



4-1-2003

## Class Notes

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1938

**Josephine Deubler** received the American Kennel Club Lifetime Achievement Award for Conformation during a ceremony in New York City in February 2003. The AKC presents the Lifetime Achievement Awards annually to recipients, who have been selected by members of the dog fancy, in recognition of their many years of selfless efforts that have significantly contributed to the sport on a national level.

1948

During the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association's 120th Annual Scientific Meeting in August 2002, **Richard H. Detwiler** was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition and appreciation of his many years of dedicated service to the PVMA as AVMA delegate and as a member of the Executive Committee.

1950

**T. Richard Houpt** was honored with life membership in the Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases during its annual meeting in November 2002.

1954

**David A. Meirs II** was interviewed by *The New York Times* on February 23, 2003, in an article about the state of the horse industry in New Jersey. According to Dr. Meirs, who raises Standardbred horses on his farm, "Buyers are going to say, 'To hell with the stock market, I did better with my racing stables last year.' Of course, it's more fun to go to the races than to watch your stocks every day."

1955

**Lawrence E. Atkinson** was profiled by the *Christian Science Monitor* on December 20, 2002. According to the article, Dr. Atkinson, a veterinarian at Laurel Park in Laurel, Md., "is arguably the strongest person his age in America." He started weight lifting at age 75, and says he holds state and national records in bench press, curling, and a combination event of dead lift and bench press. He has cared for Seattle Slew and War Emblem, and has worked the Preakness Stakes six times. To read the full profile online, visit <[www.csmonitor.com/2002/1220/p10s01-alsp.html](http://www.csmonitor.com/2002/1220/p10s01-alsp.html)>.

1960

**Arthur A. Bickford** received the Lifetime Membership Award from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians during its annual conference in October 2002. Dr. Bickford was also honored with life membership in the Confer-

ence of Research Workers in Animal Diseases during its annual meeting in November 2002.

1961

**Peter Theran**, vice president of the Health and Hospital Division for the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals/American Humane Education Society, was honored in April 2003 with the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association's 2002 Distinguished Service Award. The award, the most prestigious award that the MVMA confers, is given for accomplishments in the MVMA and in veterinary medicine and who has made an outstanding contribution to the service of humankind. With his experience in laboratory animal medicine, Dr. Theran has helped shape standards and practices that address research needs while respecting animal welfare concerns.

1963

During the PVMA's 120th Annual Scientific Meeting in August 2002, **Joseph R. Raught** was honored with the Public Service Award of Merit for his continuous contributions to local and global communities over the past two decades through his work with Heifer Project International and for setting a shining example of volunteerism.

**Daniel H. Rice III** was named Hartz Veterinarian of the Year in 2001. Owner of Holden Veterinary Clinic in Holden, Mass. since 1969, Dr. Rice was nominated by Holden Animal Control Officer Anjie Coates. In her nomination of Dr. Rice, Coates wrote, "His gentle voice and soft touch calm the most frightened animals, and they know that he is the only one who can, and sometimes the only one who will, help them fight for their lives." According to Dr. Rice, "I've always enjoyed veterinary medicine, mainly because it's challenging and it's something different all the time. I'm never going to retire. I don't think there's a lot of people who can get up after 40 years and still say 'I enjoy my work.'"

**Donald R. Shields** and his wife, Donna, were profiled in *The Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine* on April 6, 2003, for their volunteer work with the Feral Cat Committee, a group of cat rescue people in the Philadelphia region who have organized to address the needs of feral cats. According to Mrs. Shields, "It's a shame, the thousands of lovely animals that are euthanized because humans don't care enough to take proper care of them." Dr. Shields owns Bethayres Veterinary Hospital in Huntingdon Valley, Pa. For information about the Feral Cat Committee, visit <[www.savephillycats.org](http://www.savephillycats.org)>.

1964

**Ronald L. Genovese** was one of two veterinarians honored with the Distinguished Educator Award from the American Association of Equine Practitioners during its 48th Annual Convention in December 2002. He was recognized for his significant impact on the development and training of equine practitioners. Dr. Genovese, president of Randall Veterinary Hospital in Warrensville Heights, Ohio, has helped countless young veterinarians learn the rigors of private equine practice, and since 1983 has provided one-on-one assistance in ultrasonography to well over 50 veterinarians in his clinic. When nominated for this award, he was described as a man revered by his clients, respected by his colleagues and loved by his staff.

1968

The late **Howard S. Kessler** was honored posthumously as one of five new veterinarians to be inducted into the Morris Animal Foundation's Veterinary Honor Roll. Ms. Karen LaFrak contributed \$500 or more to the Foundation to nominate Dr. Kessler. "These veterinarians have gone beyond their duty to provide outstanding veterinary care to their patients," said Dr. Robert Hilsenroth, executive director of Morris Animal Foundation. Dr. Kessler practiced in New York City.

