4-1-1993

Rosettes & Ribbons
Dean Edwin J. Andrews, V'67, has been appointed as one of the five new members to the National Advisory Research Resources Council.

John G. Richter Jr., V'94, has been selected to participate in the Pfizer Animal Health Student Representative Program. The program provides one student from each U.S. veterinary school with the opportunity to plan and implement selected educational activities tailored to complement the veterinary school curriculum and to increase exposure to the principles of veterinary pharmacology and therapeutics.

Dr. Susan Littlefield, V'83, has been appointed state veterinarian within the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management’s Division of Agriculture.

Dr. Peter Theran, V'61, has been named president of the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association. Dr. Theran is vice president of the Health and Hospitals Division of the MSPCA.

Dr. Joseph D. Stick, V'53, has been elected vice president of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association.

Dr. Karen Overall, V'83, lecturer in behavioral medicine, received the 1993 Randy Award from the Devenfolk International for important and creative research.

Dr. David K. Detweiler, V'42, emeritus professor of physiology, presented lectures at the International Workshop on Use and Misuse of the Dog in Experimental Toxicology in October in Zurich, Switzerland. He was invited by the Russian Academy of Science to participate in the Third International Symposium on Comparative Electrocardiology in June in Syktyvkar, Russia.

Camille De Clemente, V'94, June Hacker, V'95, Maureen Kenneally, V'94, and Jeff Rubincam, V'95, comprised the Penn student team in the “Clinical Challenges” competition at the 1993 SCAVMA Symposium. They came in FIRST!

Dr. Gerhard Schad, professor of parasitology, delivered the Eleventh Lloyd E. Rozeboom Lecture in Medical Entomology at The Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health in May. In November Dr. Schad and Dr. Thomas Nolan, instructor in parasitology, presented papers at the meeting in Seattle of the American Society of Tropical Medicine. The last week in November Dr. Schad presented lectures at three medical colleges in Taiwan and during December he was part of a panel on animal models for human parasitic diseases at the International Tropical Medicine Congress in Thailand.

Dr. Stephen Dey, V'88, assisted in the production of a video tape on equine trailer rescue to train police and fire fighter rescue squads and horse owners. Dr. Dey has designed horse extrication drills for emergency response teams in New Jersey.

Dr. Peter J. Hand, professor of anatomy, has been appointed to serve of the Consultative Committee for the Selection of a President for the University’s next president. Douglas H. Thamm, V'95, is a student member of the committee.

Dr. Adrian Morrison, professor of anatomy, gave a presentation at the 159th annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Boston in February. Dr. Morrison has been elected to the board of directors of iIFAR (Incurably Ill for Animal Research). iIFAR was organized by patients several years ago to educate the public. Dr. Morrison has been elected to the University’s faculty senate for a two-year term.


Dr. Phillip Scott, assistant professor of parasitology, co-chaired the 13th Philadelphia Regional Immunology meeting in October. He presented the Plenary talk “The role of CD4+ Th Cell Subsets in the Control of Protozoan Parasites” at the 11th International Coccidiosis Conference at the University of Guelph, Guelph, Canada in June.

Dr. Robert Rew has been promoted from adjunct associate professor to adjunct professor of parasitology.

Dr. Robert M. Kenney, professor of animal reproduction, received an award from the Atlantic Breeders Cooperative in recognition and honor of his many years of contribution.

The School and New Bolton Center were well represented at the AAVP meeting in Orlando in November. Papers were presented by: Dr. David F. Freeman, emergency clinician. Dr. Robert L. Kenney, professor of reproduction. Dr. Elizabeth G. Laws, resident in surgery, and Dr. William Moyer, professor of sports medicine. Dr. Virginia Reef, associate professor of cardiology, Dr. Dean Richardson, assistant professor of surgery, Dr. Patricia Sertich, V'83, assistant professor of reproduction. Dr. Corinne R. Sweeney, associate professor of medicine.

Dr. Wilbur Amand, V'66, the Philadelphia Zoo’s first full-time clinical veterinarian, has retired after serving the Zoo for 18 years. He now will serve as a consultant to the Zoo.

Dr. Michael Tomasic, V'85, a lec-
Clarification on Retesting for Heartworm Infection

Last spring, the Bellwether published a summary of my talk on screening and prevention of heartworm infection presented at the 1992 Your Veterinarian and Your Dogs Symposium. The brief reference to my comments on the subject of retesting dogs receiving heartworm chemoprophylaxis did not fully develop my position on this issue and I fear that it may have conveyed an erroneous impression. Therefore, I want to make sure that my intended message is understood.

Periodic retesting is necessary to ensure that heartworm prophylaxis has been effective. The point I was trying to make is that retesting every year may not be essential for dogs receiving monthly chemoprophylaxis. When monthly prophylaxis has been faithfully and effectively administered throughout the heartworm transmission season, the chances of contracting a clinically significant infection are very small. Therefore, once a dog has been thoroughly tested and confirmed heartworm negative, and there is reasonable assurance of compliance with the prophylactic regimen, then retesting every 2nd or possibly 3rd year may be a sufficiently close interval to monitor the efficacy of prophylaxis. So what I am suggesting is that the intervals between retesting of dogs be based on the individual circumstances of each case. When these dogs are retested, reliance should be put primarily on serologic detection of heartworm antigen, rather than testing only for microfilariae. However, to permanently discontinue retesting on these dogs would be a complete abrogation of responsibility.

This proposal does not apply to dogs receiving diethylcarbamazine daily for heartworm prophylaxis. These animals should be tested for microfilariae each year, and at least periodically for antigen as well.