

Fall 2006
Volume 78

News & Views



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President-Elect

Dr. Peggy Carter

Secretary-Treasurer

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Past President

Dr. Patty Scharko

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Dr. Russ Currier

Editor

Dr. Kevin Grayson

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President's Corner

I am excited about the future of the ACVPM! I have confidence in the executive team assembled to accomplish our strategic vision. You have hired a team; the election ladder that puts all of us into a 6 year rotation works if everyone hangs on for six years plus. That's what it takes to make an organization work—commitment and time—just like investments! So, that's my commitment to you and I expect the same from every ACVPM Diplomate.

We are in yet another transition period with a new EVP. Russ Currier's PRIMARY responsibility is to ensure that we have a clearly defined pathway to board certification. To that end, I have established an ad hoc task force to develop guidelines for board certification study groups. We have certified several academic residencies. We have been criticized for several years by the American Board of Veterinary Specialties for having a "6 year survival rule," what I personally have referred to as the "alive in '75 rule," when I had graduated in '69 and could sit for the Boards. You will find in other sections of this newsletter, information about the responsibility and members of that group.

Anything else you expect from our College is really your responsibility:

- You want a slick publication... do it!
- You want CE at the AVMA meeting... do it!

We have made new assignments to the standing committees—check them out. If I have left you out call me... email me.... I apologize in advance for any omissions.

Looking forward to a productive year,

John Herbold

ACVPM Committees 2006-2007

Internal Affairs Committee

Gillian Comyn (Chair)
 John Sanders
 Bonnie Buntain
 Roberta Dwyer
 Roger A. Krogwold – ABVS Rep (ex officio)

Membership and Outreach Committee

Jimmy C. Villiard (Chair)
 Jimmy B. Davis
 Bill Courtney
 Marianne Ash
 Loren Schultz

Nominations and Awards Committee

John Herbold -- President
 Patty Scharko – Past-President
 Peggy Carter – President-elect

Continuing Education Committee

Paul Garbe (Chair)
 Kelley Donham
 Susan Miller
 Debra Cumro
 Patricia (Patti) Bright
 Vicky Fogelman

Communications Committee

Radford Davis (Chair)
 Deidre Qual
 Kevin Grayson -- (ex officio)
 Russell Currier -- EVP (ex officio)
 Councilor- Gary Bowman

Credentials Committee

Michael McElvaine (Chair)
 Lee Myers
 Malcolm Roberts
 Francois Elvinger
 Wyatt Frampton
 Councilor- Kevin Grayson

Examinations Committee

Mo Salman (Chair)
 David Goolsby
 Hugh Mainzer
 Scott Brooks
 Dale Moore
 Brian McCluskey
 Councilor- Gary Bowman

Standards & Recognition Committee

Dana Dane
 Charles Pixley
 Councilor- Kevin Grayson

Strategic Planning Committee

John Herbold -- President
 Patty Scharko -- Immediate Past-President
 Carter, Peggy -- President-Elect
 Councilor
 Internal Affairs Committee member
 Continuing Education Committee member
 Membership & Outreach Committee member
 Examination Committee member
 Member-at-large
 Russ Currier – EVP (ex officio)
 Roger Krogwold -- ABVS Rep (ex officio)

Study Group Ad hoc Task Force

Neal Lockwood
 Peggy Schmidt
 Susan Miller
 Bob Lavan
 Russ Currier
 Liz Wagstrom
 Kelley Donham

Job Analysis Task Force

Peggy Carter
 Kevin Grayson
 Gary Gackstetter
 Russ Currier.

