

American Veterinary Medical History Society

“Devoted to the Diffusion of Veterinary History”

INTERIM NEWS & COMMENT

February 2023

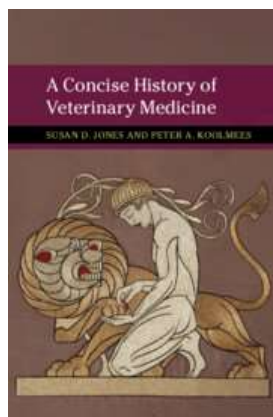
Susanne Whitaker and Helen Wojcinski, reporters

CONTENTS:

AVMHS Annual Meeting – July 6, 2023
2023 SAVMA Symposium
AVMHS Museum Committee Meeting
Recognizing Black Veterinarians in Quebec
More Stories for Black History Month
Zoo & Aquarium Video Archive
JAVMA Backfiles Now Accessible Online
New History Elective at Oklahoma State
NRHP Salmon-Stohlman House
Teaching Humanities at Vet Colleges
Dr. Currier on Louis Pasteur
In Memoriam: Dr. R. Gary Roop (1931-2021)
New History Time-Bite Stories on VIN
Meeting and Event Calendar
New Members
New Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices
New Books
Recent Journal Articles

AVMHS Annual Meeting – July 6, 2023

Program chair and president-elect Dr. John de Jong (drjdejong@comcast.net) is pleased to announce a date and speaker for the Society’s 2023 Program and Business Meeting to be held via Zoom videoconferencing on **Thursday, July 6, 2023 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm EDT.** (6:00pm-8:00pm CST) Please save this date.



This year’s speaker will be **Susan D. Jones, DVM, PhD** who will give a presentation on aspects of global veterinary history from her recent book with Peter D. Koolmees titled, *A Concise History of Veterinary Medicine*, published last year by Cambridge University Press. In addition to being past president of AVMHS (2001-2002) and board member, she 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.

The Business Meeting will be held during the following hour that evening.

While there will be no scheduled in-person program or booth in Denver, we encourage any members present to get together informally for coffee, lunch, etc. We will let everyone know who the coordinator will be for local contact closer to the convention date.

In addition, board member Dr. Shannon Greeley (animalassOCIate@aol.com) will be submitting a poster proposal on the “First Two African American Veterinarians, Drs. Alfreda Johnson Webb and Jane Hinton.” Other members are encouraged to prepare visual and informational posters on history-related topics of interest as well.

2023 SAVMA Symposium

Current Board member Dr. Shannon Greeley (animalassOCIate@aol.com) is excited about attending the SAVMA Symposium that will be held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) on March 17-19, 2023. She is involved with the Leadership Task Force for action plan development.

As part of her activities at the Symposium, Dr. Greeley has volunteered to promote history and the Society at this first in-person student meeting in several years. With the help of Dr. Susan Aiello, a double-sided 4”x9” stand card or flier (see page 9) has been designed with information for students about *Guideposts* on one side and details of the essay contest on the reverse. Note the QR codes.

With the help of board member Dr. Arne Goldman, we are gratified that the AVMA is willing to display this 2-sided stand card on their table with material about how students can become involved in that professional organization.

This may be the first time the Society has reached out to students during a SAVMA Symposium and is thus a “test case” for possible future planning and encouraging student membership and involvement.

AVMHS Museum Committee Meeting

The AVMHS Museum Committee held its 4th meeting of 2022-23 via Zoom on Wednesday evening, January 25 from 8-9pm EST. Convened by Dr. Zbig Wojcinski (zwojcinski@gmail.com), those attending continued to make progress in discussing how to handle queries about identifying and donating vintage veterinary instruments and books. The group has also begun gathering details about veterinary museums across the country in preparation for updating the AVMHS Directory.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8.

Recognizing Black Veterinarians in Quebec

February is Black History Month. It provides an opportunity to share background information about veterinarians of African descent and their accomplishments. AVMHS member Dr Michel Pepin (pepin.michel@gmail.com) has gathered background on Black veterinarians in Quebec, Canada, and wrote 3 papers featuring them in *Le Rapporteur* in 2022. The summer issue described the life of Haitian-born Dr. Élysée Eustache who received his DMV degree from École Vétérinaire d’Oka affiliated with the Université de Montréal in 1946.

The second paper in the fall issue presented portraits of 24 Black Montreal graduates from 1946 to 2020. His third article highlighted aspects on some early pioneers in Quebec and the US.

