



Bellwether Magazine

Volume 1
Number 32 *Spring 1992*

Article 12

4-1-1992

VHUP Birthday

VHUP Birthday

VHUP celebrated its 10th birthday in October - the original move-in took place between Oct. 5 and Oct. 19, 1981. To mark the occasion, two parties were held. On Oct. 10 donors and special friends joined the dean and school officials to celebrate 10 years of VHUP. On Oct. 25 the School, faculty, staff and students, took over the Marshak Gallery for a birthday party.

Since VHUP opened its doors in 1981, more than 100,000 animal patients have been cared for here. The following new services have been added since the hospital opened its doors: blood bank and bloodmobile, ultrasound, including color enhanced doppler unit, endoscopy, dental clinic, Center for Veterinary Critical Care, hip dysplasia clinic, and inherited eye disease clinic.

To celebrate the occasion several donors and veterinary associations made gifts to purchase a set of new cages for the Emergency Service. The donors were: Bucks-Montgomery Veterinary Medical Association, Bucks County Kennel Club, Dr. M. Josephine Deubler, Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association, Mr. Roger Rechler, Schuylkill Valley Veterinary Medical Association, Dr. and Mrs. Will Spear.



Drs. Buchanan and Johnston sampling the birthday cake.



The original construction sign, "discovered" in August 1991 next to the fraternity house, was given a place of honor during the parties.



ICU Party



The Center for Veterinary Critical Care gave a party for Very Important Pets to mark the renovations of the Intensive Care Unit.

On December 14 former ICU patients, accompanied by their human escorts, came to VHUP to enjoy cat and dog party trays and to leave pawprints for the "Wall of Stars."

Doctors and nurses fussed over former patients and renewed bonds established during the stays in ICU.

The renovated ICU now has an adjoining room where patients and owners can visit and where rounds are held. A door was added so that there is access from two corridors and the cabinets were repainted in a cheerful blue.

These renovations were made possible through a gift from the estate of Pauline L. Whittier and hospital funds.



Dean Andrews presents the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society's first Honorary Alumni Award of Merit to Ray Thompson, executive director of the PVMA, and the first honorary alumnus of Penn's Veterinary School.



Dr. Jeffrey Wortman, associate professor of radiology and assistant dean for academic affairs, accepts the MSD AGVET Award for Creativity from Dr. Janice L. Nicol, Field Technical Services, MSD AGVET. The goal of the awards program, established in 1991 by MSD AGVET, is to motivate risk taking in the implementation of innovative approaches to veterinary medical education. Dr. Wortman received the award for his faculty development proposal for a program on teaching and testing methodologies.

SmithKline Beecham Animal Health Awards Grant to School of Veterinary Medicine

SmithKline Beecham Animal Health, a leading provider of health products for livestock and companion animals, has awarded \$100,000 to the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. These funds, which will be disbursed over the next three calendar years, will be used to aid veterinarians who wish to further their education at the Ph.D. level. The grant will allow two students per year to complete all formal course work prior to a laboratory research assignment at the University's medical or veterinary schools.

Dr. Susan Westmoreland, a 1991 graduate of Penn, has been selected as a first year grant recipient. She is currently completing a rotating internship at the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and will enter the Graduate Group of Pathology this fall.

"The School of Veterinary Medicine is extremely pleased with the grant from SmithKline Beecham Animal Health and appreciates their support of graduate education," said Jeffrey P. Roberts, associate dean for development and planning. "Not only will the grant assist individuals in commencing a Ph.D. program, it will also help to fill the need for veterinarians specializing in important scientific disciplines," he said.

Dr. Kotlikoff receives Award

Dr. Michael Kotlikoff, associate professor of pharmacology, was one of the winners of the 1991 Hildegard Doerenkamp-Gerhard Zbinden Foundation Award. The award recognizes research scientists for their contribution to the refinement, reduction or replacement of animals in experimental studies. The 1991 award acknowledges landmark work in the development of non-whole animal methods for research on cardiopulmonary function and bronchial asthma.

The prize of DM 50,000 was split. A first prize of DM 35,000 was awarded to Dr. Anna M. Wobus, Institut für Genetik und Kulturpflanzenforschung, Gatersleben, Dr. Gerd Wallukat, Institut für Herz-Kreislaufforschung, Berlin, and Dr. Jürgen Hescheler, Institut für Pharmakologie, Berlin, for their work in engineering a line of mouse embryonic stem cells that differentiates into cardiomyocyte tissue which can be used to test responses to neurotransmitters and drugs.

Dr. Kotlikoff received a second prize of DM 15,000 for his work on the development of a human airway smooth muscle cell line and single-cell systems to study airway smooth muscle excitation/contraction coupling. The work has led to a fuller understanding of the inflammatory processes involved in asthma, and the cells have been used to study membrane ion channels and their cellular regulation.

While Dr. Kotlikoff's research was not designed specifically toward the development of alternatives to animal research, he accepted the award "as someone concerned with animal welfare, as well as the advancement of scientific knowledge."

The awards were presented in April at the 10th Anniversary Symposium of the Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD.