

## Speaker Bios



### **Karen Davison, PhD**

*Director - Equine Technical Solutions, Purina Animal Nutrition, LLC*

Dr. Davison earned her Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees in Equine Nutrition from Texas A&M University. Dr. Davison's research included some of the early work investigating the use of added fat in horse diets. Her research focused on the effects of higher fat diets on reproduction and lactation in broodmares and on growth, bone development and thyroid hormones in weanling horses. She spent eight years as an Associate Horse Specialist with Texas Agricultural Extension Service, developing and teaching youth and adult education programs, prior to joining Purina 25 years ago. Dr. Davison has guest-lectured at universities and veterinary schools, is published in scientific research journals and magazines, has authored book chapters and presented at regional and national veterinary meetings on equine nutrition topics. She and her family are involved with breeding, training and competing in the cutting and rodeo performance horse industries.



### **Ashley Edge, DVM**

*Large Animal Veterinarian, Adobe Veterinary Center*

Dr. Edge grew up in an Air Force family, and so, was blessed to move all over the USA. She loved horses from an early age and joined 4-H where she rode and showed, as well as with the AQHA.

Dr. Edge completed her undergraduate studies at Texas A&M University and her veterinary degree at St. George's University on the island of Grenada in the West Indies. Dr. Edge did an internship after graduation at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky and then took her first associate job in Denver, Colorado. During this time, she became certified in Animal Chiropractic care at Options for Animals College of Animal Chiropractic. While practicing in Denver, she met her husband, Dan, and his career moved them to Virginia, and finally back west to Tucson.

Professionally, Dr. Edge particularly enjoys ophthalmology, equine lameness, chiropractic care, and imaging. She also has a special interest in client and community education for the care of all animals.

Dr. Edge enjoys hiking, camping, and horseback riding. She also loves spending time with her family, including her two cats Julep and Yeti (Yeti has extra toes and therefore big feet, hence the name!).



## **Olivier Fahrni**

*Farrier, E.L.P.O. Certified*

Olivier Fahrni is a horse trainer and farrier in Tucson, AZ. He arrived in Tucson in 2016 from Switzerland, where quality and precision are integral parts of the culture.

He originally came from dressage and competed for more than 20 years. Through his training he learned how to look at a horse, understand his movements, his balance and develop an exercise program which is adapted first to the horse. He switched to Western riding about 10 years ago improving even further on his ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with horses.

In his farrier work, Fahrni follows the ELPO protocol, (Equine Lameness Prevention Organization). He believes every horse deserves to have a specific and a holistic approach to their hoof care.



## **Betsy Greene, PhD**

*Professor and Extension Horse Specialist*

*The University of Arizona, Cooperative Extension*

Dr. Greene's educational programming focuses on preventative care and maintenance for horse health, biosecurity, safety, and identifying and addressing problems pertinent to Arizona horses and owners. She has been active in the national horse extension specialist group Extension Horses, Inc. (<http://www.extensionhorses.org/>) and has secured extramural funding for her research/outreach in biosecurity, pasture management, youth safety, and more. She collaborated with several state agencies to develop educational materials for equine owners and producers.

Her statewide extension program has a heavy emphasis on working with agricultural agents, 4-H leaders and youth to develop strong 4-H and youth educational programming, as well as addressing statewide industry issues. Dr. Greene has received state and national recognition for her teaching and extension efforts from professional societies including the Outstanding Professional of the Year (2015) from the Joint Council of Extension Professionals, was inducted as an Equine Fellow of the Equine Science Society (2017) and, most recently, was awarded the 2019 Extension Award from the Western Section American Society of Animal Science.



**Lauren Hood, DVM (Formerly Hefton)**

*Large Animal Veterinarian, Adobe Veterinary Center*

Dr. Lauren Hood was born in Australia and lived in Irian Jaya, Indonesia; Reno, Nevada; and Santiago, Chile; before moving to Tucson in 2002. She graduated from Ross University of Veterinary Medicine and completed her clinic year at Oklahoma State University. After graduating Dr. Hood completed a 5 month internship with Durango Equine Veterinary Clinic in Buckeye, AZ. In her free time she enjoys hiking and traveling with her husband Rob, riding, and spending time with her cat (Camry) and black Lab (Jake).