Pepin M. D’hier a aujourd’hui. *La Rapporteur*. Ete 2022, pp. 72-77.
 Pepin M. L’incroyable histoire d’Elysee Eustache. *La Rapporteur*. Ete 2022, pp. 78-81.
 Pepin M. Portrait de tous les diplomes de la FMV issus de la communaute noire. *Le Rapporteur*. Automne 2022, pp. 77-81.

The incredible story of Elysee Eustache.
 by Michel Pepin DMV
 The very first graduating veterinarian in Quebec from the black community. 80 years ago for the first time, a black student entered the study of veterinary medicine in Quebec.

Copies of these papers may be obtained by contacting Dr. Pepin or the Secretary-Treasurer.

More Stories for Black History Month

In further celebration of Black History Month, some colleges have hosted exhibits and used other means of highlighting some of their early graduates. Below are

several short stories about Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine’s first veterinarians of African descent.



Black History Month: Looking back and moving forward.

<https://www.vet.cornell.edu/news/20230201/black-history-month-looking-back-and-moving-forward>

A history of firsts: Curd, Miller and Woods forge a path.

<https://www.vet.cornell.edu/news/20230208/history-firsts-curd-miller-and-woods-forge-path>

Hometown heroes: Dr. Garrett Archie Singleton and the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

<https://www.vet.cornell.edu/news/20230215/hometown-heroes-dr-garrett-archie-singleton-and-alpha-phi-alpha-fraternity>

Education and engagement: The Waller brothers.

<https://www.vet.cornell.edu/news/20230222/education-and-engagement-waller-brothers>

We are interested in sharing more examples of ways that this past heritage has been recognized at other veterinary colleges and venues.

Zoo & Aquarium Video Archive

Dr. Shannon Greeley (animalassociate@gmail.com) has pointed out an excellent website founded and maintained by Dr. Mark Rosenthal. It includes short 4-5 minute video interviews with animal keepers, curators, directors, TV personalities, veterinarians, and zoologists.

A link has been added to AVMHS’s Video Interviews page at <https://www.avmhs.org/video-interviews>



JAVMA Backfiles Now Accessible Online

For historical research purposes, online access to scanned back volumes of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* has long

been desired. Previously, electronic access had only been available for pre-1923, then pre-1927, volumes because of copyright restrictions. To locate articles and other content since that time, it was necessary to consult a hard copy printed backset.

As the result of a change in AVMA policy and efforts by academic veterinary librarians, it was announced recently that many scanned post-1927 volumes are now “open” and can be viewed online. This includes vol. 52, 1917/18 to v.164, 1974 held by the HathiTrust Digital Library at <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/010389034>

Except for a rolling 12-month embargo, this change also makes about the last 20 years’ volumes from 2000 to date readily available from the AVMA website at https://avmajournals.avma.org/view/journals/javm/a/javma-overview.xml?tab_body=toc. The embargo means that the very latest year’s issues will not be immediately accessible for one year on a sliding basis.

Progress is currently underway to digitize the remaining additional volumes to fill the gap and thus eventually make the complete run, including the earlier *American Veterinary Review*, available online in the future.

New History Elective at Oklahoma State

One of the Society’s ongoing goals involves educating interested veterinary students about the heritage of their new profession, such as through independent study offered by the annual Smithcors essay contest. In addition to encouraging students in Stillwater to enter the contest, Dr. Tim Snider (tim.snider@okstate.edu) is following the lead of Emeritus Professor Dr. Sidney Ewing (1934-2018). Dr. Snider reports that he taught the inaugural sessions of a new elective in history at Oklahoma State University this past fall. We wish Dr. Snider much success with this course.

NRHP Salmon-Stohlman House

NRHP Ref # 02000353, listed 4/11/2002

The US National Park Service processes applications and maintains the National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP) to recognize historically significant buildings for preservation. Our Society provides a listing of known NRHP properties related to veterinary medicine at <https://www.avmhs.org/veterinary-historic-places>

We are pleased to add a new building to our webpage. It is the 2-1/2-story late Victorian high-style Salmon-Stohlman House built in 1893 by Dr. Daniel Elmer Salmon, founding Chief of the USDA Bureau of Animal Industry. Dr. Salmon lived in this house with his wife Mary and a maid until 1902 when it was sold to Georgetown confectionary merchant John William Stohlman, whose family occupied it until 1947. The Victorian era interior of Stohlman’s candy store has been reproduced in the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.



