AAVP Newsletter

American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists

October, 2006 Volume 28, Number 3

From the President

Dear AAVP Members and Colleagues,

I would like to start this update by briefly looking back but more importantly I would like to focus on looking forward. As we look back over the last year and to just a few months ago to July, we had another successful meeting in Hawaii. I know that some had concerns about his venue and despite the long flight, I think it turned out very well. I would like to congratulate Dr. Ann Donoghue for her excellent leadership that she provided during her 2005-2006 tenure; I would like to thank Dr. David Lindsay and Sheila Mitchell (& many others behind the scenes) for organizing an excellent scientific program (David promised an exciting meeting, but we had no idea to what extent). Lastly, Dr. Alan Marchiondo, AAVP Secretary-Treasurer, played a pivotal role in making sure our meeting was a success and keeping AAVP running smoothly and efficiently. I would like to thank him as well for his efforts to revamp and update the AAVP website that is going to make it so much easier for us to interact as an Association. I would encourage each member to maximize the potential of this revamped website. For more details about our meeting in Hawaii, I would refer you to the report of the Secretary-Treasurer that is part of this Newsletter.

As we look forward to the 2007 meeting in Washington, DC, we hope to continue the scientific communication, outreach, and interactions that have made our meetings

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such a success. A lot of this responsibility will reside with our current Program Chairperson, Dr. Susan Little, who I know has already started making plans and with you as members as you prepare and submit abstracts. I would ask that you encourage students and post-docs in your laboratories to submit abstracts and to attend our 2007 meeting.

Dr. Dan Synder (left) presented a plaque to Dr. Ann Donoghue (right) for recognition of her efforts to AAVP as President during 2005-2006.

The coming year will continue to bring opportunities, changes, and challenges. I would like to highlight a number of ongoing efforts and requests that I have for each AAVP member. In the very near future, AAVP will administer an on-line survey to the entire membership. The development of this survey is Step 2 in what I would summarize as a 3-step process.

The first step occurred during the AAVP mid-year executive board meeting in Kansas City two years ago, where then President Linda Mansfield led the AAVP officers through a process to identify challenges and strategies for carrying AAVP forward by examining our strengths and weaknesses (what is called a SWOT analysis).

Step 2 of this process was to focus on key questions and issues that were identified and to then develop and administer a Survey to gather inputs from the membership. We are now ready to implement Step 2 and I would ask that each of you take time to provide feedback to the questions that are part of this survey.

Step 3 will be to analyze and summarize the findings of the survey and from this to develop an action plan to move forward. We will summarize the findings at the 2007 meeting and in future communications to the entire membership. Your involvement and participation in this survey is vital to AAVP as we try to move forward and to develop appropriate action plans.

I would also like to highlight some other ongoing efforts, requests and questions that I would like to ask each of you to consider. Parasite resistance is an area that AAVP has discussed at recent meetings through special symposia and dedicated speakers from around the world. I believe that AAVP should play a key role in understanding the issues and making recommendations on parasite resistance. We are the experts!

I have asked Lou Gasbarre to lead a working group on ruminant nematode resistance and would ask that if you have an interest in being part of this group, to contact Dr. Gasbarre and volunteer to be part of the discussions. More information is provided later in this newsletter.

My final question to the AAVP membership is what can AAVP do to expand its role in the greater scientific community as we adapt to and react to change as it occurs? I would like to hear your thoughts. We will have an AAVP mid-year executive board meeting in Kansas City in early February 2007. Please contact me or other AAVP officers if you would like to suggest Agenda items for discussion during this meeting.

I look forward to serving the AAVP membership during the coming year.

Daniel E. Snyder, President AAVP.

From the Secretary/Treasurer

The 2007 dues year started September 1, 2006 and runs to August 31, 2007. Renewal notices were sent early August to all members with a reminder that members not current by October 31 will be locked out of the Membership area of the website. Thank you to those who have paid your dues. For those of you who have not as yet paid, I have attached a 2007 AAVP Membership Renewal form in this issue of the Newsletter. Dues can now be paid on-line at www.aavp.org. Please call or email me if you have any questions about your dues status. The annual AAVP membership dues are a great bargain at $30 for regular members and $10 for students. In addition to the association benefits, AAVP members receive Veterinary Therapeutics free of charge.

In addition, electronic subscriptions of Veterinary Parasitology are now available to the AAVP membership for only $30.00 annually. The subscription is voluntary and is not included in the $30.00 regular or $10.00 student member dues. You can subscribe to Veterinary Parasitology using the 2007 AAVP Membership Renewal form and include your payment along with your dues or pay on-line at www.aavp.org.

Member contact information including address, telephone and email changes can now be made by you directly on-line in the website membership directory. Since electronic communication has become the major form of AAVP communication, it is imperative that I have your current and correct email address. Please note that you can now add your area of research interest. Also attached to this issue of the Newsletter is a 2007 new member application form. Please pass along a copy of this form to colleagues or students who would be interested in joining AAVP. The 2007 dues and new member application forms are also available on the AAVP website.

Recently, the website was updated in the forum section with the AAVP Executive Board and Business meeting minutes, committee reports, and new job postings. I encourage all members to utilize the forum section for communication and announcements.

Dues and all correspondence to the Secretary/Treasurer should be addressed to:

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Submitted by Dr. Alan Marchiondo, Secretary/Treasurer AAVP.

AAVP Mid-Year Meeting Report

The 2nd Mid-Year Executive Board Meeting was held in Kansas City, MO, on February 3-4, 2006. Dr. Ann Donoghue issued a meeting report at the annual board meeting in Honolulu, HI and the report is posted on the AAVP forum (www.aavp.org). The next mid-year meeting will be held on February 2-3, 2007 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, in Kansas City, MO. Please send any topics or action items to Dr. Dan Snyder.

