Planned Giving Programs for the School of Veterinary Medicine

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An Evening in Old Saratoga

The August 8, 1998 Gala, An Evening in Old Saratoga, raised $100,000 for the School's New Bolton Center. The event, organized by A Weekend in Old Saratoga, was attended by more than 300 people and was held at the Gideon Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs, NY.

Shown here during the check presentation in November by members of the organization's board of directors are (l to r) Mrs. John R. Landan, Jr. (secretary), Mr. John R. Landan, Jr. (president), Mrs. Beverly Ensor (chairman), Mr. Gilbert V. H. Sheck (vice president), Mr. Charles McWilliams (treasurer), Dr. Kelly, Dr. Birks, Dr. Nunamaker, Mrs. Charles McWilliams (board member).

The funds will be directed toward the purchase of equipment for the new Exercise Physiology Laboratory at New Bolton Center. Some of the equipment will be mobile as balances, PH meters, centrifuges, etc. which can be used in Dr. Erik Birks' current studies on blood flow in the horse. A part of the equipment will be fixed casework for the new laboratory being constructed for exercise physiology studies and include such items as an autoclave, water purification system, hood, etc. This laboratory will be part of the Imaging/Heart Station Building on which it is hoped construction will start in two years. Dr. Birks' research on blood flow plays a critical element in common diseases which affect the horse, such as colic, laminitis, and EIPH (Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage).

During the six years that A Weekend in Old Saratoga has held annual galas to benefit New Bolton Center, the organization has raised more than $600,000 for the Equine Sports Medicine Program's capital projects and equipment purchases. In addition to the Gala and silent auction at the Gideon Putnam Hotel, there are carriage outings to Polo and the Saratoga Racecourse where a New Bolton Center Race is run in honor of a horse with special ties to the Center.

The 1998 honoree was Sky Beauty, a mare owned by Mrs. Philip B.Hofmann. Sky Beauty earned $1,336,000 in her five-year racing career including wins in the Alabama, the Acorn, the Oaks and the Mother Goose. New Bolton Center veterinarian Dr. Loren Evans looked after Sky Beauty many times.

A Weekend in Old Saratoga is dedicated to the advancement of coaching and pleasure driving in America. 1998 was the 17th year the group has organized and hosted a benefit during the racing weeks in Saratoga. The 1999 edition of A Weekend in Old Saratoga will be held August 4 to 7, with the Gala, An Evening in Old Saratoga, on Saturday, August 7.