Healing Hands
Special Centennial Review

A pictorial look back at the celebration commemorating 100 years of veterinary medicine at Kansas State University
The Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine marked a major milestone this summer when it celebrated its 100th birthday. The centennial was observed in conjunction with the 67th Annual Conference for Veterinarians, June 5-8. Nearly 400 veterinarians and their families from 35 states and Canada returned to Manhattan, Kansas, for the four-day event.

Festivities began with class reunions on Saturday, June 4. On Sunday, June 5, the conference officially opened at the K-State Union with the keynote presentation by Dr. James Coffman, professor of clinical sciences, and former K-State provost. Dr. Coffman’s speech was followed by a “virtual tour” of the College of Veterinary Medicine by Dean Ralph Richardson. That evening, attendees were treated to a Mexican buffet and serenaded by a mariachi band before gathering in Forum Hall where hypnotist Dr. Al Snyder “mesmerized” a few volunteers from the audience.

Activities held throughout the week included the K-State/KVMA vendor trade show, KVMA Auxiliary silent auction, veterinary community art show, clothing sales, trivia contests, fashion show, book signings, wellness clinic and scholarship golf tournament.

Continuing education is a major part of the conference for veterinarians and alumni. This year, 51 speakers presented on a variety of topics including feline cardiology, feedyard cattle respiratory disease, equine vaccinology, pet physical rehabilitation, Foreign Animal Disease outbreak, ophthalmic diagnostic procedures and jurisprudence in the veterinary profession.

A major social highlight of the conference occurred on June 6, when 350 people attended Heritage Evening at the K-State Alumni Center. They were treated to a gourmet buffet dinner and a video history of the veterinary college entitled, “A Walk Through the Decades.” Later in the evening, reunion classes were recognized, and several alumni were honored for their accomplishments in the veterinary profession.

A sincere thank you is extended to those who helped make the centennial the celebration of the century!
The College of Veterinary Medicine’s float won the Grand Marshall Award in Manhattan’s Sesquicentennial (150th birthday) parade on June 4. Faculty, students and practitioners marched next to the float dressed in scrubs and white coats with their dogs in tow.

Continuing Education is a major part of the annual conference for veterinarians. There were 24.5 continuing education contact hours for practitioners to earn. Total registration count for the conference was 541, which included speakers, faculty, staff and students from 35 states and Canada.

The K-State CVM “anniversary cake” displayed historical photos of the veterinary college throughout the years. The cake was located on the first floor of the K-State Union.

Dr. Chuck Stinchcomb, president of the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association, left, recognizes Dr. Peter Chenoweth, professor of clinical sciences, with an award for his leadership and service in establishing the KVMA Mentoring Program at K-State.

Associate Dean Ronnie Elmore, right, autographs a copy of “A Century of Excellence,” the K-State CVM history book for Dr. Dean Rice ’74. Dr. Elmore co-authored the book with Dr. Howard Erickson, left. The two spent nearly 10 years researching material and locating photographs for the book.
More than 350 people attended “Heritage Evening” at the K-State Alumni Center. A delicious dinner was served in the ballroom followed by remarks from Dean Ralph Richardson and Dr. Alan Lewis, president of the K-State Veterinary Medical Alumni Association. Attendees were also treated to a special video history of the CVM entitled, “A Walk Through the Decades,” which received rave reviews.

Dr. James Coffman, professor of clinical sciences, right, was given the E.R. Frank Award for his service to the veterinary profession during Heritage Evening. Dr. Coffman is pictured after the presentation with Dr. E.R. Frank’s son, Dr. Gael Frank. The award was a great honor for Dr. Coffman who was taught by Dr. E.R. Frank while a student at K-State. Dr. Coffman was dean of the CVM from 1984-1987 before serving as provost of the university for 17 years.

Dean Ralph Richardson, left, presents Dr. Vaughn Seaton ’54, with the Distinguished Alumnus Award for his humanitarian service and outstanding achievements in the veterinary profession. Dr. Seaton traveled from his home in Ames, Iowa, for the event.

Heritage Evening is a time of reuniting, socializing and reminiscing. Here, some friends pause for a photograph.

Dr. Harold Garner ’62, right, is given a miniature of the “Kind Touch” sculpture by Dean Ralph Richardson. The miniature is a replica of the sculpture located on the CVM campus between Trotter and Mosier Halls. Dr. Garner’s name was drawn to receive the prize.
Dr. Alan Brightman, professor of ophthalmology at K-State, second from right, provided hands-on training during two wet labs on ophthalmic diagnostic techniques. Dr. Brightman retired in July, just weeks after the conference.

Dr. Carla Carleton ’77, an associate professor at the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, second from right, presents a wet lab on obstetrics and fetotomy for equine practitioners.

On the first evening of the conference, the crowd was treated to a Mexican buffet and a Mariachi band in the K-State Union courtyard.

Believing she is a dancer in country singer Garth Brooks’ band, Dr. Linda Johnson, director of continuing education, parades through the audience at a hypnotist show on the evening of June 5. Hypnotist and veterinarian Dr. Al Snyder hypnotized several others from the audience into believing they were members of the country music band.
KVMA President Dr. Chuck Stinchcomb, left, and Dean Ralph Richardson toast the official opening of the KVMA/K-State Vendor Trade Show at the K-State Union.

A special entry way greeted veterinarians visiting the trade show in the Grand Ballroom on the second floor of the K-State Union. There were 48 exhibitors in the trade show on Monday and Tuesday. Attendance at the trade show was excellent.

Conference attendees who entered the “Name that Instrument” contest tested their knowledge of former state-of-the-art and current instruments used in veterinary medicine. The top prize for the contest was a CVM centennial afghan.

Dr. Phyllis (Hickney) Larsen ’47, left, visits with Lesley Gentry, author of a book about the first women to graduate from K-State in veterinary medicine entitled, “The Lady is a Veterinarian.” Dr. Larsen is one of the veterinarians featured in Gentry’s book.

A wellness screening and vaccination clinic sponsored by the KVMA was offered during the conference. A host of blood tests and several vaccinations were available.
Seventy CVM alumni and guests entered the 11th annual scholarship golf tournament hosted by the alumni/development office. The four-person scramble was held at Colbert Hills Golf Course on Monday, June 6. Proceeds from the tournament went toward funding scholarships for K-State veterinary students.

Reuniting with friends, colleagues and former instructors keeps K-State CVM bonds strong. Dr. Candace Layton ‘77, and professor emeritus Dr. Roger Fedde chat during a break from the conference at the K-State Union.

The CVM Class of 2007 sold shirts and other apparel as a fund-raising project during the conference.

A Special Thanks to Alumni Class Initiative Participants

Established in 2003, the class initiative program has been an overwhelming success. The dean envisioned giving alumni the opportunity to support the college through a class fund or a project of personal interest. The results have been fantastic. In 2002, more than 28 percent of our alumni contributed to the college. That number jumped this year to 47 percent with our alumni reunion classes. The financial end result has made a dramatic difference to the college. Funds for scholarships have increased significantly and new equipment has been purchased collegewide. Also, department administrators now have the opportunity to plan for future initiatives thanks to the generosity of our alumni. A sincere thank you goes out to all those who joined in the class competitions and other centennial festivities.

Reunion Achievement Award:
Class of 1955, with 74 percent of the class making a gift.

Top non-reunion class achiever:
Class of 1967, with 58 percent of the class making a gift.
Preserving the Past, Paving the Future

Don’t miss a chance to become a part of history at the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine. The outdoor classroom between Mosier and Trotter Halls will soon be renovated and renamed the “Centennial Plaza.” Personalized polished granite plaques will line the plaza’s risers and walls, and granite bricks will pave the centennial walkway and surrounding area.

Plaza bricks are available in two sizes and will accommodate three to four lines of text. The polished granite plaques can be customized with six lines of text, a clinic or company logo, or a combination. To place an order, visit www.vet.k-state.edu/centennial, or call the alumni and development office at (785) 532-4043.

Construction of the Centennial Plaza will begin this fall with completion by the spring of 2006. This project has been such a popular opportunity for alumni and friends to be recognized that annual additions to the plaza will be available for future classes and individuals.

Thank you to those who have made this project a successful effort. This opportunity for our faculty, alumni and friends to leave a permanent mark attached to the college will be a special way to honor the first hundred years of education, service and research at K-State while paving the entrance into the second century.