2005 Annual Meeting Report

Report of the Secretary Treasurer

The 51st annual meeting of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists was held in the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, Honolulu, HI, Saturday July 15 through Tuesday morning July 18, 2006. Dr. David S. Lindsay was the scientific program chair but received substantial help from his graduate student, Sheila Mitchell, following his debilitating automobile accident in March 2006. Approximately 126 parasitologists (5% increase over 2005) consisting of members, invited speakers and guests from academia,

government and industry were in attendance. Eighty-one oral presentations were given. The number of presentations was a 17.4% increase over 2005 with multiple presentations (3-4) by some members. The AAVP/AVMA President's Symposium organized by Dr. Ann R. Donoghue on "*Effects of parasites on biocomplexity: examples from Hawai'ian wildlife*" was held at the Convention Center on Tuesday morning. Approximately 55 individuals were in attendance for this symposium.
The AAVP Executive Board meeting was held on Saturday morning July 15 and the AAVP business meeting was held on Monday afternoon. Monday afternoon Ann Donoghue also gave her 2006 AAVP Presidential address and was recognized for her contributions to the AAVP with a plaque.

Socials were hosted by Bayer on Saturday evening, Merial on Sunday evening, and Fort Dodge on Monday evening. An AAVP graduate student/post-doc luncheon/mixer was held on Sunday. At the mixer, Heather Stockdale from the College of Veterinary Medicine, Auburn University, Auburn, AL, was elected as the next Student Representative for the AAVP Student Committee.

Eight Young Investigator travel grants were awarded this year. The AAVP Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award (sponsored by Merial) was awarded to Dr. John W. McCall, Athens, GA and the AAVP/Intervet Graduate Student award was presented to Sheila M. Mitchell from Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. These two award winners were presented with honoraria and plaques during the awards ceremony. Dr. Raffaele "Raf" A. Roncalli was presented the AAVP Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding contributions over the years to AAVP. Dr. Tom Kennedy accepted the plaque for Dr. Roncalli.

Jeanne M. Howell from Washington State University was awarded 1st place in the Best Student Paper Presentation competition, sponsored by Bayer, and received a check for $500.00. Martin K. Nielsen from the Royal Veterinary & Agricultural University in Frederiksburg, Denmark received the 2nd place honors and received a check for $300.00.
Submitted by Dr. Alan A. Marchiondo, Secretary/Treasurer, AAVP.

List of AAVP Committee Chairs and Members

The chairs (underlined) and members of the AAVP Committees for 2006-2007 are provided below.

Left to Right: AAVP Officers for 2006-2007. Drs. Alan A. Marchiondo, Daniel E. Snyder, David S. Lindsay, Susan E. Little, and Ann R. Donoghue.

Officers
President: Dan Snyder
Secretary/Treasurer: Al Marchiondo
President Elect: David Lindsay
Immediate Past President: Ann Donoghue
Vice President and Program Chair: Susan Little

Nominations Committee
2006-2007: Sid Ewing, Jorge Guerrero
2007-2008: Pat Payne, Gary Conboy
2008-2009: Tim Geary, Peter Schantz

Student Representative
2006-2007: Heather Stockdale

Heather Stockdale is the 2006-2007 AAVP Student Representative

At the 2006 annual meeting Heather Stockdale, was elected as the 2006-2007 AAVP Student Representative.
Heather is a Ph.D. student in the department of Pathobiology at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine in Auburn, Alabama. She has been at Auburn under the supervision of Dr. Byron Blagburn since 2004. Heather's research is focused on *Tritrichomonas foetus* as the causative agent of large bowel disease in cats. She is currently characterizing isolates of *T. foetus* recovered from the large intestine of cats and experimentally infecting heifers with the trichomonads isolated from cows and then cats to compare and contrast disease induced by both isolates. In addition to Dr. Blagburn, she is also guided by Drs. Jennifer Spencer, M. Daniel Givens, Christine Dykstra and David Lindsay. Her main research interests are parasitology and epidemiology. Heather has a Master's degree in biology from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, where she studied mating differences among laboratory strains of *Drosophila melanogaster*.

Appointed Committees

Finance
2006-2007: Larry Cruthers, Bob Arther
2007-2008: Brad Scandrett, Frank Guerino
2008-2009: Ray Kaplan, Beto Perez de Leon

Program
2006-2007: Susan Little, Ann Donoghue, Dan Snyder, David Lindsay

Archivist
2006-2007: Tom Nolan, Raffaele Roncalli
2007-2008: Tom Nolan, Raffaele Roncalli

Outreach / Research
2006-2007: Charles MacKenzie, William Barton
2007-2008: David Granstrom, Jennifer Ketzis, Joan Lunney
2008-2009: Abraham Quezada, Bob Schenkel

Education
2006-2007: Gary Conboy, Charles Faulkner
2007-2008: Dwight Bowman, Susan Little
2008-2009: Lora Ballweber, Mike Dryden

Awards
2006-2007: Jenifer Edmonds, Merijo Jordan
2007-2008: Sara Marley, Alexa Rosypal
2008-2009: Andrew Peregrine, Doug Hutchens

Constitution / Bylaws
2006-2007: Gil Myers, Isabelle Verzberger
2007-2008: Tom Yazwinski, Isabelle Verzberger
2008-2009: *vacant, vacant*

Publications
2006-2007: Doug Colwell, Ray Kaplan
2007-2008: Thomas Letonja, Ray Kaplan
2008-2009: Tom Nolan, Richard Martin

Newsletter / Editorial Board
2006-2007: Patrick Meeus, David Gerdon
2007-2008: Alexa Rosypal, Siva Ranjan
2008-2009: *vacant, vacant*

Past Presidents
2006-2007: Craig Reinemeyer, Ann Donghue, Linda Mansfield

Historian
2006-2007: Raphael Roncalli

List Serve
2006-2007: Bert Stromberg

Website/Internet
2006-2007: Al Marchiondo, Dan Snyder, Ann Donoghue, Bert Stromberg

Intervet Outstanding Student Award Recipients Reunion *(for 2009 meeting)*
2006-2009: Dwight Bowman, Joe Prullage, Alan Marchiondo, Laura Ballweber, Ray Kaplan

Submitted by Dr. Dan Snyder. President, AAVP.

Awards

2006 AAVP Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award

The AAVP Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award recipient for 2006 is Dr. John W. McCall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. The award is sponsored by Merial LTD. A bibliography about Dr. McCall was published in the 2006 AAVP Meeting Proceedings and is reprinted here. In addition, his acceptance speech is also included in this issue of the Newsletter.

Dr. Jorge Guerrero (left) and Dr. Doug Carithers (right), Merial LTD, present the AAVP Distinguished Veterinary Parasitology Award to Dr. John W. McCall (center).

John W. McCall was born in Blackshear, Georgia, in 1941 and grew up in Alma, another very small town nearby. He was fortunate to work with Mr. Frank E. Johnson, a local pharmacist who was his sixth grade teacher's husband, from the age of 12 until he left home to attend the University of Georgia (UGA) in Athens as a freshman in 1959. Upon receiving a BS Degree in Zoology, he was introduced to the field of parasitology by Dr. R. Barclay McGhee, who encouraged him to do his graduate work in Medical Entomology under Dr. A. B. Weathersby. Dr. Weathersby later became a close personal friend, as well as a mentor. He received his MS (1967) and PhD (1970) Degrees from UGA while working under a Malariology Training Program, which was funded by the NIH and co-directed by Drs. McGhee and Weathersby. In 1970, he moved across the campus to join the faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine as a Research Associate in Dr. Paul E. Thompson's filariasis laboratory, where he worked with several colleagues (Drs. Tom Klei, Jack Malone, Hyong-Sun Ah and Macki Donahoe)—a couple of whom are well-known to the AAVP. He was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Parasitology in 1978 and to Professor in 1983. He remained with the College through several departmental name changes (now, Department of Infectious Diseases) until his retirement to Professor Emeritus on 01 May 2006. During his academic career, he contributed to the teaching of veterinary parasitology to veterinary students and graduate students with various colleagues (Drs. Ed Roberson, Bill Hanson, Katherine Prestwood, Ray Kaplan, Susan Little, David Peterson), supervised Research Associates (Drs. Mike Dzimianski, Prasit Supakorndej, Lari Cowgill, Bruce Lindemann, Jacqueline Testa) and visiting scholars (Drs. Luigi Venco, Barbara Di Sacco, Leucio Alves), directed programs of study for five Master's Degree and seven PhD Degree students, served as Director of the NIH-Sponsored Filariasis Repository Service (now, the Filariasis Research Reagent Resource Center) for 35 years and sustained a filariasis research program funded mainly by the NIH and WHO throughout most of his academic career.

Dr. McCall is currently Vice President of the American Heartworm Society and a charter member of the American Heartworm Society, the Merial-sponsored International Feline Heartworm Disease Council and the Pfizer-sponsored Global Advisory Council on Diseases of Small Animals. He served on the International Committee for Developing

Guidelines for Evaluating Anthelmintics for Small Animals for the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology, and as Reviewer for the NIH Delta Primate Research Center (Tulane University), the NIH ICIDR Program Grants, the NIH Tropical Disease Research Center Program Grants, and the NIH Small Business Grants Programs. He was an invited speaker for the U.S.-Japan Cooperative Medical Science Program almost annually from 1971 to 1978 and was on numerous World Health Organization (WHO) Scientific Working Groups on Filariasis almost annually from 1977 to 2001. He has held Visiting Professorships in Lima, Peru; Milan, Italy; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Recife, Brazil and has been an AID/NIH consultant to The Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the Ain Shams University in Cairo. He has published 157 original research articles in peer-reviewed journals, 40 non-referred scholarly articles and reports, and 11 book chapters. He has been an invited speaker for meetings of the American Veterinary Medical Association, North American Veterinary Conference, American Heartworm Society, World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology, European Multicolloqium of Parasitology, World Small Animal Veterinary Association World Conference, Western Veterinary Conference, Southwestern Veterinary Conference, Southeastern Veterinary Conference, Atlantic Veterinary Conference, and American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics. He has presented over 285 invited lectures at national or international meetings and continuing education seminars for veterinarians and presented or co-authored over 210 additional scientific papers. He was president of the Southeastern Society of Parasitologists from 1978 to 1979 and has been President of TRS Labs, Inc., his privately owned contract research laboratory, since 1980. Although officially retired from UGA, he continues to be actively engaged in research at both UGA and TRS Labs.

John and his wife Gail (also sweetheart and best friend) have been married for the past 42 years. They have two children, Christy McCall and Sharon Carter, and four grandchildren (Austin, Ashley, Evan and Savannah). Scott McCall and Justin Carter are not only great sons-in-law and friends, but also contribute greatly to the day-to-day operation of TRS Labs.

Acceptance of the Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award of 2005-2006

I would like to begin by thanking the members of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists and the Awards Committee for this highly coveted award. It is a great honor, but also very humbling, to accept the invitation to be added to the list of such distinguished veterinary parasitologists–most of whom I have known personally. At this time, I would also like to thank my friends and colleagues for many years, Drs. Jorge Guerrero, Tom Klei, Bill Campbell, Roger Prichard, Norma Labarthe and Claudio Genchi who wrote letters supporting my nomination, for their confidence in me and for their support.

As many of you, I did not enter college with the goal of studying parasitology. As a 12-year-old boy, I began working with a pharmacist, Mr. Frank E. Johnson, who was the husband of my sixth grade teacher. To Mr. And Mrs. Johnson I am forever grateful for their kindness and guidance, particularly during my teenage and early college years. Although I learned much about the day-to-day operation of a pharmacy during those years, my deep love for biology (and lesser interest in chemistry) steered me toward medicine. After my pre-med course of study at the University of Georgia (UGA), I was on the list

of alternates but did not get accepted into the medical school of my choice, so I approached Dr. R. Barclay McGhee, a malariologist, about doing graduate work in zoology. By doing this, I thought I would be better prepared for medical school a couple of years later. There were no graduate assistantships available in zoology at that time, but he was eager to introduce me to Dr. A. B. Weathersby, who was a medical entomologist doing research on the transmission of malaria. Although I had not taken undergraduate courses in either entomology or parasitology, the "medical" part of medical entomology caught my attention. After doing research in Dr. Weathersby's laboratory for about a year, I knew that I had found my calling in life and I completely lost interest in medical school.

