

American Veterinary Medical History Society

“Devoted to the Diffusion of Veterinary History”

INTERIM NEWS & COMMENT

June 2021

Susanne Whitaker and Helen Wojcinski, reporters

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June 30 AVMHS Annual Meeting Program

AVMHS’s Annual Program and Business Meeting will be held **Wednesday, June 30, 2021, from 7-9pm ET (4-6pm PT)**. Again, this year our 2-hour session will convene electronically via Zoom videoconferencing. An invitation will be sent to all members a few days prior to the event.

Program-Chair/President elect Dr. Pat Kennedy Arrington (bestvet71@aol.com) has invited an expert in the field of veterinary vaccinology to give a presentation during the first hour.

David Scott McVey, DVM, PhD, DACVM (dmcvey2@unl.edu) will speak on

“The History of Vaccines and the Impacts on Veterinary and Human Medicine”

Q&A to follow as time permits.

Dr. McVey is presently Director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and the Associate Dean of the Nebraska/Iowa Program for Veterinary Medicine. Dr. McVey has leadership experience in basic research, commercial vaccine research and development, corporate initiatives, diagnostic medicine, and graduate and veterinary professional education. He has received various awards and published numerous research papers and was a co-editor of 3rd ed. *Veterinary Microbiology*.

While the rapid development of human COVID-19 vaccines made news, the development of vaccines in veterinary medicine is no less impressive as efficacious

and safe practice in combating many animal and human related diseases over the last 50 years. Dr. McVey will address the history, current practices, and potential future improvements of vaccine use in veterinary medicine.

Given Dr. McVey’s background and extensive experience related to vaccines in the biopharmaceutical industry, academia, government service, and private practice, this should be a most informative and important presentation. We hope as many AVMHS members as possible take advantage of this unique opportunity.

The second hour is allocated to our Annual Business meeting convened by President Zbigniew Wojcinski.

2021 Annual Meeting Postcard

Each year since 2015, AVMHS has produced a postcard to promote the annual meeting. In conjunction with Dr. McVey’s talk on the history of vaccine development, this year’s card features a Mulford Rabies Vaccine Outfit, from about 1921 for rabies treatment of human patients. (https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_719535)



Image courtesy Division of Medicine and Science, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Physicians could mail order this kit from the H.K. Mulford Company in Philadelphia. It contained 21 syringes and vials of vaccine for administering to individuals having come in contact with a rabid animal.

Members will receive their postcards shortly.

2021 Smithcors Student Essay Contest

Committee Chair Dr. Jessica Zeiger is pleased to announce the winners of this year's Smithcors Student Veterinary History Essay Contest:

1st place **Polly Weldon** '22, University of Florida
"Unexpected Allies: How an Original Thought from the 1930s Saved the Florida Key Deer from Getting Screwed"

2nd place **Conrad S. Schelkopf** '24, Kansas State University
"Scrapie: A Brief History of the First Prion Disease"

3rd place **Lydia Hall** '21, Purdue University
"Zoo Pathology: A Historic Lens on an Emerging Field"

4th place **Brooklyn Biese** '22, Purdue University
"The Journey to Corticosteroid Treatment"

In addition to acknowledging our essayists, we wish to thank our panel of 3 blinded judges: Dr. Cynthia Gregg Hoobler, Dr. Pat Kennedy Arrington, and Dr. Linda Schlater. The judges carefully read and ranked all 13 essays submitted this year.

Each winning essay will be published in forthcoming issues of *Veterinary Heritage*. Students who want to get a head start in thinking about a possible topic of their choice will find a list of all essays since the contest was established in 1992 on our Society website at <https://www.avmhs.org/essay-contest>. Next year's entries are due on April 15, 2022.

Status Report on AVMHS's *Guideposts* Book

It's official. After about 2 years in planning and preparation, copies of AVMHS's *Guideposts for Veterinary Professionals* were released from the printer on May 11. According to editors Drs. Susan Aiello and Russell Currier, the response has been very positive so far from all who have seen this impressive 256-page 4 × 6" handbook to help students beginning their careers.

The editorial team is currently contacting all the veterinary colleges in the US and Canada to determine how many copies and when to ship them for distribution to this year's white coat ceremony class of veterinary students. With support for printing from *The Merck Veterinary Manual*, the plan is to provide free copies to one class per year over 4 years.

