

WAHVM News

Winter 2012



40th International Congress, Utrecht, August 2012

(<http://www.veterinaryhistory.nl/pages/welcome>)

The **Netherlands Veterinary History Society** cordially invites you to attend the 40th congress of the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (WAHVM).

Proposals for Oral presentations (20 minutes' length) and Poster presentations are solicited for this upcoming Congress. **DEADLINE: 29 February 2012**. We welcome proposals on the following themes:

1. History of veterinary associations

From the beginning of the nineteenth century onwards, national veterinary associations were established worldwide. Since then, these associations have played a role in the development of the veterinary sciences and the veterinary profession. During this congress papers are invited which will address the various aspects of the foundation and development of each nation's chief veterinary association in more detail. Other subjects related to this theme are: discipline formation and professional interests, ideologies and scientific and societal goals, political influence, role in the development of national and international legislation, veterinary education and research, the relation with the state (legal protection of the profession, curriculum requirements), post academic training and specialisation, differentiation of tasks and responsibilities for veterinarians and other professionals active in veterinary medicine, development of a code for veterinarians and disciplinary committees, and differences between countries and cultures. This theme was chosen because of the 150th anniversary of the Royal Netherlands Veterinary Association, 1862-2012.

2. History of the World Veterinary Association (WVA)

Why and how was the WVA established? How was it organised? What were its main activities? Who were the main leaders of the WVA and what were their scientific and political goals and visions? What were stimulants and restraints in the relation between national veterinary associations and the WVA? How and why were international veterinary congresses organised? Which role did the WVA play in knowledge transfer and enriching veterinary knowledge between continents and nations?

Continued on page 3.



The Netherlands: A Few Facts

Cattle: 4 million
Chickens: 97 million
Goats: 416k
Pigs: 12.1 million
Sheep: 1.1 million
Fish catch: 437k metric tons
Dogs: not available
Cats: not available

In world meat production for 2009, The Netherlands ranked 14th among pork producers and 25th among poultry producers.

Population: 16,653,734; Population density 1,272.6 per square mile. Per capita gross domestic product, \$40,300.

Source: *The World Almanac and Book of Facts*, 2012 (2011), pp. 101 and 817.

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Veterinary History 2011, 16 (1):

“As the Twig is Bent [Editorial],” **Bruce V. Jones**

“Granville Penn: The Establishment of the Camden Town School,” **Bruce V. Jones**.

“Early Contributions to the Development of Veterinary Education in Scotland,” **Alastair A Macdonald, Colin M. Warwick, and W. T. Johnston**.

“John Feron and his ‘Address’ on a Veterinary Institution in Edinburgh,” **Alastair A Macdonald, Colin M. Warwick, and W. T. Johnston**.

“A Cat Called ‘Hitler,’” **Frances Houston**.

“Newmarket at the Heart of a Professional Debate,” **Tim Cox**.

“An Unrecorded Gentleman’s Pocket Farrier by F. Tuffnell (1825),” **Niall Kenny and Norman Comben**.

“Veterinary Surgeons in the Crimea,” **Colin Robins**.

“Obituary of Hubert Henry Skinner, FRCVS.”

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Veterinary Heritage: Bulletin of the American Veterinary Medical History Society 2011, 34 (1):

“Evolution of Complementary and Alternative Veterinary Medicine, 7: Botanicals, Statements by Veterinarians,” **Kenneth B. Haas**.

“How One Veterinary Practice Became a Listing on the National Register of Historic Places,” **Robert N. Gouge**.

“West Nile Virus: A Progression from Unknown to Endemic,” **Jaime Stevenson**.

“Early Dog Shows and the Veterinary Profession,” **Philip M. Teigen**.

“Obituary: Ole H. V. Stalheimm, A Fascinating Life as a Farm Boy and Career Veterinarian,” **George W. Beran**.

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Washington, DC fire horses--purchased and cared for by **C. Barnwell Robinson** (1859-1921), the fire department’s veterinarian--with water tower (Library of Congress).