Upon completion of the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees under Dr. Weathersby, I had tentative plans to do postdoctoral studies with Dr. George Craig at Notre Dame University. However, Hyong-Sun Ah, a fellow graduate student and friend, convinced me to consider working with him on filariasis–and I could do this even without having to leave the UGA campus. So I accepted the position of Research Associate in the College of Veterinary Medicine in August of 1970 and worked closely with Dr. Paul Thompson until his untimely death in 1973. During this short period, Dr. Thompson had a profound influence on the approach that I developed for soliciting research funds and conducting research in both academic and industrial environments. Working in filariasis was a challenge, but it gave me the opportunity to work with a group of astute young scientists, particularly Drs. Tom Klei, Jack Malone and Macki Donahoe and to work with other scientists associated with National Institutes of Health (NIH)-and World Health Organization (WHO)-sponsored filariasis research programs. It was during the early 1970's that we published our work on intraperitoneal infections of *Brugia pahangi* and *B. malayi* in the Mongolian Jird and began working on experimentally induced infections of *Dirofilaria immitis* in cats. It was also during this time we discovered that tetracyclines are lethal to early infections of *B. pahangi* and *Litosomoides sigmodontis*, but not *Acanthocheilonema viteae*. I presented these exciting findings at the annual meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists in Toronto, Canada, in 1973, but did not publish the data at that time. In the mid 1970's, Drs. Tom Klei, Bill Kozek and Diane McLaren, working independently, detected intracellular bacteria in filarial parasites, and Kozek even suggested potential roles for these organisms. But the lack of interest by the WHO and NIH discouraged appropriate follow-up of these efforts. Almost two decades later, one of Tom Klei's postdoctoral students, Dr. Steve Boshardt, lost a year of research time due to tetracycline treatment of *B. pahangi*-infected jirds that were concurrently infected with a lethal beta hemolytic *Staphylococcus*. Obviously, I was very embarrassed about my tardiness in publishing this earlier work, but we agreed to combine some of our data and we published it in 1993–still not knowing the significance of this mysterious filaricidal activity of tetracyclines. At the biannual meeting of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP) in Cambridge, England, in 1993, Dr. Claudio ("Pippo") Bandi convinced me that the antifilarial effects of tetracycline on filariae are quite likely related to the presence of *Wolbachia*. Pippo was a young research associate with Prof. Claudio Genchi in the University of Milan in Italy, who has been a good friend and colleague of mine for almost two decades. In 1995, they and their associates first demonstrated by molecular biology techniques that the intracellular endosymbiont of *D. immitis* belongs to the Genus *Wolbachia*, and three years later (working with *B. pahangi* and *D. immitis*), we demonstrated the probable dependency of *Wolbachia* on their filarial hosts and a probable link between the lethal effects of tetracycline on a filarial parasite and its *Wolbachia* endosymbiont. As you know, the

saga continues and I am delighted to have the opportunity to continue my collaboration with this group of Italian scientists, which now also includes Drs. Laura Kramer, Luigi Venco and Barbara Di Sacco, as well as some British scientists (mainly Drs. Simon Townson and Mark Taylor), a German physician and scientist (Prof. Dr. Achim Hoerauf) and other American Wolbachia researchers, particularly Drs. Tilda Carlow and Bill Kozek.

Although unquestionably unique, my entire academic career has been spent at the University of Georgia, with only a few lures that seemed worthy of consideration to other institutions. One of these occurred in the mid 1970's when I had tentative plans to join Prof. Lawson Soulsby's research program in the Department of Pathobiology at the University of Pennsylvania. The only reason I did not make this move was that he decided to return to Cambridge University. Even though these plans fell through, I continue to hold Lord Soulsby in high esteem as a global veterinary parasitologist.

Concurrent with my rewarding career in academia, I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to work with some of the truly distinguished industrial veterinary parasitologists in the development of some of the most successful products ever made available by the animal health industry. In the mid to late 1970's, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Dr. Bill Campbell (and Lyndia Blair) in the very early evaluation of ivermectin for the prevention of heartworm disease in dogs. It was during these early years that I developed a strong interest in working with industry in designing protocols, developing models and conducting studies for submission to the CVM/FDA, and later the EU for registration of veterinary products. I was not eager to leave Athens, and UGA was not interested at that time in either providing me with facilities for conducting such studies or being involved with such a venture. But fortunately, the UGA readily endorsed my plans to form a private company for this purpose. So, in 1980, I started TRS Labs, Inc. and this has allowed me to continue my rewarding collaborations with industry. Later, development-phase trials with ivermectin for the prevention of canine heartworm disease afforded me the privilege of collaborating with Drs. Lee Seward, Mark Soll, Roberto Alva, Susan Longhofer, Luis Cramer and Raf Roncalli; then, with Drs. Jorge Guerrero and Carole Robertson-Plough on Heartgard for Cats; and more recently with Drs. Jorge Guerrero and Doug Carithers on the "safety-net" (reach-back) activity of ivermectin against older larvae and adult heartworms.

Also, I have had the opportunity to work with Drs. Rami Cobb, Dave Rock, Kathy Heaney, Dino Rulli and Siva Ranjan in conducting trials on the unique moxidectin injectable product for heartworm prevention. During the past decade or so, I have also had the priviledge of working with Ann Jernigan, Tom McTier and others on the registration of the endectocide selamectin for dogs and cats. This was a particularly interesting collaboration, as Ann was formerly one of our veterinary students and Tom had been my Ph. D. student. Beginning in the mid 1980's, I had the distinct pleasure of working with Jean-Pierre Raynaud on the development of melarsomine as a heartworm adulticide for dogs and on the seasonal transmission on heartworm infection in several Southeastern States. I have fond memories of those days and our friendship has continued long after his retirement from industry. My association with George Conder and Jeff Williams was uniquely rewarding. For several years, we and others collaborated with the WHO in the search for a better macrofilaricide for human onchocerciasis and lymphatic filariasis. This complemented my on-going pursuit of a novel treatment for these diseases, which was funded mainly by the WHO, and my efforts in this area of research have continued, even after my recent retirement from UGA.

