

PUTTING THE HORSE FIRST

2008 Annual Report



PUTTING THE HORSE FIRST

DEAR AAEP MEMBERS:

I am pleased to bring you the AAEP's 2008 Annual Report. Reviewing the contents of this report reminds me again that serving as your 2008 president was the ride of a lifetime. Each year your president represents you within the AAEP, within the veterinary community at the local, state, national, and international level, and within the horse industry. Doing so for you was an amazing and humbling experience. If I were pinned down to identify one thing, just one thing, that I would like to have come out of the year, it would be that every single AAEP member understands at the fundamental level how outstanding the AAEP and its members are. The AAEP is truly a dynamic, constantly evolving, volunteer-driven organization dedicated to the horse and the equine veterinarian.



There were many pressing issues that affected our profession this year. Catastrophic injuries in both horse racing and three-day eventing were scrutinized on the national stage. Safety procedures, medication, and equine welfare were openly debated and many difficult questions were posed.

The benefit, however, is that we as equine veterinarians had a unique opportunity to make a difference, and every one of us chose to face these challenges head on. I am very proud of our Tennessee Walking Horse Task Force, which developed an outstanding white paper on abolishing the practice of sorning; our Racing Task Force, whose members deeply immersed themselves into developing two white papers which were released in February 2009; and all of the other AAEP members who are working to improve equine welfare and the practice of equine medicine.

Another notable achievement in 2008 was the completion of a new three-year strategic plan for the association. The three key areas are continuing education, equine welfare advocacy, and growing the profession. The AAEP certainly won't stop the activities in which it is already engaged, but the strategic plan helps us identify trends and develop specific goals to ensure our continued success.

I entered the 2008 presidency honored and humbled, and I left the position even more humbled. It was truly an honor to work with the AAEP board of directors, staff, and the hundreds of members who dedicate their time to further the mission of this wonderfully diverse organization. Thank you again for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I am forever changed. In closing, it would be difficult for me to say which is more exciting – having served as your president or turning the gavel over to an outstanding leader, wonderful human being, and long-time friend, your 2009 president, Harry Werner. Okay, it is not that difficult. It is more exciting to see president Harry take the reins. We're all here for you, Harry!

Sincerely,

Eleanor M. Green, DVM, DACVIM, DABVP
2008 President





To improve the health and welfare of the horse, to further the professional development of its members, and to provide resources and leadership for the benefit of the equine industry.

Membership

The AAEP's membership (as of March 6, 2009) is comprised of 7,998 veterinarians and 1,665 veterinary students. This includes members in the U.S., Canada and over 57 countries worldwide. The following is a snapshot of the AAEP's diverse membership:

Percentage of Practice Devoted to Horses

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 100%: | 44.4% |
| 75-99%: | 23.9% |
| 50-74%: | 9.1% |
| 25-49%: | 10.3% |
| 1-24%: | 12.3% |

Gender

| | |
|---------|-----|
| Male: | 58% |
| Female: | 42% |

Types of Equine Practice

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Performance: | 33.3% |
| Pleasure/Farm: | 28.9% |
| Reproduction: | 12.5% |
| Racing: | 12.3% |
| Other: | 10.1% |
| Work/Ranch: | 2.9% |

Top 3 Membership Countries (outside of North America)

- Australia
- Germany
- United Kingdom

Top 3 Membership States (U.S.)

- California
- Texas
- Florida



2008 HIGHLIGHTS

Welfare Issues Center on Performance Horse Safety

Catastrophic injuries in both horse racing and three-day eventing brought intense scrutiny to these sports in 2008. Safety procedures, medication and equine welfare were debated on the national stage. Veterinarians played key roles, and spokespersons from our On Call program quickly responded to the media and discussed the difficult questions that were posed by the public and the competitors themselves.

Because the AAEP was founded by race-track practitioners more than fifty years

ago, the association knows that veterinarians who treat racehorses are uniquely qualified to develop solutions and provide leadership. The AAEP formed a Racing Task Force to develop two white papers (released in February 2009) that provide safety and welfare recommendations for the racing industry and guidelines on best practices for racetrack and regulatory practitioners. As the association continues to work with industry leaders on these critical issues, the AAEP will ensure that the horse is always the priority.



Recommendations for Eliminating the Practice of Soring Released

Calling it one of the most significant welfare issues affecting any equine breed or discipline, the AAEP's Tennessee Walking Horse Task Force issued recommendations for eliminating the abusive practice known as soring. Soring is the infliction of pain to create an exaggerated gait in horses for training or show purposes. The AAEP is now working with walking horse leaders to encourage the adoption of these much-needed reforms.

