

American Association of Equine Practitioners



Strengthening Bonds

2013 Annual Report



From the President

Ann E. Dwyer, DVM



Dear AAEP Members,

I am pleased to present the AAEP annual report for 2013. This booklet details current membership data and financial performance and describes key programs and projects that our association pursued over the last year.

During 2013 we presented six educational programs replete with cutting-edge information on equine health. The year began with the Resort Symposium in Aruba followed by a pair of 360° meetings offering advanced instruction in musculoskeletal ultrasound imaging and hind suspensory and stifle lameness. Two in-depth Focus meetings followed, centering on dentistry and the foot. The dentistry meeting was augmented by the Business Education Workshop and the debut of Focus on Students, which combined hands-on dry labs for student registrants with networking opportunities and lectures on career development.



Our Annual Convention and Trade Show in Nashville, Tenn., capped off the year with nearly 6,600 registrants, making this the largest continuing education event for equine practitioners in the world. Program Chair Dr. Jeff Blea presented an outstanding program that blended new science with in-depth topical reviews, a large number of how-to presentations, and expanded student programming.

The ability of our members to access association resources and network with each other on the Internet was broadened in 2013. A new association website launched, featuring easy access to news, publications, AAEP Clinical Guidelines, updates on equine welfare, and client education material. AAEP's 2013 Internet presence also included AAEP Rounds—online discussion groups that carry on a 24/7 conversation on topics ranging from performance horses to podiatry to parenting. Dozens of messages circulate to hundreds of AAEP Rounds members every day, fostering a true global community and providing a platform for education, debate and rapid dissemination of information.

On the advocacy front, AAEP staff and leadership worked diligently in 2013 to educate industry stakeholders on matters relating to equine health and welfare. Special effort focused on

lobbying in support of legislation designed to end the abusive practice of soring in Tennessee Walking Horses. Further grass roots efforts centered on educating lawmakers on drug compounding in veterinary medicine, and the need for veterinarians to have access to controlled substances in ambulatory practice. Groundwork has been laid for the launch of the National Equine Health Plan's Equine Disease Communication Center, a joint project between the AAEP and the American Horse Council that will provide one central go-to source for release of information relating to disease outbreaks at equine events or facilities.

Within horse racing, momentum continued to build in support of uniform national racing rules. Last fall, an AAEP task force reviewed the specifics of proposed uniform drug and medication rules and presented a report to the industry that endorsed the concept of uniform rules but also offered additional recommendations reflecting the best available science and changes that would benefit racehorse safety and welfare.

Building on extensive AAEP market research in 2012 that assessed how the horse-owning public regards equine veterinarians, AAEP rolled out a broad campaign called AAEP Touch during the Nashville convention. The Touch program is a blueprint for delivering veterinary care and services that today's horse owners will respect and follow. Branded as "Tools to Connect to Your Clients and Their Horses," various program components promote the value of the client-centered examination and outline resources and strategies to cultivate strong relationships between equine veterinarians and all people involved with a particular patient. AAEP Touch will be an association priority over the next several years, as its blueprint for success is designed to help our membership stay relevant in a fast-changing world.

I close by thanking our dedicated board of directors, our many volunteers, executive director David Foley and the wonderful AAEP staff who have worked so hard to develop these programs as well as countless others. It was a privilege to work with such a great group of people, all fully dedicated to the health and welfare of the horse.

Sincerely,

Ann E. Dwyer, DVM
2013 AAEP President





Membership

Facts and Figures

The AAEP's membership (as of Feb. 28, 2014) comprises 7,730 veterinarians and 1,291 veterinary students. This includes members in the U.S., Canada and 62 other countries worldwide. Following is a snapshot of the AAEP's diverse membership:

Current Position

Practice Owner-Sole Proprietor	38.2%
Associate	21.3%
Practice Owner-Partnership	15.6%
Educator/Academic	5.9%
Intern	3.2%
Retired	2.9%
Other	2.8%
Resident	1.7%
Government/Regulatory Official	1.5%
Industry Relations	1.5%
Temporary Position	0.5%
Graduate Student	0.3%
No Response	4.6%

Percentage of Practice Devoted to Horses

100%	45.3%
75-99%	21.5%
50-74%	8.5%
25-49%	9.0%
1-24%	11.9%
No Response	3.8%

Types of Equine Practice

Pleasure/Farm	30.7%
Performance	29.9%
Reproduction	11.8%
Racing	11.7%
Other	6.2%
Work/Ranch	3.7%
No Response	6.0%

Gender

Male	53.7%
Female	46.3%

Top 3 Membership Countries (outside of North America)

Australia
Germany
Mexico

Top 3 Membership States (U.S.)

