1-1-2001

Saratoga Benefit
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Horse-drawn carriages dominated the streets of Saratoga, NY from August 3 through August 6 when A Weekend in Old Saratoga came to town for drives to the races, polo and to the gala on August 5. The gala, An Evening in Old Saratoga, was held at the Gideon Putnam Hotel and drew close to 300 people. The event, chaired by Mrs. John R. Landan, Jr. of Chester Springs, PA, was a benefit for New Bolton Center. This is the eighth year that A Weekend in Old Saratoga has raised funds for the Center, and more than $700,000 have been donated to the School so far. The 2000 contribution was for the new Almira and Hardie Scott Sports Medicine Building. Construction of the facility will start later in the spring.

A Weekend in Old Saratoga is dedicated to the advancement of coaching and pleasure driving in America. Mrs. Lawrence E. Ensor, Chadds Ford, PA is the chairman of A Weekend in Old Saratoga’s board of directors. Mrs. John R. Landan, Jr. is president of the organization and also the chairman of the An Evening in Old Saratoga gala committee. Ms. Gregory L. Landis, Wayne, PA and Mr. Gilbert V.H. Shick, West Chester, PA are vice presidents. Mrs. Charles McWilliams, Unionville, PA serves as financial secretary and as chairman of the gala’s silent auction committee. Her husband, Mr. Charles F. McWilliams, is the treasurer and Ms. Suzanne Meyle of Devon, PA is the secretary.

Members of the A Weekend in Old Saratoga presented a check for the proceeds from the 2000 An Evening in Old Saratoga to Dean Kelly during the School’s Annual Leadership Dinner on Nov. 11. Plans are being made for an exciting first weekend in August 2001 when A Weekend in Old Saratoga will once again come to town for its activities.

Dr. Mara Honored

Dr. John L. (Jack) Mara, a renowned small animal nutrition expert, retired in November. Dr. Mara served as director for veterinary affairs at Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Inc. During his 21 years with the company he was instrumental in establishing clinical nutrition as a teaching topic in veterinary colleges. Penn’s School of Veterinary Medicine presented Dr. Mara with its Bellwether Medal. Following is the citation:

John L. Mara, DVM

The School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania recognizes the achievements of Dr. John L. Mara during his years with Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Inc. which have so immensely contributed to our school and our profession.

Dr. Mara’s vision and leadership have been instrumental in advancing the field of small animal clinical nutrition. At the University of Pennsylvania this has included support from Hill’s for residencies in small animal clinical nutrition, veterinary dentistry, and small animal behavior, plus the initial funding for a faculty position in small animal clinical nutrition.

As the key creator of the college feeding program, Dr. Mara can take pride in knowing that he was responsible for the Hill’s Dean’s Scholarship at the University of Pennsylvania. To date 37 Hill’s Dean’s Scholarships of $2,500 have been awarded, eight of them named for Dr. Mara, and the current endowment in the program stands at over $550,000.

The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine has chosen the occasion of the retirement of Jack Mara to pay tribute to him and his myriad accomplishments by awarding him the Bellwether Medal for Distinguished Leadership. His legacy of achievements will be everlasting. They have and will continue to transform our profession. We celebrate his rich influence in education in nutrition and the promotion of humankind by advancing the stature of students in the veterinary profession.

Saturday, November 4, 2000