



Fall 2010

## Class Notes

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## 1940s

**1947 — Dr. Glenn Lawhon (V'47)**, owner of the Sandy Memorial Animal Hospital in Hartsville, SC for 63 years, celebrated his 85th birthday on July 3, 2010. To honor Dr. Lawhon, Hartsville Mayor Mel Pennington issued a proclamation declaring July 3, 2010 as “Dr. Glenn J. Lawhon Jr. Day” and urged citizens “to join me in wishing him a happy 85th birthday and honoring him as a good and faithful servant of our great city.”

## 1960s

**1964 — Willi Weichelt (V'64)** was awarded the 2010 PVMA Lifetime Achievement Award on August 13, 2010 for selfless dedication to veterinary medicine, the health and welfare of animals and the betterment of the profession by addressing the need for animal emergency care and rehabilitation in his community, and for being an advocate and positive role model for veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Willi also just opened the West Chester Veterinary Rehabilitation Specialty Center, which offers several different types of physical therapy for animals.

**1969 — Richard P. Streett, Jr. (V'69)** serves as secretary of the American Veterinary Medical Foundation, a philanthropic extension of the American Veterinary Medical Association, which funds the AVMA and its initiatives, humane outreach and animal welfare, education and public awareness, research and student enhancement.

## 1970s

**1971 — David Jackson (V'71)** offers a free e-book on his new blog, *YourPetYourVetAndYou.com*. The e-book is called “Making It Work: A Veterinary Guide to Your Pet’s Health.”

**Larry Samples (V'71)** received the 2010 PVMA Distinguished Veterinary Service and the Board Service Recognition Awards on August 13, 2010 in recognition of his years of service to the field of large animal medicine, his dedication to the PVMA through his career and for his membership on the PVMA Board of Trustees from 1973 to 2009.

**Leon Weaver (V'71)**, owner and operator of Bridgewater Dairy in Montpelier, OH, was appointed by Governor Ted Strickland to the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board in April 2010.

**1978 —** The United Way of Boyertown Area, Gilbertsville, PA presented its Gold Award to **Deborah Patt (V'78)** for her increased giving to the 2009–10

United Way Campaign through the Patt Veterinary Hospital, which her parents, **John Patt (V'52)** and Virginia, started in 1952.

**1979 — Amy Marder (CW'73, V'79)** currently serves on the Advisory Board of the National Canine Research Council.

## 1980s

**1980 —** The National Academies of Practice (an organization founded in 1981 for interdisciplinary collaboration in human healthcare) elected and installed **Steven W. Atwood, (V'80) MD** as a distinguished practitioner on March 20, 2010 in Washington, D.C.

**1982 — Sarah Ralston (CW'73, V'80, GR'82)**, associate professor at Rutgers University, NJ, won the 2010 SEBS Academic Professional Excellence Award under the category of Academic Innovation. As noted in her nomination letter, “For 20 years, Dr. Sarah L. Ralston has developed and implemented several creative academic innovations that have raised the level of excellence in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. She has taken advantage of the power of the Internet to enrich her Horse Management and Equine Nutrition courses for undergraduate, graduate and continuing education students and offered these courses online to students throughout the United States.”

**1984 — Mary Lombardo (V'84)** received the Veterinarian of the Year Award on August 13, 2010 by the PVMA in recognition of her outstanding work and dedication to the health and welfare of surrendered commercial kennel dogs, and for her commitment to educating the public, breeders and kennel owners about the proper care and vaccination of animals.

On Sunday September 19, 2010, **Andrew Nebzydoski (V'84)** completed his first 100-mile bike marathon in the Tour de Shunk in Monroeton, PA.

**Stephen J. Peoples (V'84) MS** has been appointed to the Orthopaedic Institute of Medicine Task Force on Conflict of Interest. He was also recently elected Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania Human Implant Performance Laboratory. He is currently serving as visiting associate professor of orthopaedics at the University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago and providing consulting services to the healthcare industry.

**1985 — Shelley Epstein (V'85)** was highlighted in the September issue of *Veterinary Practice News* for her career path and homeopathic choices for care in her small animal practice in Wilmington, DE.

**1986** — The 2010 PVMA Animal Welfare Advocacy Award was presented to **Tom Parsons (V'86, GR'89)** on August 13, 2010 in recognition of his compassion, dedicated professional leadership, and innovative vision in the improvement of swine well being, specifically related to the redesign of the newly reopened Swine Teaching and Research Facility at Penn Vet's New Bolton Center.

**Kim Blackwell (V'86, GEN'87, GR'88)**, professor at George Mason University, published an article in *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*, 11:239-251 (2010): Kotaleski, J.H. and Blackwell, K.T. "Modeling the molecular mechanisms of synaptic plasticity using system biology approaches."