In the mid 1990's, I was fortunate to collaborate with Drs. Mark Keister, Patrick

Tanner (one of my former graduate students and veterinary student), Jim Hunter and others on the development of fipronyl, one of the most effective acaricides ever used on dogs and cats. Later, along with Dr. Jacobson, we demonstrated that the spray formulation of fipronil is also effective in preventing Lyme disease in dogs. During these years, I also had the privilege and unique pleasure of working with Drs. Ann Donoghue, Tom O'Connor, Quentin Tonelli, Mike Harrod, Kathy Bestul and Ron Sanders on the development of heartworm diagnostic tests for dogs and cats and with Dr. Al Marchiondo on several anthelmintics for small animals. More recently, I have had the pleasure of working with Sam Charles, Bob Arther and Norbert Mencke on emodepside and imidacloprid, another one of the most effective insecticides for small animals.

During the past several years, it has been my good fortune to serve on the Executive Board of the American Heartworm Society. This has been a challenge, but also a source of professional enlightenment, stimulating intellectual and pragmatic discussions and decisions, and abiding friendships with the Executive Director and other Board members. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to guide veterinarians in the best methods for the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of heartworm disease and to promote research on this very important disease.

Although many of you are aware, I must say that I could not have carried on my research programs at UGA and TRS Labs without the assistance and loyal support of my graduate students, research associates and faculty colleagues, particularly Drs. Ray Kaplan, Mike Dzimianski, Prasit Supakorndej and his wife Nonglak, Dr. Abdelmoneim Mansour, Jung Jun and my sons-in-law Scott McCall and Justin Carter. To all of them, I want to express my most sincere heartfelt thanks.

I am eternally grateful to my wife Gail of over 42 years for her unwaivering support, constant encouragement and endurance during my long working hours and much work-related travels. Gail, I couldn't have made it without you–and neither would I have wanted to. Our daughters, Christy McCall and Sharon Carter, offer a continuous supply of love and pride, and the joy derived from our grandchildren, Austin, Ashley, Evan, Savannah and Lyndsay has no earthly equal. Again, to you, the members of AAVP, I am truly honored that you have selected me for this distinguished award. Thank you for your generosity and kindness.

In closing, many of you realize that my Christian faith is a very important part of my life. To those of you who do not know me so well, I want to acknowledge that God through Jesus Christ has blessed me beyond measure and that He is my source of inspiration and strength. As Johann Sebastian Bach indicated on all of his musical works, *Soli deo Gloria* (glory to God alone).
Thank you.

John W. McCall

AAVP Distinguished Service Award of 2005-2006

Dr. Raffaele "Raf" A. Roncalli was presented the AAVP Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding contributions over the years to AAVP. A bibliography about Dr. Roncalli was published in the 2006 AAVP Meeting Proceedings and is reprinted here. Dr. Tom Kennedy accepted the plaque for Dr. Roncalli.

Raffaele Roncalli Amici, a native of Italy, obtained his D.V.M. degree from the University of Perugia, Italy in 1949. After several years as a researcher at the Veterinary School, University of Milan, he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to attend the University of Georgia, where he received a M.S. degree working under Dr. W. Malcolm Reid (1960). In ensuing years he held several managerial positions with Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc and Merck & Co., Inc. in the USA; with the latter company he was in charge of international veterinary research. In this capacity, for many years he conducted clinical trials for the development of new veterinary products (i.e. anthelmintics such as thiabendazole, rafoxanide and ivermectin and coccidiostats such as amprolium and nicarbazin) in Europe, Latin America, Australia and Japan. He is a Past-President of the New Jersey Society for Parasitology (1972-1973) and a former Chairman of the International Section, Animal Health Institute, Washington, D.C. He has been a visiting professor (veterinary parasitologist) at the University of Naples (1985, 1992, 2002, 2003, 2004) and at the University of Bari (1991). He is the author of more than 100 scientific publications, especially in the field of parasitology and the history of parasitology. Dr. Roncalli spent a number of years in Japan; he is a member of the Japanese Veterinary History Society and has lectured extensively on the history of Japanese veterinary medicine; also, he was President of the Ukiyo-e Society of America (1985-1987). Dr. Roncalli twice has been President of the American Veterinary Medical History Society (1988-1989; 2004-2005); presently he is the historian of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologist.

2006 AAVP Student Awards

The 2006 AAVP Awards Committee acknowledged several AAVP student members for their excellent research and presentations at the annual meeting. The results were announced at the annual meeting and are listed below. Congratulations to all!

AAVP Young Investigator Travel Grant Award Winners

AAVP Young Investigator Travel Grant Award winners (left to right): Alexa Rosypal, David Goodwin, Aaron Lucas, Jeanne Howell, Martin Nielsen and Heather Stockdale.

Eight students or post-docs applied for AAVP Young Investigator Travel Grant Awards. Funds were awarded to these individuals to assist them in attending the annual meeting. The names of the travel grant recipients, including institutions and advisors, were: David Goodwin (Virginia Tech, D. Lindsay), Aaron Harmon (South Dakota State, M. Hildreth); Jeanne Howell (Washington State University, Guy Palmer), Martin Nielson (Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Denmark, S.N. Olsen and J. Monrad); Aaron Lucas (Virginia Tech University, A.M. Zajac); Alexa Rosypal (University of North Carolina, D. Lindsay); Heather Stockdale (Auburn University, B. Blagburn); and Isabelle Verzberger (University of Prince Edward Island, G. Conboy).

AAVP-Intervet Graduate Student Award

This year the AAVP-Intervet Graduate Student award was presented to Sheila S. Mitchell from Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. Sheila gave the opening presentation of the student paper session. She was presented with a plaque and an honorarium during the awards ceremony.

Sheila M. Mitchell (left) was presented the 2006 AAVP-Intervet Outstanding Graduate Student Award by Dr. Ann R. Donoghue (right).

