President's Message

Hello to you all again!

It's the first Saturday in what seems like a long time to this southern girl that the sun is shining and the thermometer promises to get above 60 degrees and around here we're looking forward to the coldest Atlanta winter in many years to come to a close. I know that sounds pitiful to many of you who brave what we consider extreme temperatures on a daily basis, all I can say is my sympathies go out to you and spring will be here for you soon, too...just hang on a little longer...

My husband decided 3-4 years ago that he wanted to try to live out his dream of being a farmer (on the side) and bought a Berkshire bull and heifer, thereby starting his little herd which has slowly grown to the tune of about 19-20 total head. When our youngest child wakes up from her nap in a little while we're all headed to the cow pasture down the road to palpate the first heifer born and raised "on the home place", sort of a momentous event around here if only, of course, she's pregnant. These days this is about the extent of the food animal veterinary work I get to do as a small animal practitioner in North Atlanta, although I come to think of it, I did give my husband his first hoof trimming lesson on several of his goats the other day which I guess should count, too. All in a day's work, right?

I just returned from Albuquerque a few days ago where the SFT board convened for the winter board meeting, along with the ACT board and subsequent combined board meetings, all of which proved to be very fruitful. Probably the most exciting piece of news I have for you regarding our work in the last six months is the announcement that the board unanimously approved the mission statement as well as the editorial board for the new journal we plan to launch at the 2009 conference, CLINICAL THERIOGENOLOGY. Additional parameters that were defined by our editor, Dr. Bob Youngquist, and unanimously approved by the board include the scope of the journal, and issues related to article submission such as instructions for authors, criteria for acceptance, review process, organization and publication schedule. The first official issue will actually be the proceedings for the annual conference, to be followed shortly thereafter by an issue with the regular format. The publishing house we have decided to entrust this journal to is Omnivess, a well-known, very reputable outfit that is involved with the production of proceedings and journals of other professional organizations such as NAVC and AVMA, giving us a great deal of comfort with the caliber of the material produced that we should be able to expect in the future. We are very excited about this venture and look forward to this journal becoming the primary venue through which practical, clinical therioegenology manuscripts, case reports and dialogue among practicing therioegenologists can be disseminated throughout the world.

The upcoming summer conference in Albuquerque is scheduled for August 23-29 and... Continued on page 2
SFT and ACT Plan To Form Foundation

At their recent winter meeting the combined boards of the SFT and ACT voted to form the Theriogenology Foundation, whose mission will be to raise funds for the support and advancement of theriogenology. Plans are underway to file for 501c-3 status with the Internal Revenue Service, which, when completed, will allow tax-deductible contributions to be made to the Foundation. The funds raised by the Foundation will be used for research grants, scholarships, speakers for student chapters, and awards honoring worthy theriogenologists. Both boards expressed the desire to support the strengthening of the position of theriogenology in veterinary education.

Beginning with the renewal of membership for 2010, all members will be given the option to contribute through a dues check-off to the Theriogenology Foundation. To kick off the formation of the Foundation, a live and silent auction will be held on Thursday evening, August 27th at the Theriogenologist of the Year Awards Dinner during the upcoming Therio conference in Albuquerque. Some of the items planned for the auctions include tickets to the opening ceremonies of the 2010 World Equestrian Games in Lexington, Ky., a week’s stay at Kiawah Island, S.C., and recent books written by theriogenologists and signed by the authors. Members are encouraged to contribute items, such as books, jewelry, veterinary memorabilia, and trips to the auctions. Contact Tom Riddle (triddle@rooodandriddle.com) with questions about contributions. Please plan to attend and support this exciting new event.

Do You Know Someone Who Would Make A Great Director on the Therio Board?

In accordance with policy, the Society requests your suggestions for the Board of Directors. Names received from the general membership will be forwarded to the Nominating Committee for consideration. Directors serve a term of three years, beginning at the Annual Conference.

If you would like to suggest an active society member for service as a director on the Board, please submit the following information to the executive office no later than March 23, 2009. Please insure the individual’s willingness to serve on the Board (if elected) prior to submission. Please direct any questions to Dr. Patrick Hearn, chair of the Nominating Committee, at ptheasthearn@bellnet.ca.

Suggested Individual:

Name: ________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Email: _______________________
Practice Type: ________________________________________________

Your Information:

Name: ________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Email: _______________________
Practice Type: ________________________________________________

Mail or fax information to:
Society for Theriogenology, P.O. Box 3007, Montgomery, AL 36109, Fax: 334-270-3399

President’s Message

Continued from page 1

is shaping up nicely under Dr. Tom Riddle’s guidance, promising to provide all attendees with an exciting and up-to-date program offering the most recent trends in veterinary pharmacology as relates to theriogenology across all domestic species. The small animal track will again be formatted in a dual track system, once again offering attendees numerous options regarding subject matter and speakers from which to choose. Both the bovine and equine programs will also have an emphasis on pharmacology, touching on some of the hot topics frequently discussed by many of you on the SFT list-serve and giving us all the much needed bottom line to take back to practice and be able to implement today. Albuquerque is a beautiful city with a small town feel, and fairly easy to find your way around. We are all looking for ways to save money during the economic slump the country finds itself in; this may be just the year to combine getting some top quality continuing education and bringing the family along to fit in some R&R and vacation time, too! My husband has mentioned something about going on a dirt bike trail ride one day (apparently dirt bike riding is big out west), so if you see me walking through the hotel lobby with dirty knees and grease stains across my face you’ll know I unwillingly got roped into it and was lucky to have survived. All jokes aside, as I said in a previous letter, this is a great time to consider introducing more reproductive services at your practice for increased revenue, particularly as this field seems to be one in which lots of services can be offered with relatively little financial outlay.

Thanks for your continued support this year and encouragement as we move forward with all of our plans. I hope this letter finds you all well and I look forward to seeing you all in August,

Dr. Ana Adams

Therio Club Hosts CE Opportunity

The University of Georgia CVM Therio club is hosting a CE opportunity with guest speaker Dr. D.W. "Twink" Allen October 23 - 25, 2009. There will be lectures throughout the weekend and a wet lab on embryo flushing on Saturday with a limit of participants in the wet lab of 15. Please stay updated at our website as more details become available (http://www.vet.uga.edu/CE/conferences/embryo.php).
AVMA Delegate’s Report to the SFT

February 2009

The AVMA House of Delegates (HOD) met for the first formal winter session in January 2009 in Chicago, IL. For many years the January gathering was an informational meeting, meaning that no binding votes could be taken during a session. It served a valuable purpose in allowing resolutions and other legislative issues of note to be discussed ahead of the HOD formal sessions held prior to the annual conference. While this may not seem to be of much value, the efficiency gained in the summer session was remarkable. Items presented to the HOD summer sessions, before the addition of the mid-year January meeting, if not well-presented, nor clear and capable of receiving rapid support, often languished from one year to the next, failing to receive a passing vote by the House. Old language in the Constitution and By-Laws prevented minor amendments to documents and that also caused undue delays. The ability to address rapidly evolving issues, receiving reports from councils & committees mid-year and being able to act on them, has been a significant value.

