

American Veterinary Medical History Society

“Devoted to the Diffusion of Veterinary History”

INTERIM NEWS & COMMENT

June 2023

Susanne Whitaker and Helen Wojcinski, reporters

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AVMHS Annual Meeting and Program

Program-chair/President-elect Dr. John de Jong (drjdejong@comcast.net) is pleased to invite all members to participate in this year’s AVMHS Virtual Annual Meeting.

Thursday, July 6, 2023
7pm-9pm EDT (6pm-8pm CST)

From 7pm–8pm EDT, there will be a presentation by

Susan D. Jones, DVM, PhD

on

GLOBAL ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Dr. Jones is currently Distinguished McKnight University Professor in the Program in the History of Science and Technology, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is also past president of AVMHS (2001-2002) and former board member.

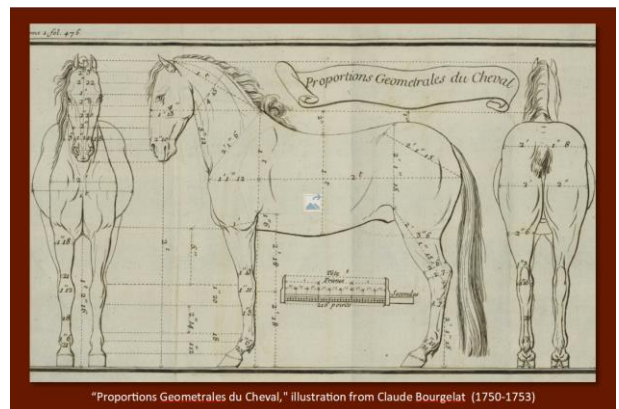
Her talk and Q&A period will be followed in the next hour from 8pm-9pm EDT (7pm-8pm CST) by our annual AVMHS business meeting chaired by President Dr. Marianne Y. Ash. An agenda will be provided in advance by email.

Prior to the meeting, members will receive an email invitation with instructions on how to connect via Zoom

to the annual meeting. All members are encouraged to participate.

This Year’s Meeting Postcard

This year’s meeting postcard was chosen specifically to highlight Dr. Jones’ talk. This 18th century illustration from Claude Bourgelat’s book, *Elemens d’Hippiatrique* published about 1750 appears on page 89 of her recent book with Peter D. Koolmees titled, *A Concise History of Veterinary Medicine*, published last year by Cambridge University Press.



“Proportions Geometrales du Cheval.” From Claude Bourgelat’s *Elemens d’Hippiatrique*. (1750-1753), p. 476. Image courtesy Special Collections, Michigan State University

This is the 9th postcard in a growing series associated with our annual meetings since 2015. See all of the postcard images at <https://www.avmhs.org/meetings>

Informal Gathering at AVMA in Denver

While no scheduled program or booth will be held in Denver, we encourage any members present to get together informally for coffee, lunch, etc.

Dr. John de Jong (drjdejong@comcast.net; cell: 617-968-0809) will coordinate a casual gathering sometime between July 14-17. Please let him know if you are attending AVMA and might be interested. A date and time will be determined as the convention gets closer or after everyone arrives. This meet-and-greet is a chance to chat and get acquainted with fellow members in person.

2023 Smithcors Student Essay Contest

Essay Contest Committee Chair Dr. Martha Littlefield (drmarthallittlefield@icloud.com) reports that judging has been delayed this year and winners will be announced shortly. The 2023 contest received 26 essays.

2023 SAVMA Symposium

Current board member Dr. Shannon Greeley (animalassociate@aol.com) from Chicago volunteered to attend and promote veterinary history and the Society at this year's SAVMA Symposium held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) on March 17-19, 2023. The symposium was resumed this spring after several years hiatus due to COVID. She was also involved with the Leadership Task Force for action plan development.

With the help of Dr. Susan Aiello, a double-sided 4"x9" stand card or flier was designed with information for students about *Guideposts* on one side and details of the essay contest on the reverse. Note the added feature of QR codes.



Dr. Shannon Greeley at AVMA booth; AVMHS materials on display

With further help from board member Dr. Arne Goldman, we were gratified that the AVMA was willing to share some space on their booth to display this 2-sided stand card along with material about how students can become involved. Dr. Greeley offered a sign-up sheet that was signed by 26 students and 5 graduate veterinarians, totaling 31 attendees who wanted to learn more about the Society and its activities. As promised, the Secretary-Treasurer forwarded a welcome cover letter from President Marianne Ash, a membership form, and a copy of the March 2023 N&C newsletter by email to each signee.

