

1979  
12th Annual Convention  
San Antonio, Texas  
November 28-December 1

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*Bovine Practice: A Changing Profession Serving A Changing Agriculture*

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**San Antonio - The Alamo City, a picturesque combination of Old World charm and a modern city was a delightful venue for our convention.**

Preconvention Seminars continued to flourish with seven being available. Of much historical significance was the introduction of a seminar on computers using the TI 59 calculator in an advanced dairy nutrition session, led by Drs. Timothy Lesch and Phillip Sears.

Dr. David Bechtol was chairman of the General Program while local arrangements program committee was led by Drs. Wallace Larson and Joe Peebles with much assistance by Charles Huff, Executive Director, Texas VMA.

Ladies events were arranged by Mrs. Mary Bechtol, Mrs. Yvonne Peebles and Mrs. Barbara Wright. Tours included Witte Museum, the Spanish Governor Palace, a pleasant drive to Mission San Jose established in 1720 and noted for the famed "Rosa's Window," one of the finest pieces of Spanish colonial ornamentation in America. There were also tours to Castorville, an Alsatian town, and the old Ursuline Convent. A highlight was an English double decker ride to the Fiesta Dinner Playhouse for dinner and the play "My Daughter, My Son" with June Allyson.

**Dr. Earl Butz, a former Secretary for Agriculture and Dean Emeritus of Agriculture, Purdue University, addressed the General Session on *Agriculture and Politics in the 1980s*. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Butz stated:**

*I am convinced that we stand on the threshold of an exciting experience--because we have the scientific basis and the opportunity to double our food production ---- historians will look back and say that we indeed made it possible for mankind to beat swords into plough shares and spears into pruning hooks.*

*Fiesta de San Antonio* presented a wonderful Night of Old San Antonio, complete with 13-14 Mexican foods and a strolling Mariachi band.



Dr. Brian Sinclair, Harrogate, Yorkshire, England was the Keynote Speaker at the General Session - better known as Triston Farnon in James Herriot's best-seller books. He delighted the capacity audience with his wit, dry humor and candor as he recalled the halcyon days as a student at the Royal Dick Veterinary College, Edinburgh, his service in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps. in India and his assignments with the Ministry of Agriculture. His relationships with his brother, Donald (Siegfried) and James Herriot were portrayed with warmth and pride. He was accompanied by his wife Sheila.

Dr. Sinclair was declared an honorary citizen of the great State of Texas in a Proclamation signed by the Governor and an honorary Alcalde (Mayor) of the City of San Antonio.

At the Annual Business Meeting which was called to order by President John Noordsy at 10:45 a.m. on November 30, Executive Secretary Harold Amstutz reported that AABP had 2,840 members and 1,500 student members - the highest membership of all the veterinary specialty organizations. The Directory was doubled in size by adding an alphabetical listing of all members along with their college and year of graduation. He reported that Dr. James Crouch had continued as our representative on the Livestock Conservation Institute and Dr. Jenks Britt was now our representative on the National Mastitis Council.

A group of present and past AABP officers and directors had met with representatives of the National Cattlemen's Association to form a technical working group on herd health and bovine respiratory diseases to establish good management practices for the industry.

**Dr. Williams, Editor, stated that Heritage Press was no longer in business but was happy to report that Frontier Printers, Stillwater, OK was our new printer and doing an excellent job. The company was now owned by Printed Products, Inc., Tulsa with Mr. Harold Case, manager.**

**President Noordsy announced that the Executive Board had passed a motion to increase student fees to \$10.00 annually, effective autumn 1980.**

*(For further resolutions, please see Endnotes.)*



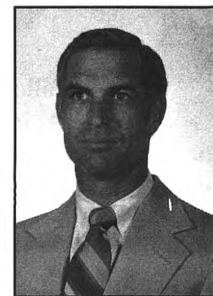
**Officers for 1980 were:**

- President Dr. David Bechtol (automatic advancement)
- President-Elect Dr. John Cote
- Vice-President Dr. Robert Keith
- Exec. Sec.-Tres. Dr. Harold Amstutz (re-elected)

**Directors**

- District III Dr. Robert Love, Monticello, FL
- District V Dr. Darrel Johnson, Weyauwega, WI
- District VIII Dr. Joseph Bitter, Edna, TX (re-elected)
- District XI Dr. Robert Darlington, Snohomish, WA  
*(after a tie with Dr. Erich Studer, decided by a flip of a coin)*

Dr. Richard Spencer, District VII Director resigned. Dr. Noordsy passed the gavel to incoming President, David Bechtol who presented him with the past-president's plaque.



*Dr. Joseph Bitter*

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**Obituary**

**Dr. Maurice L. Weldy, Goshen, Indiana died on Thursday, May 10, 1979, aged 64.**

**Dr. Weldy was a founding member and first official president of AABP. He is remembered for his tremendous dedication to the development of AABP.**

**Dr. Weldy was a well known breeder of Guernsey cattle.**



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**Bovine Practitioner of the Year**



*Left to right: Dr. Herb Lloyd, Diamond Labs; Dr. Leland Allenstein; Mr. Dobbertin, President, Diamond Labs; Dr. Harrington; Dr. Fuller, Diamond Labs; Dr. Noordsy, AABP President.*

**Dr. Ben Harrington, Raleigh, North Carolina was named the 1979 Bovine Practitioner of the Year. The award was presented by Mr. Warren Dobbertin, President, Diamond Laboratories.**

Dr. Harrington was born March 22, 1931 in North Carolina. He received a B.S. degree in Animal Science from North Carolina State University in 1953 and the D.V.M. degree (Magna Cum Laude) from the University of Georgia in 1957. He entered practice in Apex, NC and became the senior member and owner of a four man mixed practice. Dr. Harrington was President of AABP in 1973 and also served as President of North Carolina Holstein Association and AABP representative to the AVMA House of Delegates. He was a member of the AVMA Council on Education and an advisor to the development of the new College of Veterinary Medicine in Raleigh, North Carolina.

*(Further information on Dr. Harrington's outstanding contributions to his profession and community are included in the Proceedings of this Convention.)*

## Endnotes

The following resolution was passed at the Annual Business Meeting:

The American Association of Bovine Practitioners recognizes an urgent need to expedite the development of state-national telecommunications and computer terminal networks for dissemination of educational and economic development programs. Such networks, already under development, will have guide applications in all areas of agriculture including animal health maintenance. Our Association envisions valuable potential impact in food animal disease information, facilitation of diagnostic test reportives, interpretation and recommendation as well as direct access consultation and continuing education.

We, therefore, recommend that USDA-SEA-Extension- the cooperating Colleges of Agriculture and Colleges of Veterinary Medicine, in consultation with the American Association of Extension Veterinarians and National and State Veterinary medical associations, establish a task force to develop telecommunications programming for animal disease control. We further recommend that the pilot projects be established wherein terminals are installed in Veterinarians' offices for studied use and evaluations of educational and economic impact.

A motion was also passed that an *ad hoc* committee be appointed for the purpose of establishing uniform animal computer health records.



*Dr. John Noordsy receives a plaque from incoming President, Dr. David Bechtol.*



*Dr. Earl Butz and Dr. Amstutz.*



*Dr. Sinclair*



*Dr. and Mrs. Sinclair with Dr. Noordsy*

