

# IDEAS INTO ACTION | Annual Report 2016



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kathleen M. Anderson, DVM



It is my pleasure to present the 2016 AAEP annual report. This report provides key information on your association's activities over the past year, including financial performance data as well as major programs and projects.

During the year, our 2020 Strategic Plan rolled out with primary consideration given to the AAEP mission, which appears in the margin on this page. The five pillars of this plan are:

**Communications:** A 2016 communication assessment guided decision-making geared toward increased user friendliness and efficiency of the website, expanded use of social media and future development of apps for members.

**Membership Value:** AAEP leadership researched and reviewed a likely new member benefit for 2017 called Vetcove Inner Circle, which will help practices attain economic efficiencies.

**Wellness:** Our 2015 keynote speaker Dr. Dan Siegel scratched the surface of wellness with equine practitioners, and, in 2016, we continued to work toward development of resources under the banner of "AAEP Healthy Practice: Wellness for Work. Well-being for Life." A first step was integration of wellness as a complementary component at AAEP conferences.

**Promotion/Advocacy:** Increased visibility of the value of the equine veterinarian is the goal. Equine welfare and scope of practice remained front and center in 2016 with the successful launch of the Equine Disease Communication Center (EDCC), completion of the Thoroughbred Race Day Injury Management Guidelines and the ongoing work of the Performance Horse Task Force helping promote AAEP as a resource to the industry. Member engagement as "sentinels" in the field greatly assist timely advocacy in political matters that impact our profession.

**Continuing Education:** This priority remains the lynchpin for our association. The Annual Convention in Orlando, Fla., capped a busy year that included the Resort Symposium, 360° Pain in the Neck, and concurrently held Focus on the Breeding Shed and Focus on Soft Tissue Lameness in the Performance Horse. New technologies and member assessments continue to lead the way forward to enhancing CE offerings in coming years!

Other initiatives from 2016 included: an AAEP Foundation Advisory Council strategic planning session to provide direction for the future of the AAEP's charitable arm; a newly formed Infectious Disease Committee tasked with overseeing disease content on aaep.org and serving as a resource for subject matter experts; the AVMA-AAEP Economic Survey that yielded member data yet to be interpreted and presented; and meetings with many industry stakeholder groups that provided valuable dialogue on equine industry issues.

Suffice to say 2016 was a very busy year—the engine rarely idles in the AAEP office, where the energy of our volunteer members and staff propel us into the future. Thank you each for your strengths and service to the AAEP to benefit our members and to steward the horse.

**Parting thought:** *"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team"*—Phil Jackson

Kathleen M. Anderson, DVM 2016 AAEP President

Cover photo: Dr. Nat White

# 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, 2017) comprises 7,787 veterinarians and 1,462 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

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51.0%
49.0%

Percentage of Practice Devoted to Horses

100%	45.4%
75-99%	20.9%
50-74%	8.4%
25-49%	8.3%
1-24%	11.3%
No Response	5.7%

# A LOOK BACK

# Guidelines published for emergency race-day management of injured Thoroughbreds

Thoroughbred Race Day Injury Management Guidelines, which provide protocols for appropriate preparation, response and management associated with on-track injuries, were formulated by the AAEP's Racing Committee.

The guidelines, accessible at aaep.org/guidelines, examine recommended staffing/personnel; automotive equipment, including items that should be stocked



in the equine ambulance or chase vehicle; contents of emergency bags carried by paddock and track veterinarians; incident communication standards; injury management duties and responsibilities by injury type, track surface or track location; and key messages to convey when discussing serious injuries with the media or general public.

#### Infectious Disease Committee reestablished

Responding to the need for continuing assistance in the area of equine infectious diseases, the AAEP reestablished its Infectious Disease Committee in the spring. The committee is tasked with monitoring and updating disease information for the EDCC, AAEP websites, and AAEP Control and Vaccination Guidelines; and with evaluating infectious disease issues affecting the equine population and recommending courses of action to the AAEP leadership.

Three subcommittees were created to help the committee fulfill its mission. Each subcommittee has established priorities and timelines for completing assigned tasks based on disease statistics and the needs of AAEP members and industry stakeholders.

#### Dr. Jeff Berk installed as 2017 vice president



Dr. Jeffrey T. Berk, associate veterinarian with Equine Medical Associates PSC in Lexington, Ky., was installed as 2017 vice president during the AAEP's 62nd Annual Convention. He will assume the role of AAEP president in 2019.