Salmon was one of five USDA scientists who founded a residential enclave or colony on 50 acres of tobacco farmland that became Somerset Heights, just north of the DC line and west of future Chevy Chase. Salmon’s was one of the first houses built at 4728 Dorset Avenue and one of 3 original houses that remain on ‘Founders Corner’ in this suburban development. Salmon owned several other lots that he later sold.

Dr. Daniel Salmon received the first DVM degree in the USA from Cornell University in 1872. He became the first Chief of the newly established Bureau of Animal Industry in 1884 which, under his leadership, eradicated contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, controlled Texas fever (*Babesia*), implemented the federal meat inspection program, and inspection of imported and exported cattle. The genus of microorganisms, *Salmonella*, encompassing over 2,000 serotypes, was named after him in 1900.

Teaching Humanities at Vet Colleges

Board member Dr. Margaret “Peggy” Brosnahan (mmb263@cornell.edu) has been pursuing an advanced degree in medical humanities. This rapidly evolving multidisciplinary field utilizes literature, poetry, and visual arts in educating medical students to recognize how medicine impacts patients, families, and communities. Many medical schools have already included aspects of teaching humanities in their

curricula. In her paper being published in the February issue of the *Journal of Veterinary Medical Education*, Dr. Brosnahan makes a strong case that “the time is right for the emergence of a more cohesive field of veterinary humanities” and thus for encouraging veterinary colleges to embrace the relevance of introducing the value of arts and humanities for veterinary professionals.

Brosnahan MM. Life, death, and humanity in veterinary medicine: Is it time to embrace the humanities in veterinary education? *Journal of Veterinary Medical Education*. 2023 Jan 13:e20220118. doi: 10.3138/jvme-2022-0118.

Dr. Currier on Louis Pasteur

This past summer, Past President Dr. Russell Currier (ruscurreier@yahoo.com) received an unsolicited and unexpected invitation. The editor of *The Lancet Microbe* asked Dr. Currier to write a paper for their journal related to the 200th anniversary of the birth of Louis Pasteur (1822-1895). His paper, “Pasteurisation: Pasteur’s greatest contribution to health,” was published online (html and pdf) on December 16, 2022.

[https://doi.org/10.1016/S2666-5247\(22\)00324-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2666-5247(22)00324-X)

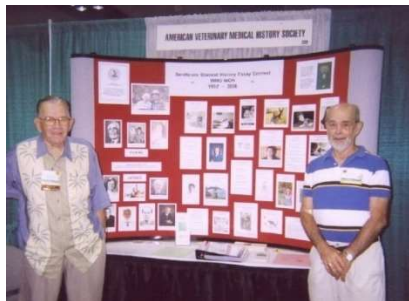
Congratulations, Dr. Currier.

[https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanmic/PIIS2666-5247\(22\)00324-X.pdf](https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanmic/PIIS2666-5247(22)00324-X.pdf)



Louis Pasteur (1822-1895). Wikimedia Commons.

In Memoriam: Dr. R. Gary Roop (1931-2021)



Drs. Leo L. Lemonds and Gary Roop at AVMA booth in Honolulu, 2006.

In late 2022, the Society was saddened to learn charter and life member Dr. R. Gary Roop of Westminster, Maryland, had passed away on May 21, 2021.

Dr. Roop graduated from the University of Maryland in 1951 and earned his DVM at the University of Georgia in 1955. He was in mixed practice in Cumberland for 2 years before serving with the US Army Veterinary Corps in Irwin, California, and then in the Reserves at the rank of Major. From 1959-2000, Dr. Roop co-partnered in small animal practice with Lynn Animal Hospital at Riverdale, Maryland, working for approximately 40 years before retiring to his family’s heritage “farm” where he had been born 90 years earlier.

Dr. Roop was an active member, founder, and officer of various veterinary associations in Maryland. In addition, as a member of the Academy of Veterinary Disaster Medicine for 17 years, his Veterinary Medical Assistance Team (VMAT) #2 was deployed to the World Trade Center site in September 2001, and to the Virginia Avian Influenza Task Force in May 2002.



Dr. Roop at the Carroll County Farm Museum, Westminster, Maryland



We remember Dr. Roop for his enthusiastic and loyal support for AVMHS since the organization’s founding in 1978, his active participation at annual meetings, and his help staffing our booths at AVMA conventions over the years. Beyond AVMHS, he was heavily involved with promoting history in Carroll County, Maryland. Dr. Roop chaired Maryland VMA Centennial activities in 1985. One outgrowth from that Centennial was the

establishment of the one-room 1890 Veterinary Surgeon's Office recreated on the premises of the Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster, Maryland (<https://carrollcountymuseum.org/>) and where he often served as a docent explaining veterinary history to visitors.

An obituary can be found at:

<https://www.hartzlerfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Dr-R-Gary--Roop?obId=21284116>

Also, see a photo and news item in the *Baltimore Sun* concerning his support for reprinting an early 19th century Maryland newspaper at:

<https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/carroll/news/ct-arc-a32ca7bb-d91a-59c6-908a-3519d7c9bf7a-20130919-story.html>

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 just released, with additional ones coming soon, include:

“Origin of The Veterinarian’s Oath.”

Seattle, Washington, 1954

“Queen Elizabeth I’s Practical Collar.”

London, England, 1899

“Writing a Newspaper Column.”

Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, 1961

More topics and potential “writers” are always needed. Any subject related to veterinary history is appropriate for these brief stories of 500-1000 words, if possible 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*.

Meeting and Event Calendar 2023

Mar 8 AVMHS Museum Committee Meeting
 April 15 Student History Essay Contest Deadline
 Jul 6 AVMHS Annual Program and Business Meeting

New AVMHS Members (as of Feb 8)

We are pleased to welcome:

Nolan Bunting (*Fort Collins, CO*)

New Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices

We are pleased to welcome:



Grayslake Animal Hospital (*Grayslake, IL*)
 Established 1940s



Lynn Animal Hospital (*Riverdale, MD*)
 Established 1946



Town & Country Animal Hospital (*Charlotte, MI*)
 Established 1956

New Books and Videos

Alsarra, Renee. *Sit, Stay, Heal: What Dogs Can Teach Us About Living Well*. New York: HarperOne, 2022. 248 pgs. ISBN: 9780063215221

Braverman, Irus, ed. *More-than-One Health: Humans, Animals, and the Environment Post-COVID*. Taylor & Francis, 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781032277868

Brookshire, Bethany. *Pests: How Humans Create Animal Villains*. New York, NY : Ecco, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, 2022. 348 Pgs. ISBN: 9780063097254

Fadness, Arley K. *Capturing the Younger Brothers Gang in the Northern Plains: The Untold Story of the Teen Asle Sorbel*. Charleston, SC; The History Press, 2022 171 pgs. ISBN: 9781467152365



Fitzpatrick, Noel. *Beyond Supervet: How Animals Make Us the Best We Can Be*. London: Trapeze, 2022. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781398706484

Fuseini, Awal Verfasser. *Halal Slaughter of Livestock: Animal Welfare Science, History and Politics of Religious Slaughter*. Cham: Springer International, 2023. 180 pgs. ISBN:

Ham, Chris. *History of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps*. Crest Publications, 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781739715205



Kalema-Zikusoka, Gladys. *Walking with Gorillas: The Journey of an African Wildlife Vet*. New York: Arcade Publishing, 2023. ? pgs. ISBN:9781950994267

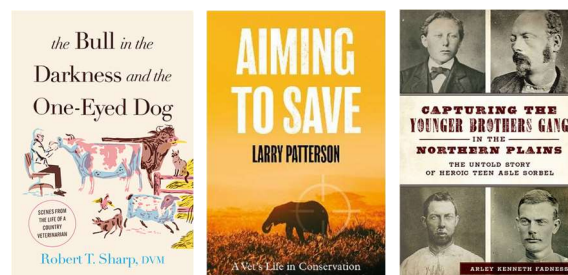
Latta, Sara. *I Could Not Do Otherwise: The Remarkable Life of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker*. Minneapolis: Zest Books, 2002. 208 pgs. ISBN: 9781728413914

Maden, Doug. *The Vet at Noah's Ark*. New York: Apollo Publishers, 2022. 370 pgs. ISBN: 9781954641044

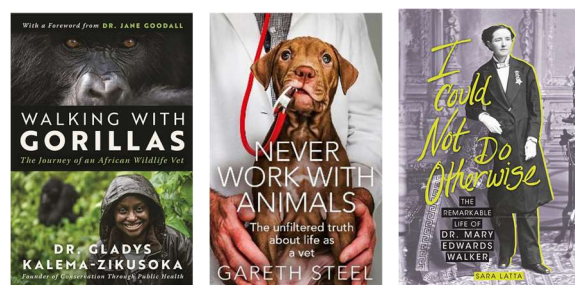
Pasco AZ. *Reg Pascoe: The Vet They Called God*. Greenslips, QLD, Aust.: PascoeInk, 2022. 383 pgs. ISBN: 9780645426304

Patterson, Larry. *Aiming to Save: A Vet's Life in Conservation*. Kibworth: The Book Guild Publishing, 2022. 364 pgs. ISBN: 9781914471469

Rainey, Sir Major-General L.J. Rainey and Lt Col J.W. Blenkinsop. *Veterinary Services: Official History of the Great War based on Official Documents*. [s.l.]: Naval and Military Press, 2022. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781474537223



Schott, Philipp and Brian Gable. *The Battle Cry of the Siamese Kitten: Even More Tales from the Accidental Veterinarian*. Toronto: ECW Press, 2022. 264 pgs. ISBN: 9781770416697



Sharp, Robert T. *The Bull in the Darkness and the One-eyed Dog: Scenes from the Life of a Country Veterinarian*. Lanham, MD: Lyons Press, 2023. ? pgs. ISBN: 9781493073177

Skaggs, Randy L. *Country Vet: Thirty Years of Treating Animals and Trying to Understand Their Owners*. Texas: Black Rose Writing, 2022. 183 pgs. ISBN: 9781685130190

Steel, Gareth. *Never Work with Animals: The Unfiltered Truth about Life as a Vet*. London: HarperElement, 2022. ? pgs. ISBN: 9780008466596

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

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 AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer if unavailable from other sources.

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

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Blake DP. Review of the golden anniversary for *Avian Pathology*. *Avian Pathology*. 2022 Dec;51(6):503. doi: 10.1080/03079457.2022.2141999.

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Brosnahan MM. Life, death, and humanity in veterinary medicine: Is it time to embrace the humanities in veterinary education? *Journal of Veterinary Medical Education*. 2023 Jan 13:e20220118. doi: 10.3138/jvme-2022-0118.

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Connelly KJ, Park JJ, LaFranchi SH. History of the thyroid. *Hormone Research in Paediatrics*. 2022;95(6):546-556. doi: 10.1159/000526621. <https://www.karger.com/Article/FullText/526621>

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Davidson J. Tolkien about veterinary history. *Vet Times*. 2022 Nov 15. <https://www.vettimes.co.uk/tolkien-about-veterinary-history/>

Erichsen S, Hopla CE. History of the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science. *ILAR Journal*. 2021 Dec 31;62(3):369-406. doi: 10.1093/ilar/ilac015.

Friedman Y. Who is the biological patient? A new gradational and dynamic model for one health medicine. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*. 2022 Nov 10;44(4):61. doi: 10.1007/s40656-022-00540-9.

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Wren M, Petts D, Guthrie G, et al. Pestilence, plague and pandemics: a troubled History. *Ulster Medical Journal*. 2022 Sep;91(3):143-151. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PhC9720592/>

Double-sided Stand Card / Flier for display on AVMA table at 2023 SAVMA Symposium, March 16-19, 2023

GUIDEPOSTS for Veterinary Professionals



Guideposts is the handbook that provides—

- ◆ Guidance, support, and inspiration for both career and life
- ◆ Professional advice and perspective from leaders in veterinary medicine
- ◆ The shared mission, service, and roles of all veterinarians

“Guideposts is having the best advice of great mentors at the tips of your fingers!”

—Marie Bucko, DVM '21
University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine
SAVMA President, 2020–2021

For more info and to order:



American Veterinary Medical History Society

<https://avmhs.org/>
avmhs.info@gmail.com

J.F. SMITHCORS VETERINARY
STUDENT HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST

- ◆ All students enrolled in colleges of veterinary medicine in the US, Canada, and the Caribbean are eligible to enter.
- ◆ Students are invited to prepare an essay on any aspect of the history of veterinary medicine of their choosing.
- ◆ Monetary prizes are awarded to the top four essays, which are judged blindly by an expert review panel of veterinarians.
- ◆ Winning essays are also published in *Veterinary Heritage*, the semiannual journal of the AVMHS.

PRIZES

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| 1st place | \$1,200 |
| 2nd place | \$1,000 |
| 3rd place | \$800 |
| 4th place | \$500 |

For deadline, questions, and more info:



American Veterinary Medical History Society

Student memberships available!

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