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(Editor's) Notes or Why We Did Things This Way

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Greetings! It is my great pleasure and privilege to be senior editor of this 50th anniversary edition of The ISU Veterinarian. You may have noticed that this volume has been titled The Veterinary Student, the journal’s original name when it was begun in 1938. We thought it would be fun, as well as interesting, for our readers if we pursued an historical point of view in this issue. The format of this issue reflects that desire. There are two articles dealing with people who were active in 1938. One is a feature story on Dr. Leland West, a 1936 graduate of I.S.U. who made the acquaintance of one of the ISU Vet staffers at the AVMA convention in Chicago last summer. He agreed to talk about his life as a practitioner as well as what major changes he feels have taken place in veterinary medicine. That story is on pages 36 and 37. The second feature highlights the accomplishments of Dr. Margaret Wragg Sloss, the first woman to graduate from I.S.U.’s veterinary college in 1938. Her life is chronicled, beginning on page 61.

Our current policy regarding veterinary articles parallels that of the founders of the journal, as told by Dr. Robert Norton on page 65. Two categories of articles were suggested by Dr. Fowler, faculty advisor at the time Dr. Norton was editor. “One type of article would outline improvement or new perspective on an established medical principle or surgical procedure. The other would break new ground on a new discovery, diagnosis or procedure.” The articles selected for this issue have followed these guidelines with an added twist. Current articles were paired with articles on a similar subject from the late 1930’s, early 1940’s. Only the article, “Clinical Aspects of Primate Medicine” was not paired with an earlier article. It is included as an example of the ways veterinary medicine has expanded, both in knowledge and in career options.

Of the remaining articles, the earlier ones are marked with a date in boldface type near the title of the article. The current article for each pair follows immediately behind it.

We on the staff of The ISU Veterinarian have enjoyed thumbing through our past while working on the journal. We hope you will also enjoy reading this issue and reminiscing.

Nadia VanderGaast
Senior Editor

The cover for this issue was designed by Rose Jensen, a third year student at the College of Vet Med. It demonstrates many aspects of veterinary medicine, including large and small animal practice, the rapidly expanding field of exotic animal practice, and glimpses of ISU’s veterinary past. Most importantly, Ms. Jensen’s design demonstrates the importance of the individual, and how the many facets of veterinary medicine come together to shape our profession.

Over one hundred entries were received for the cover, representing a wide spectrum of styles and interpretation. The remaining entries will be retained for entry in the contest for the second issue. New and additional entries are highly encouraged. Entries must conform to the rules as listed in Vol 49, No. 2 (A copy of the rules will be mailed upon request.) It should be emphasized that entries must be black and white (no color). Entries may be sent to the Art Editor, care of this journal.

A special thank you to Dr. Roger Hogle and the Gentle Doctor Fund for their generous contribution of a Gentle Doctor statuette and $200.00 for the winners of each cover contest.

Lisa Kaylene Powell
Art Editor