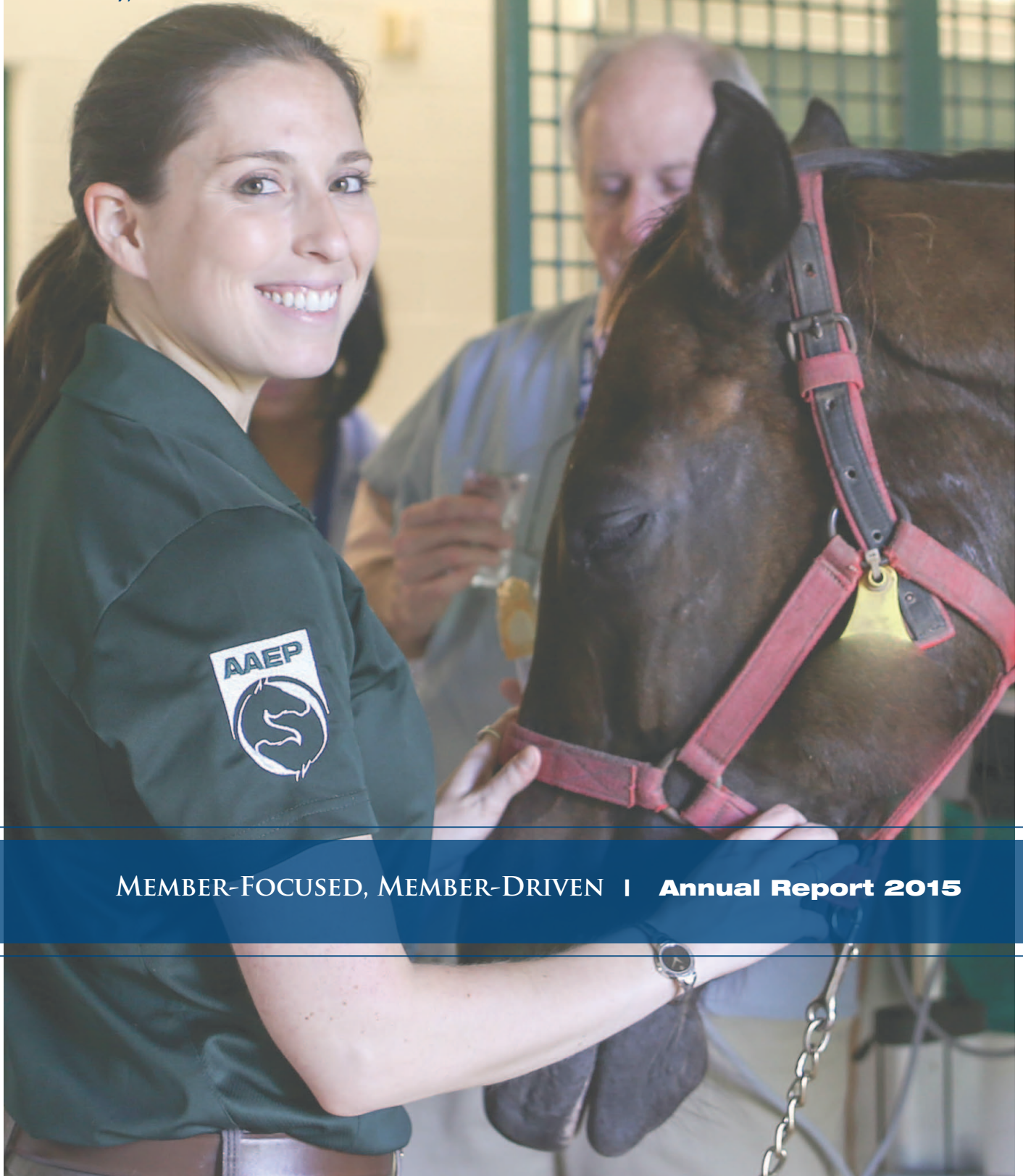




**American Association  
of Equine Practitioners**



**MEMBER-FOCUSED, MEMBER-DRIVEN | Annual Report 2015**

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



*G. Kent Carter, DVM, DACVIM*

It is a pleasure to present the AAEP's 2015 annual report, which highlights the financial performance, membership data and progress of your association during the prior year.