This may be the first time the Society has reached out to students during an annual SAVMA Symposium and is thus a "test case" for possible future planning,

encouraging student membership and involvement. Dr. Greeley reports that this was a positive experience and something the Society should definitely consider for future SAVMA conventions.

Outreach at Chicago Vet Show

Because of its convenient location, Dr. Shannon Greeley also took advantage of another opportunity to promote history and the Society at the Chicago Vet Show (<https://us.vetshow.com/>) held on May 18-19, 2023. This time our signup sheet was displayed on a portion of the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association/Chicago Veterinary Medical Foundation's table. Dr. Greeley is CVMF president. Ten attendees signed up to learn more and have been sent similar welcome materials by email.



If others have connections with organizations and/or events coming up that might have tables or booths and be willing to share a bit of space, we encourage members to take Dr. Greeley's example to help get the word out about the Society and all there is to learn about the past heritage of this profession. Materials are available for display and can be provided in advance of the event.

Interview with Dr. Fred J. Born (MSU '62)

AVMHS charter member Dr. Fred J. Born (fjborn@att.net) has been "Making History"--literally. He was interviewed recently by Kelsie Donaldson, Managing Editor of MSU's *Insights* magazine published by the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University.



In addition to a brief statement appearing on page 18 of the spring 2023 print issue under "Alum Achievements"

at <https://cvm.msu.edu/news/insights-spring-2023> (click “Download a printable PDF”), the full text can be found online at [Making History: Q&A with Alum Dr. Fred J. Born | College of Veterinary Medicine at MSU](#)

Congratulations, Dr. Born, on all your many career accomplishments!

Updated History Display at Michigan State

In summer 2011 in celebration of Vet2011, Dr. Fred J. Born assembled a display of antique veterinary instruments for that special AVMA convention in St. Louis. Dr. Born also created an informational exhibit in regard to the World Veterinary Year, featuring Claude Bourgelat and the first veterinary school at Lyon, France in 1761. A set of postcards was also produced featuring historical illustrations.

After the convention, the instruments and his Vet2011 exhibit were reassembled at Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine (see below)



Those items were enjoyed for more than a decade, but as things inevitably change over time, the displays were designated for replacement this year. In order to retain and preserve the instruments which Dr. Born had collected, Dr. Jan Krehbiel (krehbiel@msu.edu) made arrangements for a new lockable 5-tiered glass case to be purchased and nicely reassembled all of the Vet2011

antique instruments, excluding the text panels. These historical items can now continue to be viewed by faculty, students and staff in a walkway on the first floor of the MSU-SVM building. Dr. Born indicates that he “is very pleased that Jan has made our collection a permanent exhibit.”

To enable continuing access to the Vet2011 exhibit, Dr. Born created a poster mounted near the case with a QR code to connect his “Early History of the Horse Doctor” PowerPoint slide presentation. It covers over 2200 years of the evolution of the study of veterinary medicine. It can also be accessed from the AVMHS webpage at <https://www.avmhs.org/history-presentations>, or from QR code next to Dr. Born’s portrait above.

Several photos of the contents of this new case can be seen on page 8.

Dr. Gersten’s First Day Covers

AVMHS member Dr. Kenneth Gertsen (gertsenkenneth@gmail.com) has been actively collecting philatelic items related to veterinary medicine for many years. He has kindly offered to share one of his first day covers, such as this one issued in France in 1951. First Day Covers are envelopes affixed with a stamp or stamps on the first day that they are made available for sale to the public. On the first day of issue, the envelope is stamped with a postmark and cancellation indicating the date and location that the envelope was received into the postal service. Needless to say, because of their limited issue and intended purpose, first day covers are highly collectible.



First day cover issued on May 10, 1951 honoring the 21st volume of *Journées vétérinaires* at Alfort, France.

Is “Zoonosis” Etymologically Inexact?

From their first use, words in frequent usage can have historical significance and undergo revision over time. Of interest to One Health, Rudolph Virchow (1821–1902) used the word *zoonosis* for the first time in 1855 in his famous *Handbook of Communicable Diseases*. A recent paper by Singh et al. notes a description of the word *zoonoses* or *zoonosis* is etymologically varied and

likely a combination of 2 or 3 Greek words. Despite its very common usage for all types of transmissions, their analysis points out that *zoonosis* is etymologically inexact.

