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The Loyal Red and Blue

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Four Pennsylvania Alumni were honored by their peers as recipients of the 1983 Veterinary Medical Alumni Society Award of Merit presented by outgoing Society President, Nancy Brown, V'73, at the Annual Meeting at New Bolton Center on Saturday, May 21.

The honored individuals were Pierre A. Chaloux, V'53, of Holland, MI, M. Josephine Deubler, V'38, of Philadelphia, PA, Louis Leibovitz, V'50, of Ithaca, NY, and John T. McGrath, V'43, of Philadelphia, PA.

Pierre Chaloux, V'53 was recognized for his outstanding service in the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, where he served as Deputy Administrator since 1977 and as Assistant Deputy Administrator from 1974 to 1977. Dr. Chaloux's career has included such assignments as Representative for European-African Emergency Programs in Rome, Staff Veterinarian for Import-Export Animals and Products, and Staff Veterinarian for the Tuberculosis Eradication Center in Washington, D.C.

M. Josephine Deubler, V'38 has been on the faculty of the School of Veterinary Medicine since she became its first woman graduate. During her entire career she has been a leading figure in alumni affairs, serving the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society for many years as secretary and historian. Known by dog fanciers both nationally and internationally for her work in support of purebred dogs, she is a key representative of the School and veterinary profession in this field. She continues her active role as Show Chairman of the Bucks-County Kennel Club, the Montgomery County Kennel Club and the American Fox Terrier Club.

John T. McGrath, V'43 is a major figure in the areas of veterinary pathology, neuropathology and clinical neurology. He is best known for his pioneering work in cataloging and making clinicopathological correlations of spontaneous lesions of the nervous system in animals. These activities led to the publication of his book, Neurological Examination of the Dog, which was published in 1956. The publication of this volume and Dr. McGrath's other activities provided the scientific basis for veterinary clinical neurology and were important stimuli to the movement toward clinical specialization in veterinary medicine.

As a member of the University of Pennsylvania faculty since 1947, Dr. McGrath has trained many veterinarians who have become major figures in academic and industrial veterinary pathology. Known as a friend of the students and graduates of the School, the Alumni Society Award saluted his contributions to veterinary medicine and his accomplishments as a friend and devoted teacher.

Louis Leibovitz, V'50, is associate professor of avian and aquatic medicine at Cornell University and director of Cornell's Laboratory for Marine and Animal Health at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Wood's Hole, Mass. Dr. Leibovitz was saluted for his contributions to new veterinary medicine knowledge achieved as a researcher and teacher of diseases of domestic and wild aquatic animals. In addition to his work at Cornell, Dr. Leibovitz served as director of Poultry Diagnostic Laboratories, Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, PA, from 1953-1963, and as Principal Investigator of a Sea Grant from 1973-79. His pioneering work in the identification and characterization of new diseases of poultry, pigeons, ducks, wildfowl, finfish, and shellfish was noted in the award presentation.

The appointments of a new director of Annual Giving and Alumni Affairs and of a coordinator of Continuing Education were announced by Dean Robert R. Marshak in May.

Assuming the position of director of Annual Giving and Alumni Affairs at the Veterinary School is Shira Barkon. Ms. Barkon comes to the School from the Philadelphia Zoo where she served as director of Corporate and Foundation Relations and assistant director of Development. Her new responsibilities at the School will include Alumni Annual Giving, Friends of the Small Animal Hospital and Friends of New Bolton Center.

Ashra Markowitz has been appointed as coordinator of the Veterinary School's Continuing Education. Ms. Markowitz has been with the School for twelve years as an administrative assistant in the Section of Small Animal Surgery, and more recently in the Office of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations. She will work closely with members of the School's Program Committee, Drs. Tom Divers, William Moyer and Charles Newton in organizing the lectures, seminars and laboratories in specialized subjects for practicing veterinarians, symposia for the owners and breeders of large and small animals, and the Penn Annual Conference.

Alumni returning to New Bolton Center for Alumni Day on May 21, 1983 enjoyed visiting the Fairman Rogers collection of rare equine books. The books, numbering over 1200, were collected by Fairman Rogers, an alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania and long-time professor of Civil Engineering at the University. His collection was donated to the School of Veterinary Medicine by his wife. It has been maintained at the New Bolton Center library since 1974. The collection has grown through the donations of 400 other books in the intervening years.

On special display during Alumni Day were The Anatomy of a Horse by Andrew Snape, the first great equine work to be published in English (1683). The author, farrier to Charles II, included many interesting illustrations. This book was recently on loan to the Springfield, Massachusetts Museum of Art.

The oldest book in the collection is a German text by Fugger published in 1583. The beautiful prints illustrating this book drew much alumni interest.

Librarian, Alice Holton, welcomes visitors to view the collection at any time. Researchers from the historic New England village, Sturbridge, Massachusetts used illustrations from the collection to verify the riding dress styles and side saddle restorations for the village.