2026 AKVMA Symposium Agenda

Friday, October 9

4:00pm	CONFERENCE CHECK IN—LOBBY AREA By FOREDECK	BRONZE Sponsor Hill's Pet Nutrition
5:00—6:00pm (1 hr. CE—non-medical)	FOREDECK (Main Level) International Health Certificates: Tips, Tricks, and A Few Pearls	SILVER Sponsor Trupanion *Ginny Kunch, DVM, MRCVS*
6:00—7:15pm	LIGHT HORS D'OEUVRES WITH EXHIBITORS—AFT DECK/MID DECK	DIAMOND Sponsor zoetis
7:20—9:00pm (2 hrs. CE—medical)	FOREDECK (Main Level) State and Federal Updates Typhoon Halong and Emergency Response	*Sarah Coburn, DVM, MS; and Louisa Castrodale, DVM, MPH*

Saturday, October 10

6:30am	CONFERENCE CHECK IN—LOBBY AREA By FOREDECK	BRONZE Sponsor Hill's Pet Nutrition
7:00—8:10am	BREAKFAST WITH EXHIBITORS—AFT DECK/MID DECK	
	VETERINARIAN TRACK	VETERINARY TECHNICIAN TRACK
8:10—9:50am (2 hrs. CE—medical)	FOREDECK (Main Level) So… It's Oral Melanoma. Now What? *Vanessa Rizzo, DVM, ACVIM (O)* GOLD Sponsor HOPE VETERINARY SPECIALTY SERVICES	ENDEAVOR (Lower Level) Dental Charting for the Veterinary Technician Oral Radiograph Techniques and Positioning for the Veterinary Technician *Sarah Havens, LVT, VTS* SILVER Sponsor Trupanion
9:50—10:20am	REFRESHMENT BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS—AFT DECK/MID DECK	
10:20—Noon (2 hrs. CE—medical)	FOREDECK (Main Level) The Lymphoma Multiverse: When Dogs and Cats Break All the Rules *Vanessa Rizzo, DVM, ACVIM (O)* GOLD Sponsor HOPE VETERINARY SPECIALTY SERVICES	ENDEAVOR (Lower Level) Instrumentation and the Veterinary Technician's Role in Extractions *Sarah Havens, LVT, VTS* SILVER Sponsor Trupanion
Noon—1:30pm	LUNCH WITH EXHIBITORS—AFT DECK/MID DECK	
	VETERINARIAN TRACK	VETERINARY TECH TRACK
1:30—3:15pm (2 hrs. CE—medical)	FOREDECK (Main Level) Fluid Therapy & Transfusion Medicine Complex Cases *Michael Kato, DVM, DACVECC* SILVER Sponsor Best Pet RX BRONZE Sponsor Thrive Veterinary Surgical Services, LLC	ENDEAVOR (Lower Level) Anesthesia Fundamentals: Monitors Catching the Waves of Capnography *Gaby Escalante, DVM, DACVAA* GOLD Sponsor PET EMERGENCY TREATMENT / PET URGENT CARE
3:15—3:45pm	REFRESHMENT BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS—AFT DECK/MID DECK	
3:45—5:30pm (2 hrs. CE—medical)	FOREDECK (Main Level) Diagnosis & Treatment of Sepsis & Septic Shock *Michael Kato, DVM, DACVECC* SILVER Sponsor Nutramax	ENDEAVOR (Lower Level) Veterinary Radiology: Principles and Practical Applications for the Veterinary Technician *Cynthia Collins, DVM, DACVR* BRONZE Sponsor Alpine Veterinary Radiology
5:40pm	FOREDECK (Main Level) AKVMA Membership Meeting	ENDEAVOR (Lower Level) AKVTA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday, October 11

6:30am	CONFERENCE CHECK IN—LOBBY AREA OUTSIDE OF FOREDECK	BRONZE Sponsor Hill's Pet Nutrition
6:45am 7:10—8am (1 hr. CE—non-medical)	AFT DECK/MID DECK (Main Level) Breakfast Buffet Opens Speaker Session — Who's Barking Up Which Tree? Demystifying the Board of Veterinary Examiners, AKVMA, and the Legislative Process *Rachel K. Berngartt, D.V.M., J.D.*	
	VETERINARIAN TRACK	**VETERINARY TECHNICIAN TRACK**
8:10—9:55am (2 hrs. CE—medical)	FOREDECK (Main Level) Veterinary Surgeon's Guide to Successful Anesthesia Never Too Young or Too Old for Drugs! Pediatric & Geriatric Anesthesia Considerations *Gaby Escalante, DVM, DACVAA* GOLD Sponsor PET EMERGENCY TREATMENT PET URGENT CARE	ENDEAVOR (Lower Level) Monitoring & Care of the Critically ILL Patient *Michael Kato, DVM, DACVECC* SILVER Sponsor Simmons Northwest
9:55—10:30am	REFRESHMENT BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS—AFT DECK/MID DECK	
10:30—12:10 (2 hrs. CE—medical) Veterinarian Session (2 hrs. CE—non-medical) Technician Session	FOREDECK (Main Level) Breaking Down Brachycephalic Anesthesia Beyond Brachycephalics: Breed-Specific Anesthesia Considerations *Gaby Escalante, DVM, DACVAA* SILVER Sponsor Arctic Echoes Veterinary Cardiology	ENDEAVOR (Lower Level) Conflict Resolution Using the Non-violent Communication Model *Betsy Charles, DVM, MA* SILVER Sponsor Scratch
12:15—1:30pm	LUNCH WITH EXHIBITORS—AFT DECK/MID DECK	
	GENERAL SESSION—FOREDECK (Main Level)	
1:30—3:20pm (2 hrs. CE—non-medical)	The Future is Bright - How to Lead Well In Veterinary Medicine *Betsy Charles, DVM, MA*	GOLD Sponsor IDEXX SILVER Sponsor North Pole Veterinary Hospital
3:20—3:40pm	REFRESHMENT BREAK—AFT DECK/MID DECK	
	GENERAL SESSION—FOREDECK (Main Level)	
3:40—5:30pm (2 hrs. CE—medical)	Clingy or Clinical? Navigating Canine Separation Anxiety Pills, Problems, and Pets: A Practical Guide to Small Animal Behavior *Mandy Seymour, DVM, MS* *Resident in Training—American College of Veterinary Behavior* SILVER Sponsor VCA Alaska Animal Hospitals	