Dr. Berk has devoted considerable time and expertise throughout his career toward advancement of the association, profession and well-being of the horse. He currently serves on the Finance and Audit Committee, and his three-year term as chair of the AAEP Foundation concluded at

the end of 2016. In addition, Dr. Berk served as AAEP treasurer from 2009-2011; on the board of directors from 2004-2006; as chair of the Professional Conduct and Ethics Committee; and as a member of numerous other committees.



### Equine Disease Communication Center hit its stride

The Equine Disease Communication Center (EDCC), the industry-funded hub for equine disease reporting and communication, ramped up its operations in 2016 with the appointments of Dr. Nat White as director and administrative consultant and Bailey McCallum as communications manager.

With operations housed in the AAEP office and a call center located within the United States Equestrian Federation, the EDCC alerted industry stakeholders to 251 reported disease outbreaks via social media as well as emails to nearly 2,300 individuals who signed up through equinediseasecc.org to receive outbreak alert notices. EDCC's centralized disease outbreak collection and dissemination enables industry stakeholders to implement proper precautions to mitigate disease spread.

# A LOOK BACK, CONTINUED

#### UHVRC vaccine donations surpassed 20,000

The Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign, a partnership between Merck Animal Health and the AAEP, provided 3,200 doses of core vaccines to horses in need in 2016. The allotment brought the total doses donated since inception of the program in 2009 to more than 21,000.

Equine rescue and rehabilitation facilities in the United States must coordinate a UHVRC application with an AAEP-member veterinarian and submit prior to February 1. Donated vaccines protect horses from Eastern and Western Encephalomyelitis, Equine Influenza, Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1 and EHV-4), Tetanus, Rabies and West Nile Virus.

#### Nearly 5,500 ventured to Orlando for 62nd Annual Convention

Essential knowledge, emerging diagnostics and the newest treatments across the medical spectrum to facilitate provision of optimal care to their equine patients drew 5,471 veterinary professionals, students, guests and exhibitors to Orlando, Fla., for the AAEP's 62nd Annual Convention.

The meeting offered more than 130 hours of continuing education, daily social and networking opportunities, and a trade show featuring 347 exhibiting companies.

Four AAEP members and two horse industry advocates were honored during the December 6 President's Luncheon for contributions to the betterment of the horse, profession or association. Honorees were:



*Dr.* Norm Ducharme delivered the 2016 Milne *Lecture on the topic of equine upper airways.* 

The Lavin Cup: Mr. Michael Blowen AAEP George Stubbs Award: Mr. Jay Hickey Distinguished Educator Award – Academic: Dr. Dennis Brooks Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Bill Moyer Distinguished Life Member Award: Dr. Glenn Blodgett President's Award: Dr. Nat White



#### **Current Position**

Practice Owner-	
Sole Proprietor	37.5%
Associate	19.5%
Practice Owner-Partnership	14.9%
Educator/Academic	5.3%
Other	4.5%
Intern	3.4%
Retired	3.2%
Industry Relations	1.5%
Government/	
Regulatory Official	1.5%
Resident	1.3%
Temporary Position	0.3%
Graduate Student	0.3%
No Response	6.8%



Dr. Cal Davis floats a horse's teeth during the Texas Equine Veterinary Association's Equitarian project in Guatemala in October 2016. The project, which received financial support from the Foundation, provided needed veterinary care to hundreds of working equids, training support for local veterinarians and students, and education of the animals' owners.

# A LOOK BACK, CONTINUED

#### AAEP Foundation provided nearly \$460,000 in equine welfare support

A total of 27 equine organizations and special projects committed to improving the welfare of the horse shared in grants totaling \$459,198 from the AAEP Foundation in 2016. This allotment brought the Foundation's cumulative financial support of its mission to more than \$3.7 million since its inception. Among the beneficiaries of 2016 support were:



#### Laminitis research

Laminitis has been identified by AAEP members as the most important equine disease requiring research, and the Foundation invested in two promising research projects investigating support limb laminitis, in which lameness in one limb results in laminitis in the opposite limb. In one study, Dr. Hana Galantino-Homer at the University of Pennsylvania is seeking to understand the process of cell pathology in the foot to better predict, diagnose and treat support limb laminitis. The second study, led by Dr. Samantha Brooks at the University of Florida, seeks to understand the gene upregulation that will help identify the process within the hoof that leads to support failure.



