INTERIM NEWS & COMMENT
February 2016
Dr. Phyllis H. Larsen, reporter

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Why Veterinary Heritage Was Late
Despite best intentions, we’re sorry that your fall copy of Veterinary Heritage was delayed beyond our control. While the pages were ready for printing in early December, we ran into the holiday period and then encountered a major glitch at the regional U. S. Post Office in Clive, Iowa, from where Veterinary Heritage is mailed. By now, everyone should have received their copy. If not, please let the Secretary/Treasurer know at skw2@cornell.edu or 607-257-9248. The May 2016 issue is already in early stages of preparation and we trust there will be no Post Office problem this time.

AAVMC is 50 Years Old
Veterinary education has come a long way in 50 years, and the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) has been a part of it since 1966.

Planning for the AAVMC’s 50th anniversary began in 2013 when a committee was formed, that included AVMHS’s past president Dr. Howard Erickson. The goals were to celebrate not only important milestones, but to “illuminate the critical role that academic veterinary medicine plays in the modern world.”

Among the products of this year-long celebration was a 6-minute video seen at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJWrk1dIUSM. This past year, member institutions have been using the profiles in this video for promotional purposes. A special issue of the Journal of Veterinary Medical Education (JVME) was also published in fall 2015 with numerous articles about aspects of veterinary education. (See the JVME table of contents on page 7-8 of this newsletter and at http://jvme.uptjournals.press/loi/jvme)

Additionally, a well-illustrated book has been compiled by Dr. Donald F. Smith, with Gwendolyn Isham and Dr. Andrew Maccabe, which will soon to be available. Entitled, Pathways to Progress: The Vision and Impact of Members of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges at the Fiftieth Anniversary (1966/2006), it features several pages of history and developments of each of the current AAVMC member veterinary colleges.

On March 4-6, 2016, the AAVMC Annual Conference will feature a Gala Celebration to be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. At that time, a Grand Initiative will be announced as a transformational project intended to build momentum for veterinary colleges and the profession into the future.


Army Veterinary Corps 100th Anniversary
In the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, Congress established the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps. However, the gradual inclusion of veterinary expertise could be considered to have begun when General George Washington ordered the raising of “a regiment of horse
with a farrier.” During the Civil War, each U.S. Cavalry regiment was required to have a veterinary surgeon. By 1879, they had to be graduates of a recognized veterinary college. During the Spanish-American War, the veterinarians were called on to inspect meat, because of an “embalmed beef scandal.”

Most people do not realize that the care of dogs and other animals now plays a relatively minor role for our profession in the military. While past veterinarians cared for many horses and dogs here as well as overseas in wartime, responsibility for safe food is now the primary military duty of veterinarians.


A celebration will take place on June 1-3, 2016 at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas.

100th Anniversary of the US Army Veterinary Corps

AGENDA

Wednesday, 1 June
1100 - 1300 Registration, El Tropicano Hotel Lobby
1300 - 1700 Golf tournament, Fort Sam Golf Course
1800 - 1930 Ice breaker, El Tropicano Hotel

Thursday, 2 June
0800 - 0900 Registration, El Tropicano Hotel Lobby
0815 - 1100
1) “Veterinary Corps 2016”
2) “Current and Future State of Army Medicine”
3) UVMA Annual Meeting
1100 - 1300 Lunch on own
1300 - 1700 Track One: Bus to FSH and tours of Food Analysis and Diagnostic Laboratory, Institute of Surgical Research
1300 - 1700 Track Two: El Tropicano Hotel Veterinary Clinical Continuing Education, TBA
1700 - 1800 Registration, Hotel Lobby
1830 - 2100 Dinner celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Veterinary Corps

Friday, 3 June
0900 - 0930 Bus to Fort Sam Houston - El Tropicano Hotel
0930 - 1100 Ceremony Veterinary Corps statue
1130 - 1530 Bus to Lackland AFB for tour of Dog Center & MWD Statue
0800 - 1800 Hospitality Suite open

As permanent tribute, the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps has commissioned San Antonio sculptor Donna L. Dobberfuhl (www.sculpturaldesigns.com) to create a statue that will be placed at their headquarters at Fort Sam Houston. See http://youtube/wUaCRKQvpzY The monument will be unveiled and dedicated at a ceremony on Friday, June 3.

