

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Jeffrey T. Berk, VMD, MRCVS
2019 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.

It is my pleasure to present the AAEP's 2019 annual report, which highlights the progress and financial performance of our association during the preceding year.

Improving the health and welfare of the horse is a cornerstone of the AAEP and among the focal points of 2019. New board-approved guidelines provided practical advice for diagnosis and management of Equine Infectious Anemia and rotavirus while revisions to our Parasite Control Guidelines integrated current best practices. Meanwhile, new position statements addressed use of antimicrobials and medroxyprogesterone acetate as well as Management of the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horses and Burros; and position statement updates recommended by the Racing Committee terminated our conditional support of the use of vesicants and thermocautery/pin firing.

A considerable amount of time was spent by the Medication Task Force in reviewing and revising the AAEP Medication Guidelines for Racehorses, Non-Racing Performance Horses and Horses at Public Auction, and those guidelines have been completed and submitted to the board of directors for approval. The Horseracing Integrity Act Task Force, which studied HR 1754, has made recommendations to amend the governance of the proposed authority and remains in conversation with the crafters of the bill as we monitor it.

Racing came under an intense microscope in 2019 as an increase in catastrophic injuries at Santa Anita Park created an ongoing media barrage. It is my hope that as we address issues in racing that have challenged us for decades, we will find partnership with industry stakeholders who will assist us in implementing and supporting strategies intended to enhance the health and welfare of the horses we care for.

Elsewhere in 2019, the board of directors and senior staff sifted through an abundance of data—primarily the results of the general membership survey conducted in 2018 and the AVMA-AAEP Equine Economic Survey—to establish the AAEP's strategic direction for the period 2020-2023. The process reinforced the member-driven nature of the association and winnowed many relevant considerations down to three primary goals: retention in the profession, equine welfare and continuing education. More details about each goal are presented later in this report; however, we took the first steps toward addressing a couple of these goals in 2019.

With fewer graduates entering equine practice and many of those who do transitioning to small animal work within five years, we launched the Outrider mentorship program to create relationships between new and veteran practitioners to promote long-term success and wellbeing. Relatedly, Practice Life and VetCoach sessions were initiated at the annual convention in Denver. We also commenced creation of online continuing education opportunities, which are expected to be available in the first half of 2020.

It was a distinct honor and career highlight to serve as your president in 2019. The progress and momentum achieved certainly would not have been possible without the selfless and enthusiastic dedication of my fellow officers and board members; the many AAEP members who volunteered on a council, committee or in another capacity; and the small but skilled AAEP staff under the leadership of David Foley. I sincerely thank each of you for your shared dedication to making a positive difference for our association, profession and, most importantly, our friend the horse.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Berk', written in a cursive style.

MEMBERSHIP

As of March 2020, the AAEP's membership comprised 7,463 veterinarians and 1,578 veterinary students in the United States, Canada and 58 other countries.

Reflecting the demographic shift in veterinary school enrollment in recent decades, women constitute a majority of AAEP's veterinarian membership at 51.4%. For historical perspective, women made up 43% of AAEP's veterinarian membership in March 2010.

Following is a snapshot of AAEP's veterinarian membership by the numbers:

Gender

51.4%
Female

48.6%
Male

Current Position

Practice Owner-Sole Proprietor	37.7%
Associate	21.0%
Practice Owner-Partnership	14.9%
Educator/Academic	5.3%
Retired	3.9%
Other	3.4%
Intern	3.0%
Resident	1.8%
Government/Regulatory Official	1.5%
Industry Relations	1.2%
Graduate Student	0.3%
Temporary Position	0.3%
No Response	5.7%

Percentage of Practice Devoted to Horses

100%	46.9%
75-99%	22.0%
50-74%	8.6%
25-49%	8.3%
1-24%	10.8%
No Response	3.4%

Types of Equine Practice

Performance	33.4%
Pleasure/Farm	29.7%
Reproduction	10.8%
Racing	10.6%
Other	6.4%
Work/Ranch	3.9%
No Response	5.2%

Top 5 Membership Countries (outside North America)

Australia
Germany
Japan
Mexico
United Kingdom

Top 5 Membership States/Provinces

CALIFORNIA
TEXAS
FLORIDA
KENTUCKY
NEW YORK

Top 5 Membership Alma Maters

Colorado State University
University of California, Davis
Texas A&M University
Ohio State University
University of Pennsylvania

A LOOK BACK

Strategic plan to focus on retention, education, equine welfare

The AAEP board of directors convened in July for a 1 ½-day facilitated strategic planning meeting during which the results of the most recent general membership survey were distilled into key areas of emphasis for the ensuing three years. The three goals of the strategic plan are presented below.

View the entire strategic plan at aaep.org/sites/default/files/Documents/AAEP2020StrategicPlan.pdf.

Strategic plan objectives:

1 THE PROFESSION

Work to improve upon the current practice model in an effort to improve the practice life of its members and retention within the profession. Secondary strategies to this goal will involve further recruitment efforts to satisfy market demand.

2 EDUCATION

Continue to provide innovation and improvements in its continuing education offers to members. Key drivers will be to provide member value, return on investment, and community building. Furthermore, the education will be membership-driven and focused on providing education on timely topics and enhancing the members experience.

3 THE HORSE

Strive to improve equine welfare, particularly with the racing and performance sectors, through education and advocacy of appropriate business and ethical models of practice, enhanced communications amongst members and their clients, as well as between the association and industry stakeholders.

Position statements on antimicrobials, MPA, wild horses and burros approved

The board of directors in 2019 approved several new position statements intended to serve as guidelines for practitioners and the equine industry.

The board approved the Infectious Disease Committee-recommended position statement, Judicious Use of Antimicrobials. At the request of the Performance Horse Committee, the board approved the position statement, Use of Medroxyprogesterone Acetate in Competition Horses. The board also approved the Welfare and Public Policy Advisory Council-recommended position statement, Management of Bureau of Land Management Wild Horses and Burros.

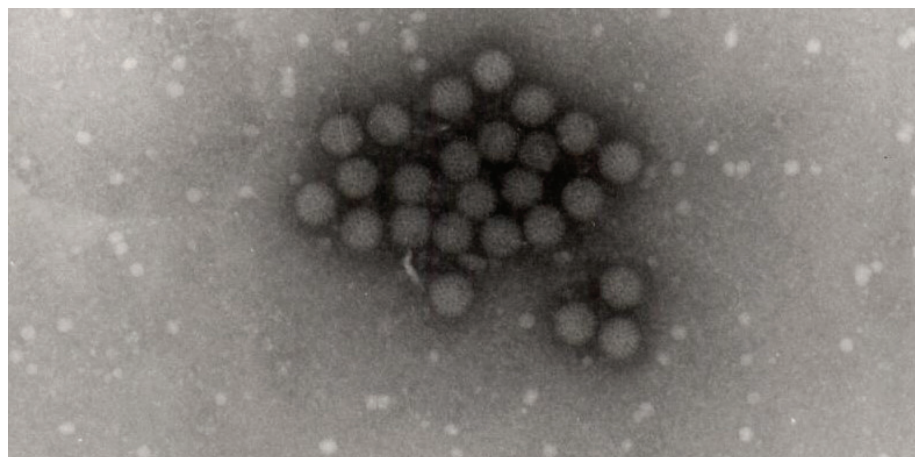
These and all other AAEP position statements are accessible at aaep.org/guidelines/aaep-ethical-and-professional-guidelines/aaep-position-statements.

Rotavirus, EIA guidelines published

Comprehensive guidelines for the identification, management and prevention of rotavirus, a leading cause of diarrhea in foals up to six months of age, and Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA), a viral disease with no cure and no known vaccine, were created and published on the AAEP's website.

The guidelines documents, developed at the request of the AAEP's Infectious Disease Committee, summarize each disease's clinical signs, risk factors, diagnostic methods, control measures, biosecurity issues and other management protocols.

AAEP guidelines for rotavirus, EIA and 18 other equine infectious diseases are available in the AAEP Publications App and at aaep.org/guidelines/infectious-disease-control/using-guidelines.



Electron micrograph of equine rotaviruses.

Courtesy Dr. Roberta Dwyer, University of Kentucky

Dr. Emma Read installed as 2020 vice president

Dr. Emma Read, associate dean for professional programs at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, was installed as the 2020 vice president during the AAEP's 65th Annual Convention. She will assume the role of AAEP president in 2022.

Dr. Read serves on the AAEP's Member Engagement Committee and Experiential Learning Task Force. She previously served on the board of directors from 2011-2013, as chair of the Student Programs Task Force, and as a member of the Educational Programs, Membership Development, Nominating and Student Relations committees.



