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Alumni and Continuing Education Corner

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Dr. H. Palace Seitz Dies

Dr. H. Palace Seitz (V'30) died June 9, 1988. Dr. Seitz, perhaps Pennsylvania’s best known veterinarian, served for more than 27 years as secretary-treasurer of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association. He began his veterinary career in 1930 when, upon graduation from Penn, he joined the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture’s Bureau of Animal Industry research laboratory staff in Summerdale. He served as chief of the laboratory division from 1962 until his retirement in 1971.

Dr. Seitz left the laboratory from 1945 to 1946 to develop and operate a large poultry farm in Wrightsville. On rejoining the state staff in 1947, he did special work for the control of Newcastle disease and infectious bronchitis in poultry. Starting in 1950, he initiated the development of regional diagnostic laboratories in Doylestown, Kennett Square, Tunkhannock, University Park and Evans City. He also helped other states set up similar diagnostic laboratories.

In 1961 Dr. Seitz accepted the position of secretary-treasurer of the PVMA and devoted several hours each week to the financial and administrative affairs of the organization. Upon retirement from his state duties, he devoted full time to the continuing development of the association, working six days a week at the organization’s Harrisburg office until his hospitalization in January. He retired from the position in March and was elected Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus.

Dr. Seitz was also secretary-treasurer of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides scholarships to Pennsylvania residents in veterinary colleges throughout the United States. In 1983 the Foundation established a perpetual Dr. Palace H. Seitz Lectureship Fund in his honor to provide a major speaker at the PVMA’s annual continuing education convention.

Dr. Palace H. Seitz was a life member of the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Capital City Veterinary Medical Association, a charter member of the American Association of Avian Pathologists, past president of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation, and a member of the United States Livestock Association, World Poultry Science Association, and Phi Zeta, the honorary veterinary fraternity. He held a 32nd degree in Masonry and was past president of Rotary in Wrightsville. From 1971 to 1973 he served as chairman of the Pennsylvania State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

In 1963 the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation named him Allied Industryman of the year, and the PVMA named him 1973 Distinguished Veterinarian. The School awarded Dr. Seitz its Centennial Award of Merit in 1984.

Dr. Seitz is survived by a devoted friend, Ms. Alberta E. Shuey, and three nieces and a nephew.

Referral Coordination Under New Direction

Carole Contel, director of nursing at VHUP, has been appointed referral coordinator as part of her new position as director of nursing and technician education at VHUP.

"Carole is ideally suited as coordinator," said Barry Stupine, associate dean and director of VHUP. "She was the ICU nurse for 12 years and we brought her into referral coordination because of her medical background. Her knowledge of procedures and her ability to understand the medical terms should enhance the feedback process and make it easier for practitioners to obtain information on referral cases."

Ms. Contel monitors the referral cases, and, when a practitioner calls on the hotline, she can quickly check the animal’s status and provide the practitioner with an update. This should eliminate the delay incurred when the staff clinician in charge of a case is not available at the time. It should also ease the pressure on clinicians as pertinent information can be provided by someone other than the clinician. Ms. Contel’s role is not designed to eliminate communication between referring veterinarians and staff clinicians, rather it is designed to augment it.

Ms. Contel is also coordinator of the Harcum program at VHUP. Currently there are 80 students enrolled in the Harcum program at the School. The School is planning to offer continuing education programs for animal health technicians working at VHUP. "We hope to offer lectures and seminars dealing with the different specialties," said Ms. Contel. "It will provide the technicians with a broader base of information. At this point everyone here is specialized and the lectures and seminars will offer an opportunity for technicians to learn about other areas." The program will carry continuing education credits. Such credits are required if a technician wishes to maintain the state license.

The School is also trying to develop a continuing education program for technicians working for private practitioners. "We would like to offer a day-long program," said Ms. Contel. "We are seeking input from practitioners for topics to be covered in such a program."

