Executive Vice-President's Report Business Luncheon Vancouver, British Columbia 22 September, 2007



Since the March board meeting, the AABP Office has gone through some significant changes. I made the decision not to advertise, interview, hire and train a new person in mid-July after Linda passed away and that, inevitably, has resulted in an increased work for Jane as well as some items falling through the cracks or being delayed. The run-off election for Vice-President was an occurrence that has not happened in recent history and added some time in balloting and ballot verification. Jane has indicated that she is not interested in applying for the administrative assistant position so the time line for advertising and interviewing will start immediately after the Vancouver meeting.

Finances

The treasurer's report will provide the bulk of this information. Both Dr. Wustenberg and the incoming Treasurer, Dr. Brian Reed, have been receiving updates from the AABP office regarding any checks that are in excess of \$5,000.00 and bear only a single signature. The Board has approved the rescinding the of the double signature requirement until after the Annual Conference, but this will have to be reconsidered and extended. With the help of Steve Johnson, the office has been able to include both Drs. Wustenberg and Reed in the past two monthly reconciliations with both of them being able to view the computer in the office being used for the reconciliation.

The Board approved a negative budget that was based upon projections for an Annual Meeting which

could be less profitable than previous years. The meeting registration is stronger than initially anticipated primarily because Dr. Bolton's Program Committee has assembled a really strong and attractive program and the venue is phenomenal. Hopefully the conservative budget, primarily based upon meeting income and expenses, will prove to be too conservative. We continue to have the majority of funds within the A.G. Edwards Reserve Fund distributed into separate CD's housed at different financial institutions for an increased level of risk management. Additionally, after enrollment in the A.G. Edwards Bank Deposit Program, all funds outside the AABP Reserve Funds Certificates of Deposit (AABP operating Fund and AABP Amstutz Scholarship Fund) have been placed within the protection of FDIC insurance.

Membership

The dues notices for the 2007-2008 membership year were mailed May 1, July 15 and September 15. Members with 6/30/2007 membership expiration dates will not receive the November newsletter and will be removed from AABP-L during the month of October. We have continued to grant students a longer period of grace, but this will go only until December 31. This fall, we expect to remove delinquent students from AABP-L early in December to encourage the payment of the 2007-2008 dues prior to 12/31/2007. A major concern is that nearly 50% of the 2007 graduates did not renew their membership, even at the reduced rate of \$20.00. During this next year, I expect that we will discuss issues including but not limited to electronic memberships, increasing fees for foreign members who continue to request mailings (postage for 800 foreign and Canadian newsletters approximates that for 3800 U.S. newsletters) and for increasing publications options, particularly as the Bylaws and Constitution review continues.

Director and Officer Elections

The elections in Districts 3, 6, 9 and 12 all resulted in one-person elections. Drs. Donovan, Seglar and Schnackel have all been re-elected to second three-year terms. Dr. Guy Boisclair was elected to replace Dr. Reny Lothrop in District 12. Dr. Boisclair is from Victoriaville, Quebec, and will be able to attend some of the board meetings in Vancouver. Dr. Roger Saltman was elected to the office of AABP Vice-President.

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General Office Activity

The workings of the office continue to change. The website and the available technology (often times in response to questions from the office regarding working more effectively for the membership) are continually upgraded at the direction of IT Coordinator Steve Johnson. As several of the Board have experience, Steve has made the use of email and other electronic tools simple and straightforward for Board members, committee chairs and seminar coordinators. He continues to revise the web site in ways that make things easy for our members and for the office.

Updating and verifying the member database plus correlating this with the AABP-L list continue to require weekly activity. During the past two months, I need to call attention to the fact that the AABP has paid my two oldest children, Wes and Molly, an hourly wage to handle registration and membership renewal activities while my better half, Kay, has spent many hours doing the same things.

Liaisons and Meetings

A large variety of meetings were attended to represent AABP interests or fulfill obligations that I had coming into this position, and which have been sanctioned by the Board. They include:

- March 23-25 The Northeast Production Medicine Symposium in Syracuse, New York (Immediately following the meeting, Diane and John Ferry hosted Kay, Jonathan and I for a short visit, allowing Jonathan to feed his snowboarding addiction.)
- March 28, 2007 PAACO board meeting, Kansas City, Kansas
- March 29-30 AMI Animal Care and Handling Conference, Kansas City, Kansas
- April 28 May 6 North American Veterinary Conference Spring Board Meeting, Lima, Peru
- May 14-15 Academic Summit Monsanto, St. Louis, Missouri
- May 31 CDC Get Smart on the Farm meeting, Atlanta, Georgia
- June 17-19 Executive Committee meeting, Washington, D.C.
- June 23 AABP Foundation Board meeting, Denver, Colorado
- June 27-29 Raising the Bar on Communications in Veterinary Medicine workshop, (SPAH) Spokane, Washington
- July 12-18 AVMA House of Delegates and Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

August 2-4 – AVC meeting, Kansas City, Kansas

- August 14 National Dairy Animal Well-Being Initiative (formerly the PDPW) Principles and Guidelines Committee Meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- September 5-7 North American Veterinary Conference Fall Board Meeting, Orlando, FL

Honor Roll Nominees

The following AABP members have requested being granted honor roll status. They all qualify and I recommend that they be approved.

Robert B. Bushnell Raymond M. Cerniga John H. Collamer Lowell D. Cornwell Robert W. Finch Peter H. Franz Herbert C. Lloyd Walter L. North Stanley L. Oxenreider John W. Rehn R.F. (Dick) Taylor Dan W, Upson Beecher H. Watson L.C. Zilles

Summary

The six months since the Board meet at the Spring board meeting has been both rewarding and challenging. Requests for input from AABP on a variety of topics continues to demonstrate both the role that the organization can play as well as the respect held for the AABP on many levels. The opportunity to interact with the NCBA has been particularly productive as the NCBA Chief Veterinarian, Dr. Elizabeth Parker, has been exceptionally inclusive on regional, national and international levels. The upcoming year will continue to provide numerous opportunities for increasing the relationships with all aspects of the cattle food production systems. The AABP committee structure continues to show the ability to respond to demanding situations on relatively short notice. Lastly, the Board has been very supportive while being open and innovative in communicating what is expected of the AABP office.

Respectfully submitted, Gatz Riddell, DVM, MS, DACT Executive Vice-President