



Fall 2013

Class Notes

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CLASS NOTES

1950s

After practicing in Tortola, BVI for thirty years, **David Baldwin, V'51**, retired in 2008. After the death of his wife, Phyllis, six years earlier, he married Catherine Swain and purchased a seven-acre mini farm in the Ocala National Forest where they now live. He has recovered from a right hip replacement and welcomes news or visits from old friends.

John Emerson, V'54, is consulting for Lampire Biologicals of Pipersville, PA. He helped start this business years ago while still in practice. **Doris Sell Emerson, V'54**, is selling real estate with Caldwell Banker Hearthside in Ottsville, PA. Both are well and living in Doylestown.

1960s

Elinor Brandt, V'63, sold her practice in 2005 and worked part-time for a few years. Currently, Dr. Brandt volunteers for Wildlife Waystation in the Angeles Forest north of Los Angeles, and for FixNation, spaying and neutering stray cats and cats belonging to low-income owners.

Bob Schappert, V'64, and Nancy Schappert, DH'62, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on July 13, 2013.

John F. Allen, V'68, married longtime partner of 35 years Mark A. Beitel on November 11, 2012, in Vancouver, BC.

Richard B. Bankert, V'68, professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Buffalo, has received the 2013 SUNY Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, which recognizes the work of those actively engaged in scholarly and creative pursuits beyond their teaching responsibilities. Dr. Bankert, an internationally recognized expert working at the translational intersection between clinical medicine and basic science, has made major contributions to biomedical research.

1970s

Donald W. Stremme, V'75, AQUAVET® Director since 2008, has created a new five-week course on aquarium medicine called AQUAVET®III. The venues

and partners include the Georgia Aquarium (Atlanta, GA), the University of Georgia (Athens, GA), and Dolphinaris (Cancún, Mexico). The first class completed all of this work in July 2013. More information is available at www.aquavet.info.

Tom Gemmill, V'77, was recognized by Building One Pennsylvania for helping to launch a "housing mobility program" with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the office of US Senator Bob Casey, Jr. Dr. Gemmill received the award for promoting regional fair housing while dismantling practices that reinforce poverty.

Linda Rhodes, V'78, was the founding CEO for a company developing innovative new drugs for companion animals. Last year, she transitioned to the role of Chief Scientific Officer, and in July 2013, the company became public, trading under the NASDAQ symbol PETX. She is also proud that this year included another milestone - her son's graduation from college. He will be heading to law school in the fall. In her spare time, Dr. Rhodes enjoys kayaking and being on the water (and sometimes under the water).

1980s

The daughter of **Andrew Nebzydoski, V'84**, and **Patricia Morgan, V'85**, Grace Nebzydoski, was accepted into and is a member of the Penn Vet Class of 2017.

Peter D. Nelson, V'84, and **Michelle C. Bartus, V'84**, are husband and wife co-owners of Valley Veterinary Service, Inc. located in Belle Vernon, PA. On April 18, 2013, they were honored as "Business of the Year" by the Greater Rostraver Chamber of Commerce. Honorees are selected on the basis of contribution to the community, surviving the ups and downs of the economy, and employing local residents. Valley Veterinary Service, Inc. has 14 employees with Drs. Nelson and Bartus at the helm for 29 years. There has been a veterinarian at their location for 50 years; the original clinic was started by Michelle's late father, **Frank A. Bartus, V'52**.

Shelley R. Epstein, V'85, had a case report published in JAAHA in the Nov/Dec 2011 issue titled "Clinical Resolution of Nasal Aspergillosis Following Therapy with a Homeopathic Remedy in a Dog." It was the first homeopathy case report published in JAAHA. Dr. Epstein is in private practice at the Wilmington Animal Hospital in Delaware and serves on the editorial committee for the

Journal of the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association.

Teresa J. Sylvina, V'85, received a US Fulbright Scholar Award as an Independent Scholar last year to Tanzania, and a second Fulbright Award (renewal) for this coming year.

Lynn M. Walker, V'87, has been living in Vermont for 10 years, where she built the largest specialty practice in Vermont with Dr. Mark Saunders. They have several Penn Vet connections working with them, including an oncologist, internist, cardiologist, and behaviorist.