Bayer Best Student Paper Award Recipients

Congratulations to Jeanne M. Howell, Washington State University, for her first place presentation: "*Association between Babesia bovis kinete levels in female Boophilus microplus and infection rates of larval progeny*". Martin Nielsen from the Royal Veterinary & Agricultural University, Denmark, received 2nd place for his presentation entitled: "*Species-specific detection of equine large strongyle DNA by real-time PCR*". Both award winners were presented with honoraria during the awards ceremony.

Jeanne M. Howell (left), Washington State University, 1st place winner of the Best Student Presentation sponsored by Bayer Animal Health; Dr. Bob Arther (center), Bayer Animal Health; and Martin Nielsen (right), Royal Veterinary & Agricultural University, Denmark, 2nd place winner.

Future Parasitology Meetings

Future meetings of the AAVP

2007 WASHINGTON, D.C., 14-18 JULY
2008 NEW ORLEANS, LA, 19-22 JULY
2009 SEATTLE, WA, 11-14 JULY
2010 ATLANTA, GA, 31 JULY - 3 AUG
2011 ST. LOUIS, MO, 16-19 JULY
2012 SAN DIEGO, CA, 4-7 AUG

American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) 2006

The 55th annual meeting of ASTMH will be held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA on November 12-16, 2006.
http://www.astmh.org

Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases (CRWAD) 2006

The annual meeting of CRWAD will be held at the Chicago Marriott, Downtown Magnificent Mile, on December 3-5, 2006. AAVP will continue to support the best student competition in the parasitology section of the CRWAD meeting. Also, Dr. Susan Little will be the keynote speaker at CRWAD this year.
http://www.cvmbs.colostate.edu/microbiology/crwad/index.htm

AAVP Veterinary Parasitology Educators Symposium 2006

AAVP will hold a Veterinary Parasitology Educators Symposium, co-supported financially by the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC), at the Renaissance Concourse Hotel, Atlanta, GA on December 1-2, 2006. The symposium will bring together faculty training veterinary medical students in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean to share effective strategies for teaching veterinary parasitology. For more information, contact the Program Chair, Dr. Dwight Bowman (ddb3@cornell.edu).

Livestock Insect Workers Conference (LIWC) 2007

The 51st annual meeting of the Livestock Insect Workers Conference will be held jointly with the International Symposium of Ectoparasites of Pets (ISEP) in Lexington, KY on June 10-14, 2007. The 2008 meeting of LIWC will be in Kansas City.

World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP) 2007

WAAVP ("From EPG to Genes") will be held in Gent, Belgium on August 19-23, 2007. http://www.waavp2007.be/

Obituary – Dr. William P. Meleney

William P. Meleney, the son of Dr. Henry Edmund Meleney (1887-1970), the well-known parasitologist who was President of the American Society of Parasitologists in 1942 and 1943, was born in Beijing, China, in 1929. Between 1942 and 1945 he worked with the American Field Service in Europe, Africa and Asia. After receiving his D.V.M degree from Cornell University in 1951, he was engaged in private veterinary practice for five years. Afterwards, Dr. Meleney joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Oklahoma; in 1957 he moved to the Parasite Research Laboratory, ARS, USDA at Albuquerque, New Mexico. In 1977 he became Research Leader for Scabies and Mange, U.S. Livestock Insect Lab. Kerrville, Texas. Dr. Meleney published numerous papers in the field of mites, lice and oestrids of livestock and wild-life. He was active in community, professional and religious organizations. He died in Rio Rancho, New Mexico August 4, 2005. William P. Meleney was an amiable person and a well-respected parasitologist with a deep knowledge and experience in the biology of external parasites of sheep and cattle.

Submitted by Raffaele Roncalli Amici

AAVP and Parasitology Funding

In March 2006 the AAVP board requested that we give input and suggestions as to the development of a process to 1) influence parasitology research in federal and international agencies, and 2) access available funding by the association and its membership, particularly young investigators, to conduct research in veterinary parasitology. Additionally, the board questioned what were the primary areas of parasitology, and the organisms, that should be funded, besides malaria? Furthermore, they asked whether parasites should be considered for biological warfare issues. In our discussions we addressed several relevant topics. Unfortunately, neither of us will be joining you in sunny Hawaii (we're jealous of course.) Here is our first report.

Areas of research relevant to veterinary parasitology.

[Selected as areas for future potential for new funding. Not listed in any priority order]

Phylogeny, Genomics and Systematics
Research in these critical areas have been redefined and expanded as molecular methods and genome sequencing have become routine. The critical links between the fields of parasitology and molecular biology need to be maintained as bioinformatics emphasizes sequences. An expanded focus on systems biology initiatives can be exploited for some of the parasites with substantial sequence data.

Interactions Between Microbes
Complex interactions between microbes (parasites, bacteria, viruses) and their host mucosal surfaces reflect true biologic complexity. Systems biology research has become an area of increasing interest with funding encouraging multidisciplinary teams.

Zoonoses and Biological Warfare
Zoonotic infections, through food or water, represent a major public concern. The additional threat of microbes as biowarfare weapons has further sensitized the public,

although the potential for parasites as biodefense organisms has not been identified as a major priority. Clearly certain waterborne parasites could serve as biowarfare agents.

Companion Animal Parasitology
Limited federal research funds have traditionally been available for this area, except as human models or for zoonotic infections. The importance of companion animal health for human well-being and the use of agricultural commodities for feeding companion animals has not been emphasized as a means to enhance funding for basic research in this area.

Drug Resistance
Increasing concern about human antibiotic resistance has already resulted in elimination of drugs from food animal usage. This trend will only increase with time, leading to withdrawal of drugs despite the lack of effective replacements. Additionally the international usage (appropriate and otherwise) of drugs has resulted in pathogens with increased drug resistance. Anthelminthic resistance of nematodes is an important food animal example.

Wildlife Reservoirs
The influence, complexity and relevance of the human/food animal/wildlife/insect interface on disease transmission has only begun to be explored. The availability of an array of new markers, expanded bioinformatics, global positioning, and other tools has expanded the dimensions of this research. Veterinary parasitologists are uniquely suited to address this area.