In addition to one-day continuing education programs, the School plans to offer a new internship program for veterinary technicians. "This will be a full-time internship geared to those who wish to change direction within the profession," said Dr. Stupine. "We will offer training in clinical care, business management, and laboratory animal science, and we will have the potential of zoo medicine/aquatic medicine as an elective area."

The length of the internship will be between six to 12 months and it will be organized around the core/elective system. Participants will receive a small stipend and housing will be available. Participants must be certified animal health technicians.

"Participation in such a program can open up another whole new field for a technician," said Ms. Contel. Currently the internship animal health program is planned for VHUP only. For further information please contact Ms. Contel.

Pet Tag Sales Benefit the School

Best Friend Pet Tags, a company based in Las Vegas, will donate $1 for each tag sold through a veterinarian to the veterinary school of the practitioner’s choice. Tag displays with order forms are available in the animal’s office and his choice of school is registered with the company. When an order is received by Best Friend Pet Tags, the donation is sent to the school. A number of our alumni are participating in this program and the School has received checks. We think that this is a great way to help the School, and hope that our alumni will participate.
President’s Installation Remarks

When I was a student at our Alma Mater, I would sit in the student lounge and, when not studying, read The Philadelphia Inquirer. Many of you remember that each day, on the editorial page, there appeared a poem... usually very short and written by a Mr. Metcalf. To my great surprise, between Anatomy and Histology break, there appeared a poem called “The Veterinarian.” I cut it out and carried it in my wallet, next to my wife’s picture, for several years. I was so taken back by the simplicity and truth of it, that I had a professional artist do it in calligraphy. It has been in my waiting room for 30 years. When I have a tough day, or someone wants to sue me, or calls me names, or complains (which is so commonplace anymore)... I walk over to the poem... and I feel better. I would like to read it to you, and then tell you of its significance today!! Please excuse the male chauvinism; this was written 32 years ago.

“The Veterinarian”

We think of him as someone who attends to dogs and cats, prescribes a little medicine and gives them loving pats.

Who keeps them from distemper and rabies when they stray and boards our precious animals the weeks we go away...

But seldom do we realize when we pay his little fee how hard he has to study for his medical degree...

His knowledge of our horses and our cows and hogs and sheep, and how he serves in peace and war to earn his humble keep...

And who is there to estimate his everlasting worth, as he devotes his life to all God’s animals on earth...

The simple expression... “How hard he studies for his medical degree...” rebounds like a great echo in these hallowed buildings... because without these buildings and those dedicated veterinarians who run things... none of us would be sitting here... and we wouldn’t be here if we didn’t care.

I care a lot about our School... because I owe her a lot, and need her more than ever. I know that you feel the same.

Therefore, plead for your continued support of our students, their professors, and our new Dean. In conclusion, I would like, with your permission, to repeat the end of the poem...

And who is there to estimate his or her everlasting worth as he or she devotes his or her life to all God’s animals on earth...

Veterinary Alumni Annual Giving

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni, $225,000 was contributed to the 1987-1988 Annual Fund. Here’s the breakdown:
Alumni designated gifts to VHUP totalled: $32,125
Alumni designated gifts to NBC totalled: $26,365
Alumni designating gifts to Student Scholarship Aid totalled: $24,188
Alumni designating gifts for General School Purposes totalled: $142,122
Ed Andrews, V’67, offers his personal thanks to his alumni colleagues for their support during his first year as Dean.

Alumni Award of Merit

The Alumni Award of Merit is presented annually during Alumni Day to honor our School’s distinguished graduates. This year, six alumni received the award. The presentation was made by Dr. Howard Hughes (V’67), chairman of the awards committee.

Left to right: Dr. Sherlyn W. Ostrich (V’63), Dr. Robert E. Swope (V’43), Dr. Stuart A. Fox (V’53), Dr. Jack O. Knowles (V’38), Dr. Harold M. S. Smith (V’43), Dr. Midge Leitch (V’73).