AAEP and Intervet/Schering-Plough Create Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign

In 2008, a surge in the number of neglected and abandoned horses in the United States made newspaper headlines from New York to California. Thousands of at-risk horses in the equine population were being severely affected by a struggling economy, high grain and hay prices, and the closure of the U.S.'s three remaining processing plants. In response to this growing need,

the AAEP and Educational Partner Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health created the Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign (UHVRC), a nonprofit program to provide equine vaccines to qualified equine rescue and retirement facilities across the United States. Through the UHVRC, Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health will donate equine vaccines to qualifying equine res-



The Unwanted Horse
Veterinary Relief Campaign

cue and retirement facilities to provide healthcare so they can rehabilitate, revitalize and, ultimately, re-home America's unwanted horses.

Updated Equine Vaccination Guidelines Released

The Infectious Disease Committee issued new guidelines for the administration of vaccinations to horses. The guidelines, which previously existed in a print version, are now an online resource. They are a valuable practice tool and quickly became the most popular resource on the AAEP's Web site.

Don't miss AAEP's 2009 continuing education opportunities

Focus on the Foot and Practice Management Seminar
July 19-21
Columbus, Ohio

Focus on Ophthalmology
October 1-3
Raleigh, N.C.

55th Annual AAEP Convention
December 5-9
Las Vegas, Nev.

New Client Education and Professional Wellness Resources Available to Members

In 2008, additional client resources were introduced to aid member practitioners in educating their clients. The Dentistry Committee launched a campaign promoting the need for a dental examination at least once a year for all horses, and the Owner Education Committee

developed new client brochures and easy-to-use PowerPoint presentations to support members' own efforts to maintain well-informed clients. The Personal and Professional Wellness Task Force highlighted new models of practice through online articles.



Bill Moyer Named 2009 Vice President

William Moyer, DVM, was named the association's 2009 vice president. Dr. Moyer, of College Station, Texas, will serve as president in 2011. Dr. Moyer is Professor of Sports Medicine and head of the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Moyer has been an active AAEP member, most recently serving on the association's board from 2001 – 2004. He chaired the Equine Insurance Committee for three years and has been a member of the Educational Programs Committee. Dr. Moyer also co-facilitated the Equine Dentistry Forum held during the annual convention.

AAEP Foundation Offers New Scholarship and Introduces Additional Fundraising Programs

In 2008, the AAEP Foundation introduced the Winner's Circle Scholarship. In conjunction with Race for Education and Platinum Performance, the goal of this program is to award one scholar-

ship per year to a deserving fourth-year student at each of the 34 colleges of veterinary medicine throughout North America and the West Indies that sponsors a student chapter of the AAEP. The Foundation revitalized their fundraising efforts in 2008 by challenging the AAEP membership to donate in 2009 through two matching funds programs. The Mystery Match Challenge is the result of a mystery donor who will match all 2009 donations up to \$250,000. The Equine Memorial Matching Challenge will match all monies donated to the



Equine Memorial Program in 2009 up to \$25,000. The \$25,000 match will be generously donated by Fort Dodge Animal Health.



Board of Directors Develops New Three-Year Strategic Plan

The board of directors developed a new three-year strategic plan for the association last July. While the organization has a very clear mission statement, the strategic plan, which consists of three main goals, helps the organization focus on emerging trends and serves as a roadmap for future leaders.

Goal one is expanding the AAEP's leadership role as a provider of world-class

continuing education. An additional Focus meeting will be added in 2009 to meet members' desire for smaller, regional CE events. The development of electronic CE and in-depth courses is also a part of the plan.

Goal two is increasing the AAEP's role as an advocate for the horse. This includes building on our current work by evaluating all welfare issues to learn

where greater veterinary involvement is needed. Extensive resources will also be developed for members and the media on all welfare topics affecting the horse.

Goal three is growing the profession by attracting students to equine medicine and supporting new graduates during their first years in practice.

2009 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Harry W. Werner, VMD

President-Elect

Nathaniel A. White II, DVM

Vice President

William Moyer, DVM

Immediate Past President

Eleanor M. Green, DVM

Treasurer

Jeffrey T. Berk, VMD

Executive Director

David L. Foley



2009 AAEP Executive Committee

District I

Peter C. Bousum, VMD

District II

B.A. Rucker, DVM

District III

Scott A. Hay, DVM

District IV

James P. Morehead, DVM

District V

Daniel A. Wilson, DVM

District VI

Julia Wilson, DVM

District VII

Dickson Varner, DVM

District VIII

W. David Wilson, BVMS, MS

District IX

Debra C. Sellon, DVM

District X

Roxy J. Bell, DVM, MSc, DACT

International Board Member

Desmond P. Leadon, MVB, FRCVS

Equine Industry Board Member

David Whitaker, Ph.D.

