



4-1-2010

# Class Notes

**1940s**

**1945 – Jack Robbins, C’44, V’45** was honored in late 2009 by the National Turf Writers Association with an award. Robbins, a president of Oak Tree and past president of the American Association of Equine Practitioners, will receive the Joe Palmer Award. Named for the former *New York Herald Tribune* Turf writer, the Palmer Award is presented annually for meritorious service to racing.

**1970s**

**1971 – Dr. Gerald Snyder, V’71**, publishes *Veterinary Productivity*, a newsletter for practice productivity. He also provides the regular column, “Practice for Profit,” for the *DVM Newsmagazine*.

**1972 –** In August, 2009 at the 34th World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress in Sao Paulo, Brazil, **Peter Ihrke, V’72** was named the recipient of the 2009 WSAVA Hill’s Excellence in Veterinary Healthcare Award. The WSAVA is an association of veterinary organizations from all over the world, concerned with small companion animals such as cats, dogs, rabbits and guinea pigs. Currently there are 76 member and affiliate associations, representing more than 70,000 individual veterinarians from around the globe.

**1974 – John Simms, V’74** is the first recipient of the George B. Wolff Legislative Leadership Award. Named for PVMA’s long-time lobbyist George Wolff, Dr. Simms received the award for serving as an active member on behalf of the organization and the veterinary professional in the Pennsylvania state legislature.

**1979 – Ella S. Boyd, V’79** serves as the Ocean County, NJ Health Department Public Health Coordinator.

**1980s**

**1980 – James F. Dougherty, V’80, VRS’84** has joined the School of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Advisory Council as well as the Rutgers University Board of Overseers. Dr. Dougherty also received his BA and MS from Rutgers University in New Jersey.

**1980 –** Founder of the Young Horse Program at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, **Sarah Ralston, CW’73, V’80, GR’82** has included the handling of mustang yearlings into the program that teaches students about handling, training and nutrition of young horses. Mustangs have more life experience, are less expensive and offer Dr. Ralston the opportunity to explore the nutritional needs as compared to yearling draft horses.

**1981 –** Published by Bow Tie Press/Kennel Club Books, **Dr. Deva Khalsa’s, V’81**, book *Natural Dog: A Holistic Guide for Healthier Dogs* was released in June of 2009, and within a month was on the pet book best-seller list. It has been rated by professionals as a “10 out of 10.”

**1982 – Rose Fiskett, V’82** of Scotland, PA, was elected as vice president and conference chair of the Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians at the organization’s business meeting in 2009. The AEMV hosts annual continuing education events in conjunction with the Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV). This combined conference will be hosted in San Diego in 2010.

**1982 – John Wolfe, V’82, GR’86**, a Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute scientist and a Penn professor of Pathology and Medical Genetics with special expertise in genetic and cellular mechanisms in the brain, will lead a project which focuses on how NK-1R drugs function in human immune cells and brain cells. This project is part of \$6 million, five-year federal grant to The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute to enable researchers to investigate a novel approach in treating HIV infection – a unique class of drugs focused on developing therapies for psychological and neurological effects in AIDS.

**1983 –** Governor Edward G. Rendell of Pennsylvania appointed **Sherrill Davison, C’79, V’83, G’88, GR’04** to the Governor’s Food Safety Council.

**1986 – Donald Sankey, V’86** of Harveys Lake, PA, joined the West Side Veterinary Hospital as an associate veterinarian, after practicing veterinary medicine for 23 years in Wyoming Valley, PA and Southern California.

**1989 – Joanna Bassert, V’89** was awarded the Elsevier-AVTE Teaching Excellence Award for her outstanding contributions to the education of veterinary technicians. The award was presented at the 2009 meeting of the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators conference, which was held in Omaha, NE this summer. Dr. Bassert is the co-editor of the *Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians* and co-author of *Clinical Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technicians*. She is also the producer of various CD-ROMs and educational teaching videos and is founder and President of the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association.

**1990s**

**1991 – Michael Dym, V’91** posts a “vet blog” via Pet Meds three to four times weekly to address general pet owner concerns. His commitment and passion for pet health continuously drives him to learn more about the art and science of homeopathy through ongoing training and education.