The Executive Board of the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society solicits suggestions for nominees. Among the criteria:
1. Scientific contributions to the advancement of knowledge in biomedicine;
2. Contributions to the welfare of animals through public education of animal owners;
3. Contributions to society through civic activities which foster the advancement of the profession and good name of the University;
4. Perception of the individual by peers within the profession and community.

Data in support of nominations should be submitted to:
Alumni Office
University of Pennsylvania
School of Veterinary Medicine
3800 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Nominees are accepted regardless of year of graduation; however, emphasis is placed on alumni graduated during the current (1989) reunion years (any year ending in a 4 or 9 – e.g., 1939, 1944, 1949, 1954, etc.)

Alumni Day – 1989

Alumni Day 1989 will be held at New Bolton Center on Saturday, May 20. The Veterinary Alumni Diner Dance will be hosted by Dean Andrews and the Hotel duPont in Wilmington, Delaware on Saturday evening. Save the date on your calendar.

The following classes will celebrate reunions in May 1989:
1939 - Paul Landis, Class Agent
1944 - Richard Guise, Class Agent
1949 - Sidney Mellman, Class Agent
1954 - Robert Flowers, Class Agent
1959 - Leigh Marsh, Class Agent
1964 - Willi Weichelt, Class Agent
1969 - D. Ray Hostetter, Class Agent
1974 - George Glanzberg, Class Agent
1979 - Joan Regan, Class Agent
1984 - Steven Peoples, Class Agent

Alumni Day

Alumni came to the Philadelphia campus on May 21 to participate in the Alumni Day activities. The oldest graduate present was Dr. Evan L. Stubb (V’11). Many classes had reunions and the day was spent reminiscing, touring VHUP, and visiting with classmates. In the evening the action moved to the Four Seasons Hotel for dinner, dancing and more socializing.

Alumni Designating gifts to Student Scholarship Aid totalled: $24,188

Class of 1943

Class of 1948

Class of 1963

Class of 1958

Class of 1973

Class of 1978

Class of 1983
Continuing Education

The 1988-1989 Continuing Education Brochure for Veterinarians will be in the mail shortly. The following is a preview of the course. Watch for the brochure and register early — many of the laboratory courses fill quickly.

Equine Therapeutics November 8, 1988
Small Animal Non-Plating Orthopedics Laboratory February 8, 1989
Small Animal Spinal Neurosurgery February 22, 1989
Small Animal Emergency Medicine March 8, 1989
Bovine Therapeutics and the Legal Responsibilities of the Practitioner Concerning Drug Residues March 29, 1989
Small Animal Anesthesia April 5, 1989
Surgical Approaches to the Bones and Joints of Dogs Laboratory May 3, 1989
Surgical Treatment of Otitis Externa and Media May 4, 1989
Reconstructive Stifle Surgery Laboratory May 10, 1989
Small Animal Advanced Dentistry Laboratory May 11, 1989
Small Animal Radiology Laboratory, Chest & Abdomen June 7, 1989
Small Animal Echocardiography and Abdominal Ultrasound Lecture/Laboratory Workshop June 14 & 15, 1989

Teaching Awards

Each spring, toward the end of the semester, teaching awards are announced and presented. Dean Andrews was instrumental in making the awards presentation a festive, memorable celebration. Students, faculty, alumni and staff gathered for dinner, the presentation and dancing at Longwood Gardens. The event attracted 360 people.

The program was supported in part by contributions from The Upjohn Company, Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association, Bertholon Rowland Agencies, The American Animal Hospital Association, Veterinary Medical Alumni Society, General Ecomopak, Inc., Peterson Imaging, Inc., Pitman-Moore, E Vsco Pharmaceuticals, Mrs. Ann Eldredge, and Mr. Barry Stupine.

Last year the University announced a new Provost's Award, open to nontenured, rack academic staff but judged by the same Lindback Committee using the same criteria for distinguished teaching. Like the Lindback Awards, this prize will be given annually to one member of the health schools and one from elsewhere in the University. Dr. Paul Orsini, lecturer in large animal surgery and anatomy, was the first recipient of this award.

The Norden Faculty Teaching Award was presented to Dr. Richard O. Davies, professor of physiology.