California
Texas
Florida



mission

To improve the health and welfare of the horse, to further the professional development of its members, and to provide resources and leadership for the benefit of the equine industry.



A Look Back

Highlights of 2013



AAEP Touch to strengthen members' relationships with their clients



Tools to Connect to Your Clients and Their Horses

The unveiling of a blueprint for delivering the veterinary care and services clients most desire occurred at the AAEP's 59th Annual Convention in Nashville Tenn., with the launch of *AAEP Touch: Tools to Connect to Your Clients and Their Horses*.

AAEP Touch is the culmination of independent market research conducted in fall 2012 with more than 6,100 horse owners, trainers, breeders and farm managers in the United States. The important findings from the research were packaged into a comprehensive website of tools and resources to help AAEP members better understand their clients.

Accessible at touch.aep.org, the program is a benefit exclusively for AAEP members.

Dr. Kathleen Anderson named 2014 vice president

Racing and performance horse practitioner Dr. Kathleen Anderson, longtime AAEP volunteer and owner of Equine Veterinary Care PC in Elkton, Md., was installed as 2014 vice president during the AAEP's 59th Annual Convention. Dr. Anderson will assume the role of AAEP president in 2016.

An AAEP member since 1986 and On Call representative since 1997, Dr. Anderson serves on the Finance and Audit Committee and as board liaison to the Racing Committee. She previously served on the board of directors from 2006-2008; on the Foundation Advisory Council; and on the Ethics, Leadership Development, Membership Development, Nominating and Racing committees.



Dr. Kathleen Anderson



AAEP President Dr. Ann Dwyer explains the persistent culture of abuse within the walking horse performance show industry during an AAEP-AVMA "lunch and learn" for Congressional staff in July.

Legislative efforts on behalf of profession, equine welfare advance

The coordinated advocacy efforts of the AAEP and AVMA, along with the proactive support of each association's membership, created momentum in Washington, D.C., on several pieces of legislation that directly affect horse welfare and the practice of equine veterinary medicine.

The Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act removes a loophole from the Controlled Substances Act that prohibits veterinarians from carrying and dispensing controlled substances beyond their registered premise. The Senate unanimously passed the legislation in January 2014, and the prospect for approval by the House of Representatives appears strong.

The Prevent All Soring Tactics Act seeks to end the soring of Tennessee Walking Horses, Spotted Saddle Horses or Racking Horses by improving enforcement and strengthening penalties for those involved in this cruel and illegal practice.



Member enthusiasm, perseverance help make Nashville a top-5 convention

Despite inclement weather across much of the U.S. that caused widespread travel delays, 6,592 equine veterinarians, students, guests and exhibitors persevered to Nashville to make the AAEP's 59th Annual Convention, Dec. 7-11, the fourth-most attended ever.

The educational program featured 200 presentations and discussions during 34 educational sessions, with lameness receiving special attention as the focus of at least one session each day. Supplementing the leading-edge information were the latest technologies, products and services for equine practice from 340 trade show exhibitors. Students, meanwhile, benefited from a significantly expanded student program that included dry labs and career development sessions.

Several AAEP members were honored during the President's Luncheon for exemplary service to the horse and association. The annual award honorees were:

Distinguished Educator Award (Academic) – *Dr. Frank Nickels*
 Distinguished Educator Award (Mentor) – *Dr. Barrie Grant*
 Distinguished Life Member Award – *Dr. Benjamin Franklin Jr.*
 Distinguished Service Award – *Dr. Harry Werner*
 President's Award – *Dr. Edward Kanara*



Fun and philanthropy merged at a sold-out AAEP Foundation Celebration at the Wildhorse Saloon.



Royal Veterinary College student chapter founding committee.