For more information about this significant event, contact the Uniformed Veterinary Medical Association (UVMA) at http://uniformedvma.org/index.html

Then, during the AVMA Annual Convention, the American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) is planning to hold its gala event at the U.S. Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Museum at Fort Sam Houston (http://ameddmuseum.amedd.army.mil/) on August 5, 2016 in recognition of the Veterinary Corps’ 100th anniversary.

Texas A & M Veterinary College at 100

2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Texas A & M University School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Although the teaching of veterinary medicine at the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas dates from 1878, a School of Veterinary Medicine opened its doors to 13 students in September, 1916, with Dr. Mark Francis as its first Dean. Dr. Francis (1863-1936) made his mark in veterinary medicine for his work in combating tick-borne Texas fever, a major plague of Southern livestock since the late 1700s, and in developing the subcutaneous injection method for immunizing cattle against this devastating disease. A time line of the school’s development and achievements over the years can be found at http://vetmed.tamu.edu/about-us/history
A calendar of year-long events, a “memory book” for submitting recollections online, merchandize, and more can be found at [http://vetmed.tamu.edu/cvm100](http://vetmed.tamu.edu/cvm100).

A lavishly illustrated, coffee table-type commemorative book is also in preparation that will be available in both hardcover and paperback later in the spring.

Nancy Burford ([burfordng@gmail.com](mailto:burfordng@gmail.com)) reports that renovation plans are well underway for creating a glass-walled room that will showcase much of the Health Science Library’s Historical Veterinary Research Collection at Texas A & M. Along with display space, it will house nearly 5000 books, journals, broadsides, prints, and other ephemera as well as over 3000 artifacts. She indicates that the Library is still purchasing or acquiring more items, such as a large set of 19th century medical instruments and apothecary cases. Another gift last fall included a set of the first six volumes of *American Veterinary Review* and the first 21 volumes of the *Veterinary journal and Annals of Comparative Pathology*. She hopes that additional progress can be made on the huge task of cataloging and processing materials in the Case Collection on military veterinary history in the next year.

**Angell Memorial – Another Centennial**

Angell Animal Medical Center, as it has been known since 2003, turned 100 years old last year on March 1, 2015. Its name comes from George Thorndike Angell, the Boston lawyer who incorporated the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA). Started and continued by the MSPCA, Angell had dirt floors, and it treated primarily horses, oxen, sheep, and other farm animals. In its first year it treated 4382 animals. In 2015, it treated 61,595.

According to a July 15, 2015 article (page 3) in *The Boston Globe Magazine* on the Angell’s centennial, it is noted that Dr. Lawrence Blakely performed the first hernia repair in a dog there in 1934. “In 1950, its cardiologists were among the first in the world to implant a pacemaker into a dog.” And in 1997, “the first successful feline kidney transplant was conducted at Angell.” Now spine and brain surgeries are done weekly, and neurologist, Dr. Allen Sisson, says that CTs have become routine.

In celebration, Karen Campbell has written a book, *Angell at 100: A Century of Compassionate Care for Animals and Their Families*. It chronicles the achievements of this highly respected clinical veterinary institution which grew out of George Angell’s pioneering efforts for animal welfare in the 19th century. Covered in this book are “stories of the dedicated doctors, the creative medical innovations and of course the tales of the diverse patients and their families.” Those interested in the changes in small animal practice and its impact will enjoy this publication. Copies can be obtained from Amazon or ordered from any bookstore.

**AVMHS in San Antonio 2016**

AVMHS President and 2016 Program Chair Dr. Boris Brglez has been hard at work submitting a full roster of potential speakers on various topics related to veterinary history for consideration for the AVMA’s CE Program to be held August 5-9. Final arrangements are still pending and will be formally announced in the next *News & Comment* newsletter.

Also in the planning stages may be a historical behind-the-scenes tour at SeaWorld. AVMHS will host its exhibit booth in the #14 slot this year. More on its theme and content later on.