In order to better define the concept for emerging infectious diseases in the future, the authors suggest review of terminology and classification by international bodies to allow for minor modifications in the word *zoonosis*. That would involve introducing additional terms for differentiating human infections shared among non-human animals and other vertebrate species. In particular, they propose 3 new host-based disease categories: olazoonosis, akrizoonosis, and anakrizoonosis. Under akrizoonosis would be zoizoonosis (brucellosis, rabies, malaria, plague, taeniosis, echinococcosis), nekrozoonosis (Trypanosoma, foot-and-mouth disease, lumpy skin disease), and Pidozoonosis (SARS-CoV2, dengue, HIV).

Singh BB, Ward MP, Kostoulas P, Dhand NK. Zoonosis-Why we should reconsider "What's in a name?". *Frontiers in Public Health*. 2023 Feb 13;11:1133330. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2023.1133330. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9969093/>

New History Time-Bites Stories on VIN

After a hiatus partly due to COVID, Dr. Susan Aiello (susan@words-world.net), our Time-Bites Editor, reports that more of the Society's short historical stories are again being published on the Veterinary Information Network (VIN), a membership-based veterinary community. They also appear on its associated Veterinary Support Personnel Network (VSPN) platform.

Among the latest history stories released this June, with additional ones coming in later months, include:

“Eradicating Bovine Tuberculosis – One Intradermal Injection at a Time.”

United States, 1920s and 1930s

“Eradicating the Parasite Screwworm Fly.”

Florida and Texas, U.S.A., 1938

“Openings and Wages for New Graduates.”

Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., 1915

“Spokane’s Last Foot-and-Mouth Disease Outbreak.”

Spokane, Washington, U.S.A., 1914

“The Tenacity of Aleen Cust, MRCVS.”

England, 1922

More topics and potential “writers” are always needed. Any subject related to veterinary history is appropriate for these brief stories of 500-1000 words accompanied by source references and several representative illustrations. Contact Dr. Aiello at any time with your ideas and suggestions.

AVMHS members who do not belong to VIN may request copies from Dr. Aiello or the Secretary-Treasurer. The current list of published topics is posted on the Society's website at <https://www.avmhs.org/time-bites> Several Time-Bites have also appeared in recent issues of *Veterinary Heritage*.

Nominating Committee Report

Members of this year's Nominating Committee composed of Drs. Helen Wojcinski, Zbig Wojcinski, and Susan Aiello have been busy this spring. They propose the following slate of AVMHS officers for July 2023 to June 2024 year. That includes electing an incoming president-elect and 3 new at-large board members at the business meeting on July 6:

Proposed 2023-2024 AVMHS Slate of Officers

President

Dr. John de Jong (*Newton, MA*)

President-elect

Dr. Margaret Brosnahan (*Scottsdale, AZ*)

Past President

Dr. Marianne Y. Ash (*Lafayette, IN*)

Secretary-Treasurer

Susanne Whitaker (*Ithaca, NY*) (continuing)

Board members-at-large

Diane Fagen (*Rockford, IL*)

Dr. Shannon Greeley (*Burbank, IL*) (continuing)

Dr. Mary Beth Leininger (*Lawrence, KS*)

Dr. G. Sierra Schneider (*Terrabonne, OR*)

Fund Raising for *Five Irishmen* Book

Efforts have begun to raise several thousand dollars to cover costs for producing a new book entitled, *Five Irishmen, Five Brothers, Five Veterinary Surgeons*, compiled by Dr. John Going, a great grandson, from over 30 years of research. Dr. Susan Aiello is assisting in the editorial and preparation process. A promotional flier and table of contents are posted at <https://www.avmhs.org/five-irishmen-book>

Because costs are not covered by AVMHS, members are asked for help in identifying potential donors, funding sources, or any parties interested in knowing about the book to avmhs.info@gmail.com

More information about this publication will be presented in the next newsletter.

Meeting and Event Calendar

2023

Jul 6 AVMHS Annual Program and Business Meeting
tba AVMHS Museum Committee Meeting

2024

April 15 Student History Essay Contest Deadline
tba World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (WAHVM) 46th International Congress

New AVMHS Life Members (as of June 13)

We are pleased to welcome:

Susan Ferraro, DVM (*Chicago, IL*)

New Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices

We are pleased to welcome:

Grady Veterinary Hospital (*Cincinnati, OH*) Estab. 1958 by Dr. Karl S. Grady



Lombard Veterinary Hospital (*Lombard, IL*) Estab. 1959 by Dr. Paul Arndt



Walther Animal Clinic (*Houma, LA*) Estab. 1955 by Dr. D.C. Walther



New Books

Fine, Karen R. *The Other Family Doctor: A Veterinarian Explored What Animals Can Teach Us About Love, Life, and Mortality*. New York: Anchor Books, 2023. 294 pgs. ISBN: 9780593466896

