

KCRVTA NEWS

June 2017

Association Update

The KCRVTA continues to grow! We are so excited for the future of the organization. Thank you for the continued support and encouragement.

Members had a great time at the last social event—Family Feud, Vet Tech Style. A huge shout out to The Bar in Mission, KS for providing the room, good food and beverage. Raffle items won included stethoscope charms and a \$25 gift card to Beer Paws. Plans are underway for the next get together—you won't want to miss it!

We still have KCRVTA t-shirts for sale! We have added more sizes to the inventory. Wearing the shirts is a great way to show support for the organization!

What's Next?

Continuing Education Session #2! Dr. Brian Lucas-Hamm will be discussing transfusion medicine. Join us on July 13 from 6:30-8:00 at the Matt Ross Community Center in Overland Park. Details may be found at [FB Event Page](#).

Additional plans include a KCRVTA booth at the CVC Conference, job fair, and a fall CE event.

Eudaimonia

(n.) a contented

state of being

healthy, happy, and

prosperous

Newsworthy

In May, NAVTA's Board of Directors announced its decision to move forward with the initiative for standardization of credentialing and titling for veterinary technicians. After much research, consideration and debate, NAVTA has begun the arduous and lengthy process of pursuing legislative amendments to establish the title of Registered Veterinary Nurse (RVN).

Details and progress of this initiative may be found at [NAVTA's website](#).

STAY SMART! UPCOMING CE EVENTS

KCRVTA, OPKS
July 13, 2017

AVMA, Indiana
July 21st—25th, 2017

BluePearl, OPKS
August 17, 2017

CVC, KCMO
August 25th—28th, 2017

Heatstroke-BluePearl
September 24, 2017

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We Want to Hear From YOU!

We are nothing without our members!
All feedback and ideas are welcomed.

HEAT STROKE

Meagan Parks, RVT

There is a dog in a car and it is 80 degrees Fahrenheit outside...

This can be a controversial subject in some states. Unfortunately, Missouri and Kansas do not have clear state laws defining what exactly should be done when you find a dog locked in a hot car. Below are the recommended steps to follow:

1. Take a picture and/or write down the model, make, color and license plate of the vehicle.
2. Take a picture of the dog locked in the car with a time stamp if able. Recording the situation can also be helpful.
3. If you're in the parking lot of a store or restaurant go inside (or send a friend inside and you stay with the dog) to alert the management/security at once to make an announcement on the intercom with the make and model of the car stating it is an *emergency situation to return to the vehicle at once*. Return to the vehicle.
4. If you are unable to find the owner of the dog within a few minutes call the authorities²! For convenience make sure and program non-emergency police numbers and animal control numbers in your phone. This is a great thing to do anyways!
5. If you are unable to get immediate help or assistance and the dog is starting to go into shock (heatstroke¹) remove the animal **if possible** from the car³. Record your actions to give to the authorities. They may question why you have removed the dog from the hot vehicle. It is a great idea in the summer months to always keep a gallon of water and a blanket in your car for emergencies like this! Make sure the dog is given cool water while waiting on help to arrive.
6. With the dog in the car or at your side wait for the owner and the authorities to arrive. Make sure and give all of the evidence you have collected to the authorities. If the owner arrives before the authorities make sure and keep calm and explain to them why you are there. Education is power! You've just saved the dog and prevented the owner from thousands of dollars in veterinary bills and even the loss of their pet.

As a community the best thing to do about this unfortunate and deadly mistake is educate our pet owners! Make sure your hospital has posted something in their bulletins, social media, and lobbies about the dangers of heatstroke. It is our job as animal advocates to help prevent this deadly mistake. Make sure and make it a habit of daily discussion with any pet owner you come into contact with.

¹**Signs and symptoms of heatstroke:** restlessness or sudden lethargy, heavy panting with dark red or pale gums, vomiting, unconsciousness, seizures, change in mentation, and internal body temperature above 106 degrees Fahrenheit.

²**Calling the authorities:** Do not call 911 unless you find a child or person locked in a hot vehicle. Make sure and call the non-emergency number or animal control.

³**Removing a dog from the car:** do this at your own risk! If the car is unlocked there is no legal repercussion if there is no damage and the dog is taken by the authorities or back to the owner. If you lack proper documentation of your actions or are suspected of malicious activity you may be prosecuted by the authorities or the owner of the vehicle.

Events In and Around KC

July 25th—Talent and Trick Show
KC Bier Co.

August 30th—Bark at the Park
Kauffman Stadium

September 17—Strut With Your Mutt
Brookside