Ellen N. Behrend, V'88, was awarded the 2013 Zoetis Distinguished Veterinary Teaching Award (previously the Norden award) for the second time. Dr. Behrend was also appointed to the Morris Animal Foundation Small Animal Advisory Board.

1990s

Marian Siegel, V'90, traveled to Alaska in September to produce and film a documentary about Canine Comfort, a rescue group in Aniak, AK, whose mission is to save Alaska's forgotten dogs. She will be teaming up with Donna Quante, a friend and videographer from her days at Maryland Public Television, for this project. Dr. Siegel used to work for Maryland Public Television as a Film and Videotape Editor and Director before changing careers.

Michael Dym, V'91, is Associate Veterinarian at Palms West Veterinary Hospital in Loxahatchee, FL, specializing in classical homeopathy and holistic veterinary medicine.

Donald L. Neiffer, V'92, was recently awarded the Certificate in One Health following completion of a graduate level program focused on bringing together international public health, veterinary, and environmental professionals with involvement or interest in global One Health activities. The program is administered by the College of Public Health and Health Professions of the University of Florida. Dr. Neiffer is currently enrolled in the Master of Health Science, One Health Concentration program. Dr. Neiffer has also completed requirements for Certified Veterinary Acupuncturist status through the Chi Institute and the China National Society of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Neiffer and the staff of Disney's Animals, Science, and the Environment are starting to incorporate acupuncture into the treatment regimens for selected non-domestic species, as well as domesticated collection animals. Dr. Neiffer is a Diplomate of the American College of Zoological Medicine and is currently employed as Veterinary Operations Manager for the Department of Animal Health, Disney's Animals, Science, and the Environment in Orlando, FL.

Kathy Sneider, V'95, recently opened her own practice in Plymouth and Pembroke, MA. Blue Ribbon Veterinary Services is a general small animal practice with a special interest in canine reproduction. Dr. Sneider is the owner and sole practitioner.

Leah Knode, V'93, founder of House Paws In-Home Veterinary Care, has expanded its practice, welcoming a second veterinarian and adding horses and cattle to its list of clientele.

2000s

Liz Arbittier, V'01, is the newest Staff Veterinarian with the New Bolton Center Field Service. She has been a senior associate for 12 years in a busy, high-end private equine practice and is certified in veterinary acupuncture from the Chi Institute in Florida. Her practice focus has been on sports medicine with a special interest in pre-purchase examinations. She also enjoys keeping the aging sport horse sound and happy.

Todd Calsyn, V'01, and **Dana Harkin Calsyn, V'01**, welcomed their son, Nathaniel Lee Calsyn, on June 6, 2013, in Los Angeles, CA.

Meagan Duffy, V'04, has recently taken two courses at the Chi Institute, and has been awarded her certification in veterinary acupuncture (CVA) and Tui-Na (CVTP). She has opened a new business, Five Elements Veterinary Care (www.5elementsvetcare.com), for these services in the Washington, DC metro area.

Siobhan Haney, V'04, and **Kate Vickery, V'04**, along with **Craig Clifford**, Penn Vet resident in 2003, have started an Oncology Service and Clinical Trials Department at Hope Veterinary Specialists in Malvern, PA.

Eric J. Matkowski, V'04, is now working with **Sara Organist, V'04**, at Animals' Hospital of Levittown.

Abbey Jones, V'05, has opened her own practice. Schultzsville Animal Hospital in Clarks Summit, PA will focus on primary preventive care, including vaccinations, general surgeries, spaying and neutering, dental procedures with dental radiograph equipment, digital body radiograph equipment, and diagnostic services for dogs and cats. Her practice will also have a full in-house lab.

Erica Tramuta-Drobnis, V'05, relocated to Zionsville, PA with her husband who started an internal medicine residency at Lehigh Valley Health Network in June of 2012. She is currently working at a specialty and emergency practice in Clark Summit, PA. Dr. Tramuta-Drobnis was deployed for Hurricane Sandy with the Federal National Veterinary Response Team (NVRT-2) and spent time in both New Jersey and New York City. She is also a member of the Veterinary Medical Assistance Team through the AVMA.

