

RAISING THE STANDARD IN HORSE HEALTH



Annual Report 2017

FROM THE PRESIDENT



R. Reynolds Cowles, Jr., DVM
2017 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.

2017 was a dynamic year for AAEP, and it is my pleasure to report to you on the activities of your association.

We are continually guided by our strategic plan in the mission of working for the health and welfare of the horse and our members. The five pillars of the strategic plan were the emphasis for all programs in 2017:

Member Value – Completion of the joint AVMA/AAEP Economic Survey, under the leadership of Dr. Amy Grice, and roll out of the initial data at our annual convention will provide our members and association with much food for thought over the next few years. In addition, the board initiated a Young Professionals Task Force to examine ways of facilitating transitions from veterinary school into sustainable careers in equine practice.

Communications – Installation of new database software along with the launch of an upgraded website enhanced association-member communications and laid the groundwork for eventual implementation of member-defined preferences in receiving communications from the AAEP.

Continuing Education – AAEP again delivered outstanding CE opportunities in 2017. Pertinent take-home knowledge drove strong attendance at our Resort Symposium, Focus and 360° meetings, and annual convention. Look for more hands-on opportunities as experiential learning programs are deployed at the Focus meetings and annual convention. Meanwhile, student programs again provided “real-world” knowledge and skills to our future practitioners.

Promoting the Profession – AAEP Touch continued to help members promote their practices and the value of the equine veterinarian. 2017 brought an emphasis on dental care and vaccinations, with publication of online and print articles in media outlets targeting horse owners. These topics, along with wellness programs, will again be featured in 2018.

Member Wellness – The Wellness Task Force developed several programs emphasizing physical wellness and mental health. With increased awareness of our profession’s emotional and mental health needs, collaborative efforts with the AVMA were explored and programs put into development.

Elsewhere in 2017, the board and Welfare and Public Policy Advisory Council took initial steps to develop a strategic priorities plan to better address the many equine welfare issues going forward. In addition, the Racing Committee worked with legislators to develop well thought out legislation concerning standardization of approaches and regulations that benefits the racehorse. Despite many hours of input, the resulting legislation was less than ideal, but AAEP will continue to offer counsel to all groups involved.

The AAEP Foundation implemented a renewed emphasis on funds development with the hiring of a senior development officer during the fourth quarter. It also prioritized research coordination and funding, punctuated by creation of a research endowment fund seeded with a generous donation from the estate of Dr. Michelle LeBlanc.

Finally, I would be remiss not to mention the tireless efforts of our staff and many of our members in the wake of devastating hurricanes and wildfires last summer and fall. Whether organizing or contributing to a relief drive, coordinating relief deliveries to affected regions or serving on the front lines caring for the many horses caught in the crosshairs, you epitomize the very best of our profession.

From this thumbnail sketch, you can see that your association had a busy and productive year. Many thanks to all the members and staff for making it so.