For those interested in obtaining this book, information about purchasing single and multiple copies is available on our website at <https://www.avmhs.org/guideposts-for-vet-professionals>. The cost is \$20 each with a 25%

discount for 10 or more copies. AVMHS members also receive a 25% discount.

AVMHS Bylaws Review and Approval Vote

Last summer, incoming President Zbigniew Wojcinski initiated a review of the Society's Bylaws, which had not been comprehensively reviewed since 1999. With the help of board member Dr. John de Jong, who was involved with bylaws for the World Small Animal Veterinary Association, and Secretary-Treasurer Susanne Whitaker, the document was reviewed from beginning to end. A revised draft was circulated to members in late January and a number of helpful suggestions and comments were received.

To save time at the annual meeting on June 30, it was decided to submit the latest draft dated May 26 to the membership for a vote for approval in advance by email.

Votes are requested by June 20 to allow time to summarize them before the business meeting. Appreciation is extended to all who have already cast their ballots.

Membership Committee Survey

The objectives of the membership committee are to increase membership in our Society, retain existing members and to encourage more member involvement in committees and the board. These three goals are important to ensure the sustainability of the AVMHS.

In order to do this, the membership committee will be sending out a short electronic survey to all members, in the near future, asking for input on what you value about AVMHS, additional activities you feel the Society could provide, plus some information about the various committees and opportunities within them.

If you are not able to access the internet and would like to participate in the survey contact Dr. Helen Wojcinski, Membership Committee Chair at helenwojcinski@gmail.com or 734 730-5565. Your input is IMPORTANT.

Purdue's David Williams Is Emeritus

Congratulations to Professor David J. Williams on becoming Professor Emeritus at Purdue University as of June 30. A talented medical illustrator, energetic teacher, and knowledgeable historian, David initiated and has taught a number of elective courses in medical history to veterinary students as well as University honors students over the years. His numerous original medical illustrations, photographs, slides and other drawings

from 1970 to 1990s from his productive career have already been deposited in the Purdue University Archives as the “David J. Williams Collection of Medical Artwork.” For more information, see <https://archives.lib.purdue.edu/repositories/2/accessions/1908>



David served twice as AVMHS president (2005-2006 and 2017-2018) as well as Managing Editor of *Veterinary Heritage* (1998-2014). He is widely recognized as co-author of *Veterinary Medicine: An Illustrated History* with Robert H. Dunlop in 1996. We thank him for all he has contributed to veterinary history and wish him much happiness in coming years.

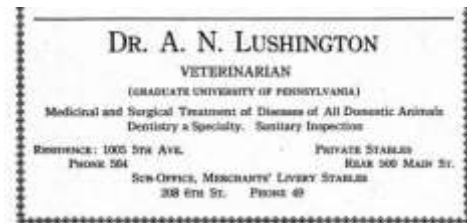
Lushington Marker Dedicated in Virginia

On Saturday, April 17, a dedication ceremony was held at 1005 Fifth Street in Lynchburg, Virginia, to dedicate a Virginia State Historical Marker in recognition of Augustus Nathaniel Lushington, VMD (ca 1861-1939). Dr. Lushington was the first African-American veterinary graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in 1897 and the third known in the United States of African descent. A native of Trinidad, Dr. Lushington practiced in Lynchburg for nearly 4 decades.

Among the speakers at the ceremony were Dr. Samuel H. Baum, a retired 40-year large animal practitioner and supporter of the application to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR), along with Jane Baber White (janebaberwhite@gmail.com), a Lynchburg resident who initiated the application and raised funds for the marker recognizing Dr. Lushington. On behalf of the Society, AVMHS President Zbigniew Wojcinski sent a letter of congratulations and support of this VDHR initiative.



Augustus Nathaniel Lushington, V.M.D., ca. 1921. Source: Caldwell AB, ed. Augustus N. Lushington. *History of the American Negro*. Virginia edition. v.5. Atlanta, Ga., A. B. Caldwell Publishing Co., 1921; p. 118. *HathiTrust Digital Library*, <https://hdl.handle.net/2027/nyp.33433081793386>



Walsh's Lynchburg Virginia City Directory for 1910. Lynchburg: The Walsh Directory Company, 1910; p. 8.



The historic marker shown at 1005 Fifth Street where Dr. Lushington lived in Lynchburg.



Isaac Williams (left), a pianist from Shenandoah Conservatory who provided music for the program with Jane Baber White who applied for the historical marker.



