

Aerosols

Newsletter of the World
Veterinary Poultry Association



Editor – Charles Hofacre

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Visit: www.wvpa.net

For more information on the association, membership, grants and awards, publications, meetings and links to related websites

President's message

I must start by thanking our South African Branch for the great WVPA Congress they hosted in Cape Town. When Hannes and his team took this Congress on board four years ago, not even they, with all their South African optimism, could have envisaged such a good overall outcome. This congress also saw the awarding of the first WVPA-Merial Innovation in Vaccination Award and the induction of four new branches, including Nigeria and Kenya from the African continent.

On the Asian front, the 3rd WVPA Asian Meeting will be hosted by the Philippines Branch in Manila on 20-21st October 2016 and the Thai Branch will be hosting the 2019 Global Congress (after Edinburgh in 2017). In addition, the Malaysian Branch recently paired up with WPSA to hold a successful two day meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

I am also very pleased to say that the new executive team of officers has 'clicked' from the outset and has already created its vision for the next four years, including your new vice president, Nicolas Eterradosi, accepting a championing role for technical excellence in future WVPA Congresses.

After lengthy discussions, WVPA signed a sponsorship agreement with Ceva in November that will enable WVPA to develop a digital library. We are currently just starting this project but there will be further announcements about it later in the year.

For some time WVPA has been conscious of the valuable partnership it has with industry. Following various positive discussions in Cape Town, an advisory group of the major congress sponsors and your officers is being created as a communications conduit between the two parties, with the objective of further improving the good relationships that already exist. Talking about good relationships, it would be remiss of me not to highlight the Houghton Trust and the excellent relationship that exists between them and WVPA and the generous support they give to the global and Asian Avian Pathology Lectures.

In closing, may I confirm that your new Executive has a firm control on activities and looks forward to evolving your Association over the coming three years so that it serves the needs of its branches and members.

May 2016 be an intellectually stimulating and rewarding year for everyone!

Nigel Horrox

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Euthanasia training for egg and pullet producers

There is increasing pressure throughout agriculture for farmers to be more transparent with their practices, adopt improved standards of animal welfare, and satisfy consumers that on-farm activities correspond to the current social values that the public holds. The majority of consumers are ignorant about the activities and realities on farm, yet have a right to demand that the people producing their food do it in a way that is consistent with their values.

The on-farm activity that has the most potential to impact animal welfare and emotionally affect the public is euthanasia.

The importance of dealing with compromised poultry in a humane and timely manner is well recognised on farms, but there has been very little access to education to help farmers develop effective plans and techniques. In order to address this lack of education and training, the Poultry Industry Council (PIC), in partnership with the IMPACT Program, has developed a thorough and effective training program that is being offered to poultry farmers in Ontario, Canada and potentially more widely.

In accordance with national program requirements, Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) has made this training program mandatory with all Ontario egg and pullets farmers completing the training in 2015. Other provincial commodity groups are aware of this program and currently considering the requirements of their members.

The education program consists of three parts, which work together to improve animal welfare on farms and improve the reputation and credibility of the poultry industry. A representative from each farm attends a two hour classroom course that discusses the ethical considerations around euthanasia, how to select appropriate euthanasia strategies for their farm, and how to properly and humanely apply the techniques described.

The farmers receive an educational workbook that discusses the strengths and weaknesses of approved methods of poultry euthanasia, as well as methods to evaluate insensibility and confirm death. All euthanasia techniques are consistent with AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) Guidelines and ensure that any special considerations for euthanasia techniques are met. Upon return to the farm,

this representative will lead the discussion to develop a euthanasia plan that lays out the euthanasia methods to be used, the decision process around timely euthanasia, how to confirm insensibility and death, and contingency plans for emergencies.

After the euthanasia plan is developed, the farm will be visited by a trained validator. This individual will evaluate the euthanasia plan, observe each employee carrying out the euthanasia techniques laid out in the plan, and verify that the chosen method of euthanasia can be performed correctly.

In Ontario, there is a pool of poultry veterinarians and industry partners who have attended a 'Validator Training Course'.

This Validator Training Course is an in-depth course in how to perform euthanasia, train farmers, and then evaluate euthanasia techniques. The validators are then able to teach proper techniques and ensure that farmers can perform euthanasia in the acceptable manner.

Once farms are validated, the validator will sign the euthanasia plan, stating that each worker has shown competency in the euthanasia method they have shown. A copy of this endorsement will be kept by the Poultry Industry Council. This list of trained and validated workers on the farm will be valuable for the industry in the event that there is a criticism levelled at it. If a question is raised about the responsibility of the industry, there is hard evidence that trained farmers have proactively improved their techniques up to the current best-practices, as described by the AVMA. If a video were to surface, showing improper or ineffective euthanasia, both the farm and the industry as a whole have convincing evidence that the individual has had training in proper euthanasia, and is not following farm or industry standards of animal care.

This model for training has resulted in a robust, defensible, transparent method of improving animal welfare, farmer education, and industry reputation around the contentious issue of euthanasia.



Euthanasia using the Zeypher captive bolt gun

Dr Mike Petrik
Corresponding Secretary
WVPA, Canada Branch

Hungary



Zoltán Péntes receiving
the Derzsy Award

The Hungarian Branch organised their annual Derzsy Days on 4-5th June in Zalakaros. This year had a larger than normal registration with more than 250 participants. Zoltán Péntes received the Derzsy Award – his presentation topic was vector vaccines against the most dangerous diseases, especially ND.

This year's scientific program had more international speakers:

- Josef Bachmeijer (Wiesenhof) from Germany gave a lecture on his company's sustainable chicken production. This presentation gave a guideline for future broiler welfare production.
- Marleen Boerjan (Pas Reform) from Holland spoke about the embryonic development of chicks and how we should fine tune our hatcheries to have good quality chicks.
- Klaus-Peter Behr (Anicon) from Germany introduced the newest developments in autogenous poultry vaccines underlining the importance of correct diagnosis.
- Luuk Stooker (Zoetis) from the UK presented their long term (2011-2014) infectious bronchitis survey results and suggested protection possibilities.
- Stephane Lemiére (Merial) from France reviewed the respiratory problems of turkeys and the importance of appropriate field vaccinations.

