



INTERIM NEWS & COMMENT

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Veterinary Medical Education in the USA

On Monday morning, July 28, 2014, the AVMHS gave a program on this topic. It had been arranged by then President-elect Ronnie Elmore and was well received by a small audience at the Hyatt Regency Denver Hotel. Regrettably Dr. Elmore was ill, so Dr. Helen Wojcinski conducted the program. Dr. Howard Erickson presented Dr. Elmore's paper. In place of Dr. Andrew Maccabe, Jeffrey Douglas gave a historical overview of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC). The complete program listing all of the presenters was printed in both the AVMHS *Interim News & Comment* for May 2014 and the *News & Comment* in the May 2014 issue of *Veterinary Heritage*, which will reach you shortly.

Veterinary Heritage Has an Editor

On Monday afternoon, President Helen Wojcinski announced at the AVMHS annual meeting that Susanne Whitaker has agreed to serve as editor of *Veterinary Heritage*. Because Susanne already has a heavy load of work as our Society's Secretary/Treasurer, she will have production assistance from Dr. Russell Currier, who will be working with Akili Design and Marketing Services in Des Moines, Iowa, on layout and printing. Editor Whitaker says that in addition to Dr. Currier, she needs

members on an editorial committee who will read submitted papers for possible publication, or will help find authors and articles for *Veterinary Heritage*.

Meanwhile, please begin with yourself. Have you ever, at an AVMHS meeting, given a talk, which you can offer to *Veterinary Heritage* now? Have you presented historical information elsewhere which you would be free to send to your own publication? Or, if you know of another person with veterinary historical expertise that you think would interest members of this Society, please do let the editor know.

2014-2015 AVMHS Election

Dr. Ronnie G. Elmore, Associate Dean for Academic Programs, Admissions and Diversity at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University, proceeded from President-elect to AVMHS President for 2014-2015. LTC Boris Brglez DVM, Deputy Commander of Veterinary Services, Public Health Command-North, Fort Bragg District, US Army, was chosen President-elect for 2014-2015, and Susanne Whitaker was re-elected Secretary/Treasurer for 2014-2016. Board members Dr. Ana Alcaraz and Dr. Cynthia Hoobler were re-elected for the maximum second term to 2016. Lesley Gentry and Dr. Peter Cowen continue in the second year of the term as board members.



Because Lieutenant Colonel Brglez (pronounced berrglez with equal emphasis on both syllables) is new to *News & Comment*, your reporter observes that his educational background took place at Raleigh and

Chapel Hill in North Carolina, where he earned his DVM and MPH degrees respectively. His military service has taken him to Bosnia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Germany, and Afghanistan. He says that he is interested in veterinary medicine, public health, zoonotic diseases, and marine aquatic medicine, and evidently in their history. Dr. Brglez has already begun planning our history program to be submitted to the AVMA for 2016, when the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps celebrates its 100th anniversary in San Antonio, Texas.

Note: For members who may be surprised that a President-elect is planning a program two years ahead rather than for the coming year, the Officers and Board changed the duty time because the Society would like to offer day-long history programs at AVMA conventions, and the AVMA now requires detailed programs over a year in advance. For instance for 2015 at Boston, Susanne Whitaker and Dr. Howard Erickson put one together, and AVMHS submitted it last spring. We will know late this fall whether it has been included in the 2015 AVMA convention. Advantages of being on the official AVMA CE program are that we are able to take history to a much larger audience and that the speakers receive a small honorarium.

AVMHS Booth at Denver

In Denver, the Society was fortunate to secure a front corner booth in the exhibit hall of the convention center for the three-day event. On display were our various brochures on joining AVMHS, the essay contest, Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices, museums, and Oral History Program along with copies of *Veterinary*



Dr. Howard Erickson and Susanne Whitaker converse with a visitor to the AVMHS booth. Photo by Dr. Helen Wojcinski.

Heritage. Of special note was an informative 3x4-foot color poster prepared by Dr. Howard Erickson to accompany his talk on the Kansas City Veterinary

College. This private school was in operation from 1891 to 1918. The poster featured several class composites, photos of the building, and portraits of influential individuals at the school, such as professor Sesco Stewart and graduates Thomas Bray, Albert T. Kinsley, Robert C. Moore, Richard F. Bourne, Benjamin F. Kaupp, Joseph C. Flynn, Carl Norden, and Delwin M. Campbell, to name a few. Dr. Erickson also posted a photo from his PowerPoint presentation of twin brothers, Herman and Harmon Loveless, who married twin sisters. All four traveled as a singing quartet while the brothers practiced together for many years. For more information about this school with biographies of many graduates, go to:

<http://www.vet.k-state.edu/about/history/kcvc/>

Our booth is important for AVMHS presence and enabled us to share information about our activities as well as chat with visitors about history in general and listen to their interests. Staffing the booth were Dr. Erickson, Dr. Helen Wojcinski, and Susanne Whitaker. Susanne's husband Dan covered during our program on Monday.

Donaldson Trust Grant

Again, the Oliver S. and Jennie R. Donaldson Charitable Trust has granted funds for the Dr. Elizabeth Atwood Lawrence Prizes for the Smithcors essay contest. This grant will enable AVMHS to award four prizes for 2015 and 2016 to worthy veterinary students in the United States, Canada, and West Indies, who research and write an essay on a topic of their interest. Winning essays are published in *Veterinary Heritage* and indexed in PubMed MEDLINE.

2015 Smithcors Student Essay Contest

Dr. Russ Currier asks for assistance from AVMHS members to help advertise and promote our 2015 Smithcors Student Veterinary History Essay Contest. The four prizes that will be awarded in honor of Dr. Elizabeth Atwood Lawrence are \$1200, \$1000, \$800, and \$500. The submission deadline is April 15, 2015. A brochure, poster, entry form, guidelines and suggestions for authors are posted on the AVMHS Web site at <http://avmhs.org/>. Contact Dr. Currier at ruscurreier@yahoo.com for more information, suggestions, and ways you may be able to help promote this opportunity for students.

AVMA 2013 Chicago YouTube Video

Dr. Fred Born points out that AVMHS's double, corner booths were included in a recent YouTube video produced by the AVMA. For members who know them, Dr. Fred Born and Susanne Whitaker are looking at his

creation of the AVMA history display while Dr. Phyllis Larsen talks with Dr. Pat Kennedy Arrington at the table. It is titled, "AVMA Convention 2013: Thanks for Coming!" To access this site, click on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uvm4TeDT1Ys>

Dr. Born says, "After you play it to the end, go back and click on the "pause" button on 0:47 sec. slot. In the center of the picture of the Exhibit Hall, one can see the AVMA/AVMHS exhibit booth. This was the first time in the 35 year history of the AVMHS that the AVMA and the AVMHS developed a joint display. The AVMA officials provided two connected exhibit booths at the convention."



Image courtesy of AVMA.

Class Historians at North Carolina

Amanda Fox, who wrote a winning essay in the 2014 contest titled, "One Health: Back to Our Roots," is historian for her 2017 class at the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University. Because class historians are new to your reporter, I have interviewed Amanda Fox by e-mail.

Amanda says that she shares the role with a classmate, Beth Livesey. Their aim is to develop a slide show to present at the College's Open House to demonstrate to the local community what veterinary students do in addition to sitting in lectures. As examples, she mentions: wet labs, volunteer activities, and social events.

At the end of the fourth year, the Class Historian puts together an extensive slide show and presents it at the annual Awards Ceremony. For this, the Historian accepts submissions from the class as a whole in hopes of covering every aspect of the College of Veterinary Medicine experienced by the class.

Even after graduation, the Class Historian maintains an alumni database and publishes a semi-annual newsletter. Amanda Fox says that, as Class Historian, she looks forward to maintaining ties with classmates for years to come.

Do any readers know of similar Class Historians at other veterinary colleges? If so, please let this reporter know what they do and how effective they are, especially after they graduate.

Dr. Born Compiling Wisconsin Vet History

The Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association will mark its 100th Anniversary in October, 2015. To celebrate this milestone, Dr. Fred J. Born reports that he has spent over 700 hours so far researching and compiling a 135+ page "book" and extensive PowerPoint presentation on the history of veterinary medicine in that State. He has submitted proposals to the WVMA Executive Board to include these offerings as complements to the events that are planned for next year. The "100th Anniversary of the WVMA" will be Dr. Born's fourth major PowerPoint program of veterinary medical history since 2007. Dr. Born can be reached by e-mail at fjborn@att.net or calling his cell phone: (920) 517-9065.

Senior and Retired Veterinarians

The American Association of Senior Veterinarians (AASrV) recently changed its name from American Association of Retired Veterinarians to reflect its "senior" nature.

Dr. Howard Erickson has contacted its current president, Dr. Bruce Little, formerly Executive Vice President of the AVMA, about membership and any connections that might be made with AVMHS. The annual dues are now \$35.00 per year or \$250.00 life time. It seems that they are becoming more active as the baby boom generation retires and may be interested in the history of their life-long profession. That might include some oral history interviewing as well.

National Register of Historic Places

In his presentation for the 2014 AVMHS annual meeting in Denver, Dr. Ronnie Elmore's talk mentioned that the Poindexter Veterinary Hospital in Prairie View, Texas was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. This represents another veterinary hospital so honored. In 2011, the nomination of Dr. Robert N. Gouge's G & G Veterinary Hospital of Sedalia, Missouri was successful. Historic places are evaluated by their age (50+ years), integrity, and significance.

Since AVMHS's mission includes recognizing and promoting veterinary history in various ways, it seemed time to do some further investigation and compile a more comprehensive list. This effort may also encourage other veterinary practices and animal health institutions housed in older buildings to consider submitting their own nomination applications.

The following nine veterinary-related properties have been designated as National Register of Historic Places or an application is pending:

Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital
Monterey, California
(Pending; Nomination submitted April 22, 2014)

Jensen-Salsbery Laboratories
Kansas City, Missouri
NRHP Ref# 85001574, Added July 16, 1985

G & G Veterinary Hospital
Sedalia, Missouri
NRHP Ref #11000186, Added: April 15, 2011

Fort Robinson and Red Cloud Agency
Crawford, Nebraska
NRHP Ref# 6600442, Added October 5, 1966

U.S. Animal Quarantine Station
Clifton, New Jersey
NRHP Ref # 81000397, Added October 9, 1981

Dublin Veterinary Clinic
Dublin, Ohio
NRHP Ref# 79002884, Added April 11, 1979

City Veterinary Hospital
Tulsa, Oklahoma
NRHP Ref #08000848, Added August 26, 2008

Fort Sam Houston (includes Veterinary Hospital and Stable)
Fort Sam Houston (San Antonio), Texas
NRHP Ref # 75001950, Added May 15, 1975

Alfred N. Poindexter Veterinary Hospital
Prairie View, Texas
NRHP Ref #99000617, Added: June 3, 1999

We are seeking additional historic places, currently on a national level. If members know of others, please contact the AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer so they can be added to our list. In addition, Dr. Gouge has graciously offered to provide advice and suggestions to prospective applicants.

Writing History: Material Culture

In 2001, then AVMHS President Dr. Susan D. Jones described the importance of contemporary artifacts and writings to understanding and writing about a specific time in history. Dr. Jones, who holds a PhD in history as well as being a veterinarian, provided the following thoughts.

“Material culture includes objects such as appointment books, instruments, advertisements and circulars, photographs, etc., that can be used to understand the daily lives of people in the past. Therefore, these objects are crucial to our understanding of the history of veterinary medicine. Veterinary history is not only concerned with the big events -- animal epidemics, the founding of veterinary schools, etc. It is also important to research how ordinary people (practitioners) lived and worked. In large part, veterinary history is comprised of the collective actions of all of these people. Many of these practitioners left little record of their lives and work other than their books and instruments. Through old journals and advertisements, we can understand the world in which they lived and the concerns they had. Thus, material culture represents important historical evidence.”

New AVMHS Members

We are pleased to welcome:

Delwin L. Bokelman, DVM (Doylestown, PA)

Ken Gorczyca, DVM (San Francisco, CA)

Carol J. McConnell, DVM (Brea, CA)

New Registry of Veterinary Heritage Practice

We are pleased to welcome new Registry member:

Kerpsack Veterinary Clinic (Youngstown, Ohio), Estab.

1960, by Dr. Robert W. Kerpsack, OSU '56 and Dr.

William R. Kerpsack, OSU '56. These two brothers practiced together for over 50 years.