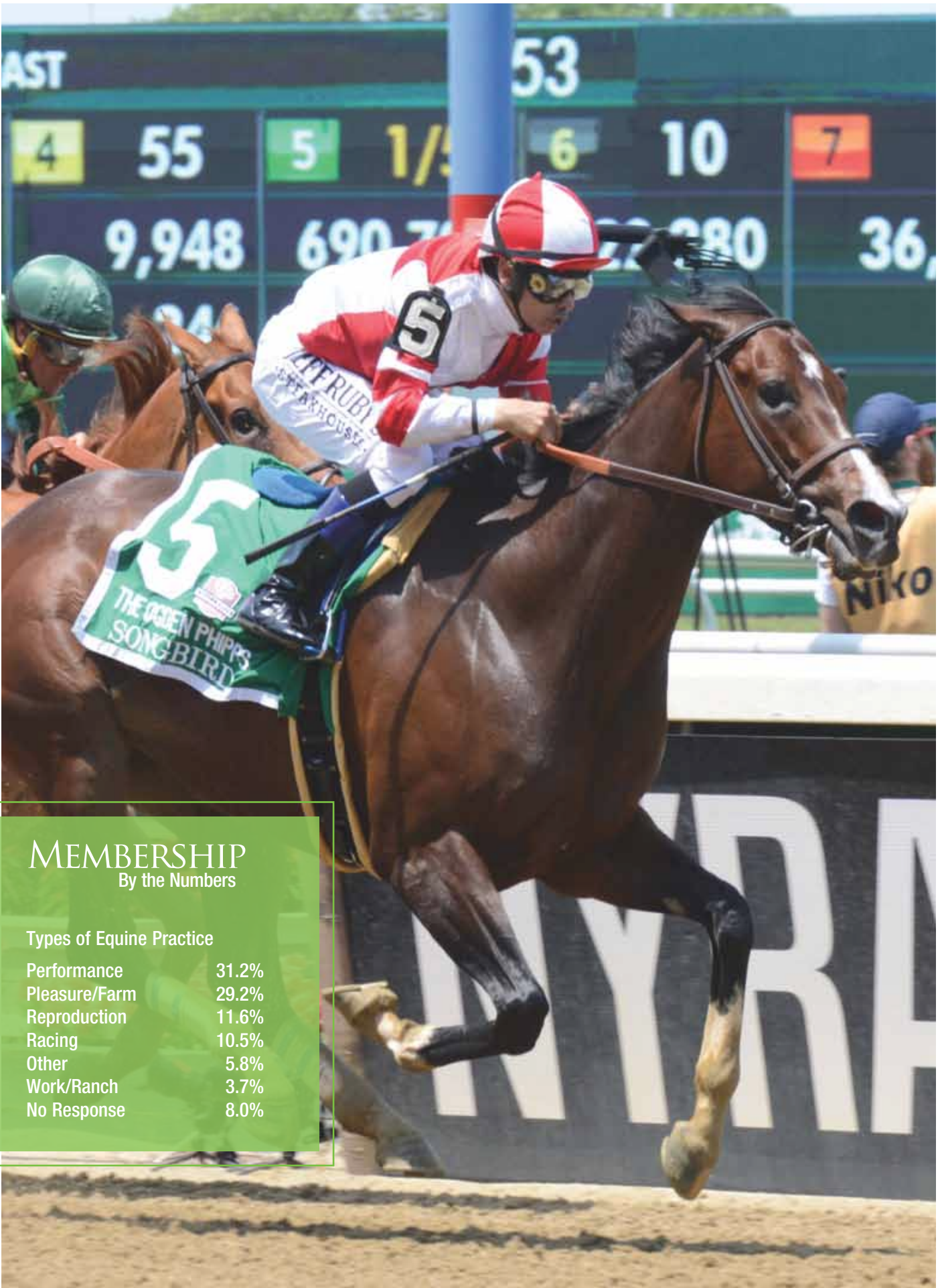
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Reynolds Cowles, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



MEMBERSHIP

By the Numbers

The AAEP's membership (as of Feb. 28, 2018) comprises 7,677 veterinarians and 1,448 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

Types of Equine Practice

Performance	31.2%
Pleasure/Farm	29.2%
Reproduction	11.6%
Racing	10.5%
Other	5.8%
Work/Ranch	3.7%
No Response	8.0%

A LOOK BACK

Updated infectious disease guidelines published

Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital



Rhodococcus equi is the most serious cause of pneumonia in young foals.

The updated guidelines outline appropriate actions and steps for suspected cases; and several resource documents for sampling and equine herpesvirus.

The guidelines are available as PDF files, enabling practitioners to save the guidelines to their portable devices for access offline in the field.

The AAEP's Infectious Disease Committee reviewed and updated the association's Infectious Disease Control Guidelines and created new guidelines for *Rhodococcus equi*. The updated guidelines are accessible at aaep.org/guidelines/infectious-disease-control/using-guidelines.