Beyond the international speakers Hungarian speakers also gave lectures:

- Highly pathogenic AI situation in Europe and our experience in Hungary – Imre Nemes.
- Antibiotic sensitivity of isolated Mycoplasma synoviae strains – Miklós Gyuranecz.
- Losses in chicken production due to poultry diseases – László Ozsvári.
- Review of the prudent use of antibiotics – Ákos Jerzsele.
- Black head in broiler breeders – László Kőrösi.
- Complex protection against salmonella – László Bajnok.
- Feed effect for gut flora balance and gut immune system – Gábor Szigeti.
- Staphylococcus aureus infection in day old turkeys – Csaba Nemes.
- Prevalence of IB viruses in Hungary, 2014 survey – Judit Kójer.

The Hungarian Branch held their autumn meeting on 24th September in Budapest. This was organised with the 77th National Agriculture and Food Exhibition.

Topics of the meeting included the actual poultry health situation and problems in Hungary and the neighbouring countries; the poultry industry's present and future, possibilities for cooperation and the 'chicken of the future'.

The speakers were:

- Csorbai Attila – president of Hungarian Poultry Product Board, Hungary.
- Peter Mitsch – veterinarian of Tierarzt GmbH Dr Glatzl (Austria).
- Karel Kovarik – president of Czech Poultry Health Association (Czech Republic).
- Vladimir Savic – director of Croatian Veterinary Institute Poultry Centre, Croatia.
- Piotr Kwiecinski – veterinarian, Vetlab Brudzew, Poland.
- Jozef Kalus – secretary of Slovakian Poultry Health Association, Slovakia.
- Nemes Csaba – veterinarian, NFCS Veterinary Office Diagnostic Directorate, Hungary.

This was a highly successful meeting highlighting the importance of knowing the poultry health situation of neighbouring countries.

Dr László Kőrösi
Corresponding Secretary
WVPA, Hungary Branch

Argentina

Two events related to poultry took place in Argentina during the last semester. One was the loss of our colleague and friend Dr Jorge A. Martinez who, although retired, assisted in organising the Argentinean Branch of the WVPA. The other was the meeting 'Novenas Jornadas Internacionales de Veterinaria Práctica', which was held during August in Mar del Plata, Argentina.

The obituary of Dr Martinez will be presented in the next newsletter since I was not able to finish gathering all the information on his professional life.

However, briefly, Dr Jorge Alberto Martinez passed away at the age of 78 in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Jorge received the DVM degree in 1965. He taught at the College of Veterinary Science,

Branch reports

National University of La Plata (Facultad de Ciencias Veterinarias de la Universidad Nacional de La Plata).

Afterwards, he pursued graduate studies with Dr Malcom Reid at The University of Georgia where he met the love of his life, who was from Sweden. They both came to live in Argentina where they were married.

Dr Martinez was a friend and wonderful colleague who helped organise this branch. He is survived by his beloved daughter Carolina and son Jorge.

Celina Buscaglia
Corresponding Secretary
WVPA, Argentina Branch

Italy

The European project COST ACTION FA1404 'Improving current understanding and research for sustainable control of the poultry red mite *Dermanyssus gallinae*' aims to disseminate practical knowledge and information among scientists and operators regarding all aspects of *Dermanyssus gallinae* infestation in poultry system.

This topic represents a central matter, considering the worldwide diffusion of the mite, and the heavy consequences it usually causes in poultry farms.

The 1st COST Conference and Management Committee Meeting was held in Foggia, Italy with the participation and the contribution of a wide panel of experts. To access the full report on Poultry Red Mites visit:

<http://www.eurovetpar.org/downloads/cost-action---coremi--final-report.pdf>

Antonio Camarda
Corresponding Secretary
WVPA, Italy Branch

Kenya

Kenya was inducted into the WVPA family at the WVPA Congress in Cape Town, South Africa. Since then, the following steps have been made by the youngest WVPA chick.

The Vets Poultry Forum (TVPF) has constituted an executive leadership team composed of the following:

- Dr Simon Alubbe – Chairman of Executive

Committee and Corresponding Secretary.

- Dr Portus Olwande – 1st Vice-Chairman.
- Dr Joshua Mwangangi – 2nd Vice-Chairman.
- Dr Jacqueline Kasiiti – Secretary and Treasurer.
- Ms Elizabeth Muigai – Member.

TVPF will be publishing a bi-monthly newsletter, TVPF Poultry News, starting January 2016. This newsletter will be an e-newsletter and will be distributed via e-mail to about 100 veterinarians currently on TVPF's mailing list.

The newsletter will cover updates from WVPA events, news of TVPF local events, poultry news from Kenya and around the world, and short articles of interest to poultry veterinarians.

TVPF has acquired the domain www.tvpf.org and is in the process of designing a website. This will go live around March 2016.

This website will keep TVPF audiences apprised on an ongoing basis about the happenings and developments in the poultry world. It will also provide an avenue for other WVPA branches to follow what TVPF is doing in Kenya.

The schedule of meetings by TVPF for the first quarter of 2016 is as follows:

- TVPF Executive Committee meeting – January 2016.
- TVPF poultry farmer's workshop in Eastern Kenya.
- Poultry meeting for veterinarians in Nairobi – March 2016. The opportunities and challenges in the poultry sector in Kenya and how poultry veterinarians and professionals can make a positive difference.

Finally, TVPF has begun the process of developing a Farmer's Poultry Manual. TVPF's target is to develop this manual through 2016 and make it ready for poultry farmers in 2017.

Dr Simon Alubbe
Corresponding Secretary
WVPA, Kenya Branch



Dr Simon Alubbe with WVPA
President Nigel Horrox

Malaysia

Some 86 members attended the 1st Annual General Meeting in May 2014 and, since then, WVPA Malaysia has gained force with more than 153 current members from different industries and universities / research institutes. We started in 2014 with an inaugural lecture by the Vice President of WVPA Malaysia, Prof Dr Abdul Rahman Omar entitled 'Poultry Viruses: From Threat to Therapy' in conjunction with the 1st AGM.

During the 2nd WVPA Asia Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, two of our young poultry veterinarians, who have recently graduated from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universiti Putra Malaysia in 2014, Dr Mohammad Azrin Yahaya and Dr Syamira Syazuana Zaini, were awarded the WVPA Asia Travelling Award to attend the conference.

At the XIXth World Veterinary Poultry Congress in Cape Town, South Africa, more than 20 delegates from Malaysia, led by the president of WVPA Malaysia, Professor Datin Paduka Dr Aini Ideris, attended. During the Congress, our young WVPA Malaysia member, Dr Maximillian Sim Kwang Hui from Amlan International won the WVPA-Zoetis Young Poultry Veterinarian Award. In addition, Prof Datin Paduka Aini Ideris was elected as one of the two Vice Presidents of WVPA. Congratulations to both of them.

In 2015, we organised the 2nd WVPA-WPSA Scientific Conference with the theme 'Enhancing Innovation in Poultry Health and Production' in conjunction with the Livestock Asia and Asia MEATEC Expo & Forum at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia.

The conference was co-organised by the World Poultry Science Association (Malaysia branch) and UBM Exhibition and more than 250 delegates registered. The conference brought together prominent scientists,

academics, industry players and policy makers from Malaysia and overseas. A total of 33 oral papers on current and new innovations and effective strategies in controlling diseases, enhancing health and also maximising production via nutrition and feed technology were presented.

In addition, best practice in management as well as welfare and breeding aspects of poultry were covered by various experts. More than 35 postgraduate students attended to present their work as oral or poster presentations. Before the closing of the conference, Nigel Horrox, the President of WVPA, was given the floor to highlight WVPA and what the future holds.

WVPA Malaysia hopes to work closely with various agencies from Malaysia, Asia and overseas in organising more activities and programs that will benefit various parties in meeting the current challenges and ever changing needs of the poultry industry in Malaysia and other countries.

Dr Abdul Rahman Omar
Corresponding Secretary
WVPA, Malaysia Branch

Nigeria

The Nigerian Branch of the WVPA has organised the following activities:

- An Expert in Residence: A program initiated to harness all poultry experts from Nigeria universities and research institutes to form a think-tank base for a disease surveillance team that will provide updates on avian disease/agent challenges.
- Poultry Clubs at the veterinary colleges for a broad based awareness on avian diseases, meanwhile preparing the students for successful poultry practice.
- Poultry Farmers Focal Groups: An educational/training program for farmers at the state level. This is to create awareness among farmers on how and where to access quality information on avian health. The program should be addressing challenges among poultry farmers.
- The Nigerian Branch Website:
www.poultryvetsnigeria.com

Dr Jones Okoye
Corresponding Secretary
WVPA, Nigeria Branch



At the 2nd WVPA-WPSA
Scientific Conference

The second annual meeting
of the Malaysian Branch of
the WVPA in 2015



Branch reports

Pakistan

A two day International Seminar on Poultry Diseases was organised by WVPA Pakistan in collaboration with the Department of Pathology, University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan, in December 2015. A total of 300 participants, including 22 attendees from seven countries took part. All the participants were avian health professionals from the public and private sector. In the inaugural session Prof. Dr Ahrar Khan, Chairman Department of Pathology, welcomed the participants and Prof. Dr Iqrar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor, UAF, was the chief guest. He appreciated the professional activity organised by the Department of Pathology in collaboration with WVPA and highlighted the role of the poultry industry in the national economy of Pakistan.

Dr Hanif Nazir Ch, President WVPA Pakistan, welcomed all the participants. Prof. Dr Talat Naseer Pasha VC, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, also participated as guest of honour. The Dean Faculty of Veterinary Science Prof. Dr Zafar Iqbal thanked the participants, while Dr Muhammad Kashif Saleemi, Secretary WVPA Pakistan, moderated the inaugural and closing sessions.

The first technical session was moderated by Prof. MT Javed:

- Prof. Dr Corrie Brown from The University of Georgia, Athens (UGA-USA), on future challenges for the global poultry industry.
- Dr Michel Bublot from Merial, France, on vector vaccines versus classical vaccines.
- Dr Hanif Nazir Ch from WVPA Pakistan on the current Newcastle disease situation in Pakistan.
- Dr Roberto Soares from Brazil, CEVA Animal Health Malaysia, on vector vaccines for Newcastle diseases.

The second technical session was moderated by Dr ST Gul:

- Prof. Dr Hafez Mohamed Hafez from Institute of Poultry Diseases, Free University, Berlin, Germany, on avian influenza.
- Prof. Cheng He from China on avian airsacculitis.
- Prof. Dr Aleem Bhatti from GP Lab, Lahore, Pakistan, on re-emergence of avian adenovirus infections in Pakistan.

The WVPA Branch meeting was moderated by Secretary WVPA Dr M. Kashif Saleemi and chaired by Prof. H. M. Hafez, Honorary Life President of WVPA, and Dr Hanif Nazir Ch.

Prof. Hafez read the message of WVPA President Nigel Horrox and also congratulated WVPA Pakistan on organising this international seminar. Dr Saleemi presented a branch report including WVPAC 2015 participation by a delegation of 12 people from Pakistan. Prof. Hafez and Dr Hanif Nazir distributed certificates of membership among newly joined WVPA members. There was also a poster session for participants followed by a gala dinner. The third technical session was moderated by Dr Farzana Rizvi:

- Dr Khalid Naeem Khawaja from NRLPD on IBV isolation and characterisation of local isolates.
- Prof. Zhiqiang Shen from China on immune enhances.
- Prof. Jiakui Li from China on tibial dyschondroplasia in broilers.
- Dr M. Kashif Saleemi from Department of Pathology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan, on mycotoxins – a persistent threat to the poultry industry.

