This is the first news letter of my term as president of the SFT; I am honored to be in this position and will try and continue the leadership that my predecessors have shown. The meeting in Charleston was very successful, both financially and educationally. I thought that the papers presented were outstanding and I want to congratulate the program chairs and the speakers for a job well done.

Dr Wolfe has led the organization through an exciting time as we developed our alliance with Elsevier. I believe that this will be an advantageous partnership for the organization as we move forward. It has presented some challenges in timing and style, but as we become more comfortable with the format I believe that it will be a progressive step for the future. I would certainly like to thank Dr. Dwight Wolfe and all of those who helped him in the preparation of the conference proceedings.

All of the sessions were well attended and the interest in small animal Theriogenology was particularly exciting. The small animal section of our meeting has grown and I believe with the leadership provided by the members of the Society it will continue to grow. The growth of companion animal Theriogenology reflects the changing demographics of our profession. If our Society is going to continue to serve the entire profession and its client base we need to make sure we continue to fill their needs. Our role in providing information and leadership in companion animal Theriogenology is essential for the continued growth of the Society and I am sure that with the leadership and expertise available we will be able to meet these needs. I believe that in 1954 the founders of the Rocky Mountain Society for the Study of Breeding Soundness in Bulls would find it hard to believe that in 2005 the Society had a demonstration on electroejaculation in the cat. We have come a long way and look for more and improved information in the future. Please feel free to make any suggestions or criticisms of any parts of the program. This is your organization and we must provide the information that you feel is important if we are to prosper.

To continue in the same vein, I would like to emphasize that over the years much of our leadership has been provided by our colleagues that are both members of the College of Theriogenologists and the Society. They have provided excellent and able leadership, but possibly we have given the impression to some that participation in the leadership of the organization by practitioners was discouraged. This is a practitioner organization and although it is closely associated with the ACT by the nature of our mutual interest the SFT’s missions is to serve, educate, and assist the practicing veterinarian. Please provide us with input and you will be heard. This is your organization and the only way we can make it grow is to provide services that meet your needs. All of the officers, the board members and the executive director will be happy to hear from you.

The coming year is going to provide us with new and exciting opportunities to change and grow the organization. A branding study being conducted by Stewart and Associates will bring us new insight into the needs and wants of our members. Hopefully they will also give us the tools to meet the challenges that lay ahead. I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer and as we are settling down for the fall and winter that we will have the opportunity to communicate with each other and develop relationships that will make our organization stronger.

Make Plans to Join Your Colleagues in Pig’s Eye, Better Known Today as St. Paul, for 2006

In 1838, a Canadian voyageur made his way to a cave near Fort Snelling in the Dakota Territory, along the Mississippi River. He had an odd eye that gave “a kind of piggish expression to his somewhat low features.” This man, Pig’s Eye Parrant, sold rum from his cave and was, with a nearby homesteader, among the first to settle in the area, which became known as Pig’s Eye. Fortunately, Father Lucian Galtier came to the region in 1841 and built a church, which he named the chapel of St. Paul. And so it is to St. Paul that we welcome you to the Society for Theriogenology meeting, August 22-26, 2006. Dr. Peter Chenoweth is assembling a great group of speakers to present information on infectious causes of infertility and other topics of interest. There will be a bovine symposium, a small animal symposium regarding population control, and a scientific meeting for dog breeders held in conjunction with the meeting.

Don’t miss the family night event (a stern wheel paddleboat trip on the Mississippi) and visits to the Mall of America (9.5 million square feet of shopping, an amusement park, restaurants and Legoland), the Science Museum of Minnesota and the Children’s Museum. Minnesota brought you Post-It notes, Spam and Pig’s Eye beer, and now it brings you the SFT annual meeting – come join us in the land of 10,000 lakes in 2006!
The Gentle Breeze of the Atlantic Blew in a Successful 2005 SFT/ACT Conference and Symposia In Breathtaking Charleston South Carolina

2005 STUDENT CASE PRESENTATION SESSION

At the 2005 SFT Annual Conference, five students were selected to compete in the student case presentation session. These students showed the membership what our future holds. They presented their cases like veterans both with case abstracts and their presentations. This session alone was worth the trip to Charleston, South Carolina. It proved to be a great addition to an already outstanding conference.

Modesty Dallmeyer from the University of Pennsylvania was awarded first place and $450.00 for her case abstract and presentation on “Sperm Accumulation in a Stallion”.

Kelly Giunta from the University of Pennsylvania was awarded second place and $375.00 for her case abstract and presentation on “Trauma Induced Infertility in a Stallion Associated with a Unique Sperm Midpiece Defect”.

Erin Sellers from the University of Florida was awarded third place and $300.00 for her case abstract and presentation on “Hemorrhagic Vulvar Discharge in a Pregnant Bitch”.

Rosanne Gilbert from the University of Oregon was awarded fourth place and $225.00 for her case abstract and presentation on “Interstitial Cell Tumor in a Female Alpaca with Androgenization”.

Monnie Carol Carter from Auburn University was awarded fifth place and $150.00 for her case abstract and presentation on “Diagnosis and Surgical Treatment of Penile Hematoma in the Bull”.

We would like to give a special thank you to the faculty advisers that helped these students put the cases together and prepare for competition. This session was enjoyed by all that participated.

The stars of the session were the students. They should all be proud of a job well done. The future of the SFT and the veterinary profession is brighter than ever because of these outstanding young professionals. We hope to see these super students and others at the Student Case Presentation session next year in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Scientific Abstract Competition provided a glimpse into the high caliber of research being conducted in the discipline of theriogenology. In response to a call for abstracts, 21 graduate students or people in a clinical residency program submitted abstracts in the competitive category before the March 15 deadline.

The abstracts were scored for scientific content by a 4-member committee chaired by Dr. Craig Smith, and the competitors with the top 8 scores were invited to present their abstracts at the SFT meeting in Charleston. The oral presentations were also scored, and the aggregate score for the written abstract and oral presentation was used to determine the top 4 finishers.


If you are interested in submitting an abstract for 2006, go to www.theriogenology.org for further information regarding the abstract competition, or contact the ACT Association Office, P.O. Box 3065, Montgomery, AL 36109; phone (334)395-4666; fax (334)270-3399; or e-mail charles@franzmgmt.com.
Incoming SFT President Dr. Walter Zent (left) accepts Nandi from Outgoing SFT President Dr. Dwight Wolfe.

Kids and grown-ups alike enjoyed the Family Fun Night at the Aquarium.

Dr. Louis Archbald—2005 Bartlett Award Winner with his lovely family.

Dr. Henry Childers—President of the AVMA

Outgoing ACT President Dr. Margo Macpherson presents Presidents Plaque to Incoming ACT President Dr. John Steiner.

Dr. Dirk Vanderwall—Theriogenologist of the Year

Exhibits

Equine Symposium

Small Animal Symposium

2005 CONFERENCE MEMORIES
Come Join Us On The Mighty Mississippi
For Our 2006 SFT/ACT Annual Conference & Symposia

Following the recent highly successful meeting in Charleston, the organizers of the 2006 Conference know that they have an extremely high standard to uphold, including maintaining the momentum of the highly acclaimed new-format published proceedings. The challenge to hold the greatest conference ever has been accepted with alacrity! All indications are we will hold an exceptional conference in lovely St. Paul. Start making plans to be there!

A FEW TANTALISING DETAILS...

The theme is Infectious Infertility, with the sub themes of Evidence Based Medicine/Epidemiology. Strong emphasis is being placed on relevant and stimulating information for practitioners with strong dairy, equine and small animal themes. John Thomson, Dean at Iowa State, will be the dynamic keynote speaker. Exciting Symposia are planned for Dairy and Small Animal (courtesy of Carlos Risco and Peggy Root Kustritz respectively) as well as a separate all-day program targeted at small animal breeders. A session is planned on Theriogenology educational issues and opportunities. Highly popular features of the 2005 meeting, such as abstract and student case presentations will be again featured.

The social events will also be highly enjoyable and memorable (how does a paddle-wheel trip on the Mississippi sound for fun night?), with availability of additional events for attending family members – including trips to the Mall of America, zoo, arboretum, children’s museum and innumerable other wonderful activities. The list is growing!

So, on behalf of the session chairs (Peggy Root Kustritz, Juan Samper, Carlos Risco), I urge you to strongly consider attending the 2006 conference in St. Paul. We guarantee it will be the best yet, especially if you are there!

Annual Conference Student Case Presentation

ATTENTION TO ALL SFT STUDENT MEMBERS!

The SFT Program Committee is pleased to announce the call for submission of student theriogenology case presentation at the annual conference in St. Paul. The competition will be held during the annual conference in August, 2006.

The purpose of this competition is to promote student interest in SFT, to encourage your investigative and communication skills and allow students greater participation in our annual meeting. All SFT student members are qualified to enter the competition.

This competition will give the SFT membership a look at future leaders and participants of the SFT. Six student cases will be selected for presentation at the annual conference competition. Do you have a CPC presentation you have given or that you are preparing? You can submit it, as long as it is on theriogenology.

A copy of the guidelines and submission instructions can be obtained from the SFT office, your SFT faculty liaison, or Dr. Alexander. We will require manuscripts to be submitted by February 15, 2006. A panel of practitioners and academicians will select six manuscripts for presentation in St. Paul and notify the students by March 30, 2006. The students will be responsible for making their own travel arrangements and accommodations.

Please be aware that this is a competition. The contestants will be judged on both the quality of their investigation and the quality of the presentation. Therefore you must attend the meeting in St. Paul to be eligible for the awards. The SFT will award six cash prizes:

- First place $ 650
- Second place $ 525
- Third place $ 450
- Fourth place $ 375
- Fifth place $ 300
- Sixth place $ 200

More than one student may be involved with the presentation of a case or research project, however only one prize will be awarded per presentation.

Please refer to the “Guidelines for Application Submission” on the SFT website for preparation of your manuscript. Each presentation will be 10 minutes in length. Time has been allotted for questions after each presentation.

Please contact your SFT faculty liaison for more information and for assistance in preparing your manuscript. You may also contact Dr. James H. Alexander at the address below. We hope you will participate in this event. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

James H. Alexander, DVM
Alexander Veterinary
1810 Glencrest
Yazoo City, Ms. 39040
Home : 662-746-8307
Cell : 601-946-1296
Email: jayacims@tecinfo.com
Dr. Bob Youngquist has retired as Editor of the SFT Newsletter after many years of faithful service. I think all would readily agree that our Newsletter is the best it has ever been under his stewardship. We owe a great debt of gratitude for his many contributions to the Society for Theriogenology and will certainly miss his efforts. We look forward to his continued leadership with our organization.

With this issue we welcome Dr. Herris Maxwell as Editor of the Society for Theriogenology Newsletter. Dr. Maxwell, a native of Mississippi, earned his DVM from Auburn University in 1978 then completed an internship at the University of Missouri. Following over 2 decades in mixed practice in southern Mississippi Dr. Maxwell recently joined the faculty of the Food Animal Section at Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine. He became a Diplomate in the American College of Theriogenologists in 1995 via the practitioner tract and currently serves on the Examination Committee for ACT. We look forward to many years of promoting Theriogenology under his leadership.

The SFT Office has copies of the 2002 & 2003 proceedings on diskette along with the 2004 on diskette and bound book for sale for $25.00 each. If you would like to purchase a copy of either the 2002, 2003 or 2004 proceedings you may either call the SFT office (334) 395-4666 or you may go to www.therio.org and place your order.

The SFT & ACT would like to thank our Sponsors and Exhibitors for their continued support of our Annual Conference and Symposia.

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**Saying Thanks to Dr. Robert Youngquist and Welcome to Dr. Harris Maxwell—SFT Newsletter Editor**

D

The SFT Office has copies of the 2002 & 2003 proceedings on diskette along with the 2004 on diskette and bound book for sale for $25.00 each. If you would like to purchase a copy of either the 2002, 2003 or 2004 proceedings you may either call the SFT office (334) 395-4666 or you may go to www.therio.org and place your order.
Potpourri and lagniappe from a comparative theriogenologist

Louis F. Archbald, DVM, MS, PhD, DACT, Professor & Associate Chair
Large Animal Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

There is no security in life, only opportunity.
- General Douglas MacArthur

Our great fear is not that we are powerless, but that we are powerful beyond measure.
- Nelson Mandela

Introduction

It is with sincere humility and a deep sense of appreciation that I accept this most prestigious award, the 2005 Dave E. Bartlett Award. I do this with the realization that many individuals have played important roles in my life and career, have contributed to my success, and I also accept this award on their behalf.

