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## President's Message From the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society (VMAS)

Eric M. Bregman  
*University of Pennsylvania*

## President's Message

I am privileged to have the honor to work on behalf of the School of Veterinary Medicine's alumni as the 2001-03 president of the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society (VMAS). I am a small animal practitioner in the New York City area, and the son of Jack Bregman, V'66.



Eric M. Bregman, V'95,  
President, Veterinary  
Medical Alumni Society

We have a wonderful group of alumni who serve on the VMAS Executive Board, including several new members who are recent graduates from the 1990s. This year's new members are **Kimberly Dawn Ashford, V'97**; **Stephen P. Butler, V'84**; **St. George Hunt, V'86**, who serves as the alumni representative on the School's Admissions Committee; **Anita Impellizeri, V'97**; **Lori Spencer Mann, V'95**, who serves as the alumni representative on the School's Long Range Planning Committee; **Shannon D. Shank, V'99**; and **James V. Stewart, V'68**, who is president-elect of the VMAS and is the chairperson of the Alumni Liaison Committee.

A new development for the upcoming year is a change in location for Alumni Weekend. The Executive Board is excited to announce that **Alumni Weekend 2002** will be held in Philadelphia exclusively for the first

time in more than six years. A fun-filled day is planned that will include a continuing education course, VMAS Annual Meeting, Alumni Day Picnic, participating in the Parade of Classes, tours of VHUP, and an all-alumni dinner honoring the 2002 reunion classes (years ending in "2" or "7") at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. We hope that all of you will appreciate this change of scenery, and will make plans to join us on Friday, May 10-Saturday, May 11. For more information, see page 21.

The School is experiencing a wonderful period of growth. There are several projects underway, including the renovation of the VHUP wards and the construction of the new **Scott Equine Sports Medicine Building** at New Bolton Center. All of this work, along with the planned new **Teaching and Research Building**, will greatly benefit the education of today's students.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I am very pleased and proud to be working on your behalf for the next two years. We appreciate any input that you may have. Please feel free to contact me via e-mail at <ebvmd@aol.com> with your comments and suggestions. For more information on the VMAS, please visit the School's Alumni & Friends web site at <<http://alumni.vet.upenn.edu>>.

I hope to see many of you at the Penn Annual Conference in January. Have a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year.

## Class Notes

### 1939

**Martin H. Ravitch** and his wife, Reba, were recently profiled in a San Antonio Community Hospital publication as contributors to the hospital in Upland, Calif., where they have lived since 1976. According to the article, the Ravitches traveled on more than 100 cruises during the 1980s.

### 1945

**Jack K. Robbins**, his wife, and their four sons, who are all active in the horse racing industry, received the Commissioner's Cup from the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) in November 2001. The Commissioner's Cup is presented annually to honor an individual or group for extraordinary contributions to the NTRA and the Thoroughbred industry. According to NTRA Commissioner Tim Smith, "Jack Robbins has been a key supporter during the NTRA's creation and development, and his family's contributions—whether on the racetrack, in executive offices or in the legal realm—offer further evidence of why this extraordinary family was chosen for this award." Dr. Robbins is a longtime equine practitioner at California racetracks. He is a member of the The Jockey Club and a director of the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation. Dr. Robbins is a past president and a Distinguished Life Member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners.

### 1956

**Elizabeth Atwood Lawrence** made a

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### Class of 1981 20th Year Reunion

On September 29, 2001, members of the Class of 1981 celebrated their 20th year reunion at the home of **Michael J. Herman, V'81**, and his wife, Janice, in Worcester, Pa. Those in attendance included, from left to right, **Paul V. Marino, V'81**, and his wife, Anna-Ghilaine Schless; **David K. Lukof, V'81**; **Dolores M. Holle, V'81**, **Pamela J. McKelvie-Smith, CW'75, V'81**; **Richard M. Levine, V'81**, **Michael J. Herman, V'81**, **Mark D. Newkirk, V'81**; and **Judith A. Durkee, V'81**.

