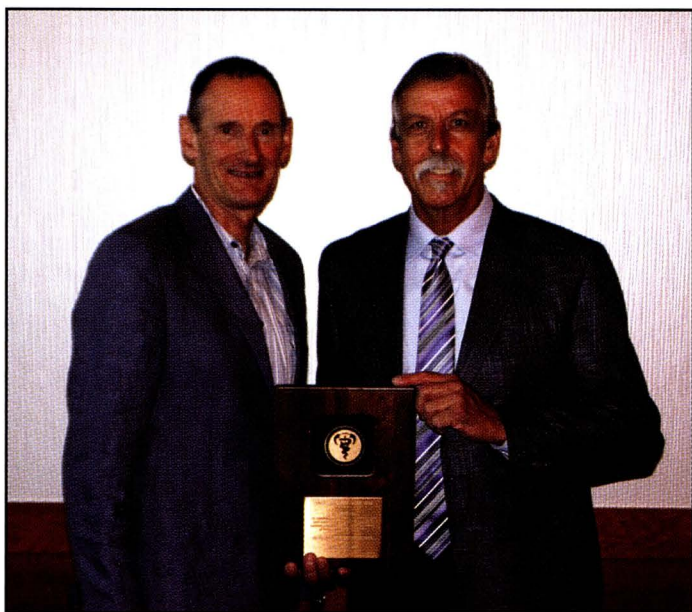


2018 AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Bovine Practitioner of the Year



Dr. Henry Ceelen (right) receives the Bovine Practitioner of the Year Award from Dr. Rob Tremblay.

Dr. Mike Apley described the AABP–Boehringer Ingelheim Bovine Practitioner of the Year Award. “The Bovine Practitioner of the Year Award has been awarded annually since its establishment in 1978. Since its inception, this award has been sponsored by Syntex Animal Health, Fort Dodge Animal Health, and now Boehringer Ingelheim. The award consists of a diamond ring and commemorative plaque. The award winner exhibits those qualities that exemplify the AABP and its members. Candidates are evaluated on the following criteria:

- Must be a bovine practitioner in active practice;
- The quality of veterinary service provided as judged by his or her peers;
- Participation in organized veterinary medicine, such as AABP, as well as activity on veterinary boards, such as licensing, specialty, etc.;
- Contribution to the knowledge of the profession through case reports, scientific reports and continuing education; and,
- Achievements and activities which have an impact on the cattle industry and bovine practice.

To present the winner of the 2018 AABP–Boehringer Ingelheim Bovine Practitioner of the Year Award, please welcome Dr. Rob Tremblay.”

“It is a pleasure to introduce the 2018 AABP–Boehringer Ingelheim Practitioner of the Year. This practitioner grew up on a dairy farm near the village of Hallville in the Ottawa Valley of Ontario, Canada. That, no doubt, helped cement his life-long passion for dairy cows and dairy production. He graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1981 then returned to practice in Eastern Ontario where he has remained. He is partner in a multi-person mixed-animal clinic.

While in practice, he has always strived to improve his veterinary skills and to offer better service to his clients. He completed the first Dairy Health Management Certificate Program. He has participated in several applied field research projects. He has passed his enthusiasm for veterinary medicine along to others by mentoring young practitioner colleagues and veterinary students. His clinic is much sought after as an externship experience.

His passion for veterinary medicine and dairy production is well reflected by the comments of some of his clients. One stated that “*he... laid the foundation at our dairy farm to have high expectations for ourselves and our animals. He strives for what is achievable, and does not limit himself or his clients to industry averages or benchmarks.*” Another offered high praise by stating that “*I would best describe him as a teacher*”.

He has contributed to his profession in numerous ways, including as a long-time member of the executives of the Central Canada Veterinary Association, the Ontario Association of Bovine Practitioners, and of the Canadian Association of Bovine Veterinarians. He has served as president of each of these organizations. He is now the secretary/treasurer of the CABV. Not one to shy away from needs of the veterinary profession, no matter that they can be controversial, he has led the charge to clarify the role of veterinarians in welfare situations and was instrumental in the implementation of welfare validator training sessions for veterinarians.

