



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Bridge Club Announces Harold Davis as 2026 ICON Honoree
Veterinary Technician Leader and Educator to Be Honored at the 2026 VMX Conference

PALATINE, IL – October 21, 2025 – The Bridge Club, a critical conversation company advancing veterinary medicine, proudly announces Harold Davis, BA, RVT, VTS (Emergency & Critical Care) (Anesthesia & Analgesia) as the recipient of the 2026 Bridge Club ICON Award.

With more than four decades of service to veterinary medicine, Harold Davis is widely recognized as a trailblazer in advancing the role of veterinary nurses and technicians. His leadership, education, and advocacy have profoundly influenced the profession, setting a global standard for excellence in patient care and professional growth.

Davis most recently served as Manager of the Emergency and Critical Care Service at the UC Davis William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, where he worked for nearly 36 years in roles ranging from ICU technician, coordinator and clinical instructor of the hospital practices course to emergency service supervisor. In these roles, he trained generations of veterinary students and helped shape the standard of patient care in emergency and critical care medicine.

Today, Davis serves as an educational consultant and lecturer, providing in-hospital continuing education for veterinary teams across the country and internationally. His leadership has extended to numerous professional organizations — including serving as Past President of the NAVC, Treasurer of NAVTA, charter member of the Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Anesthesia and Analgesia, and co-founder of the Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians, where he was instrumental in securing provisional recognition for veterinary technician specialties.

Davis also made history as the first non-veterinarian elected president of the Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society (VECCS), representing over 5,000 members worldwide. His influence continues to shape education, clinical standards, and recognition for veterinary technicians across the globe.

“Harold’s career has been a masterclass in dedication, mentorship, and leadership,” said Dr. Alex Miller, Manager of Veterinary Services at Blue Buffalo. “He has spent his life elevating others—students, technicians, and veterinarians alike—while continuously raising the bar for patient care. His impact reaches every corner of veterinary medicine, and we are honored to recognize his extraordinary legacy.”

The Bridge Club ICON Award represents the pinnacle of recognition for individuals who demonstrate visionary leadership, innovative excellence, and a profound commitment to

advancing veterinary medicine. Nominees are submitted by professionals across the industry and undergo a three-tiered evaluation process, including review by past ICON recipients, before final selection by event sponsors Blue Buffalo, IDEXX, and the North American Veterinary Community (NAVC).

Past Bridge Club ICON Honorees Include:

- Katherine Polack, DVM, MPH, MS, DACVPM, DABVP (Shelter Medicine Practice)
- Kara Burns, MS, MEd, LVT, CVT, VTS (Nutrition)
- Dr. Ruby Perry, former Dean of Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine
- Jon Ayers, former CEO of IDEXX
- Dr. Eleanor Green, former Dean of Texas A&M
- John Payne, Executive Chairman at Chou2 Pharma
- Dr. Michael Cavanaugh, former CEO of AAHA
- Julia Stephanus, founder of Avviare
- Bob Vetere, former CEO of American Pet Products Association
- Kristin Peck, CEO of Zoetis

Davis will be formally honored during The Bridge Club ICON event on January 17, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency in Orlando, Florida where attendees will have the opportunity to hear Harold's reflections on his career and the future of the profession. Tickets are now available at www.thebridgeclub.com

To learn more about The Bridge Club and its mission to elevate veterinary medicine, visit www.thebridgeclub.com.

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ABOUT THE BRIDGE CLUB

Founded in 2018, The Bridge Club is the only organization in veterinary medicine dedicated to elevating the profession through connection, conversation, and celebration. With more than 32,000+ members worldwide, The Bridge Club hosts signature programs including the Community Conversations, ICON Awards, Bright Minds Awards, and Give Back Benefit. Learn more at www.TheBridgeClub.com or follow @TheBridgeClub.