

Fall 2003
Volume 69

News & Views



President
Dr. Paul Sundberg

President-Elect
Dr. Patty Scharko

Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Candace Jacobs

Historian
Dr. Tom Murnane

Publisher
Dr. Dave Dreesen

Editor
Dr. Kevin Grayson

President's Corner

Fall greetings! Because not everyone was at the annual College meeting in Denver, I thought that I would take this opportunity to summarize my comments given at that time. These will refer to things that I said during my remarks at the general membership meeting as well as summarizing some discussions and actions of your Executive Board. I would ask that each of you consider them and provide feedback and input into the directions they describe.

Here is an update on some of the points that I made in 2002 that would be worked on during the 2002-2003 year:

1. Examination sites not in conjunction with the annual AVMA meeting

Although there could be considerable cost savings to hold the annual ACVPM meeting at a time other than during the AVMA meeting, there are still issues that will have to be resolved. Getting travel authorization for a meeting other than the AVMA could be a problem for some of our members. In addition, there could be an issue of the additional time that members would need to commit for a separate meeting. Getting discount prices for accommodations at the site may be another issue. Generally, the room rates for the meeting and the membership lodging rooms are at a significant discount when associated with a larger meeting such as the AVMA.

I don't want to leave the impression that these issues can't be resolved. However, there needs to be more study of how that could happen. Other meetings that we might be able to associate with might give some resolution. We will need to bring this point to the front burner especially as we prepare for the 2006 AVMA meeting in Hawaii and the potential costs to the College for holding our meeting during that time.

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2. Web site and electronic communications

If you haven't had the opportunity to go to our College web site you must. It gives information about our purpose and organization, the board certification process for prospective diplomates, hot topics, meetings, links, etc. It is an excellent resource. Our Diplomate list serve has been actively providing our members with up-to-date information on a variety of issues and opportunities. If you aren't getting list serve emails it could be because we don't have your current email address. Sending your address to evp@acvpm.org will get you on the list.

3. Provide opportunities for outside sources of income

During this last year, we have provided the membership directory provided in both hard copy and CD-ROM format. The CD was produced with financial support through professional advertisement on the disk. Hard copies were provided at no charge to those Diplomates requesting them. In the future, we will continue with both formats but if a member wants a printed copy there will have to be cost-recovery charges required. We have had a positive experience with the use of outside funding to support the membership CD and with your response to it. We are going to continue to explore outside funding to support our web site and other College projects. We will have a review process to ensure that any advertisements continue to be tasteful and professional.

4. Identify Diplomate core competencies to support the Examination Committee

Work continues on defining the core competencies expected of a Diplomate. This process is to assist the Examination Committee as it builds the certification exams. It is also the basis for the development of an "educational resource" for prospective Diplomates. If we are going to expand our membership, we must provide the resources necessary for the candidates to be successful. Replacing or supplanting experience and education is not the goal. But we have to enable success at certification without requiring the non-academic exercise of guessing what resources are essential to passing the exam.

5. Compensation for Board Certification

The AVMA continues to promote federal legislation that will reward Federal veterinarians for board certification. The AVMA Economic Report on Veterinarians and Veterinary Practices provides statistics that give insights into the value of board certification. According to this study, board certified veterinarians in Federal, non-uniformed positions earn 18% more than their DVM-only counterparts. Likewise, veterinarians in private practice that have board certification earn 50% more than non-board certified practitioners.

6. Reaching out to Uniformed Services, academia, public sector public health, and practitioners to increase awareness of who we are and what we do

We need to take advantage of opportunities to move the College to the next level of service to our members and awareness and respectability among our non-certified colleagues. Some of the things that we will be looking at during the coming year and in subsequent years include:

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In Memory of Dr. Bill Johnston

Veterinarians everywhere mourn the untimely passing of Dr. William B. Johnston, State Public Health Veterinarian for the Alabama Department of Public Health. He was 56 years old.

Bill died in the hospital on August 4, 2003. He had been battling esophageal cancer since the beginning of the year with his typical courage, humor, and support for those around him.

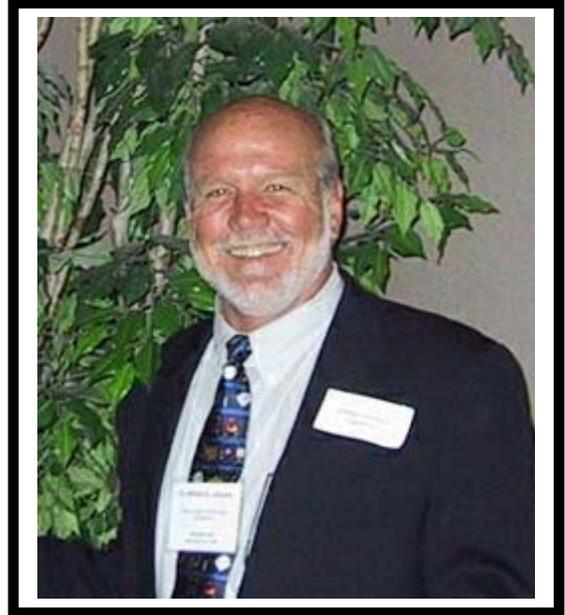
He had undergone treatment this spring while still maintaining his contributions to the public health community. Although he was feeling better after completing his treatment, he suffered a setback when additional tumors were discovered.

Bill was the current President of the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians and was a member of the ACVPM Examinations Committee. He was a wonderful and inspirational leader. Folks just loved working with Bill—every contact by phone, email, or in person was a pleasure. Bill was one of those people who lit up a room—he was so warm and full of life.

