



7-1-2003

# Class Notes

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1956

**Elizabeth A. Lawrence**, professor emerita at Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, was quoted in the article, "Cute but Wild: The Perilous Lure of Exotic Pets," which appeared in the June 24, 2003, edition of *The New York Times*. According to Dr. Lawrence, people are drawn to owning exotic pets because "They value the wild animal because it is less subservient, because it is unpredictable and won't take orders. The owners also often want to prove that they have power over it and to shock people." Dr. James A. Serpell, Marie A. Moore Associate Professor of Humane Ethics and Animal Welfare and director of the Center for the Interaction of Animals and Society at Penn Veterinary Medicine, was also quoted in the article.

**Paul J. Suorsa** was recently honored with the 2002 Bullshipper Award from the Butler County, Pa., Rotary Club for serving his community for 46 years as a veterinarian. The award is presented annually to the person who excels in promoting farm-city relations in and around Butler County. Dr. Suorsa co-owns Slippery Rock Veterinary Hospital with his son, **Daniel, V'92**.

1963

**Katherine A. Houpt**, professor of physiology at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, was quoted in the article, "What Makes a Winner?" which appeared in the May 12, 2003, edition of *The Baltimore Sun*. In the article, which discusses whether horses have "gameness" or a desire to win, Dr. Houpt says that to spot the dominant horse at the starting gate, "He'll stand up tall and lean toward the other horses. He may threaten them by pinning his ears back. He may have his mouth open trying to bite." Dr. Sue McDonnell, the founding head of The Havemeyer Equine Behavior Program at New Bolton Center, was also quoted in the article.

1972

**Lawrence T. Glickman**, professor of epidemiology and environmental health and section head of Clinical Epidemiology at Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, was honored with the American Kennel Club Excellence in Research Award during the American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Convention in July 2003. Dr. Glickman was selected for his impressive research on Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus and his innovative approaches to various canine diseases.

1973

**Robert M. Bowker**, associate professor of pathology and diagnostic investigation at Michigan

State University College of Veterinary Medicine, was honored in April 2003 with the Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award. The award was given in recognition of his outstanding teaching ability, leadership, and high moral character.

**Midge Leitch** visited the School of Veterinary Medicine and spoke to students in April 2003 as part of the Dean's Alumni Career Speaker Series. She owns Londonderry Equine Clinic, a referral veterinary practice in Cochranville, Pa., where she specializes in the care of performance horses competing in dressage, driving, eventing, and jumping. Dr. Leitch is a member of the USA Equestrian Veterinary Committee and has served as team veterinarian at the last three consecutive Olympic Games and many other national and international events, including the World Equestrian Games.

1974

**Leslie A. Dierauf** has been appointed director of the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) in Madison, Wis., one of 18 science centers of the Biological Resources Discipline of the U.S. Geological Survey, a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Interior. The mission of the NWHC is to provide information, technical assistance, and research on national and international wildlife health issues. According to Dr. Dierauf, "The position as NWHC Director will provide me the opportunity to take the scientific expertise at the NWHC and shape a program that will promote effective, credible, and timely scientific research about our nation's wildlife, helping not only species and habitats, but also presenting valuable

information for decision-making throughout the Department of the Interior."

1977

**Sydney M. Evans**, associate professor of radiation oncology in the Penn School of Medicine, was a visiting professor in June 2003 in the Department of Neurosurgery at the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. She presented a talk entitled "The Prognostic Importance of Hypoxia in Brain Tumors." Dr. Evans was invited to serve as a member of the Radiation Study Section of the National Institutes of Health Center for Scientific Review. She will help review applications dealing with the interaction of radiation and heat with matter at the molecular, cellular, and clinical levels.

**Christian E. Newcomer** has been appointed The Johns Hopkins University's first associate provost for animal research and resources, responsible for university-wide planning and other issues relating to research using animal subjects. He will serve as an advisor and frequent consultant to the university's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, a group that reviews all animal research protocols to ensure that use of animal subjects is essential and that any pain or discomfort to animals is minimized. According to Dr. Newcomer, "There are just an incredible number of issues that come up in a big and vibrant animal research program like Johns Hopkins'. I will work to determine how we keep a step ahead of where the science is going, and how we do that the right way."

1981

**Yvette M. Davis** is a scientific review administrator at the National Institutes of Health and is a commander in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

1987

**Gary M. Tabor** is a program officer for the Wilburforce Foundation, a private, philanthropic foundation that funds environmental issues in the western U.S. and western Canada, and is responsible for grantmaking in the Yellowstone to Yukon region.

Dr. Tabor is also the co-editor of *Conservation Medicine: Ecological Health in Practice*, the product of a 1999 conference of the Consortium for Conservation Medicine, where he served as the founding executive director. The Consortium is a unique collaborative institution that strives to understand the link among anthropogenic environmental change, the health of all species, and the conservation of biodiversity.