He is a role model for others in the profession.

The 2018 AABP–Boehringer Ingelheim Bovine Practitioner of the Year is Dr Henry Ceelen. Henry and his wife, Marilyn, live near Kemptville, Ontario. They have two adult children and now are the proud grandparents to Adam and Blake.”

AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Awards for Excellence in Preventive Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Mike Apley described the awards. “The awards were established in 1982, and consist of a \$1,500 general scholarship contribution made in the name of the recipient to his/her veterinary college of choice and a specifically designed plaque given to the recipient. The awards recog-

nize individual member practitioners or practices that have developed outstanding preventive medicine programs. One award is given to recognize an outstanding program for beef production and another is given to an outstanding program in dairy production.”



Dr. John Crews (right) received the AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Award for Excellence in Preventive Veterinary Medicine-Beef from Dr. Robert Gukich.

Dr. Robert Gukich introduced the 2018 beef award recipient. “Dr. John Crews grew up on a 1100-acre cattle and citrus family ranching operation in Central Florida. As a child John’s job was to carry out the local veterinarian’s instructions in treating their cattle. So began his career.

Dr. Crews was a pre-veterinary student at Samford University in Birmingham, AL in 1968, then transferred to the University of Florida to complete his degree. He was accepted into Auburn University’s School of Veterinary Medicine and graduated in 1975. Dr. Crews married the love of his life, Suzanne Painter, just weeks after graduation and he believes much of his success was due to God’s gift to him, his wife! She was a nurse, his bookkeeper, his office manager, and strong defender!

Dr. Crews worked for veterinarians in the Central Florida area and the USDA a year before he began his own veterinary practice in Lakeland, Florida. Dr. Crews and his wife adopted four children, Joel, Jeffery, Lisa, and Melinda; all needing some kind of special care.

In 1986, the Crews family accepted a call to service with the Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and moved to Tanzania, East Africa for the next 10 years. Dr. Crews served as a Missionary Veterinarian and Community Development Specialist. Dr. Crews treated every species and every disease you can imagine in Africa. Some

of his field clinics would serve as many as 3500 head in one day. There were very few veterinarians in the area and vaccines weren’t available there. Dr. Crews would travel to neighboring countries to obtain supplies or order them from the US. He also trained over 300 US short-term Missionary Volunteers while there. One of those short-term volunteers was Edwin Robertson, which many of you know. He imported Senepol semen and when Dr. Robertson came, he brought embryos. The embryo transfers were the first in Tanzania, and Dr. Crews will tell you that they were never recorded because the embryos were a complete surprise to him!

In 1996, Dr. Crews and family returned to Florida where he was accepted to the University of Florida’s College of Veterinary Medicine Graduate Assistant Program. He worked on his Masters in Veterinary Science with an emphasis on epidemiology of trichomonosis in Florida beef cattle, graduating in 2000. Dr. Crews began working with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in the Division of Animal Industry as the Director of the State Diagnostic Laboratories in Florida, known as the Bronson Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. In 2004, Dr. Crews asked to transfer to his first love, working with animals, their owners, and their veterinarians and became District State Veterinarian serving 9 primary and 11 secondary counties in Florida!

Dr. Crews has co-authored several articles on the topic of trich, including one of only two state-wide surveys for that disease in Florida. His interest in this disease and the demand from local veterinarians led him to develop a private lab for reading trich cultures as well as producing his own trich media. He simplified the culturing technique for his veterinary clients by placing the media in a tube. Annually he has been reading 4000 to 5000 cultures from bulls for trich. The laboratory functioned nights and weekends when he wasn’t working his day job for the Department of Agriculture.

