more than I ever imagined. I even got to visit the center of the town to experience Spanish culture and food! It was a whirlwind of a week; full of excitement, exhaustion, and fun.

Check out our new **website** for available merchandise and previous issues of The Radiograph:  
<http://www.alphachapterofalphapsi.com>

Find us on **FACEBOOK** at:  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/alphachapterofalphapsi/>

### Beignets, Pralines, and Primates...Oh my?!

*by Shraddha Cantara*

I had the opportunity to complete an internship at Tulane National Primate Research Center (TNPRC) in Covington, LA this summer, after my second year of vet school. My career interest is orienteered towards clinical laboratory animal medicine, so I was very excited to experience primate medicine. TNPRC houses over 5,000 primates, mainly Rhesus Macaques, who are part of either a breeding colony or research studies focusing on infectious diseases and biodefense.

As a student intern, I was able to experience every aspect of primate medicine: clinical, research, behavior, and regulatory medicine. I shadowed the clinical veterinarians as they diagnosed and treated cases. I was able to learn and practice suturing, venipuncture, and physical exams. At TNPRC, the veterinarians collect all the samples; so I was able to observe procedures such as endoscopy to collect intestinal biopsies for Simian Immunodeficiency Virus (SIV). TNPRC has a department of behavior management, which is responsible for observing and analyzing primate behavior. I learned about primate behavior by helping to socialize animals, and clicker trained fearful animals to accept treats from my hands. Also, regulation is a large part of lab animal medicine, I was able to attend IACUC meetings and learn about how research protocols are reviewed prior to any animal use in experiments.

This was a fantastic summer experience! The veterinarians at TNPRC were so kind and eager to teach. I was a bit skeptical about the use of primates in research, as it has historically been a controversial topic. However, after having this experience, I have to say that the animals are diligently cared for and respected. This experience helped me finalize my decision to specialize in laboratory animal medicine as a veterinarian.



Shraddha Cantara (bottom right) pictured with her summer colleagues at TNPRC.

## ADOPT-AN-ACTIVE

Are you interested in what Alpha Psi is up to? Are you curious about how vet school has changed? Adopt an Active is a new program that pairs up practicing Alpha Psi Alumni to an active Alpha Psi member. Share your wisdom with the next generation of veterinarians and get the scoop on Alpha Psi events at the same time. Reconnect with Alpha Psi and make a difference to a vet student! Send an email to [osu.alphapsi.1@gmail.com](mailto:osu.alphapsi.1@gmail.com) to be a part of this exciting new program.

## Let's Flock to Exotic New Orleans!

*by Lara Backus*

This August, I had the pleasure of attending the annual Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference and Expo, which was held in New Orleans. This was my second time attending the conference, and I felt as if I was able to learn even more at the lectures and wet labs with an extra year of vet school behind me. I attended lectures on everything from wound healing in birds to how to fix a turtle shell (an unfortunately common problem in pet and wild turtles). I even got to use an endoscope for the first time, inserting endotracheal tubes into cadaver rabbits, guinea pigs and sugar gliders. We don't usually get a lot of small pocket pets at Ohio State so I was happy to get some hands-on experience.

That's not to say that we stayed inside learning all day! We were in New Orleans, after all. I was able to experience some great New Orleans flavors, such as beignets at Café du Monde, muffulettas and spicy gumbo. I was even able to take a trip down to Bourbon Street with some of the other students there and the AAV was generous enough to provide a bowling social event that included a live jazz band.

Just like last year, this year's conference made me even more excited to become an exotics veterinarian and treat rabbits, birds, ferrets and every other kind of exotic pet imaginable. Hopefully I'll have time to attend next year in the middle of rotations!



## Two Weeks with the USDA

*by Paulyne Bellen*

I lived in northern New Jersey for over ten years and was spoiled to have access to the many impeccable restaurants of New York City. When I moved to Ohio to pursue veterinary medicine, I was shocked culturally. During the first year of vet school, I had no knowledge, exposure or handling experience in food animal settings. I was prompted to apply for a USDA internship shadowing state veterinarians and inspectors all over Ohio during state fairs, livestock auctions, routine farm and meat packing inspections. My goal was to fill the gap in my knowledge and lack of experience to cope better in my classes.

