

For as long as I can remember, I have always had a strong passion for animals. From age five, I would watch documentaries and read books about animals constantly to absorb as much information about them as possible. I began hobbies of aquarium keeping and fossil hunting which helped me understand the importance of animals in an environment and learning about animal history. As I progressed in my studies of biological sciences my interests only grew to better understand the internal workings of the animal body. After graduating from high school, I began working at a veterinary office and my interests accelerated from there in a desire to become a veterinarian.

While working at the veterinary office, I attend to ailing and healthy patients of different backgrounds and families. I assist in diagnosing and treating patients for various medical problems that arise and learn not only the medical and scientific aspects of veterinary medicine, but also the importance of interpersonal skills from one of the resident veterinarians: Dr. Richard Wassell. From his teachings, I learn how to communicate with clients, whether it is a time of simply discussing medications or speaking in terms of quality of life and providing comfort or someone to help guide them when needed.

In terms of quality of life, the doctor-client bond is very important, the doctor who has been there through the good and bad times with the pet knows the interests of the client and will advocate on both the pet and client's behalf. The doctor should be there to help when the time comes for each pet and client to make the transition onwards in these scenarios.

When speaking with clients directly, I always strive to advocate what the doctor would consider potentially best for the patient and take time to clearly explain everything and finally ask if they have any questions or need clarification on a subject. It is always important that everyone understands everything that is going on. This principle is very important for not just client relationship but also applies to staff as well. Communication whether about assisting in a procedure or in regard to client correlation with other staff is very important for the health of the patient but also for the health of the business as well.

Veterinary medicine is an ever-changing, ever-growing field with new information coming to light every day. New experiences arise frequently while working at a veterinary office. To further educate myself with new improvements to the field, I attend seminars for continuing education to not only seek out more knowledge, but also better the medicine I can produce for the patients I am treating. The more education I obtain, the more I advocate for it in my work but also to clients and coworkers so as they may also learn and grow in the field and understand what opportunities are available to help their pet in need.

Being a veterinarian has become a dream of mine for many years now, and it is now becoming closer than ever to a reality. I wish to pursue the knowledge of how to heal the animals of the world, but also to help preserve the health of the community by keeping them healthy through education of the animals and helping prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases and parasites. Being a veterinarian comes with many challenges forming almost complete puzzles to diagnosing a patient. I like solving these mysteries, but better yet, I like to see the joy on people's faces when they see their best friend getting better and going home with them soon afterward.