American Veterinary Medical History
Society

Regional Meeting in Celebration of
the Sesquicentennial of the Ontario
Veterinary College

Cross-Border Connections in
Canadian and U.S. Veterinary History

Friday, June 15, 2012

Lifetime Learning Centre, Ontario
Veterinary College, University of
Guelph
Program

- 8.30 am: Registration
9.00 am: Welcome
9.15 am: **Brian Derbyshire:** Cross-Border Connections at the Ontario Veterinary College
9.55 am: **Terry Crowley:** Student Life at the OVC as Viewed by an American
10.35 am: Refreshments
11.00 am: **Dean Percy:** Cross-Border Connections in Pathology
11.40 am: **John Prescott:** Frank Schofield's Cross-Border Connections
12.20 pm: Lunch
1.30 pm: **Philip Teigen:** Making it in Gilded Age Washington: C. Barnwell Robinson and Cecil French Come to the District of Columbia
2.10 pm: **Elizabeth Stone:** Historical Role of Veterinarians' Wives
2.50 pm: Refreshments
3.20 pm: **Susan Jones:** Cross-Border Connections in Ecology of Disease
4.00 pm: **Ian Barker:** The C.A.V. Barker Museum of Canadian Veterinary History

The meeting is open to all who are interested in the subject. While there will be no registration fee, those who wish to attend are required to register. Further information on registration, hotel accommodation,

transportation, parking etc, is available on the following web site: http://ovc150.ca/en/celebrate/AVMHS_meeting.asp or by contacting Tara O'Brien, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada N1G 2W1, email tlobrien@uoguelph.ca

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40th Congress, continued from page 1.

3. Free communications
Presentations and posters on any subject in the history of veterinary medicine.
Abstracts should be emailed to the Scientific Committee (P.A.koolmees@uu.nl) no later than 29th February 2012. Please submit the abstracts in accordance with the abstract form which can be downloaded at www.veterinaryhistory.nl. Authors of abstracts that are accepted by the scientific committee will be notified by the end of March, 2012. Congress language is English. Online documents for registration, payments, accommodation etc. will also be available on this website and at the WAHVM homepage (www.wahvm.umn.edu) in the forthcoming weeks.

Apart from the scientific part of the Congress, the Organizing Committee has prepared a very attractive social program.

Please visit the congress website (www.veterinaryhistory.nl) for detailed information and registration.

We look forward to welcoming you all to the 40th International Congress of the WAHVM in the Netherlands!

Bert van der Weijden
Conference Chairman



News from the United States

Ames, Iowa was the site of the third annual American Veterinary Medical History Society regional meeting held in conjunction with the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association annual convention. This meeting followed the first regional meeting in June 2009 in Manhattan, Kansas hosted by **Howard Erickson** and the second meeting held in March 2010 in College Station, Texas hosted by **Al Moore**. There were seven speakers who presented on a range of topics.

The lead-off speaker was **George Beran**, emeritus professor at ISU, who reviewed the history of Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) that is the oldest, continuously operating CVM in the U.S. Photos of earlier facilities were shown including key faculty over the decades. One special highlight showcased the sculptures of Danish artist **Christian Petersen** including the iconic "Gentle Doctor" piece. After the session, George conducted a tour of the ISU veterinary museum followed by a tour of the new addition and expansion of the Small Animal Clinic completed just weeks before our meeting.

Wayne Brown, retired practitioner residing in Ames, spoke next and detailed his earlier work establishing a veterinary museum at the University of Illinois CVM in Champaign-Urbana, IL. This was a monumental undertaking and his committee set a strategy for a 'dual use' facility that can be used for small assemblies and meetings in the college. It has been well received and is stocked with old instruments, medications, and other memorabilia.

Russell Currier – host of the meeting and retired State Public Health Veterinarian from Des Moines - spoke next on two topics. The first reviewed the life and career of physician and Iowa native, **Richard Shope** who isolated the swine influenza virus – the first such isolation of the influenza virus from any species - and postulated its nexus to the 1918 human influenza pandemic. Shope was born and raised in Des Moines and earned his medical degree from the University of Iowa in 1924. Next, **Russell Currier** reviewed the early history of the milk pasteurization movement including the certification of dairies for unpasteurized milk primarily during the years of 1890 – 1920. The lives and efforts were

profiled of **Nathan Lazurus**, proprietor of Macys Department Store in New York, to promote pasteurization and physician **Henry Coit**, New Jersey who established the certified dairy program to raise the standards for milk hygiene and for marketing raw milk.

Since 2011 is the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the first school of veterinary medicine by **Claude Bourgelat**, we were particularly honored to have **Fred Born**, retired practitioner from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin to review the entire history of events from ancient times to 1761 that preceded Bourgelat's work. Born's presentation included classical paintings and text from earlier writings of the Greeks and Romans among others. His presentation is summarized in a collection of Power Point slides entitled, "The Early History of the Horse Doctor" and can be downloaded from the AVMA website.

Howard Erickson, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas appeared next and detailed the early history of women 'pioneers' in veterinary medicine in Europe, Australia and the U.S. Details were provided on **Marie Kapczewitsch**, a Russian woman who earned a diploma from Alfort in France in 1897; **Aleen Cust** from Ireland who studied at the New Veterinary College in Edinburgh from 1894-1900; **Mignon Marie Nicholson** who graduated from McKillip Veterinary College in Chicago in 1903, **Isabelle Bruce Reid** who completed the course of study at the W. T. Kendell's private Melbourne Veterinary College in Australia in 1906, **Elinor McGrath** who graduated from the Chicago Veterinary College in 1910 and **Florence Kimball** who graduated from the New York State Veterinary College at Cornell in 1910, among others.

Linda Schlater, of the United States Department of Agriculture laboratories in Ames, Iowa, followed with a detailed review of hog cholera or classical swine fever as it is known today. Interestingly it arose in the U.S. with no predecessor virus or host identified and although it was initially thought to be a bacterial disease, its viral etiology was confirmed followed by a variety of immunizing agents that improved over time leading to national eradication.

The formal session closed with remarks by **Kimberly Porter**, University of North Dakota, who detailed the socio-historical atmosphere of eastern Iowa during "The Iowa Cow Wars", in 1931.

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Veterinary History at the 30th World Veterinary Congress

The History Committee of the South African Veterinary Association (SAVA) organized a session on veterinary history for the World Veterinary Congress 2011 (WVC2011) at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, 10-14 October 2011.

The history session kicked off on the afternoon of 12 October and continued on the most of 13 October. **Bruce V. Jones** (UK) delivered the keynote address on the importance of veterinary history, spanning the period from c. 3500 BC to Claude Bourgelat who founded the first veterinary school in Lyon, France, in 1761.

The rest of the program (24 presentations) covered African, and more specifically, southern African veterinary topics, including:

- biographical studies of early veterinarians;
- African zoonoses;
- substantiating the One Health theme;
- Namibia, one of South Africa's neighbors;
- South African government veterinary institutions, organizations and bodies such as veterinary field services;
- statutory control of the veterinary profession, and early veterinary laboratories;
- South African veterinary education, including the more recently evolved veterinary nursing discipline;
- the organized veterinary profession;
- modernization of the retrieval systems of the veterinary libraries;
- the veterinary pharmaceutical industry;
- veterinary research in the Kruger National Park;
- important animal diseases such as rinderpest (now history!), foot and mouth disease, swine fevers, diseases caused by arbor viruses such as blue-tongue and African horse sickness, sheep scab and lung-sickness.

World Veterinary Year: Traveling Exhibition in the USA

Fred Born and The American Veterinary Medical History Society (AVMHS) developed a travelling historical exhibition, celebrating the 250th anniversary of the veterinary school in Lyon, France, founded in 1761. Featured at the AVMHS booth at the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) convention in July, in St. Louis, the display depicted the founding of the veterinary school at Alfort (1765) as well as the one at Lyon.

After leaving St. Louis, the exhibition travelled in September to the Iowa State Veterinary convention in Ames, and in October to the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association convention in Madison. It spent November at to the University of Wisconsin veterinary school, also in Madison.

Historical Postcards

At the AVMA Convention noted above, the AVMHS published a set of seven World Veterinary Year historical, commemorative postcards prepared by **C. Trenton Boyd**. To order a set of these handsome historical postcards, contact Fred Born at fjborn@att.net or Susanne Whitaker at skw2@cornell.edu.

