Healing Hands

NBAF? Yes!

Manhattan lands $451 million research center

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Marvelous Marvin paints
Phi Zeta touts research
Dr. Nichols boosts MPH
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Says research makes for good career option
Good news has arrived. Previously, we’ve told you about the proposal for Manhattan, Kan., to become the site for the new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, or NBAF. We were one of five communities considered for replacing the aging Plum Island Animal Disease Center in New York. In December, Manhattan was officially chosen, and our story on page 12 tells more about how the CVM helped influence the final decision. An important factor was the strength of our veterinary program where scientists can pursue research in food safety, infectious diseases, animal health and productivity, and public health. Combined with our College of Agriculture and other university strengths, the animal health and comparative medicine work forces associated with the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor, the medical schools in Kansas City and the K-State Olathe Innovation Campus, it became obvious Manhattan would be the ideal location for NBAF.

In other news, longtime K-State President Jon Wefald will retire at the end of this academic year. His replacement is Dr. Kirk Schulz, vice president for research and economic development at Mississippi State University. We believe Dr. Schulz’s background in research is a great complement for the CVM. He will help provide energetic leadership while valuing the importance of research for the university and our college. His background in economic development and involvement with faculty from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University should also benefit K-State during these challenging economic times.

The state of Kansas has been struggling with major budget issues, and we are facing significant reductions in funding. It’s increasingly important for us to generate new revenue sources for our programs. Your support of the college is needed now — more than ever — to help maintain our leadership in education, service and research. I am so very proud of the can-do attitudes of our students, faculty and staff — despite facing unprecedented financial challenges! Our grant submissions, commitment to curriculum enhancements and service to our clients is simply outstanding.

I invite you to keep in touch and hope you share our enthusiasm for our profession and college as you read the story about NBAF and other CVM activities in this issue of Healing Hands.

Sincerely,

Ralph C. Richardson, DVM, Dean
Healing Hands

Correction & update:
VTPRK - Meet Caitlin James

The Fall 2008 Healing Hands featured a story about the Veterinary Training Program for Rural Kansas (VTPRK), a state-funded program that provides financial support to veterinary students with the understanding they will work in a rural area of Kansas following graduation.

In the story, we incorrectly identified Caitlin James as Caitlin Jones, and we regret the error.

Caitlin, a native of Lenora, Kan., earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science and industry in December 2007.

“I learned about the VTPRK as an undergrad when it was still in the Kansas legislature,” Caitlin said. “I was very excited it passed since I planned on being a mixed animal practitioner in a rural area anyway. This summer, four other students and I will participate in three weeks of classes including a week at a slaughter plant and time at the Center for Rural Engagement. We will also complete a four-week mentorship at a rural Kansas practice.”

Caitlin, who is in the class of 2012, plans to return to western Kansas after graduation. She says she likes the higher, dryer, windier portion of the state.

Norovirus research merits $5.1 million grant for Dr. Chang

Noroviruses make people sick to the stomach, but not Dr. Kyeong-OK Chang. His research on noroviruses has been awarded a $5.1 million NIH cooperative research grant.

“Human noroviruses are the leading cause of food- or water-borne gastroenteritis illnesses responsible for more than 60 percent of outbreaks,” Dr. Chang said. “These outbreaks can occur in humans and animals, including pigs, cattle and minks. There are no commercially available vaccines or antivirals against noroviruses, despite an estimated 23 million cases of illness, 50,000 hospitalizations and 300 deaths each year in the United States alone.”

Dr. Chang is the principal investigator at K-State and works with co-principal investigators: Dr. Linda Saif, Ohio State; Dr. William Groutas, Wichita State University; and Dr. Duy Hua, chemistry department, K-State.

“We plan to develop anti-noroviral therapeutics in cooperation with medicinal chemists and virologists from other institutions,” Dr. Chang said. “We have identified two classes of hit compounds that have significantly reduced virus replication with distinct mechanisms and aim to develop novel small molecule therapeutics by advancing the hit compounds through the stage prior to filing an FDA investigational new drug application.”

Dr. Chang earned his DVM and M.S. from Seoul National University in Korea and a doctorate at the Ohio State University, where he became interested in noroviruses. Dr. Chang has continued this line of research as an assistant professor in veterinary virology in the Department of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology in the CVM.

Napolitano tours BRI facility

With Manhattan being named the future site for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano was in Manhattan this February. She was joined by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius on a tour of K-State’s Biosecurity Research Institute. The BRI studies plant and animal diseases and the NBAF facility will be an extension of that.

“The fact that facilities like the BRI already exist at K-State was a big positive in Napolitano’s mind.”

“In reality, this is the best place in the United States to have this type of facility because of the expertise in the animal health community that already exists here in Kansas and Manhattan,” said Napolitano.

Napolitano and Sebelius spent time in other parts of the state as well, meeting with emergency managers in Topeka and taking a tour of the Greensburg community.

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International symposium brings world-renowned disease researchers to K-State

K-State and the CVM are taking new steps to establish our campus as a global player in human and animal health research.

Dr. Jürgen Richt, the recently appointed Regents Distinguished Professor of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology and Kansas Biosciences Authority Eminent Scholar, organized and hosted an international symposium on campus with several key scientists in infectious disease research.

The two-day conference, “Emerging Infections: A Tribute to the One Medicine, One Health Concept,” was held Nov. 13 and 14. The first night featured an overflow crowd at the International Grains Program Executive Conference Center, where researchers gave compelling presentations on the latest breakthroughs and research on diseases: bird and Spanish flu, dengue, Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever, Ebola and SARS.

Dr. Robert Webster, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn., detailed the emergence and response to H5N1 avian influenza in Asia and explained its potential to insidiously spread throughout other parts of the world and the animal and human health crises that could result.

Dr. Richt stressed the event couldn’t happen without proper support. “Our focus is on presenting great science and we are able to do that by organizing a first-class conference with the help of many sponsors,” he said. “Especially important was the help from companies and organizations within the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor, especially the Kansas Bioscience Authority and Heartland BioAgro Consortium.”

Attendance for the conference was free and many of the speakers volunteered their time and travel to be at the conference. More than 150 guests turned out from North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East, and more than 30 topics were presented in five workshops.

Swine Influenza — late-breaking update:
The CVM has responded to concerns about the swine influenza outbreaks in recent headlines. Visit www.vet.k-state.edu/features/public_health.htm for information and links about swine influenza and other health and veterinary alerts.

Chris Stephens joins development office

There’s a new face in the development office in the CVM. Meet Chris Stephens, development officer, who joins the fundraising team led by Chris Gruber, Director of Development.

Chris Stephens will assist with the direction and implementation of a comprehensive development program for raising private support for the CVM.

Chris previously served as the director of the Hereford Youth Foundation of America and director for youth activities for the National Junior Hereford Association in Kansas City, Mo. In that position, Chris coordinated fundraising efforts for the foundation and provided day-to-day management for the 3,000-member junior association.

A native of Wesson, Miss., Chris earned his bachelor’s degree in agricultural sciences and natural resources and agricultural communications in 2002 from Oklahoma State University.

VMCE’s Linda Johnson retires after 38 years

The CVM says goodbye to one of its longtime employees, Linda Johnson, Ph.D. Linda was an instructor and director of Veterinary Medical Continuing Education and was a familiar sight as the organizer of all the college’s continuing education conferences. She retired after 38 years with K-State.

Linda earned a bachelor’s degree in zoology in 1968 from Ohio University, and a master’s degree in education in 1978 and doctorate in educational technology in 1990, both at K-State. Linda was recognized with KVM’s K-State Distinguished Service Award in 2000, and the Lyle E. Grooters Higher Education Award from the Kansas Association for Educational Communications and Technology in 2003.

Linda is being recognized this year with the CVM’s Distinguished Service Award at Heritage Evening during the 71st Annual Conference for Veterinarians on June 7.
By Joe Montgomery

What do these things have in common: big posters, prominent guest speakers and unparalleled passion for research and scholarship in veterinary education? The answer is Phi Zeta Research Day.

Held during the spring semester, Phi Zeta Research Day showcases the research efforts of instructors, house officers, and graduate and professional students at the CVM. Oral presentations are given on basic or clinical research topics and case reports. An award ceremony is held in the evening, featuring the announcement of winners and also the presentation of the Pfizer Animal Health Award for Excellence in Research to an outstanding member of our faculty. Several non-Phi Zeta awards of excellence are also presented at the evening ceremony. In addition to research presentations, Phi Zeta Research Day includes the initiation of new members.

The student awards competitions include presentations in the form of a diagnostic case report by a junior or senior student, a clinical case report by a junior or senior student, and a review article by any veterinary student. A full list of the 2009 awards is available online: www.vet.k-state.edu/studentorgs/PhiZeta/2009/awards.htm

Phi Zeta Research Day also features the Kenneth D. Olson Lectureship. This year’s keynote speaker was Dr. Carlton L. Gyles, a native of Jamaica and a 1964 DVM graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College in Guelph, Ontario, where he also spent most of his career as an educator, researcher and administrator. He is presently editor-in-chief of the Canadian Veterinary Journal and the Conference of Research of Workers in Animal Diseases’ Animal Health Research Review.

Phi Zeta history
The Sigma Chapter of Phi Zeta was established at K-State in 1969 to recognize and promote scholarship. The national Phi Zeta organization was started in 1925 by a group of senior veterinary students in the New York State Veterinary College at Cornell University. The organizers of the society, when seeking a suitable name, sought the help of a Greek scholar, Professor George P. Bristol, Cornell University, who suggested a Greek word, which in the Latin form is spelled PHILOZIOI and means “love for animals.” The abbreviation of Phi Zeta was adopted as the society’s name.

For more information about Phi Zeta and how to join, visit: www.vet.k-state.edu/studentorgs/PhiZeta/

Benjamin Kurz Research Scholarship supports geriatric canine research

The Benjamin Kurz Research Scholarship is a special award that goes to a student working on a project related to geriatric canines, such as joint disease, pain control, ocular degeneration, endocrine or other tumors. The gift for this annual scholarship award was established by Linda Kurz, Overland Park, Kan., in honor of her special friend, Benjamin, who was a wheaten terrier/bearded collie. Linda and her husband, Jerry Hoffman, attend Phi Zeta Research Day each year for the awarding of the scholarship.

“The goal of this scholarship is to make sure the memory of Benjamin lives on,” Linda said. “I promised I would do that for Benjamin and wanted to make good on my commitment. Fifteen years is too short a lifespan for canines, so we hope the research will help extend the lives of our canine companions.”

Dr. Lisa Freeman, director of the Veterinary Research Scholars Program and professor of pharmacology said, “Our research programs benefit tremendously from private support. We thank Linda Kurz for creating the Benjamin Kurz Research Scholarship in honor of her departed companion, and commend her for recognizing the opportunity to make a difference in an important research field.”

Since losing Benjamin three years ago, Linda rescued a bearded collie, Max. She and Max volunteer as a therapy team in the Delta Society by participating in a program that lets children read to a dog to increase the child’s reading ability and self-confidence to read out loud in class or elsewhere. Linda also wrote a book called “The Benjamin Factor: The Human Animal Connection” detailing the importance of the human-animal bond.
Become a visible part of the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine history!

Honor your achievements, promote your clinic or business, or create a memorial with a personalized granite tile. Imagine the joy a gift of this type would provide for the veterinary medical professional in your life.

Each donation to this program supports the College of Veterinary Medicine. Granite tiles are displayed prominently in the Centennial Plaza between Mosier and Trotter halls.

To place an order, please visit us online at http://www.vet.ksu.edu/centennial/plaza.htm or call us at 785-532-4043.

Leave A Legacy...

Remember the College of Veterinary Medicine in your estate plan!

If you decide to include the college in your will, IRA, life insurance, etc., you may use this official language:

I give and bequeath to the Kansas State University Foundation, Manhattan, Kansas, Federal Identification Number 48-0667209, a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Kansas, the sum of $____ or percentage of ____%, to be used according to the Memo of Understanding on file with said organization OR for the general purpose of said Foundation.

If the college is included in your plan, PLEASE let us know! We’d like to personally thank you for your support.

For more information, please call 785-532-4378, e-mail chrisg@found.ksu.edu or visit http://www.vet.ksu.edu/depts/development
Rebecca Ann Lee, class of 2011, hails from Hopewell Junction, N.Y. She earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 2007. For this new regular feature, Healing Hands asked Rebecca about her path to K-State and her reasons for wanting to be a veterinarian.

When did you know you wanted to study veterinary medicine? I have never really wanted to do anything else. I still remember being quite young and struggling to pronounce the word “veterinarian” in conversation.

Who are the people you draw on for inspiration? My parents have always been my main role models. When I was 14, my dad and I took my family’s new puppy to our veterinarian, Dr. William McCord. While there, my dad mentioned to Dr. McCord that I aspired to be a veterinarian. He told me the kennel was hiring, and I started work there the next day. I have worked under Dr. McCord on and off throughout high school and college breaks. He is one of those veterinarians you aspire to be like: kind, compassionate and absolutely brilliant. My experience working with him has provided me with a good foundation of both veterinary medicine and client relations — an underrated aspect of this field.

Was K-State your first choice for veterinary studies? I applied to many schools and didn’t know much about K-State. When I interviewed, I loved it. K-State had a great family atmosphere that I did not experience when I visited other schools. Plus, the professors were very cordial and welcoming. At that point, I was really excited about moving to Kansas.

What has been most challenging about your veterinary education so far? Veterinary school is a balancing act. Studying, getting good grades — but also trying to have a life. Remembering to appreciate the little things is a necessity. It’s so easy to get overwhelmed with the work, and I have to sit back and think I worked so hard to get here. Although it’s challenging, I wouldn’t trade these experiences for anything.

What is your advice for younger students interested in studying veterinary medicine? Find a practice to volunteer at and gain as much experience as possible. This will help you determine whether you really want to pursue the degree. A veterinary career requires a lot of preparation, but it is incredibly rewarding and extremely well-respected. So if you know this is what you want, then you must do your best to work hard and study hard.
Nichols professorship and scholarship aid Master of Public Health program

By Joe Montgomery

In December 2008, the Nichols professorship was filled with the hiring of retired Brig. Gen. Michael B. Cates. The parallels between the careers of Dr. Cates and Dr. Nichols are striking. Dr. Cates, a DVM, was commander of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine and chief of the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps and served 28 years in the Army.

“It is a distinct honor to hold the professorship made possible by Dr. Nichols,” Dr. Cates said. “Although I never had the privilege of meeting him, we shared a similar belief in the importance of both veterinary medicine and public health. His long-term contributions to veterinary public health through his work in the military and the state of Florida, and through his teaching and gifts to education and research, have been extraordinary. On behalf of the MPH Program, I am truly grateful for his tremendous gift, and am happy to be a part of what he envisioned for the future of public health and for K-State.”

Dr. Cates is originally from Frisco, Texas, and graduated from Texas A&M University’s College of Veterinary Medicine in 1980. He was named an outstanding alumnus of that college in 2005. He also holds a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston and is a Distinguished Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

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“In today’s world, there are many complex challenges in animal, human and environmental health, and the future will bring even more,” Dr. Cates said. “I have been a longtime advocate of multidisciplinary, proactive approaches to health, and it is an honor to now be part of K-State’s outstanding research and educational efforts in these areas. My aim is to build on the program’s early successes, earning accreditation, broadening collaboration and partnerships among the many aspects of animal and public health, developing even more public health trained professionals for the workplace, and making significant contributions toward improved global health.”

“Over the last 10 years, we have strengthened our research, public health, food safety, infectious disease, and animal health/productivity efforts. The Master of Public Health program is a major beneficiary of Dr. Nichols’ kindness and vision, and for that we are eternally grateful.”

Since 2006, the Nichols scholarship has been awarded to seven students.

Public health and physical activity
Food safety
Public health nutrition
Infectious disease & zoonoses

Two of a kind: Dr. Cates leads MPH program

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The smart choice
Manhattan it is for $451 million NBAF research center

By Joe Montgomery

It was probably the most highly anticipated announcement in the state of Kansas since Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected president more than 50 years ago. On Dec. 3 it became official. Manhattan was selected to be the site for the new $451 million National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF).

For the last two years, officials at K-State and the state of Kansas have been making the case for the Little Apple to be the replacement for the longtime Plum Island zoonotic disease research facility located not too far from the Big Apple. The New York facility was due for replacement, and the federal government considered five other sites in addition to Manhattan: Flora, Miss.; San Antonio, Athens, Ga.; Butner, N.C.; and Plum Island. Four of these locations were closely connected to universities with veterinary colleges.

The desire for hosting NBAF is not hard to understand. The economic impact of having this facility means generating an annual payroll of $25 million to $30 million with an overall return of $3.5 billion over the next 20 years. The advantage of being located near a veterinary college is also self-evident. The decision then rested on the reputation and strategic benefits provided within each community. The facility is expected to begin construction in 2010 and should be complete by 2015, in order to ensure proper compliance with the necessary standards for a biosafety level 4 facility. The rest of this story consists of commentary written by CVM faculty and administrators who spelled out the reasons why K-State was the smart choice for the new location.

Dr. Dan Thomson, Jones Professor of Production Medicine and Epidemiology, associate professor of clinical sciences in the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine, and director of the Beef Cattle Institute

The new Bioscience Research Institute, or BRI, in Pat Roberts Hall was recently constructed and opened on the K-State campus. Pat Roberts Hall houses biosafety level 3 and biosafety level 3-Ag laboratories and environmental rooms. We already have a facility in Manhattan that is designed to do exactly what the NBAF researchers will need to do 90 percent of the time.

We have the experts on the K-State campus to work with the Department of Homeland Security to make the NBAF transition safe and expedient. With the BRI, we have already constructed a facility at K-State that would complement and dovetail into the NBAF expansion. The facilities are secure and biosecure. No bad people will get in and no bad bugs will get out.

Dr. Bob Larson, professor of clinical sciences and the Coleman Chair in Food Animal Production Medicine at Kansas State University

The livestock industries and public at large are not best served when important foreign animal disease research is carried out on a figurative or literal island, but rather when that research is carried out in an atmosphere of interdisciplinary interaction with veterinary medical researchers and epidemiologists, agricultural economists, animal scientists, animal health companies and livestock producers.

K-State has had a historic and continuing commitment to combat animal disease and to protect the nation’s animal populations and food supply. In addition to the expertise at K-State, the Animal Health Corridor that extends from Manhattan through the Kansas City metropolitan area and St. Joseph, Mo., to the University of Missouri at Columbia, provides a concentration of knowledge and expertise in animal health maintenance and disease prevention that is unique in the world. Locating the NBAF within the Animal Health Corridor leverages the infrastructure that is already in place and will enhance the communication necessary to develop solutions that meet the needs of animal owners and the public.

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BRI and K-State — soon all together — the state of Kansas has unlimited possibilities in becoming a leader in research on foreign and zoonotic diseases of animals, not only within our nation but worldwide. More importantly, the physical presence of these biocorridor facilities and animal health experts in Manhattan will ensure our nation’s agricultural security for decades.

Read the full opinion pieces and others online to learn more about their reasons why NBAF is the smart choice for K-State: www.k-state.edu/media/nbaf/support.html
You may have noticed some new e-mails from your alma mater in recent months. Please rest assured, this not SPAM™.

The CVM has launched an electronic version of its monthly newsletter Lifelines, where you can learn late-breaking news and read about current activities in the college with its faculty, staff, students and alumni.

Thanks to the K-State Alumni Association, the CVM is able to send an e-mail to more than half its alumni base. The college wants you to stay connected, and the e-mail allows you to click through to the Web site where Lifelines is posted.

The e-mails include links to individual stories as well as a link to the table of contents. E-mail saves money over postage and printing costs, plus the electronic version of Lifelines includes features that aren’t possible to offer in a traditional printed publication. If desired, you may unsubscribe to the e-mail messages, but we encourage you not to.

While you’re catching up on college activities, please take the time to browse the CVM Web site, which was redesigned in January (www.vet.k-state.edu). The new design allows quick and friendly access to information about the college, its departments, alumni activities, medical services and more.

“Technology has changed since the last redesign of our Web site,” said Joe Nisil, computer information specialist. “We wanted to incorporate more technology and make our site more in line with the K-State design. We also needed to make some updates.”

The CVM’s Web site also links to the main campus Web site, where you can learn about all things purple. Use these available resources to keep informed about K-State and to keep us informed about you. There are links for updating your e-mail and home addresses, sending in your personal news, submitting story ideas, making a gift to K-State, and much, much more.

Please let us know what you think about any of the features, and when this message arrives in your inbox, just open and click for the latest news.
Erin Kane wins $2,500 AASV award for presentation

Second-year student, Erin Kane, recently earned a $2,500 award for her presentation on the effects of vaccination timing and diet source on the growth performance of nursery pigs in the Student Seminar Competition at the annual meeting of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV). Her abstract and presentation was among the top five out of 45 submissions.

“Prior to summer 2008, I had never even touched a live pig,” Erin said. “However, because I was interested in gaining experience with swine, I began working with Dr. Steve Dritz as a swine research assistant. After learning a bit about swine management, medicine and research, I was able to take the lead on this research project.”

Dr. Dritz, swine specialist in the Department of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology, applauded her efforts, “Erin’s project has major significance because it addressed widespread reports from swine producers and veterinarians indicating an increased number of failures-to-thrive pigs in the early period immediately after weaning.”

Telefund raises $77,820 and beats last year’s total

Despite a shaky economy, CVM alumni are still actively supporting their alma mater. CVM student callers just completed this year’s session of Telefund, the KSU Foundation’s volunteer calling program to raise support for scholarships and other college funding priorities. Their two-day effort amassed $77,820 from 662 pledges. Both figures exceeded the totals from Telefund 2008. Counting the participation from K-State’s other colleges, Telefund raised nearly $1.2 million in pledges.

CVM students earned a variety of prizes for participating this year. Qualified callers were entered in a drawing for a grand prize: a 2009 Nissan Versa provided by the Wichita Area Big Wheels, however the finalists didn’t include CVM volunteers.

The College of Veterinary Medicine thanks all the students for volunteering and all the alumni and friends who gave generously to support scholarships in the college.
Tail of compassion
Marvelous Marvin leads
Dr. Finocchio to new ventures

Dr. Ernest Finocchio applies paint to Marvin’s tail. Above is a finished painting called ‘Equus,’ which sold for $750.

By Joe Montgomery

ne look in the eyes changed everything. In the matter of a moment, a brush with death would transform two lives — that of a retired equine doctor and a black Labrador retriever who struggled with a permanent disability.

In his new role as a shelter administrator, Dr. Ernest J. Finocchio, K-State DVM class of 1968, was out of his comfort zone. He had grown up around race horses and people. As far as practicing equine medicine, I do very little today, mainly taking care of horses I delivered as foals that are now in their third decade of life.”

Rescuing Marvin
One of his daily routines was to observe every animal in the shelter on a daily basis. While this was a routine event, Dr. Finocchio has strong memories of one particular day. “It was the middle of October 2002,” he said. “I was making my rounds, and one of the dogs always anticipated my arrival. He would wait at the front of his kennel and ever so gently take the biscuit out of my hand. On that morning, I made eye contact with Marvin — it’s difficult to explain, but there was a feeling like something was meant to be.”

Marvin had been in the shelter a long time and had built up a “rap sheet.” He had been given up twice already because of difficulties with his care. Marvin was unable to put down his right hind leg. His first family kept him until he was 3, but then had to give him up. Marvin was adopted for a short time after that, but was quickly returned to the shelter. “They have what they call ‘black dog syndrome’ in shelters,” Dr. Finocchio explained. “Black dogs and cats are the last to be adopted. I certainly didn’t see myself adopting a 90-pound Labrador retriever with a disability.”

But fate proved otherwise. Marvin had been scheduled to be put down because of his extended stay at the shelter and the fact that no one was looking for a two-time loser. There was little to no interest in Marvin by visitors to the shelter. “The difficult decision to put Marvin to rest loomed heavy with me on that day I will forever remember,” Dr. Finocchio said. “Our veterinary technician had just shaved Marvin’s leg, and I had the sodium pentobarbital injection ready to go, but we exchanged that special look like we had before, and I put the syringe down and decided to give Marvin a second chance. I brought Marvin home that Thanksgiving. We had 16 people over at the house for a Thanksgiving dinner, and Marvin fit right in as if he had been with us all his life. Since then he has become a permanent part of our family.”

An artful tail
At this point, all lived happily ever after — except there’s more to this story.

Dr. Finocchio and Marvin visit special needs volunteers from Horace Mann Educational Associates.

“I had read a story in National Geographic magazine about five elephants in India that they taught to paint,” Dr. Finocchio said. “They were selling these paintings for a lot of money, so I thought it might be interesting to see what would happen if I tried something similar with Marvin.”

Dr. Finocchio came up with his own technique for Marvin. “Marvin likes to wag tail at a lot, so I put paper on the floor and some paint on Marvin’s tail,” Dr. Finocchio said. “Before my very eyes, he was wagging his tail back and forth and up and down, and I was astonished by what appeared on the canvas, but more so than my wife and son who weren’t convinced that the painting would sell!”

The paintings did sell — and for good money — one for $2,500. Over time, Marvin’s paintings became a popular fundraiser for the RISPCA. Marvin also wrote a book about his life titled “Marvelous Marvin” with the help of Dr. Finocchio. Over the last seven years, more than $110,000 has been raised from Marvelous Marvin’s artwork and book.

A talent for therapy
Dr. Finocchio discovered another way to take advantage of Marvin’s friendly disposition. He explained, “After I adopted Marvin, I took him to work with me every day. One day I was talking to a dog trainer, and she asked if I’d ever thought of doing pet therapy work with Marvin as a pet partner. If you passed tests with the Delta Society (editor’s note: a national nonprofit organization that certifies service and therapy animals), they allow you to visit schools, hospitals and homes for the elderly. Well, I never trained Marvin a day in my life, but I took him to the testing in March 2003. Out of 14 other dogs, Marvin scored the highest!”

Delta Society Pet Therapy dogs are tested every two years. When Marvin took his second test in 2005, he was one of four dogs in New England who had a perfect score.

Since then, Dr. Finocchio and Marvin have visited 108 different facilities, including nursing homes, hospitals, day care centers, libraries and even summer camps. Earlier this year, Dr. Finocchio and Marvin were named the national therapy Pet Partner team of the year by the Delta Society.

Cancer sidelines Marvin
In late March 2009, Marvin was diagnosed and treated for a cancerous abdominal tumor. The discovery of his cancer was purely by chance.

“We have our fingers crossed,” Dr. Finocchio said. “The surgeons removed Marvin’s spleen and a tennis-ball-sized tumor. Marvin is doing as well as can be expected under the circumstances. His cancer was an incidental finding, because he was sick from something else at the time we saw Marvin’s veterinarian.”

As of this writing, Marvin continues to improve. Dr. Finocchio said that one of the highlights of their pet therapy work was with children who have cancer at the Hasbro Children’s Hospital in Providence, R.I. He hopes Marvin can return to the hospital so they can continue to instill hope in children with cancer and to never give up. Marvin has always been an inspiration to those down on their luck, and he looks forward to many more years of serving his community.

Learn more about Marvin at his site: www.marvinfund.org The Marvin Fund has helped more than 1,500 elderly and disabled people keep their pets who otherwise would have been put to rest when an owner can’t pay veterinary expenses. Marvin also assists animals dropped off at the RISPCA shelter who are adoptable, but have medical problems.

Dr. Ernest Finocchio applies paint to Marvin’s tail. Above is a finished painting called ‘Equus,’ which sold for $750.

PHOTO BY MARIA GIANNINI: www.mariagiannini.com

By Joe Montgomery

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Many physical changes have been happening at the Veterinary Medical Library to support a paperless curriculum. You will now find digital and printed resources at the library, and it is the place to find people who support students, faculty and staff with teaching and learning, illustration, photography and software assistance. As part of the changes, books were moved to the southern part of the library, which has been designated as a “Quiet Room” where studying, reading and writing can be conducted in a nontalking area.

In addition to print books and journals, we have many electronic databases and electronic journals that can be viewed on our library computers. If you are researching medical or veterinary medical issues, Library Research Services can assist you with searches and can provide copies of journal articles resulting from your searches.

To enhance varied learning styles we have added many different types of seating throughout the library, such as lounge chairs for a relaxed approach to learning. We still have many wooden chairs and padded office chairs that many people prefer to sit in.

We also have a cyber café area with tall wrought iron stools that are just right for sitting on while using laptop and notebook computers, plus several taller tables where library users can sit, study and enjoy the spectacular views from our front windows. Our new instruction room area has comfortable padded rolling chairs that can be used around our large conference tables.

If you attend the 71st Annual Conference for Veterinarians, June 7-10, 2009, drop by the library to see these exciting changes.

Continuing in a tradition of diversity lectures, SCAVMA recently welcomed Dr. Evan Morse from Cleveland, as its guest speaker in early February. Dr. Morse is a Tuskegee graduate, who credits his professors as the giants in veterinary medicine at Tuskegee — several of whom were K-Staters.

“I’m very happy to be walking the very ground where these giants of veterinary medicine received their educations,” Dr. Morse said. “I wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for them.”

Dr. Morse talked about the lack of diversity in the field of veterinary medicine. When he started practicing in the early 1970s, he was only the second black veterinarian in Ohio.

Dr. Morse takes questions from K-State veterinary students after giving some remarks about the importance of diversity. From left: Meredith Cruse, Sara Craven, Adam Lukert and Rebecca Lee, all members of the class of 2011.
The Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) was established in 1905 with the first graduation in 1907. Since then more than 6,000 men and women have been granted the doctor of veterinary medicine degree.

The college’s Veterinary Medical Alumni Association (VMAA) was organized in 1958 through the initiative of Dr. E.E. Leasure, dean from 1948-1964. The association has since had oversight of the alumni program for the college.

Membership dues were added to the By-Laws and Constitution in 2000 to help defray the rising cost of alumni events.

Alumni Receptions
The VMAA coordinates, sponsors and hosts seven alumni receptions at major conferences in the U.S. and Canada in coordination with the CVM.

Awards
The VMAA presents Alumni Recognition Awards at six professional conferences each year. In addition to these, there are two given at the Annual Conference for Veterinarians in June during Heritage Evening: the Distinguished Alumnus Award and the E.R. Frank Award. Nominations are solicited and compiled for selection by the VMAA Executive Board.

Records
The VMAA also oversees the maintenance of alumni records and historical documentation.

Biographies
A class biography booklet is compiled and made available for each class member returning for their five-year reunion. This documentation is essential to our records and for identifying alumni for recognition.

Reunions
Classes have reunions every five years. This brings approximately 10 classes back to their alma mater for a reunion each year. The reunions are held in conjunction with the Annual Conference for Veterinarians in June.

Dr. Jack Judy receives the 2008 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Join the VMAA today!
Membership dues are used for alumni receptions at veterinary conferences, five-year reunions, alumni awards and promoting other alumni activities and events. See the Web site for more information on how to join.

Learn more online at: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/alumni

The class of 2003 celebrates at their reunion.

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Dr. Gregory Bogue, DVM ’91
greg@bogueanimalhospital.com

Past President
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DVM ’71
William_Brown@newsham.com

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Dr. Justin Jansen, DVM ’72
JustinJansenDVM@gmail.com

Dr. Todd E. Knappenberger,
DVM ’99
kvc4ksu@sbcglobal.net
In Memoriam

Lucius N. “Ben” Butler, DVM 1937
Mesa, Ariz., died Jan. 8, 2009

Charles B. Randall, DVM 1938

Clarence H. Thompson, DVM 1941
Bowie, Md., died Feb. 2, 2009

Quentin E. Jeppesen, DVM 1942
Richmond, Texas, died May 15, 2008

Don M. Liebengood, DVM 1942
Santa Barbara, Calif., died March 17, 1999

George W. Atkinson, DVM 1943
Norton, Kan., died Feb. 9, 2009

Robert Pyles, DVM 1943
Albuquerque, N.M., died Sept. 4, 2008

Earl J. Splitter, DVM 1943
Fort Lauderdale, Fla., died Dec. 24, 2008

Dean R. Gross, DVM 1944
Springfield, Ill., died Nov. 28, 2008

William C. “Bill” Hall Jr., DVM 1944
Coffeyville, Kan., died Oct. 25, 2008

James M. Barbee, DVM 1945
Lincoln, Neb., died Oct. 7, 2008

Jonathan D. Friend, DVM 1945
Stillwater, Okla., died Nov. 13, 2008

Joel Kutz, DVM 1947
Sarasota, Fla., died Sept. 10, 2008

Ned W. Rokey, DVM 1950
Mesa, Ariz., died Jan. 14, 2009

John F. Hudelson, DVM 1951
Denver, died Feb. 19, 2009

Robert E. Bogue, DVM 1952
Shell Knob, Mo., died March 3, 2008

James T. Brown, DVM 1952
Kingsland, Texas, died Sept. 24, 2008

Thomas Crispell, DVM 1952
Parsons, Kan., died Sept. 14, 2008

Bobbie A. Steele, DVM 1952
Enid, Okla., died Oct. 26, 2008

George Windisch, DVM 1953
Lees Summit, Mo., died April 24, 2008

Howard Bennett, DVM 1954
Petersburg, Ill., died July 15, 2008

Earl Wood, DVM 1954
Marion, Kan., died Sept. 13, 2008

Charles R. Jones, DVM 1956
English, Ind., died Oct. 20, 2008

Calvin D. Glenn, DVM 1960
Lubbock, Texas, died Feb. 16, 2009

John Molesworth, DVM 1963
Posen, Mich., died Sept. 18, 2008

Rex Cross, DVM 1964
Key West, Fla., died March 23, 2008

Veryl B. Sibley, DVM 1968
Yuma, Ariz., died Nov. 30, 2008

Gary R. Zimmerman, DVM 1973
Holton, Kan., died Dec. 23, 2008

Hugh Rogers, DVM 1985
Whitefish, Mont., died April 1, 2009

Cindy Mason, anatomy instructor
White Salmon, Wash., died July 24, 2008

Margaret Jamieson, widow
Wichita, Kan., died Feb. 13, 2009
Wife of Gordon Jamieson, DVM 1956
(deceased in 1980)

Send us your news

We want to hear about you and let your fellow CVM alumni and friends know what’s happening in your life by printing your good news in the Class News section of Healing Hands.

Please remember when submitting items for publication (due to deadlines) it could be up to six months from the time you submit a news item to the time it appears in Healing Hands. Items may be edited for style and to fit the available space.

Send news (and any address or occupation changes) to:
Office of Alumni and Development
College of Veterinary Medicine
Kansas State University
103 Trotter Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-5604
E-mail: alumni@vet.k-state.edu
Visit: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/alumni. Click on Address and News Information Update at the bottom right side of the page.
Class news

1943
Dr. William V. Lumb, Ft. Collins, Colo., was presented one of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons’ (ACVS) most prestigious awards during the 2008 ACVS Veterinary Symposium. He was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the art and science of veterinary surgery with the “2008 ACVS Founders’ Award for Career Achievement.” Dr. Lumb is recognized in veterinary medicine as a pioneer in teaching and instilling cooperative principles in an entire generation of veterinary surgeons, thus bridging the gap between human and veterinary surgical and anesthesia research. He opened a new career for veterinarians, that of scientific investigator and collaborator in surgical research. In 1963, Dr. Lumb was appointed director of the Surgical Laboratory at Colorado State University where surgical and research training were combined in an academic program. Interdisciplinary research was innovative for the time. Because of the early pioneering work of Dr. Lumb and others like him, medical practitioners now use animal models more effectively for surgical research. Clinical veterinary medicine is directly benefiting from the outcome of interdisciplinary synergistic studies.

1945
Col. Harry H. Berrier, Columbia, Mo., was written up in the Columbia Daily Tribune as being someone who continues to contribute after 91 years. Col. Berrier served in the Air Force 37 years and achieved the rank of colonel, dealing with top-secret clearance and duty with some of the most deadly pathogens and toxic gases known to mankind. He was a professor of clinical pathology and toxicology at the University of Missouri from 1948 to 1983 and a founder of the American Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathologists. Col. Berrier was founder and is still a benefactor of the Symphony Society. He was honored in 2006 by the Missouri Department of Conservation as “Conservationist of the Year.” After retiring, Col Berrier directed most of his energy to the making of his now famous “Show-Me Bar-B-Q Sauce” (patented in 1975) and being involved in the community. The proceeds from the sale of his barbecue sauce have been used to establish a trust nearing seven figures with the Missouri Department of Conservation.

1957
Dr. Wayne G. Gaulke, Maribel, Wis., received a 50-year award from the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA) at its 93rd Annual Convention. The award is given to honor veterinarians that have served their community and the veterinary medical profession while being a member of the WVMA for 50 years. Dr. Gaulke practiced in Wrightstown, Wis. After retiring, he remains busy as a volunteer and mentor for students in his community. He and his wife, Loma, were honored as “Volunteers of the Year” in 1987.

1972
Dr. Marvin L. Olmstead, Springfield, Ore., was awarded the “2008 ACVS Foundation Legends Award.” The ACVS award recognizes Diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons who have developed a surgical or diagnostic procedure of significant value, proven by becoming the treatment or test of choice for a given condition. The procedure or test is novel and involves advancements in veterinary surgical science and not reappraisal of general medical science. Dr. Olmstead is a world-renowned leader in the development and perfection of canine total hip-replacement surgery and is considered one of the world’s leaders in orthopedic surgery. He is a distinguished educator and researcher in the field of veterinary and comparative orthopedics. Dr. Olmstead began his academic career in 1972 and is now enjoying his position as emeritus professor at Ohio State University and is a surgeon at Oregon State Veterinary Referral Associates. He was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award from K-State in 1995.

1978
Dr. Dennis P. Wages, Cary, N.C., received the 2008 Distinguished Veterinarian from the North Carolina Veterinary Association (NCVMA) during the Appalachian Mountain Veterinary Conference held in Asheville, N.C. The award is presented to an individual based on a lifetime of achievement and career contributions to veterinary medicine. Dr. Wages is a professor at the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine since 1984. He has received one of the highest teaching awards, the “Norden Distinguished Teaching Award,” on four separate occasions. Dr. Wages has also been recognized previously by the NCVMA, receiving the “Clinician of the Year” Award in 2006.

1988
Dr. Bryce Peckham, Meriden, Kan., has been hired to permanently fill the post as chief veterinarian for the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission, but will continue to reside in Kansas. He has been serving as interim chief veterinarian since the resignation of Dr. Lafe Nichols last October. He is an active member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners and the AAEP’s practice group of racing regulatory veterinarians. Prior to being named Kentucky’s chief racing veterinarian, he served for seven years as senior track veterinarian at The Woodlands race course in Kansas City.

1989
Dr. William A. Grant II, Anaheim, Calif., was installed as president of the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) in 2008 during the annual Pacific Veterinary Conference in San Francisco. He owns the Community Veterinary Hospital in Garden Grove, where he practices small animal medicine. Dr. Grant has been a member of the CVMA for 18 years and chair of CVMA’s Insurance Committee for 12 years. He is also the liaison to the legislative committee and has served on the CVMA’s Board of Governors since 2004.
CVM alumni recognition awards

Dr. Billy Bergin (‘67) received the 2008 Alumni Recognition Award at the American Association of Equine Practitioners annual conference in San Diego on Dec. 8.

Dr. Bergin received a bachelor’s degree in agriculture in 1959, bachelor’s degree in biological science in 1965, Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine in 1967 and master’s degree in physiology in 1968, all at K-State.

After college, Dr. Bergin established the first purely private veterinary practice in Kealakekua, Hawaii, that within a year grew to include North and South Kohala and Hamakua Districts. In 1981, he built the Case Memorial Veterinary Hospital in Waimea, where four practitioners provide practice to both small and large animals. From 1970 to 1995, he was the lead veterinarian for the historic Parker (cattle) Ranch.

