



# Alabama Veterinary Medical Association

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*Protecting People, Pets and Livestock - Yesterday, Today and Always.*

## PRESS RELEASE

### ALVMA Installs 2016 Officers

June 11, 2015

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** - The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association held its annual conference at Sandestin Beach Resort and Spa, June 3-7, in conjunction with the Georgia Veterinary Medical Association. The conference is now known as the Emerald Coast Veterinary Conference and is attended by veterinarians from over 32 states. The new ALVMA officers were installed at the ALVMA Awards Luncheon on June 4.

"We are excited about the opportunities for veterinarians in the upcoming year," says ALVMA President T.C. Branch, DVM. "Our board members are dedicated to our profession and look forward to making the veterinary community stronger through new programs and benefits for our membership."

New officers were sworn in on Thursday as follows; President T.C. Branch, DVM of Birmingham; President Elect Harold Pate Jr., DVM of Lowndesboro; Vice President Charles Ashwander, DVM of Decatur; Treasurer Ralph W. Womer, Jr., DVM of Auburn and Board Member at Large James H. Lee, DVM of Atmore. John Hammons, DVM of Athens will serve as immediate past president.

The ALVMA seeks to raise public awareness about general pet healthcare and focuses on the ways preventive care can be cost-effective and increase the length and quality of the life of your pet. Additionally, there are topics like disaster preparedness, dog bite prevention and poison prevention that the ALVMA promotes throughout the year. The ALVMA encourages pet owners to stay current on vaccinations and heartworm preventative. In addition to traditional healthcare, the field of veterinary medicine is expanding through new and progressive services and treatments including cancer, diabetes and various types of laser treatments and surgeries. Regular visits to your veterinarian will increase the chances of preventing certain diseases and identifying underlying disease early. Many times veterinarians can detect conditions that would otherwise go unnoticed.

The ALVMA is the oldest and largest professional veterinary association in the state of Alabama and is nationally recognized as one of the most active. ALVMA members are dedicated to the advancement of the art and science of veterinary medicine, the promotion and support of sound legislation as it affects veterinarians, and the encouragement of responsible pet ownership. Many ALVMA members participate in Alabama's spay/neuter license plate program which offers low-cost spay/neuter services to those who qualify for assistance. This program is funded by the sale of spay/neuter license plates and also by designated funds submitted via a check off box on the Alabama income tax return.

Founded in 1907, The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association is comprised of approximately 725 veterinarians from around the state, all committed to protecting People, Pets and Livestock – Yesterday, Today and Always.

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