His was a great example for both old and new public health practitioners on how to balance science with policy and how to work with others to get things done. He was incredibly smart and insightful—very passionate about protecting public health—but he was also one of those special people who knew how to persuade others with his southern charm. Whenever you saw him, he was ready with a grin and a hug.

Like his smile and his hugs, we'll remember his voice, like smooth warm syrup, that just warmed you up inside. Even after he became ill, he was still helping and encouraging others, ending notes with "You're my hero!" or "You're the Greatest"! Of course, his colleagues feel those accolades really apply to him.

Bill began his career in science early, as a laboratory assistant while attending Gadsden State Junior College and Auburn University. From Auburn, he received his BS degree in 1969 and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1973. He began 7 years of private veterinary practice in Alabama, while also serving as a college instructor in chemistry, anatomy, and physiology at Snead State Junior College and as county rabies inspector.



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ACVPM Welcomes 30 New Diplomates

Alicia D. Anderson—Frederick, MD
Kevin J. Anderson—APO AE
Steven D. Bengtson—Estes Park, CO
David E. Bentzel—Germantown, MD
Bridget K. Carr—Frederick, MD
Marion S. Cornwell—Ft. Myers, FL
Debra K. Cumro—Martell, NE
Charles E. Eastin—Gaithersburg, MD

Stephen A. Felt—Silver Spring, MD
Geoffrey T. Fosgate—Bryan, TX
Marta A. Guerra—Atlanta, GA
Bruce R. Hoar—Davis, CA
Steve R. Lawrence—Fairbanks, AK
Cheryl L. Magnuson—Mary Esther, FL
Nina N. Marano—Atlanta, GA
Steven I. McLaughlin—Decatur, GA
Nancy L. Merrill—Frederick, MD
Noreen A. Murphy—San Antonio, TX
Len E. Murray—Ft. Detrick, MD
Deidre A. Qual—Fargo, ND
Nancy A. Reimer—Athens, GA
John P. Sanders—Sheperdstown, WV
Loren G. Schultz—Columbia, MO
Deidre Shuck-Lee—Fort Eustis, VA



Dr. Dreesen Proctors Diplomacy Exam

Sally Slavinski—Jackson, MS
Keith R. Vesely—Boonsboro, MD
Elizabeth A. Wagstrom—Des Moines, IA
Russell L. Weissinger—FPO AP
Jennifer G. Wright—Decatur, GA
Joseph G. Williamson—Yelm, WA

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- Examining the readability and usefulness of *News & Views* to determine the need for revising the content and format
- Putting into place a standard process that would enable the ACVPM to provide position statements on issues of College interest
- Determining whether additional specialty certifications would better serve our Diplomates. We will be examining our examination structure to see if changing to a qualifying exam with a specialty certification process would be beneficial
- Providing ACVPM logo products through our web site. For this to happen we would also be offering the ability to make these purchases and pay ACVPM membership dues via credit card on the web site
- Opening an office dedicated to ACVPM activities for our Executive Secretary
- Giving the opportunity for continuing education credits for ACVPM short courses offered during national and regional veterinary meetings
- Reviewing Article VIII of our constitution to better enable qualified veterinarians in various professional activities to sit for our certification exam
- Revising our appeals process to ensure an independent review of the credentialing and examination procedures in the case of an appeal

7. Continue a successful and realistic budgeting process

In looking at our dues level compared to other specialty colleges and our increased membership services, we are close to the bottom of the group. Although this could be good if looked at as an efficient return on your dues investment, it could also be viewed as lessening the value of our certification and its benefits—bringing to mind the adage of, “you get what you pay for.”

To support the budget needed to take our College to where we are going to need to be in the future, we will be increasing dues this year to \$100 for Diplomates with an additional \$30 for the Epidemiology Specialty. In addition, our examination fee will increase to \$475. As we look at the costs and benefits of restructuring our specialty certifications, we may need to look at future increases as well. Be assured that if this becomes necessary, it will be to ensure that we are able to provide our membership with continued and improved services.

That summarizes the directions outlined during our meeting. This is your College and it is imperative that you become involved. I welcome your comments and thoughts on these and any other College issues. Please feel free to email me at paul.sundberg@porkboard.org if you would like to comment or especially if you would like to volunteer to help with moving the College to the next level.

—Paul Sundberg

Highlights from The General Membership Meeting

President Paul Sundberg called the general membership meeting to order at 2:05 pm on July 21st at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Denver, Colorado. Approximately 90 members were present.

Dr. Sundberg introduced the members of the Executive Board and other officers who were present:

President-Elect	Patty Scharko
Secretary/Treasurer (incoming)	Candace Jacobs
Secretary/Treasurer (outgoing)	Don Seedle
Councilor	Don Noah
Councilor	Kelly Donham
Councilor (incoming)	Gary Gackstetter
Executive Vice President	Dave Dreesen
Historian	Tom Murname
<i>News & Views</i> Editor	Kevin Grayson

Next, Dr. Dave Dreesen made some comments on the state of the College:

- *News & Views*—The College newsletter is available electronically or by hardcopy upon request. If members have problems accessing the “members only” section of the website, please contact Joe Adam, the webmaster, at <webmaster@acvpm.org>. Dr. Dreesen made an appeal for members to submit articles for the publications page of the website to either him or the webmaster
- Finances—The ACVPM made an \$8,000 swing in the budget to move into the black for the first time in a few years
- Member information—Members need to update their personal information on the webpage when changes occur to assist the College in providing services to members
- Joe Adam, the ACVPM webmaster, will receive a certificate of appreciation from the College

Dr. Paul Sundberg made several introductory remarks on topics that will be addressed by the ACVPM. Much of this material can be found in the President’s Corner found elsewhere in this issue.