Funding Sources

Federal Funding
NSF and NIH remain the major sources of grant funds.
For veterinary parasitologists the USDA would be expected to be a major funding resource. In the last several years USDA CSREES has tried to focus its grant funding; in the process it has virtually eliminated parasitology as an animal health priority. Although CSREES Biotechnology and Genomics does provide support for research, education, and outreach in the development and use of biotechnology and genomics. (http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/biotech/biotech.html). For changes in USDA ARS and CSREES priorities there are stakeholder workshops. ARS and CSREES held a joint Animal Health workshop September 19-20, 2005 in Kansas City MO. The ARS National Animal Health Program 103 (NP103 www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=103) currently has its in-house research projects under review. To add new projects or initiatives organizations such as AAVP need to lobby congressional delegations and work with special interest groups.
A broad national Systematics initiative, that includes parasitology, has been underway. The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) (http://www.ostp.gov/nstc/html/nstc.html) of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) (http://www.ostp.gov) document, Science for the 21st Century (http://www.ostp.gov/nstc/21stcentury/index.html) describes the critical responsibilities of the federal science enterprise and the actions taken by federal research agencies, through the NSTC, to align federal program with scientific opportunities and national needs. For biodefense viruses and bacteria have been emphasized as the major biowarfare threats. To address the inclusion of parasites AAVP should recommend development of a prioritized list of parasites that could be threats not only to humans but to our national food supply. Research priorities would need to be developed, possibly in conjunction with CDC and Homeland Security, and used to lobby the appropriate funding agencies.

Foundation Funding
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has funded cysticercosis and taeniasis elimination research ($15M in 2002) and the 11th International Congress of Parasitology ($288,075 in 2006.) Numerous parasites are identified in their priorities for “Other

Infectious Diseases" (http://www.gatesfoundation.org/GlobalHealth/Pri_Diseases/OtherInfectiousDiseases/Other_Infec_Grantmaking.html). Human health impact is the major issue for their funding but animal priorities, including preventing cysticercosis in pigs through research to develop a vaccine, are clearly stated.

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI http://hhmi.org/grants/individuals/idap.html) has an International Research Scholars Program that provides five-year grants to support promising basic biomedical research scientists working in the fields of infectious diseases and parasitology.

For third-world human and veterinary parasitic diseases, which are not a priority for US funding agencies, there is money available outside the US. Identifying sources for international grants, and interested international collaborators could be a function for AAVP, particularly through international organizations, e.g., WAAVP.

Smaller foundations, e.g., National Research Fund for Tick-Borne Diseases, Inc. (NRFTD http://www.nrftd.org) award grants to investigators whose projects demonstrate the potential to attract long-term funding by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), or other scientific or biomedical agencies. The NRFTD is guided by its desire to transform scientific discoveries into tangible results.

AAVP Follow-up

Utilization of AAVP listserv and Website

The AAVP listserv has been underutilized. The AAVP can help immediately by expanding the information provided to its members. Posting of new funding opportunities as they are announced should be routine. As a USDA researcher (JL) and a USDA administrator (DG) we are not as knowledgeable as some about other funding opportunities. We encourage AAVP to contact members in university administrative positions, e.g., Stromberg at UMN or Courtney at UFL, to use their university grants departments to identify alternative funding resources that could be advertised to the membership.

The current status of scientific R&D funding is fragile. The recent news that budget deficits may not be as dramatic may lead to better access to federal grant funds for parasitology research.

Influencing Research Priorities

AAVP should consider developing and publishing an updated list of research priorities. The Association should be the definitive voice for veterinary parasites of food and companion animals. The AAVP could partner with other groups, e.g., the AVMA Council on Research and producer groups, to publish an updated list annually. They also could attempt to partner with DHHS CDC to work up an official priority list for zoonotic parasites, possibly working with AVMA as well.

Additionally at the national level AAVP should be seeking opportunities to assert influence, e.g., by assuring that AAVP representatives are appointed to appropriate USDA, NSF, NIH and OSTP committees .

Submitted by Joan K. Lunney, APDL, ANRI, BARC and David Granstrom, Associate Director, ANRI, BARC. July 1, 2006.

AAVP Anthelmintic Resistance Working Group

Over the past 2-3 years the recent demonstrations of drug resistance in cattle, has sparked increasing interest in anthelmintic resistance in gastrointestinal nematodes. Questions are arising from producers, veterinarians, regulatory agencies and within the pharmaceutical industry. This presents an opportunity for AAVP to take the lead in providing these disparate groups with unbiased factual information and recommendations. Under the direction of the current AAVP President, Dan Snyder, we are

putting together an AAVP working group to develop a series of informational packages and sound recommendations concerning sampling techniques and management options that could be used by interested parties. At this time we are still in the formative stage of this effort, and are soliciting from the membership the following:

- recommendations on the general structure of such a group;
- indications of the willingness of individual members to participate; and
- indications concerning what are considered to be the most the important issues that should be addressed by the group.

If you would like to provide feedback please send your responses to either Lou Gasbarre (lgasbarr@anri.barc.usda.gov) or Dan Snyder (Snyder_Daniel_E@Lilly.com).

Submitted by Lou Gasbarre

Announcements

Veterinary Clinical Parasitology, 2006, 7th edition, is now available through Blackwell Publishing (ISBN: 081381734X, $54.99, www.blackwellprofessional.com). Thanks to Drs. Anne M. Zajac and Gary A. Conboy for their efforts in the most recent edition of this valuable text.

Secretary/Treasurer: Please note that the telephone (816-676-6151) and fax (816-676-6874) numbers have changed for the Secretary/Treasurer.

