

Contact Information

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Avian Specialty Veterinary Services of Alaska

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Career Objective

My desire is to excel in the delivery of compassionate, current medical care to all manner of avifauna. I would also like to contribute meaningfully, through research and collaboration, to our understanding of avian biology, ecology, medicine, and conservation.

Veterinary Work Experience – Independent

2007-Present Sole Proprietor/Veterinarian: Avian Specialty Veterinary Services of Alaska

The following work experience has been primarily under the auspices of my own independent sole proprietorship Avian Specialty Veterinary Services of Alaska. I started this company in January, 2007, and began performing quarterly visits to communities in Alaska for the delivery of avian veterinary services. The goals of these trips include directly assisting pet and wild birds and working with local veterinarians and rehabilitators to increase the level of care offered to birds. The work has grown to be my full-time occupation and includes paid wildlife contracting. Contracts and fees from companion bird work also allow for volunteer participation in selected field research activities (see Volunteer section later in this CV for details on these projects). There is more about my services at www.alaskabirddoc.com.

2010-Present Consultant for Emeraid Diets and Wildlife Conservation

Ted Lafeber, DVM, Lafeber Company, Cornell, IL

Assisting with a survey project regarding use of an elemental gavage diet (Lafeber Emeraid Exotic Carnivore) and, in particular, its application for wildlife care. Also assisting in the production of dosage tables and applications for veterinary paraprofessional use.

2009, 2010 Supporting Veterinarian: Black Scoter Telemetry Project in New Brunswick, Canada

Glenn Olsen, DVM, PhD, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland

Provided surgical services and capture assistance (primarily floating mist nets and some spotlighting) for the implanting of satellite platform transmitting terminals (PTTs) in black scoter as part of project involving Sea Duck Joint Venture, US Geological Survey, and Canadian Wildlife Service. The goal is to better characterize scoter critical habitat use and site fidelity for breeding, molting, and wintering. We successfully implanted 20 birds in 2009 and 48 in 2010 as well as banding, measuring, and sampling (blood and feather mercury and West Nile Virus detection) of many others.

2010 Implantation of Intracoelomic Platform Terminal Transmitters (PTTs) in Taverner's Canada Geese

Mikal Moore, Waterfowl Biologist, Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Ephrata, WA

Provided capture assistance and implanted 5 PTTs in adult female Taverner's geese as part of a study to identify the exact breeding site for this species of concern. This information will help our understanding of the bird's ecology but also provide important data for game management efforts in Washington State.

2009 Principal Investigator, Veterinarian: Satellite Telemetry and Perioperative Care Study of Long-Tailed Ducks, Nantucket, MA

Glenn Olsen, DVM, PhD, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland

Matt Perry, PhD, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland

I am the principal investigator for a Sea Duck Joint Venture-endorsed/funded project whose long-term goal is to improve temporary captive care techniques, increase post-release survival, and minimize behavioral bias for sea ducks undergoing implantation of intracoelomic platform transmitting terminals (PTTs) with percutaneous antennas. Specifically, I am attempting to characterize the physiological stresses occurring during the capture, temporary holding, surgery, and treatment of sea ducks as would be encountered during routine implantation of PTTs. The research has been carried out in cooperation with ongoing satellite tracking studies conducted by the US Geological Survey (USGS), Sea Duck Joint Venture, and Mass Audubon. My study involved collecting venous blood and fecal samples at capture and at regular intervals during captivity. Various treatments were applied to four different groups including implantation of PTTs, SC fluids, and gavage feeding with an elemental diet. Data collected has included body mass, feather waterproofing assessments, complete blood counts, and serum and fecal corticosterone. In addition to my study, I also provided PTT surgical implantation services and assisted in capture (spotlighting and handnetting). ACUC approval was granted through USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. The study is ongoing.

2009-Present Consulting Veterinarian: American Bald Eagle Foundation, Haines, AK

The ABEF is a natural history museum which is developing a captive collection of live raptors for public demonstrations. They are also dedicated towards developing programs for medical care of wildlife and for conducting ecological and biological research on the Chilkat Valley ecosystem. In addition to an advisory capacity I am also participating with an informal group of scientists with shared interests in pursuing studies of the bald eagles utilizing the Chilkat River Valley. A major goal of this grass-roots movement is to use telemetry to track eagles to and from the area.

