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New Members of the Board of Overseers
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Beverly Ensor, Edwin M. Hershey, Jr., Vernon W. Hill II, Dr. Sheila Johnson, and Thomas J. Weiner, V’78, have recently joined the School’s Board of Overseers.

Beverly Ensor and her late husband, Lawrence Ensor, a bloodstock agent for Fasig-Tipton, supported the School through her leadership of the volunteer organization An Evening in Old Saratoga. Over the years, the organization has raised more than $700,000 for a variety of projects at New Bolton Center. In 2003, the gala benefit An Evening in Old Philadelphia took place at Ardrossan, an estate on the Philadelphia Main Line. Mrs. Ensor and her Labrador retriever, Darcy, live in Chadds Ford, Pa., allowing Mrs. Ensor much greater access to the School and its activities.

Edwin M. Hershey, Jr. is chairman of Hershey Communications. He has bred and exhibited boxers and French bulldogs since 1969 and serves as a delegate to the American Kennel Club. Mr. Hershey is a member of the Westminster Kennel Club, and past vice chair of the ASPCA. Ed Hershey has two children and lives with his family in Greenwich, Ct.

Vernon W. Hill II is the founder of Commerce Bank, which was launched in 1973 with the opening of its first branch in Marlton, N.J. He has served as chairman and president of Commerce Bancorp., Inc. since the bank’s inception. Mr. Hill is a member of the Board of Trustees at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Penn’s Wharton School where he earned a degree in economics. Mr. Hill has two children and resides in Moorestown, N.J. with their pet Yorkshire terrier.

Dr. Sheila Johnson was the co-founder of Black Entertainment Television (BET) in 1979. She was a music teacher, violinist, and orchestra conductor, as well as a lecturer and author of early childhood music education. Dr. Johnson graduated from the University of Illinois.

Dr. Johnson is very active in the equestrian community; her daughter Paige is one of the top junior riders and show jumpers in the United States. Dr. Johnson is a member of the Board of Trustees for the United States Equestrian Team, the American Horse Show Association, the Pennsylvania National Horse Show, and the Equestrian Alliance. She was elected president of Washington International Horse Show. Dr. Johnson also is a member of the Community and Friends Board of the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts, co-chair for Carnegie Hall’s Educational Advisory Council, and a member of the Board of the Salvation Army. Dr. Johnson resides in The Plains, Va.

Thomas J. Weiner, V’78, is profiled in this issue on page 18.

Walter F. Goodman Honored

Walter F. Goodman, a renowned American Kennel Club (AKC) judge and a member of the AKC’s Board of Directors, was honored by the School by the renaming of a research center. The Walter Flato Goodman Center for Comparative Medicine and Genetics is dedicated to clinical and basic research on companion animals with diseases that are counterparts of human diseases. The major emphasis is on inherited disorders.

“Throughout his long career as a breeder of superb Skye terriers, and now as a judge of dogs, Walter always put first the health and welfare of dogs,” says Dr. Alan M. Kelly, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine at the School. “Naming the Center in his honor reflects his commitment to and passion for canine health.

“Walter, for many years, has been an ideal volunteer leader for Penn’s School of Veterinary Medicine. In addition to giving generously of his time and talent, Walter has made the financial future of the School a significant personal priority. Recently, he and his associate, Robert A. Flanders, established two irrevocable trusts at Penn.”

Researchers at the Walter Flato Goodman Center for Comparative Medicine and Genetics identify and characterize new models of genetic diseases, investigate disease-causing genes, study mechanisms of pathology, and develop novel therapeutic approaches.

Walter F. Goodman joined the School’s Board of Overseers in 1986.

An Evening in Old Philadelphia Check Presentation

Members of the Board of Directors of An Evening in Old Saratoga and various committee members were on hand to present a check for $33,000 to Dr. Alan Kelly on Sunday, October 5 in the Scott Equine Sports Medicine Building at New Bolton Center. This check represented the proceeds from the group’s June fundraiser, An Evening in Old Philadelphia, when nearly 300 people attended a black tie gala dinner and silent auction at the legendary home of the Montgomery Scotts, “Ardrossan Farm.”

The group toured the Exercise Physiology Laboratory named for them, and saw a presentation by Dr. Ric Birks regarding his work in exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage in the horse.

An Evening in Old Saratoga has raised more than $700,000 in the past dozen years for the School. These funds have helped make possible the purchase of vital diagnostic equipment as well as the completion of the Scott Equine Sports Medicine Building. The School is indebted to the group for their tireless work and enthusiasm and dedicated, loyal support.

Correction

Mrs. Marlene Brenner Ferguson was incorrectly identified as Mrs. Wayne Grafton in a photo caption on page 31, Bellwether 57.