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Anatomy Preparator Makes Major Donation to the Veterinary College

Alan Brady

Rheinhold Dembinski, specimen preparator for the Veterinary College's Anatomy Department, has become one of the most recent members of the Society of the Gentle Doctor. Society members are those persons who have donated a thousand dollars or more to the College of Veterinary Medicine's Salisbury Challenge fund. Mr. Dembinski is one of several members of the College's non-professional staff to make such a donation.

Born in what is now East Germany in 1939, Mr. Dembinski has worked extensively in Germany and the U.S. in the fields of taxidermy and anatomy specimen preparation. Since leaving East Germany in 1958, he has held positions with the Veterinär Anatomisches Institut of Munich, West Germany, the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine, Missouri Department of Conservation, Fernbank Science Center, Atlanta, Georgia, and several private business concerns before coming to Iowa State in January of 1977.

Mr. Dembinski's work at ISU has been characterized by his devotion to the Veterinary College. Since coming here, he has almost completely replaced the College's collections of skeletons, bone sets, prosections and other anatomical preparations and constructed many new displays for use as teaching aids in anatomy courses. In explaining the motivation for his donation, he admits that one reason was his hope that a hallway display area would be established for anatomy preparations, which are now stored out of sight when not being used in the classroom. In a larger sense, Mr. Dembinski believes that such donations "will help us all in a way, after all, you are part of the outfit . . . It makes you proud to walk down a hallway of the new building and know that you did part of this."

Mr. Dembinski lives in Ames with his wife, Kathy, and their two sons, Steve, 11, and Nicki, 5.

Mr. Brady is a third year student in the College of Veterinary Medicine, ISU.