Most of the changes to established guidelines pertained to updated sampling and control measures. The committee also amended suspected case guidelines for re-

Performance Horse Committee established

The AAEP elevated its Performance Horse Task Force into a standalone committee to effectively address issues pertaining to English sport horse and Western performance horse disciplines and facilitate care of equine participants in these fields.

The charge of the committee is to:

- proactively identify and address issues of importance to equine veterinarians and horse show entities;
- provide leadership and expertise on all aspects of the performance horse that affect the health and welfare of the horse and the integrity of the competition;
- communicate to AAEP members and other stakeholders AAEP positions and recommendations on those issues; and
- educate AAEP members and stakeholders on best practices and ethical care of the performance horse.



Dr. Joe Lyman



Dr. David Frisbie installed as 2018 vice president

Dr. David Frisbie, whose leadership has shaped AAEP's continuing education programs and resulted in his being honored with the 2011 AAEP President's Award, was installed as the 2018 vice president during the AAEP's 63rd Annual Convention. He will assume the role of AAEP president in 2020.

Dr. Frisbie is an authority in musculoskeletal diagnosis and treatment and has evaluated various therapeutics and biologics such as stem cells. He is a professor at Colorado State University, director of research at CSU's Orthopaedic Research Center and interim director of operations at the university's C. Wayne McIlwraith Translational Medicine Institute. He also is a partner in Equine Sports Medicine, LLC, of Pilot Point, Texas, and the managing partner of eCORE North Texas, LLC.

MEMBERSHIP
By the Numbers

Current Position

Practice Owner- Sole Proprietor	37.1%
Associate	19.3%
Practice Owner-Partnership	15.1%
Educator/Academic	5.2%
Other	4.2%
Retired	3.3%
Intern	3.2%
Industry Relations	1.6%
Government/ Regulatory Official	1.5%
Resident	1.3%
Temporary Position	0.4%
Graduate Student	0.4%
No Response	7.4%

Cumulative UHVRC vaccine donations exceeded \$1 million

The Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign, a partnership between Merck Animal Health and the AAEP, celebrated 10 years of helping horses in need in 2017. With an allotment of 3,200 doses of core vaccines in 2017, the program achieved several notable milestones with more than:

- \$1 million in Merck Animal Health vaccine donations
- 25,000 horses helped
- 1,600 applications received from rescue and retirement facilities in 42 states
- 900 AAEP-member veterinarian supporters

To participate, eligible equine rescue and rehabilitation facilities in the U.S. must coordinate a UHVRC application with an AAEP-member veterinarian and submit prior to Feb. 1.

Over 5,300 saddled up in San Antonio for 63rd Annual Convention

Practical knowledge, diagnostics and treatments across the medical spectrum, including new “Meet the Expert” sessions and sessions on the emerging topic of personal wellness, drew 5,344 veterinary professionals, students, guests and exhibitors to San Antonio, Texas, Nov. 17–21, for the AAEP’s 63rd Annual Convention.

The meeting offered 132 hours of continuing education, daily networking and social events, and a trade show featuring 351 exhibiting companies.



Dr. Padraic Dixon delivered the 2017 Milne Lecture on the topic of equine dentistry.

Five AAEP members and the oldest non-profit horse sanctuary in the U.S. were honored during the President’s Luncheon on Nov. 20 for contributions to the horse industry, profession or association:

The Lavin Cup: *Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines*

Distinguished Educator Award – Academic: *Dr. Peter Timoney*

Distinguished Life Member Award: *Dr. Harry Werner*

Sage Kester “Beyond the Call” Award: *Dr. Nancy Collins*

President’s Award: *Drs. Stuart Brown and Amy Grice*

Disaster relief, scholarship support in focus for AAEP Foundation in 2017

In 2017, the AAEP Foundation distributed \$330,600 in grants and financial support to 16 equine organizations and special projects committed to improving the welfare of the horse. This total does not include \$572,000 in scholarship support nor equine disaster relief awards approaching \$150,000 in response to hurricanes and wildfires in the second half of the year. Among highlights of Foundation activities in 2017 were:



Disaster relief response

In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and continuing through hurricanes Irma and Maria as well as wildfires in California, the Foundation's Disaster Relief Fund raised nearly \$235,000 in cash and approximately \$60,000 worth of supplies for much-needed equine relief efforts. All supplies and most of the cash were deployed through stakeholders on the ground to assist affected horses and improve preparedness efforts for future disasters.



The Foundation supported cargo shipments of feed and other necessities to Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria.



Dr. Michelle LeBlanc

Equine research endowment establishment

To help fill the growing need for better understanding of and solutions to equine diseases and maladies, the AAEP Foundation created an equine research endowment seeded with \$150,000, more than half of which was committed by the late Dr. Michelle LeBlanc as a member of the Foundation's Legacy Society. Before accepting unsolicited funding requests for research projects, the Foundation's immediate goal is to grow the endowment's corpus through additional gifts so that it will consistently yield sufficient resources to fund research that addresses pertinent needs in the equine industry.

Scholarship awards

With tuition and student debt on the rise, the Foundation and its scholarship program partners awarded \$572,000 in scholarships to 53 equine veterinary students and recent graduates. Included in the totals are five \$5,000 awards through the new Oakwood Scholarship program enabled by the generous support of Renee and John Grisham's Oakwood Foundation Charitable Trust.

Student Scholarship Sponsors



MEMBERSHIP

By the Numbers

Gender

Male 50.5%

Female 49.5%

Average Age 47

Percentage of Practice Devoted to Horses

100% 45.7%

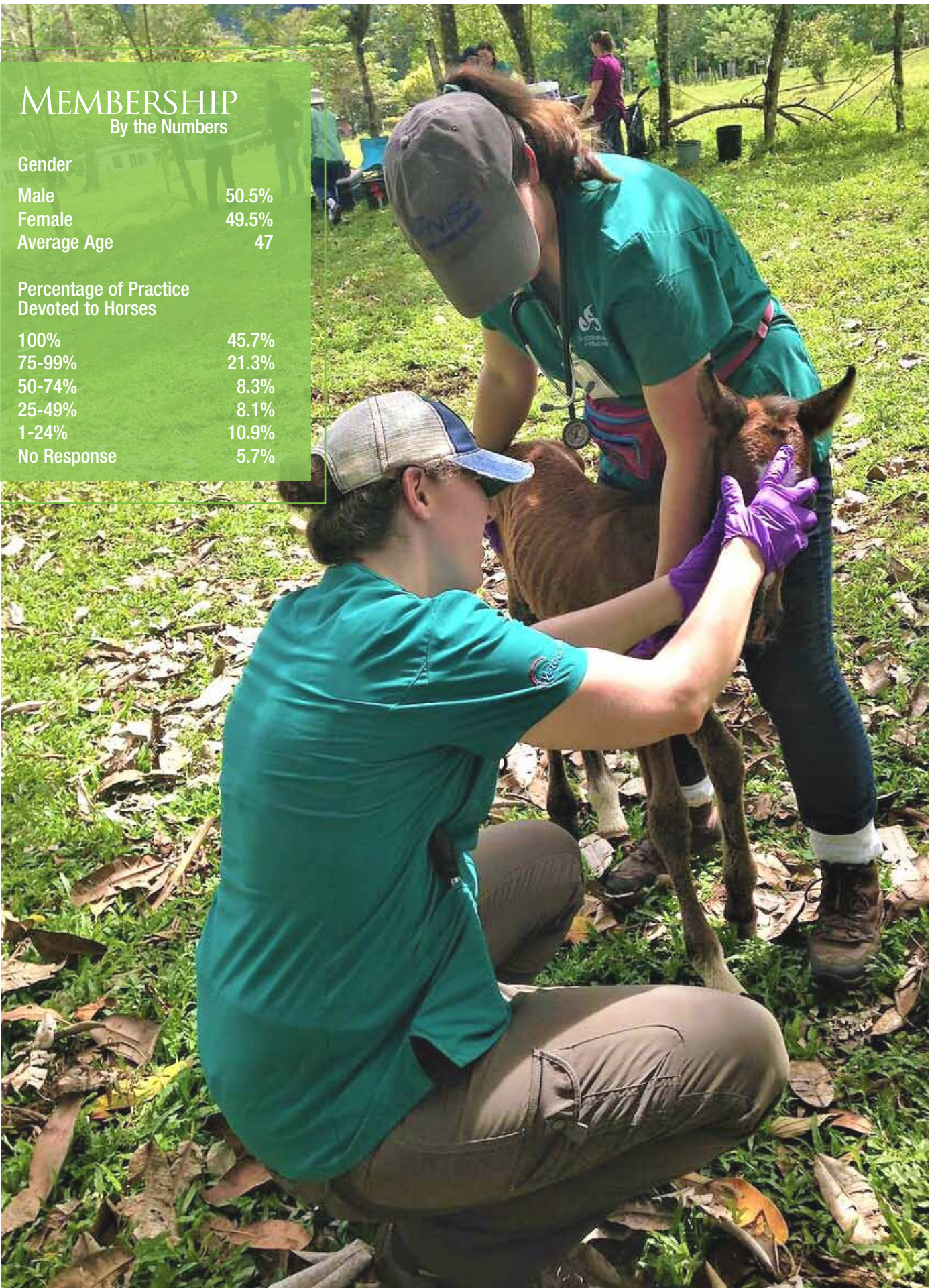
75-99% 21.3%

50-74% 8.3%

25-49% 8.1%

1-24% 10.9%

No Response 5.7%



LEADERSHIP

2018 OFFICERS



The 2018 officers were installed during the Nov. 20 President's Luncheon. From left: Dr. Reynolds Cowles, Jr., immediate past president; Dr. Jeff Berk, president-elect; Dr. Margo Macpherson, president; Dr. Lisa Metcalf, treasurer; and Dr. David Frisbie, vice president.