In 2015, Dr. Crews began teaching at Warner University, a local christian university as an adjunct professor in their new agricultural studies program. He retired from the Florida Department of Agriculture in 2016, and became the full time animal science professor at the university. Dr. Crews also is the faculty coordinator and teaches at a missionary/community development program called Hunger Education and Resource Training (h.e.a.r.t. Institute) on the university’s property. All the while he continued to operate his own commercial beef

cattle business and lives on the ranch his family started nearly 70 years ago.

Dr. Crews lost his precious wife, Suzanne, in 2015 to cancer, but made her memory live on when he endowed the Suzanne Crews Agricultural Missions trip at Warner University. The students go to Honduras to assist with agricultural challenges facing the country and to share the Gospel of Jesus. Dr. Crews has remained involved in research and has been able to involve his Warner University students in his endeavors, such as participating in a

project lead by Dr. Qun Huo from the University of Central Florida - Orlando. My ranch is involved in this project too, and we are conducting a field trial study on a new immune response test for cattle breeding and health management.

Dr. Crews has received numerous awards through the years, but being a faithful colleague, mentor, and encourager to people of all ages, myself being one of them, is his passion. I am proud to nominate him for the AABP - Boehringer Ingelheim Excellence in Preventive Medicine - Beef.”

Dairy Award



Dr. Ben Shelton (left) received the AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Award for Excellence in Preventive Medicine-Dairy from Dr. Geoff Smith.

Dr. Geoffrey Smith introduced the recipient of the 2018 AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Award of Excellence in Preventive Veterinary Medicine-Dairy. “It is with great pleasure that I present the 2018 AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Award for Excellence in Dairy Preventive Medicine to an individual that I believe is extremely deserving of this honor. Following his graduation from veterinary school at the University of Tennessee in 1981, he moved to Apex, North Carolina to learn dairy production medicine from the late Dr. Ben Harrington, a former AABP president. In 1992 he moved and started Rocky Creek Veterinary Services near Statesville, NC.

He has spent 26 years at Rocky Creek doing traditional vet stuff such as reproductive work, nutrition consulting, designing vaccination protocols, and disease investigation. However, his practice has also developed and helped disseminate new technologies and services to the dairy producers of North Carolina including the establishment of a milk quality lab. Together with his two associates, Dr. Truman Sanner and Dr. Jonathan Wesson, Rocky Creek Veterinary Clinic continues to service a

significant portion of the dairy industry in North Carolina as well as part of Virginia.

Along with his son Paul, a graduate of the Virginia Tech dairy science program, he also owns and manages a 1,300 cow Holstein dairy. The dairy has a rolling herd average of about 31,000 pounds and a somatic cell count of 85,000. For those of you that know much about the dairy industry in the Southeast - that’s pretty damn good. His experience owning a large dairy has made him indispensable to dairy farms in the Southeast. As a consultant he has helped farms with issues most veterinarians don’t traditionally deal in, such as facility design and how to manage labor on a dairy.

He has been a strong advocate for the dairy industry having served as President of the Upper South Milk Producers Association as well as on the board of directors for multiple companies that interface with the dairy industry. In 2007 he helped started the Cobblestone Cooperative - together with about 10 other well managed dairy farms in North Carolina and Virginia, they have positioned themselves to receive a premium price for producing a high quality milk product.

He has opened up his farm to me as well as several other faculty members for multiple research projects and is always looking for ways to improve. He also has played a huge role in educating the next generation of bovine practitioners. Literally hundreds of senior veterinary students have conducted externships with Rocky Creek Veterinary Services, usually sleeping in the apartment above the parlor listening to the vacuum pump going “boom” all night. I have asked him many times if I could bring students to the farm and have never once been told “no.” He enjoys spending time with students and talking with them about various aspects of the farm and dairy production medicine. Just two weeks ago I had a group of five vet students at the farm and he spent two hours going over his farm records with them and talking about key areas of profitability on dairy farms and discussed ways they could improve.

Due to his long and successful career as a veterinarian, a dairy producer, a scientist, and as someone that has worked hard to help teach veterinary students, it is my distinct pleasure to present the 2018 Award for Excellence in Dairy Production Medicine to Dr. Ben Shelton.”