Dr. David E. Granstrom (‘78) received the 2009 Alumni Recognition Award at the North American Veterinary Conference in Orlando, Fla., on Jan. 18.

Dr. Granstrom is director of the Education and Research Division, American Veterinary Medical Association, Schaumburg, Ill. He received his DVM and Ph.D. degrees from K-State in 1978 and 1988 respectively.

Dr. Granstrom directs activities of the division and provides professional staff support to the AVMA Council on Education, recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the official accrediting body for the 28 colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States. The council also accredits the five Canadian veterinary colleges as well as colleges in Europe (5), Australia (3) and New Zealand (1).

Dr. Randall E. Pedersen, (‘65) was recognized with a 2009 Alumni Recognition Award at the annual Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association conference in Omaha on Jan. 23.

Dr. Pedersen earned a bachelor’s degree in 1961 and a DVM in 1965, both at Kansas State University. He worked in private practices in Wetmore, Kan., Plymouth, Neb., and Beatrice, Neb., from 1965 to 1996, before moving to Royal, Neb., where he practices primarily in dairy herd health reproduction. His work includes travel to 11 states.

Dr. Pedersen has been on the Reproduction Committee for AABP, Royal Zoo Board of the Northeast Nebraska Zoological Society, and a selection committee for Nebraska students to attend K-State’s CVM. He has mentored several veterinary students, and was the Nebraska State Fair Veterinarian for more than 30 years.

Dr. Overton E. “Doc” Hundley (‘52) was recognized posthumously with a 2009 Alumni Recognition Award at the annual Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association conference in Omaha on Jan. 23.

Dr. Hundley was born in Clay Center, Kan., and grew up in Lawrence, Kan., where he graduated from Lawrence High School with the class of 1942. He then went in to the United States Marine Corps from 1943 to 1947. He graduated from K-State in 1952, with his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. In August 1952, Dr. Hundley moved to Lexington, Neb., where he began his practice.

Dr. Hundley was a member and past president of the Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association, and District No. 6 Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association.

Dr. Dale Kinyoun (‘51), was recognized with a 2009 Alumni Recognition Award at the Western Veterinary Conference on Feb. 16 in Las Vegas.

Dr. Kinyoun was a pre-veterinary student at K-State in the fall of 1944, and entered the College of Veterinary Medicine in the 1945-1946 freshman class, but interrupted his education in 1946 to serve two years as a corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps. He returned to complete his education in fall 1948 and earned his DVM degree at K-State in 1951.

He joined with a classmate, Dr. R.W. McNabb, and purchased a practice in Superior, Neb. Dr. Michael Moore joined the practice in 1970. Dr. McNabb sold his interest to Dr. Moore and Dr. Kinyoun in 1978, and the two partners were joined by Dr. Kenneth Thompson.

Read more about these recipients and awards online at www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/alumni/recognition.htm
Alumni Fellow says research career makes good option
Dr. Joe Mauderly captures students’ interest with poetry and humor

Science Isn’t Easy Street by Dr. Joe Mauderly

I suppose that you may suppose that research is a breeze, spending someone else’s dime and doing as you please. No books to keep, no hours to keep, and never a midnight call; why - compared to clinical practice, it’s hardly work at all!

But science isn’t easy street, the competition’s tough; money doesn’t grow on trees and the best work hard enough. We do keep hours and we do keep books, and sometimes work at night. Our competition is worldwide - there is no underserved site!

Our equity is what we save - no practice can we sell; no client list, no real estate - no assets as you could tell. Our investment lies in our CV - in what we’ve done and know, our strength is creativity and learning as we go.

The DVM is a great degree - it opens many doors; you only have to find them and be willing to explore. I’m happy with the path I took - I’d do it all again; and I hope you feel just the same about your career, my friend.

Research was a hot topic for this year’s Alumni Fellow, Dr. Joe Mauderly, class of 1967 and a vice president and senior scientist of the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute in Albuquerque, N.M. He spoke to students about pursuing careers in research.

Dr. Mauderly has had experience as both a researcher and administrator in a research facility and was able to give several anecdotes during his presentation, not to mention a very creative piece of poetry (see above).

Dr. Mauderly was also honored by the rest of the university in a banquet recognizing the Alumni Fellows in all nine academic colleges at K-State. The K-State Alumni Fellows program, sponsored by the Dean’s Council, the President’s Office and the Alumni Association, annually presents Alumni Fellows awards to outstanding alumni in all nine academic colleges at K-State.

In his career, Dr. Mauderly also serves as director of the National Environmental Respiratory Center and as an adjunct professor in the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences in 1965 and a DVM in 1967, both from K-State. After a brief clinical and military experience, Dr. Mauderly specialized in research on comparative respiratory physiology and pathophysiology, comparative lung aging, and the health hazards of inhaled air contaminants.

Dr. Mauderly’s research focuses on identifying the individual pollutants and combinations causing the different respiratory and cardiovascular effects of complex air pollution mixtures. He has authored or co-authored 319 scientific articles, book chapters, books, and technical reports. Dr. Mauderly has been associate editor or a member of the editorial boards of four scientific journals.

Dr. Mauderly is a member of the New Mexico Veterinary Medical Association; American Veterinary Medical Association; Society of Toxicology, Inhalation Specialty Section, Comparative and Veterinary Section; American Thoracic Society; Assembly of Environment and Occupational Health; American Physiological Society, Respiration Section, Comparative Physiology Section; American Association for the Advancement of Science, Biological Sciences Section; and New Mexico Chapter of the American Thoracic Society.

Dr. Mauderly’s wife, Cheryl (Gaines), graduated from K-State in 1967 with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education. They have two children: Laurie and Jameson.

Dr. Joe Mauderly credits his mother, Violet, for shaping his character and values.

Dr. Mauderly emphasizes the importance of being a good thinker and continuing to challenge yourself.
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