2007-Present Avian Medicine Consultant: Veterinary Information Network

Monitor and respond to veterinarian case questions on the online avian medicine boards at www.vin.com.

2003-Present Consulting Veterinarian: Southeast Alaska Petroleum Response Organization (SEAPRO)

Cheryl Fultz, Ketchikan, Alaska

SEAPRO is a non-profit cooperative organization that provides a first-line response to oil spills in Southeast Alaska. They maintain caches of supplies, provide various types of training for responders, and coordinate response plans with agencies in Alaska and Canada. My role is to prepare training materials, instruct, and ensure that plans and supplies are in place for wildlife hazing, rescue, transport, and care in the event of an oil spill event. I also cooperate with other agencies and stakeholders during area exercises.

2004 Sole Proprietor/Veterinarian: Olympic Bird & Exotic Services

For 8 months, I operated a partially mobile practice out of several small animal clinics in rural western Washington, restricted to birds, reptiles, and non-canine/feline small mammals.

Veterinary Work Experience – Employment

2008-2009 Associate Veterinarian: Bird and Exotic Clinic of Seattle

Tracy Bennett, DVM, ABVP-Avian, Seattle, Washington

Full-time veterinarian in a practice for birds and exotics. Most patients are companion birds (Psittaciformes, Galliformes, Anseriformes). Also assist local wildlife rehabilitation groups and zoos. There is more about this practice at www.birdandexotic.com.

2004-2008 Associate Veterinarian: Medical Center for Birds

Brian Speer, DVM, ABVP-Avian, ECAMS, Oakley, California

Full-time veterinarian in an avian-exclusive practice. Most patients were pet Psittaciformes but we also receive some wild birds and assisted local wildlife groups and zoos in caring for other non-domestic species (e.g., penguins, eagles, and other raptors). There is more about this practice at www.medicalcenterforbirds.com.

2002-2005 Field Technician for Washington State Dept of Fish and Wildlife

Shelly Ament, WDFW, Port Angeles, Washington

Bald eagle nest surveys, assisting landowner with eagle management plans, assisted with elk habitat restoration and translocation. Mixture of volunteer and paid work.

2002-2003 Staff Veterinarian: Alaska Raptor Center

Elizabeth Whealy, Executive Director, Sitka, Alaska

ARC is dedicated to preservation of birds through medical treatment, public education, and research. Bald eagles are the primary species. I was the sole veterinarian at a facility that houses 23 resident raptors, 5 resident corvids, and receives up to 80 bald eagles in addition to various other injured wild birds each year. My responsibilities included all aspects of medical care, training of veterinary interns, staff, and volunteers, and government reporting. I researched and produced reports to assist in raising funds for research projects, purchasing medical equipment, and improving facilities. I programmed a database application for completely paperless charting of all patient records and automatic production of government reports. I was on-call 24 hours a day for veterinary emergencies.

1998-2002 Associate Veterinarian: All Creatures Animal Hospital

Jim Little, DVM, Practice owner, Bremerton, Washington

Clientele included small animals and about 40% birds and other exotics. I performed office calls, surgeries, and phone consults on any species the clinic received but my special area of expertise was with pet and wild birds. I was also on-call for emergencies part of the time and assisted in office automation efforts.

1996-1997 Research Technician: PCR-Based Assay for Detection of *Mycobacterium avium* Infection in Birds

Inge Eriks, DVM PhD, Department of Veterinary Microbiology/Pathology, WSU, Pullman, Washington

Optimizing a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)-based assay to sensitively detect *M. avium* in feces and tissues. The test was to enable fast, inexpensive sampling of birds and flocks and provide a useful tool for study and management of avian tuberculosis.

1995 Research Technician: Boron Neutron Capture Therapy

Patrick Gavin, DVM PhD, Department of Veterinary Medicine, WSU, Pullman, Washington

Development of a new technique for the treatment of tumors, particularly those in the CNS.

1994 Desktop Publishing of class notes for Veterinary Virology course.

Tim Crawford, DVM PhD, Department of Veterinary Microbiology/Pathology, WSU, Pullman, Washington

1989-1994 Rehabilitation Technician: Alaska Raptor Center

Richard Griffin, Director, Sitka, Alaska

Prior to having a veterinarian on staff, the rehabilitation technician performed the duties of medical care, consultation, volunteer coordination, bird training, and public education. I also developed training materials and classes. I trained and manned a bald eagle named "Buddy" for six years, appearing in classrooms around the country. Other duties included database programming and information technology support.