Dr. Don Seedle presented the 2004 budget. Complete details are included in this issue of the *News & Views*. Highlights included:

- The proposed budget should result in net income of \$2400
- Major new expenses include office rent (\$3600) and a new membership program working group (\$7000)
- Income will be increased by raising dues (from \$75 to \$100 for members and from \$20 to \$30 for the Epi Specialty) and by increasing exam fees from \$425 to \$475. The re-application fee will remain at \$275

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Dr. Leon Russell discussed the 5-year report required by the American Board of Veterinary Specialties (ABVS). The ABVS performs a quality assurance function for the AVMA specialty boards and is composed of a member from each board. The Internal Affairs Committee of the ACVPM completed the report this year. The ABVS was very complimentary of the College's 2003 report concerning levels of compliance with standards, but identified some minor changes that needed to occur. For example, a By-law change will be required to set up a separate committee to review examination appeals.

Electronic copies of the Committee reports are available from Dr. Dreesen...

Dr. Millicent Eidson, Epidemiology Specialty President, reported on the activities of the 61 members of the Specialty.

Dr. Peggy Carter stepped in for Dr. Roger Krogwold, Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee, to summarize the Committee's activities. The Committee wrote the 5-year report for the ABVS and the annual report. They also reported on newly-approved By-law changes. She made an appeal for additional members.

The Chair of the Examinations Committee, Dr. Vicky Fogelman, reported that 43 candidates (26 new and 17 repeat) took the examination this year, of which 30 were successful. This is a 70% pass rate, an improvement over the 59% passing in 2002. Diplomates were requested to provide questions to the Examinations Committee to refresh the multiple choice question pool. Please use a multiple choice format with a. to e. answers, and provide a reference with your question.

The overall pass rate this year was 70%...

Dr. Harry Moore, Chair of the Membership & Public Relations Committee, provided examples of items such as polo shirts and padfolios which will bear the College logo and will be for sale to members to increase College visibility and revenue.

Dr. Dan Jemelka summarized Continuing Education Committee activities. They arranged continuing education sessions at the AVMA convention and are developing draft provisions for recertification.

Dr. Charles Hendricks introduced himself and described his experiences as a Congressional Fellow.



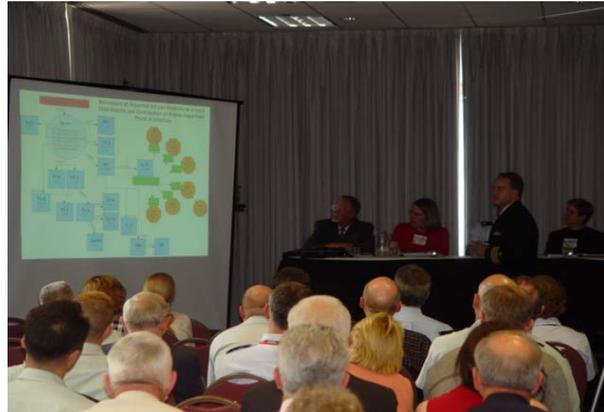
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Dr. Don Noah introduced Dr. David Ashford of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who provided an insightful report on the 2003 outbreak of monkey pox associated with imported African rodents and prairie dogs sold as pets. Dr. Ashford described the disease, trace back problems, and control mechanisms for the future. He voiced concern about the fact that 80% of the 30+ rapidly emerging infectious diseases within the past 25 years are zoonoses.

Eighty percent of rapidly emerging infectious diseases are zoonoses...

—Dr. David Ashford



Dr. Sundberg presented the Helwig-Jennings award to Dr. Stephanie Sherman. Outgoing officer plaques were presented to Drs. Don Seedle (Secretary-Treasurer), Vicky Fogelman (Examinations Committee Chair), Harry Moore (Membership and Public Relations Committee Chair), and Dan Jemelka (Continuing Education Committee Chair).

Dr. Paul Nicoletti announced that he has established a scholarship for veterinary public health students at the University of Florida in the amount of \$20,000, which has been increased by \$10,000 from 65 additional friends and colleagues.

Dr. Will Hueston described efforts underway to encourage rejuvenation of veterinarians in public health at Georgia, Tennessee, Kansas State, a joint effort between Iowa State and the University of Iowa, and a new Executive MPH program in Minnesota.

The meeting ended on a high “note” with those attending singing happy birthday to Dr. Jim Steele, quite possibly the oldest member of the College.



Calling all “Younger” ACVPM Diplomates

...an appeal for participation; do you hear me now ?

In my opinion, and possibly that of others among us, the ACVPM needs to have more official [elected office and committee membership] participation “from within”...NOW. Each year, it seems, we have to beg folks to have their names placed on the ballot. However, these are too often those who have already held a major office or Committee Chair that are finally persuaded—read coerced! That is the sad ... but true ... reality. Collectively, we’re not training those we’ll need in the future.

The ACVPM, from my vantage point, would seem poised for its best years: many in government, our ‘sister’ medical professions, and the general public now recognize (more than anytime in my memory) the contributions and potential for veterinary preventive medicine ... to improve society’s wellbeing. If the College is to remain our vehicle for certification and marketing of that competence, we need to begin NOW to grow and train our future leaders.