As in recent years, the January meeting ran parallel with the Veterinary Leadership Conference. The SFT once again sponsored a recent graduate, Dr. Lisa Willis. Bringing in young leaders to encourage their active involvement in organized veterinary medicine early in their careers ensures our leadership (SFT, AVMA) will remain engaged, focused, and relevant.

The Allied Caucus (16 non-State HOD constituents) met prior to the HOD sessions. Items of greatest interest/concern to the Caucus were: (1) Resolutions #3 (a change in the House Manual to allow reference committees to submit resolutions that pertain to the designated work area of that reference committee), #6 (to amend the AVMA Policy "Antimicrobials in livestock feed" to address the issue of antimicrobial resistance through science based risk analysis), and #10 (veal calf management); (2) the Government Performance Review Committee (GPRC) recommendation to sunset the Council on Communication; and (3) FARAD’s lack of funding. FARAD is currently in the farm bill, but without an appropriation for funding.

In the HOD formal sessions, the House received reports regarding NCVEI, AVMF, and the summer work projects to precede the annual conference. Four animal rescue/shelters were painted/refurbished by AVMA attendee-volunteers prior to the 2008 conference in New Orleans. A similar service-work project is planned prior to the Seattle conference. Sign-ups for that can be done on-line at the time you register for the AVMA’s annual conference in Seattle this summer.

Dr. Michael Dunn (a public affairs consultant) was the keynote speaker. For those of you who do not yet donate to the AVMA-PAC, the comments regarding access versus influence were very persuasive. We are a small profession in numbers, yet we garner a large "A Plus" in the eyes of the public. That alone is not enough to win legislative battles. Grassroots organizing and PACs are the remaining legal means to reach your/our legislators. "DVMs are either Players or Victims ... two tools for influencing public policy ... persuasion, political power. Persuasion requires facts, the ability to transmit those facts, you need to get to know your lawmakers and their staff, develop personal relationships." As Michael Dunn informed us, "If you’re going to donate to any candidate and the value is <$200, disclosure is not required. If you’re going to donate, donate at least $250 - that requires disclosure to the candidate of YOUR name, YOUR donation, and the staffers will know your name & your ideas [He also made note that congressional staffers know whether you contribute to their congressperson and/or his/her opponent]."

He noted that, "26% of the population is of non-voting age. Twenty-five percent of those old enough to vote don’t vote. Another 38% of eligible voters register, but don’t vote. Forty-eight percent of those who voted, voted for the loser that leaves a total of an approximate 17% of the population who are old enough to vote, that registered and voted for the winner." Legislators have very few constituents who write, vote, do anything to get their attention, and donors get attention. The AVMA-PAC is a hugely successful means to get the attention of your legislators. It concentrates the power and voice of a few to reach those in a position to make decisions that affect us all.

"When you contribute, you are investing in that politician’s career. It may not get you all of the answers and votes that you want, but it will provide you with the opportunity to state your case until he/she has heard your facts." As Dunn told us, "My mission is to make my lawmaker my best friend. It’s hard to influence someone you don’t know. The question isn’t how well do you know your lawmaker, it’s how well does your lawmaker know you." Your senators and representatives own dogs, cats, cattle, horses, etc. If you have access, that is another way to have your voice heard. Holding a fundraiser in your home may score some points for you and access, but inviting additional donors to that activity will benefit veterinary medicine and issues that affect our practices and profession even more. We cannot match the dollars of much larger entities who would like to capture the public’s imagination and make it believe they are the arbiters for animal welfare, production medicine practices, etc. We can and must be the “go to folks,” the leaders sought for opinions on science-based medicine, animal welfare, veterinary education, etc.

Dr. Ron DeFavre, AVMA Executive VP, provided a recap of strategic planning, goals, and on the ground activities. The strategic plan is published on the AVMA web-site. The key issues are advocacy of veterinary-related issues, animal welfare and science based resources, economic viability of the profession, veterinary medicine education, and veterinary workforce issues. I would encourage you to read in JAVMA within the next month for additional details regarding these key issues.

I encourage you to attend the annual AVMA conference in Seattle, WA, July 11-14, 2009. The C.E. offerings continue to expand (>1000 hours) and are equal to any other veterinary medical conference in the nation. Best wishes for the balance of 2009.

Respectfully, Carla L. Carleton, SFT Delegate to the HOD

Winter 2009 Newsletter
Day Trips While Attending 2009 Therio Conference

Albuquerque and the state of New Mexico are full of unique destinations and activities not to be missed. There are fascinating day trips available, both in and out of town. Here are some popular suggestions: PLEASE NOTE: Fees listed are for 2008 and have not been updated for 2009.

- **Sandia Peak and Tramway** (http://www.sandiapeak.com/), the world's longest aerial way at 2.7 miles long, will take you to the top of Sandia Peak at 10,378'. There you can hike in Cibola National Forest, and you can choose to come down by the Tram or else by hiking, mountain biking, or, in the winter, skiing. There is a restaurant at both the top and bottom of the tram, both with spectacular views. Located about 20 minutes from Downtown Albuquerque, fees are $17.50 per adult to ride the tram roundtrip. Parking during the day is $1 per car.

- **The Paseo del Bosque Bike Trail**, part of the City's Open Space projects, is 16 miles of uninterrupted paved trails along the Rio Grande, under the cool cottonwood trees (http://www.cabq.gov/openspace/paseodelbosque-trail.html). Views are spectacular of the Rio Grande, Bosque, Sandia and Manzano Mountains, volcanoes, and beautiful neighborhoods. No fee or permit is required.

- **Petroglyph National Monument** (http://www.nps.gov/petr/index.htm) is a protected area of over a 7,236-acre, located on Albuquerque's west slope with an estimated 25,000 Petroglyph, all in a setting with spectacular view. They represent the former life and culture of the Anasazi ("Ancient Ones") Indians, who lived there for hundreds of years, then disappeared without explanation. The designs are amazing – and in remarkable preservation. Now we know that a significant reason that locations were designated sacred and selected as palaces of such artwork was because of the beautiful view. What better reason is there than that? There are three sections of the Petroglyphs plus the Visitors Center, all about 15 minutes from Downtown. There is no entrance fee, but there is a $2 parking fee at Boca Negra Canyon.

- **Old Town Albuquerque** (http://www.oldtownalbuquerque.com/) is located just minutes from Downtown. There the city was established 300 years ago on a Plaza with the church (established by Spanish Catholic missionaries) as the new city's anchor. Now the historic buildings are filled with new restaurants and stores. This is a shopper's delight, whether looking for simple souvenirs or fabulous art and jewelry.

- **Coronado State Monument** (http://www.mmonuments.org/inst.php?inst=4), only 20 minutes north of Downtown Albuquerque in Bernalillo, is where Francisco Vásquez de Coronado made camp with 300 Spanish soldiers and 800 Native American allies in 1540 while searching for the Seven Cities of Gold. An interpretive trail leads through partially reconstructed ruins of a Kuaua pueblo, occupied approximately 1300 – 1600 A.D. The visitor center houses Native American and Spanish Colonial artifacts, including the finest examples of pre-contact mural art, excavated from the kivas. Admission is $3 per adult.

- **Acoma Pueblo** ("Sky City"). established a millennium ago atop a high, protected mesa, is believed to be the oldest continuously inhabited city in America. It is known for its pottery, characterized by lines drawn by hand that are so fine they appear to be drawn by computer. The tour is fascinating from the historical perspective, but also the views are phenomenal. (See http://www.amwest-travel.com) At the base of the mesa, about 1 1/2 hours west of Albuquerque, is the new Sky City Cultural Center (http://www.skycity.com). From here, guided tours of the city may be arranged for a fee of $12 per adult.

- **About a 1.5-hour drive north of Albuquerque is the spectacular Valles Caldera National Preserve.** Located in the Jemez Mountains, you can see breathtaking scenery without leaving your car. But go prepared to hike, bike, or picnic, and you will experience a nature preserve lush with native plants and wildlife. (See http://www.vallescaldera.gov/)
• The Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge (http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/newmex/bosque/) is managed by Southwest Region 2 of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is located about 1.5 hours south of Albuquerque, outside of Socorro. Comprised of 57,191 acres along the Rio Grande, it is one of the premier spots in the world for birders, especially in the fall to watch migrating sandhill cranes, geese, and ducks. It is also a popular fishing spot. Its vast area incorporates a variety of habitats, from desert to riparian. Beautiful in every season, it is one of the most photographed locations in New Mexico. Free van tours are available by reservation through the Friends of the Bosque (http://www.friendsofthebosque.org/).

• Bandelier National Monument (http://www.nps.gov/band/) is an historic site illustrating human life over the past 10,000 years. Ancestors of the Pueblo Indians, the Anasazi, lived here in cliff and cave dwellings from approximately 1150 to 1550 A.D. Now designated as a protected park of 33,000 acres, nature, history, and the spectacular views may be enjoyed by the public. It is located in the Jemez Mountains, near Los Alamos, about 1.5 hours from Albuquerque. The entrance fee is $12 per car.

• Chaco Culture National Historic Park (http://www.nps.gov/chcu/) is in northwestern New Mexico, about a 3.5-hour drive from Albuquerque. There are nearly 4,000 recorded archeological sites within the park. A visit to the park is fascinating both because of the Anasazi ruins and because of the unique geologic formations, hosting an array of diverse vegetation and wildlife. The entrance fee is $8 per car.

• El Malpais National Monument (http://www.nps.gov/elma/) is a fascinating geologic formation located a little over an hour from Albuquerque, just south of Grants. Named “The Bad Country” in Spanish, the land is ancient hardened lava flow, black and rocky. There are no entrance fees.

• El Morro National Monument (http://www.nps.gov/elmo/), located about 2 hours west of Albuquerque, features a spectacular bluff and natural pool. The entrance fee is $3 per adult.

• Pecos National Historic Park (http://www.nps.gov/peco/) preserves over 12,000 years of history, including ruins from the Pecos Pueblo, Spanish Mission, the Santa Fe Trail, the Forked Lightning Ranch, the Civil War Battle of Glorieta. It is located about 1.5 hours from Albuquerque, east of Santa Fe. The entrance fee is $3 per adult.

• Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument (http://www.nps.gov/sapu/) features ruins from 17th Century Spanish missions to the Tiwa and Tompiro Pueblo Indians, as well as a dried lake, the Estancia Basin. Located on the East Side of the Manzano Mountains, it is about an hour’s drive southeast of Albuquerque. No entrance fees are charged.

• The Very Large Array (http://www.vla.nrao.edu/), located about 2 hours south of Albuquerque, consists of 27 radio antennas. It is one of the world’s premier astronomical radio observatories. Built in 1980, it is one of the facilities of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. Self-guided tours are available during the day at no charge. Guided tours are offered twice a year (reservations required).

• The New Mexico Museum of Space History (http://www.nmsspacemuseum.org/) is about a 3-hour drive south of Albuquerque. Its exhibition ranges from early rocket experiments to a mock-up of the International Space Station. It also has an IMAX theater and planetarium. General admission for adults is $6.

• The International UFO Museum and Research Center (http://www.roswellufomuseum.com/) is located in Roswell, NM (200 miles from Albuquerque, with estimated 3 hours travel time). The museum is the local response to the suspicious UFO event of July 1947, now known as “The Roswell Incident.” Its exhibits cover most well-known UFO events, and it now houses an extensive research library. General admission for adults is $5.

• White Sands National Monument (http://www.nps.gov/whsa/), at 275 square miles, is the world’s largest pure gypsum dune field. Plant and animal life has adapted to this unusual high-desert environment. The vast expanse of white sand in the desert is like nothing else in the world, truly a unique photo-opportunity. It is located about a 3.5-hour drive south of Albuquerque. The entrance fee is $3 per adult.

• Carlsbad Caverns National Park (http://www.nps.gov/cave/) is a special destination for those travelers who can invest more time. Located 300 miles south of Albuquerque in the scenic Walnut Canyon, it is a system of 100 limestone caves created in the bottom of an inland sea at least 250 million years ago. Underground are spectacular formations. Above ground is the diverse ecosystem of the high-altitude Chihuahuan Desert in the Guadalupe Mountains. The entrance fee is $8 per adult for self-guided tours. Ranger-guided tours also may be arranged by reservation (up to $20 per adult).