It is not unusual to be away from my office for a couple of hours and return to see a blinking red button on my telephone signifying many incoming calls. It was no different a number of months ago. I was lumbering through these messages when I was struck by one from Dr. Charles Franz, Society for Theriogenology, Alabama. My first question was: are my dues not paid? I thought I did! In fact, I knew I did, since I have a very proficient and astute partner (my wife, Sonja) who handles all the business affairs of our enterprise. My second question was: am I being requested to serve on a committee? Either way, my impression was that it is fairly important to return this call as soon as possible. Surprised, overwhelmed, flattered, humbled, and ecstatic could best describe the sudden emotional rollercoaster on hearing that I was chosen to be the 22nd recipient of the Dave E. Bartlett Award! After all, I knew what this meant, and have always recognized the prestigious nature of this award. It seemed even more special considering my “Minnesota connection”.

Almost immediately, I rushed home to tell Sonja the good news. After a huge congratulatory hug and kiss, she said: “You accepted it, didn’t you?” The obvious answer was “Yes”; but, I have to prepare a paper for presentation at the theriogenology meeting in August, and considering all we have to accomplish right now there does not seem to be much time for preparation”. “You can do it, and I will help”, she responded. These were familiar words, ones that have echoed throughout our relationship during the past 40 years. So, at this point, I would like to recognize her; truly, “the wind beneath my wings”.

The most difficult part of this presentation was choosing a topic and a proper title. Having the privilege of reading the presentations of the previous 21 recipients, I noticed that they all contained aspects of changes in society, in veterinary medicine, and forecasts for the future of theriogenology. In addition, they all gave some form of advice. The latter reminded me of the story I once heard about someone who wrote a biography of Socrates. It was very brief and consisted of three sentences: i) Socrates was an old Greek man; ii) he gave advice; iii) they killed him! Therefore, I will refrain from giving any advice, lest I am beset with the same fate!

I have decided to be personal. However, I once read that “people ignore what you say. They are only concerned with what you do”. Consequently, I have decided to present a few of my experiences and accomplishments encompassed in the journey which has led me here today to be the 22nd recipient of this most prestigious award. Also, I would like to briefly mention a few current issues/challenges which I think will influence the future direction of the SFT/ACT, and probably the entire veterinary profession.

With this in mind, I chose the title: “Potpourri and lagniappe from a comparative theriogenologist”. The definition of potpourri (po poo re’) is: a “mixture of dried petals of roses or other flowers with spices kept in a jar for their fragrance”. Although my experiences and accomplishments have not always been “roses”, I must admit that what I do certainly generates a special fragrance! The definition of lagniappe (lan yap’, lan yap’) is: something given with a purchase to a customer by way of compliment or for good measure”; “something additional”. My lagniappe will consist of a few issues which I think will have a dramatic impact on the future of SFT/ACT, and probably the entire veterinary profession. “Comparative”: I am multi-species oriented, and have used several “disciplines” in the whole arena of animal reproduction. “Theriogenologist”: I guess we are still trying to define what this is!

Potpourri (“a mixture of “…..”)

I was born in Trinidad, West Indies, youngest of eight children (six boys and 2 girls). My father was a Magistrate/Judge, and his brother was a Queens Counsel, one of the highest ranks in the British judicial system. They were both from an urban background. One of my aunts was involved in politics and held the position of Mayor on numerous occasions in the city in which we lived. She was also knighted as a member of the British Empire (O.B.E). My mother came from a pastoral heritage in which animals (mainly the horse) predominated, and I was raised in the city, minutes away from the Caribbean Sea, where palm and coconut trees abounded. From my earliest childhood I realized that education and the attainment of a professional career were important intrinsic values in our household.

The two most revered professions during my childhood were Medicine (human) and Law. Although the single most economic commodity was oil, the acquisition of professional careers in petroleum/chemical engineering was not as really sought as were those in Medicine and Law. Land-based agriculture was more popular than animal-based agriculture, and any interest in Veterinary Medicine was relatively low. It was a major surprise, and probably one of disappointment to everyone, when I made the choice to pursue veterinary medicine as a professional career since it was expected that I would be either a Physician or a Lawyer. The circumstances and the reasons for making this decision are still somewhat vague. I did not have any role models in the veterinary profession, or any extensive experience in this area. I did have a cursory knowledge of what the profession demands, and what were some of the rewards of this profession.

“Boldness has genius, power and magic in it.”
- Goethe

Armed with a dream, and the commitment
to make this dream a reality, I set off to Canada! This was a major step and challenge for me. Not only was it the first time I was away from home, but the environment (culturally and geographically) was different, and as I later discovered, the 8 months of winter were totally different than the corresponding 8 months in Trinidad!

Montreal was my first stop since I had friends there. I subsequently enrolled in Sir George Williams College to complete a bachelor's degree in biology to be competitive for admission to the veterinary program at the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) in Guelph, which was under the administration of the University of Toronto. The following year I was admitted to the 5-year DVM program at OVC. Almost all of the entering students had just completed high school, and it was also their first time away from home.

My long-range goal was to become a food animal veterinarian. The program at OVC was very demanding and highly competitive: there was no room for error! In fact, only 42 of the initial group (80) graduated in five years; some did not! The areas of strength of the OVC program at that time were Small Animal Surgery, Radiology, Large Animal Medicine, and Pathology. The program in Animal Reproduction was marginal. Prominent faculty at OVC included James Archibald (SAS), Al Cawley (Radiology), Doug Blood (LAM), Kenneth Jubb, and Tom Holland (Pathology). These individuals had a pronounced influence on my life at Guelph. They were not only mentors, but were role models, the exceptional qualities of whom I have strived to emulate.

However, as I perceived a serious deficit in my knowledge, diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in animal reproduction, and since I knew that this would be an important area of my future practice, I accepted another major challenge. During the summer between the 4th and 5th years of the program, I read Steve Roberts's textbook from cover to cover! You may call this impossible, but I call it labor-intensive! In addition, I read Ray Zemjanis's textbook. However, it was not all work that summer. I was fortunate to meet a wonderful young lady, who later became my fiancée as I completed the DVM degree at OVC. Within 8 months of my return to Trinidad, we were married in Jamaica, and one gestation length later, we were blessed with the birth of our first child, Michael.

My first job was on the island of Tobago. I was the only veterinarian on an island of approximately 60,000 people and 250,000 animals (cattle, horses, swine sheep, goats, horses, dogs and cats). The economy of Tobago was centered primarily on agriculture. There were many ex-patriots from Great Britain who were avid dog owners. Thoroughbred racing was seasonal, and provided both entertainment and a substantial economic boost. It was a general practice, and I had ample opportunities to use my limited knowledge of animal reproduction.