Bonnie Valiente, V'06, became engaged to Robert Wright of West Chester while on a horse and carriage ride under a covered bridge in Chester County. Dr. Valiente is head of a mobile veterinary practice in the Philadelphia area.

Caleb Frankel, V'08, has launched a new project called VMD Technology (www.vmdtechnology.com), a free website for veterinarians, vet students, nurses, and staff about ways to use technology in veterinary medicine.

Sabrina Goscilo, V'08, married Justin Chambers on April 13, 2013, in Lancaster, PA, where they currently own a home. Dr. Goscilo is an Associate Veterinarian and the Medical Director of East York Veterinary Center in York, PA.

Kimberly Boudwin, V'09, is now Director of Shelter Medicine at the Delaware County SPCA, a lifesaving animal welfare organization based in Media, outside of Philadelphia.

Rachel Toaff-Rosenstein, V'09, and Arye Rosenstein, along with big brother and sister Matan and Gefen, welcomed baby boy Naveh Hillel Rosenstein on March 21, 2013, weighing 7 lbs, 5 oz. Aside from motherly duties, Dr. Toaff-Rosenstein continues to make progress on her PhD at UC Davis, focused on beef cattle sickness behavior and welfare. The family resides in Berkeley, CA.

Diane Ford, V'10, is currently practicing in Palmyra, PA, as the owner/operator of Dr. Diane's Mobile Veterinary Service. Entering her third year as a practice owner, she is an ambulatory veterinarian, providing small and large animal services in the Central PA area. **Robin Heagy, V'13**, recently joined the practice as an Associate Veterinarian. Dr. Ford is also the Emergency On-Site Veterinarian for Penn National Race Course for daily morning training.

Brittany Watson Tisa, V'10, Director of Continuing Education Initiatives at Charleston Animal Society, is graduating with her PhD from the University of South Carolina School of Educational Leadership.

Amy Santonastaso, V'11, finished her Large Animal Rotating internship at Texas A&M in 2012. Last year, she worked in an equine private practice in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Dr. Santonastaso has started a three-year Equine Field Service Residency at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine.

RESIDENT & INTERN ALUMNI

Adrienne Bentley (intern 2003-2004, resident 2004-2007) has joined the Surgery Section at Penn Vet. Dr. Bentley will be a faculty member in orthopedics and soft tissue. She is a 2003 graduate of Tufts and has been practicing in a specialty practice in Southern California.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Sherwood Gerard, V'54, of Hartford, CT passed away on September 1, 2012. He served in the Air Force, attaining the rank of captain. After his service, Dr. Gerard returned to Hartford to set up his veterinary practices in Hartford and Bristol. He started the Hartford County Veterinary Association, serving as its first president. He was also active in the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association, where he served as president, treasurer, and head of its health insurance program. After his retirement, he became active in the local bridge community, attaining the rank of Silver Life Master from the American Contract Bridge League.

George L. Anstadt, V'57, passed away on August 1, 2013. Dr. Anstadt was the owner of the Anstadt Animal Hospital in the Tipp City/New Carlisle area of Ohio, and until recently, still a practicing veterinarian. He helped establish the Upper Heights Veterinary Clinic in Huber Heights, OH and the All Pets Animal Hospital in Oakwood, OH. He was a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons and the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. Dr. Anstadt was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force, whose career included the Aerospace Program/Mercury Project, a tour in Vietnam, and research in cardiovascular physiology. He is internationally recognized for developing the "Anstadt Heart Cup," which has saved lives.

Thomas J. Rogers, V'57, passed away on February 1, 2013. Dr. Rogers was a retired veterinarian, member of the St. Stephen Catholic Church, Rotarian, member of the Pennsylvania Veterinarian Medical Association and the University of Pennsylvania Alumni Association, and participant in the Trigg Co. Farmers Market.

CONTACT US

Calling all VMDs and former Penn Vet interns and residents! Have you received a promotion, gotten married, had a baby, received an award, discovered a research finding, or opened a new business? Please share your good news with us! Email the alumni office at kmcmul@vet.upenn.edu or write to us at Alumni Relations, Penn Veterinary Alumni Office, 3800 Spruce Street, Suite 172E, Philadelphia, PA 19104.