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Student-Faculty News

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Dr. Ramsey
Veterinarian of the Year

Dr. F. K. Ramsey, Distinguished Professor and Head of the Department of Pathology, was the recipient of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association's first "Veterinarian of the Year" award. The award was to recognize Dr. Ramsey's leadership and service to the veterinary profession on the state, national, and international levels.

Dr. J. R. Rosdail, president of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, presented the award during the association's 92nd annual meeting.

Dr. Ramsey has been with the ISU faculty since 1946 and has been head of the Department of Pathology since 1957. In 1973, Dr. Ramsey served three months on the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ahmadu Bello University of Zaria, Nigeria, under the Kansas State University U.S. Agency for International Development project. He taught systemic and diagnostic pathology and assisted graduate students while there.

Dr. Ramsey has also been honored by Northern State College at Aberdeen, South Dakota, with its first Distinguished Alumni Award in 1973.

Dr. C. J. Maré, professor of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine has just returned from a faculty improvement leave that took him to several research centers studying the major viral animal diseases.

During his stay at Plum Island, NY, Dr. Maré was involved in research on the antigenic interrelationship of the exotic pox viruses, namely sheep pox, goat pox, and lumpy skin disease of cattle. A second project under Dr. Maré's supervision was a study of six dermopathic bovine herpes viruses, including mammillitis, stomatitis, and nodular dermatitis, to determine significant differences in the viruses so they may be more reliably identified.

The Swine Disease Laboratory of the Servicio de Patología Animal in Madrid, Spain, is the only major disease center that is involved with differential diagnosis of African swine fever, hog cholera and pseudorabies. Here, Dr. Maré became acquainted with the Iberian strain of African swine fever. This strain, a mild form of the usually fatal disease, is spread by recovered carrier swine.

At the East African Veterinary Research Organization, Nairobi, Kenya, Dr. Maré worked with the staff investigating East Coast fever, rinderpest, and malignant catarrhal fever. He was also responsible for testing rinderpest vaccine produced at the Institute.

Dr. William P. Switzer, Professor of Veterinary Microbiology, was appointed September 1 as Associate Dean for Research in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University.

Dr. Switzer received his D.V.M. from Texas A&M in 1948, and the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Iowa State University in 1951 and 1954 respectively. He was in general practice in Kansas in 1948 and has since been involved with diagnostic work and veterinary research at Iowa State University.

Dr. Switzer's fields of specialization and
research have centered on swine problems primarily in the areas of respiratory, arthritic and enteric diseases. He has presented over 50 research papers at state, national and international veterinary meetings and has published over 75 scientific articles.

Dr. Switzer is a member of many professional and honorary societies including the American Veterinary Medical Association, Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, New York Academy of Science, Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Zeta, Sigma Xi, and Gamma Sigma Delta.

He has received several honors including a Borden Scholarship Award, an Iowa State University Faculty Citation and an honorary membership in the Master Swine Producers.

Grant Awarded for Study of Syphilis

A $45,160 grant, funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has been awarded to Dr. D. L. Harris, a veterinary microbiologist in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University. The project will be concerned with the development of in vitro (test tube) methods of cultivating virulent Treponema pallidum in cell-free medium and to develop a method of immunization for syphilis.

Dr. Harris and co-workers have recently isolated and propagated, in a cell-free medium, a unique pathogenic anaerobic spirochete called Treponema hyodysenteriae. This organism, which produces swine dysentery when orally inoculated into conventionally reared disease-free pigs, appears to possess similar morphological and growth characteristics to Treponema pallidum, the cause of human syphilis.

Syphilis cannot be immunologically prevented in humans because virulent strains of T. pallidum have never been successfully propagated in vitro. A definitive study of the relationship of T. hyodysenteriae and T. pallidum may lead to the development of a method for immunization against syphilis in man. Two simultaneous approaches will be used for the investigation of this relationship: the nutritional requirements of T. hyodysenteriae will be studied since T. pallidum may require similar factors or conditions for growth and research will be conducted to determine if T. hyodysenteriae contains a protective antigen to T. pallidum. If T. hyodysenteriae does contain a protective antigen to T. pallidum, active immunization in humans for syphilis would be more feasible because T. hyodysenteriae can be readily propagated in vitro.

Ms. Joann Kinyon, associate with Dr. Harris, Dr. M. J. Allison, Microbiologist at the National Animal Disease Center in Ames, and Dr. H. M. Jenkin, at the Hormel Institute in Austin, Minnesota, are collaborating on this subject.

This research is an excellent example of where knowledge being gained in one area may serve to help alleviate serious problems in another area. Both organisms will be studied in greater detail and it is anticipated that both human medicine and veterinary medicine will be advanced.

New Interns at ISU

Dr. Ehler is presently interning at Iowa State University in small animal medicine and surgery. Originally from New York City, Dr. Ehler moved to California where he attended the University of California at Davis and received a B.S. in Zoology. He then entered the College of Veterinary Medicine at Davis, California and graduated in 1974. One of Dr. Ehler's reasons for coming to ISU is that he wanted to experience living in the Midwest. His
wife, Connie, is an R.N. and is presently employed as a surgical supervisor at the ISU small animal veterinary clinic. They have two children; Bill, 11; and Jon, 7. His special interests include skin diving and photography.