In many respects, 2015 marked the dawn of a new era at AAEP, signified most prominently by the opening in February of our new headquarters building at the Kentucky Horse Park. Driving the need for a larger headquarters was the growth in scope of association activities over the past two decades and desire to support industry projects that are a natural fit with our mission.

One such project is the Equine Disease Communication Center, which launched during the fourth quarter as a national hub for equine disease reporting and communication to help mitigate disease outbreaks and their economic and health consequences.

Among the first groups to meet at our new headquarters was the Racing Committee, whose February strategic planning session laid the groundwork for the July announcement of the AAEP's Prescription for Racing Reform. The 10-point plan addresses key issues affecting the health of the racehorse and the integrity of the sport. Although work is underway, implementation of these reforms will be a long-term process.

Providing our members with quality and practical continuing education remains a hallmark of the AAEP. The 2015 slate featured six meetings, including the return of a pair of 360° meetings. The annual convention capped our CE calendar and drew 7,394 registrants to Las Vegas, an attendance mark surpassed only by the 2009 meeting held in the same location.

Our CE meetings continued to receive high marks from attendees in post-meeting surveys. Additionally, we gained valuable insights on the medical topics of importance to our members through the 2015 CE Needs Analysis survey, the results of which will ensure that our future meetings continue to deliver relevant and desired content.

The strategic planning sessions in summer 2015 reinforced the member-driven nature of our association with the setting of an aggressive agenda for the next three years based largely on the valued input from thousands of members who completed the general membership survey in the fall of 2014. You can read about the established goals for the association later on in this report.

Serving as the AAEP's 61st president has been truly gratifying and a highlight of my career. But the AAEP is much bigger than any one person. Keeping the momentum going from year to year would be impossible without the selfless and enthusiastic dedication of an army of volunteers as well as the talented staff in the AAEP home office. It was a privilege to work with each of them to further the mission of the AAEP and enhance the care we provide the horse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Kent Carter". The signature is fluid and cursive.

G. Kent Carter, DVM, DACVIM  
2015 AAEP President

## AAEP 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.**



## MEMBERSHIP

By the Numbers

The AAEP's membership (as of Feb. 28, 2016) comprises 7,775 veterinarians and 1,435 veterinary students in the U.S., Canada and 62 other countries. More about the AAEP's diverse membership can be found in the snapshots on the following pages.

# MEMBERSHIP

By the Numbers

## Gender

Male	52.0%
Female	48.0%

## Percentage of Practice Devoted to Horses

100%	44.3%
75-99%	21.2%
50-74%	8.7%
25-49%	8.6%
1-24%	11.2%
No Response	6.0%





# A LOOK BACK

## Strategic plan goals to help members achieve personal, professional ambitions

The AAEP's board of directors, committee chairs and senior staff convened in July for two days of strategic planning during which the results of the most recent general membership survey were leveraged into a defined set of goals for the ensuing three-year period.

The five goals of Vision 2020, which will advance the mission of the AAEP and serve its membership, are listed at right.



### Dr. Margo Macpherson installed as 2016 vice president

Dr. Margo Macpherson, professor of equine reproduction at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, was installed as 2016 vice president during the AAEP's 61st Annual Convention in Las Vegas, Nev. She will assume the role of AAEP president in 2018.

Dr. Macpherson is a longstanding member of the AAEP's Educational Programs Committee, where she presently contributes to student programming. She previously served on the board of directors from 2011-2014; as Reproduction anchor for the Kester News Hour at the annual convention from 2006-2010; and on the Nominating and Reproduction committees. In addition, she served as president of the American College of Theriogenologists in 2005.

## Initiative to enhance horse health, racing integrity launched

A 10-point initiative to protect the health and welfare of the racehorse and help ensure the long-term viability of the racing industry in the U.S. was formalized in July when the AAEP unveiled its Prescription for Racing Reform.

Key points of the initiative, developed by the Racing Committee, include investigating efficacious management strategies for exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage that do not require race-day medication administration, banning the use of anabolic steroids in racehorses in training and restricting administration of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs to 48 hours before racing.

Other points of the plan address compounded medication, veterinary list reciprocity and stiff sanctions for rules violators. The complete Prescription for Racing Reform can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/qhrl8bj>.

## EquiManagement joins ranks of Media Partners

*EquiManagement*, the only magazine and website developed to focus solely on the business of equine veterinary medicine, became the third AAEP Media Partner when approved by the AAEP board of directors at its summer meeting.

Business Solutions for Equine Practitioners  
**EquiManagement**

Owned by Active Interest Media, *EquiManagement* has been a strong advocate of the AAEP and its members' education through the distribution of its quarterly publication to all AAEP members and support of the AAEP's Annual Convention as both an exhibitor and sponsor.

### Strategic plan goals:

1

#### Enhance membership value

Enhancing the value of AAEP membership to the evolving needs of a diverse membership.

2

#### Improve technology and communications

Updating technology to improve communications between our members and AAEP.

3

#### Provide world-class education

Continuing to develop and provide quality equine continuing education.

4

#### Address quality of life issues

Facilitating professional and personal wellness.

5

#### Promote the value of the equine veterinarian

Promoting the profession to all our stakeholders.

*Specific strategies for each goal are available at <http://tinyurl.com/aaepsp>.*

### New headquarters positions AAEP for continued growth

A new era commenced in February when the AAEP's new headquarters building opened at the Kentucky Horse Park. The two-story building provides the space necessary to accommodate the expanding slate of services provided by AAEP.

Proceeds from the sale of its former headquarters to the Carriage Association of America, along with annual budget monies earmarked to a new building fund, enabled the AAEP to pay off its new headquarters by the conclusion of 2015.

More than 150 members, industry representatives, legislators and others attended a June 23 open house that featured dedication speeches and camaraderie. Kentucky First Lady and longtime Kentucky Horse Park advocate Jane Beshear was the featured speaker.

## MEMBERSHIP By the Numbers

### Current Position

Practice Owner- Sole Proprietor	37.9%
Associate	19.8%
Practice Owner-Partnership	14.8%
Educator/Academic	5.4%
Other	4.4%
Intern	3.2%
Retired	3.1%
Resident	1.4%
Industry Relations	1.4%
Government/ Regulatory Official	1.3%
Temporary Position	0.3%
Graduate Student	0.3%
No Response	6.7%

### 61st annual convention draws nearly 7,400 to Las Vegas

Practical content, abundant networking opportunities and a premier entertainment destination proved an engaging combination as 7,394 veterinary professionals, students, exhibitors and guests converged on Las Vegas, Nev., for the AAEP's 61st Annual Convention.

Offering 135 hours of continuing education, daily social and networking events, and a trade show featuring 352 exhibitors, the meeting provided a comprehensive forum for professional growth and practice success.



*Renowned large animal internist Dr. Thomas J. Divers offered a game plan to identify and treat equine liver disease and failure during the Frank J. Milne State-of-the-Art Lecture.*

Four AAEP members and a longtime association executive were honored during the Dec. 8 President's Luncheon for contributions toward the betterment of the horse, profession or association. Honorees were:

**Distinguished Educator – Academic Award:** *Dr. Virginia Reef*

**Distinguished Educator – Mentor Award:** *Dr. John W. Lee, Jr.*

**Distinguished Service Award:** *Mr. Brad Mitchell*

**Distinguished Life Member Award:** *Dr. Nat White*

**President's Award:** *Dr. Kenton Morgan*









Dr. Craig Lesser works on a horse's hoof while vet tech Mickey Bell checks for ear ticks and vampire bat bites during the 6th Equitarian Workshop, which received funding from the AAEP Foundation.



## A LOOK BACK, CONTINUED

### AAEP Foundation distributes \$350,000 to support equine welfare

A diverse collection of 26 equine organizations and special projects aimed at improving the welfare of the horse shared in grants totaling \$350,320 from the AAEP Foundation in 2015. This allotment brings the Foundation's cumulative financial support of its mission to more than \$3.3 million since its inception. Among the initiatives that received support in 2015 were:



#### Exercise-Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage Research Planning Summit

In support of a key component of the AAEP's Prescription for Racing Reform, the AAEP convened a November meeting of experts to identify research priorities that may yield effective alternatives to current EIPH treatment protocols. The panel was composed of leading authorities in the fields of equine EIPH, pulmonary and cardiac physiology, lung pathology and human sports medicine. Next steps include prioritizing the needed research and meeting with industry stakeholders to discuss funding requirements. A report of the meeting and identified research priorities is available at [www.aep.org/custdocs/AAEP\\_EIPH\\_Panel\\_Report.docx](http://www.aep.org/custdocs/AAEP_EIPH_Panel_Report.docx).

#### Equitarian projects

Working equids are essential components of family economies in impoverished regions of the world, which is why AAEP Foundation continued its support of Equitarian projects in 2015, specifically the 6th Equitarian Workshop in Costa Rica and related Equitarian Youth Leadership Program. The 30 workshop participants delivered much-needed medical care to more than 250 working equids and also participated in classroom lectures on Equitarian topics. Foundation support of the youth leadership program enabled a new practitioner and a senior student to participate in the workshop.



*Veterinary students learn practical wound management skills during an educational dry lab at the 2015 AAEP Annual Convention.*

#### Student programming and scholarships

Training the next generation of equine veterinarians remains a priority of the AAEP Foundation, funds from which helped enable dry labs, professional development and other student-centric programming at the summer Focus meeting and at the annual convention. In addition, 46 students and recent graduates shared in scholarship funds of more than \$168,000 from the AAEP Foundation and scholarship program partners Markel, Merck Animal Health, Northwestern Pennsylvania VMA Equine Symposium, Platinum Performance, The Race for Education and Zoetis.

For a complete list of grant recipients in 2015, visit [www.aepfoundation.org](http://www.aepfoundation.org).

#### Student Scholarship Sponsors



Equine Symposium



# LEADERSHIP

## 2016 OFFICERS



From left: Dr. G. Kent Carter, Dr. R. Reynolds Cowles, Dr. Kathleen M. Anderson, Dr. Margo L. Macpherson and Dr. Jack Easley.

## MEMBERSHIP By the Numbers

### Top 3 Membership Countries (outside of North America)

Australia  
Germany  
Japan

### Top 3 Membership States (U.S.)

California  
Texas  
Florida

### President

Kathleen M. Anderson, DVM

### President-Elect

R. Reynolds Cowles, DVM

### Vice President

Margo L. Macpherson, DVM, MS, DACT

### Immediate Past President

G. Kent Carter, DVM, DACVIM

### Treasurer

Jack Easley, DVM, MS, DAVDC

### Executive Director

David L. Foley

## 2016 Board of Directors

*(year in parentheses indicates expiration of term)*

Mark R. Baus, DVM (2016)

Stuart E. Brown, II, DVM (2016)

Robert P. Franklin, DVM, DACVIM (2017)

Vivian Freer, DVM (2017)

Katherine Garrett, DVM, DACVS (2017)

Amy L. Grice, VMD (2018)

Daniel P. Keenan, DVM (2018)

## Board Members Whose Terms of Service Concluded in 2015

David D. Frisbie, DVM, Ph.D., DACVS, DACVSMR

Montgomery D. McInturff, DVM

Kenton D. Morgan, DVM

Wendy E. Vaala, VMD, DACVIM



# FINANCIALS

## 2015 BALANCE SHEET for the period ended 12/31/15

### Current Assets

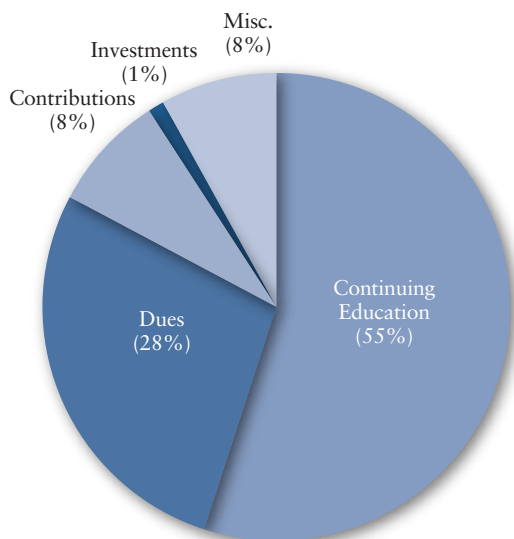
Petty Cash	300.00
Cash in Bank	87,478.99
Savings Accounts	268,248.79
Insured Savings Account	1,479,143.04
Reserve Fund – DA Davidson	1,970,404.41
Accounts Receivable – Convention	205,150.07
Prepaid Expenses – Seminar	24,460.16
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>4,035,185.46</b>
Property & Equipment	
Office Building	3,085,445.73
Furniture & Fixtures	236,677.51
Equipment	416,857.13
<b>Total Property &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>3,738,980.37</b>
Accumulated Depreciation	-402,216.36
<b>Net Property &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>3,336,764.01</b>
Other Assets	
Deposits – Future Conventions	32,500.00
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>32,500.00</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>7,404,449.47</b>

### Current Liabilities

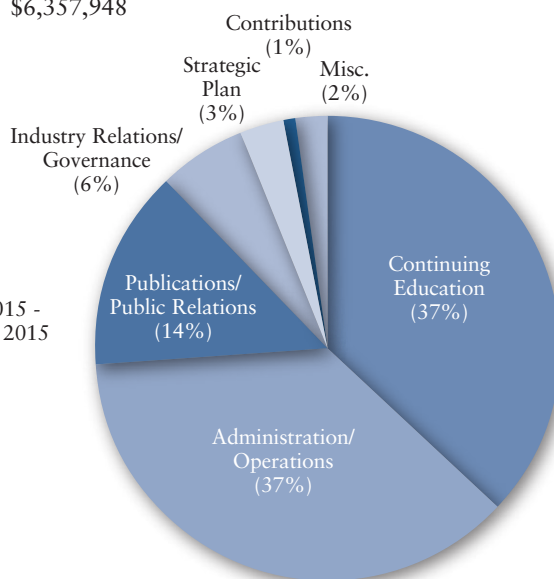
Accounts Payable	1,463,665.21
AAEP Foundation Funds	830.00
Employee FSA Plan Withheld	2,519.33
Deferred Dues Revenue	976,485.21
Deferred Seminar Registration Fees	39,840.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>2,483,339.75</b>
Long Term Liabilities	
Long Term Building Loan	0.00
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,483,339.75</b>
<b>Member Equity</b>	
Members' Equity	4,403,147.45
Unrealized Gain or Loss	100,651.96
Current Earnings	417,310.31
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>4,921,109.72</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>7,404,449.47</b>

## 2015 INCOME STATEMENT

### REVENUE \$6,775,258



### EXPENSES \$6,357,948



January 1, 2015 -  
December 31, 2015

# LOOKING FORWARD

## Continuing Education

Furthering the professional development of its members is a cornerstone of the AAEP's mission. The schedule of AAEP continuing education meetings in 2016 is:

### 360° Meeting Sponsors



### FOCUS Meeting Sponsors



For more information or to register online, visit [www.aaep.org/info/education](http://www.aaep.org/info/education)





## MEMBERSHIP

By the Numbers

### Types of Equine Practice

Pleasure/Farm	29.9%
Performance	29.6%
Reproduction	11.6%
Racing	11.0%
Other	6.0%
Work/Ranch	3.7%
No Response	8.2%