Kelly, Jennifer S. *Sir Barton and the Making of the Triple Crown*. [S.I.]: University Press of Kentucky, 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9780813197401

Lulich, Jody P. *In the Company of Grace: A Veterinarian's Memoir of Trauma and Healing*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2023. 267 pgs. ISBN: 9781517914196

MacDonald, Alastair A. Warwick, Colin M. *History of Veterinary Education in Edinburgh*. [S.I.]: Edinburgh University Press, Sept. 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781399525589

McVey, Rosalie Jones. *Human-Horse Relations and the Ethics of Knowing*. Abingdon, Oxon ; New York, NY : Routledge, 2023.

Meola, Cheryl. *Integrating Horses into Healing*. San Diego: Elsevier Science & Technology, 2023. 412 pgs. ISBN: 9780443191961

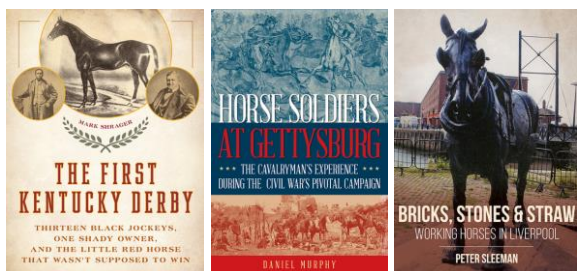
Murphy, Daniel Kevin. *Horse Soldiers at Gettysburg: A Cavalryman's View of the Civil War's Pivotal Campaign*. Essex, CT: Stackpole Books, 2023. ISBN: 9780811772716

Nagai, Kaori, ed. *Maritime Animals: Ships, Species, Stories*. University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9780271095370

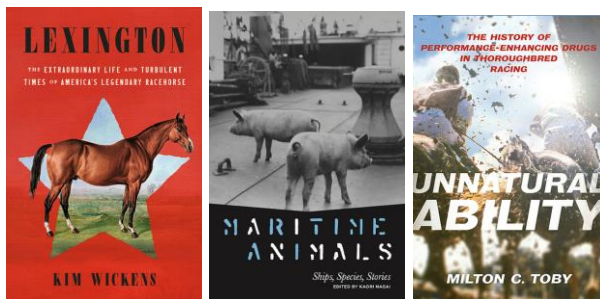
Pengelly, Jade, Davis, Kimberley. *Tales of a Vet Nurse: The Highs and Heartbreak of Caring for the Animals We Love*. Auckland, NZ: HarperCollins NZ, 2023. 260 pgs. ISBN: 9781775542179



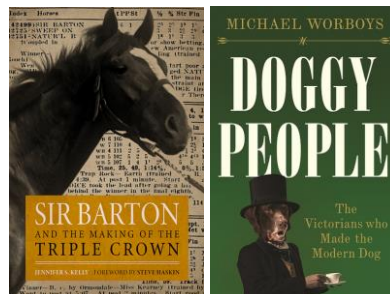
Shrager, Mark. *The First Kentucky Derby: Thirteen Black Jockeys, One Shady Owner, and the Little Red Horse that Wasn't Supposed to Win*. Essex, CT: Eclipse Press, 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781493073344



Sleeman, Peter. *Bricks, Stones and Straw: Working Horses in Liverpool*. Stroud: Amberley Publishing, 2023. 96 pgs. ISBN: 9781398111669



Toby, Milton C. *Unnatural Ability: The History of Performance-enhancing Drugs in Thoroughbred Racing*. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, Aug 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9780813197432



Wickens, Kim. *Lexington: The Extraordinary Life and Turbulent Times of America's Legendary Racehorse*. New York: Ballantine, 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9780593496701

Worboys, Michael. *Doggy People: The Victorians Who Made the Modern Dog*. [S.l.]: Manchester University Press, 2023. 312 pgs. ISBN: 9781526167729

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Send news, comments, and suggestions for the next *News & Comment* to Dr. Helen Wojcinski helenwojcinski@gmail.com, or to AVMH 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."

Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

Contents of Recent Veterinary History Journal Issues

Copies of articles may be obtained through interlibrary loan services provided by your local college or public library, or from the AVMH Secretary-Treasurer if unavailable from other sources.

Recent Journal Articles and Chapters Related to the History of Veterinary Medicine

Arad D, Pe'er O, Ofri R. The 100 most-cited articles published in the *Veterinary Ophthalmology* journal between 1998 and 2022: A bibliometric study. *Veterinary Ophthalmology*. 2023 Apr 8. doi: 10.1111/vop.13097.

Barszczewski K, Karaś R, Biadasiewicz M, et al. Sir Frederick Grant Banting - the discoverer of insulin. On the 100th anniversary on the Nobel Prize. *Przegląd Epidemiologiczny*. 2023;77(1):108-118. doi: 10.32394/pe.77.11.

Bruneau RC, Tazi L, Rothenburg S. Cowpox viruses: a zoo full of viral diversity and lurking threats. *Biomolecules*. 2023 Feb 8;13(2):325. doi: 10.3390/biom13020325.

- Comoy EE, Mikol J, Deslys JP. Non-human primates in prion diseases. *Cell and Tissue Research*. 2023 Apr;392(1):7-20. doi: 10.1007/s00441-022-03644-7.
- Fletcher ZB. Animal healers. *MHQ: Quarterly Journal of Military Medicine*. 2023 Winter;35(2):24-26.
- Fortier LA. JAVMArt Jubilee-celebrating 50 years of the JAVMA cover art you love! *J Am Vet Med Assoc*. 2023 Apr 1;261(4):448. doi: 10.2460/javma.261.4.448.
- Gaind N. Surgical wonders and dodgy medical ethics: the Hunterian Museum reopens. *Nature*. 2023 Jun;618(7963):25-26. doi: 10.1038/d41586-023-01736-0.
- Guerra RO, do Carmo Neto JR, da Silva PEF, et al. Cannabis sativa: A look at protozoa, helminths, insect vectors, and pests. *Fitoterapia*. 2023 Apr;166:105467. doi: 10.1016/j.fitote.2023.105467.
- Molina Flores B, Camacho Vallejo ME, Delgado Bermejo JV, et al. Do Pharaohs' cattle still graze the Nile Valley? Genetic characterization of the Egyptian Baladi cattle breed. *Animal Biotechnology*. 2023 Jun;34(3):645-657. doi: 10.1080/10495398.2021.1991938.
- Nikolakakis I, Michaleas SN, Panayiotakopoulos G, et al. The history of anthrax weaponization in the Soviet Union. *Cureus*. 2023 Mar 28;15(3):e36800. doi: 10.7759/cureus.36800.
- Ortug A, Uluşık IE, Ortug G. Anatomy education in Ottoman-Turkish veterinary schools during 19th century and Papier-Mache models. *Morphologie*. 2023 Mar;107(356):127-137. doi: 10.1016/j.morpho.2021.12.001.
- Parodi A, Martini M. History of vaccine and immunization: Vaccine-hesitancy discussion in Germany in XIX century. *Vaccine*. 2023 Mar 17;41(12):1989-1993. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2023.02.029.
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- Schwartz M. The Pasteurian contribution to the history of vaccines. *Comptes Rendus Biologies*. 2022 Sep 13;345(3):93-107. doi: 10.5802/crbio.83.
- Selter F, Salloch S. Whose health and which health? Two theoretical flaws in the One Health paradigm. *Bioethics*. 2023 Jun 9. doi: 10.1111/bioe.13192.
- Singh BB, Ward MP, Kostoulas P, Dhand NK. Zoonosis-Why we should reconsider "What's in a name?". *Frontiers in Public Health*. 2023 Feb 13;11:1133330. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2023.1133330. PubMed Central, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9969093/>
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- Tyler MJ, Fucsko LA, Roberts JD. Calamities causing loss of museum collections: a historical and global perspective on museum disasters. *Zootaxa*. 2023 Jan 20;5230(2):153-178. doi: 10.11646/zootaxa.5230.2.2.
- Wallace JE, Kay FM. Supportive relations in a feminized occupation: How male and female veterinarians compare. *Canadian Journal of Sociology*. 2022 Feb;59(1): 4-22.

Wiscovitch-Russo RA, Santiago-Rodriguez TM, Toranzos GA. Deciphering diets and lifestyles of prehistoric humans through paleoparasitology: a review. *Genes (Basel)*. 2023 Jan 24;14(2):303. doi: 10.3390/genes14020303.



Historical Veterinary Instruments at Michigan State University

Photos courtesy emeritus professor Dr. Jan Krehbiel (krehbiel@msu.edu), May 18, 2023