Samuel H. Baum, DVM (samuelhbaum@gmail.com) (above) was one of the marker's sponsors. Now retired after 40 years as a large animal veterinarian in the area, he was the main speaker who created a wonderful picture of what it must have been like to practice veterinary medicine during Dr. Lushington's time. A YouTube excerpt of Dr. Baum's talk can be viewed at: https://newsadvance.com/news/local/state-historical-marker-unveiled-on-5th-st-recognizing-first-black-veterinarian/article_7491e6be-9f95-11eb-94b8-27ad26ebb868.html

These photos are kindly provided by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. See more at https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/press_releases/state-historical-marker-augustus-n-lushington-vmd-to-be-dedicated-saturday-in-lynchburg/

Text of this historic marker in Lynchburg:

**Augustus Nathaniel Lushington, VMD
(ca. 1861 – 1939)**

Dr. Augustus Lushington, veterinarian, practiced in Lynchburg for nearly four decades. A native of Trinidad, he attended Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania, where in 1897 he became one of the first Black men in the U.S. to earn a degree as a doctor of veterinary medicine. By 1900 he had moved to Lynchburg and opened his practice as a large-animal veterinary surgeon, primarily caring for horses and cattle on nearby farms. He served as a statistical reporter to the federal Bureau of Animal Industry, charged with combating disease in livestock. He also worked as a probation officer and was president of the Lynchburg Negro Business League. Lushington lived here at 1005 5th St.

Research on Early Black Veterinarians

Dr. Howard Erickson (erickson@vet.k-state.edu) has begun gathering historical biographical information about early African-American veterinarians in the US and Canada before 1920 with assistance from Susanne Whitaker. Dr. Erickson indicates that 4 doctors are known prior to 1900 with another 35 men through 1920. Based upon extensive information gathered previously by Dr. William H. Waddell ('35 UP), Dr. Eugene Adams estimated there had been about 70 Black DVM graduates by 1948. [Adams EW. A historical overview of African American veterinarians in the United States: 1889-2000. *J Vet Med Educ.* 31(4):409-413, 2004.]

Summaries of Dr. Erickson's research may appear in future issues of *Veterinary Heritage*. He asks anyone interested in this project to contact him.

In the meantime, the Multicultural Veterinary Medical Association (MCVMA) has produced an informative slide show titled, "The First But Not the Last," presenting first African-American graduates at various veterinary colleges at <https://www.mcvma.org/notthelast>

2021-2022 Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee for the 2021-2022 slate of officers is composed of Drs. Peggy Carter, Russell Currier and Howard Erickson. In advance of election at the annual meeting on June 30, proposed candidates include:

President

Dr. Pat Kennedy Arrington (*Louisville, KY*)

President-elect /Program Chair

Dr. Marianne Ash (*Lafayette, IN*)

At-large Board members

Dr. Arnold Goldman (*Canton, CT*)

Dr. John Howe (*Grand Rapids, MN*)

Dr. Kathleen Cooney on Euthanasia

AVMHS member Dr. Kathleen Cooney (cooneydvm@gmail.com) has authored an excellent paper providing a historical overview of how attitudes and practice have changed toward euthanasia over the years. It is well worth reading.

Cooney K. Historical perspective of euthanasia in veterinary medicine. *Vet Clin North Am Small Anim Pract.* 2020 May;50(3):489-502. doi: 10.1016/j.cvs.2019.12.001.

Meeting and Event Calendar

2021

June 30 AVMHS 44th Annual Meeting and program
[virtual via Zoom videoconferencing]

2022

April 15 Student History Essay Contest Deadline

August World Association for the History of
Veterinary Medicine 45th International
Congress, Brescia, Italy

New AVMHS Members (as of June 4)

We are pleased to welcome:

Jennifer A. Allen, DVM (*Franklin, TN*)
Lydia Andrews-Jones, DVM, PhD (*Golden, CO*)
Mark P. Helfat, DVM (*Mt. Laurel, NJ*)
John Howe, DVM (*Grand Rapids, MN*)
Scott McVey, DVM, PhD, DACVM (*Lincoln, NE*)
Kristen Obbink, DVM, MPH (*Madrid, IA*)
Rebecca Shumar (*Louisville, KY*)
Whitney Vaccari, DVM (*Louisville, KY*)
Ronald D. Warner, DVM, PhD (*Shallowater, TX*)
John Yatsook, DVM (*Overland Park, KS*)