The fourth technical session was moderated by Dr Aisha Khatoon:

- Prof. H. M. Hafez on enteric diseases.
- Dr Guanggang Qu from China on H9N2 isolates of avian influenza from China.
- Prof. Ahmed Din Anjum from Lahore, Pakistan, on infectious laryngotracheitis in Pakistan.
- Dr M. Q. Al-Natour from Jordan University of Science and Technology on molecular characterisation of NDV isolates from recent outbreaks in the Middle East.

In the concluding session Dr Faqir Muhammad Sabir, a renowned poultry veterinarian, leading poultry stakeholder, founding member of WVPA Pakistan and Alumni of this University, was Chief Guest.

Prof. Dr Iqrar Ahmed Khan VC, UAF, also participated. Dr Hanif Nazir Ch presented the recommendations of the seminar. Dr F. M. Sabir highlighted the global role of veterinarians in the poultry industry and also urged the institutes and veterinarians to work more for the poultry industry.

Dr Muhammad Kashif Saleemi concluded the session and thanked the national and international participants.

Dr Muhammad Kashif Saleemi
Corresponding Secretary
WVPA, Pakistan Branch



Dr Anjum presenting a souvenir to Dr Mustafa Kamal



VC-UAF presenting a shield to chief guest Dr F.M. Sabir

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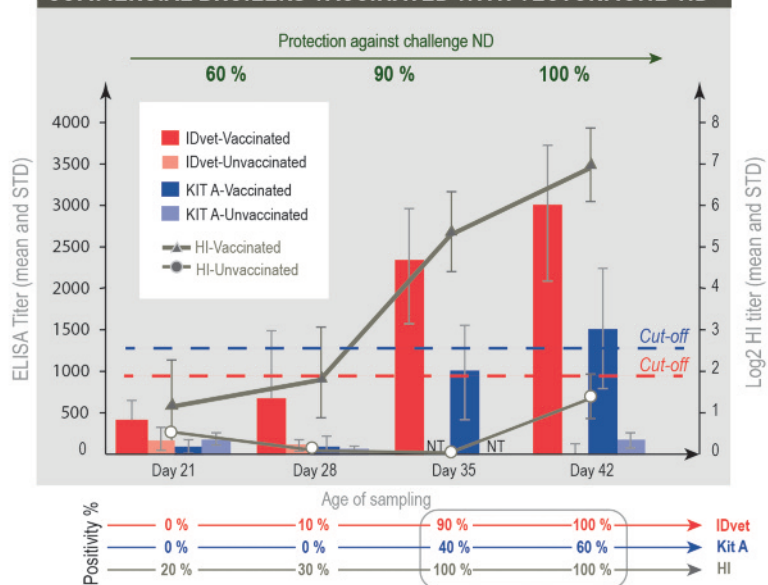
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*Study presented by the Scientific Direction of Ceva Animal Health at the 2015 WPA meeting in Cape Town, South Africa

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Branch reports

USA

This year's AAAP Annual Meeting was held in Boston in July at the Boston Convention Center. The four day event included a half day symposium on Saturday morning titled, 'An Update on Marek's Disease Vaccination, Diagnosis and Immunosuppression'. Six presentations were given and a round table discussion on the impact of new vaccines on Marek's disease protection was held.

The Scientific Program began on Sunday and concluded on Tuesday. It consisted of 144 oral presentations and 97 poster presentations. Featured events included a New Member Meet and Greet, a Wine and Cheese Social in the Poster Room, and the annual Awards Luncheon.

This year's keynote speaker was Jagdev Sharma from the Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ. The title of his presentation was 'Outreach by our industry to improve household nutrition and income by increasing returns from backyard chickens in rural Africa'.

On Monday, AAAP members enjoyed the third in a series of history lectures titled, 'Pioneers of avian medicine'. The lecture was titled 'The Life and Times of Ray Bankowski (1914-1993)' and was given by Richard H. McCapes of Davis, CA.

AAAP does much to mentor young people who are beginning their career or contemplating a career in avian medicine. Four AAAP awards are given to students. The Scientific Program includes presentations by winners of three AAAP student awards, giving those talented individuals a chance to present their research to a prestigious audience.

The Richard B. Rimler Memorial Paper Award is a competitive award given to a candidate who is enrolled in a thesis-requiring Master of Science program or a PhD program, or has received such a degree within the year preceding the application deadline. The award is meant to recognise excellence in poultry disease research by a graduate student. This year's winner was Stivalis Cardenas-Garcia and the title of her presentation was 'An evaluation of peripheral blood and splenic lymphocyte proliferation in two chicken breeds'.

The Reed Rumsey Award is given to students, residents or interns in a college of veterinary medicine program or an avian medicine training program.

This competitive award is given based on an abstract submission of original research or a case study conducted by the applicant. There are two Reed Rumsey Award winners each year, one for clinical research and the other for basic research.

This year's award winners who presented their papers during the Scientific Program were Seiche Genger (North Carolina State) for clinical research with her paper titled 'Jejunal length and weight is increased in commercially raised turkeys with depressed growth' and Eric Parent (University of Montreal) in basic research for his paper titled 'Virulence profiles characterization of clinical strains of *Clostridium perfringens* causing necrotic enteritis in successive broiler chicken flocks raised without antibiotics'.

The L. Dwight Schwartz Travel Scholarship is intended to introduce veterinary students to the many aspects of poultry medicine and to facilitate their interaction with research scientists, poultry diagnosticians, and clinical poultry veterinarians who would further their education and training.

This year's winner was Eric Shepherd from the University of Georgia and he presented a paper at the Scientific Program titled 'Development of real-time quantitative RT-PCR assays to detect GA07, GA08 and GA13 infectious bronchitis virus types'.

