Social Events

Following the grand opening ceremony, the stage was set for lots of fun, good food and entertainment in the blazing sun of the Sunshine State. The spouse hospitality reception on Thursday evening organized by Gatz and Kay Riddell and their local arrangements committee was well attended for a presentation by Bob Morris entitled “Welcome to Florida — How Soon Will You Be Leaving?” Mr. Morris is a columnist for *The Orlando Sentinel*, previously from Miami who shared a humorous and irreverent look at the melting pot that is becoming the Sunshine State — and some of the visitors that besiege it from all over the world.

Friday evening was truly one to remember. Over 600 convention registrants were bussed to Sea World of Orlando, which was opened for the occasion. Dr. Deke Buesse, staff veterinarian, assisted with the arrangements. First there was quite a show by hundreds of formally dressed inhabitants of the Penguin Encounter followed by a good laugh as sea lions Clyde and Seamore took a slightly off-center look at life! There was “time out” for a sumptuous barbecued beef and chicken meal. The second private show was provided by the one and only Shamu in the Shamu Night Magic Show.

Spouse tours included visits to Universal Studios, Tiffany at Winter Park, Cypress Gardens and behind the scenes at the Walt Disney World Resort. There were many individual and group trips to Disney World and the world famous, breathtaking Epcot Center.
Distinguished Service Award

The 1991 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award was Dr. John C. Dahl, Madison, Wisconsin.

Dr. Dahl received the D.V.M. degree from the University of Minnesota in 1956. His long professional career has had a major impact on the profession and the dairy industry. He spent fifteen years in a dairy practice in Clintonville, Wisconsin where he was a pioneer in mastitis control work and perceiving the importance of milking machine function in mastitis. He was also a co-owner of a dairy farm during this time.

Dr. Dahl left practice and joined the corporate staff of DEC International. He rose from Sales and Product Manager to President and General Manager of the company in 1971-74. He implemented new technology and expanded the contributions that industry made to the science of harvesting milk from cows. He also developed the concept of industry sponsored “schools” on milking machine function for veterinarians. He was a national and international emissary for the veterinary profession in the global dairy industry in which he became deeply engaged. He is renowned as a dynamic speaker.

The third chapter of his distinguished career unfolded as he became Director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at the University of Wisconsin — Madison. He assembled a notable faculty and built the basis for a sound program which included a network involving veterinary practitioners throughout the state of Wisconsin. The program has gained the financial and political support of Wisconsin agriculture.