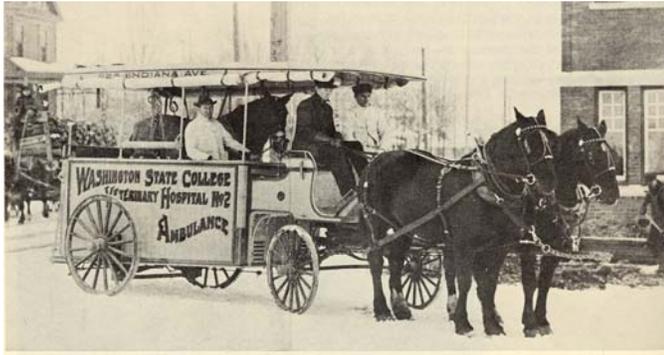




INTERIM NEWS & COMMENT

June, 2009

Dr. Phyllis H. Larsen, reporter



In addition to the history program on Tuesday, June 9, Justin Kastner, one of our speakers, also gave a presentation on the history of public health, veterinary public health, trade, and Kansas during the opening session of the Annual Conference on Sunday, June 7.

Lesley Gentry answered questions at an exhibit table with information about the Society and *Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices*. About 12 *Registry* applications and many brochures were given out.

Agenda for AVMHS at Seattle, July 13, 2009

- Red Lion Hotel on Fifth Avenue, San Juan Room
- 8:00am Welcome – Dr. Al Moore, AVMHS President
- 8:15am AVMHS Annual Business Meeting
- 9:30am Break
- 10:00am “A History of Organized Veterinary Medicine in Washington” by *Charlie Powell*, Public Information Officer, College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University
- 11:00am Discussion
- 11:30am Adjourn for lunch

This year our AVMA convention hall exhibit booth will feature the new *Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices*. Come one, come all to the meeting and, if you have some free time, help at the booth.



l. to r.: AVMHS members—J. Brian Derbyshire, Al Moore, Lesley Gentry, Bob McClure, Leo Lemonds, Howard Erickson, Sydney Ewing, and Walter Cash. Not shown: Fred Born

Program at Kansas State, June 9, 2009

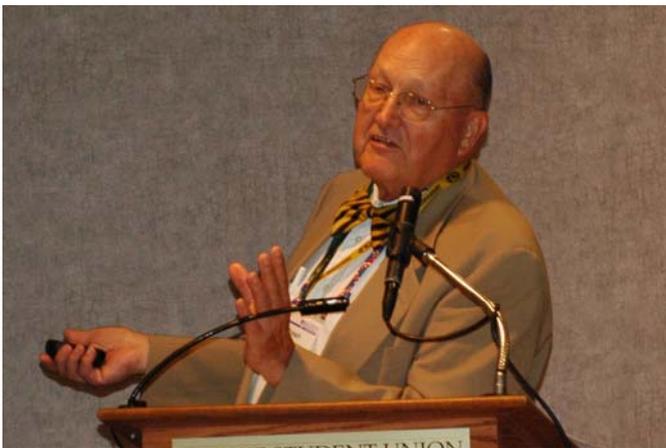
Rave reviews continue coming in about the quality of the program and overall success of the meeting organized by President-elect and Program Chair Dr. Howard Erickson at Kansas State University several weeks ago. “Great success”, “incredible”, “excellent program”, “very good meeting”, “well supported by good audiences”, “very enriching”, “like veterinary meetings used to be” to name a few. About 35 people were in attendance during most of the presentations and swelled to 45 when Maxine Caley gave her talk on the history of the AVMA Auxiliary. There was also positive feedback from a number of soon-to-be retired veterinarians and others about having history speakers as part of a State meeting.



Lesley Gentry spoke about her research on an early equine practitioner, Dr. Olive Kendrick Britt (1917-2006).



Dr. Leo Lemonds covered veterinary history in Nebraska.



The history of veterinary medical education in Missouri was described by Dr. Bob McClure.



A building tour, including Leasure Hall, one of the original veterinary medicine buildings, rounded out the meeting.