The fourth student award given at the Annual Meeting recognises the best student poster presented at the meeting. While the previous awards were announced ahead of the annual meeting, the A. S. 'Rosy' Rosenwald Student Poster Award is a true surprise to the winners as the judging is done during the Scientific Program.

This award, like the Reed Rumsey award, is given to two students – one for basic research and the other for applied research.

This year's poster award winners were Blanca Lopez de Juan Abad for applied research and Matthew Moreau for basic research.

Ms Abad's poster was titled 'Evaluation of factors that influence dose variability of Marek's disease vaccines' and Dr Moreau's poster was titled 'Salmonella enteritidis displays enhanced virulence and colonization in mice following growth in egg yolk'.

Bob and Janece Bevans-Kerr
Corresponding Secretaries
WVPA, USA Branch

WVPA Congress 2015 – C



An African welcome in the exhibition hall



The traditional opening – Mrs J Bagust beats the drum



Reception in the exhibition area



The 2015 Hall of Honour inductees



Innovation at the South African Congress



Presentation of the Bart Rispens Award to Kylie Hewson



A truly African welcome!



Award winners Maximillian Sim Kwang Hui (Young Veterinarian), left, and Dr Siba K. Samal (Vaccination).

Cape Town, South Africa



The Avian Pathology Lecturer receives his certificate



The new President used his name to summarise his goals



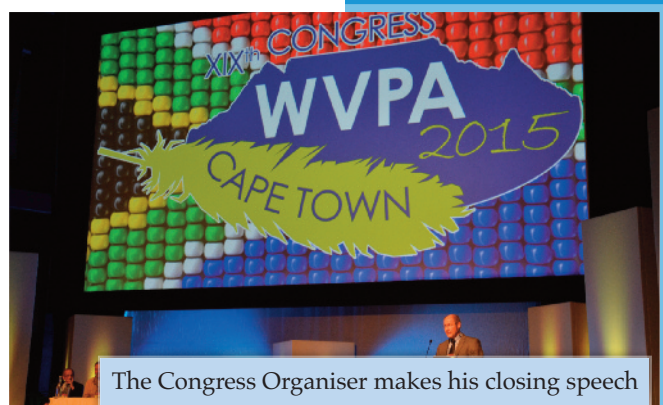
The retiring Executive at the Business Meeting



The new President with his two Vice Presidents



Induction of Prof. Hafez as an Honorary Life President



The Congress Organiser makes his closing speech



Induction of the new President



Post-congress debriefing meeting



WORLDWIDE CALENDAR 2016 - 2018

VIV MEA 2016

FEBRUARY 15 - 17, ABU DHABI, U. A. E.

VIV ASIA 2017

MARCH 15 - 17, BANGKOK, THAILAND

VIV EUROPE 2018

JUNE 20 - 22, UTRECHT, THE NETHERLANDS

VIV CHINA 2016

SEPTEMBER 6 - 8, BEIJING, CHINA

VIV TURKEY 2017

APRIL 27 - 29, ISTANBUL, TURKEY

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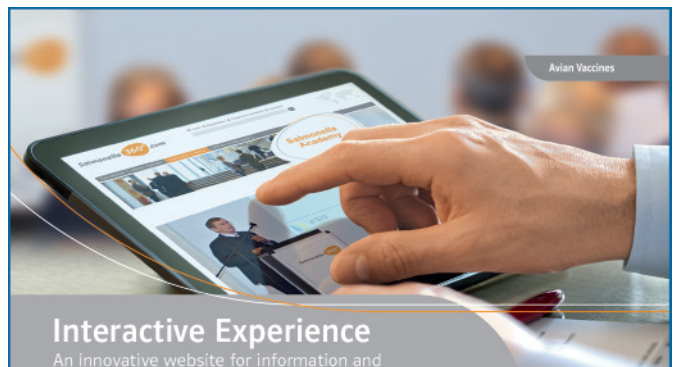
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GBLLAYNON00125

Sponsorship appreciation

Dear Nigel and Francois-Xavier

Let me start by saying the experience I had at the WVPA 2015 Congress in Cape Town was beyond my expectations. The scientific nature of the presentations coupled with the applications on farms and in business were indeed a must have for any poultry veterinarian.

Since my attendance I have started looking for a postgraduate qualification in Poultry Science/Medicine as my interest in the profession was renewed.

Poultry professionals with qualifications have all left Zimbabwe and we are in dire need of poultry specialists. The level of integration in the industry has increased phenomenally in the last decade widening the knowledge gap. Often poultry specialists have come from as far as South Africa and Egypt to try and fill the gap but only on a consultancy basis with no veterinarians to fill the gap when they go back to their country of residence. Lastly, the only institution training veterinarians has had to hire expatriates to teach poultry medicine.

All this is to give you a background of how your sponsorship will go a long way to improving the state of poultry medicine in Zimbabwe. Thank you for contributing to my attendance in Cape Town.

In appreciation I have started giving back to the community by assisting with the teaching of poultry medicine to 4th year veterinary students on a voluntary basis.

In addition, as mentioned by Dr Douglas Choto, I have a Facebook page called

ZimPoultry aimed at assisting the small scale poultry farmer with basic poultry knowledge which they would normally not access at their expense. Lastly, my job in its normal operation involves consulting to different poultry farmers at varying levels across Zimbabwe thus making the congress even more beneficial to farmers in the country.

I will also work towards building our local chapter and ensuring its sustainability.

This is all to express my appreciation for your generosity as an Association.

Kind regards.

Dr Shadreck Magonziwa
(BVSc, BBA, MCom)

Contributions to Aerosols

Why not tell Aerosols' readers about your branch and its activities (good quality pictures are always welcomed).

Please also remember to advise us about forthcoming meetings so that we can mention them in our diary of future events.

National WVPA Branch Secretaries and individual members are encouraged to send contributions for inclusion in future editions of Aerosols to Sue Clanton at: scanton@uga.edu

Honour for British vets

The British Veterinary Poultry Association (BVPA) was recently presented with a special merit award at the British Poultry Council (BPC) awards ceremony in London, in recognition of the profession's work in containing avian influenza.

According to BPC chairman John Reed, the three outbreaks experienced in the UK since November 2014 have cost the sector more than £50m in lost income and clean-up costs, and it is a case of 'when, not if' the disease will strike again.

"Avian influenza is the single biggest threat to the British poultry industry," he said. "During each outbreak, the industry has

called on the support of members of the BVPA who have worked tirelessly to help those individuals and businesses affected.

"We wanted to recognise their outstanding contribution to the poultry sector for their guidance in contingency planning and their invaluable knowledge and expertise."

David Welchman (left) accepted the special merit award on behalf of the British Veterinary Poultry Association, from the UK's junior environment minister Mark Spencer.



Prior to WVPAC 2015, our then Vice President Nigel Horrox gave an interview to Poultry Plumvee Bulletin, South Africa's poultry magazine. This interview, which is reproduced here, gives an intriguing insight into the WVPA.

In September the World Veterinary Poultry Association will be holding its global Congress in Cape Town. Recently the Bulletin met with WVPA's vice president and president elect, British poultry veterinarian, Nigel Horrox, who is well known in South Africa, to find out more about WVPA and its activities. Nigel was in South Africa with fellow vice president, Prof Hafez Hafez from the Free University of Berlin in Germany. They met with the Congress' Local Organising Committee to make the final arrangements for this prestigious event.

Q – What exactly is the WVPA?

The WVPA is the global organisation for poultry veterinarians and health scientists and its primary objective is the exchange of information on all matters associated with avian health. This it does by means of global congresses which are held every two years and its Asia Meetings which are held in the intervening years as well as by publishing its scientific journal, Avian Pathology. The WVPA is made up of over 45 National Branches and individual members from countries that do not have National Branches. It is run by an Elected Executive Committee. Unfortunately, our president died unexpectedly last year and the Executive Committee has been running one person light since then as it decided to leave the presidency vacant out of respect for the deceased president.

Q – Please can you tell us a bit more about this gentleman?

This gentleman was Trevor Bagust from Australia. He assumed our presidency in 2011 at the Cancun, Mexico Congress. He had a varied and interesting career that had three phases. Firstly, he was a research scientist of some renown, secondly, he spent quite a few years in China establishing diagnostic laboratories and training the staff the Chinese had allocated to these laboratories and, thirdly, he was the driving power behind post graduate training in avian health at Melbourne University. Incidentally, at least one veterinarian from southern Africa has benefitted from Melbourne University's post graduate training under Trevor's watchful eye. Trevor was a visionary who saw that WVPA had to evolve into an Association for all sectors of poultry veterinary health and not just mainly be for academics and researchers (although they are the foundations on which poultry veterinary

science is built) and it had to expand its membership in Asia. It was Trevor who persuaded me to become his vice president in 2011 to create a 'dream ticket' to see his vision through to fruition. We are well on the way to achieving that goal and over the last few years we have created branches in Thailand, Pakistan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Korea and Iraq and I am really pleased that his widow will be joining us as guest of honour at the Cape Town Congress.

Q – So what constitutes a National Branch of WVPA?

If a country has 20 or more members it can create a branch with voting rights at a global level. That branch then endeavours to meet the aims of WVPA locally in its own country.

In Sub-Saharan Africa we also have 'sister' branches.

Q – Can you tell us more about these 'sister' branches?

WVPA wants to encourage poultry veterinarians in Sub-Saharan Africa to develop their expertise but most of the countries in this region do not yet have enough poultry veterinarians to create their own branch of WVPA. So we established an understanding with the South Africa Branch of WVPA whereby a country can establish what we call a 'sister branch' with the South African branch assuming the role of 'big sister' to help them in their formative years. To date we have sister branches in Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe and there are others in the pipeline. We see this as a logical way to progress as the countries in this region source most of their poultry needs, such as breeding stock, feed additives, equipment and medicines and vaccines, from South Africa.

Q – What is the history of WVPA?

The WVPA was formed more than 50 years ago – in fact it celebrated its 50th birthday at its Moroccan congress in 2009! In its early days, WVPA tended to be centred on Europe and the USA but nowadays its membership is truly global – several branches have opened in Asia in recent years. Historically, the membership was mainly academics and researchers but over the years our membership base has become wider and now includes many practitioners, consultants, government veterinarians as well as company employed veterinarians, be they in actual poultry companies or the companies supplying our industry such as genetics

World's poultry vets in South Africa

houses, feed companies and pharmaceutical companies. The WVPA has steadily grown over the years and now has some 2,500 members, most of whom belong to one of the National Branches.

Q – What about Africa?

The WVPA has been strong in North Africa for some time with National Branches in Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt, the last of which incidentally hosted our Congress in 2002. The good news is that a Nigerian branch has just been formed and it will be formally accepted into WVPA during the Cape Town Congress. Couple this to the sister branches we discussed earlier and I feel WVPA's position in Africa is a healthy one, but we would welcome further growth in a region which is rising in global importance when it comes to poultry production.

Q – Why was Cape Town chosen to host WVPAC2015?

In 2011 at our Congress in Cancun, Mexico, WVPA had to decide the venue of the 2015 International Congress. This would be held somewhere other than Europe as our Congresses alternate between Europe and the rest of the world and the 2013 Congress was held in Nantes, France. The South African Branch submitted an excellent proposal to host the 2015 Congress in Cape Town and, since there was no other bid, it was unanimously accepted. Since then, the Local Organising Committee, which has been so well led by Hannes Swart, has done a great job. It was also pleasing to see a committee on which the ladies were well represented and was ethnically diverse.

Q – What will be happening at the Cape Town Congress?

Our activities at the Cape Town event will basically fall into three areas – the conference, the exhibition and the social programme. The conference comprises some 20 or so invited keynote or plenary lectures which last for half an hour and shorter scientific papers which have been submitted from all around the world. In addition, the Cape Town Congress will be the first WVPA Congress that will feature an electronic poster wall. The commercial exhibition features many of the global pharmaceutical companies that service the poultry sector and provides a great opportunity for colleagues from industry, practice and academia/research to network. The social programme is centred on the

opening reception and a Gala Dinner and, of course, we expect delegates to enjoy the numerous opportunities presented by the Cape wineries, the Waterfront and the Cape of Good Hope!

Q – Will there be anything special?

Every Congress features the prestigious Avian Pathology Lecture and this year Dr Dieter Liebhart from Vienna, Austria will speak on 'Strategies to prevent histomoniasis in poultry'. In addition, there are some great keynote lectures and, personally, I am looking forward to Professor Trevor Smith from Canada who is going to speak on mycotoxins and Professor Thaweesak Songserm from Thailand who will be covering duck diseases. These gentlemen are great orators!

In addition, three awards will be presented. These are the Bart Rispens Award (sponsored by MSD Animal Health) which is for the best paper published in Avian Pathology during the previous two years and the WVPA-Zoetis Young Poultry Veterinarian Award and the WVPA-Merial Innovation in Vaccination Award.

The 2014 Young Poultry Veterinarian Award, which recognises young veterinarians who are making a real impact, was won by the South African Adrian Knoetze who works for Rainbow. A well deserved award for a great young veterinarian.

Q – What can the South African Poultry sector do now?

Hannes Swart and his Local Organising Committee have done a great job. What they need at the eleventh hour is a great turnout from the South African colleagues and for these people to interact with their international guests to ensure they receive a great traditional South African welcome!

Q – Finally, can you briefly tell us what the future holds for WVPA

In September, I am sure that we are going to have a great Congress in Cape Town! In 2016 there will be the WVPA Asian meeting in Manila in the Philippines, which will be followed by our next global congress in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2017. As far as our 2019 global congress is concerned its venue will be decided in September at WVPAC2015.

However, at this point in time we should all be focusing on Cape Town and I look forward to seeing many of my South African friends and friends from your neighbouring countries there in September!

Ronald E. Plylar



Ronald E. Plylar
(1942-2015)

Ronald E. Plylar, 72, passed away Friday, April 17, 2015 at the University of Maryland Medical Center. Ronald resided in Gig Harbor, Washington with his wife Joan. He was a loving husband, father and son. Ron never met a stranger and was a very compassionate and caring man. Ron is admired, respected and loved by many, including business associates from around the world. He was always the optimist and an excellent leader.

Ron was born in Spokane, Washington and as a young child moved to Alabama where he grew up. Ron graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Business and from Memphis State University with a Master's of Business Administration Degree.

His career span included sales, marketing and executive positions with Swift in the Southeast US and with large animal health pharmaceutical companies Merck and Hoffmann-La Roche in the Northeast. He was President of Intervet America and Intervet Canada, animal vaccine and pharmaceutical companies headquartered in Millsboro, Delaware, from 1982 to 1987.

Ron was an entrepreneur by nature. Ron and his wife Joan founded Biomune Inc., a new animal health vaccine company, in Lenexa, Kansas in 1987.

Ron served as President for 18 years. The company grew from its grass roots startup to producing and selling animal vaccines in more than 30 countries, and included partnering with Lohmann in Germany and Zeon in Japan. One of the most unique vaccines developed and marketed by Ron was a salmonella vaccine for chickens. This was the first vaccine to be used in animals to protect human health.

Ron was an industry leader and charter member of both the Association of Veterinary Biologics Companies (AVBC) and the American Association of Avian Pathologists.

In 2005, Ceva Sante Animale of France purchased Biomune, and Ron became Chief Executive Officer until his retirement from Biomune in 2008.

In 2010, Ron sold and retired from Avipath, LLC that he and Joan founded and where he was President. The company had the sole purpose of supplying pathogen free eggs and chickens to Biomune for approximately 10 years.

His retirement years gave Ron time to spend with his children and grandchildren which he had always yearned to have. Ron will be greatly missed by his family and all those who knew him.

Samantha Pohl

Samantha Pohl
(1985-2015)



Samantha (Sam) was born on December 22, 1985 and passed away due to cancer on Wednesday, July 29, 2015.

Samantha was a resident of Hallettsville, Texas at the time of her passing. AAAP members mourn her loss.

Samantha was a graduate of Texas A&M University where she received her BS and MS in Poultry Science and her DVM. She will receive her MAM degree posthumously from the University of Georgia. At the time of her death, she was back in Texas and working for Elanco.

She loved being a poultry veterinarian and had an intense dedication to the profession. Samantha will be missed.

Georges Bennejean

Georges Bennejean died in October 2015 at the age of 85. Georges was born in Gueret, a small town in the centre of France, in 1930.

His father was an officer in the French army, and Georges spent his youth overseas, in Africa and later in Indo-China during the Second World War under the Japanese occupation.

Returning to France, he gained his veterinary qualification in 1956 at the Veterinary School of Lyon, founded in 1762 as the world's first veterinary school.

He completed his training at the same University, in microbiology (1962) and immunology (1968).

In 1960, he joined the Poultry Experimental Station in Ploufragan, a new centre of research created to develop the young poultry industry in Brittany in the areas of genetics,

Obituaries

nutrition, breeding and pathology. Georges was in charge of poultry diseases, and the parasitic diseases of coccidiosis, ascaridiasis and capillariasis posed the most urgent problems.

He developed facilities and techniques to prevent and treat these conditions.

Later, recognition of the importance of microbiological diseases led the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture to build a new laboratory and facilities in Ploufragan: The National Laboratory of Avian Pathology.

As Director, Georges was responsible for the creation of this laboratory of 1000m², 34 experimental rooms with filtered air, 25 isolators and a SPF chicken unit.

Diseases studied by his team of 50 researchers and technicians included Marek's disease, Newcastle disease, infectious bronchitis, mycoplasmosis, Gumboro disease, turkey rhinotracheitis and egg drop syndrome.

As an expert member of the Scientific Veterinary Committee of the European Economic Community, Georges contributed to EEC guidance concerning important diseases such as Newcastle disease, avian influenza and mycoplasmosis.

He was President of the WVPA (1989-1993), and President of the French branch of WVPA (1976-1998), succeeding Prof. Brion.

He retired in 1995 and his contribution to veterinary science was recognised by awards from the poultry industry.

As director of research, he reached the highest grade in the publicly-funded research sector in France.

He was elected in 1997 as a member of the Academie Veterinaire de France.

He leaves behind his wife Annick, three children and six grandchildren.



Georges Bennejean
(1930-2015)

Charles F. Hall

Dr Charles Franklin Hall, 92, died on November 11, 2015 in Bryan. He was born in Shanghai, China, on November 24, 1922, and was the fourth son of YMCA missionaries, Lawrence and Margaret Hall. He lived in China until 1927, at which time the family returned to the United States.

Charles was educated in the public schools of Cheney, Kansas and Springfield, Massachusetts.

Charles F. Hall (1922-2015)



In the fall of 1941, he entered Kansas State but his education was interrupted in 1942 by WWII, at which time he enlisted in the Army Air Corps as an aviation pilot.

Found to be colour blind Charles was sent to aircraft and engine school in Gulfport, Mississippi. In 1944, he was transferred to North Africa and the Middle East where he served as a crew chief on the flight line in Cairo for a year before becoming a C-54 flight engineer in 1945, flying from Casablanca to Karachi until the end of the war.

In the spring of 1946, Charles re-entered Kansas State and received a BS degree in Agriculture and a DVM degree.

On May 9, 1951 Charles and Alice Lucille Markley were married and had a daughter, Eleanor. Charles spent his entire professional career teaching and doing research and diagnostic work at the University of Arkansas, Michigan State University, and Texas A&M University.

At each of the universities he received distinguished awards in teaching. He retired with the rank of Professor Emeritus from Texas A&M in 1984.

His happiest moments were spent 'grandparenting' and travelling.

Charles is survived by his daughter Eleanor, his son Thomas from a previous marriage, as well as five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Robert Keirs



Robert Keirs
(1926-2015)

Robert W. Keirs, long time resident of Starkville, MS and professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University, passed away quietly at home surrounded by family on November 23, 2015.

Robert, an only child, was born to Ovida and Andrew Keirs in Taylorville, Illinois on January 26, 1926.

He joined the US Navy in 1942 at the age of 16 to serve in the submarine service aboard the USS Nautilus (SS-168) during World War II. He earned three battle stars for his part in naval missions while in the Pacific and received a

commendation signed by both Generals Nimitz and MacArthur.

Following his military service, Robert attended Iowa State College's veterinary medicine program (now Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine) earning his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) in 1954 and began his 63-year career as a veterinarian beginning with small/

large animals and, finally, specialising in poultry where he made his greatest contributions.

Following a few years in private practice in the Pacific Northwest, Robert began his work in the poultry industry in Northwest Arkansas starting in the mid-1960s. He joined Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine's Poultry Science Program in 1981; one of Robert's research focuses and a developed passion was increasing productivity within poultry hatcheries worldwide.

He developed a computer program allowing hatcheries to pinpoint areas of productivity shortcomings and to increase successful hatching rates to approach 100%.

Robert was inducted into the Mississippi Poultry Hall of Fame in 2013 and the US Department of Agriculture's Poultry Hall of Fame in 2014. Although Robert retired from MSU in or near 1999, he continued to be an active consultant and contributor to the poultry industry until just months before his passing.

Robert is survived by his wife Jane, daughters Marion, Susan and Kim and sons Robert and Dan. Robert was blessed with 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

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Manila, Philippines**

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Diary of meetings 2016

January 2016

25-26 – Southern Conference on Avian, Diseases, World Congress Center
Atlanta, Georgia, USA
Website: www.ippexpo.org/ipsf

26-28 – International Poultry Expo, Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, Georgia, USA
Website: www.ippexpo.com

March

21-23 – Poultry Focus Asia 2016
Bangkok, Thailand
Website: www.positiveaction.co.uk

15-17 – North Central Avian Disease Conference
St Paul, Minnesota, USA
Website: www.midwestpoultry.com

April

25-27 – Western Poultry Disease Conference (WPDC)
Vancouver, BC, Canada
Website: conferences.ucdavis.edu/wpdc

May

16-18 – Poultry Summit Europe
Utrecht, The Netherlands
Website: www.viv.net

26-28 – International Symposium on Turkey Disease
Berlin, Germany
Website: www.vetmed.fu-berlin.de

31-3 June – Annual Convention of WVPA Israel Branch
Jerusalem, Israel
Email: ruzenka100935@gmail.com

June

2-3 – Annual Derzsy Days
Hungary
Email: korosidr@gmail.com

July

1-2 – 3rd International Symposium on Parasite Infection in Poultry
Vienna, Austria
Website: www.vetmeduni.ac.at/de/International-symposium-parasite-infections-poultry-2016/

11-14 – Poultry Science Association Annual Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
Website: www.poultryscience.org/psa16

August

5-9 – American Veterinary Medical Association and American Association of Avian Pathologists
San Antonio, Texas, USA
Website: www.avma.org
www.aaap.info

September

6-8 – VIV China
Beijing, China
Website: www.vivchina.nl

27-30 – National Veterinary Poultry Conference
Abuja, Nigeria
Website: www.poultryvetsnigeria.com

October

20-21 – WVPA Asia Meeting
Manila, Philippines
Website: www.wvpa.net

Forward planning:

July 2017

21-25 – American Veterinary Medical Association and American Association of Avian Pathologists
Indianapolis, Indiana, USA
Website: www.avma.org

September 2017

3-8 – XX Congress of the World Veterinary Poultry Association
Edinburgh, Scotland
Website: www.wvpa.net

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