World Veterinary Year Exhibit Extended

From Craft to Profession: The Transition from Horse Farrier to Professional Veterinarian showcases original illustrated manuscripts and early printed books from the National Library of Medicine collections, featuring the care and treatment of horses over the past five centuries. The exhibition in recognizes the World Veterinary Year, a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the first veterinary school in Lyon, France.

The NLM is part of the National Institutes of Health, located in Bethesda, Maryland.

The exhibition continues until 23 January 2012. (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/happening/exhibitions.html>).

News from USA, continued from page 4

Several farmers in Cedar County opposed tuberculin testing of their cattle necessitating Governor Dan Turner to declare martial law and mobilized the Iowa National Guard to ensure the safety of state/federal veterinary staff. **Porter's** talk was laced with extraordinary humor in covering legislation, court cases, and administrative decisions impacting the circumstances including the role played by the press and radio stations.

Associated events included a traveling exhibit prepared by **Fred Born** showcasing the details of founding of the school in Lyon and an Iowa Veterinary Medical Association luncheon that recognized attendees from Iowa's three heritage veterinary practices in the state. The meeting was a great success and appreciated by all attendees ranging from 40 to 50 during the session.

--Russell Currier

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Dom Cathedral Tower, Utrecht

A Query

I was hoping that you could point me towards some resources as I try to research the history of animal euthanasia or mercy killings. What is the earliest recording euthanasia? Was it with war horses? Or are their records of it before that?

I appreciate anything that you can point me towards,

Sincerely,

Darrell Greathouse, <prdocs@sbcglobal.net>

NOTE: Please reply to Greathouse not the WAHVM News.

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History of Science Today and Tomorrow

Veterinary historians interested in the history of science can conveniently catch up on current trends in the Anglophone branch of that sub-discipline through two recent essays.

Nicholas Jardine surveys fifty years of interpretive strategies in "Chalk to Cheese: Progress, Power, Cooperation and Topography-- Stages toward Understanding how Science Happened" (*Times Literary Supplement*, 16 December 2011, pp 3-4). He concludes his provocative survey by saying that "since the 1960s the subject has been beset by problems of its own making. Now at last it is facing up to real problems. It has come of age (p, 4)." Some readers, including this one, will disagree, preferring to think that the turmoil he so insightfully anatomizes involves most historical disciplines and their sub-disciplines.

Intellectual history and the history of science have been married, estranged, divorced, and remarried during the past 60 years, as Nicholas Jardine suggests. **Drew Maciag** further illuminates these views, in "When Ideas Had Consequences-- Or, Whatever Happened to Intellectual History?" (*Reviews in American History*, 2011, 39:741-751). His is a cautionary tale as indicated by this conclusion: "Few interpretive approaches remain in vogue for long, and it is nearly impossible to prove why any particular one has lost its charm" (p. 747).

--PMT

Report on the
39th International Congress,
Antalya (Belk) Turkey,
23-25 September 2010

(Reprinted from Winter 2011 WAHVM News)

Nearly 100 scholars converged on Antalya, Turkey for the 39th International Congress of the WAHVM and the 3rd National Symposium of the Turkish Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine & Professional Ethics (TAHVME). For four days conferees heard more than 75 papers, examined twenty-three posters, visited with each other from dawn until dusk, and traveled to nearby historical sites--all the while enjoying Turkey's Mediterranean hospitality.

Three Keynote Addresses highlighted the conference's program. **Tjeerd Jorna**, President of the World Veterinary Association, sketched the WVA's history from its roots in nineteenth-century Europe to its global reach today.

Ferruh Dinçer, surveyed several millennia of veterinary self-education leading to the founding of the first veterinary schools in the eighteenth century. In each era educators necessarily interacted not only with animals and animal diseases but with existing social, political, and economic crosscurrents.

Karl Appuhn, New York University, used the history of bovine epizootics to explore major shifts in European agrarian systems, nutritional habits, and environmental change.

