

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Vet School</u>	<u>Grad Year</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Comments</u>
David E. Anderson	NC	1990	TN	USA	Congratulations on completion of an arduous journey to become a veterinarian! The path you follow is yours to choose, but graduation is the beginning of a lifetime of learning, caring, and serving. Strive to be a valued member of the community as a knowledgeable resource, caring servant, and ardent champion of people and animals. The clients and people in the community are the mirror in which we see ourselves. Be kind, generous, and forgiving as you would hope to
Renee Dewell	CSU	1996	IA	USA	Welcome! So glad to have you as a colleague in this profession. My suggestions: Don't be afraid to reach out to a mentor for help on specific cases, life balance, etc. If you don't have that(those) relationship(s) yet, get them! But, also keep in mind that you are now a graduate DVM with a lot of knowledge. Strive to be confident (but never cocky) but also humble. Be teachable- by your fellow veterinarians, by your technicians, by your producers. Take
Jessica R. Spatz-Shelgren	COR	1988	Waikato	NEW ZEALAND	Welcome to a profession that never has a dull moment, that never stops giving (or taking) but offers limitless oppoortunites. Hard work pays off as well as sitting and having a coffee with a client. Never let them see you sweat and always try your best, you get back what you give. Always follow through on your promises and follow up on cases, it builds trust and shows integrity. Take time to watch the sunrises
Jody A. Kull	VA	2004	PA	USA	You can do this! Be friendly, be confident, and be willing to learn from colleagues and producers. Be realistic in your expectations of rural veterinary practice -- it is hard work, but extremely rewarding. Not every patient lives, not every situation is perfect, and you don't know all the answers. None of us do. You can (and should) set realistic boundaries; you can (and should) stay safe; you can (and should) do other things in your community besides practicing
Donald E. Sanders	OH	1968	OH	USA	To new grads, be all that you can be. Set yourself up with written goals posted to a place you will see them every day. Divide them into one-year, three-year, and five- to seven-year goals. The one-year goal is things that you are set to achieve by staying focused. The three-year goals will take some work but are attainable if you work hard. The five to seven-year goals are those dreams you hope to achieve

Nicholas C. Chuff	COR	1977	NY	USA	The best advise I can give about relations with your clients is to "Learn more, so that you can serve more,so that you both can earn more"
Casey Pawelk	MN	2018	MN	USA	When cases go wrong, don't be too hard on yourself! The animal came to you with a problem and you're trying to fix it. Sometimes you can't but that isn't always your fault! If you show clients that you care about their animals and their operation, they will understand any mistake you make. Eventually the job is going to become less about the medicine and more about the amazing clients that become
Dee Griffin	OK	1975	NE	USA	When I got out of school I thought I liked cattle ... it didn't take long before it became clear, what I loved were the people who cared for cattle ... they care for the cattle when its cold, hot, on Easter Sunday, Christmas day, the day a child is born, they day their parent dies ... Fall in love with the people ... and DAILY ask yourself; What might I have done DIFFERENTLY? What went GREAT? What GLITCHES did I encounter? What am I GRATEFUL for today? & What are my GOALS for tomorrow? (make them your daily DGs)
Sandra Godden	MN	1993	MN	USA	Get comfortable saying "I don't know...but I'll find out and get back to you."
Joan Bowen	CSU	1976	CO	USA	Good Morning! The best advice I have ever received came from an experienced dairyman, cattle appraiser and sheep producer who once commented "you will be about as happy as you mean to be." Clyde was a mentor, teacher and friend who taught me so much about working cattle, challenging myself and rolling with the punches life throws at you. You already know so much about medicine, now it is time to learn how to work with your clients and your colleagues.
Tim Nickel	WCV	1996	AB	USA	Welcome to the profession! Celebrate your victories, small and large. However, there will always be the cases that humble you. Learn from them, but try not to let them weigh you down. When opportunity knocks (both professional or personal), sometimes the best things happen when you open that door. Don't be afraid to try new things -
Allison Vander Plaats	COR	2016	CA	USA	Your first job doesn't have to be the job you stay at forever! Veterinary training has many different pathways - don't be afraid to explore & bet on yourself. And find a great support system - friends, partner, parents, aunts, cousins, grandparents, gym buddies, etc.

Arthur G. Dunham	IA	1974	IA	USA	Welcome to our great service profession. Please read all the science you can get your hands on including foreign material that often gives alternatives to standard American agribusiness approaches. Be members of AABP and AASV etc. to help with this and go to as many preseminars as you can. Attend some international conferences overseas every 10 or so years. Mentor students whenever you get the chance. (My partner and I mentored some great ones including Dr. Marc Kehrli who increased our connections to experts both in the
Beth Reineke	IA	1999	IA	USA	Congratulations on your graduation! You have accomplished much by reaching this milestone. Now I welcome you to the wonderful world of practicing veterinary medicine. Do not let the "unknown" be daunting or fear new challenges. Twenty four years ago I graduated from vet school, moved to North Dakota, was pregnant with my first child, and started my career as a large/mixed animal veterinarian. What could be scarier than that? Have faith in your knowledge, your skills, your colleagues, yourself, and God. You will do great things!
Joshua Steinbart	WI	2013	SD	USA	Awesome job! It is so exciting to be at this point in your life, to actually apply the things you've learned in school to real world
Daniel Grooms	OH	1989	IA	USA	"Whether you think you can, or you think you can't--you're right."— Henry Ford A positive attitude goes a long ways towards success and happiness! Regardless of what happens, keep a "glass half full" perspective. And when challenges occur, look at it as an opportunity! Dan Grooms, Dean Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine, AABP
Hunter Lang	MI	1981	WI	USA	Our profession is acutely aware of the financial burdens of our recent graduates. What helped me was the book "The Millionaire Next Door" which talks about the money habits of millionaires that you would not recognize as millionaires(I wish I had read it earlier in my career). It is a quick read and has been recently re-released with some updated information. It will not solve anyone's financial
Hunter Lang	MI	1981	WI	USA	When getting dressed in the dark, so as not to disturb your significant other, to go out on that 2 AM uterine prolapse - remember the tags go in the back or on the left side. Nothing worse than having your clothes on inside out or backwards when making that first

					Welcome to Bovine Veterinary Medicine and AABP. It is an exciting time to be a cow vet as we are uniquely positioned to help address human society's most significant issues. Issues like climate change, antimicrobial resistance, and food and water security. This profession can be challenging but also rewarding. Please get involved in organizations like AABP if you are able to and never hesitate to reach
Murray Gillies	AVC	2011	NB	CANADA	
Elizabeth Hillebrand	MN	1994	WI	USA	You've learned a lot, now put it to use! Stay current, stay persistent,
Elizabeth Q. Kohtz	WA	2004	ID	USA	Welcome to the profession!
Jennifer Hall	TUF	2008	CT	USA	Everyone can teach you something. Even someone with whom you don't agree, or someone with whom you think you have nothing in common. Be open to new interactions and different ways of thinking and experiencing life. Have fun and remember to take care of
Amy B. Robinson	WI	2001	WI	USA	Welcome to bovine veterinary work! Always remember that there will eventually be more good days than bad, remember your worth- you have knowledge that will ripen with time and become hard earned wisdom, all of it gets easier, the hard calls, the on call time, the rough days- and there are rewarding days along the way. We all
Marie Buschschulte-Schrei	STG	2011	MN	USA	It's okay to say you don't know something, make an educated guess and follow up with diagnostics or phone a friend. No one has all the answers. Set boundaries, don't give your personal number out. Some days everything goes right, some days everything goes wrong... the good days get you through the bad days. Learn something from each
Justin Hess	WI	2015	MI	USA	Congratulations
Joseph H. Snyder	OR	1983	OR	USA	One mentor said to us: Every one of you can be the best veterinarian! You know what you know, and you know what you don't know ... and you know who knows what you don't know .... and you have their phone number. Another said to me: The secret of success in LA practice is persistence. You can makes mistakes, we all do, and the
Corale M. Dorn	IA	2001	SD	USA	Be the change that you want to see in this profession. Don't wait for someone to make your luck, you have all the attributes of a successful professional, you just have to believe in yourself! And
Tera Rooney Barnhardt	KS	2014	KS	USA	If you're after a meaningful goal, you will spend a lot of time being uncomfortable. That's okay. On the other side, is the really great