For additional information on things to do in Albuquerque, see http://www.itsatrip.org/visitors/whattodo/.
2009 Therio/ACT Annual Conference & Symposia
(Tentative & Partial Schedule)
Hyatt Regency – Albuquerque, NM-August 25 - 29

General Session Topics

Ethical Compounding
Dr. Scott Stanley

The Challenges Pharmaceutical Companies Face in Getting a New Product to Market
Dr. Bob Stenbom

Tentative Bovine Schedule

Utilizing Dairy Records to Maximize Reproduction
Dr. Bruce Clark

Managing the "Problem" Donor
Dr. John Shull

Current Status of Trichomoniasis in the United States
Dr. Lew Strickland

Antimicrobial Therapy in Bovine Reproduction
Dr. Misty Edmondson

Ecobolic and Tocolytic Agents in Bovine Reproduction
Dr. Misty Edmondson

Applying Ultrasound to Individual Dairy Cow Reproductive Management
Dr. Kevin McSweeney

Applying Ultrasound to Dairy Herd Level Reproductive Management
Dr. Kevin McSweeney

Cystic Ovarian Disease in Cattle
Dr. Jack Smith

A Closer Look at Certain Sperm Abnormalities in the Bull
Dr. Jack Smith

Bovine Estrus Synchronization from a Practitioner's Perspective
Dr. Herring Maxwell

Legal Issues in the Pharmaceutical Management of Bovine Reproduction
Dr. Gatz Riddell

Tentative Equine Schedule

Research Update (Stallion)
Dr. Regina Turner

Equine Metabolic Syndrome and Cushing's Disease: Possible Role in Infertility
Dr. Maria Cadario

Nutraceuticals and Other Drugs Used to Enhance Fertility in Stallions
Dr. Steve Brinsko

Antibiotics and Other Additives for Semen Extenders to Enhance Fertility
Dr. Steve Brinsko

Treatment Strategies in the Perinatal Mare and Foal
Dr. Peter Morrey

Antibiotics in Mare Reproduction (Breeding)
Dr. John J. Duscanio

New Treatment Strategies for Chronic Endometritis and for Post Mating Induced Endometritis
Dr. Michelle M. LeBlanc

Research Update ( Mare)
Dr. Dale Paccamonti

The Heat is On: What's New for Suppression of Estrus in Mares?
Dr. Dirk K. Vanderwall

Drugs for Behavior Modification in Stallions and Geldings
Dr. Sue McDonnell

Drugs for Behavior Modification in Mares
Dr. Sue McDonnell

Small Animal Schedule

The small animal schedule is being finalized by the program committee and will be available online in the next several weeks. A complete rundown of topics and times will be posted on www.therio.org as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience as the program committee works vigorously to put together an outstanding educational conference.

Please check the Therio website (www.therio.org) for continuous updates on the conference agenda.
Soar Above Albuquerque In A Hot Air Balloon!

When was the last time you did something for the first time in your life?

While attending the 2009 Therio Conference and Symposia, make plans to take your family on a hot air balloon ride.

Albuquerque is world famous for its balloon festivals. Get a group of your fellow conference-goers and reserve a flight at Rainbow Ryders, Inc; 1-800-725-2477. Go to www.rainbowriders.com for more information.

Take A Train Ride To Historic Santa Fe!

Albuquerque’s train sensation – the RAIL RUNNER – runs from downtown Albuquerque to the state capital of Santa Fe, providing conference attendees access to Santa Fe for an exceptional day trip and for less than ten dollars round trip! (see http://www.visitsantafe.com/).

Established in 1607, it Santa Fe is the oldest state capital city in North America. It has remained small, but now it is an artist haven. It is filled with galleries, shops, restaurants, and performing arts venues. At 7,000 feet elevation, shopping in this town is not meant for the faint-hearted! The charm of the town makes the trip worthwhile.

ALBUQUERQUE AWAITS YOU FOR THE
2009 THERIO CONFERENCE & SYMPOSIA

An abundance of educational opportunities during the conference
and untold sources of relaxation for you and your family!

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND, YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

The true Southwest awaits you in Albuquerque, New Mexico! Immerse yourself in rich culture and heritage rooted in centuries of his-
tory. (www.itsatrip.com). Soak in blue skies and sun that shines 310 days a year- perfect for outdoor activities. Breathe in the high
desert air scented with sage and piñon, and you’ll understand why Albuquerque is a destination like no other!

Historic Albuquerque, New Mexico is a combination
of the very old and the highly contemporary, the
frontier town and the cosmopolitan city. It is a city
with a rich history famous for its multiculturalism
reflected in its public art, museums and architecture.
The Albuquerque experience is not man-made or
contrived. Petroglyphs, vistas, sunsets, food, historic
attractions and lifestyle exist with and without
tourism.

The city has a vast range of nightlife venues that
include live music, dancing, theater and entertain-
ment.

Explore the extensive array of shopping options to
add a little New Mexican flair to your collection.
Discover Native American quality jewelry and count-
less other fabulous finds in this Southwestern art
Mecca.

Authentic Southwestern pottery, weavings, rugs, art
and more fill the picturesque adobe shops and gal-
leries. Wherever you shop, from traditional
Southwestern art galleries to contemporary bou-
tiques, you are sure to find a treasure that will bring
back wonderful memories of your visit to
Albuquerque for years to come.

Family Fun Night will take place at the Indian
Pueblo Cultural Center established in 1976. The cen-
ter offers educational programming and exhibitions
tracing the cultural heritage, history and contem-
porary expressions of the Pueblo people of New
Mexico. The Family Fun night will consist of great
authentic cuisine inspired by the traditions and
ingredients cultivated by New Mexico culinary artists;
Traditional Native Dances; Storytellers and even a
courtyard bonfire await you! Make sure you register
to attend this fun filled evening!
PLACES OF INTEREST TO VISIT

Historic Old Town

- More than 150 shops, galleries and restaurants
- Charming 300-year-old plaza with beautiful 18th century architecture, narrow brick paths and picturesque patios
- Specialty shops selling authentic Native American jewelry, southwestern pottery, rugs, fetishes, carvings and art
- Prices that put other Southwestern cities to shame
- Buy directly from the Native American artists along the portal east of the plaza
- 7 Museums and the Albuquerque BioPark

Nob Hill

- Small, mostly locally owned stores with unique and handcrafted gifts
- Trendy, southwestern clothing, one-of-a-kind jewelry, chic home décor
- Mid-century architecture and neon signs along an 80-year-old stretch of Route 66, now called Central Avenue
- Patio dining is abundant
- Interesting ethnic restaurants as well as diners, coffee shops, microbreweries and wine bars

Downtown

- Specialty shops and galleries feature contemporary jewelry and art by New Mexican artists
- Native American silver jewelry, traditional New Mexican pottery, art and rugs
- Explore Gold Avenue one block west of Central Ave. for trendy locally owned stores and street fairs throughout the year
- Dozens of restaurants and the state’s largest nightlife area