**1987** — **Susan J. Colbassani (V'87)** was highlighted in the October 6, 2010 *The Abington Journal* for offering pet owners a more holistic approach to diagnosis and treatment using Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine.

**1988** — **Eric Dunayer (C'79, V'88) MS, DABT, DABVT** serves as a senior toxicologist at the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) as well as consultant on the toxicologist section of the Veterinary Information Network.

The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service named **Patrice Klein (V'88)** the Chronic Wasting Disease program manager, effective June 21, 2010. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Klein served as a senior staff veterinarian and avian disease specialist at the USDA/APHIS/Veterinary Services – National Center for Animal Health Programs, Riverdale, MD working as a national program coordinator for Notifiable Avian Influenza (H5/H7 LPAI and HPAI) disease control and prevention in commercial poultry and live bird marketing systems. She also currently serves as the AVMA VMAT2 team commander and volunteers as veterinary director for Second Chance Wildlife Center in Maryland since 2001, providing veterinary care to more than 4,000 wildlife rehabilitation animals per year.

## 1990s

**1990** — **Michael R. Moyer (V'90)** received the Student AVMA Community Outreach Excellence Award, presented at the AVMA 147th Annual Convention in Atlanta Georgia in August, 2010. The Student AVMA presents this award to recognize a professor who goes beyond collegiate responsibilities to focus on education in the community. Dr. Moyer is the Rosenthal Director of Shelter Animal Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and the owner of Bridgewater Veterinary Hospital in Bensalem, PA. He is president-elect of the American Animal Hospital Association, and is past president of both the

Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association and the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society of Penn Veterinary Medicine.

**1991** — **Christopher Bonar (V'91)**, DACZM became board-certified in October, 2009 as a Diplomate of the American College of Zoological Medicine. In May of 2010, Dr. Bonar left the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo after nearly 16 years to become chief veterinarian of the Dallas World Aquarium.

**Michael Dym (V'91)** hosts "Dr. Dym's Vet Blog" on the *PetMeds.com*<sup>®</sup> website, addressing issues ranging from why cats snore to treatment options for canine degenerative disc disease.

**Carrie Schlachter (V'91) IVC** serves as medical director and staff veterinarian at the Circle Oak Equine Clinic, a private, state-licensed veterinary facility in Petaluma, CA, specializing in sports medicine and rehabilitation and fitness services for active and retired performance horses. While at Penn Vet, Dr. Schlachter received the Charles F. Reid Clinical Excellence Award for Sports Medicine and Imaging as well as numerous scholarships. She has also served as a member of the Large Animal Services External Advisory Board of the University of California, Davis, Veterinary Hospital and authors a veterinary column for *Ride Magazine*.

**1993** — **Adam Denish (V'93)** was the vet for the City of Philadelphia Police Canine Department for 13 years, and is now in charge of Arcadia University's Lab Animal Department and serves on its Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. For the last seven years, Adam has been director of veterinary services for the Elmwood Park Zoo in Norristown, PA, as well as the consulting veterinarian for the Bucks County Zoo for two years. Adam's family includes a wife, two children and 25 pets. He is working to attain his second black belt in martial arts.

**1994** — **Camille DeClementi (V'94) DABT, DABVT** is responsible for the management of medical records in the Animal Health Services Department, which includes the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital and the ASPCA Mobile Clinics.

The 2010 Public Service Award of Merit of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA) was awarded to **Kenton Rexford (V'94)** on August 13, 2010 in recognition of his instrumental founding role in the creation of the non-profit organization Animal Care and Assistant Fund (ACAF) and for its efforts to provide funds for the treatment of pets whose owners cannot afford care.

**“Sea” Rogers Williams, III (V’94)**, science director and attending veterinarian at the National Marine Life Center, spoke at the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies in Massachusetts in April, 2010 on “One Health, the role of the National Marine Life Center and the implications for improving the health of stranded marine animals, the environment and human health.” The talk was sponsored by the Community Leadership Institute of Cape Cod and the Islands and focused on the environment of Cape Cod. Dr. Williams also owns and operates the Vineyard Veterinary Clinic in Edgartown, on Martha’s Vineyard.

**1997 — Stacy Fuchino (V’97)** published *Head to Tail Wellness: Western Veterinary Medicine Meets Eastern Wisdom*, which links a pet’s overall makeup with its health and wellness. Using Asian therapies – a blend of Western veterinary medicine with the wisdom of the East – pet owners are shown how to expand the limits of their pet care in a way that specifically and organically suits the individual pet. Stacy is a graduate the Chi Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine and has been practicing a blend of East/West veterinary pet care for more than 10 years. Dr. Fuchino is also producer of *Housecat Housecall*® on Animal Planet.