I learned the complexity and labor-intensive nature of livestock farming and witnessed the culture among farmers and traders. I was completely overwhelmed with the logistics involved in transporting animals across multiple state lines during their short lifetime prior to slaughter. Another aspect was the intensive manpower and extensive distribution network involved in processing food products from suppliers all the way to supermarkets and restaurants. So many animals and manpower are involved in delivering food conveniently and safely, but go overlooked by end consumers.

I learned to not only to appreciate food, but I also changed my consumption habits to prevent as much waste. Secondly, seeing the extensive network involved in food production and processing taught me the susceptibility in spreading foodborne pathogens; and how vulnerable the current food supply is to contamination. This prompted me to pursue a dual degree in Masters in Public health concurrent with my DVM.

I was a "city" girl who was naive to livestock farming and took for granted the privilege of having accessibility to abundant food choices. I became educated that such a privilege comes with a high price in terms of animal health, welfare, and sacrifices of the hard working farmers. The experience was beyond educational as it reshaped my consumer behavior and career direction.

**Wyandotte Wednesday!** Members took a mid-week break to explore Columbus and relax with a wine tasting.



## Alpha Psi in Ethiopia *by Kelsey Gerbig*

This summer, Alexandra Medley, Maria Belu, and I traveled to Ethiopia for research projects. All three of us were working on different projects focusing on different animals—Alexandra worked on developing and implementing a population survey for dogs in Gondar; Maria collected fecal samples from dogs, Gelada baboons, oryx, and dromedary camels from several parts of Ethiopia for a *Salmonella* study; and I focused on collecting blood and respiratory secretions from dromedary camels in the Upper Awash Rift Valley for *Trypanosoma* and other infectious disease research. In addition to our research projects, we also assisted in a combined mass spay/neuter and rabies vaccination clinic; helping to pre-medicate, monitor, and recover patients. During our time there we worked with Ethiopian veterinarians, veterinary students, and researchers from the University of Gondar and the Addis Ababa University Aklilu Lemma Institute of Pathobiology.

This trip was an incredible experience – not only did I have the opportunity to conduct my own research, but I also was fortunate enough to do so in a country with rich and vibrant cultures (over 80 different ethnic groups can be found within the borders of Ethiopia). In order to sample from dromedary camels, we worked closely with a pastoralist tribe in the Upper Awash Rift Valley. These people lead a nomadic lifestyle to herd their animals to land with adequate water and food. We learned about their animal husbandry. For example, the pastoralists used different branding patterns to identify their animals rather than ear tags or ear notching. Additionally, they had a unique way of restraining camels, using a scarf wrapped around the camel's forelimb and neck, rather than a halter. The fieldwork in the Upper Awash Rift Valley was my favorite part of the entire trip—the work was exhausting, but what we learned and saw that day was invaluable and is something that I will never forget.



Kelsey Gerbig (right) while sampling in the Upper Awash Rift Valley, Ethiopia.

**Paws in the Plaza!** This Gahanna, Ohio summer event was a fun place for members to catch up.



## Graduate Business Minor in Health Sciences

*by Kristina Solch*

This summer, myself and sixteen other veterinary students finished classes to earn a Graduate Business Minor in Health Sciences. We were joined by two nursing students and a research student to complete seven classes over two summers. Fellow Alpha Psi members in the classes include: Lara Backus, Ashley Ham, Rachel Hollenbach, Genevieve Okenka, and Christina Shelley (class of 2017, completed her first summer).