**William J. Solomon** was profiled in *The Blood-Horse* on March 22, 2003, on the occasion of his Thoroughbred and Standardbred farm's 30th anniversary. The 400-acre Pin Oak Lane Farm, near New Freedom, Pa., foaled the only Pennsylvania-bred winner of the Kentucky Derby, Lil. E. Tee in 1992. Dr. Solomon no longer practices outside the farm, which will foal about 100 mares this foaling season.

1970

**Fantaw Makonnen** is the Opportunities Industrialization Centers International, Inc. (OICI) Country Representative in Ethiopia. Founded by the late Reverend Dr. Leon H. Sullivan, OICI is a non-profit private voluntary organization devoted to improving the lives of the underprivileged in developing countries.

1976

During the American Association of Equine Practitioners' 48th Annual Convention in December 2002, **Scott E. Palmer** was installed as vice president of the AAEP. Dr. Palmer is president and a staff surgeon at the New Jersey Equine Clinic in Clarksburg, N.J.

1981

**Jonathan H. Leach** was profiled in *The Falmouth Enterprise* on April 4, 2003, on the occasion of open-

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ing a new hospital, Leach Animal Hospital, on Cape Cod in Mashpee, Mass. According to the article, Dr. Leach's father was Cape Cod's first licensed veterinarian, and his uncle was the second veterinarian on the Cape. A mixed animal practitioner, Dr. Leach also makes field calls to local stables and farms.

## 1982

**Julia A. Langenberg** is secretary of the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians.

## 1983

**Steven J. Berkowitz** took first place in *The Horse of Delaware Valley's* 12th annual Photo Best Action Division. Dr. Berkowitz also took third place in the division as well as first in Candid and third in Pets. *The Horse of Delaware Valley* is the oldest and largest equine monthly serving Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.

## 1985

**Michael R. Petranto** was also one of five new veterinarians to be inducted into the Morris Animal Foundation's Veterinary Honor Roll. Ms. Diane G. Travis nominated Dr. Petranto in honor of his excellent care. "Morris Animal Foundation is honored to recognize these individuals who have earned the utmost respect from their clients," said Dr. Robert Hilsenroth, executive director. Dr. Petranto practices at VCA Twin Rivers Animal Hospital in East Windsor, N.J.

## 1986

**Linda S. Mansfield** has been elected vice president of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists for 2003 and will serve as president in 2004. Dr. Mansfield also serves as co-editor-in-chief for the Americas and Japan for *Veterinary Parasitology*.

**Peter C. Rakestraw**, assistant professor in the Department of Large Animal Medicine & Surgery at Texas A&M University, was recently named a Montague Center for Teaching Excellence Scholar. Dr. Rakestraw received a grant to research and develop innovative teaching techniques. The center's objective is to stimulate the development of innovative teaching strategies and technologies at Texas A&M University and to recognize excellence in teaching early in a faculty member's career.

## 1987

**Amy Iris Attas** was profiled in *The New York Observer* on January 6, 2003. Dr. Attas owns CityPets, New York City's largest house-call veterinary practice. Her 2,500 clients include many celebrities, Erica Jong, Joan Rivers, and Tommy Tune to name just a

few. According to Dr. Attas, "My favorite part of the day is when I've just finished sticking needles in a dog and doing all these things that have to be absolutely miserable for them, and I get a big wet kiss across my face."

## 1988

**Gary E. Rothman** was profiled in *The Post-Standard* of Syracuse, N.Y., on January 9, 2003. Dr. Rothman recently expanded his practice, Quarryside Animal Hospital in Jamesville, N.Y., by moving to a new location. According to Dr. Rothman, "We at least tripled the space. We can offer a lot more services. We're growing fast, and we have better exposure." An avid photographer, his work hangs in the examination rooms.

## 1989

**Joanna M. Bassert**, professor and director of Veterinary Technology at Manor College in Jenkintown, Pa., was recently named chair of the National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues' Staff Utilization Committee. The committee will help to create interactive online tools that will assist practitioners to more effectively use their support staff. She is the editor of the *Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians* and author of *Clinical Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technicians*. In addition, Dr. Bassert is the founder of the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association.

## 1990

**Celeste C. Kunz** has been named Chief Examining Veterinarian for the New York Racing Association, a private, non-profit racing association that owns and operates the three largest racetracks in New York – Aqueduct, Belmont Park, and Saratoga. Dr. Kunz, who has worked as a track veterinarian for the NYRA since 1994, is the first woman to hold the position. She has been credited for playing a key role in saving the life of Charismatic, the 1999 Kentucky Derby and Preakness States winner, when he broke his leg during his pursuit of the Triple Crown in that year's Belmont Stakes. In July 2002, she spoke on "West Nile Virus: The Emergence of a New Disease in the Western Hemisphere" at the 14th International Conference of Racing Analysts and Veterinarians.

