

AAV Member Spotlight: Drury Reavill, DVM, DABVP, DACVP

Most memorable AAV experience or contribution

I was part of an enthusiastic group of veterinary students at CSU very involved with exotic animals. I remember we had to request permission to attend the AAV Conference in Boulder in 1985. I knew right then, that this is what I wanted to do as a veterinarian. My first presentation at an AAV Conference came in 1990, Phoenix. I remember being scared but thrilled that I had finally arrived—I had something I could share with fellow avian veterinarians.

What is your favorite avian species and why?

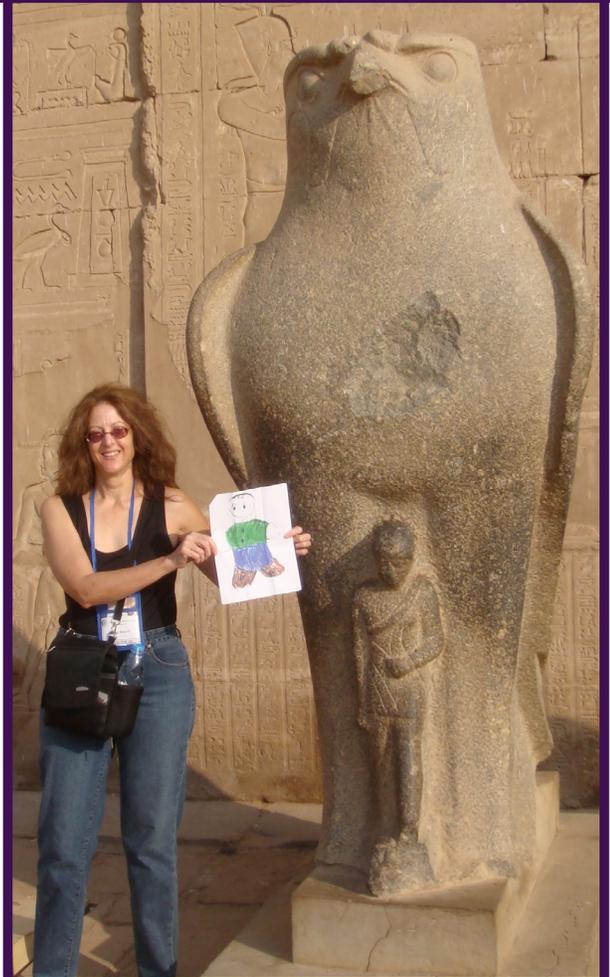
Budgerigars are a life-long favorite bird. I kept them as a child and routinely had one riding around on my head or shoulder when doing homework. I continue to enjoy their sassy little voices and 'big bird' attitude with a small flock living in my home-office.

What was the last interesting avian medical or surgical issue you dealt with in your work?

Being part of the large group of professionals investigating the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) oil spill has been a challenging and rewarding project. In 2010, 3.2 million of barrels of crude oil were released into the northern Gulf of Mexico, exposing numerous species of animals to the toxic components of oil. I did histology work on both numerous avian species as well as exposed fish from the gulf. The papers are now appearing in print.

What was your favorite class or activity in vet school/vet tech school/college?

I had two opportunities that I enjoyed while in vet school. One was being chosen to attend Aquavet 1 in 1984. The other was having the chance to do a two-month-long Non-Domestic Animal Medicine program (pet birds, aquarium fish, lab animals, and selected zoo animals) at University of Georgia, College of Veterinary Medicine, Athens, Georgia in 1985. Not only did I meet up with a favorite instructor from Aquavet, Dr. John Gratzek, but I met the larger-than-life Dr. Richard Davis. His background was in poultry but he was one of the first who recognized polyomavirus as the cause for Budgerigar fledgling disease.



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