AABP-Zoetis Distinguished Service Award



Dr. Dan Thomson (left) is presented the 2018 AABP-Zoetis Distinguished Service Award by Dr. Bob Smith.

Dr. Mike Apley described the award. “This award was established in 1989. Beginning in 1996, it has been given annually by Pfizer Animal Health, Inc., now Zoetis. It consists of a commemorative plaque and a certificate of appreciation. Candidates for the award are those individuals who, through long and continued service, have promoted the goals of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP), and whose accomplishments have served as a model for service to bovine agriculture through organized veterinary medicine. Selection criteria include the following:

- A career of self-effacing commitment to excellence in bovine medicine as evidenced by conscientious involvement in the affairs of the AABP;
- Demonstrated leadership in keeping organized veterinary medicine abreast of the times;
- Peer recognition as an effective spokesman for the bovine practitioner.

Dr. Bob Smith will introduce this year’s award winner.”

“Our honoree is so well-known to the majority of you that an introduction might be redundant, but he is recognized as an international leader in animal welfare, beef cattle production, and cattle health management. One of the criteria for this award is “being an effective spokesman for our profession.” Let me give you some examples of how he fulfills this criteria:

- He is the Global Co-leader for McDonalds Beef Health and Welfare Committee.
- He chaired the US ISO OIE Animal Welfare Working Group.
- He serves on the Animal Welfare Advisory Board for the Food Marketing Institute.

- He serves on the Animal Handling Working Group of the Global Food Safety Initiative.
- He co-chairs the North American Animal Welfare Commission.

Today’s award winner has worked on advisory boards and committees for the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, American Farm Bureau, the Academy of Veterinary Consultants, as well the American Association of Bovine Practitioners. On the veterinary side, he has chaired or served on numerous committees or task forces, including beef production management, information management, animal welfare, weaning task force, and antibiotic stewardship, and has also served on the program committee and has been a popular speaker at, not only the AABP meeting, but other veterinary conferences and producer meetings as well.

At the university, he holds an endowed chair and teaches multiple graduate and undergraduate courses to veterinary and agricultural students. He is heavily involved with graduate student programs, and he and his colleagues have produced more Master of Science and PhD students than I can keep track of - these graduates move on to leadership positions in practice, industry, and academia. He’s also been heavily involved in research, which helps all of us advise cattle clients in our daily practice lives. As part of his research assignment, he has authored or co-authored over 50 peer-reviewed articles, four book chapters, co-edited a recent issue of the Veterinary Clinics of North America Food Animal Practice with Dr. Christine Navarre, has published over 20 abstracts, 73 proceedings, 45 progress reports, and has been an invited speaker at more than 500 meetings. His team at his university has garnered more than \$34 million in research grants, and in addition they developed the first video training modules for the acclaimed BQA Certification Program, and because of his involvement with Beef Quality Assurance and his leadership in that arena, he was named the National BQA Educator of the Year a couple of years ago. In addition, he was the founder of the Beef Cattle Institute and led the organization from its inception until a couple of years ago. The BCI team today carries on with industry service, research, and teaching activities, and is responsible for the online availability of continuing education from the AABP.

You may recognize him as the host of the ever-popular “Doc Talk” program on RFD TV, which reaches 45 million homes worldwide, and many who watch the show are not involved in cattle production. This program showcases the quality care of livestock!

Our award winner is a visionary leader and trailblazer who is a worthy recipient of the AABP-Zoetis Distinguished Service Award. Please help me congratulate this year’s winner, Dr. Dan Thomson.”

AABP Award of Excellence



Dr. Virginia Fajt (center) receives the 2018 AABP Award of Excellence from Dr. Sarah Wagner and Dr. Terry Lehenbauer.

