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Successful 1984 AABP Conference
Held in Des Moines
by Phillip Jardon*

The 1984 American Association of Bovine Practitioners Annual Conference was held in Des Moines on November 27–30. According to Dr. Harold Amstutz, secretary-treasurer, there were approximately 1400 registrants for the four-day event.

The scientific meeting was reportedly one of the best in recent times. Seminars provided participants with interesting practical information as well as diversions between social events. There was a wide variety of programs to choose from, including topics on reproduction, embryo transfer, milk quality and mastitis, herd health, nutrition, computers, and DHI records. Two “Total Living Seminars” were added to the program to broaden the learning experience of the veterinarians and to provide topics of interest to spouses. Both “Osteoporosis, a Condition in all Women” and “Natural History of a Medical Marriage and Family Relationships” were well-attended and well-received.

The pre-convention tour to Ames included visits to three institutions involved in animal health, the National Animal Disease Center, the National Veterinary Services Laboratory, and the College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University. Spouse tours during the week included visits to Terrace Hill, the Bo-

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Dr. Jenks Britt (right) hands the gavel to incoming president Dr. Herbert Lloyd.

tanical Center, the Amana Colonies, the Art Center, and Santa's Attic. Spouses also enjoyed a wine and cheese party and a seminar on beef by-products.

The social events made the Des Moines meeting one of the most unforgettable AABP conferences yet. Wednesday night, Iowa veterinarians played host to visiting veterinarians by taking them on ‘blind dates.’ Our guests enjoyed a relaxing view of the city and unwound after a day of seminars.

The Iowa Food Festival held Thursday night at the Iowa State Fairgrounds turned out to be a huge success. The success is no surprise to locals who’ve grown up eating corn-on-the-cob, beef, pork, lamb, dairy products and fruit produced in Iowa. Even though Daisy Mae didn’t make the party, ISU veterinary students kept glasses filled with Iowa’s own beer, wines, cider and soft drinks.

Six excellent country bands entertained the crowd with five hours of continuous foot-stomping country music.

The ISU Student Chapter had a significant role in planning the conference and supplied much of the manpower. During the week of meetings, students greeted incoming veterinarians at the airport, monitored doors at the technical seminars, worked the hospitality area and tended bar at the Iowa Food Festival. Visiting students made use of housing offered by local students which helped to reduce the cost of their trip. While the veterinarians were out on ‘blind dates’ in Des Moines, students gathered in Ames for a tour of the veterinary college, and a fun evening of country dancing followed the tour.

The conference organizers, participating veterinarians, and visiting students appreciated the excellent services provided by ISU...
students.

The ISU students found getting involved to be a great experience and would like to encourage students at future conference sites to become involved.

The IVMA is to be commended for its efforts and the delivery of a fine show. The planners of next year's meeting, to be held in Buffalo, NY, have quite a task to match the job done by their Iowa colleagues.