ACVPM Welcomes 23 New Diplomates

Dr Danelle Bickett-Weddle
Ames, IA

Dr Johnny E. Braddy
Hyattsville, MD

Dr Robert D. Clarkson
Columbia MO

Dr Melinda Eaton
San Antonio, TX

Dr Rebecca I. Evans
Corvallis, OR

Dr Renée H. Funk
Atlanta, GA

Dr Howard D. Gobble
Washington, DC

Dr Scott E. Hanna
San Antonio, TX

Dr Stephanie I. Harris
Paulsbo, WA

Dr Locke A. Karriker
Ames, IA

Dr Margaret L. Khaitso
West Fargo, ND

Dr. Robert P. Lavan
Collegeville, PA

Dr H. Neal Lockwood
Helotes, TX

Dr Ted Y. Machima
Rockville, MD

Dr Richard W. Meiring
Marysville, OH

Dr Susan M. Miller
Alexandria, VA

Dr Alejandro Ramirez
Ames, IA

Dr Peggy L. Schmidt
Temecula, CA

Dr Julie R. Sinclair
Willow Grove, PA

Dr Jason W. Stull
Barrington, NH

Dr Joseph T. Weaver
Fort Collins, CO

Dr Matthew G. Welborn
Knoxville, TN

Dr Carl J. Williams
Ralesville, NC

Demographics:	#	%
University	7	30
Federal Government	6	26
Military	6	26
State Government	2	9
Private	2	9

Dr. Linda Tollefson Awarded Honorary ACVPM Membership



The American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (ACVPM) has awarded Linda Tollefson, DVM, MPH, honorary membership in the College for her outstanding contributions to veterinary preventive medicine and public health. Dr. Tollefson, a Rear Admiral (Assistant Surgeon General) in the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS), is the first woman to be named an Honorary Diplomate of the ACVPM.

For the past year, Dr. Tollefson has served as the Assistant Commissioner for Science at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In this position, she directs the FDA's Offices of Women's Health and Orphan Products Development and serves as the Coordinator for Commissioned Corps Affairs at the FDA. In addition, she was recently appointed the new Chair of the FDA's Institutional Review Board.

Prior to joining the Office of the Commissioner, Dr. Tollefson served as Deputy Director of the Center for Veterinary Medicine at the FDA. Together with the Director, she led the development of veterinary medical policy with regard to the safety and effectiveness of animal drugs, feed additives, and veterinary devices. She also directed all Center activities related to the National Food Safety Initiative and all international activities with a food safety focus. Dr. Tollefson was instrumental in founding and implementing the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS), an interagency surveillance program that monitors resistance among zoonotic enteric bacteria from humans, food animals, and retail meats. She also served as an expert advisor to the World Health Organization on food safety issues and chaired the Codex Alimentarius committee that developed an international code of practice on antimicrobial resistance. From 2003 to 2005, Dr. Tollefson served as President of the American Association for Food Hygiene Veterinarians.

A native of Indiana, Dr. Tollefson earned her veterinary degree from the University of Illinois and a Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins University. She is the author of numerous scientific articles and book chapters related to public health surveillance, food safety, and antimicrobial resistance. She has received numerous honors and awards for her work, including the U.S. Public Health Service Outstanding Service Medal, the FDA Commissioner's Special Citation, and the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Public Service. In 2001, Dr. Tollefson became the first female veterinarian in the PHS to reach the rank of Rear Admiral (Assistant Surgeon General) and in 2004, she was honored as the PHS Commissioned Corps Veterinarian of the year.

Annual Awards



Dr. Sal Cirone, Distinguished Diplomate Award.



Dr. Kevin Grayson, Helwig-Jennings Award.

Annual Awards, cont.



Drs. Peggy Carter and Candace Jacobs, President's Award.

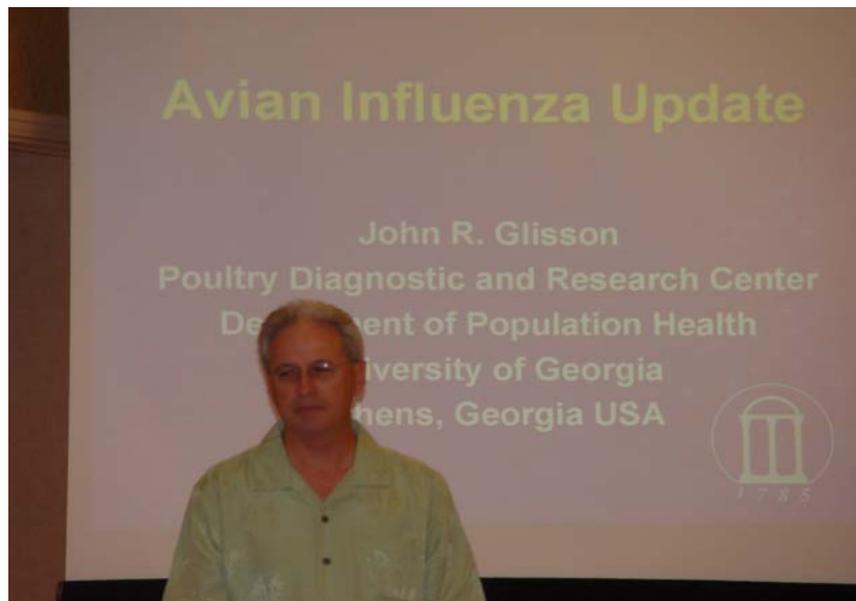


Dr. Gary Gackstetter, outgoing counselor.