President

Margo L. Macpherson, DVM, MS, DACT

President-Elect

Jeffrey T. Berk, VMD, MRCVS

Vice President

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

Immediate Past President

R. Reynolds Cowles, Jr., DVM

Treasurer

Lisa Metcalf, DVM, MS, DACT

Executive Director

David L. Foley

2018 Board of Directors

(year in parentheses indicates expiration of term)

Amy L. Grice, VMD (2018)

Daniel P. Keenan, DVM (2018)

Leslie A. Easterwood, DVM (2019)

Tracy A. Turner, DVM, DACVS, DACVSMR (2019)

Duane E. Chappell, DVM (2020)

Foster Northrop, DVM (2020)

Deborah L. Spike-Pierce, DVM, MBA (2020)

Board Members Whose Terms of Service Concluded in 2017

Robert P. Franklin, DVM, DACVIM

Vivian Freer, DVM

Katherine Garrett, DVM, DACVS

MEMBERSHIP By the Numbers

Top 3 Membership Countries (outside of North America)

Australia
Germany
Japan

Top 3 Membership States (U.S.)

California
Texas
Florida

Top 3 Membership Colleges (veterinarian members)

Colorado State
Texas A&M
Ohio State

FINANCIALS

2017 BALANCE SHEET for the period ended 12/31/17

Current Assets

Cash in Bank	\$ 812,141.48
Accounts Receivable	75,958.26
Prepaid Expenses	98,154.34
Total Current Assets	986,254.08
Property, Plant & Equipment	
Office Building	3,085,445.73
Furniture & Fixtures	340,330.63
Equipment	527,348.83
Total PPE	3,953,125.19
Accumulated Depreciation	(707,493.27)
Net PPE	3,245,631.92
Investment Account	2,550,137.54
Other Assets - Deposits Future Conv	7,500.00
Total Assets	<u><u>\$6,789,523.54</u></u>