Dr. Mike Apley described the award. “This award was first established in 1989. Candidates for the award must be nominated from teaching, research, industry, or government areas. The nominees’ professional activities must have had a consistent and direct influence on daily activities of veterinarians in bovine practice. Eligibility also includes a degree in veterinary medicine and AABP membership.” Dr. Sarah Wagner and Dr. Terry Lehenbauer introduced the award recipient.

“I know it is unusual to see two of us up here. We are both here because earlier this year we happened to think the same thing at the same time. What we thought was, ‘Hey! I know who deserves the AABP Award of Excellence!’ As it turns out, the award selection committee agreed with us, as they should.

I would like to start with an excerpt from a letter supporting this award, written by the inimitable past president of the AABP, Dr. Keith Sterner.

‘As I think about her attributes for this award, they are almost too numerous to mention, but I’ll list only a few that I have directly observed. First and foremost, she is an incredibly hard worker that dedicates herself to any task she has undertaken to ensure that it is completed on time and done right the first time. She has a supremely keen intellect coupled with an encyclopedic knowledge of a wide variety of topics, not just veterinary medicine related...She is as well self-effacing with an excellent sense of humor. She is a consensus builder that knows how to bring diverse views into agreement.’

Now, here to say a few words of his own, is my co-nominator, Dr. Terry Lehenbauer...

“As Sarah stated, we both independently came to the same conclusion that this individual was truly deserving to be recognized with the AABP Award of Excellence. To an epidemiologist, that is very significant! I have had the pleasure to work closely with this person over the past two years as she led the brand new AVMA Committee on Antimicrobials as Chair. The stakes were high for getting this new group off to a great start, and she succeeded in every manner just as Dr. Sterner described in his letter, especially as it pertains to consensus building. When we had our first in-person Antimicrobials Committee meeting at AVMA headquarters in November 2016, I told her how much I appreciated her representing the American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners on the committee because if she had not agreed to their initial request before AABP contacted her, I would not have had the opportunity to represent AABP.”

Dr. Wagner added, “You may be saying to yourself, these are lovely testimonials, but where are the receipts? I have them. First, I will tell you one of the unique challenges of nominating this person. Multiple times, I looked up who the leader, president, or chair of a professional organization was, so I could ask if they wished to write a letter of support for her nomination, only to find out the person is HER! How frustrating.

Here’s what she’s been up to lately:

- She has led two committees and served three terms as Vice President of the American College of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology.
- Active researcher in pharmacology and bovine medicine.
- She currently serves on a committee at the Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute, developing guidelines to assist practitioners in the interpretation of antimicrobial susceptibility testing results.
- As Terry mentioned, she is Chair of the AVMA Committee on Antimicrobials. In this role, she led the creation and approval of the profession’s first-ever Definition of Antimicrobial Stewardship and Core Principles of Antimicrobial Stewardship in Veterinary Medicine.
- President of the Evidence-Based Veterinary Medicine Society.
- President of the American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics.
- Chair of the AABP Committee on Pharmaceutical and Biological Issues (4th term), and has served on multiple task forces related to issues including the FDA, VCPR - Best Management Practices, Proper Drug Use - Best Management Practices,

Antibiotic Stewardship, and the Raised Without Antibiotics initiative.

- Chair, AABP Foundation Board of Directors.

She keeps busy.

As for me personally, I will say this: she has been a role model to me since the day I met her, and that was a while ago.

And as Dr. Gatz Riddell stated in his letter of support, it only seems fitting that this person follows in her

major professor's footsteps (Dr. Mike Apley, 2000 Award of Excellence recipient) as he followed in his major professor's footsteps (Dr. Dan Upson, 1994 Award of Excellence recipient).

Please join me in recognizing the 2018 recipient of the AABP Award of Excellence, Dr. Virginia Fajt."

AABP-Merck Animal Health Mentor of the Year Award



Dr. Sheila McGuirk (left) receives the AABP-Merck Animal Health Mentor of the Year Award from Dr. Terri Ollivett.