One-Year Gratis Memberships for *Guideposts* Authors:

Dana Allen, DVM, MSc (*Guelph, ON, Canada*)
Trevor R. Ames, DVM, MS (*Minneapolis, MN*)
Danelle Bickett-Weddle, DVM, MPH, PhD (*Ames, IA*)
Michael J. Blackwell, DVM, MPH (*Knoxville, TN*)
Marie Bucko (*Madison, WI*)
Lawrence A. Busch, DVM, MDiv (*Monticello, KY*)
Heather Case, DVM, MPH (*Cary, IL*)
Michael Chaddock DVM, EML (*Grand Ledge, MI*)
Susan Cohen, DSW
W. Ron DeHaven, DVM, MBA (*El Dorado Hill, CA*)
Michael Dicks, PhD (*Arvada, CA*)
Eleanor M. Green, DVM (*Millsap, TX*)
Maria Holowaychuk, DVM (*Calgary, AB, Canada*)
Jerry Jaax, DVM (*Lenexa, KS*)
Nancy Jaax, DVM (*Lenexa, KS*)
Lonnie King, DVM, MS, MPA (*Greensboro, GA*)
Melissa Maddux, DVM (*Kodak, TN*)
Sara Mark, DVM (*Littleton, CO*)
Donald L. Noah, DVM, MPH (*Tazewell, TN*)
Abbie Viscardi, PhD (*Salina, KS*)
Lorin D. Warnick, DVM, PhD (*Ithaca, NY*)

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.

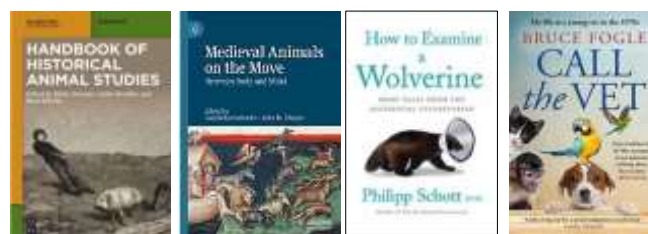
New AVMHS Life Member (as of June 4)

Arnold Goldman, DVM (*Canton, CT*)

New Books and Videos

Roscher, Mieke, André Kriebber and Brett Mizelle, eds.
Handbook of Historical Animal Studies. München;
Wien: De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2021. 637 pgs.
ISBN: 9783110534290 doi:10.1515/9783110536553

Bartosiewicz, L and Alice Mathea Choyke. *Medieval
Animals on the Move: Between Body and Mind*. Cham,
Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2021. 193 pgs. ISBN:
9783030638870



Fogle, Bruce. *Call the Vet: My Life as a Young Vet in
the 1970s London*. London: HarperCollinsPublishers,
2021, 2020. ? pgs. ISBN: 9780008424329

Nesbet, Sheilagh. *Not Grazing But Browsing: Spilling
the Beans on Life as a Woman and Vet*. [S.l.]:
MATADOR, 2021. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781800462717

Schott, Philip. *How to Examine a Wolverine: More
Tales from the Accidental Veterinarian*. Toronto: ECW
Press, 2021. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781770415881

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Send news, comments, and suggestions for the next
News & Comment to Dr. Helen Wojcinski
helenwojcinski@gmail.com, or to AVMHS Secretary-
Treasurer Susanne Whitaker, 23 Wedgewood Drive,
Ithaca, NY 14850-1064, phone 607-257-9248 or email
skw2@cornell.edu or avmhs.info@gmail.com.

“The farther backward you look, the farther forward you
are likely to see.”

Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

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

- Bowman DD. History of *Toxocara* and the associated larva migrans. *Advances in Parasitology*. 2020;109:17-38. doi: 10.1016/bs.apar.2020.01.037.
- Buzic I, Giuffra V. The paleopathological evidence on the origins of human tuberculosis: a review. *Journal of Preventive Medicine and Hygiene*. 2020 Apr 30;61(1 Suppl 1):E3-E8. doi: 10.15167/2421-4248/jpmh2020.61.1s1.1379. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7263064/>
- Eitel J. «Der erfahrene Rindvieharzt» – ein populärwissenschaftliches Bündner Tierarzneibuch aus dem 19. Jahrhundert [«The experienced cattle doctor» - a popular science veterinary book of the canton of Grisons from the 19th century]. *Schweizer Archiv für Tierheilkunde*. 2021 Feb;163(2):111-122. [German; English abstract]. doi: 10.17236/sat00289. [Gesellschaft Schweizer Tierärztinnen und Tierärzte GST: «Der erfahrene Rindvieharzt» – ein populärwissenschaftliches Bündner Tierarzneibuch aus dem 19. Jahrhundert \(gstsvs.ch\)](https://www.gstsvs.ch/Gesellschaft_Schweizer_Tierärztinnen_und_Tierärzte_GST:_«Der_erfahrene_Rindvieharzt»_–_ein_populärwissenschaftliches_Bündner_Tierarzneibuch_aus_dem_19._Jahrhundert_(gstsvs.ch))
- Entrican G, Lunney JK, Wattedgedera SR, Mwangi W, Hope JC, Hammond JA. The veterinary immunological toolbox: past, present, and future. *Frontiers in Immunology*. 2020 Jul 28;11:1651. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2020.01651. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7399100/>
- Häsler S, Baumgartner M, Kleiner E. 200 Jahre Tierspital Zürich: Ein Querschnitt durch die Vorlesungen des Examenjahrgangs 1864 [200 years of the animal hospital Zurich: A cross-section through the lectures of the exam year 1864]. *Schweizer Archiv für Tierheilkunde*. 2021 Feb;163(2):99-110. [German; English abstract]. doi: 10.17236/sat00288. Available at: [SAT_02_2021_Haesler.pdf \(gstsvs.ch\)](https://www.gstsvs.ch/SAT_02_2021_Haesler.pdf) [Gesellschaft Schweizer Tierärztinnen und Tierärzte GST: 200 Jahre Tierspital Zürich: Ein Querschnitt durch die Vorlesungen des Examenjahrgangs 1864 \(gstsvs.ch\)](https://www.gstsvs.ch/Gesellschaft_Schweizer_Tierärztinnen_und_Tierärzte_GST:_200_Jahre_Tierspital_Zürich:_Ein_Querschnitt_durch_die_Vorlesungen_des_Examenjahrgangs_1864_(gstsvs.ch))
- Heller JM, Gervasoni JH, Gaydos JC. The first 75 years timeline of United States Army preventive, occupational and environmental medicine, and public health history. *Medical Journal. (Fort Sam Houston, Tex)*. 2020 Jul-Sep;(PB 8-20-7/8/9):2-56.
- Holmes T, Friese C. Making the anaesthetised animal into a boundary object: an analysis of the 1875 Royal Commission on Vivisection. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*. 2020 Oct 14;42(4):50. doi: 10.1007/s40656-020-00344-9. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7557452/>
- Mercer A. Protection against severe infectious disease in the past. *Pathogens and Global Health*. 2021 May;115(3):151-167. doi: 10.1080/20477724.2021.1878443.
- Patterson GE, McIntyre KM, Clough HE, Rushton J. Societal impacts of pandemics: comparing COVID-19 with history to focus our response. *Frontiers in Public Health*. 2021 Apr 12;9:630449. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2021.630449. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8072022/>
- Pospischil A. Arnold Theiler and colleagues: a successful cooperation between -Switzerland and South Africa. *Schweizer Archiv für Tierheilkunde*. 2021 Jan;163(1):57-66. doi: 10.17236/sat00286. [Gesellschaft Schweizer Tierärztinnen und Tierärzte GST: Arnold Theiler and colleagues: a successful cooperation between Switzerland and South Africa \(gstsvs.ch\)](https://www.gstsvs.ch/Gesellschaft_Schweizer_Tierärztinnen_und_Tierärzte_GST:_Arnold_Theiler_and_colleagues:_a_successful_cooperation_between_Switzerland_and_South_Africa_(gstsvs.ch))
- Rocha BR, Martins G, Lilenbaum W. An historical view of the experimental leptospiral infection in ruminants. *Comparative Immunology, Microbiology, and Infectious Diseases*. 2020 Dec;73:101532. doi: 10.1016/j.cimid.2020.101532.
- Valent P, Akin C, Hartmann K, et al. Mast cells as a unique hematopoietic lineage and cell system: From Paul Ehrlich's visions to precision medicine concepts. *Theranostics*. 2020 Aug 29;10(23):10743-10768. doi: 10.7150/thno.46719. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7482799/>