Uptown

- The state’s biggest shopping and dining destination near Louisiana and I-40
- ABQ Uptown, an outdoor mall filled with upscale specialty shops, restaurants and a spa/salon (BCBG, J. Jill, Coldwater Creek, Pottery Barn, Williams-Sonoma, MAC, The Apple Store, Elephant Bar, Bravo Cucina Italiana)
- Coronado Center, features more than 150 stores (Macy’s, JCPenney, Sears, Gap, Banana Republic, Caché, Ann Taylor, The Body Shop)
- An awesome variety of dining options

Visiting Albuquerque allows you to experience the authentic Southwest. One of the oldest cities in the U.S., Albuquerque boasts a unique multi-cultural heritage and history where Native American, Hispanic & Latino, Anglo and other cultural influences are a part of everyday life. You’ll always feel you’re some place special when you’re eating at one of our traditional New Mexican restaurants, shopping at one of our more than 3,000 shops and galleries, or enjoying world-class visual and performing arts or playing on the best golf courses in the Southwest!
While Attending the 2009 Therio Conference Visit the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum

Since the first balloon flights in 1783, there have been many feats recorded in the story of Balloon flight. Hot air and gas balloons have been used for adventure, scientific experiments, the arts, warfare, espionage, and the exploration of space. Interactive exhibits, a balloon ride with simulation, historic facts, and media presentations of all types will tell this story.

New Storytelling Program
"Stories in the Sky" a FREE storytelling program for children, ages 6 months to 6 years, is offered every Wednesday from 9:30 – 10:15 am. The program features stories, games, songs, crafts and movement.

Las Nubes de La Palma/Clouds of La Palma Clouds, Weather and Ballooning
The exhibition features some 100 striking photographs of clouds above La Palma, an island in Spain’s Canary Islands. The formations are very unusual and create fascinating images. Visitors will be surprised at the number of similarities between these clouds that formed halfway across the world and those in our own area. A large area has been set aside for fun hands-on activities. Here you can learn about "lift" with a wind machine; create your own tornado; start a weather journal; and hold instruments and learn how they are used.

Children of War, Voices for Peace: Japanese and American Perspectives – A new exhibit in 2009
This new exhibition complements the Balloon Museum’s ongoing display of Fugos -- balloon bombs deployed by the Japanese during World War II as part of their war effort. The centerpiece of the exhibition is a series of illustrations of the process of making the balloon bombs, coupled with historic photographs.

Hours
Tuesdays-Sundays
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location
9201 Balloon Museum Dr. NE
Albuquerque, N.M. 87113
Admission
Adults: $4
Seniors (65+): $2
Children (ages 4-12): $1
Toddlers (3 and under): FREE

University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine, Reproduction Club, Summary of Events, Fall 2008

The University of Pennsylvania’s Repro Club participated in the first event of the year, PENN’s Club Fair. The purpose of this event was to highlight the variety of opportunities that the club provided to its members last year, and to recruit new members from the entering class of 2012 – as well as from other classes. This was a very successful event, and as a result PENN’s Repro Club currently includes over 110 students, which includes many returning members and a strong surge of new members.

The first club meeting for the Repro Club was held on September 25th. Here new and seasoned members gathered to learn about PENN’s Repro Club as well as give input on activities and plans for the semester. Officers for the 2008-2009 academic year were nominated and installed during the course of this meeting.

The Repro Club at PENN started the Fall 2008 semester with a wet lab held at the Hoffman Center at New Bolton Center on September 16th. Dr. Cindy Maenhoudt and Dr. Natalia Santos took a group of 10 students through a mare palpation wet lab. Dr. Maenhoudt went through the theory and practical application of mare palpation. This lab was oversubscribed two fold, and in response to this overwhelming demand, we will look to have a repeat mare palpation lab in the Spring.

We held a bake sale in September, and used the proceeds to support our chosen charity: The Eight Belles Memorial Fund (Thoroughbred Charities of America). We collected over $100 for this charity to conduct research into finding ways to prevent horses from sustaining the type of injury that Eight Belles encountered.

Our second wet lab of the year was a Fetotomy Wet Lab ran by Dr. Audrey Kellerman. With our growing Club size we were again oversubscribed, and eight Repro Club members braved the icy October morning air for a great learning experience with Dr. Kellerman.

In December we had our third wet lab: Small Animal Reproduction. This was held at PENN’s Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Despite the proximity to final exams a group of students attended the 3hr lab on Saturday the 6th. Medical Genetics resident Dr. Cindy O’Connor provided a short lecture with a brief introduction to the canine reproduction, offering an overview of canine reproduction, and then delving more deeply into the canine estrous cycle, evaluation of optimal insemination times by timing by vaginal cytology, artificial insemination and pregnancy diagnosis. Students then had the chance to perform a vaginal cytology on a variety of dogs in various stages of their cycles. Dr. O’Connor led the students through preparation and staining of the cytology samples, and then encouraged the students to make informed decisions based on the evidence gained from the cytology results and a brief physical exam. Dr. O’Connor focused on techniques that could be readily adapted to a private practice setting. It was a great experience for all those who attended.

The final wet lab of the semester was held at the Philadelphia Zoo. Here, zoo resident Dr. Chris Montgomery led a group of 25 through the field of reproduction as it relates to zoo medicine. A walk through the zoo’s onsite hospital, as well as a guided tour of the zoo itself followed this fascinating talk. We opened up this wet lab to a few members of PENN’s Special Species Club so they could share in this great experience.

We sold raffle tickets during PENN’s SCAVMA Auction as a fundraiser for the club, as well as for our charity. We sold over $200 in tickets for a 50/50 draw. This year Dr. Hand, a member of our 1st Year Anatomy teaching staff, won the draw and he very generously donated his winnings back to the Repro Club!

We had a wonderful Fall semester, and hope to continue our string of great labs on into the Spring semester. We hope to provide our members with hands on experience in Sheep Ultrasound, Bull Breeding Exams, Equine Case Discussions and many more. We also aim to keep expanding our list of species covered by the labs by having a Swine Wet Lab, a second Small Animal Wet Lab, and an Alpaca farm visit.

The Repro Club would like to thank the faculty and the staff of the Hoffman Center for their continued support this year, and particularly Dr. Patricia Sertich for serving as our faculty mentor. We also would like to thank the SFT for their support of our Club, which enables us to offer our members some fantastic opportunities in the field of reproduction.