In the Spotlight

This section of the newsletter highlights those individuals near or at the completion of their MSc or PhD. If you want to recognize young talent in your lab we encourage you to send us a short narrative resume including the topic of the graduate research, plans for a career in parasitology and a picture.
Patrick Meeus, Newsletter Editor

ReddyJarugu Balagangadhar (Balu) Reddy

Before coming to the USA, I worked as a Veterinary Officer at the State Veterinary Hospital in Hindupur, Andhra Pradesh, India from July 2000 till July 2004. My job responsibilities included providing Veterinary care to livestock and extension services in rural areas. I studied Veterinary Medicine (Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry) at the College of Veterinary Science in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India (November 1994-November 1999). This four-year academic program and one year of internship trained the students to be skilled veterinarians while also providing basic research skills through small course projects.
I started my Master's program in August 2005 in the Department of Infectious Diseases, University of Georgia (UGA), Athens under the guidance of Dr. Ray Kaplan. My research project is aimed toward developing a greater understanding of the relative changes in gene expression that occur in *Brugia malayi* following treatment with albendazole. In the first phase of this project I am using both in vitro and in vivo methods to study the dynamics of worm death following treatment with albendazole. The second phase will involve using microarray analysis to examine the relative differences in gene expression that occur in worms that survive a dose of albendazole that produces a high level of worm mortality. My long-term goal is to identify targets for chemotherapy and for the development of vaccines.
Submitted by Ray Kaplan

2007 AAVP Membership Renewal

Please use this form for the payment of dues to the AAVP for 2007 and to register (optional) for an electronic subscription to Veterinary Parasitology (VetPar). The 2007 dues year runs from September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007. Please complete the form and mail to the address below. Please pay your dues promptly. The success of the AAVP is at least in part dependent on its fiscal survival. Emeritus members: no dues are necessary; only address and e-mail updates; VetPar subscription optional.

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

FIRST MI LAST

Institution/Business Affiliation_____

Address _____

_____

City_____State/Country_____ZIP_____

Telephone No. _____ Fax No._____

e-mail address _____

(Your email is important if you want to receive reminders / information from AAVP and the on-line subscription of VetPar)

Area(s) of Interest, Research, Teaching, etc.: _____

_____

On-line Subscription to Veterinary Parasitology: ($30.00 annually, optional): Yes ☐ No ☐

Annual Dues: $30.00 ($10.00 for students) in U.S. Funds. Checks must be drawn on a U.S. bank. Make check payable to the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists (AAVP). Please do not make the check out in the name of the Secretary/Treasurer. Checks from Corporations should include the name of the person for whom the dues are being paid. Cash is acceptable. You are welcome to pay ahead for multiple years. AAVP now accepts Credit Cards (MC or VISA) on-line at www.aavp.org.

Amount enclosed:

- $30.00 regular dues only ☐
- $10.00 student dues only ☐
- $60.00 regular dues plus VetPar ☐
- $40.00 student dues plus VetPar ☐

Return to: Dr. Alan A. Marchiondo, Secretary/Treasurer
American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists
c/o IVX Animal Health, Inc.
3915 S. 48th St. Terrace
St. Joseph, MO 64503-4711 USA

If you have any questions about your dues status, please call (phone: 816-676-6151) or email me (alan_marchiondo@ivax.com)

New Membership Application

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF VETERINARY PARASITOLOGISTS - FOUNDED 1956
AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The objectives of the AAVP and its requirements for membership (Articles II and III of the AAVP Constitution) are:

Objectives: "The objectives of the organization shall be to provide for the association of persons interested in the advancement of veterinary parasitology, and for the presentation and discussion of items of common interest, and to further scientific progress by education and research in veterinary parasitology. This association is organized exclusively for scientific and educational purposes within the meaning of section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution, the Association shall not carry out any other activities not permitted to be carried out by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code."

Membership: "Section 1: Members shall consist of those individuals qualified by background, education and interest in veterinary parasitology. Section 2: New members, except honorary and emeritus, shall be admitted by the Secretary-Treasurer with approval of the Executive Committee, after filing application for membership to the association. Section 3: Honorary membership shall be awarded by the Association to persons who are not members of the Association in recognition of outstanding and sustained achievements in veterinary parasitology. Candidates for honorary membership shall be recommended to the awards committee by any member. Nomination for honorary membership shall be made by the Awards Committee to the membership and election shall be majority vote at the annual meeting. Honorary members shall not be eligible to vote and shall not be assessed dues. No more than two (2) honorary members shall be elected in any one year period. Section 4: Upon retirement a member may become an emeritus member on approval of the Executive Committee of a written request to the Secretary-Treasurer for such status. Emeritus members shall retain voting rights but shall not be assessed dues. Section 5: Forfeiture of membership will occur where dues are not paid for at least two consecutive years. A member who has forfeited membership by nonpayment of dues must reapply for membership. Section 6: Expulsion of a member may occur if a motion for expulsion is presented by the Executive Committee at the annual meeting and passed by four-fifths (4/5) of the members present and voting. The member is to be informed in writing of such a motion at least two months in advance of the annual meeting at which the motion is to be presented. Section 7: The Executive Committee may annually invite any firm, association, corporation, institution or subdivision thereof, to become a corporate associate member, for financial support of the Association."

Should you wish to become a member of the AAVP, please provide the following information and send this form and a check or cash (regular membership **$30.00**; student membership **$10.00***, **U.S. currency only**) payable to the AAVP, to the Secretary/Treasurer at the address given below. Dues can now be paid by Credit Card (MC or VISA) on-line at www.aavp.org. **The 2007 dues year runs from September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007. As an AAVP member, an electronic subscription to Veterinary Parasitology (VetPar) is available annually for an additional $30.00.**

_____ _____
Name and Academic Degree (s) Institutional/Business Affiliation

_____ _____
Mailing Address (Office/Lab) Title

_____ _____

_____ _____ _____
Phone Number Fax Number Email Address (**required** to receive AAVP Newsletter and VetPar)

_____
Area(s) of Interest, Research, Teaching, etc.

Amount enclosed (check one): $30.00 Regular dues only ☐ $10.00 Student dues only ☐

$60.00 Regular dues plus VetPar ☐ $40.00 Student dues plus VetPar ☐

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The American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists Newsletter is published three times each year with issues in February, June and October. Contributions to the Newsletter are welcome and should be submitted by the 20th of the month prior to each date of issue.

AAVP Newsletter Deadlines for Submissions

Newsletter	Deadline
February 2007	January 20, 2007
June 2007	May 20, 2007
October 2007	September 20, 2007

Please contact the editor with questions regarding these dates.