Jessica Gordon	MI	2007	MI	USA	Remember you can do it. It's all in your brain (or a quick phone call or internet search away). You are meant to be here. You are important. We all felt dumb at the beginning of our careers. I believe in you all.
Alex L. Martinez	OTHER, OT	1977	ON	CANADA	Veterinarians of the future will be paid to prevent diseases, to cure is
Michael D. Todd	IA	1987	IA	USA	Dr. Westercamp several years ago told me that that when you graduate you will know a lot more than the client. He didn't mean to downplay what they know, but that you have a broader background and as time goes by it will become easier and easier to deal with
James A. Brett	MS	1983	MS	USA	Congratulations to our newest colleagues. I applaud you're entrance to our outstanding profession and to the care & welfare of the ultimate species, the bovine. My wish is that you enjoy your role as a food animal practitioner as much I value the now 40 years since my graduation. Use each day & each experience (successes and failures) as steps to learn, grow & develop your SKA's as a practitioner. AABP is here to help be part of this growth. Utilize us through our
Megan Weisenbeck	MN	2015	MN	USA	Be honest, hardworking, and enjoy the little things! Connect with your clients, some of the employees that work at client operations will be the best people you meet. Don't forget to talk with your support system (friends, family, and colleagues). Being a vet is
Paul R. Biagiotti	TUF	1988	PA	USA	From a vet professor: "We get paid for results"; from my first employer: "You've learned about vet medicine and surgery in school; I'm going to teach you how to make a dollar at it" Step back from time to time to appreciate where you are and what you are doing.
Paul R. Biagiotti	TUF	1988	PA	USA	When you hang out your shingle, the deadbeats of the world will beat a path to your door. They've used up their credit everywhere
Paul R. Biagiotti	TUF	1988	PA	USA	My first week in practice my boss was driving me around the country introducing me to his clients. As we drove by one dairy people were enthusiastically waving and smiling. "Nicest people in the world", my boss unenthusiastically exclaimed, then paused, " Can't pay their

Meredyth Jones	OK	2002	OK	USA	We are so proud of you and are so happy to have you join us! I hope you'll take a little time between graduation and starting work to rest and celebrate. You'll never find a better group of people than cow doctors, so consider us all here to support you. Never hesitate to reach out for help. As you get settled, look for ways to serve in your community and profession. You will not regret it when you see how
Charles E. Gardner	COR	1973	PA	USA	Hello new graduates, and welcome to bovine practice. I hope you have a life and career as blessed as my own. Keep your eyes open for opportunities to change and grow. Don't be afraid to admit mistakes or confess that you don't know the answer, but then do all you can to find the answer. Your clients will appreciate your honesty. I wish you
K. Fred Gingrich II	OH	1995	OH	USA	Congratulations and welcome to the profession! When you cannot control what is happening to you, challenge yourself to control the way you respond to what is happening. That's where your true power is! Carve out a portion of the day for working on you - whatever that looks like make it a habit. Finally, your first job does not have to be
Earl Aalseth	OK	1991	WA	USA	regard your education as just the beginning of your learning. Learn to learn by keeping all your paradigms at risk. Do not accept any presentation as gospel. Look far more for concepts not facts. The ultimate experiment happens in the real world. Academic research is not to dictate how medicine and cattle management is done. It is to give you ideas to try. Be most observant, critical, patient and creative with your medicine. focus much more on prevention not therapy.