Our classes consisted of:

- BUSMGT 7701: Managing Business Operations for Health Sciences,
- BUSFIN 7702: Applied Managerial Economics for Health Sciences
- BUSMHR 7703: Leadership, Talent Management & Organizational Behavior in Health Sciences
- BUSMHR 7714: Strategy and Competitive Analysis for Health Sciences
- BUSML 7715: Attracting and Retaining Customers in Health Sciences
- AMIS 7716: Accounting and Financial Analysis in Health Sciences
- BUSMGT 7717: Capstone: Healthcare Business Solution Teams

The Fisher College of Business teamed up with professional health care colleges throughout the university to offer health care students the opportunity to gain a noteworthy business education specifically tailored to our career choices. Our classes taught us how to be great bosses, market our services to our clients, and manage our own money. Too often, veterinary students graduate as fantastic doctors but are lacking the skills to successfully run a business to its fullest potential. Myself, and my 19 classmates, will be entering our respective professions with the knowledge we need to succeed. I am very grateful for this opportunity, and it has no doubt helped me grow as a student, individual, and future veterinarian.

# FALL 2014 RECRUITMENT

Class of 2016 member, Sara (DeWitt) Kessler, with her husband Randy, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Kayla Renee Kessler, on July 3rd, 2014. Kayla is happy and healthy and they are super blessed. They spent the summer in Louisiana, and are very thankful for all the love and support!



Kayla Renee Kessler



July 3rd, 2014

8 lbs 13 oz

21 inches



This semester's fall recruitment included some of our favorite events such as a Back-To-School Volleyball Picnic and Pumpkin Carving. We also introduced a few new events like a Recruitment Happy Hour, Random Bagel Wednesday, and a cookout for first year students the weekend before their first canine anatomy exam. Informal initiation was held on November 10<sup>th</sup>, with Formal Initiation following at Schmidt's Sausage Haus on November 15<sup>th</sup>. We were excited to celebrate and welcome 13 new brothers to our chapter: Kris Galang, Jennifer Garrett, Erika Helgeson, Melissa Jedlicka, Simone Koster, Mary Rose Lawrence, Rachel McNatt, Erin Meola, Elspeth Mitchell, Randy Rock, Kelly Scheuer, Rachel Soltys and Ryan Yanez.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: KATHERYN KUCHYT

