

1983
16th Annual Convention
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
November 28 - December 1

•••••

Saddle Up to a Spirited City, OKC

•••••

There has been excitement in the air at Oklahoma City ever since it was created in a single day, April 22, 1889 as a result of the Oklahoma Land Run. The excitement prevailed at the 16th Annual Conference in Oklahoma City and was the most diversified to date—with twenty-three technical and total living seminars to choose from, including new advanced level seminars in reproduction and environmental health management. Seminars were now classified as entry level, intermediate or advanced.

The general session program was also changing in the direction of income producing ideas, problem solving sessions, physiology, metabolism, reproduction, herd health and infectious diseases.

The Convention was officially opened by The Honorable George Nigh, Governor of Oklahoma after a rousing rendering of “Oklahoma” by student members of Encore and Company, Western Heights Senior High School. Governor Nigh gave his usual entertaining and warm welcome to a large audience. He concluded by urging, “You fine practitioners to take heed of the words of Will Rogers, our favorite son, because he typified the spirit of Oklahoma.”

The Governor signed a Proclamation on November 28 of “Greetings & Welcome To Oklahoma.”

Guest speakers at the Plenary Session were C. W. McMillan, Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Inspection Services; Dr. Lester Crawford, Director, Bureau of Veterinary Medicine, Food and Drug Administration; Dr. Lawrence G. Boger, President, Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Jenks Britt was the chairman of the Program Committee while Dr. Harry James, District VII Director was the General Chairman, Mary Williams was Chairman, Spouse Activities which included a historic tour of Oklahoma City; a visit to Guthrie, the Historical Capitol (original Capitol until Oklahoma City took over), Enterprise Square, USA and the National Cowboy Hall of Fame. The latter was also the venue of Family Night with a sumptuous Oklahoma-style barbeque and then browsing through America’s only center dedicated to preserving the country’s western heritage.

The grand finale was a dazzling Black Gold gala banquet in the Skirvin Hotel ballroom which featured an Oklahoma “Boom Town” complete with an oil derrick. Entertainment was provided by Red Rock School Indian Dancers and Dr. Baxter Black, AABP’s famous cowboy poet and philosopher.

The Annual Business and Membership Meeting was held immediately following the noon lunch at the Exhibits Hall, Myriad Center (*lunch was provided as part of the registration fee*). The guest speaker at the luncheon was Dr. Raymond Cook, Ennis, Texas. Primarily a humorist, his rib-tickling country philosophies encouraged everyone to take a positive attitude about life. He spoke on “*Never leave your crayons in the sun*”.

President Glen Hoffsis called the meeting to order. Dr. Harold Amstutz gave a ‘healthy’ report on AABP’s finances.

It was passed unanimously that the annual dues be increased to \$35 for veterinarians and \$15 for veterinary students.

1500 registrants attended the meeting in spite of severe snow storms in several parts of the country. The 101 exhibits exceeded the previous record of 91.

Officers for 1984:

President: Dr. Jenks Britt, Russellville, KY

President-Elect: Dr. Herbert Lloyd, Arcadia, FL

Vice-President: Dr. Neil Anderson, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Exec. Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Harold Amstutz

Delegate to the AVMA House of Delegates: Dr. James Jarrett, Rome, GA

Dr. Lee Allenstein was thanked for his excellent services, on the completion of two terms in the AVMA House of Delegates.

Post Convention events included an afternoon at the National Finals Rodeo, a visit to Braum's Dairy, a bus ride to Oklahoma State University with lunch and a report on the College of Veterinary Medicine by Dean Pat Morgan, a tour of the Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, conducted by Director Dan Goodwin (who served on the AABP Board of Directors in the early days). The ladies were entertained to tea (or coffee) at Mary Williams's home.

President Glen Hoffsis passed the gavel to Dr. Jenks Britt and presented his report before leaving office. *He had started a President's column in the monthly newsletter.* He had appointed an ad hoc committee charged with reviewing the management of AABP, with particular attention to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer and other salaried positions. He reported on a meeting with Dr. Lester Crawford following his key-note address. (A full report appeared on p. ix of the Proceedings of this Convention.)

Dr. Hoffsis concluded his remarks by quoting one of his favorite sayings, "*There is a beautiful view at the top of the hill if the will be yours to climb.*"

Bovine Practitioner of the Year



Mr. Warren Dobbertin, left, with Dr. and Mrs. William McElroy.