Dr. McWilliams is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Iowa State this year. She received her D.V.M. last March from Universidad Nacional Pedro Ruiz Gallo in Lambayeque, Peru, where she graduated first in her class. She is now spending a year at Iowa State in order to obtain the E.C.F.V.G.* certificate given by the A.V.M.A. which would revalidate her degree in the United States. As the first step toward the certificate she has already passed the A.V.M.A.-E.C.F.V.G. equivalency exam, which is similar to the National Boards. A majority of states require the E.C.F.V.G. certificate to qualify to sit for their state boards as a foreign graduate. To obtain the E.C.F.V.G. certificate it is necessary to pass the equivalency exam and spend one year of clinical training either under a private practitioner approved by the A.V.M.A. or in an accredited veterinary school cooperating in this program.

Although she has had an interest in veterinary medicine since childhood, Dr. McWilliams has investigated many other areas prior to reaching this stage. After graduating from Northwestern University with a B.A. in Spanish, Latin American Affairs and Political Science, she lived for sixteen years in Venezuela, Costa Rica and Peru. She spent two and one-half years in Law School at San Marcos University in Lima, Peru, prior to entering veterinary school in Lambayeque. Dr. McWilliams owns and races Thoroughbreds in Peru, and so it is not surprising that her primary interest here is in equine medicine and surgery.

We would like to welcome Dr. McWilliams and her ten year old daughter, Patricia, to Ames and wish her a successful and rewarding year at I.S.U.

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Dr. Dean Peterson, a 1974 graduate of the University of Minnesota School of Veterinary Medicine, is a new intern in equine medicine and surgery. Dr. Peterson is pleased with the equine department at Iowa State because the heavy case load has made an internship here a valuable learning experience. When finished with his work at ISU, Dr. Peterson would like to join a mixed practice that is at least 50% equine.

**Dog Obedience Class**

This fall every Thursday evening from September 26 to November 14 sixty dogs and their owners gathered in the Animal Science Judging Pavilion for a dog obedience class sponsored by the Auxiliary to the Student Chapter of the A.V.M.A. The class, taught by Al and Pat Stepflug who have trained obedience dogs in Cedar Rapids, was so popular that two classes were necessary. To enter the class it was necessary that dogs be four months old and be vaccinated for rabies if over six months. Dogs were taught to heel, sit, sit and stay, down, down and stay, come on call and stand for examination. The class included dogs of all sizes and shapes ranging from a Peek-A-Poo to a St. Bernard-German Shepherd cross named Winston and included Beagles, Afghans, Huskies and the All-American Mutt. Owners learned as much as their dogs and found that it takes persistence, time and a great deal of patience to train a dog. Because of its popularity the Auxiliary will sponsor another session this spring beginning February 27.

The dog obedience classes are only one of many Auxiliary activities. Other projects include a reception and meal for alumni at Homecoming, a student loan fund and contributions to a veterinary medicine display at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. Future months hold plans for a possible Petting Zoo for children and funds to the new veterinary school complex.
Class of '76

Dan Apple married Judy Luedtke on August 24, 1974.
Jerry DeWaard and wife Pat are parents of a new baby girl Evelyn Ruth, born September 26, 1974.

Class of '77

Dave Carter married to Debbie Lanphier November 23, 1974.

ALUMNI NEWS

Dr. Stoenner Honored

At the AVMA Convention in Denver Dr. Herbert Stoenner (ISU '43) received the Karl F. Meyer Gold Headed Cane Award for his extensive work in Leptospirosis, Q-fever, and his administrative ability in directing studies of disease that effects humans. Dr. Stoenner is presently the Director of the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Public Health Service, Hamilton, Montana.

Class of 1961

Dr. Larry Celmer, his wife Martha, son Lon (15), and daughter Kristin (7), are presently living in Rancho Palos Verdes, California. Dr. Celmer spent three years in a small animal practice in Temple City, California after graduation. In 1965 he purchased his present practice in Hawthorne, California. Dr. Celmer is a member of AAHA, AVMA, CVMA, and the So. Cal. VMA.

Janet Solander engaged to Eric Gonder, (class of 1974).

Dr. James Winburn is presently engaged in Federal Meat Inspection as the Circuit Supervisor in the Ft. Dodge circuit. From October 1961 until 1963, Dr. Winburn was engaged in a practice in Phoenix, Arizona. Since then he has been involved in Federal Meat Inspection. Dr. Winburn, his wife, Alice, and son, Robert (10) live in Ames. His four other children (James III, Cydne, Bruce, and Deborah) are in college.

Dr. Jerry Kunesh, his wife, Judith, three children (Joe, 12; Ben, 10; and Millisa, 9), one dog, 5 cats, and 21 cows live in Ames where Dr. Kunesh is the head of Medicine and Field Services in the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine. After graduation he spent the summer of 1961 in a practice in Wisconsin and in the fall of 1961 joined the Ambulatory Medicine Staff at the ISU Veterinary Clinic. He was drafted and spent two years at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. In 1964 he received an NIH Fellowship at ISU and received his masters degree in Physiology in 1966. He then practiced for a short time in Nevada, Iowa and returned to ISU and joined the staff as Assistant Professor in Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacol-