

2019 AABP–Boehringer Ingelheim Bovine Practitioner of the Year



Dr. Arn Anderson (left) receives the Bovine Practitioner of the Year Award from Dr. Glenn Rogers.

Dr. Glenn Rogers 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.

The recipient of this year’s Bovine Practitioner of the Year Award has exemplified practice excellence, leadership, service and innovation. He is not only an outstanding practitioner, but a gifted speaker, leader in his community, mentor to countless future and current

veterinarians, and highly involved in state and national cattle and veterinary organizations.

The recipient grew up in a military family and moved often in his youth, giving him the opportunity to experience numerous geographies and cultures. He received his bachelors and masters degrees in Animal Science from the finest institution of higher learning in the south, and possibly the world, in the mid 1980’s. He then served as ranch manager for a beef operation in Virginia. In 1987 he was accepted to the Virginia Tech College of Veterinary Medicine, where he graduated in 1991. From 1991-1994 he practiced in Sedalia, Missouri in a practice that was 95% beef cattle. Since 1994, the recipient and his family have made their home in a rural North Texas town, where he is the owner of a very successful rural, mixed practice. In 2008, he received his certificate from the Beef Cattle Production Management Series at the Great Plains Veterinary Education Center and became a Diplomate in the American Board of Veterinary Practice (Beef Cattle) in 2010.

Under the recipient’s leadership, Cross Timbers Veterinary Hospital has expanded to include a large network of five rural veterinary clinics, with nine veterinarians and 25 staff. He personally provides herd health management to around 150 beef cattle operations, primarily in four North Texas counties. Through an innovative model for

growth and development of rural practices, this jovial AABP member has transformed several stagnant clinics into thriving rural practices. He buys clinics of retiring veterinarians and then remodels the facilities and installs new state-of-the-art-equipment. This successful model for rural practice growth has had a tremendous impact on North Texas and is likely to spread throughout North America as he and his daughter deliver numerous presentations to veterinary groups across the country. Several articles have been written about this successful practice network model.

Numerous rural veterinarians have been developed through Cross Timber's student externship program. This program was established to introduce and attract professional students to rural North Texas and rural community practice. The program is currently mentoring and training 14 students a year from the United States, Canada, South America, and Europe. The exact number of students receiving training over the years through Cross Timber Veterinary Hospital's program is unknown, but is in excess of 250. The recipient has continuously demonstrated a commitment to providing educational opportunities and leadership for students destined for a career in veterinary medicine. He served as Chair of the AABP Student Membership and Activities Committee and is currently serving as Vice-Chair. He has been a lecturer at several colleges of veterinary medicine and lectures regularly at the Texas A&M CVM. Since 2010, in his spare time he has taught a Beef Cattle production course at North Central Texas College.

Community involvement has included serving as Scoutmaster for the local Boy Scouts of America troop and chairman of the Troop Committee. He is an Honorary Member of the FFA. At St. Peter Lutheran Church, this individual has served as Vice President, is a Sunday School teacher, a member of the Building Committee, and has been an Elder since 2014.

He served as Chair of the Southwest Veterinary Symposium Food Animal program and served as the beef cattle member on the Society of Theriogenology Board of Directors. He is a member of Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Association and has been a regular presenter for the Ranching 101 series. He served as an Item Writer for National Board (NAVLE) Beef section and actively participated in the Food Animal Bio-surveillance Field Entry System.

The recipient has been an AABP member since 1992. In addition to AABP activities already mentioned, he has worked with the Membership Committee, Student Delegate program, and the Quiz Bowl. He served on the 2018 Program Committee. He is currently serving as an AABP District Director from District 8 and is on the 2020 Nominating Committee.

The recipient of this year's Award is a funny guy. Since 2010, he has written a humorous and informative column for Working Ranch magazine. You might recognize the recipient as the 3-time moderator of the prestigious Quiz Bowl Challenge event.

After hearing all of the recipients' accomplishments you might wonder when he sleeps and when he has time for anything but work and community involvement. I'm sure Dr. Arn Anderson would tell you his wife of 36 years, Belinda, who is here today, his four children, and two grandsons are the most important part of his busy and productive life. His outside interests have focused on traveling with Belinda and playing with his grandchildren.

Please join me in welcoming the 2019 AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Bovine Practitioner of the Year, Dr. Arn Anderson from Bowie, Texas."

AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Awards for Excellence in Preventive Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Glenn Rogers 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

recognize 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.”

Beef Award



Dr. Breck Hunsaker (left) received the AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Award for Excellence in Preventive Veterinary Medicine-Beef from Dr. Eric Behlke.

Dr. Eric Behlke introduced the award recipient. “It my pleasure to be able to speak a little about this year’s recipient of the AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Excellence In Preventive Medicine Beef Award. Of course, time does not allow for an adequate description of the many skills, attributes, and achievements that qualify this veterinarian for this award. However, the mere mention of his name will complete the description in your minds. But in the spirit of suspense, I will not say his name now.

The award recipient holds:

- Bachelor of Animal Science
- Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)
- Master of Science (MS) in diagnostic veterinary pathology
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in veterinary microbiology and immunology

He is a highly respected:

- veterinarian
- researcher

- immunologist
- feedlot practitioner

The award recipient’s career has been centered on beef cattle production. He maintains a realistic perspective on production agriculture by remaining heavily involved in the ownership of backgrounded and fed calves across the western United States as well as being the “hired help” on the ranch that he watches his wife operate.

His wide-ranging skills allow him to be:

- saddling up early with the pen riders to teach BRD detection techniques
- meeting with feedlot owners
- summarizing data
- establishing research plans and protocols
- presenting at professional meetings
- leading a veterinary team
- and many others

This diverse and hands-on approach to veterinary medicine has assisted numerous operations, accounting for an extremely large number of cattle, in developing superior preventative medicine programs. His passion and commitment to the beef industry is inspiring.

At the foundation of his academic and professional achievements, are the most essential elements of his success. He is a hard-working family man that embodies:

- integrity
- honor
- commitment
- consistency
- loyalty
- authenticity
- humility - for example, he may be the only one in the room that doesn’t know that he has won this award.

It is a pleasure to learn from him as we work together!

Please join me in congratulating this year’s recipient of the AABP–Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Excellence In Preventive Medicine Beef Award, Dr. Breck Hunsaker.”

Dairy Award



Dr. Gabe Middleton (left) received the AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Award for Excellence in Preventive Medicine-Dairy from Dr. Mark Armfelt.

The award recipient was introduced by Dr. Mark Armfelt. “Thank you Dr. Rogers, and I would like to thank the AABP Board of Directors for the opportunity to be on this stage today.

I am pleased and honored to present the AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Excellence in Preventive Medicine Dairy Award this year.

The recipient of this year’s award is a graduate of The Ohio State University. They graduated magna cum laude, which showed their commitment to their education. Among the awards received while at OSU were the Excellence in Preventive Medicine, the Excellence in Food Animal Medicine and Surgery, and the Marysville Excellence in Ambulatory Medicine awards.

They have a lifelong commitment to continuous learning. Since graduation from veterinary school this person has consistently attended AABP meetings, Ohio Dairy Veterinarians meetings, taken The Ohio State University Dairy Health Management Certificate Program, and has

attended other state and regional meetings. They have also been certified by the University of Wisconsin College of Veterinary Medicine as a ventilation consultant. Finally, this person has challenged themselves to become certified in dairy practice as a Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP).

This year’s winner also helps all of us in the dairy industry obtain the freedom to operate in the eyes of the dairy consuming public. In this age of social media, marketing campaigns, and activist pressure that role has become increasingly important. They do this in several ways. At a national level they currently volunteer their time to serve as President of The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology or CAST, an organization co-founded by Noble Prize winner Norman Borlaug. This group is committed to sharing sound science about agricultural and food topics with legislators and the general public. At the local level this person is frequently involved in telling the truth about what we do in agriculture. They write letters to the editor, and also served on a panel at The Ohio State University that discussed the movie Food Evolution with the general public.

In closing, our award winner is not only committed to educate himself as to the best practices their clients should adopt, but he makes a considerable effort to create an environment with the consuming public that will permit his clients to utilize modern technologies and maintain a profitable business.

I am proud to call him a friend and a colleague! This year’s winner of the AABP-Boehringer Ingelheim Excellence in Preventive Medicine Dairy Award is Dr. Gabe Middleton.”

AABP-Zoetis Distinguished Service Award



Dr. Christine Navarre (center) is presented the 2019 AABP-Zoetis Distinguished Service Award by Dr. Patty Scharko (left) and Dr. Virginia Fajt.

Dr. Glenn Rogers 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. Patty Scharko and Dr. Virginia Fajt will introduce this year’s award winner.”

“Growing up in a state that would give away our award winner’s ID, their father worked on several dairies, went back to college and received his doctorate, then became a dairy extension agent. With such a family history, it is no wonder why this distinguished practitioner wanted to be a veterinarian since they were 6 years old. One colleague said that “the recipient grew up in an environment that valued service to the livestock producers and to excellence in animal health and wellbeing. Those attributes are evident in

their professional life, which help make them an outstanding teacher in the classroom, on the clinic floor, with producers on the farm and in continuing education meetings.”

Our recipient is quite active in AABP, starting with involvement with several AABP committees and taskforces; served as a committed participant on the Rural Veterinary Medicine task force, which later morphed to the current AABP Veterinary Practice Sustainability Committee; has been a collaborating AABP faculty representative at 2 veterinary schools; progressed through the officer rotation; and served as President of our organization.

This distinguished service member was actively involved with the North American Veterinary Community (NAVC) Board of Directors, as a past president and treasurer. A colleague noted that “Their presence in NAVC immeasurably helped to maintain the stature of food animal CE.”

This seasoned bovine practitioner continues to mentor young veterinarians. One colleague shared that this person “first told me about AABP prior to my acceptance to veterinary school, encouraged me to get involved with a group that maintains our position in Washington, DC and was emphatic that the group needed to attract young leaders that display passion for food animal medicine and surgery.”

Yet another recommender said, the recipient maintains, “exemplary veterinary expertise in multiple areas relevant to bovine practice, including BQA, disaster preparedness, parasite resistance, VFD’s and antimicrobial use, and lameness... They have a personal style that invites others to serve. Always provides a smile, an encouraging word, a cheer (but only for their football team), whether you are a veterinary student or leader in the profession.”

One peer recognized that, “Our award winner made this all look easy, able to bend when it is necessary but never break when it is time to defend a critical principle, and totally dedicated to the profession and cattle industry.”

We can all agree with the sentiments that “this prominent practitioner is one of those valuable individuals that serves as an example for us all in supporting their profession, family and community”. Our recipient “has never stopped serving AABP and shows no sign of ever doing so.”

This year’s recipient hails from Louisiana and cheers for LSU.

Please help us congratulate our 2019 AABP-Zoetis Distinguished Service award winner, Dr. Christine Navarre!”

AABP Award of Excellence



Dr. Sandra Godden (right) receives the 2019 AABP Award of Excellence from Dr. Dale Moore.

Dr. Glenn Rogers 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. Dale Moore introduced the award recipient.

“After two years in private practice, this young veterinarian went back to school. And we should be thankful for this. After graduate training, today’s honoree sought and got a job at a veterinary college and has been there for the last 20 years.

An accomplished, award-winning veterinary student teacher but also mentor for graduate students, our nominee is most known by us for the applied research on things

that we use every day in practice or recommend to our dairy clients, and for providing excellent pre-conference seminars at this meeting. Mastitis, Johnes disease, calf health, transition cow management...there are many topics that this person has tackled in depth to help us and our clients do a better job taking care of our patients. This nominee puts the Evidence in Evidence-based cattle practice and disease prevention strategies.

If anyone has collaborated with this person, they will know them as a great team player but also willing to put the critical, epidemiologist eye on the project, pulling in the evidence to get the science to bear on whatever problem you are working on. This nominee’s ideas for research come from the questions that we, our clients, and the public have about cattle care. Questions about what are the best on-farm strategies for Johnes control led to the question about if and how heat-treating colostrum could be done. That work was intertwined with recommendations on pasteurizing waste milk. Milk and mastitis are prevailing themes in our honoree’s research; in particular the recent investigations of rapid milk culture systems and bedding influences on mastitis.

In addition to the research, our nominee is skilled at summarizing a body of literature and presenting it to practitioners so that they can discuss it with clients or put it into practice. She is a sought-after speaker and author of summary articles.

In a Hoard’s Dairyman article, it was said that “this person knows colostrum.” If you happen to put this person’s name into Google Scholar, you would get: Did you mean goddess, Sandra? Well, that is true too! This year’s recipient of the AABP Award of Excellence is Dr. Sandra Goddess, I mean Godden, from the University of Minnesota.”

AABP-Merck Animal Health Mentor of the Year Award



Dr. Chuck Guard (left) receives the AABP-Merck Animal Health Mentor of the Year Award from Dr. Jess McArt.

“It is with utmost enthusiasm and gratitude that I introduce our 2019 AABP-Merck Animal Health Mentor of the Year awardee.

It is usual, during these award presentations, to give the background and “history” of our award recipient. However, as noted in one of the plentiful and heartfelt letters of support, our recipient is nearly damnably unwilling to document what they have done over four decades in our profession. Their minimalist CV is too sparse to be of much use. That said, everyone knows our recipient is incredibly hard working, productive, effective, and universally respected for what they have done to impact veterinary student education and professional development.