Although general practice was stimulating and rewarding, I felt the need to continue my education in the field of animal reproduction. Therefore, I began the process of searching for graduate programs in animal reproduction. To my dismay, these programs were centered primarily in departments of Animal Science. However, to my delight, I discovered the program in Veterinary Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota, directed by Dr. Raimunds Zemjanis. It was not very long after applying that Ray Zemjanis informed me of my acceptance to his program. Although I knew very little about Minnesota and that graduate program, I felt as if I had a deep personal relationship with Ray Zemjanis. After all, his textbook occupied most of my leisure time during the summer between my 4th and 5th years at OVC!

"Do the thing you fear and the death of fear is certain". Ralph Waldo Emerson

Armed with a dream, a 1-year-old son, and a 6-month pregnant wife, we embarked on the journey to the land of 10,000 lakes! The stakes were higher now, and so was the commitment. Three months after arriving in St. Paul (December), we were blessed with the arrival of our first daughter, Cheryl, after a weekend-long blizzard!

To say that the "Minnesota experience" was a "culture shock" is a grave understatement. It was totally different to all we had experienced. The winters were long, cold, challenging, and seemed to get worse every year! The 17 months of summer were hot and humid. It became obvious that this was not Trinidad or Tobago, nor was it Guelph, Ontario! It was an environment characterized by extremes of temperature and hoards of mosquitoes in the summer.

However, I knew the quality of the program and the outstanding education in animal reproduction it would offer. It was there for me to take advantage of, and all I needed to do was study! I literally spent every waking moment trying to assimilate, and retain, the vast amount of information available to me. I was fortunate to have Sonja, who did everything else, and I am forever grateful for this. Many times she was both “Mom and Dad.”

The program was excellent, and Ray Zemjanis was a superb mentor. His enthusiasm, knowledge and desire to help students accomplish their goals were complemented by similar attributes of the faculty in his department (Richard Schultz and Melvyn Fahning). Other prominent faculty members who guided and mentored me were Ed Graham (Reproductive Physiologist), Alvin Weber (Veterinary Anatomist), and Harold Kurtz (Veterinary Pathologist). With the help of all these individuals, I obtained a vast knowledge of animal reproduction, reproductive physiology, veterinary anatomy, and veterinary pathology.

Upon completion of my PhD program, I was fortunate to be offered a tenure-track position in the Department of Veterinary Obstetrics and Gynecology. My responsibilities included teaching, clinics, and research. I was now a full-fledged member of the “Minnesota family”. At that time, there were approximately 30 dairy farms on a reproductive health program which were used for clinical teaching of DVM students. During his weekly visit to these farms, Ray observed that some of these herds were experiencing a high rate of early embryonic death. Concurrently, occasional abortions were observed, and the virus causing bovine viral diarrhea (BVDV) was considered a likely suspect. However, this virus had not previously been associated with early embryonic death in cattle. Furthermore, many cows possessed humoral antibodies, either from previous infection and/or vaccination.

This was my first major research project as a faculty member, and with funding from the Minnesota Agricultural Experimental Station, I began to investigate the role of BVDV as a causative agent of early embryonic death in cattle. After approximately three years of research, we concluded that BVDV is a cause of early embryonic death in cattle. However, this information was not readily accepted since most cows were vaccinated for this disease, and were assumed to be protected.

We proposed that intrauterine entry of this virus (bull or infected semen) could “by-pass” this humoral antibody protection and cause early embryonic death. Nevertheless, the question of whether it was a lack of fertilization or early embryonic death, or the source of the virus had to be resolved. Later research by Howard Whitmore suggested that experimentally-infected bulls could intermittently shed this virus in semen.

Soon thereafter, research by other investigators identified the condition of BVDV persistently-infected cattle. Using PCR and immunohistochemistry, BVDV was identified in the oviducts and uterus of these cattle. Therefore, there appeared to be both intrauterine and hematogenous routes of infection. It is interesting to note that recent work from Europe showed that post-insemination intrasymmetrical intervals of persistently-infected cattle were longer, which suggested that it is probably early embryonic death rather than fertilization failure. Ray Zemjanis was right again!

As the years elapsed, the Minnesota scene was changing! Mel Fahning was leaving to operate a commercial bovine embryo transfer program in Wisconsin, and Dick Schultz would soon follow him in this enterprise. In addition, Ray Zemjanis was planning a Sabbatical leave of absence. Everything seemed to be happening at the same time. After much thought and anxiety, I decided to accept a position as an embryologist/reproductive physiologist in a commercial bovine embryo transfer enterprise.

Continued
in Dixon, Tennessee.

Armed with a dream, two children, a cat, and a non-pregnant wife, we headed south to the volunteer State of Tennessee! Our stay in Nashville was short-lived. Although the position was lucrative, it lacked the opportunity for me to continue my academic development. I was missing academia! The end of our stay in Nashville was punctuated by a most exciting and rewarding event: the birth of our second daughter, Laurie. Little did we know that this would not be our last connection with Nashville. Fourteen years later, we returned to Nashville when Cheryl began her medical education at Vanderbilt University; ironically, we returned to Nashville eight years later when Laurie began her medical education at Vanderbilt.

At the time we decided to leave Nashville, there were numerous new veterinary colleges/schools being built, and many faculty positions were available. I chose Louisiana State University (LSU) because that State resembled much of the Caribbean in terms of culture, climate and cuisine. Also, during my interview I met Robert Godke, a reproductive physiologist in the department of Animal Science, and recognized the tremendous opportunity for collaborative research. He had excellent research facilities and many graduate students, most of whom were pre-veterinary students.

Armed with a dream, 3 children (including a 9-week old baby), a cat, and a postpartum wife, we headed further south to “Bayou country”. Our stay in Baton Rouge was very fulfilling, and we vowed that this would be our last move! I was promoted to Full Professor, and developed a research and graduate program. I continued research on BVDV as a cause of early embryonic death, and we showed that this virus could infect preimplantation bovine embryos. In collaboration with Bob Godke and his graduate students, I expanded my research interests to include canine embryo transfer, the effect of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (PBZ) on reproduction in the mare, and noninfectious bovine infertility.

Some interesting findings were: i) induced corpora lutea in the bitch have a reduced functional lifespan; ii) PBZ did not affect the estrous cycle of the mare; iii) there appeared to be a selective, and less severe luteolytic process in the CL of the cow at the time of parturition compared to the end of the estrous cycle; this selective process seemed to involve primarily small luteal cells, which were the first to undergo luteolysis.

