The 26th Annual AABP Convention was launched on Thursday evening, September 16 with true AABP hospitality and friendship.

Following sumptuous hors d’oeuvres among the 300+ excellent exhibits, the Opening Ceremony was called to order by AABP President, Darrel Johnson. The highlight of this most enjoyable occasion was a tribute to Dr. Harold Amstutz for his outstanding and dedicated service to the AABP for many years. A videotape entitled "A Tribute to Harold" was presented to a large audience. The tape script was written and narrated by Dr. Eric Williams. President Johnson presented Harold with a life membership plaque and Mrs. Jo Amstutz received a Nambe bowl.

Dr. Amstutz thanked the members for their loyal support. Mrs. Amstutz also expressed her appreciation for their friendship and the lovely gift. All past and present officers of the AABP were invited to join Harold and Jo on the platform.

The 1993 AABP Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Neil G. Anderson, Cheltenham, Ontario, Canada by AABP Past President Gordon Atkins.

The AABP Research Assistantship grants were announced by Dr. Kent Ames, Chairman, on behalf of the Selection Committee to:

Dr. Sabine Gerds, Department of Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, Kansas State University ($7,000). Research Topic: Tear Protein Determination in Normal and Infectious Bovine Keratoconjunctivitis Affected Cattle.

Dr. Philip Jordon, Tulare, California ($3,000). Research Topic: Calcium Level and Anionic Salts in Dry Cow Rations.

Neither of the above recipients was able to be present.

The American Cyanamid AABP Award for Excellence was presented to Dr. Gary P. Rupp.

The remainder of a truly memorable evening was devoted to a stirring address by Dr. Lowell Catlett, Professor of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business at New Mexico State University. Dr. Catlett presented a captivating characterization of agriculture in its future opportunities. He is the author of "Green Cows, Quag-gas & Mummies" - a look at the changing face of education in the next century and the role of individualized education and achieving maximum performance from individuals.
Los Amigos Round-Up Extravaganza and Scholarship Auction

"Fun New Mexico Style"

On Saturday evening, September 18, AABP members and spouses boarded buses and headed to Los Amigos, along the Rio Grande River under giant shady Cottonwood trees on the Sandia Indian Reservation. Upon arrival, everyone was given souvenir Indian bandanas. The meal consisted of tender boneless ribeye steaks, broiled over mesquite and hickory fires, authentic Indian snacks (Sandia Indian fry bread and green chile stew), potato salad, corn, baked beans and beverages.

After the meal and entertainment, the AABP "Barbeque" of retiring Executive Vice President Harold Amstutz was conducted with several members recalling humorous incidents in Harold's life — then came the silent auction and voice auction with auctioneers, Dr. James Jarrett and Dr. M.T. Szatalowicz, in excellent form. Items had been donated from each district and included hotel room packages, vacation getaways in Colorado, the Pacific Northwest and Canada.

Over $27,000 was received from the auction towards the AABP Amstutz Scholarship Fund which will provide scholarships to North American veterinary medicine students who are interested in pursuing careers in bovine practice.
Tours

Several tours were available for Convention participants including:

Introduction to Albuquerque: a trip down Route 66 with its neon signs, Pueblo Deco Art and through the University of New Mexico — the only pueblo-styled campus in the United States. Other sights included Kirkland Air Force Base, Sandia Peak Tram, the Petroglyphs and Old Town.

Santa Fe Tour: named by Conde Nast travel magazine as the #1 travel destination in the world. Santa Fe is the oldest capital city in the United States being a tricultural city with European charm. The bus ride included the Turquoise Trail through the ghost towns of Golden and Cerrillos with a stop at the mining town of Madrid, proceeding on to Santa Fe, "The City of Faith". Here, there were walking tours of the Plaza, Chapel of Loretto and the Oldest Church in the USA — plus plenty of shopping!

New Mexican Fiesta: while the veterinarians were attending the Practice Tips and Research Summaries Sessions, spouses departed to the WPA original Albuquerque airport. This is a lovely pueblo styled building with flagstone floors for a New Mexican fiesta complete with pinatas, luminarias, margaritas and New Mexican hors d’oeuvres. They were serenaded by strolling Mariachis and entertained by a Flamenco dance troop. Local Spanish craftsmen demonstrated tin art, the carving of Santos and Retablos and the art of stained glass.

Artful Continental Breakfast: breakfast at one of Albuquerque’s leading studio/galleries with exhibits of Native American Indians doing silversmithing, painting pottery and explaining the folklore of Indian Stone Tellers.

Indian Cultural Day: a visit to the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center owned and maintained by the 19 New Mexico Pueblos. The tour continued to "Sky City" Acoma Pueblo which is a 1,000 year old continuously inhabited pueblo (the oldest continuously inhabited city in the United States) which sits atop a 400 foot sandstone bluff overlooking Enchanted Mesa. The famous Acoma pottery and other traditional art were enjoyed as participants were winding through the dirt paths of the Pueblo.

Other Tours: included a visit to New Mexico State Fair, Sandia Peak Tramway and Laguna Indian Pueblo (harvest ceremonial). A post convention tour, on Sunday afternoon, took participants up the Turquoise Trail through the ghost/mining towns of Cerrillos and Madrid toward Santa Fe for shopping, visit galleries and dinner at a gourmet restaurant.

Betty Owen Recognized

Betty Owen retired recently after serving as Secretary to the AABF for 16 years. President Johnson presented her with a bouquet and an honorarium for her outstanding service.