“Together We Build”-- Women’s Auxiliaries

Dr. Lisa Cox writes, “Women’s auxiliaries and social groups have been a regular fixture within veterinary medicine since the mid-twentieth century. However, recognition of these groups in the history of veterinary medicine is minimal.” A recent article authored by AVMHS board member Dr. Lisa Cox, with Katie Anderson and OVC Dean Dr. Elizabeth A. Stone, aims to change that. Published in the January 2016 issue of the Canadian Veterinary Journal, this paper examines the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) Student Wives’ Auxiliary from 1951 to early 1990s based upon a scrapbook uncovered in the C.A.V. Barker Museum of Canadian Veterinary History at the University of Guelph. It also puts this student auxiliary into context with other related auxiliaries during this period and shares insights into their role based upon actual oral history interviews.

This research paper is timely as the [Woman’s] Auxiliary to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) approaches its 100th anniversary next year, having been founded in Kansas City on Aug. 22, 1917.

History of Horse Anatomy Exhibit at MSU

Dr. Fred Born recently reported on a new exhibit of equine veterinary anatomy books at Michigan State University (MSU) College of Veterinary Medicine. (https://www.lib.msu.edu/node/4517/) This display has been produced by Andrea C. Kepsel, Health Sciences Educational Technology Librarian and Liaison to the College (akepsel@mail.lib.msu.edu). She thanks Dr. Born for permission to include items from his VET2011 collection at MSU’s College of Veterinary Medicine on the “The History of Equine Anatomy in Veterinary Medicine.” Andrea further indicates that her exhibit has already generated a lot of interest in both the VET2011 and historic veterinary medicine book collections since its installation in January. The exhibit will be on display until March 31, 2016.

“Getting History Out of the Cupboards”

With funding from the ALBORDA Trust, the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons’ Library, known as RCVS Knowledge, in the U.K. has recently announced a five-year project. This endeavor will catalog and digitize priority books and documents from its historic collections, improve their storage, and make them freely available online in a searchable catalog. Included will be the Sir Frederick Smith Collection and the complete run of one of the earliest veterinary journals, The Veterinarian, from 1828 to 1902. The project began in October, 2015 and progress updates will be posted on a blog at http://rcvsknowledgelibraryblog.org/

Frederick Murphy “Retires” from AVMHS

Dr. Frederick A. Murphy has told us he is retiring from membership in AVMHS. He held many research positions in infectious diseases and virology at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) where Dr. Murphy made the first electron microscope image of the Ebola virus in 1976. This was nearly 40 years before that organism caused many deaths in Africa, and had countries on guard lest it become a problem elsewhere. Before retiring as Professor of Pathology at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Dr. Murphy had become dean emeritus at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Murphy’s retirement reminds this reporter that our Society appreciates members, who have contributed to various scientific or cultural aspects of history, as well as those who focus on the history of the veterinary profession.

WAHVM Membership

Our AVMHS has been an institutional member of the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (WAHVM). Being a member enables our Society to have a voting representative present at its biennial liaison meetings. Our representative at this time is Lesley Ann Gentry of Beloit, Kansas. One of our past presidents, Dr. Susan D. Jones, has also been a past president of WAHVM. In addition to a business session, many papers and posters are presented at WAHVM biennial Congresses. The host country is responsible for registration arrangements, meeting logistics, and making the abstracts available to attendees. Some countries even print booklets of the entire papers.

At this time, it costs our Society 3 Euros or $3.40 USD (out of our $35.00 dues) per member per year to be an institutional member of WAHVM. Although this seems
little, our AVMHS dues presently do not cover our Society’s regular annual costs, let alone contribute dues to WAHVM. Expenses for Veterinary Heritage publication, the essay contest, postage, and AVMA annual booth continue to stretch our own resources. Consequently, the AVMHS board has voted that payment of dues to WAHVM should be suspended until further notice. It is noted that in some past years, certain AVMHS members, who feel being an institutional member of WAHVM is important, have paid those dues for us all.