1991-1992 Laboratory Technician: Equine Infectious Anemia Virus Research

Travis McGuire, DVM PhD, Department of Veterinary Medicine, WSU, Pullman, Washington

Veterinary/Wildlife Work Experience –Volunteer Projects

2010 Field Technician: Capture and Sampling of Bald Eagles in SE Alaska for Contaminants Analysis

Phil Schempf, Raptor Biologist, USFWS, Juneau, Alaska

Accompanied Phil and a team of three others on a two-week trip throughout Southeast Alaska capturing healthy, free-living bald eagles and collecting feather and blood samples for mercury analysis, genetics, and DNA archives. Birds were also banded and morphometrics collected. We were able to capture and sample 23 bald eagles. Heavily involved in capture, restraint, and sample/data collection.

1998-Present Consulting Veterinarian: West Sound Wildlife Shelter

Mike Pratt, Rehabilitator/Wildlife Director, Bainbridge Island, Washington

Volunteer my medical and rehabilitation expertise with eagles, owls, waterfowl, and songbirds. I also helped develop a new training system for the volunteers and have provided database-programming services. Years involved were dependent upon living in the area: 1998-2002, 2004, and 2008-present.

2009 Satellite Telemetry Implantation in Harlequin Ducks

Matt Perry, PhD, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland

Implanted inactive platform transmitting terminals (PTTs) in harlequin ducks as part of an ongoing captive study on the effects of intracoelomic implants on reproductive behavior and egg-laying.

2009 Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) in SW Washington

John Huckabee, DVM, Progressive Animal Welfare Society, Lynnwood, WA

Volunteered to help attend some 130 grebes, murrets, and loons received during the event. Care included gavage-feeding, collecting blood samples, performing postmortems.

2009 Scoter Banding and Recapture Study

Joe Evenson, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, WA

Volunteered helping to capture and process surf and white-winged scoters as part of an ongoing band and recapture study to characterize population trends and site fidelity. Accessory studies included temporary VHF tagging for foraging habits, collection of feathers for molt studies, and collection of blood for toxicology. Study sites included Anacortes, WA and Vancouver, BC.

2008 Supporting Veterinarian: US Fish & Wildlife Service Field Project in Barrow, AK

Cheryl Scott, DVM, MPVM, University of California, Davis, California

This 10-day field project involved the implantation of satellite transmitters in king eiders on a remote lake on the North Slope of Alaska. My primary role was as an anesthetist although I did perform some surgery also. I also assisted with setting traps and the capture, processing, and release of birds. This was part of a several-year project to track eiders in the arctic. The principal

investigator is Abby Powell at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. More information is available at http://mercury.bio.uaf.edu/~steffen_oppel/kingeider/KIEI_Home.htm.

2008 Supporting Veterinarian: Biodiversity Institute, Morro Bay, CA

Cheryl Scott, DVM, MPVM, University of California, Davis, California

This 1-day field project involved the implantation of satellite transmitters in two adult common loons. My role was primarily as anesthetist and surgical assistant for this project. I also performed capture (spot-lighting and hand-netting). The principal investigator is Darwin Long of the Biodiversity Institute and he is based in Morro Bay, CA. More information on this project can be found at www.briloon.org.

2007 Cosco-Busan Oil Spill, International Bird Rescue Research Center, Cordelia, CA

Santa Cruz/Monterey Harmful Algal Bloom, Santa Cruz, CA

Volunteered veterinary services during these seabird events in November and December, 2007. The HAB affected primarily grebes and northern fulmars where as the oil spill affected a variety of sea ducks, grebes, loons, and other birds. Altogether, over 1500 birds were affected in these combined events.

1994-1998 President of Raptor Club at Washington State University

Erik Stauber, DVM PhD, WSUCVM, Pullman, Washington

Led work parties, oversaw the care of raptors in rehabilitation and residence, performed educational programs in the community.

1994-1995 Aviculture Assistant in captive breeding, training, flying, and husbandry of falcons and quail.

Les Boyd, Boyd's Birds, Pullman, Washington

1988 Assistant helping collect information necessary to delineate and preserve wetlands.

Bob Wiltermood, Wiltermood Associates, Port Orchard, Washington

Education / Degrees

2006 Diplomate, American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP): Certified in Avian Medicine and Surgery

1997-98 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine: Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine (WSUCVM), Pullman, WA.

