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President’s Message

Carol Swandby

University of Pennsylvania

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Alumni Notes

Alumni Day 1996

Held on a warm and beautiful May 17, 1996, the School of Veterinary Medicine's Alumni Day 1996 drew a crowd of over 300 alumni, family and friends to New Bolton Center. The day began with a continental breakfast with Dean Alan M. Kelly and was followed by a meeting of the General Alumni Society. Alumni Awards of Merit were presented to Wilbur Amand, V'66, Jack Bregman, V'66, and Harriet Doolittle, V'61. Afterwards there was an afternoon of food and fun with a picnic barbecue lunch, dancing and special entertainment for children. Additionally Dr. Martin Fettman, D.V.M., the first veterinarian in space spoke to a full house about his travels.

Alumni Day 1997 begins with the Dean's Cocktail Reception on the evening of Saturday, May 17 and continues on Sunday, May 18 with the Alumni Barbeque Picnic. All events will be held at New Bolton Center. Look for more information in your upcoming Class Agent letters. Alumni from all years are welcome!

President's Message

Every September a new class enters veterinary school and the Alumni Society gets a new President. I graduated in 1984 when tuition was only $8,000 per year. This year's class will face a tuition bill of almost $22,000 per year. The fact that the School receives so many applications reflects on the quality of the education that is provided. As alumni, we can mitigate the issue of high tuition through contributions to the Veterinary Annual Giving Fund.

In January '96, the Executive Board of the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society voted to utilize the entire proceeds of the Alumni Annual Giving 1995-96 for student scholarships, unless otherwise designated by the donor. For the current school year over 120 students, including the entire senior class, received financial assistance from this fund.

On behalf of the Executive Board, I wish to thank the donors to Alumni Annual Giving 1995-96. Below are a few of the letters received by the Board from scholarship recipients. It is my hope for the 1996-97 campaign that donor generosity will allow the Alumni Society to financially assist an even larger percentage of the student body.

I look forward to meeting many of you on Alumni Day, Sunday May 18, 1997 at New Bolton Center.

Carol Swandby, V'84
President
Veterinary Medical Alumni Society

Dear Dr. Swandby,

I wanted to write and thank you and the entire Veterinary Medical Alumni Society for your generous contribution(s) towards student financial aid. Every bit of support makes a difference to help defeat the huge cost of attending veterinary school.

Four years ago, when I was considering whether or not to make the financial commitment to go to veterinary school, I realized that there was nothing else in the world that I wanted to do with my life more than be a vet. Regardless of the cost, I decided to make the plunge. The past three years have been strenuous but rewarding. I am really excited for each day of continued learning, and for my future in this profession.

I hope the alumni are able to continue to contribute, and through this giving, tuition may some day be more affordable. I am sure there are some great students out there who would make terrific vets, but due to the high cost, choose to pursue something else.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Shope, V'97
Benjamin Franklin Society Dinner

On the evening of Friday, September 27, 60 members of School community attended a dinner in honor of veterinary alumni and friends who are members of the Benjamin Franklin Society. Held at the Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford, PA the evening started with a cocktail reception followed by dinner in the museum’s restaurant overlooking the Brandywine River. Dean Alan M. Kelly briefly spoke about current issues and activities at the School, noting that over 120 students are benefitting this year from Veterinary Alumni Annual Giving whose proceeds are used solely for student scholarship. Membership in the Benjamin Franklin Society reflects unrestricted gifts to the School of $1,000 and above.

Members of The School of Veterinary Medicine’s 1995-96 Benjamin Franklin Society are:

Donald A. Alt, V.M.D.
Edwin J. Andrews, V.M.D.
Alan Bachrach, Jr., V.M.D.
Jarvis J. Badgley, V.M.D.
Harry F. B. Barole, V.M.D.
Charles N. Bell, V.M.D.

Darryl Bierly, D.V.M.
Daniel D. Bleicher, V.M.D.
Elizabeth Boden, V.M.D.
Rodney Bolen, V.M.D.
Kenneth L. Bollens, Jr., V.M.D.
Malcolm Borthwick, Jr., V.M.D.
Martin A. Bree, V.M.D.
Jack Bremman, V.M.D.
Joseph G. Brewer, V.M.D.
David R. Burnett, V.M.D.
Earl W. Cook, V.M.D.
Mr. William Polk Carey, W'53
D. Thomas Denton, V.M.D.
David K. Detweiler, V.M.D.
M. Josephine Deubler, V.M.D.
Larry A. Dieter, V.M.D.
Alomo Edmiston, Jr., V.M.D.
Russell S. Edwards, V.M.D.
Sheldon S. Finger, V.M.D.
Joseph D. Fechter, Jr., V.M.D.
Paul Fenster, V.M.D.
Fred Fennich, V.M.D.
Lorraine A. Fournier, V.M.D.
Stuart A. Fox, V.M.D.
Jerry D. Franz, V.M.D.
Ross L. Franx, V.M.D.
L. Thomas Gemini, Jr., V.M.D.
Lillian A. Giulani, V.M.D.
Melvyn D. Hale, V.M.D.
William D. Hardy, Jr., V.M.D.
James S. Harper, III, V.M.D.
G. L. Hartenstein, III, V.M.D.
George L. Hartenstein, IV, V.M.D.

Dear Dr. Swandby,

I am writing to thank you and the entire Veterinary Medical Alumni Society for the generous scholarship from the Alumni Annual Giving Fund. This action, along with all of the positive work accomplished by the veterinary school’s faculty and staff in the past, once again displays the School’s efforts in reducing the financial burden placed on its students.

While I will continue to strive for excellence in my academic endeavors for my own self-gratification, opportunities for scholarships will certainly be motivational. In addition, I will offer my assistance in raising future alumni donations in order to help make more money available to my peers. I hope one day to be sufficiently stable financially in order to donate money to the Alumni Fund. I would be pleased to give a future veterinary student the same sense of accomplishment and gratification that you have given me.

Sincerely,
Chick Weisse, V'98

Dear Dr. Swandby,

I would like to personally thank the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society for their generosity to the student body. Often students feel far removed from alumni because of hectic schedules and too few inclusive activities, but this $1,000 scholarship to every member of our senior class will help to bridge the gap between graduating student to active alumni/a. The time and effort expended to decrease our financial burden will not be forgotten. I hope to someday contribute greatly, with whatever means or capacity I can, to enrich our evolving veterinary education endeavors at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. Thanks again for recognizing our financial needs and helping to ease some of our loans.

Sincerely,
Ernest "Scott" Weber, V'97

Dear Dr. Swandby,

I would like to extend my heartiest thanks for the generous $1,000 scholarship I recently received from the Alumni Annual Giving Fund. It was a great honor and surprise to learn of this wonderful award which will greatly help to decrease my tuition loan burden during the last year of my veterinary education.

Dr. Newton explained that the funds for this scholarship came from gifts contributed by 1,200 alumni representing every graduating class from 1995 back to 1928. It makes me feel very good to be part of such a prestigious veterinary school whose alumni display great pride and concern through the generation of such an amazing gift...Thank you, and all the alumni who made this magnificent scholarship possible.

Gratefully yours,
H. Frances Haberstroh, V'97