Annual Meeting

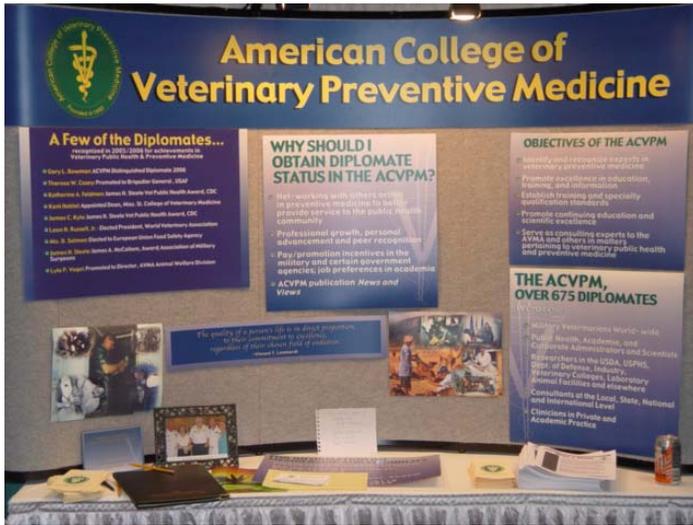


Dr. Peggy Carter remembers Dr. Dan Holland.



Dr. John Glisson, featured speaker.

Other Events at the AVMA



The booth.



Dr. Dreesen making a pitch.



The Exam Committee at work.



Executive Board Meeting.

2006 General Membership Meeting Summary

President Dr Patty Scharko called the meeting to order on Sunday, July 16, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and introduced the Executive Board to the audience of approximately 75 members.

A tribute to LTC Daniel Holland – who was fatally injured on May 18th, 2006 in Iraq by an improvised explosive device – was provided by Drs. Peggy Carter and Patty Scharko. An earlier ACVPM contribution in honor of LTC Holland, was submitted to the Christian Veterinary Mission, which has thus far accumulated over \$8,000 for a project to be done in his name.

Dr. Scharko in her president's report described the ad hoc membership coordinating task force. Executive Vice President Dr. David Dreesen reported the College currently has 540 active and 88 emeritus members. Twenty-five members have not paid dues, and 6 have resigned. College growth is flat and is a concern, especially as baby boomers phase out of the active work force. The College awarded \$500 to the AVMA Congressional fellowship program. Dr. Candace Jacobs, Secretary-Treasurer, reviewed the College's financial status for FY06 and the proposed budget for FY07. This year, expenses related to examinations were high because two exams were completed during FY06. Despite this, the College ended the year with an additional \$20,000 in our CD and revenue exceeded expenses. Next year, because of the job analysis requirements, we anticipate deficit spending.

Dr. Patty Scharko reported our College procedures for this year's ballot resulted in not meeting the required timeframes for voting, as well as fewer candidates nominated for office than required. These discrepancies were noted by membership and brought to the Executive Board's attention, so Dr. Scharko conferred with Ms. Nancy Sylvester, AVMA parliamentarian. Ms. Sylvester acknowledged that procedural mistakes were made but that members' rights were not violated. The EB will improve future voting processes so required dates are met. In order to accommodate required timeframes, the College will continue to collect votes until July 19, 2006. The slate lists candidates for new officers: Dr. Carter as President-elect, Dr. Jacobs as Secretary-treasurer, Dr. Grayson as Councilor, and Dr. Linda Tollefson as Honorary Member. It was moved and seconded to suspend the bylaws for purposes of accepting the slate and interim voting results. The College membership approved the action in a vote to accept the slate and results. The bylaws were then reinstated.

Dr. Ana Linn spoke about her experience as an AVMA Congressional fellow. Dr. John Glisson, poultry disease scientist at the University of Georgia, gave a thought-provoking presentation on Avian Influenza (AI) H5N1 in Asia.