## 1991

**Paul R. Avery** is a new diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and is certified as a veterinary clinical pathologist.

**Diane Monsein Levitan** recently opened the Center for Specialized Veterinary Care in Westbury, N.Y. It is the first veterinary hospital in the world that provides pet owners with private rooms, enabling them

to stay with their pets during the animal's hospitalization – even overnight. The referral practice also offers 24-hour emergency service, radiation therapy, animal rehabilitation, and radioiodine treatment.

**William P. Rives** visited the School of Veterinary Medicine and spoke to students in March 2003 as part of the Dean's Alumni Career Speaker Series. Dr. Rives is the veterinarian at Six Flags Wild Safari in Ocean County, N.J., which features 1,200 animals representing 52 exotic species.

**Heidi B. Stout**, director of oil programs for Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research of Newark, Del., was interviewed on Philadelphia's KYW NewsRadio 1060 before she left in December 2002 for three-weeks to help save birds affected by an oil tanker spill off the northwestern coast of Spain.

**Susan V. Westmoreland** is a new diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and is certified as a veterinary anatomic pathologist.

## 1992

**Bradford G. Bentz** sent this class note via e-mail: "While I was attending a recent scientific meeting, I learned that a very dear friend of mine had died a number of months ago. Peyton Jones, D.V.M., although never a 'Penn-we', had completed a residency in large animal internal medicine at New Bolton Center in 1994. I was shocked and very upset to hear of his death. It was not until only recently that I could objectively reflect upon his impact on my veterinary career and me.

"Peyton was one year ahead of me in his residency. Although the name 'Jones' may imply that he was an ordinary fellow, his friendship, encouragement and tutelage during my residency could not have been any more extraordinary. Peyton warmly embraced a role as my 'big brother' during his tenure as a resident. I immediately found him to be a warm and genuine person to whom I could always look for encouragement during the times that I could find little reason for optimism. He always encouraged me to dig a bit deeper and to believe in what I had to offer this profession at times when I was unsure that I had much to offer. Indeed, at one point in my residency, when I was seriously considering leaving the program, Peyton only found promise and genuine concern for me and for my future in his heart. I truly believe that it was his encouragement and his belief in me that kept me going when I felt I could not.

"Today, I am very happy with who I am, what I am doing and how I am contributing to this profession. Peyton has much to do with my success. In my final words to you, Peyton, 'thank-you.' You were anything

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but an ordinary person in my life. May you find much-deserved peace and happiness in your rest. God bless you.”

## 1994

**Christine Kreuder**, a graduate student in wildlife epidemiology at the University of California, Davis, was recently named a Morris Animal Foundation Fellow. The Foundation established the Fellows program in 1955 to honor students who participate on the investigative teams of Foundation-funded animal health studies. Fellows are nominated by the principal investigator of the study on which they are working. In addition to Dr. Kreuder's main research topic of infectious disease of marine mammals, her research interests also include population-level impacts of disease in wildlife, disease ecology, and measures of population abundance.

## 1995

**Alexander J. Travis** was recently appointed an assistant professor at the James A. Baker Institute for Animal Health of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine. A reproductive biologist, Dr. Travis' research interests include the compartmentalization of metabolic and signaling pathways in male germ cells, germ cell differentiation, and the development of in vitro spermatogenesis. His clinical interests include assisted reproductive technologies in exotic and domestic species and conservation and preservation of genomic diversity in wildlife.

## 1997

**Amanda E. Fine** is one of two Michigan State University scientists heading up a new graduate specialization program in wildlife disease ecology and management. Dr. Fine is currently conducting research on the epidemiology of bovine TB in Michigan with a focus on the interaction between cattle and white-tailed deer and the identification of risk factors for disease transmission. Her additional research interests include the epidemiology of wildlife-livestock disease transmission, veterinary public health and international veterinary medicine.

## 1998

**Sarah Anna Pesillo** is a new diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care.

## 1999

**Akiko Sato** has completed her residency in laboratory animal medicine at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. Dr. Sato has recently joined the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, the

largest, most complex healthcare system within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, as an associate veterinary medical officer.

## 2001

**Jonathan M. Castro** has recently joined the Banfield Durham, North practice in Durham, N.C.

**Eric D. Lombardini**, a captain in the United States Army Veterinary Corps at Fort Polk, La., is currently serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Dr. Lombardini served as an expert for *The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook: Holidays*. Dr. Lombardini is a 1993 Penn undergraduate and a classmate of Joshua Piven, a co-author of the book.