## Oradell Animal Hospital Opens New Facility

**Paul C. Gambardella, V'72**, director of Oradell Animal Hospital in Paramus, N.J., was interviewed about Oradell's new \$12 million, 36,000-square-foot hospital in the June 1, 2003, edition of *The New York Times*. According to the hospital's founders, including **William S. Stockman, V'66**, who remains on staff as a consultant, the new facility will be the country's largest privately held veterinary practice. Alumni who practice at Oradell (as of August 2003 according to its website) include: **Rita Angelo, V'91; Joyce K. Cohen, V'02; Edytheann DeMaria, V'98; Jamison DeSantis, V'00; June S. Hacker, V'95; Megan E. Julian, V'02; and William F. Lucker, Jr., V'66**.

**1989**

**Paula M. Colletti** has become board-certified in canine/feline practice by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners.

**Karen Lavinia Johnston** is a product manager for Nestlé Purina PetCare in Australia. In June 2003, she and her husband visited her family in the Philadelphia area and the Ryan Veterinary Hospital at Penn before attending the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum in Charlotte.

**1990**

**Major Joseph G. Williamson** was featured in the article, "A Tour in the Desert: Veterinarians Fill Forward Positions in Iraq Campaign," which appeared in the May 15, 2003, issue of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*. Major Williamson served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and he and his team were responsible for food safety inspections by performing sanitary audits of more than a hundred commercial facilities or suppliers in 10 countries to the coalition forces.

**1994**

**Michele L. Hurst** married David Paul on January 11, 2003.

**1996**

**Katherine B. Chope** and **Jose M. Garcia-Lopez** are now working at Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Chope provides a three-days-a-week ultrasound specialty service for large animals, covering all of the major body systems, with a special interest in equine musculoskeletal injuries and cardiology. Dr. Garcia-Lopez is an assistant professor of large animal surgery, and his surgical interests include equine orthopedics and upper airway disorders, including the use of lasers. Drs. Chope and Garcia-Lopez have two children, Jose Maria and Katerina Amelia.

**1997**

**Michael N. Fugaro** has become board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Surgeons.

**Michelle G. Hawkins** has become board-certified in avian practice by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners.

**1999**

**Dana Frederick** is director of veterinary services for Labrador Service Dogs, a national organization that trains Labrador retrievers to assist people who are confined to wheelchairs.

**2000**

**Jason W. Brooks** has joined the staff of the Animal Diagnostic Laboratory at The Pennsylvania State University. He will divide his time between service in field investigation and necropsy.

**Jacob R. Werner** is the attending veterinarian for agricultural animals and wildlife at The Pennsylvania State University.

**2002**

**Edward S. Cooper**, an intern in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences at Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, was honored in April 2003 with the SCAVMA Intern Award. The award was given in recognition of his outstanding performance in the clinical training and teaching of students.

**Tracy A. Filler** was interviewed in the article, "Caring for Pets," which appeared in the June 26, 2003, issue of the *Casco Bay Weekly* of Portland, Maine. According to Dr. Filler, who lived in Pennsylvania her entire life, she chose to practice in Maine because she "loved New England and dreamed of seeing Acadia National Park." She added, "I wanted to be where the outdoors could be enjoyed. I wanted to hike, drive, and explore along the coast. I looked forward to a slower pace of life and people who are open and friendly."

**2003**

**Nathan D. Harvey** is serving as the dairy production medicine intern at New Bolton Center.

**Births****1978**

**Gregory D. Bossart**, a daughter, Ansley Claire Bossart, on May 13, 2003.

**1995**

**Kristen M. Lohr-Yucha**, a son, Alexander David, on February 20, 2003.

**Deaths****1931**

**Herbert F. Harms, Jr.** on May 27, 2001.

**1934**

**George E. Outwater** on January 21, 2002.

**1936**

**Frank G. Dubuy** on April 10, 2003.

**1939**

**Ralph C. Fish, Jr.** on March 7, 2002.

**1940**

**Clyde I. Boyer, Jr.** on April 12, 2003.

**1941**

**Herbert S. Rachlin** on July 10, 2001.

**1946**

**Rodney S. Billett** on October 24, 1998.

**1947**

**Russell A. Nelson** on May 4, 2003.

**1951**

**Jacob Levenson** on December 15, 2002.

**1952**

**Frank A. Bartus** on April 21, 2003. Father of Michelle C. Bartus, V'84, and father-in-law of Peter D. Nelson, V'84.

**1960**

**Payson J. Brett, Jr.** on January 2, 2003.

**1962**

**Paul Berg** on August 18, 2003. From 1966 to 1972, Dr. Berg was a member of Penn Veterinary Medicine's faculty as an assistant professor then as an associate professor of surgery. In addition to his private practice, Dr. Berg returned to the School in 1980 and served for many years as an adjunct professor of surgery. Father of Melissa J. Berg, V'96.

**1971**

**George A. Franklin, Jr.** on April 27, 2002.

**1994**

**Elizabeth Stewart Claffey** on April 15, 2003.

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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# Racetrack Veterinarian to VMAS President

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racetrack practice in Laurel, Md., where he remains today as a partner. The seven-doctor practice, since renamed Yerger, Stewart, Vallance and Associates, covers all the tracks in Maryland and one in Virginia. Although his hours are excruciating—on the track by 5:00 in the morning for training and sometimes there through dinnertime, after the last race has ended—Stewart, 59, prefers track work to anything else.