It’s as simple as this: we need Diplomates who have never served the College officially and who are younger—either in age or years post-certification than me—to volunteer NOW ... speak to a currently-elected official or the Nominations Committee and make yourself available to your College.

I’ve gained much knowledge, new colleagues, professional wisdom, invaluable camaraderie, and lasting friendships from my service to the College... but I don’t have the technical training, electronic skills, and professional perspective of those who received their DVM/VMD, MPH, or other degrees in the past 15 years. Your training, skills, and perspectives are what will sustain our College and keep it recognized by the American Board of Veterinary Specialties ... without such “infusion of critical care,” you and our successors could suffer the lack of an accrediting body. It’s your credential, your professional recognition that may be in jeopardy.

... can you hear me yet? Good! Volunteer for a rewarding period of professional service NOW, or call/send me an e-mail if you disagree.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Warner



From the Desk of the EVP



The ACVPM meetings in conjunction with the AVMA Convention in Denver were quite successful and informative. Much was discussed at the Executive Board meeting on Saturday, July 19th. The minutes of this meeting can be viewed on the web site under the Members Only page and can be found after you successfully log in to the page. For those Diplomates without access to the web site and who wish a copy of these meeting notes, please send me a request by phone or mail. The minutes of the general membership meeting held Monday 21 July can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Probably of most interest to the majority of our membership is that dues are being increased from \$75 to \$100 per year. Quite an increase; yes it is, but a necessary one. The College has been living from 'hand to mouth' for the past many years, occasionally dipping into savings to meet expenses. The funds in our savings CD are now below what the American Board of Veterinary Specialties requires us to have on reserve (based on our annual budget), so we must begin putting some money back into this reserve. We have been operating a Mom and Pop operation out of my home and, previously, that of Stan Hewins. This has not been fair to our respective families. We now have an office; not particularly elaborate, as it is part of an automotive repair shop and insurance agency, but it is very close to my residence and inexpensive (\$300 per month including utilities). In addition, we are continually up-grading our web page and adding more information and services. This takes time and effort on behalf of our Web Master and, as such, he needs just compensation.

President Paul Sundberg has outlined a new initiative entitled "Membership Coordination Task Force." This task force is to develop methods and policies with which the College can better serve the membership and also develop means to increase membership (see President's letter in this issue). This task force will be costly at first but will pay dividends in the long term. Other expenses such as travel, office supplies, postage, etc. all continue to rise, further necessitating increased income. Just as a last note of further justification of a dues increase (if such is needed), The AVMA reports that, among 12 other specialty groups the mean annual dues for 2003 are \$182 (median of \$200). Thus, even at \$100, we are still considerably below other veterinary specialty organizations, many of which do not offer what we do to our members. The FY 2004 budget can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

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ACVPM Officers and e-mail addresses

Elected:

President: Dr. Paul L. Sundberg: Paul.Sundberg@porkboard.org

President-elect: Dr. Patty B. Scharko: pscharko@uky.edu

Past President: Dr. Niall B. Finnegan: finnegandvm@yahoo.com

Councilor: Dr. Donald L. Noah: noahd@mail.policy.osd.mil

Councilor: Dr. Kelley J. Donham: kelley-donham@uiowa.edu

Councilor: Dr. Gary Gackstetter: ggackstetter@usuhs.mil

Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Candace Jacobs: cajacobs@na.ko.com

Committee Chairs:

Internal Affairs: Dr. Roger A. Krogwold: rkrogwold@gw.odh.state.oh.us

Nominations: Dr. Niall B. Finnegan: finnegandvm@yahoo.com

Membership: Dr. Harry E. Moore: harry.moore@usda.gov

Standards/Recognition: Dr. Robert C. Brady: robert.c.brady@usda.gov

Continuing Education: Dr. Dan Jemelka: DJemelka@agr.wa.gov

Publications: Dr. Ronald D. Welsh: mich@okway.okstate.edu

Credentials: Dr. Joy M. Miller: zxa1@cdc.gov

Examinations: Dr. Vicky L. Fogelman: vfogelman@usuhs.mil

Epidemiology Specialty:

President: Dr. Millicent Eidson: mxe04@health.state.ny.us

Secretary: Dr. David Smith: dsmith8@unl.edu

Appointed:

Executive Vice President: David W. Dreesen: evp@acvpm.org

ABVS Representative: Dr. Leon Russell: lrussell@cvm.tamu.edu

Newsletter Editor: Dr. Kevin Grayson: kevin.grayson@brooks.af.mil



Executive Board Members

ACVPM Budget 2004

EXPENSES

AVMA Meeting	6,000
Travel	6,000
Professional Fees	
Executive Vice President	11,700
Computer Specialist	5,100
	-16,800
Office Operations	
Office rent	3,600
Telephone	1,200
Conference calls	800
Newsletter printing	800
Other printing	2,600
Postage & Shipping	2,000
Supplies & Equipment	1,700
Awards	800
Legal fees	1,000
ABVS annual fees	200
Insurance	1,600
Administrative support	1,000
Web page maintenance	600
Accounting & Auditing	2,000
Miscellaneous	1,000
	-20,700
Committees	
Examinations	13,000
Membership Coord. Task Force	7,000
Credentials	100
Membership	1,000
Standards & Recognition	100
Publications	100
Internal Affairs	100
Nominations	100
Historian	100
Epidemiology Specialty	1,400
	-23,100
TOTAL EXPENSES	-72,600
INCOME	
Dues	51,000
Exam fees	24,000
TOTAL INCOME	+75,000
Income over expenses	+2,400

Epidemiology Specialty Report

The Epidemiology Specialty hosted small but successful meetings at the annual AVMA conference in Denver. At the Executive Board meeting for the Specialty, Millicent Eidson (President), David Smith (Secretary), Beth Karp (Credentials Chair), George Moore (Exam Committee), Rick Riddle (Nominations Committee), and Kay D. Burkman reviewed the agenda for the General Meeting. Dr. James Riddle agreed to serve as the Chair for the Specialty Nominations committee. At the General Membership meeting for the Specialty, attendees also included Kevin Grayson, Dale A. Moore, Linda Schlater, Patricia Scharko, Tari Kindred, John Herbold, Mark Starr, and David Dreesen.