Dr. Paul Orsini receives the award from the Deputy Provost.

Dr. Susan DeVries receives her award from Dr. Biery.

The IAMS Company Award is presented to Dr. MacDonald.

Dr. Steven Fluharty receives the Beecham Research Award.

Dr. Debbie Gillette.

Dr. Grant Frazer.

Dr. William Bernard.

Dr. Alan Ruggles.

Ms. Susan Barbour.

Mark Lutschauing.

Scholarships

Linda Molesworth (V'88) was the recipient of a scholarship provided jointly by the Harness Tracks of America, Harry M. Stevens Corp., and the Peter Haughton Youth Foundation, The N.J. V.E.F. Ridgeway Memorial Fund granted its first scholarship to Richard A. Dorr.

Nancy Brennan-Gorman is the recipient of the Amlin Foundations Scholarship. Amy Greve was selected as a 1988 Student Scholarship winner by the Association for Women Veterinarians. The Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc. awarded five scholarships to students at the School. The recipients are Donna Marina Dambach, Kirsten Haight, Mary Kirk, Stephen Long, and Michael Moyer.

Laurie M. Giannella received the 1988 Pfizer Veterinary Scholarship Award. Gail I. Jason is the recipient of the Westminster Kennel Club Foundation Scholarship Award. Encarnacion Arias-Karolowski and Rose Crisci are the recipients of the David I. and Victoria R. Greenberg Memorial Scholarship.

Gerald Frye has been admitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Animal Industry training program. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture-University of Pennsylvania cooperative program awards a full-tuition scholarship to a senior student who will pursue special training in epidemiology and accept, immediately following graduation, a one-year appointment with the Bureau of Animal Industry. The award is made from the University's Training and Applied Research in Veterinary Epidemiology and Animal Health Economics Grant.

Vernery Referral Hotline

Referring veterinarians are reminded that if you need immediate information or need assistance with a case, please call the Referral Hotline and leave a message. Our new referral coordinator, Carole Contel, is a certified Animal Health Technician and has served for a number of years in VHUP's Intensive Care Unit.

We need to know about problems, and the only way we can help you is if we hear from you. Referring veterinarians are urged to call the Referral Coordinator, Dr. Darryl Biery, or the Alumni Office with problems or concerns about referrals.

Parents and Partners Day

The School will host its third Annual Parents and Partners Day on Saturday, September 17, 1988. This day is especially designed for the families of our incoming freshmen and provides an overview of the veterinary education at Penn. Topics range from the Curriculum to Veterinary Dental Medicine. Following tours of the Small Animal Hospital and a buffet luncheon, the afternoon is spent at New Bolton Center. The day concludes with a social hour.

Dr. Malcolm MacDonald received the IAMS Company Resident Award. The Dr. William B. Boucher Award for Outstanding Teaching at New Bolton Center by a House Officer was presented to Dr. Wendy Freeman, lecturer in field service. Dr. Susan DeVries received the Dr., and Mrs. Jules Silver Intern Bedside Manner Award.

The Beecham Research Award was presented to Dr. Steven J. Fluharty, assistant professor of pharmacology and toxicology. The Upjohn Senior Student Award (Large Animal) was won by Kent Sullivan and the Upjohn Student Award (Small Animal) was received by Mark Lutschauing.

Each year the classes present awards to their favorite teachers and the senior class presents awards to four faculty and staff members. The Class of 1989 Teaching Award was given to Dr. Paul Orsini. The Class of 1989 presented its award to Dr. Debbie Gillette, assistant professor of large animal pathology. Dr. Grant Frazer, lecturer in reproduction, was the recipient of the Class of 1989 Teaching Award. The Class of 1988 presented its awards to Dr. William Bernard, lecturer in large animal medicine; Dr. Malcolm MacDonald, resident in VHUP Emergency Service; Dr. Alan Ruggles, intern in large animal medicine/surgery; and to Ms. Sue Barbour, technician in the section of anesthesia, VHUP.