“Racehorses are nicer to deal with than someone’s spoiled riding horse,” he declares.

He is less complimentary of some of the people in the industry. Racing, says Stewart, who holds an appointment to the Grayson Research Jockey Club Foundation, which funds research in equine medicine and surgery, has suffered from “the desire of a small-but-significant group to beat the system” with banned performance enhancers like sodium bicarbonate “milkshakes” and analgesics.

For the racing industry, Stewart hopes a more enlightened attitude about which medications and supplements should and should not be permissible will one day prevail. He also wants to see meatier purses so that, in the future, the horses might be housed in healthier accommodations offering better ventilation and sanitation.

For the sphere of equine medicine, Stewart’s wish is far more modest—that people will continue to enter the field. Because of the demanding lifestyle and lean salaries, horse medicine is losing warm bodies. In fact, Stewart’s own practice has difficulty recruiting veterinarians.

As VMAS president, Stewart wants to boost alumni involvement in the Opportunity Scholarship Program, a scholarship-mentorship program that pairs alumni donors with recipient students. He notes that many patrons have found the program, which graduated its first class in 2002, personally rewarding and a great opportunity to interact and gain understanding of the problems and goals of new graduates.

In order to update the School community on the proceedings of the VMAS Executive Board, Stewart will pen a President’s Letter in each issue of *Bellwether*.

“I want to let people know they can play a role, make a contribution, and get satisfaction out of it,” says Stewart, who, along with wife Brenda, has been an Executive Board member

for much of the past decade.

This sentiment, he says, also extends to the students, from whom he hopes to stir greater VMAS participation. Among Stewart’s goals is to arrange productive interaction and information exchanges as outreach efforts geared toward instilling students with a stronger sense of dedication to the School.

“The students really have no idea what the School does for them, getting them scholarship money, working with the state legislature to defer their costs...,” he explains.

Stewart also aims to incorporate both past and future graduates of the internship and residency programs, who do hold alumni status, into the Penn community once they leave.

Of Stewart’s hefty sense of commitment to the School, outgoing president **Eric M. Bregman, V’95**, says, “Jimmy is probably one of the most motivated alumni that I know, one of the School’s finest boosters.”

To this, Stewart would probably reflect on his Penn education and say that he’s just returning the favor.

## Alumni Connections

### To find a former classmate and to sign up for a permanent e-mail forwarding service:

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.

### To update your alumni record:

You can update your record via the University of Pennsylvania Alumni On-Line Community On-Line Directory. You may also contact Elizabeth McNamara at (215) 746-7461 or via e-mail at <[emcnamar@vet.upenn.edu](mailto:emcnamar@vet.upenn.edu)>.

### To make a gift or for information to support Penn Veterinary Medicine:

Make a gift with your credit card through a secure online transaction at <[www.upenn.edu/gifts](http://www.upenn.edu/gifts)>. For information on supporting the School, visit the Alumni & Friends website at <<http://alumni.vet.upenn.edu>> or contact Joshua E. Liss at (215) 898-1481 or via e-mail at <[lissj@vet.upenn.edu](mailto:lissj@vet.upenn.edu)>.

### To request a transcript, certification of graduation, or replacement diploma:

For information on requesting a transcript, visit the Office of the University Registrar’s website at <[www.upenn.edu/registrar/transcripts/transcripts.html](http://www.upenn.edu/registrar/transcripts/transcripts.html)> or call (215) 898-7511. For information on requesting a certification of graduation, which does not require a transcript, contact the School’s Office of Student & Curricular Affairs at (215) 898-3525 or via e-mail at <[student-affairs@vet.upenn.edu](mailto:student-affairs@vet.upenn.edu)>. For information on ordering a replacement diploma, visit the Office of the Secretary’s website at <[www.upenn.edu/secretary/diplomas/#diplomas](http://www.upenn.edu/secretary/diplomas/#diplomas)>.

### To post/search employment opportunities for veterinarians:

Visit the School’s Veterinary Employment Database at <[www.vet.upenn.edu/jobsearch](http://www.vet.upenn.edu/jobsearch)>.

### To purchase veterinary, medical, and allied health textbooks from leading publishers:

Visit the Penn Vet Bookstore at <[www.vet.upenn.edu/studentaffairs/bookstore](http://www.vet.upenn.edu/studentaffairs/bookstore)>. A percentage of purchases is returned to the School in the form of scholarship funding to deserving veterinary students.

### To obtain a Penn Alumni Card:

The Penn Alumni Card offers a myriad of benefits, including access to the Penn Libraries (does not include borrowing privileges or access to online resources) and discounts on admission to the Morris Arboretum, Class of 1923 Ice Rink, and University of Pennsylvania Museum. The charge for the card, which is valid for 10 years, is only \$20. For more information, visit <[www.upenn.edu/penncard/card/obtain\\_alumni.html](http://www.upenn.edu/penncard/card/obtain_alumni.html)>.

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