New Museums Added to AVMHS Directory

Fort Ord US Army Station Veterinary Hospital
(Monterey, California)

Fort Robinson Museum (Crawford, Nebraska)

Fort Sam Houston Medical Museum (Fort Sam Houston, Texas)

U.S. Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Museum
(Fort Sam Houston, Texas)

Meeting Calendar

2014

- July 2014 to June 2015 Special Exhibit: "Care for Canada' War Horses," Canadian Agricultural Museum, Ottawa, Ontario
- Sept. 10-13 41st WAHVM International Congress, Imperial College, London, England
<http://www.veterinaryhistorylondon.com/>
- Sept. 17-20 World Veterinary Association (WVA) 150th Anniversary, Prague, Czech Republic

2015

- July 10-14 tba AVMHS Annual Business Meeting and Program, Boston, Massachusetts

2016

- Aug 5-9 tba AVMHS Annual Business Meeting and Program, San Antonio, Texas
- Sept tba 42nd WAHVM International Congress

2017

- July 21-25 tba AVMHS Annual Business Meeting and Program, Indianapolis, Indiana

New Books

Boston, Sarah. *Lucky Dog: How Being a Veterinarian Saved My Life*. Toronto: Anansi, 2014. 298 pgs. ISBN: 9781770893511

Milligan, Gregg N, and A.D.T. Barrett. *Vaccinology: An Essential Guide*. Chichester, West Sussex, U.K.: John Wiley & Sons, 2015. ? pgs. ISBN: 9780470656167. Includes a chapter on "The History of Vaccine Development and the Diseases They Prevent" by Martin G. Myers.

Contents of Recent Veterinary History Journal Issues

Copies of articles may be obtained through interlibrary loan services provided by your local college or public library, or from the AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer if unavailable from other sources.

Veterinary History (U.K.), vol. 17, no.3, 2014

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- Palmer, Anthony C. The Cambridge Society for the study of comparative medicine 1957-1992....238-256
- Woods, Abigail and Stephen Matthews. Who were the vets? Vets and veterinary practice in England c1830-1890...257-276
- Jones, Bruce V. John Gamgee and the International Veterinary Congresses 1863-1930....277-290
- Coles, Brian. A history of avian medicine...291-302
- Mann, Jean. The history of the Veterinary History Society...303-310

Newman, Fred and Alex Williams, compilers. *The Golden Era of Animal Health: The History of Disease Control in Farm Animals in Western Australia 1829-1990*. Carlisle: Western Australia Hesperian Press, 2014. 84 pgs. ISBN: 9780859055741

Peacock, Andrew. *Creatures of the Rock: Animal Tales from a Newfoundland Vet*. Toronto: Doubleday Canada, 2014. ?? pgs. ISBN: 9780385682596

Pol, Jan and David Fisher. *Never Turn Your Back on an Angus Cow: My Life as a Country Vet*. New York: Gotham Books, 2014. ??pgs. ISBN: 9781592408979

Swabe, Joanna. *Animals, Disease, and Human Society: Human-Animal Relations and the Rise of Veterinary Medicine*. London: Routledge, 2014. (Routledge studies in science, technology and society, vol. 2.) 196 pgs. ISBN: 9780415181938 (hbk.)

Thoen, Charles O, James H. Steele, John B. Kaneene, editors. *Zoonotic Tuberculosis Mycobacterium bovis and Other Pathogenic Mycobacteria*. 3rd ed. Hoboken: Wiley, 2014. 413 pgs. ISBN: 9781118474297 (cloth)

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Send news, comments, and suggestions for the next *News & Comment* to: Dr. Phyllis H. Larsen, 1675 Ellis Hollow Road, Ithaca, NY 14850, phone/fax 607-539-6181, or by email to phlarsen@clarityconnect.com, or AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer Susanne Whitaker, 23 Wedgewood Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850-1064, or phone 607-257-9248 or email skw2@cornell.edu or avmhs.info@gmail.com.

Letters to the Editor: S. Freeman: Confusion perpetuated; Veterinary Charts, Tables and Diagrams; First qualified veterinarian to practice in the USA; Archival material relating to the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies sought...311-317

Jones, Bruce V. The elephant memorial to two notable veterinary surgeons...318-321

Boden, Edward. Punching above their weight: The British Veterinary Association 1882-2010...322-330

Book Review: A Lot of Loose Ends: A Vet in Africa by Roland Minor...331-332

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Clewlou, John. Tailpiece: The Talbot hound...335-336

Recent Journal Articles & Chapters Related to the History of Veterinary Medicine

[No authors listed]. Recipient of the 2014 IETS Pioneer Award: William W. (Bill) Thatcher, MS, PhD. *Reproduction, Fertility, and Development*. 2013;26(1):xvii-xix. doi: 10.1071/RDv26n1_PA.

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