Dr. Rick Riddle reported that the Nominations Committee will nominate candidates for Specialty Secretary, since Dr. Smith's term expires in the summer of 2004. Dr. Beth Karp of the Credentials Committee reported that there were three applicants for the Specialty exam, all three were accepted, and two sat for the exam. There was also a request for additional discussion of the definition of acceptable practice in epidemiology for review of applications. Dr. George Moore of the Examination Committee discussed possible input from the Specialty membership on exam question validation, and Dr. Dale Moore reported on the formation of a core competency committee on epidemiology and biostatistics for the ACVPM general exam, while Dr. Kevin Grayson, epidemiology subject matter expert for the general exam, reported that he had identified ten knowledge areas for the general exam to ensure questions fairly cover the entire scope of epidemiology and biostatistics. This work for the ACVPM general exam may be useful in further revisions of the Specialty exam. Dr. Dale Moore has requested a clearer definition of the Committee's mission from the Executive Board.

Additional items discussed at the General Membership meeting included:

- Specialty dues have been increased by ACVPM to \$30, to cover Specialty costs associated with the annual examination
- The Specialty application fee was set at \$200. \$125 will be returned to the applicant if their credentials were not approved. No money will be returned if the applicant fails the examination. There will be an additional examination fee of \$125
- The Specialty will work on a definition of emeritus status
- The membership survey results, provided in a previous report, were discussed
- The Specialty had received a request for a survey of member salaries, but the members felt that salary ranges for veterinary epidemiologists or public health veterinarians were generally available through AVMA surveys, and a new survey for the Specialty on this issue was beyond the scope and budget of the Specialty
- The Specialty will work with ACVPM on the issue of position statements, and is available to assist if one is developed on the establishment of animal disease case definitions
- George Moore led a discussion of a long-standing issue for the Specialty and the College, whether there should be a re-examination of the concept of 'Specialty' and whether it should apply to other specialties within the College such as preventive medicine. Examples from other Colleges were cited

Specialty Committee assignments for 2003-2004 are as follows:

- Examination: George Moore (Chair), Linda Schlater, 3rd position under consideration
- Credentials: Sam Groseclose (Chair), Eric Ebel, 3rd position under consideration
- Nominations: James R. Riddle (Chair), Terry Lehenbauer, Mark Starr
- Continuing Education : positions under consideration

Dr. Smith, Specialty Secretary, and I encourage continued input and participation from Specialty and ACVPM members. We can use volunteers for committee assignments, particularly for the CE Committee. We also encourage ACVPM members to start thinking now about joining our group and preparing applications for submission next winter.

—Dr. Millicent Eidson

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His first major experience with epidemiology was during his tenure with USDA APHIS as a Veterinary Medical Officer (1980-1985) and the Alabama Department of Agriculture as an Animal Industry Veterinarian (1985-1993). He also served for 4 years as a consultant and inspector for the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

He joined the Alabama Dept. of Public Health in 1993. In that position, he was one of the team working on efforts to control raccoon rabies with oral rabies vaccination. He also coordinated and published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association in 1996 a national survey of rabies control procedures.

Bill was an active participant in organized veterinary medicine and public health groups at the local, state, and national levels. In addition to being NASPHV President, he was recently the President of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association. Bill was an outstanding liaison between NASPHV and the American Veterinary Medical Association, a frequent moderator and speaker at AVMA meetings, and served as the NASPHV representative at the annual AVMA House of Delegates meeting.

Bill was an incredibly well-rounded person. He knew how to experience the joy in life every day. Whenever he attended a meeting, he was always eager to explore the new place, go out to dinner with colleagues, and bring his wife Lynette along to share the experience.

Bill is survived by his wife, Lynette, 2 children, and 3 grandchildren. Condolences may be sent to Lynette Johnston at 495 Otter Track Rd., Wetumpka, Alabama, 36092.



Several inspirational readings were shared at a memorial service held for Bill. An excerpt from *The Station* by Robert J. Hastings, seems most appropriate.

"Relish the moment" is a good motto, especially when coupled with Psalm 118:24: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." It isn't the burdens of today that drive men mad. Rather, it is regret over yesterday or fear of tomorrow. Regret and fear are twin thieves who would rob us of today.

So, stop pacing the aisles and counting the miles. Instead, climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot oftener, swim more rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more and cry less. Life must be lived as we go along. The station will come soon enough.



Information on a scholarship being established in Bill's honor can be found on page 21.

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Thirty of the 43 candidates (70%) who sat for the board exam in Denver were successful; 18 on their first attempt and 12 who took the exam a second time. This pass percentage is one of the highest we have had in a number of years. Of the 30, there were 15 military, 2 FSIS, 6 DHHS, 5 from academia, and 1 each from state government and business. More information on the examination and the names of the new Diplomates can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. The names are also listed on the web site.