Dr. Scharko in summarizing her tenure as president, described the difficulty in balancing work and life and volunteer work during her 2 years as President. She offered her thanks to her family, the EB, and especially to Dr. Dreesen! She passed the gavel to incoming President, Dr. John Herbold, who then adjourned the meeting.

ACVPM Treasurer's Report

In bank July 1, 2006			
\$47,185.00			
Certificates of Deposit			
\$83,800			
Net Worth July 1, 2006			
\$130,985			
(+\$12,907 since 2005)			
Activity	2006 Actual	2007 Budget	
AVMA/USAHA Meeting			
AVMA hotel	\$ 4,813.01	\$ 2,000.00	
AVMA/USAHA Exec. Brd. Travel	\$ 5,301.14	\$ 9,000.00	
	\$ 10,114.15	\$ 11,000.00	
Salaries			
EVP- Currier	\$ 16,992.00	\$ 18,750.00	
EVP- Dreesen, part time		\$ 4,500.00	
Computer specialist	\$ 6,750.00	\$ 7,200.00	
	\$ 23,742.00	\$ 30,450.00	
Office Operations			
Office rent & utilities	\$ 3,494.03	\$ 3,900.00	
Telephone - DSL	\$ 1,157.33	\$ 1,500.00	
Conference calls	\$ ---	\$ 500.00	
Newsletter printing	\$ 731.08	\$ 2,100.00	
Other printing	\$ 1,027.49	\$ 1,100.00	
Postage & shipping	\$ 1,006.07	\$ 1,500.00	
Supplies & equipment	\$ 889.90	\$ 2,500.00	
Awards & certificates	\$ 297.60	\$ 1,000.00	
Insurance	\$ 8,285.68	\$ 8,300.00	
Administrative support	\$ 1,773.20	\$ 1,500.00	
Web page maintenance	\$ 3,020.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Accounting & Auditing	\$ 852.51	\$ 2,100.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,514.27	\$ 1,500.00	
	\$ 24,049.16	\$ 28,500.00	
Committees			
Examinations (2006, 3 meetings)	\$ 15,118.14	\$ 15,000.00	
Strategic planning	\$ ---	\$ 3,000.00	
Epidemiology specialty	\$ 1,410.08	\$ 1,200.00	
Job analysis/psychometric	\$ ---	\$ 19,000.00	
	\$16,528	\$38,200	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$74,434	\$108,150	
Activity	2006 Actual	2007 Budget	
Dues	74,983	75,000	
Interest & misc.	70	0	
Exam fees	18,450	17,000	
TOTAL INCOME	\$93,503	\$92,000	
Income	93,503	\$92,000	
Expenses	\$74,770	\$108,150	
INCOME OVER EXPENSES		-\$16,150	

ACVPM Officers' Email Addresses

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peggycarter@ln.amevd.army.mil

Dr. Patty Scharko, Past-President
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Dr. Candace Jacobs, Secretary-Treasurer
[cajacobs@na.ko.com](mailto:cjacobs@na.ko.com)

Dr. Gary Bowman, Councilor
bowman.7@osu.edu

Dr. Kevin Grayson, Councilor
grayson_consult@comcast.net

Dr. Liz Wagstrom, Councilor
lwagstrom@pork.org

Ex Officio

Dr. Russ Currier, EVP
evp@acvpm.org

Dr. Roger Krogwold, ABVS Representative
Roger.A.Krogwold@aphis.usda.gov

Dr. Dave Smith, President, Epidemiology Specialty
dsmith8@unl.edu



Book Review

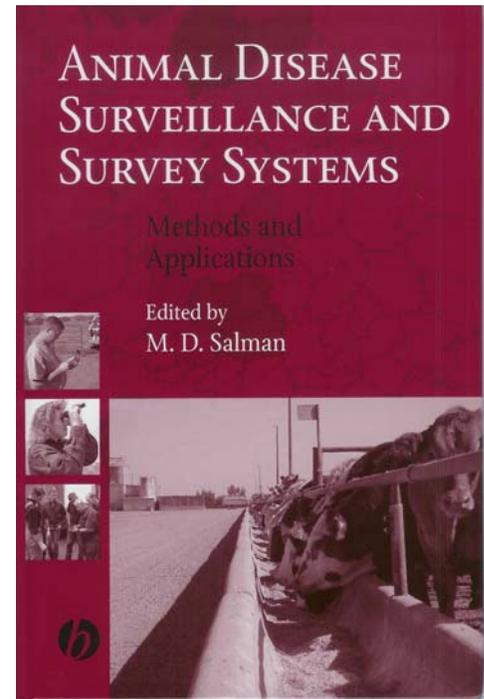
Every once in a while a book comes along that fills a perfect space on your shelf. That's the feeling I got when I first opened *Animal Disease Surveillance and Survey Systems*, edited by ACVPM Diplomate Dr. Mo Salman.