This decision does not directly affect individual AVMHS members. Anyone may join WAHVM on their own at 20 Euro (or about $22.66 USD) per year by credit card via PayPal at http://wahvm.org/about/how-to-join/ Anyone can still register, present a paper, and attend WAHVM’s biennial congresses, the latest of which will be held in Vienna, Austria this coming July. However, personal WAHVM members may qualify for a slight discount on the congress registration fee.

**Meeting Calendar**

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<td>March 4-6</td>
<td>AAVMC 50th Annual Conference and Anniversary Celebration, Wash., DC</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>AVMHS 2016 essay contest deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1-3</td>
<td>3-day 100th anniversary celebration of the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Uniformed Veterinary Medical Assoc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 27-30</td>
<td>42th WAHVM International Congress, Vienna, Austria</td>
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<td>Aug 5</td>
<td>AVMF Gala at the AMEDD Museum in honor USVC 100th anniversary</td>
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<td>Aug 5-9 tba</td>
<td>AVMHS Annual Business Meeting and Program, San Antonio, Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 21-25 tba</td>
<td>AVMHS Annual Business Meeting and Program, Indianapolis, Indiana</td>
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**New AVMHS Members**

We are pleased to welcome:

Stephen Ball (Ankeny, IA)

**New Registry of Veterinary Heritage Practice**

We are pleased to welcome new Registry members:

Angell Animal Medical Center (Boston, MA), Estab. 1915

Athol Animal Hospital (Athol, MA), Estab. 1947 by Dr. Howard C. Adams (Middlesex ’44)

Flemington Veterinary Hospital (Flemington, NJ), Estab. 1950 by Dr. Carl Schenholm

Gage Animal Hospital (Topeka, KA), Estab. 1950 by Dr. J. Alan Bradbury

North Shore Veterinary Hospital (Gloucester, MA), Estab. 1935 by Dr. Osmun Babson.

Northside Animal Hospital (Owosso, MI), Estab. 1935 by Dr. Jack DeVries

Palmer Veterinary Clinic (Plattsburgh, NY), Estab. 1958 by Dr. Lynn Palmer

Riverview Animal Clinic (Clarkston, WA), Estab. 1947 by Dr. William Meyers, Sr.

**New Books**


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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.
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: Journal of the Veterinary History Society (U.K.), vol. 18, no.2, 2016
Jones, Bruce Vivash. Editorial: We had no choice. …113-116
Matthews, Peter K, Colin M. Warwick, and Alastair A. Macdonald. The War Memorial and Roll-of-Honour of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies…117-164
Sayer, Karen. Brucellosis in fact and fiction: the story of a zoonosis….165-183
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Mackenzie, A. History of the Agricultural Research Council Institute for Research on Animal Diseases at Compton…228-240
Boulton, Clare. RCVS Knowledge bringing veterinary history out of the cupboards…241
Matthews, Peter K, Colin M. Warwick, Brian McIntier and Alastair A. Macdonald. Royal (School) School of Veterinary Studies War Memorial – Update…242-243.
Woods, Abigail. Book Review: “‘Their Not to Reason Why’: Horsing the British Army 1875-1925” by Winston Graham….244-245
Jones, Bruce Vivash. Tailpiece: The Bull…247-248

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

Journal of Veterinary Medical Education – Anniversary issue -- vol. 42, No. 5, Winter 2015
INTRODUCTION TO THE ANNIVERSARY ISSUE
Green E, Freeman D, Ames T. The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges and academic veterinary medicine—Creating the profession of veterinary medicine for 50 years. 2015 Winter;42(5):393-394.

HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF VETERINARY MEDICAL COLLEGES

THE EVOLVING ENVIRONMENT FOR ACADEMIC VETERINARY EDUCATION
Kochevar DT. Fifty years of evolving partnerships in veterinary medical education. Winter 2015;42(5):403-413.

ADVANCING THE PROFESSION OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Buss DD. Driving success over the past 50 years—The faculty in academic veterinary medicine. Winter 2015;42(5):459-479.

ADVANCING VETERINARY MEDICAL EDUCATION


Lane DR. Postcards during World War I. Veterinary Record. 2015 Feb 28;176(9):235. doi: 10.1136/vr.h1079