A few years later, Gavin Richardson and Bill Braun joined me at LSU, and we proceeded to expand the program in theriogenology. This was a most exciting time in my academic career. In addition, I was appointed Assistant Department Head, with the express purpose of developing a graduate program in our department. This whetted my appetite for administration.

Shortly thereafter, I was offered the position of Assistant Dean for Clinical Services & Chief of Staff of the teaching hospital at the CVM, University of Florida. I was also offered the position of Director of the College of Veterinary Medicine’s Minority Program. So, armed with a dream, 3 children and a non-pregnant wife, we set out for the Sunshine State of Florida to become a member of the “Florida family”. It is now my 21st year in Florida, and I doubt we will move again, but who knows? It has been a very productive life so far, although it began with the untimely death of our son, Michael. However, the dream and the commitment were strengthened by tremendous family support.

But, it was not all administration. Every administrator was required to be scholarly. This was not difficult for me since this theme had been an integral part of my lifestyle. The question was time! Nevertheless, Rolf Larsen and I obtained some internal funding and initiated a project investigating the effect of PBZ on the concentration of seminal prostaglandin F2- (PGF2-) in stallions. This showed that PBZ reduced the concentration of seminal PGF2. This is similar to what is seen in humans, and there is some suggestion that it may be associated with human infertility. So very enthusiastically, we began to seek further funding, even at the level of the NIH. We were not successful, and the interest began to wane.

Approximately four years later, the infrastructure of the College departments was reorganized, and I became a “born-again” faculty member of the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences (LACS). Around the same time, the Theriogenology Service contracted with a large (3,000 milking cows) dairy herd to initiate a herd health program, and I participated in the reproduction component of this program. It was almost like the days in Minnesota, except there were more cows!

Over the next 13 years, several research projects in bovine reproductive physiology were conducted in this dairy herd. These results provided thesis/dissertation information for numerous graduate students, and for over 30 refereed publications. All the Theriogenology Residents during this period of time participated in this program, and all were co-authors on these publications.

“A mind once stretched by a new idea never returns to its original dimensions.” -forgotten source

I still continue to conduct the CVM’s Minority Program (now called Multicultural Affairs Program), and participate in similar programs at the national, local, and university levels. I have chaired the national committee of Multicultural Affairs in the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC), and I have received the 7th Iverson Bell Award from the AAVMC in recognition of my distinguished leadership and significant contribution to the advancement of minorities in veterinary medicine. Presently, I serve as Associate Chair and Graduate Coordinator for our departmental graduate program. A recent milestone was the holding of our first research emphasis day which showcased our graduate students and their mentors, and provided invaluable exposure to our graduate program.

The dream continues, although much of it has become reality. Indeed, it has been a mixture (“a potpourri”) saturated with commitment, passion, focus, and a desire for excellence. I once read that “opportunity is a matter of choice, not a matter of chance”. Only time will tell if I made the right choice.

Lagniappe (“something additional”……)

I wish to begin with a brief discussion of a topic which, in my opinion, presents a major challenge for both the ACT and the entire profession of veterinary medicine. This concerns the pool of students who will be applying for admission to our veterinary colleges/schools in the future. The importance of this becomes obvious when one realizes that this pool of students represents our future pool of Residents for our training programs.

Recent information shows that within the next decade, the demographics of graduating high school students will be entirely different from the present students. They will come from diverse backgrounds with diverse cultures. They will have different learning styles, and an unparalleled sense of cultural competency and plurism. They will represent a major shift in ethnicity and race, will be extremely computer-literate, will probably have taken courses by distance learning during their undergraduate program, and will have had different experiences in their life.

Some, or even most, of these students will have minimal experience with animals (except dogs, cats; maybe?), since animals may not have enjoyed any importance in their cultures. They will have a decided view on animal welfare, and will have high expectations from the veterinary profession. In addition, they will have many different options to pursue a career in the health-related professions.

Another variable in this equation is the recently proposed legislative bill which will reward veterinary colleges/schools for admitting students who will eventually enter public practice (academia/research, food safety, epi-
demiology, governmental agencies (CDC, USDA, Health Departments), pursue the MPH degree, and be involved in programs to combat bioterrorism, agro-terrorism, and (re)emerging infectious diseases. Therefore, not only will they be “different”, but they will enter veterinary college/school very focused, and with pre-determined goals.

What does this mean to us? It means that we will have to adjust; we will have to change! We will have to be sensitive to this issue, change our attitudes, even change the ways we operate! We have to advertise, promote ourselves, and let it be known that what we do is of utmost value to society. Simply changing our name and what we call ourselves could be an ineffective solution. “A rose by any other name is still a rose”. If we do not change, these students will seek and enter other health-related professions. The net effect is obvious. What will the overall effect on our membership in both the SFT and ACT?

My next remarks concern our Residency Programs. In my opinion, research (scholarly or scientific investigation or inquiry) and graduate education (the knowledge or skill obtained or developed by a learning process) should be major components of our Residency programs. I realize that there will be limitations to the level to which these facets can be incorporated in our programs, but I also realize that the programs in which these are major facets will probably attract our veterinary graduates. Presently, many programs offer the opportunity for Residents to spend time in specialty practices in their area of interest. Would it not be equally beneficial for our Residents to spend time in prominent research laboratories? I think that this simple approach could provide an excellent education in research. We should expect our Residents to generate new knowledge, not just be users of the old. After all, they are our future!

“Read an hour every day in your chosen field. This works out to about one book per week, 50 books per year, and will guarantee your success”. -Brian Tracy

Over the years, we have debated the need for species certification. As I look around the country, it is evident that few of our Residency Programs encompass theriogenology of all domestic animals. In many instances, they are species-specific. In fact, many job opportunities seem to be species-specific. Maybe, the time has come for species certification. While there are many approaches to its implementation, one simple way would be to have an additional comprehensive examination for each species. This examination could be administered sometime after the present general examination. Obviously, only candidates who successfully completed the general examination would be eligible to sit the species-specific examination. There are many precedents in other disciplines which can serve as a template for theriogenology.

“You can never solve a problem with the same kind of thinking that created the problem in the first place”. -Albert Einstein

As I conclude, I want to thank all my colleagues, especially those who nominated me for this award. I applaud their efforts and the convincing manner with which they presented me to the selection committee.

I thank my parents, who laid the foundation for my every undertaking.