The Royal Veterinary College becomes second AAEP student chapter outside North America

The AAEP expanded its geographic scope as a pertinent resource in the development of the next generation of practitioners when the board of directors, at its August meeting, welcomed The Royal Veterinary College as the association's 38th student chapter and second outside North America.

As a provisional chapter, students at The Royal Veterinary College have access to many of the same programs and benefits as their North American counterparts, including student rates at AAEP functions and eligibility to apply for some of the funding available through the AAEP Foundation.

A Look Back

Highlights of 2013, *continued*

AAEP Foundation distributes more than \$316,000 to support equine welfare programs

The AAEP Foundation awarded \$316,298 in grants to 25 equine organizations and special projects committed to improving the welfare of the horse. Among projects to receive funding were:



National Equine Health Plan
The AAEP, in conjunction with the American Horse Council and federal and state animal health officials, are creating a National Equine Health Plan

to help prevent, diagnose and control equine diseases. A focal point of the plan is an Equine Disease Communication Center – involving practicing veterinarians and federal and state animal health officials – to centrally coordinate and disseminate accurate and updated information to all segments of the horse industry in real time to mitigate the spread of any infectious disease outbreak.

Scholarships and Student Programs

Investment in the future of the equine veterinary profession has been a staple of Foundation funding through the years. In addition to the traditional slate of scholarships and short courses, the Foundation in 2013 contributed resources to the inaugural Focus on Students summer meeting and the significant expansion of student programming at the Annual Convention, giving participating students a leg up on their career ambitions.



Students explore the anatomy of the distal limb during one of five dry labs added to student programming at the AAEP's 59th Annual Convention.



A buckskin mule weanling in Veracruz, Mexico, is examined during the October 2013 Equitarian Workshop.

Equitarian Initiatives

The Foundation addressed the health and welfare of the working equid in developing nations through support of Equitarian projects and seminars in Mexico, Costa Rica, Mongolia and Gambia. Volunteer practitioners provided much-needed healthcare to the working equids in these regions and taught animal husbandry skills to the caretakers of these animals to improve the quality of care dispensed going forward.

Equine Herpesvirus-1 Workshop

The Equine Herpesvirus-1 Workshop, co-sponsored by the AAEP Foundation and held Oct. 19, brought together infectious disease experts, regulatory officials and others for an all-day workshop that identified future focus areas, including development of a new vaccine for EHV-1 and encouragement of EHV-1 research to address knowledge gaps related to prevalence, risk factors, disease outcomes, latency and treatment.

For a complete list of grant recipients, visit www.aaepfoundation.org.





Continuing Education

Prioritizing continuing education

Provision of high-quality continuing education remains a cornerstone of the association's mission.

The AAEP's schedule of meetings in 2014 includes:

FOCUS ON THE SPORT HORSE
July 20-22, 2014 • Louisville, Kentucky



FOCUS ON THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE
September 11-13, 2014 • Phoenix, Arizona



December 6-10, 2014
Salt Lake City, Utah

Register today at www.aaep.org/info/education



Douglas Pulsipher



Leadership



2014 Officers

President

Jeff A. Blea, DVM

President-Elect

G. Kent Carter, DVM

Vice President

Kathleen M. Anderson, DVM

Immediate Past President

Ann E. Dwyer, DVM

Treasurer

James P. Morehead, DVM

Executive Director

David L. Foley

From left: Dr. Jim Morehead, treasurer; Dr. Ann Dwyer, immediate past president; Dr. Jeff Blea, president; Dr. Kathleen Anderson, vice president; and Dr. G. Kent Carter, president-elect.

2014 Board of Directors

(year in parentheses indicates expiration of term)

Margo L. Macpherson,
DVM, MS, DACT (2014)

Elizabeth S. Metcalf, DVM,
MS, DACT (2014)

Karen A. Nyrop, DVM, MS
(2014)

Steven S. Trostle, DVM, MS,
DACVS, DACVSMR (2014)

Carolyn M. Weinberg, DVM
(2014)

David D. Frisbie, DVM,
Ph.D., DACVS, DACVSMR
(2015)

Montgomery D. McInturff,
DVM (2015)

Kenton D. Morgan, DVM
(2015)

Wendy E. Vaala, VMD,
DACVIM (2015)

Mark R. Baus, DVM
(2016)