Dr. Mike Apley described the award. “The AABP-Merck Mentor of the Year Award is presented annually to an AABP member who has been engaged in the field of veterinary medicine for at least 25 years and has served as both advisor and role model to pre-veterinary and/or veterinary students. This award was instituted in 2007 and is conferred annually to a member that embodies this spirit whether in practice, the clinic, or the classroom. The recipient is presented with a commemorative plaque at the annual business luncheon.”

The 2018 award winner was introduced by Dr. Terri Ollivett. “The recipient of the AABP Mentor of the Year Award, a graduate of the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine, has provided extensive mentoring while making outstanding achievements in her public service to the veterinary medical profession and the dairy industry.

Her approach to dairy health management is unique in that she integrates her individual animal internal medicine training when investigating herd health problems; and she has inspired me personally for the past 15 years. For example, in 2010 I interviewed for a PhD position at the Ontario Veterinary College. I was asked by Drs. Kelton, Duffield, and Leslie, if selected, what did I want to do upon completion of my program? Without thinking twice, my response was “I want to be ____.” Although there was some intended comedy in my response, everyone knew

exactly what I meant by this reference. This veterinarian’s international reputation is widely known, and it was clear to everyone at my interview that I wanted to meld individual animal diagnostics into population level health management and help dairy producers be most effective.

Aside from inspiring myself, the recipient of this award has had a significant impact on many other veterinarians and dairy industry participants. During her 30+ years as a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin’s School of Veterinary Medicine, she has taught approximately 2400 veterinary students and advised at least 30 veterinary graduate students. She was twice honored with the Norden Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award, and in 2010 was awarded Kansas State University’s “Legend in Academic Medicine,” both awards exemplifying her profound impact on the academic veterinary profession.

Her numerous publications and extensive outreach over the past 30 years on calf health have served as references for bovine practitioners and dairy producers worldwide, and her industry impact has been recognized by all of the top veterinary and industry organizations. She is one of only three women to receive the “Award of Excellence” by the American Association of Bovine Practitioners since 1989. She is one of only seven women and the only veterinarian twice awarded (2016, 2000) “Veterinarian of the Year” since 1954 by the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association. In 2013, she was one of only two women among the “20 Most Influential Dairy and Beef Veterinarians” named by the *Bovine Veterinarian* publication for her extraordinary influence across the dairy industry for the previous 20 years. Additionally, she is the only female ever awarded the World Dairy Expo’s “Industry Person of the Year.” Recipients of this award, which has been offered every year since 1959, demonstrate outstanding work and dedication to the dairy industry year-round.

With her vast knowledge, talent for conveying practical information, and numerous accomplishments, she demonstrates a standard of excellence that has made her a world-wide authority on raising healthy dairy calves and troubleshooting herd health problems. She has influenced how we investigate, measure and classify calf health in research and on dairy farms, and has inspired countless individuals. In addition to her professional accomplishments, her warmth, humanity, and grace inspires me to be a better person every day. Please help me recognize Dr. Sheila McGuirk for the 2018 AABP Mentor of the Year Award.”

AABP James A. Jarrett Award for Young Leaders



Dr. Eric Behlke (right) receiving the James A. Jarrett Award for Young Leaders from Dr. Holt Tripp.

“The recipient of this year’s James Jarrett Award has a resume that would make most insurance actuaries cringe. His non-professional pursuits have included bronc riding, bear hunting, and flying single-engine aircraft to name a few. Those of us who are fortunate enough to work with him can attest that he brings an even greater level of zeal and intensity to his professional pursuits, providing cutting edge consulting services to feedlot clients across North America. He has given countless

hours to our profession generally—and this organization specifically—as a member of the AABP Board of Directors, multiple committees, and as a mentor and advocate for veterinary students near and far. He is joined today by his wife, Carrie, who has traveled all the way from Alberta to surprise him. Without further ado, please join me in congratulating Dr. Eric Behlke, the recipient of the 2018 James A. Jarrett Award for Young Leaders.”