**John Lewis (V’97)** and wife Kim welcomed a baby boy, Quinn, on March 31, 2010. Quinn weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz. and was 18” when he was born.

**Richard A. Zappala (V’97)** teaches the course “Bringing Recovery to Diverse Populations” as part of the UCLA Extension program. Dr. Zappala serves as assistant to the director of client services at Cri-Help, Inc. in North Hollywood, CA after completing the UCLA Extension Certificate Programs in Alcohol and Drug Abuse Studies and Counseling in 2008. He also worked as a patent attorney for a law firm in Washington, D.C. and later as an equine veterinarian in Bucks County, PA before his career in addiction counseling.

**1998 — Joan Capuzzi (C’86, V’98)** published *Puppies: A Complete Guide to Raising a Happy Puppy in a Positive Environment*, which hit book stores on July 1, 2010.

**1999 — Emily Graves (V’99)** and her husband, Eric Liprandi, welcomed a healthy baby boy, Michael, on April 9, 2010. Michael weighed 8 lbs., 3 oz. and was 21.5”. All is well at home with his big sister, Nivea, a black Labrador retriever.

## 2000s

**2000 — Amy L. Holford (V’00) DACVIM** completed a two-year internship (general and internal

medicine) at Garden State Veterinary Specialists in Tinton Falls, NJ followed by a three-year residency in small animal internal medicine at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville and became board certified in small animal internal medicine in June of 2008. Amy is currently employed as a clinical assistant professor of medicine at the University of Tennessee and teaches general medicine through a community practice program she helped to co-create.

**2001 —** Since 2007, **Leo Egar (V’01)** has served the animals at the Arizona Humane Society through spay and neuter services and investigations of animal cruelty. Before coming to AHS, he worked with the Rural Area Veterinary Services program of the Humane Society of the United States to lead spay/neuter service trips to remote areas of the county such as to Native American reservations. He also provided veterinary medical response to major disasters including the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and Hurricane Katrina.

**Elizabeth Johnson (V’01)**, in her role as manager of Veterinary Services at Putney (a pet pharmaceutical company), helps to introduce generics to the pet pharma industry by providing medical and technical customer support to veterinary customers as well as strategic input into future product developments.

**Brennen McKenzie (V’01) MA** works as a small animal veterinarian in private practice in California, with a special interest in promoting science-based veterinary medicine and is currently chair of the Practitioner Committee for the Evidence-Based Veterinary Medical Association. He has published articles on evidence-based medicine in veterinary science journals, and writes about both science-based and alternative veterinary medicine as the SkeptVet.

**2002 — Kate Masek Hammerman (V’02, GR’06)** completed her postdoctoral studies at Harvard and has taken a new position at Pfizer as a pathologist and principal scientist in investigative pathology.

**2004 — Lori Duggan-Mazzagatti (V’04)** owns a traveling pet zoo called Party Animals to Go, which aims to educate and expose children and community groups to different animals. In addition to dogs and cats Lori also has a strong interest in small mammals and reptiles, and also volunteers with For Bunny Sake Rabbit Rescue.

**2005 —** As owner of Wandering Vet: Veterinary Housecalls in San Francisco, CA, **Adam J. Behrens (V’05)** offers home care veterinary services for cats, dogs and small mammals. He has also volunteered with Veterinary Street Outreach Services, providing free care to the San Francisco homeless population.

2009 — The Delaware County SPCA, Springfield, PA, hired **Kimberly Boudwin (V'09)** as new staff veterinarian in April, 2010.

**Rachel Toaff-Rosenstein (V'09)** and husband Arye welcomed twins Matan (boy) and Gefen (girl) on February 22, 2010.

## deaths

- 2000 **Teresa Garofalo** on August 21, 2010.
- 1989 **Deborah J. Pitt** on November 19, 2009.
- 1979 **Francis “Frank” Bertozzi, Jr.** on March 10, 2010.
- 1973 **Ronald F. Hurley** on January 28, 2010.
- 1971 **James F. Hyssong** on March 14, 2010.
- 1965 **Albert F. Moraska** on May 2, 2010.
- 1964 **Jonathan Meincke** on January 23, 2010.
- 1962 **John T. Lopatofsky** on September 9, 2010.
- 1958 **Donald “Doc” Williamson Hostettler** on February 12, 2010.
- Bruno J. Tibolla Jr.** on October 3, 2009.
- 1955 **William Harker Rhodes** on September 29, 2010.

- 1948 **David M. Hopkins** on February 11, 2010.
- Marvin Rothman** on March 17, 2010.
- 1943 **Ira M. Fridirici** on December 7, 2009.
- Robert E. Swope** on March 29, 2010.
- 1939 **William “Bud” Wright** on July 10, 2010.

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) website. 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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