I thank Sonja; my wife, beloved companion, friend, advisor, and “sounding board” for the past 41 years. She gave me the opportunity to create and nurture three wonderful children (Michael, Cheryl and Laurie). She remained at home to care for the family while I spent long hours completing my graduate program. She was, and is, always there for us. Her unselfish nature, superb thinking skills and extreme patience have really made our lives complete. I could go on for hours on this topic!!

I thank Raimunds (Ray) Zemjanis, who gave me the opportunity to become a member of the “Minnesota family”. His guidance and mentorship have been influential contributors to my academic and professional careers. He developed in me a sense of academic independence, academic inquiry and critical thinking; attributes which were integral components of his own character. Over the years I have tried to emulate his professional integrity, honesty, his meticulousness for details, and his profound base of knowledge. Have I succeeded? I think being here today to receive this most prestigious award could be interpreted as some success in this regard. I wish he were here today to be part of this auspicious occasion. I know the joy, satisfaction, and sense of accomplishment he would feel on this occasion.

Finally, I want to thank the Good Lord, for not only giving me the talent, but the opportunity and the wisdom to use my talent wisely to make a contribution to veterinary medicine and to society. God bless!!

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**NEWS FLASH**

The new Canine Frozen Semen Identification Form is now available on the Society website. This form (copyright © 2005) is available to members of the Society at no charge. To access the form, go to www.therio.org and click on the left navigation link “Buy Forms/Books.” The form may be downloaded as Word document. Permission is granted to members to maintain a copy on your computer for your personal or clinic use for as long as you are a member of the Society.

**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 SFT members, please send it to charles@franzmgt.com. Please make sure to put “SFT Newsletter Article” in the subject line of your message.
Canine Frozen Semen Identification Form  
Society for Theriogenology  
P.O. Box 3007  
Montgomery, AL 36109  
(334)395-4666  
Fax (334)270-3399

Stud Dog Information
Breed______________________Call name______________________
Registered Name______________________AKC#________________
Owner Name______________________

Semen Information
Straws □  Pellets □
  • Freezing method used________
  • # units included__________(straws / pellets)
  • Sperm concentration/unit__________x 10^6
  • % motility post-thaw__________

Motility Quality
  Poor □  Fair □  Good □  Excellent □

Motility Speed
  Slow □  Moderate □  Fast □

# Straws / breeding units recommended per breeding__________

Thaw instructions:
  Temperature___°F  ___°C
  Time________

  OR
  See attached information□

The information provided above is strictly for identification purposes. Quality control is the sole responsibility of the semen processor.
In Memorium

DR. RICHARD A. McFEELY
ACT Diplomate

On March 26, 2005, the School lost a dear friend and colleague, Richard A. McFeely, V’61, M. Med. Sci. (Ob/Gyn) to complications following knee-replacement surgery.

Dick McFeely came to the School as a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, a distinction in which he took great pride for the rest of his life. He graduated in 1961 and, after a brief stint in private practice, was accepted as a post-doctoral fellow in the School’s King Ranch Laboratory of Reproductive Physiology, then located in Center City Philadelphia. This was followed by a Masters degree program in obstetrics and gynecology at the University’s Graduate School of Medicine. Though Dick was the only veterinarian in the Ob/Gyn program (the others were all physicians), he ranked first in his class at the end of the course of study in 1967.

In 1966, Dick joined the faculty as assistant professor of clinical reproduction, became chief of the Section of Reproduction at NBC grew to great distinction and acquired worldwide recognition. His research interest was in cytogenetics. Working with Dr. Doug Hare, professor of anatomy, he made many important discoveries involving chromosomal disorders in domestic animals. These findings were recorded in more than 30 publications, many of which are the most prestigious journals of science.

Dick McFeely was known as an outstanding teacher with a great interest in student affairs. He was uniformly loved by students for his humor and encouragement; he was recognized for this in 1977 when he was awarded the Norden Award for Distinguished Teaching. Dick was also active in the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA) and was named “Veterinarian of the Year” in 1977. He went on to become president of the PVMA in 1983.

From 1976 to 1987, Dick served as associate dean for New Bolton Center. His generous, optimistic, and jovial spirit enabled Dick to fill this role eminently, and New Bolton Center became a better place as a result of his qualities of leadership. These collegial qualities persist and are Dick’s most important legacy at the School. He is remembered everywhere with great fondness, especially among the faculty and staff at New Bolton Center.

In 1995, Dick retired and moved to Chestertown, Md., where he became executive director of the Chester Valley Community Mediation Service. He is survived by his wife, Lynne; three children, Karen M. Weaver, Timothy McFeely, and Richard McFeely Jr.; and five grandchildren.

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I have just recently returned from the annual conference of the Society for Theriogenology in Charleston, South Carolina which again was a tremendous success! The topics, symposia, and the ever-enlarging vendor section were a tribute to the Society and Organizing Committee. It is always a pleasure to attend this meeting, not only for the scientific information, but for the camaraderie of our fellow members.

The ACT Certification Exam was once again held just prior to the start of the SFT Annual Conference. Twenty-five candidates sat for the examination with 16 successfully passing the exam. We owe a great deal of gratitude to the Examination Committee for their tireless efforts in not only putting together the examination, but for administering it and grading it! This is a tremendous effort on their part that requires a great deal of time. A job well done!

Dr. Dirk Vanderwall was honored as Theriogenologist of the Year for 2005. It was particularly gratifying to me to have Dirk receive this prestigious award since I have known Dirk from the time he graduated from veterinary college (Cornell 1986) and have interacted with him in the ensuing years. His presentation at the ceremony honoring him centered on his life and what brought him to this point in time. It was a very interesting and moving experience and we congratulate Dirk again.

I would also like to recognize the Executive Board of the ACT for the work they have done under the leadership of our Immediate Past President Margo Macpherson. The Board works tirelessly during the year addressing a host of issues. The glue that keeps it all together is Dr. Charles Franz the Executive Director of the ACT and his staff.

The ACT is alive and well. The total membership is 372 (20 honorary, 51 emeritus and 301 active members). We must now add the 16 successful new diplomates!

The ACT Board held its annual summer meeting in Charleston for two days prior to the SFT Annual Conference. In continuing our efforts of cooperation with the European College of Animal Reproduction (ECAR), Dr. Laszlo Solti from the University of Vienna joined the Board and reported on the activities of ECAR. They face the same trials and tribulations as we do and it is enlightening to hear of the way they handle many of the same issues that we face.

Continuing this interaction with ECAR, I have been invited and will attend their Board meeting in November in Belgium.