Dr. William V. McElroy, Lamoni, Iowa was named the 1983 Bovine Practitioner of the Year.

A native of Moorcroft, Wyoming, Dr. McElroy has practiced in Lamoni since receiving the DVM degree from Iowa State University in 1956. The practice has 70% beef cattle consisting of cow-calf backgrounding and summer grazing cattle, 25% auction market and 5% dairy cattle. He was one of the pioneers of the Preconditioning Program in Iowa and has helped to make the Iowa program the model for other feeder cattle producing states. He has spent countless hours attending and speaking at local veterinary and cattlemen meetings. In 1977, Dr. McElroy and his partners began spaying feedlot heifers and has demonstrated the procedure statewide. More recently he is working on a good diagnostic procedure for bovine respiratory syncytial virus infection.

Page xii of the Proceedings has more information on Dr. McElroy and the Award.

Awards for Excellence in Preventive Veterinary Medicine

Dairy Program Award



Dr. Paul E. Blackmer, center, receives the AABP Award for Excellence (Dairy Cattle) from Thomas McClintock, right, and Dr. Jenks Britt.

Dr. Paul E. Blackmer, Chino Valley Veterinary Group, Ontario, California was the recipient of the Dairy Program Award.

Dr. Blackmer's practice consisted of appointment work and consultation for 23 clients in California, Hawaii, Nevada, Idaho and New Mexico with an average herd size of 1,000 milking cows. His emphasis is on herd health, breeding, milking and the training and evaluation of personnel. Dr. Blackmer has been a leader in AABP/National Mastitis Council and producing continuing education programs and emphasis on ethical approach to drug sales to clients and other veterinarians. Dr. Blackmer received the DVM degree from Cornell University in 1960.

Beef Program Award



Dr. Mark Spire, center, recipient of the AABP Award for Excellence (Beef Cattle) with Dr. Herbert Lloyd, left, and Thomas McClintock, MSD-AGVET.

Dr. Mark F. Spire, Department of Surgery and Medicine, Kansas State University received the Beef Program Award.

Sixty percent of Dr. Spire's practice is focussed on preventive medicine, with 5,200 cows and calves and 4,700 feeder calves on regular herd productive efficiency. He places primary importance on client communication in areas of management during the breeding and calving seasons. On the initiation of a program, clients are requested to complete a herd survey to gain an understanding of their particular situation. Dr. Spire received the DVM degree from Texas A & M University in 1974.

Further information on the Awards and the recipients was published in the Proceedings.

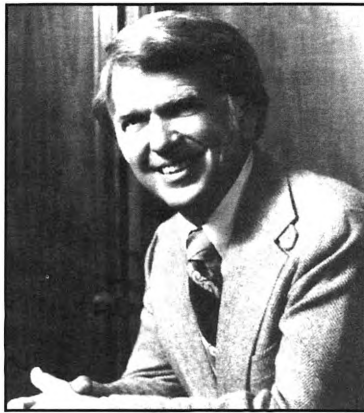
"Personally, I have always felt that the best doctor in the world is the veterinarian. He can't ask his patients what is the matter...he's just got to know."

Will Rogers, Oklahoma's favorite son

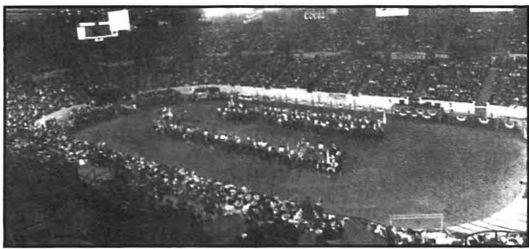
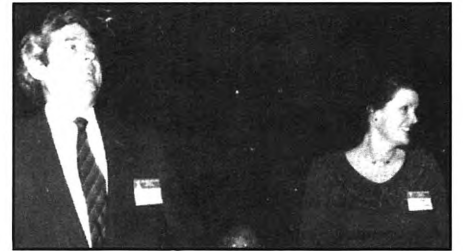


Oklahoma City Convention Profile





*The Honorable
George Nigh,
Governor of
Oklahoma*



*OKC Mayor Andy Coats presents Hero Medallion
to Eric and Mary Williams.*