Directors at Large

Rustin M. Moore, DVM

Brian S. Carroll, DVM

Carol K. Clark, DVM

Boards Members Whose Terms of Service Ended in 2008:

Ann E. Dwyer, DVM

John P. Hurtgen, DVM, Ph.D., DACT

Dana Zimmer, DVM, DACVIM,
DABVP

R. Stuart Shoemaker, DVM, DACVS

Sergio H. Salinas, MVZ

Kathleen M. Anderson, DVM

2008 BALANCE SHEET

for the period ended 12/31/08

Current Assets

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Petty Cash | 300.00 |
| Cash in Bank/Traditional | 30,643.13 |
| Cash in Bank/KY Bank | 6,125.51 |
| Savings - Traditional | 973,325.80 |
| Certificates of Deposit | 500,000.00 |
| CD Interest Account | 9,013.17 |
| AAEP Depreciation Account | 210,151.39 |
| Reserve Fund-DA Davidson | 1,134,156.52 |
| Accounts Receivable | 95,282.53 |
| Prepaid Expenses | 92,603.17 |

Total Current Assets 3,051,601.22

Property & Equipment

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Office Building | 789,644.59 |
| Furniture & Fixtures | 130,994.35 |
| Equipment | 209,558.66 |

Total Prop. & Equipment 1,130,197.60
Accumulated Depreciation -471,976.02

Net Property & Equipment 658,221.58

Other Assets

Deposits 20,000.00

Total Other Assets 20,000.00

Total Assets 3,729,822.80

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Accounts Payable | 771,953.23 |
| AAEP Foundation Funds | 7,270.00 |
| Cafeteria Plan Withheld | 904.74 |
| Deferred Dues Revenue | 931,338.74 |
| Deferred Seminar Reg Fees | 18,200.00 |

Total Current Liabilities 1,729,666.71

Long Term Liabilities 0.00

Total Long Term Liabilities 0.00

Total Liabilities 1,729,666.71

Member Equity

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Members' Equity | 2,412,118.59 |
| Unrealized Gain or Loss | -430,879.26 |
| Current Earnings | 18,916.76 |

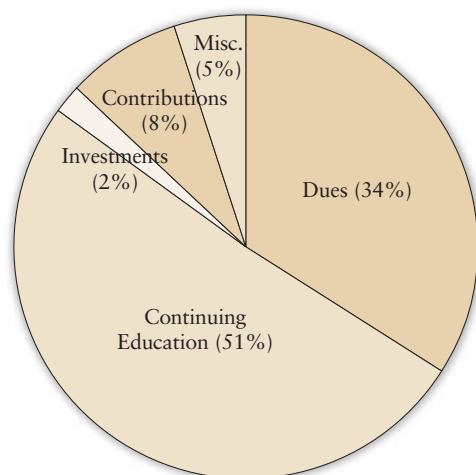
Total Equity 2,000,156.09

Total Liab. & Equity 3,729,822.80

2008 INCOME STATEMENT

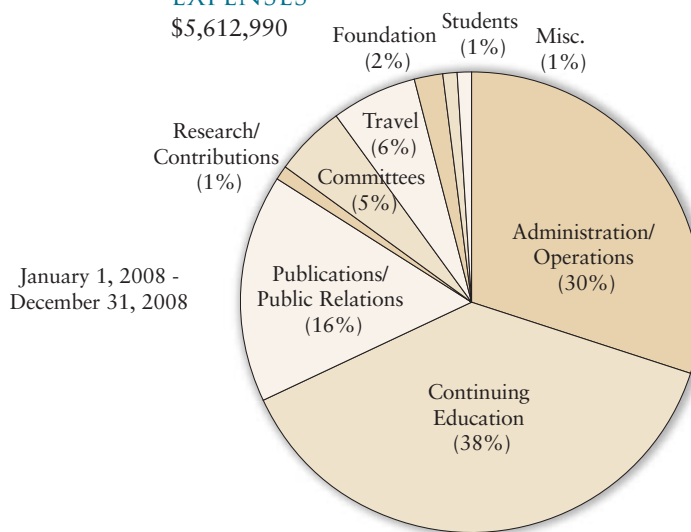
REVENUE

\$5,631,907



EXPENSES

\$5,612,990



January 1, 2008 -
December 31, 2008