Written by an international cast, this handy little tome brings together quite a bit of information in a readable format. Much of the discussion centers on the "monitoring and surveillance system" (MOSS) concept. Approaches and examples of MOSS are given throughout the text. Especially helpful is the chapter on applying MOSS principles to disease control and disease surveillance programs; it is always nice to see practical applications of conceptual ideas. I particularly found the chapter by Angus Cameron and colleagues on sampling considerations a valuable addition, since this topic often receives short shrift in many other textbooks.

Subsequent chapters on statistical analyses, methods for detecting temporal clusters, and methods for detecting spatial clusters build on this solid foundation. The latter two chapters, by Tim Carpenter and Michael Ward, are especially welcome; spatial and temporal clustering are well covered in the human cancer literature, but have not appeared on the veterinary side too often. These will be well worth your time to go through carefully, although be forewarned that Microsoft Excel, used for examples, is considered unreliable when employed to compute statistics due to rounding error.

All-in-all, I would consider this book a nice addition to my library. Don't get me wrong, I have a number of texts that cover the same material. However, none of them puts it all together in such a nice, neat little package.

—Kevin Grayson



From the Desk of the EVP

With installation of a new administration of the college in Honolulu, including of course a new Executive Vice President, I offer my first formal greeting to the membership.

First of all, I have established a very nice and functional office in Des Moines, Iowa to serve the membership. It includes all the electronic accoutrements to function in the 21st century, including a top notch Hewlet-Packard computer with laser printer, fax machine and other equipment to assist with mailings, financial transactions, storage of files, supplies, and so forth. If your travels ever bring you to the central Iowa area, you are welcome to stop by and see it first hand. Advance notification would be appreciated to ensure I'm in town to host a visit.

I would like to highlight a few items from the Executive Board meeting in Honolulu. First, the AVMA's American Board of Veterinary Specialties is an entity that has oversight of our college as well as all other veterinary specialty organizations. We operate within their guidelines and closely follow their standards to ensure that the ACVPM is fair, open, respectful, and conducts it's business in accordance with good practices. Administratively, we are required to have a representative attend an ABVS meeting yearly (February 2007) that includes giving briefings on our operations and filing reports including a five year report due in November 2006. Diplomates Dr. John Sanders and Dr. Gillian Comyn will be assisting in these activities.

Second, I would like to draw attention to our recently renovated website that is fully accessible to the membership. We hope to continue improving this in the months ahead. Our webmaster, Joe Adam, is in charge of this activity and welcomes suggestions or notification of problems, so feel free to contact him with issues for consideration. Most importantly, many of you, especially those early in your careers and in the military, move frequently and we request timely updates of your contact information that you can accomplish yourself on the website or by notifying Joe Adam.

Third, the ACVPM, with ABVS encouragement, is setting up a contract to conduct a "psychometric job analysis" to better determine what professionals actually do in our field. This is very important as well as costly to our college and promises to better define skills, aptitudes, and education/training that is relevant to our field. It will assist us in outlining improved curriculum content for academic



—continued from page 13

institutions that we are now certifying and guide us in improved testing content and methodologies as part of the certification process. Many of our members will be contacted next year for completion of surveys including interviews in some cases. We invite your support and cooperation as it is vital to our core functions of certification and will ensure we pursue the best strategies in the future.

Overall these are exciting times for veterinarians dealing with population medicine. The professional landscape is fraught with issues of bioterrorism, emerging infectious diseases, and a new awareness of the linkage between animal and human health. We now have new positions being created both nationally and internationally that call for well-trained veterinarians to serve in ever expanding capacities. The role of the ACVPM to certify their education and training both institutionally and individually carries new validity, so I encourage you to market the college and apprise colleagues and institutions alike of our services. Take time to brief colleagues about the ACVPM, and if interested, assist them in applying for certification and mentor them during their preparations. If I can be of any assistance please inform me.

Finally, while drafting this message, I noted it was the fifth anniversary of 9-11 when we experienced another “Pearl Harbor” for our generation. This event demonstrates that we must be prepared to deal with the new realities of a world in conflict. Our professional roles in biosecurity carry new responsibilities and call for diligent study, updating our skills constantly, and surveillance for new potential insults to animal and human health. For weapons we now have new technologies and ever greater governmental resources to deal with the possibilities of bioterrorism and other disasters. Members of our college play a key role in this new environment and we welcome your support and suggestions to improve our services even more.

—Russss

A Brief Thank You

As the transition from the old EVP (me) to the new EVP (Russ) is about complete, I want to personally thank the officers, committee members, and all the Diplomates who made this past nearly 5 years such a wonderful experience. I made some new friends and colleagues, while renewing old acquaintances and continuing dialogue with many in the profession with whom I've worked with for many years. I can truthfully say this was one of the most rewarding periods in my some 46 years in the profession since receiving the DVM degree. I already miss the interaction with the daily business of the College, but not some of the frustrations that often went with the job.

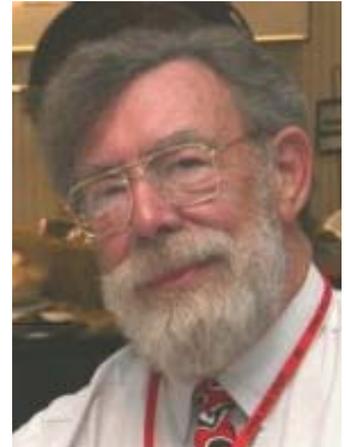
It is always difficult, and probably not the best thing to do, to send special thanks to any one person, but I would be amiss if I did not give an extra hoorah to Kevin Grayson. As News & Views Editor, member and chair of the Exam Committee, College photographer, and all-around good friend, he was most helpful to me these past few years. Thanks Kevin.

I will use this bully-pulpit for one last gasp to ask all of you that as you move from one location to another as your careers progress, please keep the College up-dated on your address changes and your personal information. It is – honestly – easy to do using the Member's Only page of the web site. I can't tell you how much time is spent running down contact information. In the past three years nearly half of our 500+ members have changed some contact information and, unfortunately, the vast majority fail to notify ACVPM. Help poor 'ole Russ keep what sanity he has left (I personally thought he was somewhat crazy to take the EVP position), and notify him, or make the changes yourself to the database.

Finally, your Executive Board were kind enough to award me a parting monetary bonus which was put to good use to help pay for a post-convention trip my wife and I took to Kauai. Since such moneys come out of your dues, I thank all of you for this.

All the best to all – and keep in touch – if you're ever in the Athens, GA area, give me a call so we can visit a bit.

Dave Dreesen



Epidemiology Specialty News



Regardless of whether you are a veterinarian in academia, industry, government, military, or private practice; issues around the world make this a great time to hold veterinary epidemiology credentials. We are fortunate to have strong, ongoing interest in the ACVPM Epidemiology Specialty. This year four new diplomates were certified in the Epidemiology Specialty. These are: Dr. Sean Altekruise, Dr. Curtis Fritz, Dr. Thomas Kasari, and Dr. Rosalie Trevejo. Congratulations to each of you. Thanks to the Credentials and Examination committees for their work to certify these individuals.

Currently the Continuing Education Committee is finalizing plans for an Epidemiology Specialty-sponsored epidemiology poster session for ACVPM diplomates at the 2007 AVMA Convention. The Nominations Committee will soon be seeking nominations for the next President of the Epidemiology Specialty. Dr. George Moore was elected Secretary of the Epidemiology Specialty in the summer elections. Also, we passed the proposed amendment to the Epidemiology Specialty Bylaws to specifically describe electronic voting.