The above photos were provided by Joe Montgomery, Communications Coordinator, College of Veterinary Medicine, Kansas State University.

We extend sincere appreciation to Howard for all he did to make this meeting so successful. In addition, we wish

to acknowledge and thank Dr. Tom Murnane for his contribution to this experimental session. After last year's program at AVMA in New Orleans, Tom suggested that AVMHS might want to consider holding some meetings at other sites. This was an innovative idea worth pursuing. Clearly, there is interest and with excellent local accommodations and planning, good location, interesting speakers, and combined connection with another event we have reached many who might not have thought about veterinary history before.

For those who missed this excellent meeting, Howard indicates that he has asked Marci Ritter in the K-State CE Office if the history presentations can be packaged into a publication for AVMHS members to purchase.

Joint AVMHS-OVC Meeting in 2012 ????

In fact, speaking of spawning opportunities....AVMHS member J. Brian Derbyshire who was present in Kansas has proposed hosting a joint meeting with the Society in Guelph, Ontario, Canada (near Toronto). Dr. Derbyshire is professor emeritus of pathobiology at the Ontario Veterinary College which will celebrate its sesquicentennial in 2012.

Dr. Debbie Tacium reports that she attended the symposium in Guelph, held on May 28th, 2009 where Dr. Derbyshire gave a very informative and animated presentation on the history of the OVC. The day-long event was part of the symposium series celebrating the OVC's 150th anniversary in 2012. The topic for 2009 was women in veterinary medicine, which included some excellent keynote presentations by Dr. Susan Jones, AVMHS past president and currently co-president of WAHVM. Dr. Ellen Carlin also gave a talk based on her 2007 first prize winning essay concerning changes in legislation that led to the "feminine explosion" in veterinary medicine.

Dr. Elizabeth Stone, Dean of the OVC since 2005, is responsible for organizing the content of these symposiums that will be held in 2010 (Veterinary Medicine in Literature), 2011 (the Human-Animal Bond) and 2012 (International Veterinary Medicine). The overall theme of the four year series is "Animals, People and the Environment".

As Debbie indicates, "I think it would be great to have an AVMHS meeting in Guelph to honour their 150th anniversary. The 2009 symposium was very well organised and friendly, and reasonably well-attended, considering most students had already left for the summer."

This 2012 joint meeting proposal has already received support from some AVMHS board members and will be discussed further at the Annual Meeting in Seattle. Based upon growing interest in “branching out” beyond AVMA conventions, proposals or possible suggestions are encouraged for regional meetings in 2010 and 2011.

“An Untied Shoelace” by Phyllis Larsen

Dr. Leon Z. Saunders, pathologist and historian of veterinary pathology, died on March 4, 2009. Not so many years ago, he told me that (as he sat at his desk) he frequently looked down at his feet and saw that one of his shoelaces was untied.

We took this to mean that we both had work to complete. In particular, he kept urging me to find someone to do a biography—at least a biographical paper—on Dr. Jean Holzworth of the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston. When I told Jean about this she asked, “Who would write it? I know I won’t.” Anyone who knew Dr. Holzworth realizes that she would want the writer to be, not only accurate, but also skilled with language, so I kept putting off Leon’s request.

However, I have collected background material for such a paper on the individual he considered the most significant person in the development of feline practice from guesswork to science. In addition to my notes, Leon told me he had several significant bits of correspondence with Jean.

Now Dr. Holzworth has been dead for a few years and Dr. Saunders, too, has passed away. I do not know where his papers are lodged, or whether those letters are available, but the weight of his urging comes home today as I read his obituary in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*. (JAVMA 2009 Jun 15:234(12):1523). A shoelace remains to be tied

Is any AVMHS member or student essayist inclined to tackle the life works of Drs. Jean Holzworth or Leon Saunders?

Note: Dr. Saunders was an AVMHS member in past years and received the Cheiron Medal, WAHVM’s highest honor in 2002. He authored *A Biographical History of Veterinary Pathology* (Allen Press, 1996) and many articles related to veterinary history.

Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices

A report on the current status of this project will be given at the Annual Meeting next month. Now that an informative brochure and news release have been prepared and the Web site is up and running, we’re ready to do some publicity. Lesley Gentry has volunteered to send the brochure and news release to all of the state veterinary associations and serve as contact person should they have any questions or comments.

We welcome new Registry members:
Green Mountain Veterinary Hospital, Manchester Center, VT, estab. 1932
Norton Animal Health Center, Norton, KS, estab. 1952
VCA Detwiler Animal Hospital, Reading, PA, estab. 1921

New Books

Calnek, Bruce W. *A history of avian medicine at Cornell University, 1898-2008*. Ithaca, NY: Department of Microbiology and Immunology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University, [March 2009]. 154 pgs.

The Man-Animal-Relationship From the Antiquity until 20th Century: proceedings of the 38. International Congress of the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine, held in Engelberg, Switzerland, September 11-13. Edited by M. Becker ; organized by the Swiss Association of the History of Veterinary Medicine. Arau: Schweizerische Vereinigung fur Geschichte de Veterinarmedizin (SVGVM), 2008. 183 pgs. ISBN: 9783033017344

Parascandola John. *Sex, Sin and Science: a History of Syphilis in America*. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2008. 195 pgs. ISBN: 9780275994303 (alk. paper)

John Parascandola was the keynote speaker the XXXVI WAHVM International Congress hosted by AVMHS in Minneapolis in 2005.

Reed, Willie M. *Celebrating a Continuum of Excellence: Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, 1959-2009*. West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press, 2009. 150 pgs. ISBN: 9781557535436

* * *

Send news, comments, suggestions for the next *News & Comment* to: Dr. Phyllis H. Larsen, 1675 Ellis Hollow Road, Ithaca, NY 14850, or phone/fax 607-539-6181, email PHL9@cornell.edu or to the Secretary/Treasurer at skw2@cornell.edu, fax: 607- 253-3080 or phone: 607-253-3499.

Additional photos of the Kansas State meeting courtesy of Dr. Fred Born.



Kansas State University was founded 1863 as Kansas State Agricultural College, a land grant institution under the Morrill Act.



Dr. Howard Erickson introducing the next speaker, Alphaina Ho, 2007 third prize essay contest winner, on the story of Plum Island and foreign animal diseases.

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 AVMS Secretary-Treasurer if unavailable from other sources.

Historia Medicinae Veterinariae. V.32(2): 2007, p.41-80

Katic, I. They paved the way....43-83 [photos/images of nearly 100 persons born in the 18th century who contributed to the new discipline, *Ars veterinariae*]

Veterinary History. v.14; no.4, 2009 pgs. 41-80

Jones, BV. Editorial: The re-enactment of past thought....305-8.

Barber-Lomax, JW. The Veterinarian, 1828-1902....309-13.

Simonds, JB. James Beart Simonds, late principal of the Royal Veterinary College, professor of cattle pathology, &c.: Autobiography –Part. 1 (reprinted from *The Veterinarian* 1894 pp.315-324)...314-23.

Jones, BV. In the footsteps of Asclepiades....324-36.

MacKay, M. 'Receipt lists', medicines and the eighteenth-century medical and 'veterinary' marketplace...337-48.

Palmer, AC. First attempt to form the B.S.A.V.A. neurology study group in 1968...349-53.

Evans, J. James Edgar M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.355-70.

Cooper, RG, Tennett, A. Locomotion comparisons between the extinct terror bird and the living ostrich...371-5.

Matthews, S. Cattle plague and farming survival in a Cheshire parish, 1865-6. ...377-90.

Cox, T. Chesnut or chestnut? ... 391-4.

White horses! ... 395.

Fussell, GE. The Fussell papers: Old time farriery writers: The later 1750s. ...396-8.

Letters to the editor: Cox, T. John Bowles of Cambridge...399 ; Kean, H. Domestic animals in 1930s and 1940s...400 ; Preece, R. William Youatt...400 ; Cox, T. Mr. Bishop...401-2.

Tailpiece: Bestiaries....403-4.