The web page has, once again, been significantly improved. We now have a new feature available to all members. Our Web Master, Joe Adam, has written a program that allows all active members to view the information on each of our Diplomates exactly as you would view it in the ACVPM Directory (Sorry, not available to Emeritus members at present). Simply log into the Members Only page. You will then find a link "Go to Active Members List". The list of all active members, in alphabetic order, is shown with last names highlighted. Click on any member's last name and you will view the information exactly as it appears in the ACVPM Directory. The information is the same as we have in our Diplomate database and can be viewed only by members that log into the Members Only page. Go to your information and see that it is up to date. If not, send corrections to changes@acvpm.org. This will be another rapid means to find current information concerning your fellow Diplomates and to make certain the information we have is correct and current. Hey, why not check it out now? If you still don't know how to get into the Members Only page, contact the Web Master at webmaster@acvpm.org.

Remember to keep checking the Meetings page, the Links page, and the Publications page of the web site for new information. If you find something that would be of interest to other Diplomates, send it to us for inclusion on one or more of these pages. The same applies for information that should go out to most members through the List Serve.

The dues billing will be out early in December. Your immediate response will be most helpful; we run very low on funds by the end of the calendar year. Included with the dues billing will be a short questionnaire. Please take time to provide the information requested. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call or e-mail me. I always try to respond within at least 48 hours.

All the best.

Dave





Issue #3, 2003

COMMENTS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Interest in public health, particularly from the veterinary profession, continues to increase. This is in part, because new infectious diseases and bioterrorism have emerged. New opportunities for training and education are helping to provide the needed tools for careers in public health for mid-career veterinarians and for veterinary students. For example, there is a new DVM/MPH program at the University of Minnesota and a new masters program in veterinary public health at NC State University. They report that response and enrollment have been overwhelming. Other schools are also working on programs. More opportunities for details, sabbaticals, or clerkships in local, state, and federal governments will be valuable for those trying to decide on their next profession. Somehow we have to continue to translate this interest, enthusiasm, and momentum into action—not just words. At the 2004 AVMA meeting, there will be a one day session on veterinarians in public health. The afternoon session will highlight the training and education programs available and encourage discussion about future needs.

The AAPHV is trying to move forward in order to revive its membership and to provide leadership to veterinarians that are looking to become involved in public health professions. There have been renewed activities, particularly after discussions at the last annual meeting and concerns about our purpose and function. We are in the process of revising our web site to make it more useful and informative. It will be linked to the AVMA web page. We are also updating our PHVCC roster. The public health veterinary coalition committee has quarterly conference calls to discuss various public health issues and activities within the agencies that the members represent. We are also trying to establish a list serve that will hopefully increase communications among our members and stimulate more activity. We are also going to revise our policy statements. If any organization has a policy statement that they think should be in the AAPHV brochure, please let me know. Finally, we are re-instituting the senior public health student award.

Nominations for AAPHV Secretary position

Dr. Sarah Lister has recently resigned as secretary of the AAPHV, so we need to fill her position. According to the AAPHV Bylaws, the President is soliciting nominations to fill this vacancy. **Dr. Katherine Feldman** has been nominated for the position and is willing to serve if elected. She is an epidemiologist in the California Emerging Infections program and works in Oakland, CA. If there are any other nominations for this position, please submit them to Dr. Mary Torrence, AAPHV President, before November 1, 2003. According to the Bylaws, if no new nominations are received, no ballot will be distributed and the nominee will be declared to have been elected. The person elected to this position will serve until July 2004. Finally, on behalf of AAPHV, I would like to thank Sarah Lister for her job as our Secretary. Her enthusiasm and interest in public health has always been infectious! Best of luck, Sarah.

Mary E. Torrence DVM, Ph.D. DACVPM, FACE

National Program Leader, Food Safety

USDA, CSREES

ph (202) 401-6357

fax (202) 401-5179 or 401-1602

mtorrence@csrees.usda.gov

AAPHV Newsletter**TREASURER'S NOTES**

If you've paid your dues since receiving the last newsletter, or if your name is featured below and the check really IS in the mail, thanks! If you have not yet paid up (see below), please do so **NOW**. Having to remind folks repeatedly to pay their dues is definitely one of the less enjoyable aspects of this position. Sometimes there's an explanation for non-payment (military deployment, mail forwarding problems, etc.), so we don't drop members automatically when they're overdue, but there IS a limit to how long any organization can reasonably be expected to carry members who don't pay their dues on time. Please—pay if your name is listed below. Make your check payable to AAPHV. Contact me at garrisrd@mail.slh.wisc.edu if you have any questions about your dues status. Mailing address for dues payments: Dr. Bob Garrison, AAPHV, P.O. Box 260082, Madison, WI 53726.

OWE \$40 (2002 AND 2003 DUES)

ADAMSON	COLE	KAHN	MCCORMICK, G.	STONECIPHER
BOKHARI	GILMORE	KASSENBERG	MCCORMICK, M.	TANAKA
BROUSSARD	HATCH	KJEMTRUP	SAINI	THOMAS, T.
CHOMEL	HEMPHILL	LATHROP	SILVERS	WAINRIGHT
CHRISTENSEN	IRIYE	LUND	SPAIN	

OWE \$20 (2003 DUES)

ASHFORD	GOOD	HANSEN	JOHNSON, B.	LEVINE
GAUTHIER	HANLON	HARVEY	KORDICK	STONE, E.