## 2002

**Amy L. Hancock** is a clinical veterinarian at the Center for Animal Resources and Comparative Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

## BIRTHS

### 1998

**Barbra Hart-Karner**, a son, Joshua Lewis, on May 11, 2002.

### 2001

**Stephanie R. Becker**, a daughter, Erin Lee, on November 6, 2002.

## DEATHS

### 1937

**J. Robert Brown** on September 4, 2002.

**Benjamin F. Stearn** on August 23, 2002.

**Douglas F. Watson** on February 11, 2003.

### 1938

**Morris Cover** on January 28, 2003.

### 1943

**C. Arnold Moorehead** on March 27, 2003.

### 1944

**Winthrop Eugene Brielman** on March 8, 2003. Brother of Marguerite Brielman Gulick, V'44.

### 1946

**Col. Martin S. Oster** on May 31, 2002

### 1949

**Jane Hinton** on April 9, 2003.

### 1951

**Raymond E. McKinley** on February 6, 2003.

## 1953

**James F. Basque** on September 26, 2001.

## 1954

**Ralph B. Jackson** on April 6, 2002.

**Craig M. Kift** on August 6, 2002.

**Melvin E. Vaclavik** on March 26, 2003.

## 1955

**Irving I. Lutsky** on November 16, 2002.

## 1956

**Warren R. Piersol** on March 5, 2003.

## 1958

**Gaylord E. McKissick** on December 15, 2002.

## 1959

**Eugene A. Bodmer** on May 12, 2002.

## 1963

**Jeffie F. Roszel** on January 13, 2003.

## 1964

**Kenneth J. Rubin** on March 5, 2003.

## 1968

**Norman Frank** on December 28, 2002.

## 1969

**James A. Craig** on October 10, 2002.

## 1985

**Janet Remetta** on March 31, 2003.

## 1999

**David J. Nebzydoski** on March 15, 2003. Son of Henry J., V'72; brother of Beth A., V'02; nephew of Joseph A., V'82, Andrew P., V'84, and Patricia A. Morgan, V'85.

### Share news with your classmates

about a new position or accomplishment, wedding or birth announcement, by sending your class note today! We accept pictures, too, featuring alumni gatherings, whether it's from a wedding or mini-reunion. Be sure to identify everyone in the picture. Pictures will be returned only upon request. Send all your submissions to:

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Philadelphia, PA 19104-6047  
Fax (215) 573-3544  
E-mail lissj@vet.upenn.edu



**D. Christine Anderman, V'98**, married Jeffrey S. Leigh, C'93 D'97, on September 21, 2002, on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay near their home in Annapolis, Md. Dr. Leigh practices at Arnold Veterinary Hospital in Arnold, Md.

*Back Row:* David F. Zeyher, D'61 GD'64, Alan G. Harquail, Jr., D'54 GD'60, Russell S. Anderman, Jr., EE'67, Matthew Baron, D'99, Greg E. Dalin, D'97, Jeffrey S. Leigh, Thomas M. Drummond, D'97, Mark J. Robinson, D'97, Brian Duffy, WG'97, and Robert A. Leigh, D'69.

*Front Row:* Lois Hicks Zeyher, DH'59, Asra Saleem, C'93 D'97, Bethany J. Grohs, V'98, D. Christine Anderman Leigh, Kwanrak Wongse-Sanit, D'97, and Maira M. Robinson, D'97.

## Entrepreneurship Drives Veterinarian

(continued from page 14)

His staff hear his favorite mantra – “Attitude reflects leadership” – again and again. “If I set a good attitude at my level,” explains DeCarlo, an avid motorcyclist with a longtime involvement in the Ronald McDonald Camp for children with cancer, located in the Pocono Mountains, “it will filter down to the receptionist and then to the client.”

Head veterinary technician Janet McConnell, who joined Red Bank 10 years ago when it was a five-doctor practice, notes that Red Bank employees rarely leave. She attributes the low turnover to DeCarlo’s ability to connect with the staff. “Out of the blue, he’ll say, ‘Let’s buy the hospital pizza today.’”

He also hosts frequent staff get-togethers at his home in nearby Ocean Township, N.J., where he lives with his two cats. In addition to investing in his employees’ friendship, he invests in their intellect: Each employee, from the veterinarians to the janitors, has a continuing education budget.

As for the future of his profession, DeCarlo sees the tides shifting in favor of large practices like his own that, because of their sheer size, can offer a wider breadth of services to their increasingly-demanding clients.

When he appraises his hospital in self-talks each morning, he is downright critical. No matter. As a veterinarian and a practice owner, DeCarlo has arrived. But he’ll never admit it.

## Alumni Connections

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Join the University of Pennsylvania Alumni On-Line Community for free at <[www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/UPN](http://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/UPN)>. After you register, you can search the On-Line Directory, which is a great resource for personal and professional networking and an easy way to keep up-to-date on fellow alumni. You can also sign-up for a permanent e-mail forwarding service, which will forward messages received at your permanent Penn address to the e-mail address of your choice.

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