One of the agenda items discussed at the ACT Board meeting was the training opportunities for residents and candidates for the ACT Board Examination. This list is offered on the ACT website under the heading of “Becoming a Diplomate”. The purpose of this list is to broaden or extend additional training opportunities that may not be available at the candidates’ institution. Past President Doug Freeman and Director Pat Sertich are heading up this project. If any of you have additional training opportunities that may not be available at the candidates’ institution, please contact the ACT office, Doug or Pat.

The Board continues to work on implementing objectives of our strategic plan as outlined at the January 2005 Board meeting. One item that I believe was a very positive move was a reception hosted by the ACT Board and Examination Committee for the candidates that took the ACT Board Examination. The reception was held for all candidates the evening of the last day of the exam. The candidates had the opportunity to meet and mingle with the Board and Examination Committee in a social atmosphere which I think it was a very powerful public relations tool for the College.

The speakers’ bureau list has been updated and is posted on the ACT website. The list is subdivided into species which makes it much easier to find appropriate speakers on a variety of topics.

One very huge undertaking that was borne of the ACT strategic plan was the consideration of a name change for the College. This was discussed in the 2005 Summer Issue of the ACT newsletter. The SFT has hired Stewart and Associates of Louisville, Kentucky to study the “branding” of the SFT. The SFT will generously provide us with the findings from this study which will help us in tackling this very important issue.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the privilege of serving as your President for the coming year. I have very big shoes to fill from the persons who have gone before. The College should be proud of the dedication and efforts of the Board of Directors. This College is your college and I personally invite you to get involved! Please feel free to contact me, any of the Board Members, or Dr. Charles Franz our Executive Director, with your concerns, opinions or ideas. We need to hear from you so that we can more effectively lead the ACT into the future. Don’t be shy! We have a host of issues before us and your guidance and ideas are not only welcome, but needed. I can be reached at jsvdvm@aol.com and am waiting to hear from you.

John V. Steiner, DVM, DACT President
Dr. Dirk Vanderwall named Theriogenologist of the Year for 2005

Dr. Dirk Vanderwall received the prestigious 2005 Theriogenologist of the Year award at the SFT/ACT Annual Convention in Charleston, South Carolina. The award, presented by Fort Dodge Animal Health and the American College of Theriogenologists, includes a plaque and honorarium. Dr. Vanderwall, of Moscow, Idaho, received the award for expertise in clinical theriogenology.

Upon receiving his DVM in 1986 from Cornell, Dr. Vanderwall worked with Dr. Wendall Cooper at Lana Lobell Farm of New York. At the time, this farm was one of the three largest Standard-bred farms in the world. As a University of Idaho Ph.D. student, Dr. Vanderwall instructed veterinary students at Washington State University and taught the laboratory for a University of Idaho undergraduate physiology course. After receiving his Idaho Ph.D., Dr. Vanderwall completed a post doc at the University of Kentucky. The next five years he spent as a key member of the Colorado State University's commercial embryo transfer program. Dr. Vanderwall became a Diplomate of the American College of Theriogenologists in 1993. Dr. Vanderwall is best known for his recent work in the cloning of equids at the University of Idaho. The team that he organized birthed the world's first equine clone on May 4, 2003.

Congratulations to Dr. Dirk Vanderwall as the seventh recipient of Theriogenologist of the Year.

Sixteen new diplomates have been welcomed by the American College of Theriogenologists following successful completion of the certification examination that was held in Charleston, South Carolina, in conjunction with the Society for Theriogenology annual meeting in August.

The newest board-certified diplomates in the ACT are Drs. Misty Abrams, Auburn University, AL; Abdul Aljarrah, Baton Rouge, LA; Henry Annandale, Onderstepoort, South Africa; Chris Berezowski, Meath Park, Canada; Etta Agan Bradecamp, Warrenton, VA; Stan Bychawski, Cochran, Canada; Wynne Collins, Front Royal, VA; Ben Espy, San Antonio, TX; Maria Soledad Ferrer, Baton Rouge, LA; David Hidalgo, Amory, MS; Natalia Krekeler, Ithaca, NY; Soren Rodning, Auburn University, AL; Kelly Rosenkrans, Clinton, IL; Elizabeth Scholtz, Woodland, CA; Dickie (Joey) Vest, Magnolia, TX; Myrthe Wessel, The Netherlands.
The American College of Theriogenologists is seeking nominations for “Theriogenologist of the Year,” an award developed to recognized outstanding achievement in the field of reproductive research and clinical theriogenology. The award is accompanied by a plaque and monetary honorarium ($1500). Selection is based on the merit of scholarly and/or professional endeavors and the significance of contributions to the veterinary community, as described in materials submitted by nominators and candidates.

Candidates must be ACT Diplomates in good standing and must be currently engaged in clinical animal reproduction. Candidates’ scientific/professional achievements must be nationally recognized through books, journals, meetings, etc. Nominations may only be made by Diplomates of ACT or members of the Society for Theriogenology.

The ACT Executive Board encourages the nomination of ACT members in private practice, as well as Diplomates in academia and industry. Because of the tremendous diversity of professional activities among the members of ACT, the award will alternate annually between candidates with expertise in basic reproductive science (odd-numbered years) and candidates with expertise in clinical animal reproduction (even-numbered years).

Nominations, including documentation outlined in the Award Nomination Form, will be accepted until December 15, 2005. Nominators must also procure letters of recommendation from two of the candidate’s peers and submit them to the ACT office by December 15.

After December 15, candidates will be contacted for: (1) a current curriculum vitae; and (2) two or three manuscripts and/or documents validating their current scholarly activity. Candidates must have submitted all materials to the ACT office by January 15, 2006.

The Executive Board will review the candidates’ qualifications and select the recipient. Selection of the recipient and concurrent notification will be made no later than 30 days prior to the ACT/SFT Annual Conference. The Award will be presented at the SFT/ACT annual conference in August, 2006.