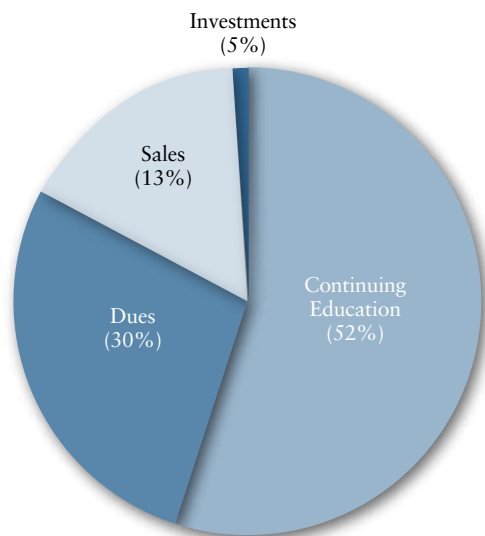
Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 21,374.09
Accrued Vacation	27,700.29
Employee FSA	1,749.78
AAEP Foundation Funds	6,145.11
Total Current Liabilities	56,969.27
Other Liabilities	
Deferred Dues Revenue	1,080,294.84
Deferred Seminar Revenue	135,670.00
Total Other Liabilities	1,215,964.84
Total Liabilities	1,272,934.11
Member Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	4,938,569.85
Temp Restricted Assets	20,000.00
Net Income	558,019.58
Total Equity	5,516,589.43
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u><u>\$6,789,523.54</u></u>

2017 INCOME STATEMENT

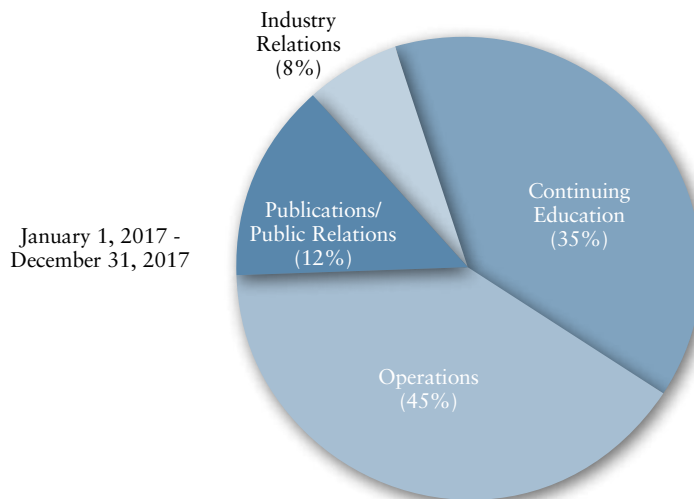
REVENUE

\$6,663,471.10



EXPENSES

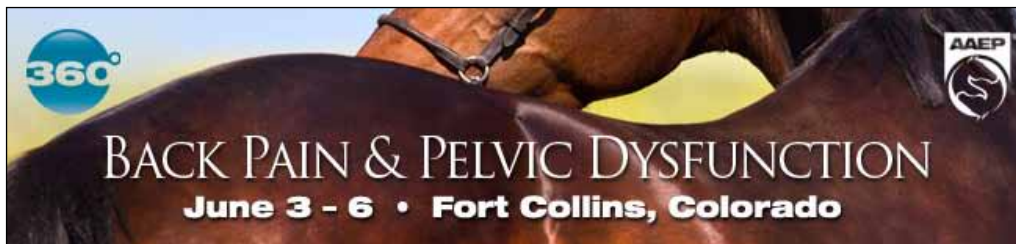
\$6,105,451.65



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 2018 is:



360° Meeting Sponsors

Back & Pelvis



Problem Mare



FOCUS Conference & Labs Platinum Level Sponsors



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

