

AAV Member Spotlight: Lindsay Bush (DVM Candidate)

It is with great pleasure that we present the AAV newsletter: Member Spotlight. This special feature showcases the association's most valuable asset—our members—by highlighting our diverse backgrounds, professional activities, experience, and geographic locations.

If you would like to be featured in this section, or would like to suggest a fellow member to profile, please complete the [Member Spotlight Questionnaire](#) today.

What was the first bird job you ever had?

Although I had spent several years working with wild birds in a rehabilitation hospital setting and with layer and broiler chickens in the poultry industry, my first official bird job was with The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota. I worked as the Veterinary Student Clinician, where I performed treatments and admitted new patients to the hospital on the weekends. It was an incredible experience that allowed me to learn and practice clinical avian medicine for raptors.

What is your favorite avian species and why?

It is a tie! My favorite wild avian species is the barn owl. They are beautiful, powerful, silent predators and have a terrifying call, which I was "lucky" enough to unexpectedly hear one night in the woods. My favorite domestic avian species is the Silkie chicken. They have such a sweet personality and striking physical attributes, from their namesake feathers to their black skin and blue ear lobes!

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

During my time at The Raptor Center, I treated several patients suffering from lead toxicosis. Although these cases often ended tragically, I was continually impressed by the power of chelation therapy and supportive care. These cases inspired me to help promote the use of copper-based shot for hunting in Minnesota. Treating these birds in the clinic made a long-lasting impression on me, and being able to describe their symptoms to others has left a long-lasting impression on them. Hopefully the future holds positive change and a reduction in lead toxicity cases in our birds of prey.

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

I am about to enter my clinical year of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at the University of Minnesota and my favorite classes have, not surprisingly, revolved around avian medicine. It was always exciting to break up learning about the more traditional species with electives on birds. I have had the opportunity to learn from some incredible avian clinicians and pathologists, including Dr. Patrick Redig, Dr. Julia Ponder and Dr. Robert Porter.



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