By December 15, 2005: Please submit this form with a letter describing in detail the candidate’s contributions; include current research and/or clinical activity, lists of refereed articles, books and presentations at national meetings, and any other relevant information regarding the candidate’s professionalism and the significance of his or her expertise to our profession. Provide two letters of recommendation from the candidate’s peers. Your nominee will not be considered if letters are not received by this deadline. Candidate’s Name:

Candidate’s Business Address: __________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Candidate’s Phone: ____________________________

Candidate’s e-mail: ___________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Nominator’s Name: ____________________________

Nominator’s Business Address: __________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Nominator’s Phone: ____________________________

Nominator’s e-mail: ___________________________________________________________________

Send form and supporting documentation to: American College of Theriogenologists

Attn: Theriogenologist of the Year Award

P.O. Box 3065, Montgomery, AL 36109

334-395-4666 • 334-270-3399 (fax)
Delegate Report to the SFT

Update on Activities & Resolutions of the AVMA HOUSE OF DELEGATES: Report of the SFT Delegate

Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 14-15, 2005

I. For the first time, the list of volunteer (but nonetheless competitive) positions within the AVMA legislative structure has been made available as of the July 2005 HOD session. This includes AVMA Committees, Boards, and Councils for 2006. In the ongoing effort to increase representation of SFT members in policy decisions and activities (influence) of the AVMA at the National level, I would ask you to visit the table identifying the positions posted on the SFT website. Some positions require a specific employment designation for eligibility. The elections and/or appointments will be made during the 2006 HOD sessions. Terms of service begins immediately thereafter. Please visit the SFT website and consider serving the SFT & AVMA on the national level.

Please note: Candidates for COMMITTEES: there is great benefit in contacting the appropriate District chairperson and sending him/her a letter in support of that person. Put the nominees information in writing, then follow-up with an additional personal contact. Whoever is speaking on behalf of those nominees for committee assignments, needs to have personal/additional information to speak on behalf of the nominee. The EB and District chairpersons have enormous agenda books to cover in an abbreviated timeframe when they meet. Anything that can be done to highlight a candidate can easily make a difference.

Candidates for COUNCILS need to begin their preparations well in advance of the AVMA meeting (July 2006). Expenses incurred are the candidates (not the SFT or other HOD entity [State or Allied Organization]). A brief (trifold or 1/3 sheet) presentation of one’s qualifications [campaign materials] to notify State & Allied Organizations, and an appearance before the HOD to make a brief statement about your interest & qualifications are necessary to serve on that entity. The HOD sessions are held before the annual conference. I can assist any SFT member interested in a particular position with dates, expectations, timeframes, etc.

II. There is a new guide published by the AVMA titled ‘Volunteering in the AVMA, A Guide to AVMA Volunteer Leadership.’ If you’re interested in pursuing further service to your profession on the national level, I would encourage you to consider one of these avenues to expand your horizons and strengthen veterinary medicine and the influence of theriogenology.

III. AVMA’s Legislative Agenda for the 109th Congress: The AVMA’s Government Relations Division (GRD) advocates the Association’s policies and positions on federal legislative and regulatory issues that influence animal and human health and advance the veterinary medical profession.

A. Proven, effective sequence that leads veterinary medicine in bringing our agenda to the forefront:
   • The Executive Board (EB) of the AVMA sets the agenda.
   • The agenda is the result of work percolating upward through the AVMA governance system.
   • The Legislative Advisory Committee (LAC) assists the EB in formulating AVMA policies & positions on federal legislative and regulatory issues.
   • The GRD staff works cooperatively with AVMA’s Schaumburg staff to develop and implement strategy to advance the AVMA federal legislative agenda.

B. Actively pursuing passage:
   Federal Funding for the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (PL 108-161)
   Small Business Health Fairness Act (H.R. 525/S. 406)
   The Veterinary Workforce Expansion Act (S.914/H.R. 2206)
   Humane Methods of Slaughter Act Amendment
   Funding for Establishment of an Office of Minor Use & Minor Species in FDA/CVM
   Foreign Animal Disease Laboratory
   Funding for Animal Health Protection
   Proactive Education on Compounding

C. Actively pursuing defeat:
   The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (H.R. 503)

D. Supporting
   Development of legislation that effectively deals with the welfare issues associated with puppy mills
   Increase funding for the animal arm of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS)
   Increase funding for the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database (PARAD)

For your interest, theriogenology’s representation in the HOD extends beyond Dr. Rawson (SFT Alternate Delegate) and myself. While their allegiance must first be to their State or the Allied Group they represent, SFT members i.e. representatives with knowledge of theriogenology in the HOD [either Delegate or alternate Delegate] are present in service to Ohio, Virginia, AAEP, AABP, etc. Speak to your representatives on all fronts regarding issues affecting you or the practice of theriogenology. Let us know how we can better serve you.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent the Society for Theriogenology in the HOD. If you have any questions or comments, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Dr. Carla L. Carleton
Delegate, SFT
3260 Hulett Road, Mason, MI 48854-9417 USA

E. Non-Support for:
   The Puppy Protection Act if the 108th Congress version is reintroduced in the 109th Congress
   Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act of 2005 (S.742/H.R.2562)
   Restoring the Prohibition on the Commercial Sale of Wild Free-Roaming Horses & Burros (S.576/H.R.297)

F. Requesting More Information
   Antifreeze Safety Act
   Special Pay for Uniformed Services Veterinarians

IV. Contact Congress Instantly at the New AVMA Online Government Action Center using the online tool, called Capwiz.
   • Begin at www.avma.org
   • Scroll down to the left side of the page until you see the Government Relations heading.
   • Click on the second link, titled Government Action Center.
   • This brings up the main page for the Capwiz site, featuring the major legislation, as approved by the AVMA EB.
   • Click on any one of the issues and you will be connected to the background page for that issue: includes goals, AVMA’s position, current legislative status, and most importantly, the ability to contact your Members of Congress on the issue.
   • To contact your Senators &/or Representative, simply type in your residential zip code in the space provided.
   • The next page takes you to a prewritten E-Mail or letter (you can choose), ready to be sent to your legislators, alerting them of AVMA’s position on the issue and how it affects you as a member of the profession or community.
   • To complete the message, simply fill our your personal contact information at the bottom of the page.
   • If you have additional questions on the new site or AVMA’s grassroots activities, please feel free to contact Tim Folytn, AVMA/PAC Grassroots Coordinator at tfolytnavma.org or (800) 321-4715 ext. 3206.

V. Resolutions submitted for consideration in July 2005:
   Resolution 1: Position Statement on force-feeding birds to produce foie gras (Defeated by the HOD)
   Resolution 2: Holding the VLC/HOD Informational Assembly in the Schaumburg, IL area. (Defeated by the HOD)
   Resolution 3: Production of Foie Gras (Defeated by the HOD)
   Resolution 4: National Animal Microchip Standard (Passed by the HOD)
   Resolution 5: Preservation of the American Veterinary Medical Foundation [resolution to suspend promotion of the AVMF] (Defeated)
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