Dr. Emma Read



Outrider mentorship program launched

To help young equine veterinarians successfully navigate practice and find lasting professional fulfillment, the AAEP in September unveiled Outrider, a mentorship program that facilitates creation of relationships between early-career AAEP members and members with more experience.

The goal is to provide mentorship in the non-clinical areas of practice that are critical to long-term success and well-being, such as general career advice and supportive interpersonal relationships. The exact nature of the relationship between mentors and mentees is up to the pair. Pairings have a one-year term.

Registration as a mentor or mentee can be completed at jobs.aaep.org/ementor.

Convention offered education, resources to ascend new heights

Offering science-backed solutions to clinical challenges along with resources and strategies to strengthen emotional resilience and personal wellbeing, the AAEP's 65th Annual Convention drew 5,443 veterinary professionals, students, guests and exhibitors from 37 countries to Denver, Colo., Dec. 7-11.

The 137.5 hours of continuing education included an expanded slate of wet and dry labs. The meeting also offered a 340-exhibitor-strong trade show along with daily social and networking events.

Three AAEP members and an industry collective improving the lives of horses in transition were honored during the President's Luncheon:

Distinguished Educator Award – Academic: Dr. David Wilson

Distinguished Educator Award – Mentor: Dr. Terry Swanson

The Lavin Cup: The Right Horse Initiative

President's Award: Dr. Katie Flynn



Dr. Dean W. Richardson delivered the 2019 Milne Lecture on the topic of equine fracture repair.

A LOOK BACK, CONTINUED

AAEP Foundation rebranded: New name, same vital mission

The AAEP Foundation, which for 25 years served as the charitable arm of the AAEP to improve the welfare of horses, was renamed The Foundation for the Horse in December.



“Our new name more clearly defines who we are and who we serve,” said Dr. Richard Mitchell, chair of The Foundation for the Horse Advisory Council. “As we embark on our next quarter-century under a new name, our mission remains steadfast and as relevant today as at inception. It is a mission that resonates with all who love and care about these noble animals.”

Since 1994, The Foundation has distributed more than \$6 million in support of its mission. This total includes a cumulative disbursement of \$1.4 million in 2018-2019, which is reflective of The Foundation’s growing influence and impact on horse welfare nationally and internationally.

UHVRC distributed 3,500 core vaccines to horses in need

Entering its second decade of partnership between the AAEP and Merck Animal Health, the Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign (UHVRC) provided 3,500 doses of core vaccines to 191 nonprofit equine rescue and retirement facilities in 2019. Since its inception, more than 31,000 doses of core vaccines have been distributed to protect horses in need.

The free vaccines protect horses from eastern equine encephalitis (EEE), western equine encephalitis (WEE), equine rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1 and EHV-4), tetanus and West Nile Virus.



Hermosillo, a 16-year-old Thoroughbred stakes winner of \$679,031 and resident of War Horses at Rose Bower in Appomattox, Va., was among the equine recipients of UHVRC vaccines in 2019.

‘Good Works’ of AAEP members celebrated

Throughout 2019, the Good Works for Horses Campaign highlighted selfless acts of service performed by AAEP members. Horse owners and veterinary professionals nominated members throughout the year, and nine veterinarians were selected for monthly honors.

The grand prize winner was Dr. Clara Mason, a solo ambulatory practitioner in Winfield, W. Va., whose unyielding commitment to at-risk horses has resulted in strengthened animal cruelty laws and increased enforcement in her state. She received complimentary registration and a travel stipend to attend the annual convention, along with a donation in her name to the Roane Co. Shelter in Spencer, W. Va.



As part of her grand prize, the AAEP contributed \$500 to the charity of Dr. Mason’s choice.

Over 1,000 members connected in new AAEP Facebook group

As a supplement to the Rounds listserv discussions, the AAEP Member Vet Talk group on Facebook was created as a “closed” community for AAEP members to engage in discussions of veterinary or industry topics.

As of Dec. 31, the group had more than 1,000 members. Search “AAEP Member Vet Talk” on Facebook and click “Join Group” to participate.



LEADERSHIP

2020 OFFICERS



The 2020 officers were installed during the Dec. 10 President's Luncheon. From left: Dr. Emma Read, vice president; Dr. Lisa Metcalf, treasurer; Dr. Scott Hay, president-elect; Dr. David Frisbie, president; and Dr. Jeff Berk, immediate past president.

President

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

President-Elect

Scott A. Hay, DVM

Vice President

Emma K. Read, DVM, MVSc, DACVS

Immediate Past President

Jeffrey T. Berk, VMD, MRCVS

Treasurer

Lisa Metcalf, DVM, MS, DACT

Executive Director

David L. Foley

2020 Board of Directors

(year in parentheses indicates expiration of term)

Duane E. Chappell, DVM (2020)

Foster Northrop, DVM (2020)

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

Luke Bass, DVM, MS, DABVP (2021)

Mitchell K. Rode, DVM (2021)

Amanda M. House, DVM, DACVIM (2022)

Sarah Reuss, VMD, DACVIM (2022)

Board Members Whose Terms of Service Concluded in 2019

Leslie A. Easterwood, DVM

Tracy A. Turner, DVM, DACVS, DACVSMR

FINANCIALS

2019 BALANCE SHEET

for the period ended 12/31/19

Current Assets

Cash in Bank	\$2,476,600.05
Accounts Receivable	137,571.64
Prepaid Expenses	94,363.99

Total Current Assets 2,708,535.68

Property, Plant & Equipment

Office Building	3,085,445.73
Furniture & Fixtures	241,830.63
Equipment	541,570.43

Total PPE 3,988,796.79

Less Accumulated Depreciation (1,088,183.74)

Net PPE 2,900,613.05

Investment Account 2,768,300.14

Other Assets - Deposits Future Conv 7,500.00

Total Assets \$8,384,948.87

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$1,297,760.28
Accrued Vacation	21,671.68
Employee FSA	1,127.14
AAEP Foundation Funds	1,340.00

Total Current Liabilities 1,321,899.10

Other Liabilities

Deferred Dues Revenue	957,576.36
Deferred Seminar Revenue	57,430.00
Other Deferred Revenue	42,000.00
Total Other Liabilities	1,057,006.36

Total Liabilities 2,378,905.46

Member Equity

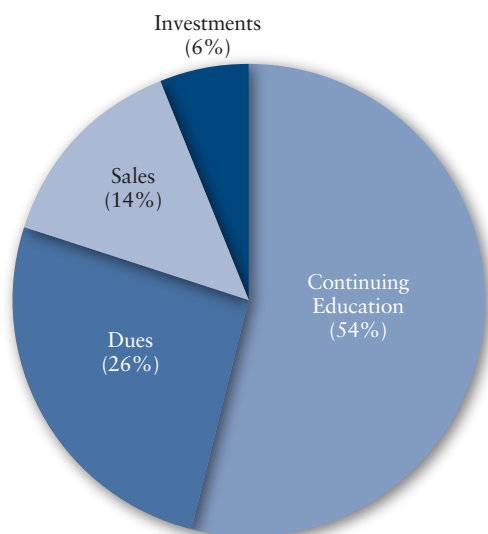
Opening Balance Equity	5,327,448.90
Temp Restricted Assets	20,000.00
Net Income	658,594.51
Total Equity	6,006,043.41

Total Liabilities and Equity \$8,384,948.87

2019 INCOME STATEMENT

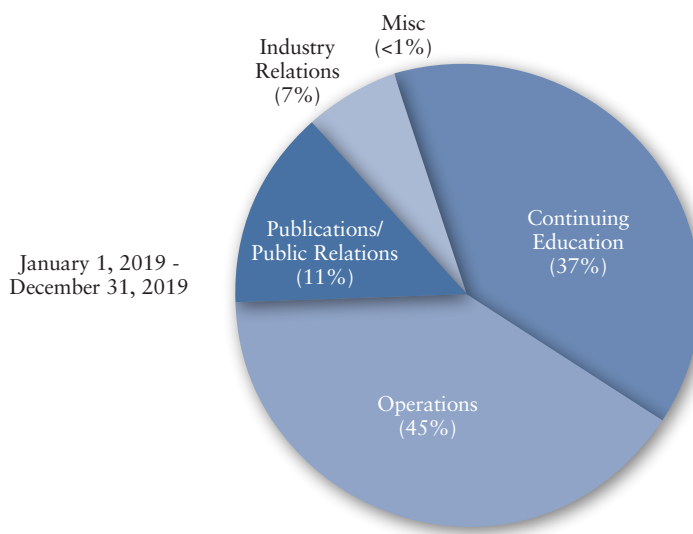
REVENUE

\$7,193,970.66



EXPENSES

\$6,535,376.15



January 1, 2019 -
December 31, 2019