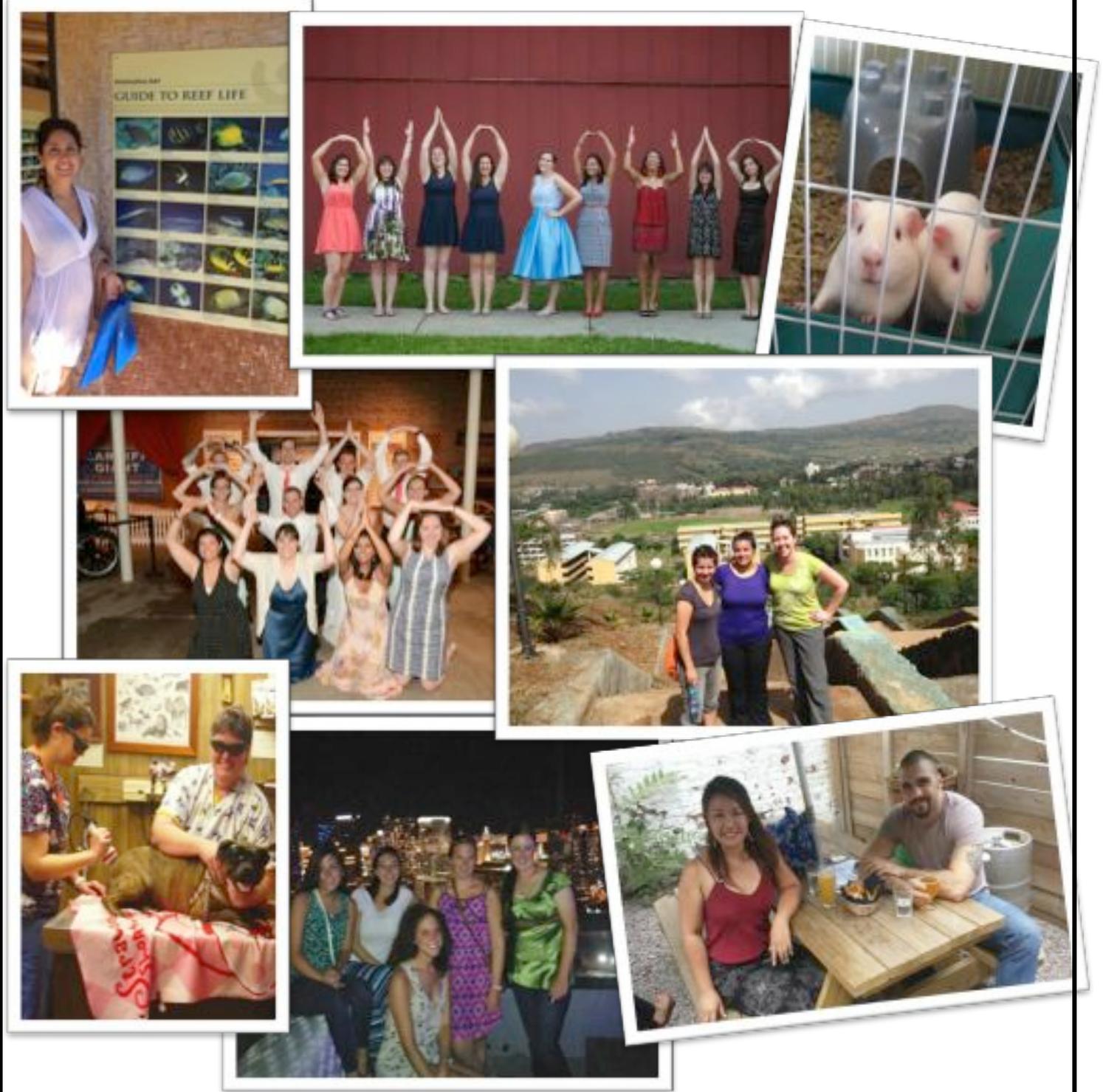
Dr. Katheryn Kuchyt (Class of 2014) has recently been elected as the Secretary/Treasurer of the National Board of Alpha Psi. She replaces Dr. John Gifford (Class of 1984) who has previously held this position. The 2015 Alpha Psi National Meeting was held on Saturday January 17<sup>th</sup> at the Courtyard Orlando Lake Buena Vista in Marriott Village. Current member Natalie Davidson represented Alpha chapter at the meeting, and we look forward to her report.

Dr. Kuchyt is currently working part time at Animal Medical and Surgical Center (AMSC), a mixed animal practice in Coshocton, OH where she is on call 4 nights a week. She is also in the final stretch of completing a dual degree in the Masters in Veterinary Public Health Program; and upon completion, she will return to AMSC as a full time associate veterinarian. If that wasn't enough, she has also been busy with wedding plans for this coming September, with plans to reside in Lowell, Ohio.



**The Radiograph Contributors:** Lara Backus, Paulynne Bellen, Shraddha Cantara, Kelsey Gerbig, Genevieve Okenka, Kristina Solch and Stephanie Spignesi.

# HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION



**Alpha Psi members found time this summer to travel, learn, explore and relax!** Clockwise from top: Rosana Segovia Limaico visited Hanauma Bay, HI; Julie Fitzwater (center) married Kevin Pospichel in Kent, OH; Tina and Louise were adopted by Stephanie Spignesi (not pictured) following her summer research; Maria Belu, Alexandra Medley, and Kelsey Gerbig took time to sight-see in Ethiopia; Paulynne Bellen (left) caught up with Alpha Chapter alumni Dr. Adam Mauser in NYC; Rachel Hollenbach (second from left) represented Ohio State on the AAHA National Leadership Team in Las Vegas, NV; Genevieve Okenka (left) learned laser therapy while externing in Madisonville, TX; and Lynnea Mallen (center row, second from the right) married Luke Sposki in Cooperstown, NY.