Dr. Hood's special interests include theriogenology, internal medicine, and preventative care.



**Alexis Ivanecky, DVM**

*Large Animal Veterinarian, Adobe Veterinary Center*

Dr. Ivanecky was born and raised here in Tucson, Arizona and attended the University of Arizona where she received her Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Science. She went on to complete veterinary school at Ohio State University.

Missing Tucson and the desert, Dr. Ivanecky returned to Tucson to start her career with Adobe Vet Center. Dr. Ivanecky grew up predominantly riding paints and quarter horses, showing mostly hunter jumpers. In her free time, she enjoys active outdoor hobbies including hiking, camping, horse-back riding, and off-roading. She also enjoys spending time with her boyfriend, friends, and family, including her cat Cleo and her Australian shepherds, Lyla and Shelby. Her professional interests include equine lameness, sports medicine, cardiology, ophthalmology, and preventative care.



**Eddie McKenzie**

*Certified Farrier, Certified Hoof Practitioner, Certified Natural Balance Farrier, E.L.P.O. Certification*

Eddie McKenzie has been working in Southern Arizona as a farrier for almost 20 years. He received his first certification in 2002 and has been educated by some of the most respected, recognized, and accomplished farriers and veterinarians throughout the equine industry including Gene Ovnicsek and Dr. Ric Redden. He instructed horseshoeing at a farrier school for several years while still maintaining his own farrier business and enjoys developing the skills of upcoming farriers by sharing his knowledge and experience through apprenticeships. Eddie focuses much of his time with issues relating to equine lameness.

Prior to his farrier career, Eddie worked as an engineer in the laser telecom industry. His passion for sharing knowledge and teaching others was present in his earlier career as he taught classes in fiber optics at a community college in Maryland. He attended Allegany College and Frostburg University where he obtained his Electro-Mechanical Engineering degree. His passion for horses fueled his desire

to change career paths to become a farrier.

Eddie resides in Southern Arizona with his wife, Annette, who manages their business. They enjoy various outdoor hobbies as well as time spent with family, friends, their four horses, three donkeys, three dogs, four cats, and a wide variety of visitors!



**Ann M. Pearson, MS, DVM, MAV**

*Veterinarian & Acupuncturist, Reata Veterinary Group*

Dr. Ann Pearson joined the Reata Equine Veterinary Group in August 2007. She received her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Purdue University in 1989. Prior to that, Dr. Pearson received her Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Animal Science from Purdue. While at Purdue University, she received the prestigious Large Animal Medicine and Surgery Award, presented to the student showing the most promise in large animal practice. Dr. Pearson has been practicing in Southern Arizona since 1999. Prior to coming to Tucson, she worked in both small and large animal practices. After graduation from veterinary school, Dr. Pearson worked in a mixed animal practice in Cazenovia, New York, and in small and large animal practices in Indiana and Kentucky.

Dr. Pearson has a special interest in equine dentistry, oral surgery, emergency medicine, acupuncture and teaching. On the personal side, Dr. Pearson is an avid horsewoman. She enjoys riding dressage and trail riding. Dr. Pearson and her three boys live on the east side of Tucson with their menagerie of five horses, three burros, three goats and five dogs.



**Christine Staten, DVM**

*Large Animal Veterinarian, Adobe Veterinary Center*

Dr. Christine Staten is a Tucson native and after an earlier career as an OB-GYN technician, attended and graduated from Colorado State University, School of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Staten joined Dr. Page in 1999 as a part of Tortolita Veterinary Services, a large animal ambulatory practice. In 2005, together, they built a new mixed-animal clinic on the eastside of Tucson, Adobe Veterinary Center.

Although she enjoys all aspects of large animal medicine, she has a particular passion for endocrine disease, dentistry, older horse problems, and preventative medicine. She prioritizes owner education and knows that it leads to healthier medicine. Dr. Staten has published multiple articles and loves to lecture to local horse and 4-H groups. She is a member of the Southern Arizona Animal Cruelty Task Force.

Dr. Staten is married with 5 children and is very active helping at St. Joseph's Catholic School. She also leads the mom's group at St. Pius X Church and is a big supporter of Pima County 4-H.