as an historian were shipped to Pullman, Washington where they were added to the Washington State University Library and are now safely housed in Manuscripts and Special Collections (MASC). Ann mentioned to me that because of the occasional wildfires in Santa Barbara, Fred was concerned of a future fire that might take his house so sent those papers and books. Together, he and Ann spent many months compiling and publishing an annotated bibliography of that collection.²

“Ann and I very much enjoyed each other, and she remarked how happy that she was, and that Fred would have been, knowing that I was so interested in veterinary history and was essentially receiving his baton. I feel honored and blessed to be doing so.”

“Curiously, I was born and raised in Santa Barbara and my father was a physician who had Fred as a patient in the 1960s and 1970s. Sadly, I never had the opportunity to meet Fred, which I deeply regret. I travel to Santa Barbara every few months to visit family friends and to share my childhood memories with my daughters and grandson, “Owen.” I look forward to seeing Ann again this summer.”

“In addition, I invited Ann to come to the AVMA convention in San Diego this July and speak at our AVMHS annual meeting.”

1. As a tribute to Dr. Smithcors, a biographical sketch and complete list of his publications related to history are available on the AVMHS website at https://www.avmhs.org/history
2. Smithcors JF, Smithcors A, comp. Five Centuries of Veterinary Medicine: A Short-title Catalog of the
ORLANDO, FL via CHICAGO, IL, January 2020

“In January, I attended the AVMA leadership conference in Chicago and then drove to Florida visiting veterinary schools at Virginia Tech, North Carolina State University, and Auburn University before attending the VMX (Veterinary Meeting & Expo) meeting in Orlando. In January 2018, I had done the same trip but visited the veterinary schools of Purdue University, University of Tennessee, University of Georgia, Tuskegee University, Auburn University, and the University of Florida. On these trips, I evaluated each school for the presence of any legacy material on display as well as to speak with the deans and faculty whenever possible.”

“A memorable experience is to chat with Dr. J. Thomas Vaughan (AUB ’55), Dean Emeritus of Auburn University and an enthusiastic historian himself. In retirement, he is researching and writing about the history of veterinary medicine in Alabama, I told him last year that I would do the other forty nine. That deal is still on! At age eighty-seven, Tom is very active and visits the veterinary school nearly every day. He was born and raised in Tuskegee, a mere twenty miles from Auburn, and other than a few years at Cornell in Ithaca in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Dr. Vaughan has spent this entire life in the Auburn area.”

WASHINGTON, DC, March, 2020

“In March, I attended the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) conference in Washington, DC. While there, I spoke with a number of deans about the potential inclusion of classes on veterinary history at their institutions. All of them were excited about the possibility and I hope that AVMHS can, in some way, provide them with the resources to do so.”

“On Sunday, March 8, I participated in a job fair which consisted of a number of AVMA accredited veterinary schools with tables displaying the benefits of each. The schools present included some US and Canadian schools as well as those in the UK and Ireland. About 100 high school and college students attended the fair with their parents to learn about veterinary medicine and education.”

“The AVMHS booth was clearly unique, but and in staffing the table, I was able to talk about and promote veterinary history by passing out a number of flyers, postcards, our membership form, and the student essay contest brochure. This job fair is an annual event and I plan on attending next year as well.”

Meeting Plans for San Diego
Program Chair/President-Elect Dr. Zbigniew Wojcinski is excited to announce early plans for our gathering in San Diego in association with the AVMA Convention. He has made arrangements with Dr. Meg Sutherland-Smith for a presentation on the history and operation of veterinary services at the San Diego Zoo coupled with a behind-the-scenes zoo hospital tour on Friday, July 31, 2020.

Immediately following the talk and tour from 11am-1pm, the meeting room has been reserved for AVMHS to hold a business meeting until 2pm. Dr. Wojcinski notes, “I think that this will be a very enjoyable event for our group” and the rest of us definitely agree. We are most grateful to the SDZ veterinary and administrative staff to enable this special activity. More information will be forthcoming as the date comes closer.

We are also pleased to indicate that four proposals for posters on historical topics have been submitted to the AVMA CE Program Committee for the Hot Topics and Poster session in San Diego. Again, specifics will be shared later on.

Veterinary history-related posters submitted and/or accepted are:

- Ana Alcaraz (Western University of Health Sciences College of Veterinary Medicine), “History of Bezoars”
- Shannon Greeley, “Primates in the Early American Space Program - A Historical Timeline”
- Karen Hassan, “Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital: Living History in the Making”
- Jerry M. Owens, “The First Veterinary Schools in California from 1894-1918”

Four Ingram Brothers Revealed, part II
Discoveries related to the history of veterinary medicine can come from many sources. Sam Hendrix (hendrj1@auburn.edu), who authored the outstanding biography on Dr. Charles Allen Cary* published in fall 2018, reports being busy on another project. This one documents the lives of the four Ingram brothers from Alabama, all of whom studied under Professor Cary as veterinary students at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute College of Veterinary Medicine around the turn of the twentieth century.
The first part of Sam’s article on the lives of these brothers appeared on pages 10 to 13 of the summer 2019 issue of Auburn Veterinarian magazine. The second part follows in the fall 2019 on pages 8 to 14. Please find and enjoy reading both articles online at: https://www.vetmed.auburn.edu/newsroom/auburn-veterinarian/


Registry Brochure and Certificate
In early January, 2020, Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices coordinator Dr. Jerry Owens mailed out 96 certificates suitable for public display recognizing known practices that have been in continuous operation for more than 50 years. New brochures about the Society’s Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices program were also included. The brochure is posted on the AVMHS website at https://www.avmhs.org/registry-of-heritage-practices. A colorful logo image that can be added to their web pages to notify clients of their historical status is provided upon request.

Past Veterinary Colleges Web Page
In addition to education in general, one of the Society’s primary goals is to share information about the history of veterinary medicine. Included in that history in America are a number of past veterinary colleges. Recent issues of Veterinary Heritage have included papers describing the history of some of these early private schools. Two additional turn-of-the-20th century schools in California will be featured in the next issue.

As this new page is still under construction, comments and suggestions are welcome.

Honorary Member Dr. Philippe de Wailly
When AVMHS held its annual meeting in Washington, DC in July, 1980, among the speakers was Dr. Phillip de Wailly. He had traveled from Paris to give a talk on the life of Alexandre Liautard, MD, VS,** who is widely recognized as the father of veterinary education in the United States. In recognition of his presentation and knowledge of Dr. Liautard, the Society awarded him an Honorary Membership.

Recent communication with Dr. de Wailly who just celebrated his 94th year indicates that he has been working on a book recollecting his experiences and what animals have taught him during 60 years of practice at Boulogne Billancourt near Paris. The book is nearly finished and will be published soon. Dr. de Wailly extends fond greetings to his American colleagues.

**A brief biography of Alexandre Liautard, MD, VS is available at the AVMA website: https://www.avma.org/javma-news/2013-01-01/bringing-veterinary-medicine-fore

Time-Bites Now Accessible in VSPN
AVMHS Time-Bites coordinator Dr. Susan Aiello reports that the Veterinary Information Network (VIN) has now made our short historical stories accessible via VSPN https://www.vin.com/vspn/ The Veterinary Support Personnel Network is a counterpart of VIN for veterinary technicians and other clinic support staff. In fact, it’s encouraging to hear that a practitioner requested wanting to be able to share these stories with the practice’s technicians and office staff. So, the audience for Time-Bites has increased!!

Anyone interested in writing a short Time-Bite, or simply suggesting a topic, should kindly contact Dr. Aiello at susan@words-world.net There are currently 76 Time-Bites posted on VIN with others pending publication, but we would really like to add many more as time goes on.

A list of the Time-Bites accessible on VIN can be found on our website at https://www.avmhs.org/time-bites

Dr. Mark Rishniw on Eclampsia
Eclampsia has been associated with potentially fatal periparturient seizures in both people and animals from Antiquity. Dr. Mark Rishniw (mr89@cornell.edu) has recently conducted some historical investigation and made an interesting discovery related to these conditions.
His findings and recommendation are published in the March, 2020 issue of *The Veterinary Journal* under “Eclampsia in Dogs: What’s in a Name?”


In reviewing source material from the 1700s to date concerning etiology and terminology, Dr. Rishniw concludes, “To avoid similar confusion, perhaps it is time to retire the term ‘eclampsia’ from the veterinary lexicon, and refer to this condition by the more descriptive and accurate term ‘periparturient hypocalcemia’, or ‘lactational hypocalcemia.’”

His research points out that “history does matter” and can be relevant to current practice.

**Dr. Fred Born’s Vintage Instrument Quiz #8**
Here is another quiz question about a very practical medical instrument from Dr. Fred J. Born ([fjborn@att.net](mailto:fjborn@att.net)) from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. He is asking for the year the glass syringe shown below was first produced. An approximate time period is an acceptable response. See page 6 for the answer and explanation.

![Glass Syringe](image)

**Veterinary Roundtable Auctions**
Often those of us interested in history also collect something, possibly related to veterinary medicine, like postcards, books, stamps, prints, photographs, posters, artifacts, advertising items, diplomas, veterinary instruments, patent medicines, and so on.

For new members who might not already know, Dr. Michael “Mike” Smith from Loganville, Georgia has conducted semi-annual auctions of veterinary collectibles for many years in association with his Veterinary Collectible Roundtable at [https://www.veterinarycollectibles.com/](https://www.veterinarycollectibles.com/) Dr. Smith also produces a newsletter available by subscription with interesting articles and information related to veterinary collectibles.

Sorry to say telephone bids for his latest auction closed on February 29, but color photos taken by Vicki Smith and detailed descriptions of sale items can still be viewed online from his website. Dr. Smith is now retired from small animal practice and can be reached at [petvet@mindspring.com](mailto:petvet@mindspring.com) or by phone at 770-361-7255.

**Online Index to Veterinary History**
In helping members keep up with recently published literature related to veterinary history, our News & Comment newsletters include references to new journal articles. As such, the table of contents of *Veterinary History* are listed as issues become available. This excellent journal is produced by the Veterinary History Society in the United Kingdom twice a year.

In case anyone would like to find past articles, AVMHS member Dr. Andrew Greenwood points out that a complete index of back issues is available online at [https://www.veterinaryhistorysociety.org.uk/journal](https://www.veterinaryhistorysociety.org.uk/journal)

**Links to Human Medical History Resources**
From time to time, we come across resources related to human medical history that are worthy of sharing with those interested in veterinary history. One such compilation is the History of the Health Sciences Web Links page at [https://hhsmla.blogspot.com/](https://hhsmla.blogspot.com/) This blogger-based page was created and is maintained by the History of Health Sciences Librarians Caucus of the Medical Library Association. Patricia E. Gallagher ([patriciaegallagher@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaegallagher@gmail.com)) is the editor. It is “one-stop-shopping” for links to organizations, databases, and more.

**WAHVM 2020 Congress in South Africa**
The 44th International Congress of the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (WAHVM) was held at Pretoria, South Africa on February 27-29, 2020. The program booklet which lists speakers, abstracts, meeting schedule, events, and other activities remains available online at [https://www.wahvm.co.uk/south-africa-2020](https://www.wahvm.co.uk/south-africa-2020)

Congratulations to this year’s winners of the biennial Early Career Scholars Award are:

1st prize - **Nicole Welk-Joerger (USA),** “Regulating rumensin; defining antibiotic feeds in the U.S. in the wake of resistance”

2nd prize – **Sandi Howie (UK),** “From Caledonia to the Cape: the first veterinary surgeons of the Cape Colony”
3rd prize – Gabriel Lopes and Luisa Reis-Castro (Brazil), “A history of Aedes aegypti as mosquitoes that transmit diseases in Brazil”

Nicole Welk-Joerger is a doctoral candidate in the Department of History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania and adjunct instructor at Franklin & Marshall College.

MSU’s Human-Animal Connection Exhibit
On March 2, 2020, a new exhibit related to the Human-Animal Connection was opened at Michigan State University. It features 17th century rare books and beautiful illustrations from MSU Libraries’ historical veterinary medicine and other special collections to show the link between human and animal health, farming, beekeeping, and hunting and fishing.

The exhibit was curated by AVMHS member and MSU Health Sciences Librarian Andrea Kepsel. She indicates, “It gives people an opportunity to view delicate, rare books that address real-world, everyday issues. It also underscores how powerful the relationship between people and animals can be.”

The exhibit runs through July 2020 on the main floor of the Main Library in East Lansing. More can be found at: https://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2020/new-exhibit-explores-history-of-human-animal-connection/

New Book: Comanche and His Captain
Readers who enjoyed They Called Her Reckless® and those who met Janet Barrett (barr711@comcast.net) at our booth at the AVMA meeting in Boston in 2015 will be pleased to learn she has published a new book, Comanche and His Captain—The Warhorse and The Soldier of Fortune.

She reports it “tells the story of the tough Mustang, Comanche, that survived the Battle of the Little Bighorn, and his rider, Captain Myles Keogh, who left Ireland to fight for America. From the Civil War through the challenges of securing the frontier, and many years beyond, their stories speak to the greatness of the U.S. Cavalry and the powerful connection between horse and rider. I hope you will enjoy my book and, if you do, please spread the word. Many thanks!”

*Barrett, Janet. They Called Her Reckless: A True Story Of War, Love And One Extraordinary Horse. Chester, CT: Tall Cedar Books, 2013. 177 pgs.
“When the Marines of the Fifth Regiment’s Recoilless Rifle Platoon acquired a small Korean pony to haul ammunition up the steep hills to the front lines, what they got was a real-life hero, Reckless, the courageous and indomitable warhorse who stood with her buddies for two years during the Korean War, saving many lives, raising spirits, and winning the love and respect of all who knew her.”

Meeting and Event Calendar 2020
April 15 Student History Essay Contest Deadline
Jul 31-Aug 4 AVMHS 43rd Annual Business Meeting and Program, San Diego, CA

New AVMHS Members (as of April 10, 2020)
We are pleased to welcome:
M. Sawkat Anwer, DVM (Shrewsbury, MA)
Steven J. Ettinger, DVM (Laguna Beach, CA)
Bridget Ann Marie Heilsberg, DVM (Whitesboro, TX)
Carol Hershey, DVM (Traverse City, MI)
Karyl Hurley, DVM (Downingtown, PA)
Michael Jones, DVM (Knoxville, TN)
Robert Mason, DVM (Grass Valley, CA)
Amber Pisle, DVM (Toledo, OH)
Julissa Rios (Alexandria, VA)
Ellis Wright (Knoxville, TN)

New AVMHS Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices
We are pleased to welcome the following new Registry member:
Alamo Dog and Cat Hospital (San Antonio, TX) Estab. 1922
Opossum Pike Veterinary Clinic (Frederick, MD) Estab. 1942
Wharton Veterinary Clinic (Wharton, TX) Estab. 1946

New Books

Dawson, Timothy and Anastasija Ropa, eds. The Horse in Premodern European Culture. De Gruyter ;


“The book explores the central role of animal life and death in nineteenth-century cities, and traces a web of interconnected social, cultural, political, and environmental changes. Professor Robichaud’s doctoral dissertation on the topic received the 2015 Michael Katz Award from the Urban History Association for best dissertation in urban history.”


Includes chapter on “a brief history of veterinary vaccines.”


**Answer to Instrument Quiz #8**

The correct answer is approximately 1920, for this particular Ideal Lock all-glass 5-cc. hypodermic syringe produced by East Rutherford Syringes, Inc. of New Jersey, but that’s not the whole story. The history of syringes goes back much further.

While the concept dated to Galen and even earlier, the modern syringe is thought to have originated in 15th-century Italy, although it took several centuries for the device to be developed.

In 1853, Scottish physician Alexander Wood (1817-1884) invented the first hypodermic needle that used a true syringe and hollow needle for subcutaneous injections. It was first used only for administering morphia and preparations of opium, but wider applications soon became obvious. At the same time, French orthopedic surgeon Charles Gabriel Pravaz (1791-1853) from Lyon also invented a hypodermic syringe which quickly came into use in many surgeries and was called the Pravaz Syringe. Thus, both doctors invented the hypodermic syringe independently about the same time.

Early syringes were made of metal or had metal parts, making this Wood syringe an amazing development for 1920 as it was completely made of glass. The barrel and plunger were carefully ground to make a perfect seal. This syringe was made to have an exact fit. A four-digit serial number identified each set produced.

Because these early syringes were reusable, it was necessary to disinfect them in a boiling water bath or steam autoclave after each use. Needles also would become dull over time and needed to be sharpened, often by rubbing on a cork stopper. Disposable items would not come into general use until the 1950s.

A Brief Timeline of Disposable Syringes
In 1954, Becton, Dickinson and Company created the first mass-produced disposable syringe and needle produced in glass. It was developed for Dr. Jonas Salk's mass administration of the new Salk polio vaccine for one million American children.

Roehr Products introduced a plastic disposable hypodermic syringe called the Monoject in 1955.

Colin Murdoch, a pharmacist from Timaru, New Zealand, patented a plastic disposable syringe to replace the glass syringe in 1956. Murdoch patented a total of 46 inventions, including a silent burglar alarm, automatic syringes for vaccinating animals, the childproof bottle top, and the tranquilizer gun.

In 1961, Becton Dickinson introduced its first plastic disposable syringe, the Plastipak. Although initially developed for human use, veterinarians likely quickly adopted them for various purposes. For example, syringes were listed for sale in 19th century veterinary equipment catalogs, such as in 1881 (shown next).

Additional Reading:

“Hypodermic syringe, glass barrel, covered with fenestrated metal protection, with one fine trocar and cannula, one needle, 1 vial; in morocco [leather] case. $5.00” From: Veterinary instrument catalog of John Reynders & Co., New York City, 1881, Plate XV, pg.34.

Send news, comments, and suggestions for the next News & Comment to: AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer Susanne Whitaker, 23 Wedgewood Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850-1064, phone 607-257-9248 or email skw2@cornell.edu or avmhs.info@gmail.com.

“The farther backward you look, the farther forward you are likely to see.” Winston Churchill (1874-1965)
Recent Journal Articles & Chapters Related to the History of Veterinary Medicine