Externship in Avian Medicine: Kaytee, Inc. Avian Research Center, Chilton, WI (Tom Edling, DVM), 5 weeks.

Preceptorship in Avian/Exotic Medicine: Sno-Wood Veterinary Clinic, Woodinville, WA (Darrel Kraft, DVM), 4 weeks.

Avian Block: Washington State Avian Lab, Puyallup, WA (Singh Dhillon, DVM PhD), 4 weeks.

Externship in Raptor Medicine: The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota (Pat Redig, DVM PhD), 5 weeks.

1994-96 Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Science: WSUCVM, Pullman, WA.

Research Track: WSUCVM, Pullman, WA.

1989-92 Majored in Natural Resource Management: Sheldon Jackson College, Sitka, Alaska.

Honors and Awards

1997-98 Edith Strain-Lee Scholarship; Award for Achievements in Raptor Rehabilitation, Washington State University.

- 1994-96 Myrtle MacLennon Scholarship; Research Fellowship Grant; Harold-Luke Scholarship.
1989-92 Dean's List, Sheldon Jackson College; Academic scholarships.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Ford SL. Raptor Gastroenterology. *J Exot Pet Med. In Press, accepted March, 2010.*
- Ford SL. Review of Captive Raptor Propagation. *Falco.* 34:12, 2009.
- Ford SL, Wentz S, Garner M. Intracoelomic teratoma in a juvenile bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). *J Avian Med Surg.* 20(3):175-179, 2006.
- Ford SL. Surgical Microscopy and Fluoroscopy in Avian Practice. *J Exot Pet Med.* 15(2):91-97, 2006.
- Mendenhall MK, Ford SL, Emerson CL, Wells RA, Gines LG, Eriks IS. Detection and differentiation of *Mycobacterium avium* and *Mycobacterium genavense* by polymerase chain reaction and restriction enzyme digestion analysis. *J Vet Diagn Invest.* 12(1):57-60, 2000.
- Bates G, Tucker RL, Ford S, Mattix ME. Thyroid adenocarcinoma in a bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). *J Zoo Wildl Med.* 30(3):439-42, 1999

Conference and Veterinary CE Presentations

- Ford SL. Anesthesia, Analgesia, Soft-Tissue Surgery, and Orthopedic Surgery Lectures. *Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine.* Pullman, WA, 2010.
- Ford SL. Connecting with Avian Conservation. *Veterinary Information Network Sunday Rounds,* Dec. 6, 2009.
- Ford SL. Raptor Medicine and Case Management. *Proc Wild West Vet Conf.* Reno, NV, 2009.
- Ford SL. Medicine of Backyard Poultry and Waterfowl. *Proc Wild West Vet Conf.* Reno, NV, 2009.
- Ford SL. Avian Anesthesia and Surgery. *Proc Wild West Vet Conf.* Reno, NV, 2009.
- Ford SL. Reproductive Complications in Companion Parrots. *Proc Wild West Vet Conf.* Reno, NV, 2009.
- Ford SL. Technician Avian Anesthesia and Surgical Support. *Proc Wild West Vet Conf.* Reno, NV, 2009.
- Ford SL. Avian Case Review. *Proc Wild West Vet Conf.* Reno, NV, 2009.
- Ford SL. Basic Raptor Care. 1-hour CE opportunity for veterinarians. Hosted at the West Sound Wildlife Shelter, Sept., 2009.
- Ford SL, Jones M, Chitty J. Raptor Handling and Medical Care Laboratory. *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* Milwaukee, WI, 2009.
- Ford SL, Jones M, Chitty J. Raptor Medicine Master Class: Gastroenterology. *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* Milwaukee, WI, 2009.
- Ford SL. Companion Avian Identification and Taxonomy. A 1-hour section of the Practical Avian Medicine Online Continuing Education Course on Veterinary Information Network in cooperation with the Association of Avian Veterinarians. October, 2008.
- Ford SL, Jones M, Chitty J. Raptor Handling and Medical Care Laboratory. *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* Savannah, GA, 2008.
- Ford SL. Review of Captive Raptor Propagation. *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* Savannah, GA, 2008.
- Ford SL, Jones M, Chitty J. Raptor Medicine Master Class: Bumblefoot. *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* Savannah, GA, 2008.
- Ford SL. Captive Raptors for Reproduction, Falconry, and Performance. *Proceedings American Federation of Aviculture 33rd Annual Convention,* Los Angeles, CA in August, 2007.

- Ford SL, Jones M, Chitty J. Raptor Medicine and Case Management Master Class. *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* 135-150. Providence, RI, 2007.
- Ford SL. Tracheal foreign body removal in small birds. *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* 49-54, 2007.
- Ford SL, Fultz C. Challenges of wildlife response in southeast Alaska. *Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference*, Monterey, CA in June, 2007.
- Ford SL. Avian Anatomy. Lectures and notes for USDA inspectors and Veterinary Medical Officers (VMOs). USDA Avian Influenza Symposium and Annual Training at USDA Headquarters, Riverdale, MD in September, 2006.
- Ford SL and Thompson J. Wildlife hazing training for oil spill response personnel of Southeast Alaska Petroleum Resource Organization in Ketchikan, AK in April, 2006.
- Ford SL. First aid and medical care for falconers. A presentation for the California Hawking Club Annual Field Meet in Sacramento, CA in January, 2006.
- Ford S. Review of medical cases in Alaskan bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* 97-102, 2004.
- Ford SL. Medical management of the bald eagle. A lecture presented at the Wildlife Symposium of the Washington State University Spring Conference, Pullman, WA in April, 2004.
- Ford SL, Eriks I, et. al. Improved detection method for *Mycobacterium avium* infection in birds. *Proc Annu Conf Assoc Avian Vet.* 1996.

Other Publications and Presentations

- Ford SL. The Inner Lives of Bald Eagles. A public presentation on the anatomy and adaptations of bald eagles to their environment. In Haines, AK, November, 2009 and Poulsbo, WA, January, 2010.
- Ford SL. Basic Raptor Medicine Workshop. Presented to SEAPRO responder volunteers to improve efforts in short-term care of raptors and other birds in Ketchikan, AK in April, 2009.
- Ford SL. Studying Eiders with Satellite Telemetry. A public presentation through the US Forest Service as part of the annual Hummingbird Festival in Ketchikan, AK in April, 2009.
- Ford SL. Review of Proventricular Dilatation Disease. A presentation to the Northwest Exotic Bird Society in Seattle, WA in September, 2008.
- Ford SL. Avian Emergency Medicine. A condensed presentation to the Contra Costa Avian Society at Concord, CA in January, 2008.
- Ford SL. Avian Emergency Medicine. A day-long seminar covering common avian emergencies for veterinarians and members of the Alaska Bird Club, Anchorage, AK in September, 2007.
- Ford SL. Presentation on avian veterinary work and how to enter the field. A presentation for the Olympic Bird Fanciers at Port Orchard, WA in February, 2007.
- Ford SL. Understanding the Avian Client. An in-service training seminar on client communication, patient handling, and medical evaluation of companion birds. Included a handling lab to familiarize the staff with restraint and venipuncture. Conducted at Southeast Animal Medical Center in Juneau, AK in January, 2007.
- Ford SL. Avian Anesthesia and Radiology. An in-service training seminar on basic avian anesthesia and radiology procedures. Conducted at Southeast Animal Medical Center in Juneau, AK in January, 2007.
- Ford SL. Addressing Bird Behavioral Problems. A presentation for pet bird owners in Juneau, AK in January, 2007.
- Ford SL. First aid and wing and nail trimming. A presentation to the Central California Avian Society at Fresno, CA in October, 2006.

- Ford SL. Wild Bird Medical Efforts in Alaska. A presentation to the Contra Costa Avian Society at Concord, CA in June, 2006.
- Ford SL. Managing Common Behavioral Dilemmas in Pet Birds. A presentation to the Central California Avian Society at Fresno, CA in May, 2006.
- Ford SL. Lories and Lorikeets. A presentation to the Contra Costa Avian Society at Concord, CA in February, 2005.
- Ford SL. Wild Bird Responders Handbook. Alaska Raptor Center. Sitka, AK: Alaska Raptor Center; 2003.
- Ford SL. Avian Care Handbook. Alaska Raptor Center. Sitka, AK: Alaska Raptor Center; 2003.
- Wrote and illustrated four books published through the Alaska Raptor Rehabilitation Center: Bird Rescue Handbook (1993), Bird Handling Handbook (1993), Technician's Handbook, 2nd ed.(1994), Physical Therapy Handbook (1993), and compiled a master protocol book for the operation of the clinic.

Professional Memberships

- Association of Northwest Avian and Exotic Veterinarians
- Alaska Veterinary Medical Association
- American Board of Veterinary Practitioners
- Association of Avian Veterinarians
- International Wildlife Rehabilitators Council
- Raptor Research Foundation
- Veterinary Information Network
- American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (inactive)
- American Veterinary Medical Association (inactive)

Professional Licenses

- Licensed to practice Veterinary Medicine in Alaska, Washington, and California
- Drug Enforcement Administration Controlled Substance License
- USDA Accreditation in Washington, Alaska, and California
- HAZWOPR 24-Hour Certification (For handling of hazardous materials during oil spill response efforts)

Professional Leadership Roles

- 2009-Present** **President**, Association of Northwest Avian & Exotic Veterinarians
- 2008-Present** **Manuscript Reviewer**, Annual Conference of the Association of Avian Veterinarians
- 2007-Present** **Case Report Reviewer**, American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, Avian Specialty
Chair, Conservation Committee of the Association of Avian Veterinarians
- 2006-Present** **Assistant Editor**, Journal of Avian Medicine and Surgery
- 2006-2007** **Assistant Chair**, Association of Avian Veterinarians Conservation Committee
- 1999-2002** **Secretary**, Board of Trustees: Island Wildlife Shelter
- 1996** **President**, Student Chapter of Association of Avian Veterinarians
President, Raptor Rehabilitation Club at Washington State University

Captain, WSU Avian/Exotic Team to Student AVMA Annual Conference in Oklahoma

Professional Development

- 2009** Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in Milwaukee, WI (speaker, instructor)
- 2008** Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in Savannah, GA (speaker, instructor)
- 2007** American Federation of Aviculture Annual Convention in Los Angeles, CA (speaker)
Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in Providence, RI (speaker)
International Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference, Monterey, CA (speaker)
- 2006** Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in San Antonio, TX; American Board of Veterinary Practitioners Symposium in San Antonio, TX; USDA Avian Symposium in Greenbelt, MD (speaker).
- 2005** Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in Monterey, CA.
- 2004** Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in New Orleans, LA (speaker); Washington State University's Spring Veterinary Conference in Pullman, WA (speaker)
- 2003** Whale Fest, Scientific Conference, Sitka, AK.
- 2002** Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in Monterey, CA.
- 1999** Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas, NV.
- 1998** Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in St. Paul, MN.
- 1997** Association of Avian Veterinarians Conference in Reno, NV (poster presentation)
- 1996** SAVMA Conference in Stillwater, OK.

Other Community Activities

2002-2003 Baranof Squadron of Civil Air Patrol

Andy Coykendall, CAP Squadron Commander, Sitka, Alaska

Volunteer Pilot, Financial Officer, and Aerospace Education Officer. Earned rank of 1LT. Civil Air Patrol is an auxiliary to the United States Air Force and has two missions: 1) to provide aerial support for homeland security, search and rescue, disaster response missions and 2) to prepare young people to be successful citizens and leaders.

Other Memberships

- North American Falconer's Association
- Alaska Bird Club
- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)

Other Achievements & Interests

- Personal Achievements** Federal, Washington, and California State Falconry Licenses; **Private Pilot License** (1992) with Instrument and Seaplane ratings (2002); Eagle Scout Award; Awards in poetry, drawing, and short essay.
- Military** US Army National Guard 1989-95; Unit-Level Radio Maintenance; Landing Craft Deckhand; Distinguished Graduate of US Army 31-V School (Unit-Level Radio Maintenance).
- Languages** Fluent: English, Chinook; Basic: German; Rudimentary: Lingit and French.

Other Interests Other interests I enjoy include hiking, birding, falconry, database programming, sketching, writing, flying.

Professional Goals/Values

Always underlying my career ambitions are these guiding values:

- The advancement of avian medical science through compassionate practice, ethical research, and respectful collaboration with other professionals.
- The creation of opportunities that allow others to gain a deeper understanding of, and respect for, avian/wildlife medicine and conservation. I especially enjoy giving others the encouragement to start their own careers in the natural sciences.
- Improvement of the availability of quality avian medicine for companion and wild birds.
- Recognition of how the work we perform affects the health and well-being of birds, people, and the entire ecosystem.