Winners of the 2010 Young Scholars' Awards, **Tim Newfield** (McGill University, Montréal), **Delphine Berdah** (Imperial College, London), and **Berfin Melikoğlu** (Ondokuz Mayıs University, Turkey) made their award-winning presentations. Newfield spoke on a cattle panzootic in 14th-century Europe; Berdah reported on antibiotics in British farming after WWI; and Melikoğlu described the early 20th century emergence of a Turkish society for animal protection. (Berdah's appearance was prevented by unforeseen contingencies endemic to 21st-century travel.)

The remaining presentations developed the conference's themes--"Bridging Ages in Veterinary Education" and "East Meets West: The History of Intercontinental Veterinary Medicine and Animal Disease"--displaying thereby the global interests of veterinary historians today and the many ways veterinary and animal history intersects

On Tuesday, as part of the Congress's Social Program, conferees attended the "Fire of Anatolia," a splendid ballet based on Homer's *Iliad*, spectacularly danced.

At an exuberant Gala dinner on Wednesday, WAHVM Co-Presidents awarded the 2010 Cheiron Medal to **Jean Blancou** in absentia. His Paris colleague, **Christophe Deguerce**, accepted the medal on Blancou's behalf and conveyed the Medal to the ailing historian in Paris soon after the Congress ended. The three winners of Young Scholar's Award were also recognized during the Gala.

At the Closing Ceremony on Thursday, the WAHVM Co-Presidents expressed the Association's gratitude to the Local Organizing Committee and its chair, **Tamay Başağaç Gül**, for the flawless organization of the Congress, its splendid setting, and the generous hospitality displayed throughout WAHVM's four days on Turkey's Mediterranean shore.

Also at the closing ceremony, **Bert van de Weijden**, Chair of the organizing committee for the 40th International Congress, made a lively and detailed presentation about the 2012 meeting to be held in Utrecht.

Following the closing ceremony, the General Assembly meeting discussed membership dues and their restructuring, and reports on the activities and resources that WAHVM supports or provides, including the Young Scholars' Program, the WAHVM website, the International Dictionary of Veterinary Biography, and VETHIST: The Bibliography of the Biography and History of Veterinary Medicine. After which the meeting was adjourned.

On Thursday afternoon and evening many conferees embarked on a tour of Aspendos and Perga, Greco-Roman archaeological sites.

--P. M. Teigen

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New Book

Karen Brown, *Mad Dogs and Meerkats: A History of Resurgent Rabies in Southern Africa* (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 2011).

Individual Memberships in the WAHVM for 2012

Most members of the WAHVM are such by virtue of belonging to one of the national veterinary history societies which constitute the WAHVM: Australia, Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Mexico, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Turkey, United States, and Venezuela. (Discussions with South Africa and United Kingdom underway.)

Interested historians from other countries can become WAHVM members by wiring, or sending cheques for, US\$20 or its equivalent in euros (€) to:

Gerald Weissengruber, WAHVM Treasurer
Vetmeduni Vienna
Veterinaerplatz 1
1210 Vienna
AUSTRIA
gerald.weissengruber@vu-wien.ac.at

For wiring funds:

Bank Austria, account holder: WAHVM,
Veterinaerplatz 1, 1210 Vienna

IBAN: AT91 1200 0523 8305 5005

BIC: BKAUATWW

Be sure to include your name, street and email addresses, profession, and position.

If you wire funds email the Treasurer with the above information, too.

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“The historian is always implicated by his place in history.”

--Simon Goldhill, *The Temple of Jerusalem* (2005), p. 107



Part of American Veterinary Medical History Association's World Veterinary Year travelling exhibition. See page 5. (Courtesy of **Fred Born**)

About the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine

Founded in 1969, the WAHVM encourages, promotes, and coordinates research and education in the history of veterinary medicine. It provides a forum for national societies of veterinary history as well as for individual members and interested organizations, chiefly through its biennial international congresses and its website (<http://www.wahvm.umn.edu/>).

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WAHM News Winter 2012

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Thanks to all who submitted information and images.

Deadline for the Summer issue is 15 June 2012



Fire horses and engine, ca. 1910, United States.
(Private collection)