Supporting the future generation of equine veterinarians, the Foundation awarded more than \$168,000 in scholarships to 40 veterinary and graduate research students as well as \$100,000 in support of veterinary student education programs such as hands-on labs that teach core treatment techniques. Scholarship support included award of the inaugural Coyote Rock Ranch Veterinary Scholarship in the amount of \$75,000. A generous gift of \$300,000 from Penelope Knight and her Coyote Rock Ranch at the AAEP's 2016 Annual Convention will enable the Foundation to award four \$75,000 scholarships to AAEP student members in 2017.



#### Domestic and international benevolence programs

The Foundation maintained support of Equitarian programs that bring much-needed healthcare to working equids in impoverished regions around the world, along with training to local veterinarians and students, and education to owners. Support of domestic programs included the Unwanted Horse Coalition and its Operation Gelding program, through which 1,562 stallions had been castrated through the conclusion of 2016; and disaster preparedness programs in Louisiana.

For a complete list of grant recipients in 2016, visit aaepfoundation.org.



# LEADERSHIP

#### 2017 OFFICERS



Top 3 Membership Countries (outside of North America)

Australia Germany Japan

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

California Texas Florida



From left: Dr. Jack Easley, treasurer; Dr. Reynolds Cowles, Jr., president; Dr. Margo Macpherson, president-elect; Dr. Jeff Berk, vice president; and Dr. Kathleen Anderson, immediate past president.

President R. Reynolds Cowles, DVM

**President-Elect** Margo L. Macpherson, DVM, MS, DACT

Vice President Jeffrey T. Berk, VMD, MRCVS

#### 2017 Board of Directors

(year in parentheses indicates expiration of term) 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) Leslie A. Easterwood, DVM (2019) Tracy A. Turner, DVM, DACVS, DACVSMR (2019)

#### **Board Members Whose Terms of Service Concluded in 2016**

Mark R. Baus, DVM Stuart E. Brown, II, DVM Immediate Past President Kathleen M. Anderson, DVM

**Treasurer** Jack Easley, DVM, MS, DABVP, DAVDC

**Executive Director** David L. Foley

# FINANCIALS

### 2016 BALANCE SHEET

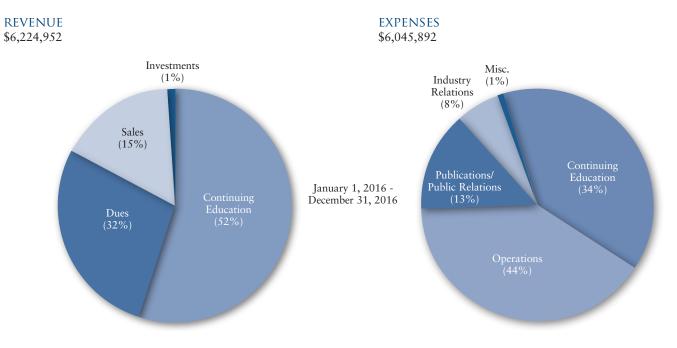
for the period ended 12/31/16

#### **Current Assets**

#### **Current Liabilities**

Cash in Bank Accounts Receivable Prepaid Expenses	\$ 790,500.27 436,081.29 60,389.09	Accounts Payable Employee FSA AAEP Foundation Funds	\$ 626,934.99 1,024.50 21,673.00
Total Current Assets	1,286,970.65	Total Current Liabilities	649,632.49
Property, Plant & Equipment		Other Liabilities	
Office Building Furniture & Fixtures	3,085,445.73 338,504.07	Deferred Dues Revenue Deferred Seminar Revenue	1,047,613.89 94,347.50
Equipment	485,526.33		
Total PPE	3,909,476.13	Total Other Liabilities	1,141,961.39
Accumulated Depreciation	(548,616.36)	Total Liabilities	1,791,593.88
Net PPE	3,360,859.77	Member Equity	
		Opening Balance Equity	4,783,391.19
Investment Account	2,272,315.09	Unrealized Investment Activity Temp Restricted Assets	153,601.16 20,000.00
Other Assets - Deposits Future Conv	7,500.00	Net Income	179,059.28
Total Assets	\$6,927,645.51	Total Equity	5,136,051.63
10141 ASSEIS		Total Liabilities and Equity	6,927,645.51

### 2016 INCOME STATEMENT



# 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 2017 is:



For more information or to register online, visit aaep.org/meetings

## MEMBERSHIP By the Numbers

### Types of Equine Practice

Performance	30.4%
Pleasure/Farm	29.6%
Reproduction	11.7%
Racing	10.8%
Other	6.0%
Work/Ranch	3.6%
No Response	7.9%