The committees are truly the life-blood of this Specialty. For 2006-2007, the Credentials Committee is composed of Drs. Sam Groseclose (Chair), Eric Ebel, and Kay Burkman; members of the Examination committee are Drs. Sue Trock (Chair), Colleen Bruning-Fann, and Mike Sanderson; the Continuing Education Committee includes Drs. Terry Lehenbauer (Chair), Kimberly Orr, and Alecia Larew-Naagle; and the Nominations Committee is composed of Drs. Mark Starr (Chair), Roger Gibson, and Bruce Burnham. Each committee serves a vital role. Committee members deserve our thanks for the time and effort they contribute to the Specialty. Please consider volunteering for a committee to help keep the Epidemiology Specialty strong. As always, I would enjoy hearing ideas about how to improve our Specialty. Please call me (402) 472-2362, or send me an e-mail dsmith8@unl.edu.

I hope everyone enjoys a happy and productive Fall season.

David R. Smith
President, ACVPM Epidemiology Specialty

More Annual Meeting Photos





I am honored to be President of the American Association of Public Health Veterinarians for the next two years and appreciate the great work that Hugh Mainzer, Mary Torrence, and others have done before me. This is an exciting time for Veterinarians in Public Health. We will have many opportunities to use our skills and advance our specialty in the profession.

High path Avian Influenza and the potential for pandemic flu have raise awareness about Veterinary Public health and the role we play at the human: animal interface. Our expertise with such issues as Wet Nile Virus, emerging infectious disease such as Hanta virus, and E. coli O157:H7 in the environment, animals, and produce is being recognized by policy makers, the human medical community, and the general public, but more need to be done.

During the next two years, my goal is to help our organization evolve into a more dynamic association by increasing our visibility and membership. We also need to plan to pursue a seat in the AVMA House of Delegates.

I solicit and welcome member ideas that will help us improve the AAPHV. Your opinion and participation counts so contact me at ipsandaaphv@hotmail.com.

Erratum

Correction to U.S. Army Veterinary Corps Wartime Fatalities

The spring 2006 issue of *News & Views'* President's Corner contained a statement attributed to me that reported LTC Dan Holland, VC was the first Army veterinarian to die in combat since the 1940s. That statement was incorrect. Captain Jack P. Blake, VC was killed in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 December 1968. Captain Blake, a 1967 graduate of Texas A&M University, entered the service in September 1967. Following a stateside assignment at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, he reported 3 September 1968, for duty with the 4th Medical Detachment at Phu Loi, Republic of Vietnam. He and two Army veterinary specialists were returning from a civic action mission when their jeep detonated a land mine. Captain Blake and veterinary specialist David Duke were killed in the incident.

Seventeen Veterinary Corps officers died or were killed in World War II (E. B. Miller, U.S. Army Veterinary Service, World War II). Particularly notable were six Veterinary Corps officers who were among eleven VC officers taken captive by the Japanese following the fall of Bataan in April, 1942. The eleven survived the Bataan Death March. Subsequently three died due to the combination of disease, starvation, and exposure, one died in an aerial attack on the Japanese transport ship on which he was confined, another from suffocation aboard another ship, and one was beheaded having been betrayed by an American collaborator. Three who remained at the prison camps in the Philippines were able to utilize their professional capabilities in preventive medicine and enabled many prisoners who might otherwise have died to return home (correspondence from Colonel W. H. H. Clark, VC, USA Retired). Captain Herbert I. Ott, VC was among the 513 American and British POWs liberated from Camp Cabanatuan, Luzon in the daring raid by the elite U.S. Army 6th Rangers Battalion on 28 January 1945. The liberation is powerfully described in Hampton Side's *Ghost Soldiers* (2001). Dr. Ott, who returned to practice in California, was cited by author Sides as among the major characters from Cabanatuan who appear in and contributed to the book. One of the survivors, Colonel William S. Gochenour, VC was a Diplomat of the ACVPM.

—Dr. Tom Murnane

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.acvpm.org

Dr. James Steele Honored

Dr. Jim Steele has received the prestigious Abraham Horowitz Award for Public Health Leadership in Inter-American Health from the Pan American Health and Education Foundation for 2006. The award ceremony was held in Washington D.C. on September 25th.

AAVMC/ASPH Call for Abstracts

The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges and American Schools of Public Health have released a call for abstracts for a joint symposium titled, "Partnerships for Preparedness: Future Directions for Schools of Public Health and Colleges of Veterinary Medicine," scheduled for April 22-24, 2007 in Atlanta, Georgia. Specific topics will focus on research, education, policy, and workforce issues in veterinary public health. Abstract submission and general conference information can be found at <http://www.asph.org/vetpubhealth>. Abstracts are due by Friday, October 31st.