Our recipient’s unique background definitely contributed to their ability to evolve with the changing dairy industry, as it consolidated into larger and more efficient production units, and to mentor others through these changes. Coming from a family farm in Ohio, with original training as an engineer, instilled in our recipient a systems approach to problem solving and the quantitative skills to do so. The PhD training in basic physiology led to a love of truly figuring out the way things work. Then, after earning the DVM degree and spending time in private large animal practice, our awardee joined the Ambulatory and Production Medicine section at Cornell University where their influence training (and re-training) veterinarians has been felt for more than 35 years.

One prominent academic colleague noted that our recipient has had an unparalleled impact on the practice

of dairy production medicine in North America and around the world. This impact has been propelled by their exceptional vision for teaching what is important and through their direct influence on a host of veterinary students, interns, residents, academic colleagues, and veterinary practitioners, who in turn have had their own enormous influence that has changed the way that things are done. This process has been the “ripple effect” to the extreme.

A student once likened our recipient to an M&M - hard coating on the outside, sweet on the inside! One supporter noted that while initially very humbling, our recipient’s teaching style helped prepare students for interactions with clients and was essential in developing one’s feeling of self-worth and confidence. Another noted that in this process, our recipient was a true mentor, providing strategic, brief feedback and input to make one figure it out, or not - their choice.

Our recipient has had a profound influence on my life as a veterinary clinician and faculty member, through their practical wisdom and grounded support. This statement, in some form, was written by multiple academic colleagues in their support of our recipient’s nomination. A recent graduate similarly noted that “our recipient has had an influence in every aspect of their veterinary education. For example, given my lack of non-animal farm knowledge as a veterinary student, instead of a day of calls on my ambulatory rotation, our recipient took me to a farm show and spent 4 hours explaining the function and inner workings of every piece of machinery on the grounds.”

It’s not only through education that our recipient has been an outstanding mentor. At any given time, they will be immersed in a deep conversation with a former student to catch up on their lives with a line-up of others wanting to say hello. I once overheard a student in the Summer Dairy Institute ask our recipient if they had any children, and they replied, “my students are my family; they live all over the world.”

Those of you that attended the Amstutz Scholarship Auction at the 2017 AABP Conference remember the well-orchestrated bidding on the Mark Hopkins bronze bull statue, ultimately won by the F.O.G. in honor of our recipient’s retirement from their academic career. This is just one example of the impact our recipient has had on so many of us; they have, and continue to be, an incredible mentor for bovine students and veterinarians around the world.

It is my great honor to present the 2019 AABP-Merck Animal Health Mentor of the Year Award to Dr. Chuck Guard.”

AABP James A. Jarrett Award for Young Leaders



Dr. Carie Telgen (right) receiving the James A. Jarrett Award for Young Leaders from Dr. Linda Tikofsky.

“This honoree demonstrated a keen interest in veterinary medicine at a very young age. During elementary school years, the family dog passed away and was given an elaborate funeral by the children of the family. Two days later, the parents had assumed that the kids had moved on; however, the awardee had other ideas and asked if the dog could be dug up and dissected so they could “see what the insides looked like”.

This passion for veterinary medicine and agriculture continued during elementary and high school years, with participation in both 4-H and FFA. Early leadership skills were evident with service as president of the local FFA chapter, continuing on to become the state FFA president, and representing the state at the National FFA convention. In college and veterinary school, this honoree continued to excel as a leader in FFA, dairy science and food animal clubs, and the student AVMA. The honoree was also a participant in the Cornell Summer Dairy Institute during veterinary school.

Upon graduation, the recipient worked for a mixed practice in Northern New York for two years, before joining a bovine exclusive practice, and becoming a partner shortly thereafter. Routine dairy practice was not enough for this honoree, so continuing education included embryo transfer, milking systems analysis, Food Armor certifica-

tion, and completion of the Penn State Dairy Production Medicine program.

Fans of the recipient name her professionalism, dedication to agriculture and veterinary medicine, and out-of-the-box thinking as a few of her attributes. She is a tireless cheerleader and advocate for the dairy industry in New York and in the nation. An example of her dedication to the dairy industry is her participation in the Great New York State Fair Birthing Center; she is a member of the board and the lead veterinarian, creating SOPs, gathering supplies and volunteering her services on an annual basis. She also serves on the Washington County Farm Bureau Board of Directors and is highly valued for her mentorship of students and interns at her practice.

She first served in leadership of AABP as the District 1 director, and soon after accepted the nomination for vice president and was subsequently elected to the position. Other service to AABP includes serving as the vice chair for membership, and as Board liaison to the Ethics task force. She will become AABP’s youngest president. I know that as president, she will continue to lead us with humility, grace and confidence and will be an incredible role model for those to come.

I am pleased to announce this year’s James A. Jarrett Award for Young Leaders will go to Dr. Carie Telgen.”