**1991 – Nancy Kate Diehl, V’91** was awarded a Juris Doctorate degree from Concord Law School of Kaplan University. Dr. Diehl is a regulatory veterinarian for the Pennsylvania Horse Racing Commission. She plans to use her law degree in legal research and consulting related to veterinary medicine.

**1981 – John Lewis, V’97** has been appointed President of the American Veterinary Dental Society, serving 2009-2011.

**1981 – Bonnie S. Barr, V’97**, an Internal Medicine specialist at Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital in Lexington, KY, has written an article related to botulism in horses for [dressage.com](http://dressage.com). Dr. Barr has special interests in neonatology and infectious disease. She raises thoroughbreds and quarter horses with her husband.

## 2000s

**2000 – Margaret Mudge, V’00, DACVS, ACVECC**, and assistant professor of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at The Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine presented at the All American Quarter Horse Congress on October 17, 2009 in Ohio on the topic of “So, You Want to be a Vet? Tips for How to Get Into and Succeed in Vet School.”

**2000 – Hillary Gorman Israeli, V’00** is featured in the February 2010 issue of *DVM Newsmagazine*, regarding her online comic video “Generation Vet.”

**2002 – Amy Hancock-Ronemus, V’02** and husband James welcomed a daughter Julia on December 1, 2009.

**2003 – Nathan Harvey, V’03** passed the ABVP boards in December 2009, and has been chosen as the PVMA 2010 emerging leader of Pennsylvania for the AVMA Annual Leadership Conference.

**2001 – Larkin Veterinary Hospital**, owned by the National Veterinary Associates, announced the appointment of **Lisa V. Noble, V’01** to the practice in West Lawn, PA.

**2003 – Herb Maisenbacher, V’03**, assistant clinical professor of cardiology at University of Florida’s Veterinary Medical Center, has been noted in the September 12, 2009 issue of the *Horse.com* for his treatment of horses with life-threatening bleeding from the guttural pouch by a fungal infection, called guttural pouch mycosis.

**2004 – Laura Javscas, V’04, DACVIM** has accepted a position as the internal medicine specialist at Upstate Equine Medical Center, outside of Saratoga Springs, NY. After four years at the University of Florida, she is

looking forward to being closer to family and friends in the Northeast.

**2004 – Joshua Seth Eaton, V’04** completed a residency in comparative ophthalmology at the University of California, Davis and is now a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists. Joshua has accepted a position as associated ophthalmologist at the Animal Eye Center of New Jersey in Little Falls, NJ, also providing services at Oradell Animal Hospital in Paramus, NJ.

**2006 – In August, 2009, Kathleen A. Dunn, V’06** was named Veterinary Chief and Vice President of Medical Services for North Shore Animal League, a non-profit charitable corporation located in Port Washington, NY that is the world’s largest no-kill pet rescue and adoption organization.

**2009 – Heather Balmer, V’09** joined the Animal Hospital of Dauphin County, PA as a staff veterinarian, where she worked as a young person cleaning kennels and exercising pets.

## deaths

**1989 – Deborah J. Pitt** on November 22, 2009.

**1985 – Neal C. Ralston** on September 28, 2009.

**1971 – Carol High** on August 26, 2009.

**1971 – Peggy Green** on July 23, 2009.

**1964 – Clark Dickinson** on September 12, 2009.

**1953 – Glenn C. Bullock** on November 9, 2009.

**1950 – Arthur H. Peck** on August 2, 2009.

**1948 – Alan Creamer** on January 4, 2010.

**1934 – Robert L. Ticehurst** on October 28, 2009, his birthday.

Have you received a promotion, gotten married, had a baby or received an award? Have you volunteered somewhere special, moved into a new building, ventured into a new business, or discovered the cure for avian flu? Please share with us all of your good news to include in the CLASS NOTES section of the *Bellwether* and the [vet.upenn.edu](http://vet.upenn.edu) Web site. All residents, interns and fellows are also invited to share!

Forward all alumni news to Coreen Haggerty, Director of Alumni Relations at [haggertc@vet.upenn.edu](mailto:haggertc@vet.upenn.edu) or write Office of Alumni Relations, 3800 Spruce Street, Suite 172 E, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

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