**If anyone can assist in providing a current address for the following members, I would appreciate it !
Thanks. E-mail me at the address listed above.**

Dr. Alisa Iriye (last good address: Pensacola, FL)

Dr. Todd Thomas (last good address: San Antonio, TX)

TREASURER'S REPORT: Fiscal year 2003

Opening balance:	\$6,003.51
Income	571.75
Dues	560.00
Bonus for opening checking account	10.00
Interest	1.75
Debits	-794.92
Checking account expenses	-49.00
PO box rental	-38.00
Newsletter copying and mailing	-707.32
Balance	\$5,780.94

[Note: This Treasurer's report provides information for the period July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003; i.e., a fiscal year which starts on July 1. Starting in 2004, financial reports will be done on a calendar year basis, and the first newsletter of 2004 will contain the financial report for calendar year 2003.]

AAPHV Newsletter

Senior veterinary student award from AAPHV

At the 2003 business meeting in Denver, it was agreed that the AAPHV should revive the tradition of the senior student award. Notification of the award and information about its nomination process will be sent to all faculty members who teach public health courses at U.S. schools of veterinary medicine. The senior student selected by vote of the AAPHV officers will receive a plaque and a check for \$300.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

American Association of Public Health Veterinarians
Annual Meeting
July 20, 2003, Denver, CO

Minutes

In attendance: Mary Torrence (President), Bob Garrison (Treasurer), Mark Starr (Past President), John Sanders, Kris Carter, Michele Jay-Russell, Suzanne Jenkins, Mira Leslie, Wyatt Frampton, Jennifer Nunnery, Tracy DuVernoy, Katherine Feldman, Alicia Anderson.

Minutes of 2002 meeting: Minutes of the 2002 meeting were reviewed by the members and approved without discussion.

Treasurer's report (Bob Garrison): Bob delivered the report and distributed copies to the members in attendance. [*The report is included in this newsletter; see above.*] Expenses exceeded income slightly, in part due to 42 members who owe dues for 2002-2003 or the current year only. These unpaid dues total almost \$1,500. A substantial portion of the expenses incurred in the last year was for newsletter copying and mailing.

Membership report (Bob Garrison): Bob delivered a short report which provided updated information about the total membership of AAPHV. As of July 1, 78 members were on the roster, broken out in four categories: Associate (n=1), Honorary (n=3), Life (n=13), and Active (n=61). Five new members joined in the fiscal year ending June 30, and 15 members were dropped. All the dropped members were at least two years behind on dues, and with one exception, none responded to repeated inquiries about continuing their membership in the organization.

President's remarks: Mary Torrence led a discussion about the possibility of combining AAPHV with existing food hygiene groups. Much discussion took place about the relative merits of having several smaller organizations dedicated to, in some cases, more specialized aspects of veterinary public health versus combining the groups into a coalition. It was noted that this is not a new issue; it has been discussed periodically within the AAPHV and other groups for years. The logistics of combining groups, including their organizational structures, charters and dues, can be daunting, but the consensus was that the present number of smaller veterinary public health-related organizations is contributing to redundant actions in some cases, and in other cases, gaps in bringing attention to important issues. Also discussed in this context was the ongoing goal of obtaining AAPHV/ACVPM representation in the AVMA House of Delegates and how this goal might be easier accomplished with a coalition organization whose membership number was larger. It was suggested that increased communication among members, using a forum which allowed for such discussion to take place easily, would be very useful for continued discussion about this topic. The discussion concluded with several members volunteering to work on setting up an electronic listserv for this purpose.

Public Health symposium at 2004 AVMA meeting: Mary Torrence announced that all speakers have been confirmed for the symposium at next year's AVMA meeting in Philadelphia. The speakers are veterinarians employed in public health at the federal, state and local levels of government, as well as academia. Speakers from veterinary public health training programs at two universities are also scheduled.

AAPHV Newsletter

AAPHV position statements: The last compilation of AAPHV position statements on public health issues was published several years ago and needs to be updated. Michele Jay-Russell agreed to send existing electronic versions to John Sanders for inclusion on the updated AAPHV web page. Kris Carter volunteered to contact several organizations whose position statements were adopted by AAPHV and discuss the situation with them.

Web page and membership brochures: John Sanders volunteered to work on updating the AAPHV web page and work with AVMA on getting it on the AVMA page. Part of the AAPHV web page which needs to be updated is the membership application found on it. Once the electronic version is updated, hard copies can be made up for distribution at the AAPHV booth and other locations.

Exhibit: Unfortunately, poor communication resulted in the AAPHV exhibit not being displayed at the current AVMA meeting. Discussion took place on several points related to the exhibit. One, it would be ideal if the AAPHV exhibit could be located next to (or near) the exhibits for ACVPM and NASPHV. Mary Torrence will discuss this with John Herbold for the 2004 meeting. Two, booth staffing is a chronic problem at the AVMA meeting because of the difficulty in lining up members to be present at the exhibit for much of the meeting. An alternative which was suggested was to get at least a few members to commit to blocks of time at the booth, and during the times that nobody is available to be at the exhibit, have current publications and membership materials on hand along with a notice that "someone will be present at the booth from x-x o'clock to assist you". Three, the display itself needs to be worked on and made much more portable. Bob Garrison will look into finding a lightweight, easily transportable display arrangement. Finally, with the assurance that the AAPHV has money to do so, it was agreed that getting the display to other meetings, such as CRWAD, USAHA and APHA, would be good for the organization's visibility. One meeting which was identified as being especially valuable for this purpose is the student AVMA symposium, to be held in March 2004 at the University of Tennessee.

Senior veterinary student award: Little interest has been shown in recent years in nominating veterinary students for our annual award. Mostly, this appears to be due to veterinary public health faculty members not "getting the word" about this award, which might be due to written announcements being sent to deans' offices and not directly to the faculty members. Bob Garrison agreed to include announcements about the award in the fall and winter issues of the newsletter. Mary Torrence will work on getting notification to faculty members at the November 2003 meeting of the Association of Teachers of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine.

2004 business meeting: The final item of business was a brief discussion about having next year's business meeting at breakfast. Traditionally, the business meeting has taken place on Sunday evenings in the hour prior to the alumni receptions. The members present agreed to have the 2004 business meeting at breakfast on Monday morning, July 26, 2004. Mary Torrence will notify members of the location.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

1. New Eng J Med 348:1953-66, 2003. A novel corona virus associated with severe acute respiratory syndrome. [Dr. Ksiazek, the lead author on this landmark paper, is a veterinarian! What a great message this sends--*ed.*]
2. New Eng J Med 348:1565-73, 2003. Current concepts: amebiasis.
3. Comp Immunol Micro Infec Dis 26:423-30, 2003. Smallpox vaccination and bioterrorism with pox viruses.
4. J Med Entomol 40:95-99, 2003. Wicking assays for the rapid detection of West Nile and St. Louis encephalitis viral antigens in mosquitoes (Diptera: Culicidae).
5. Clin Infec Dis 36:1152-54, 2003. The challenge of prion decontamination.
6. Clin Micro Rev 16:37-64, 2003. *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*: a prototypical emerging pathogen.
7. Clin Micro Rev 16:273-307, 2003. *Acanthamoeba* spp. as agents of disease in humans.
8. J Infec Dis 187:1349-59, 2003. Vaccines, vaccination and vaccinology. [An excellent review by the editor of the most widely used human medical textbook on the subject--*ed.*]
9. Am J Vet Res 64:805-12, 2003. Benefit-cost analysis of vaccination and preemptive slaughter as a means of eradicating foot-and-mouth disease.

10. J Clin Micro 41:379-85, 2003. Detection of North American eastern and western equine encephalitis viruses by nucleic acid amplification assays.
11. Emerg Infect Dis 9:623-627, 2003. Inactivation of *Bacillus anthracis* spores. Available electronically at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/vol9no6/02-0377.htm>.
12. ASM News 69:341-7. Challenges to developing real-time methods to detect pathogens in foods.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Residency - Veterinary Public Health

The University of Minnesota Center for Animal Health and Food Safety has openings for additional **Veterinary Public Health residents**. The appointments are annually renewable, non-tenure track and available at 25-50-75% as research assistants. The position will offer the opportunity for a post-DVM training program in veterinary public health, including completion of an Executive MPH program. In addition, individuals will gain additional credentials for the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine Board certification. The candidates must have a DVM degree (or equivalent foreign degree) by start date, have completed a one-year internship or one year of food animal experience in private practice, corporate, or a government setting, and have academic qualifications for admission to the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota.

Desired qualifications include at least two years of food animal experience in private practice, corporate, or a government setting, excellent oral/written communication, leadership and interpersonal skills, demonstrated ability to work in teams and a high level of computer experience. Duties include providing assistance with teaching in the Veterinary Public Health curriculum, responding to new and emerging issues, and delivery of an educational program in the area of Animal Health and Food Safety, in collaboration with faculty in the Center for Animal Health and Food Safety. Anticipated research activities will be in the area of disease surveillance and epidemiologic investigation of the control of important food safety and zoonoses pathogens in food animals. Starting salary of \$28,000 per year (75%). Health insurance coverage and tuition waiver benefits will be available.

Completed applications will be reviewed as received throughout the academic year but no later than June 30, 2004. Applicants should submit a CV, a letter of intent, and the names and addresses of three people who can serve as references to:

Pamela Gaskin
Center for Animal Health and Food Safety
University of Minnesota
136 Andrew Boss Laboratory
1354 Eckles Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
Ph: 612-625-8709
Email: gaski007@umn.edu

American College Of Veterinary Preventive Medicine

P.O. Box 119
Winterville, GA
30683-0119

PHONE/FAX:
(706)742-2689

E-MAIL:
evp@acvpm.org

Listserver:
diplomates@acvpm.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.acvpm.org

Nominations are now open for President-elect and one councilor position. Nominated individuals must be active members in good standing. The President-elect must be an active member of the college for at least (5) five years immediately prior to election. The councilor must be an active member for at least (3) three years immediately prior to the election. Please send all nominations to Dr. Niall Finnegan at finnegandvm@yahoo.com or by mail to 24042 East Point Road, Onancock VA 23417. Nominations will close December 31, 2003.



A Very Professional Display Booth

Bill Johnston Memorial Scholarship

The Johnston family would like to establish an endowed memorial scholarship at Auburn University that will honor Bill in perpetuity. An initial contribution of \$25,000 will be required. Once the fund is set up, only the interest will be awarded.

Should you wish to make a donation, make the checks payable to the AUF (Auburn University Foundation), mark the check (for example, lower left corner) "Bill Johnston Memorial Scholarship", and send your donation to Diana Childers.

Dr. Diana Childers
Assistant Director of Development
College of Veterinary Medicine
317 South College Street
Auburn, AL 36849
(334) 844-1274 - Office
milesdi@auburn.edu