Stuart E. Brown II, DVM
(2016)

Board Members Whose Terms of Service Concluded in 2013:

Benjamin M.K. Espy, DVM

Brad Jackman, DVM, MS,
DACVS

Eric S. Peterson, DVM

Emma K. Read, DVM,
MVSc, DACVS



Financials

2013 BALANCE SHEET for the period ended 12/31/13

Current Assets

Petty Cash	300.00
Cash in Bank	59,914.82
Savings Accounts	3,317,092.70
Asset Replacement Account	75,059.29
Reserve Fund-DA Davidson	1,976,331.15
Accounts Receivable	78,821.27
Prepaid Expenses	48,410.58

Total Current Assets 5,555,929.81

Property & Equipment	
Office Building	778,542.27
Construction in Progress	83,012.47
Furniture & Fixtures	128,922.51
Equipment	336,395.59

Total Property & Equipment 1,326,872.84
Accumulated Depreciation -617,599.72

Net Property & Equipment 709,273.12

Other Assets
Advance Convention Deposits 21,000.00

Total Other Assets 21,000.00

Total Assets 6,286,202.93

Current Liabilities

Convention Accounts Payable	951,707.71
AAEP Foundation Funds	350.00
Cafeteria Plan Withholding	1,838.87
Deferred Dues Revenue	1,006,972.71
Deferred Meeting Registrations	27,810.00

Total Current Liabilities 1,988,679.29

Total Long Term Liabilities 0.00

Total Liabilities 1,988,679.29

Member Equity

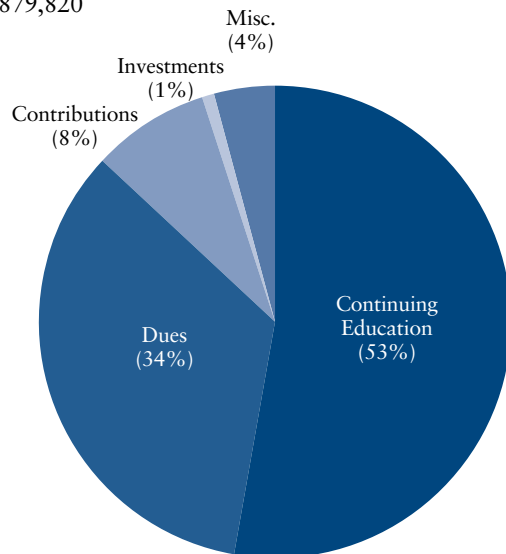
Members' Equity	3,749,834.75
Unrealized Gain or Loss	217,029.96
Current Earnings	330,658.93

Total Equity 4,297,523.64

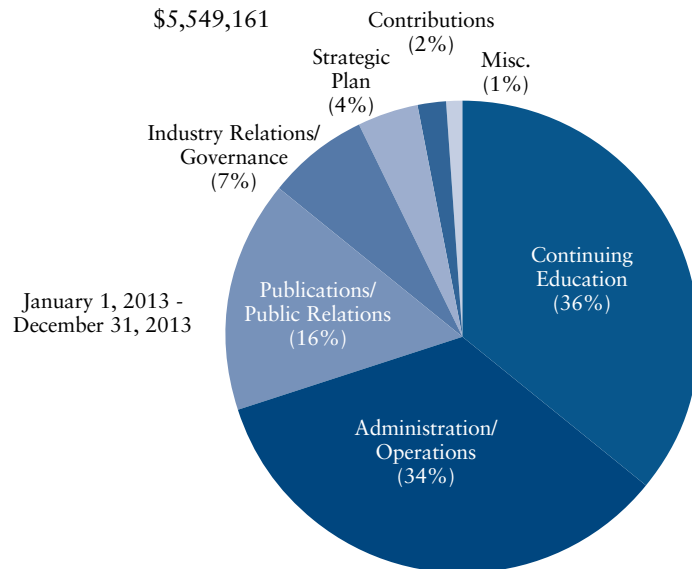
Total Liabilities & Equity 6,286,202.93

2013 INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE \$5,879,820



EXPENSES \$5,549,161



January 1, 2013 -
December 31, 2013



4075 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, Kentucky 40511
(859) 233-0147
(859) 233-1968 fax
www.aaep.org