Sincerely, Jonathan Wood, Class of 2012, UPENN Repro Club Vice President
Leaders in Thoroughbred Horse Industry Support Colorado State University Laboratory with $1.14M

Over the last year, two leading forces in the international world of thoroughbred racing and equine health have donated a total of $1.14M to Colorado State University Professor Gordon Woods' laboratory to support his research using the horse as a model for understanding human cancer and other age-onset diseases.

Jess Jackson - majority owner of Curlin, 2007 and 2008 Horse of the Year - contributed $1 million to Dr. Woods' research in February 2008. Working with Jackson, the Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital, founded by Dr. Bill Rood and Dr. Tom Riddle in Lexington, Ky., in 1986, last month contributed $140,000 to the Woods Laboratory. The $1 million gift from Jackson was formally announced by the donor in August 2008.

"These gifts demonstrate the strong generosity of spirit and commitment to excellence that both Mr. Jackson and Drs. Rood and Riddle bring to their own work and involvement in the equine industry," Woods said. "Their investment in this program will help take our research to the next important level in terms of understanding the biochemical causes of subfertility in stallions and cancer in humans."

Woods' laboratory is part of the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and is in the Department of Biomedical Sciences. Woods is the Alexander Professor in Equine Reproduction in the Animal Reproduction and Biotechnology Laboratory and Equine Reproduction Laboratory.

Specifically, Woods' team is conducting research on chemistry at the cellular level to help explain why horses enjoy such a low rate of metastatic cancer and other age-onset diseases, such as diabetes and Alzheimer's disease, in comparison to humans. The mortality rate for horses with metastatic cancer is 8 percent and 0 percent for prostate cancer. By comparison, the mortality rate in humans is about 24 percent, of which 13 to 14 percent is for prostate cancer.

In looking at the reasons behind that difference, the Woods laboratory honed in on calcium as a regulator of cell activity. It is well established that low calcium within the cell slows cell activity and high levels of calcium within the cell speeds cell activity. The Woods team was the first to determine, however, that equines have a low, intracellular calcium level and is currently studying how to use that as a way to increase their fertility. Studies have shown that humans with age-onset diseases have a higher level of intracellular calcium.

Next steps for Woods' team include studying the impact of increased intracellular calcium on horse fertility, and in the long term, studying the effect of reduced intracellular calcium in humans with age-onset diseases.

The 2009 AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference

By Lisa A. Willis, DVM, Mid-Texas Veterinary Associates, PC, Owner

I was honored to attend the AVMA Leadership Conference in January of this year as the Future Leader Representative for The Society For Theriogenology. The AVMA Leadership Conference is held every year in Chicago in conjunction with the AVMA House of Delegates Winter Session. Each association or group within the AVMA House of Delegates is invited to send representatives to the yearly conference.

The goal of the Leadership Conference is "To develop leaders for the benefit of the individual and the veterinary profession." I attended workshops on animal welfare issues and one which explained the AVMA Political Action Committee and how and why we need to be involved with the issues that affect our profession. I especially enjoyed the workshops I attended by Dr. Richard DeBows, who addressed personal development. Dr. DeBows spoke of leadership in what he referred to as a "Traditional" and "Contemporary" method of leading. The traditional leader is one who has a commanding authority or influence. The contemporary leader is one who possesses the skills, knowledge and perspective that allow one to know, direct, manage, and sustain themselves and others to attain a personal or organizational vision. In other words, "Friendliness with a purpose." Another favorite quote I took from this workshop is that "Leaders we admire do not place themselves at the center, they place others there. They do not seek the attention of people; they give it to others...they focus on the constituent (client). Leaders serve a purpose... (professional code of ethics)."

Peter Sheahan was the last speaker of the session and addressed the generational differences within our organizations. The most notable point he made was that the younger generation is not as content as previous generations to sit back and work their way up to a position by being compliant and doing what those in previous generations tell them to do. The younger generation wants to be actively involved in decision making and basically feel like they can do whatever they set their mind to. Before you of older generations get upset, I want to remind you of who raised these young people of today. (That's right, it was YOU). I believe that young people today are ready to be active in our associations and all we need to do is ask for their involvement. In order for our associations to develop our leaders for tomorrow, we must include them in the responsibilities of today.

Thanks again, SFT, for sending me to the Leadership Conference. I am looking forward to my continued involvement in the Society and organized veterinary medicine. You may have created a monster!

Call for Articles/ Stories from Students
LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have news from your SFT Student Chapter or college of veterinary medicine that you would like to share with Therio members, please send it to Charles@franzmgt.com.

Please make sure to put "TherioNews Article" in the subject line of your message.

Winter 2009 Newsletter
SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

Interruption of the canine estrous cycle with a low and a high dose of the GnRH antagonist, acyline
Valiente, G; Garcia Romero, G; Carmona, Y; de la Sota, PE; Hermo, G; Gobello, C (2009) Theriogenology. 71, 408-411.

To test the efficacy and clinical safety of a low and high dose of the GnRH antagonist, acyline, on estrous cycle interruption and anovulation in female dogs, 20 proestrous (<3 day) bitches were randomly assigned to one of the following pharmacological protocols (given SC): acyline 110 mg/kg (ACY-L; n = 6); acyline 330 mg/kg (ACY-H; n = 8); or placebo (PLACE; n = 6). The animals were monitored (clinical and vaginal cytology examinations) daily for 60 days. Blood samples for serum progesterone serum concentrations were collected 14 days after treatment to determine if ovulation had occurred. Appearance of side effects and days to the onset of the first spontaneous estrous cycle after treatment were also recorded. In both ACY groups, but not in the PLACE group, estrous cycles were interrupted after treatment (P < 0.05). The interval from treatment to estrus interruption in ACY-L and ACY-H groups was 3.0 ± 0.6 and 3.2 ± 0.2 days, respectively (least square mean ± SEM; P > 0.05). In the PLACE bitches, physical, behavioral, and cytological proestrous slowly progressed to estrus and diestrus. Ovulation was absent in all ACY, but not in PLACE bitches (P < 0.05). None of the females manifested side effects related to the treatments (P > 0.05). Spontaneous return to a normal estrous cycle during the study period occurred in all ACY (ACY-L 19.5 ± 2.7 days vs ACY-H 24.8 ± 2.0 days; P > 0.05), but in none of the PLACE bitches (P < 0.05). In conclusion, acyline efficiently, safely, and reversibly interrupted an early phase of the estrous cycle in bitches by preventing ovulation.

The effect of feeding propylene glycol to dairy cows during the early postpartum period on follicular dynamics and on metabolic parameters related to fertility
D. Rizzo, D.A. Kenny, W. Griffin, K.M. Quinn, P. Duffy, F.I. Mulligan, J.F. Roche, M.P. Boland and P. Linnegar, “School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine, College of Life Sciences, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland” Theriogenology Volume 69, Issue 6, 1 April 2008, Pages 688-699

Postpartum dairy cows (n = 55) were used to determine the effects of feeding propylene glycol (PG) on metabolic variables related to ovarian function and on oocyte developmental competence. Starting on Day 7 postpartum, each animal received an oral dose (500 ml) of either PG or water once daily. Blood samples were collected on Days 5, 15, 25 and 35 pp to measure insulin, non-esterified fatty acids (NEFAs), beta-hydroxybutyrate (BHB) and glucose concentrations. Oocytes were recovered by ultrasound-guided follicular aspiration starting on approximately Day 30 postpartum and submitted to in vitro fertilization. Ovarian follicular activity was examined daily by ultrasonography from Day 7 until ovulation or Days 35-40 postpartum. Animals receiving PG had elevated insulin concentrations over the subsequent 90 min following dosing (P < 0.05) compared to control animals. Glucose concentrations followed a similar pattern. Irrespective of treatment, concentrations of NEFA declined significantly from Days 15 to 35 postpartum. Administration of PG resulted in a decrease in NEFA (P < 0.001) and BHB (P < 0.001) over the subsequent 90 min compared to control animals. Treatment with PG had no effect on follicular dynamics, mean days to emergence of the first cohort of follicles postpartum, or days to dominance and duration of dominance for any follicular wave recorded postpartum. There was also no difference in mean days to first ovulation or in size of the preovulatory follicle between treatments. Oocyte quality as measured by blastocyst development after IVF was not affected by treatment. These results suggest that administration of PG has the ability to positively alter the systemic concentrations of a number of metabolic variables which have been related to fertility. However, we did not observe an effect of PG treatment on follicular dynamics or the length of the postpartum interval. An effect on oocyte developmental competence remains to be proven.

Keywords: Fertility; Oocyte quality; Metabolic status; Dairy cow

Ovulation, Pregnancy Rate and Early Embryonic Development in Vernal Transitional Mares Treated with Equine- or Porcine-FSH.
Raz T, Amorim MD, Stover BC, Card CE. Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, Theriogenology Volume 69, Issue 6, 1 April 2008, Pages 688-699

Contents The objective of this study was to compare the efficacy of purified equine- and porcine-FSH treatment regimens in mares in early vernal transition. Mares (n = 22) kept under ambient light were examined ultrasonographically per-rectum, starting January 30th. They were assigned to one of two treatment groups using a sequential alternating treatment design when a follicle >/= 25 mm was detected. In the eFSH group, mares were treated twice daily with equine-FSH, and in the pFSH group mares were treated twice daily with porcine-FSH; treatments were continued until follicle(s) >/= 35 mm, and 24 h later hCG was administered. Oestrous mares were inseminated with fresh semen and examined for pregnancy on days 11-20 post-ovulation. In the eFSH group, 11/11 (100%) mares developed follicle(s) >/= 35 mm, 8/11 (73%) ovulated and 6/8 (75%) conceived. In the pFSH group, 3/11 (45%) developed follicle(s) >/= 35 mm, 4/11 (36%) ovulated and 3/4 (75%) conceived. Treatment with eFSH resulted in a greater ovarian stimulation; higher number of pre-ovulatory-sized follicles, higher number of ovulations and higher number of embryos (p < 0.05). Following ovulation, serum progesterone concentrations were correlated with the number of CLs and supported early embryonic development; maternal recognition of pregnancy occurred in all pregnant mares. We concluded that eFSH can be used to effectively induce follicular growth and ovulation in vernal transitional mares; however, if bred, diagnosis and management of twins’ pregnancies would be required prior to day 16 because of the increased risk of multiple embryos per pregnancy.
SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

Conversely, the current pFSH treatment regime cannot be recommended Reprod Domest Anim. 2009 Jan 8. [Epub ahead of print]

Transduction and Transplantation of Spermatogonia into the Testis of Ram Lambs through the Extra-testicular Rete.

Rodriguez-Sosa J, Silvertown J, Foster R, Medin I, Hahnel A. Department of Biomedical Sciences, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Guelph, Canada.

Spermatogonial transplantation will provide a new way to study spermatogenesis in domestic animals, disseminate male genetics and produce transgenic animals, if efficiency can be improved. We evaluated a 'surgical' method for transplanting donor cells into testes of ram lambs, where the head of the epididymis is reflected, and a catheter introduced into the extra-testicular rete testis. We also tested transduction of ram spermatogonia with a lentiviral (LV) vector as a means to identify permanent colonization, and introduce genes into donor cells. Eight ram lambs, 11- to 13-week olds, were the recipients: in five, spermatogonia were injected into one testis, and the contralateral testis was an un-manipulated control: in two, spermatogonia were injected into one testis and the contralateral was sham-injected: in one, both testes were injected. Six lambs received spermatogonia labelled with a cell-tracking dye and these were collected 1 or 2 weeks after transplantation; three lambs received spermatogonia transduced with a LV vector driving the expression of enhanced Green Fluorescence Protein and these were collected after 2 months. Donor cells were detected by immunohistochemistry in tubules of seven of nine recipient testes. Approximately 22% of tubule cross-sections contained donor cells immediately after transplantation, and 0.2% contained virally transduced cells 2 months after transplantation. The onset of spermatogenesis was delayed, and there were lesions in both injected and sham-injected testes. Despite the effects of the surgery, elongated spermatids were present in one recipient testis 2 months after surgery. The results suggest that, after modifying the surgical and transduction techniques, this approach will be a means to produce good colonization by donor spermatogonia in sheep testes.


Estradiol measurement after GnRH-stimulation as a method to diagnose the presence of ovaries in the female domestic cat.

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There is currently no method to reliably diagnose the presence of ovarian tissue in inactive intact female cats except laparotomy which is an invasive procedure. All available tests require that the queen is in estrus. Obvious overt symptoms of estrus are, however, not always observed and some queens may have only 2 estrus periods/year. Therefore this study was designed to evaluate if it is possible to diagnose the presence of ovarian tissue by measurement of estradiol before and/or after stimulation with a GnRH-analogue. Twenty-two female cats were divided into two groups: 11 females that were known to have been ovariectomized and 11 females that were known to be intact. From each cat a hepaticised blood sample was collected from the cephalic vein for resting estradiol and progesterone measurements. All cats were treated with a GnRH-analogue busulferin ([Receptal, 0.4mg/kg im]). Two hours later a second blood sample was collected. Median estradiol increased after stimulation with busulferin in intact but not in ovariectomized females (11 range 5-21 vs. 20 range 12-41, P=0.004 and 6 range 4-9 vs. 6 range 3-9 P=0.8) and did not overlap between the two groups. The highest estradiol concentration post-GnRH in the ovariectomized group was 9pmol/L while the lowest in the intact group was 12pmol/L. Progesterone was basal in all cats except one both before and after GnRH-stimulation. In conclusion this study demonstrates that measurement of estradiol concentration in plasma 2h after stimulation with a GnRH-analogue seems to be a reliable method to diagnose the presence of ovarian tissue in the female cat.

Lameness, activity time-budgets, and estrus expression in dairy cattle.

Walker SL, Smith PE, Routly JE, Jones DN, Morris MJ, Dohoo II. Department of Veterinary Clinical Science, Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Liverpool, Leahurst, Neston, Wirral CH64 7TE, United Kingdom.

The aim of the present study was to identify specific behavioral patterns that contribute to diminished estrus expression in lame cows. Behavioral scan and focal sampling were used to examine the effect of lameness on daily activity budgets, sexual behavior, feeding activities, and body condition score. A total of 59 milking cows (51.8 +/- 1.4 d postpartum) were monitored on a commercial dairy farm for 5 d following estrus synchronization. Overall, lame cows (n = 39) spent proportionately less time elevated on their feet and more time lying down compared with nonlame cows (n = 20). This included lame cows spending less time walking or standing. Overall, the total proportion of scans in which an estrous behavior was observed was very small but tended to be smaller for lame compared with nonlame cows. Throughout the day, lame cows displayed a lower proportion of estrous behaviors in the early morning. Lameness did not affect durations of drinking, grazing, or ruminating, or how these behavioral states fluctuated throughout the day. Similarly, rumination chewing rates were the same for lame and nonlame cows, and there was no association between lameness and dominance/displacement while feeding at a feed-fence. Lame cows did, however, have a slower bite rate at pasture and had a lower body condition score. Lameness were also nearer the rear of the herd, both as they left the field and when entering the milking parlor. In conclusion, lame cows have longer lying times and spend less time standing, walking, and expressing an estrous behavior. Lame cows also have a lower bite rate at pasture and are more likely to be of lower body condition score.

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from a very snowy Pacific Northwest this year! We have been literally cut-off from the world recently as our regional airport could not handle the weather.

We have to remain optimistic while we face the challenges of 2009 and particularly the impact that the world economy will have on the veterinary profession. Also, as you have seen from the numerous postings on the List-Serv, we are reminded by the importance of continuous vigilance as we face CEM during the next equine breeding season. Our colleagues and veterinarians with special interest in theriogenology can play an important role in breeders and producer education regarding venereal diseases in all animal species.

The members of your Executive Board met at the end of January in Albuquerque, NM. I will be presenting a complete report of the meeting in the spring edition of the ACT newsletter but would like to highlight some of the items which were on our meeting agenda.

Many committees presented their reports to the board. New members were presented for the Scientific Information and Certifying Examination Committees. We are all excited to get to know and work with these new committee members and I hope that more colleagues will in the future respond to calls for nominations.

Our efforts to collaborate with European colleagues continue to grow. Dr. Augustine Peter represented the ACT at the ECAR board meeting this fall and will present some aspects of this collaboration. Dr. Martinot of the Lyon Veterinary School joined us for the winter board meeting.

Our representative to the ABVS, Dr. Dale Paccomoiti, presented his report and in particular some of the ongoing discussion on job analysis, exam writing and recertification that our college needs to address.

An important activity of the board was to review the 21 credentialing applications and 12 mentorship program applications. It is very exciting to see this interest in our specialty from such a large and diverse group of talented veterinarians. This is without doubt due to diplomat's efforts to promote the specialty to veterinarians and veterinary students and serve as their mentors. Our relationship with the Society for Theriogenology is certainly a great catalyst in these efforts.

I urge all and in particular new diplomats to get involved in the governance of our college and respond to calls for different committees. Please do not hesitate to contact Board members (www.theriogenology.org). We hope to see as many of you as possible this summer in Albuquerque. Please continue to submit and encourage your students and trainees to submit scientific abstracts!

The American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) fondly remembers Charter Diplomate Dr. D. John Williams of Watkinsville, GA, who passed away December 14, 2006 at the age of 81.

Following graduation from the University Of Georgia College Of Veterinary Medicine in 1953, he was in private practice in Cordele GA. Dr. Williams earned a Masters of Science Degree from Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine and a FRVC degree in Stockholm Sweden. He taught theriogenology at the University Of Georgia College Of Veterinary Medicine in the department of Large Animal Medicine until his retirement in 1989 as Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Williams was the first president of the Georgia Quarter Horse Association. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Omega Tau Sigma and a lifetime member of the Georgia Veterinary Medical Association. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the United States Navy and an avid bible student who made numerous mission trips to South America accompanied by his wife Carolyne.

Dr. Williams will be remembered by many animal science students, veterinary students, graduate students and colleagues as a person who cared deeply for his patients and shared his knowledge and kindness with everyone he came in contact with. He was one of several charter members of the ACT who were called upon to discuss the establishment of the David E. Barlett Lecture Award over twenty-five years ago. When asked "What if Dr. Barlett will not continue?" Dr. Williams is said to have replied with "We will do it anyway."

Shortly after the announcement of Dr. Williams passing, Dr. Bruce Hollett of the University of Georgia was quoted as saying "He was a gentle man, having a sense of humor and a memorable southern manner of speech. These are the people that have shaped our specialty and profession."

Dr. Williams is survived by his wife Carolyne, a daughter, two sons, six grandchildren and one great grandson.
Call for ACT Nominations to Board

The Nominating Committee of the ACT and the Executive Board are calling for nominations for the following positions:

1. Vice President- This is a four year term beginning with the position of vice-president, moving on to president-elect and then president and finally past president.

2. Executive Board member-Director 3 year term

Active diplomats may be considered for either position. Travel is required to Board meetings in January and the annual meeting in August

Please forward nominations to me no later than March 9, 2009. Biographical sketches and information along with ballots will be included in the April Newsletter.

The following information should be included with submissions of nominations:

1. Name, school, year of graduation and position running for.

2. Year achieving diplomate status and route (residency vs practitioner)

3. Species emphasis and main focus of work.

4. Qualifications specific for the post you are seeking - include education, personal experience, vision etc.

Please restrict the above comments to 350 words or less.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.
This is your College and I would encourage you to become actively involved.

Ahmed

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American College of Theriogenologists
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Winter 2009 Newsletter
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