

NAVIGATOR

The Newsletter of the AAEP Foundation



New look and vision: Help us help horses



The new look and vision for the AAEP Foundation is here! Unveiled at the AAEP Convention in Seattle, Wash., the Foundation's new branding campaign takes the AAEP's charitable arm in a new and exciting direction.

Since its inception in 1994, the AAEP Foundation has allocated more than \$750,000 towards equine research, education and benevolent programs that improve the health and welfare of the horse.

Throughout 2006, you will be hearing and learning more about what your Foundation is doing for the health of horses. We look to you, our members, to help us promote the benefits of the Foundation to your clients, horse owners and other members. We also hope to have the membership support these new efforts and, in turn, the Foundation will assist you with helping your clients and their horses through better horse health.

Fundraising hits record high in 2005

Thanks to the generous support of AAEP members, horse owners, corporate sponsors and Educational Partners, the AAEP Foundation raised a record \$225,000 in 2005. With the support of AAEP Educational Partner Fort Dodge Animal Health, more than \$118,000 was raised during the silent and live auctions at the 2005 Foundation Celebration. Additionally, the Equine Memorial Contribution program resulted in more than \$35,000 in donations, and the Horse Sense calendar program generated

more than \$44,000 in proceeds for the Foundation in 2005.

The AAEP supports the administrative expenses of the Foundation, so all donations can be used for programs that help the horse. All veterinarians and horse owners can support the Foundation's goal of improving horse health by making a donation. For more information about the AAEP Foundation and how you can help us help horses, visit www.aaepfoundation.org or contact Amelia Geran at 800-443-0177 or ageran@aaep.org.



Banquet attendees had an impressive selection of items on which to bid during the Foundation Celebration silent auction.

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Board approves unwanted horse contribution

At the 2006 Resort Symposium held in Rome, Italy, the AAEP Foundation Board of Directors approved a \$5,000 founding contribution to assist the Unwanted Horse Coalition. According to AAEP President Dr. Tom Brokken, "The plight of the unwanted horse is an important issue for veterinarians and all of the equine industry. Supporting this effort is a natural extension of the Foundation's mission."

The nation's first-ever Unwanted Horse Summit was sponsored by the AAEP last year, and efforts are continuing to develop long-term strategies that will reduce the number of unwanted horses in the U.S. In addition to the AAEP, equine industry groups representing breed, sport, veterinary, welfare and rescue organizations are working on this issue.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Lydia Gray

Disaster relief funds help feed horses on Gulf Coast

In February, the Foundation's Equine Disaster Relief Fund donated more than \$26,000 to help feed horses in both Louisiana and Mississippi that have been left without pasture lands due to flooding and damage from hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Horse Owners of Florida help horses in Mississippi

When Hurricane Katrina devastated much of Louisiana and Mississippi, thousands of people were left homeless and thousands of animals were lost in the storm or abandoned when their owners fled the area. The desire to help was felt by Sara "Sally" Warner, who holds a PhD in history, culture and theory, and also owns and operates a center for breeding, importing, training and showing warmblood horses.

Immediately following the storm, Dr. Warner wanted to help anyone going in to rescue or take supplies to animals. When she couldn't find anyone working on direct relief efforts, she went to friends and associates and asked them to donate supplies that she could deliver herself into the disaster area. This led to a series of trips from her north Florida home to Mississippi, hauling a three-horse trailer loaded with feed, hay, medical supplies and helping hands.

Since September 2005, the Horse Owners of Florida, led by Dr. Warner and her friends, have been hauling feed to the horse owners in Lakeshore, Miss., every two weeks. The Foundation has proudly donated \$5,200 from its Equine Disaster Relief Fund to help this effort continue through the winter. According to Dr. Warner, "This funding will help us get the much-needed tractor trailer shipments of hay to the area, allowing us to reach more horses in a timely manner."

So far over 500 bales of hay and approximately two tons of feed have been purchased with AAEP Foundation funding, with plans for more every two weeks. Dr. Warner is currently arranging a large shipment direct from a hay dealer, but acknowledges that as winter progresses, hay supplies become scarce. "We may have to go as far away as Tennessee and Kentucky to keep hay in the Lakeshore area, and every trip in we see other areas, in addition to Lakeshore, where people are living in tents or FEMA trailers and desper-



Dr. Sara Warner's group delivering feed.

ately need to feed their horses. The struggle in Mississippi is not over." For an update on Dr. Warner's relief efforts, visit <http://www.blackbayfarm.com/articles.htm>.

Hay is for Horses in Louisiana

In another equine disaster relief effort announced in late February called *Hay is for Horses*, the AAEP Foundation teamed up with four other equine organizations to provide 6,500 bales of hay to nearly 800 horses in Vermilion Parish, La., that were affected by Hurricane Rita.

The desperate need for hay, feed and vaccines was identified through a local extension service where it was noted that many cattle and horses were killed, and crops, supplies, homes and property were destroyed. While the remaining cattle in that area have been supported with hay, the horses, which are mostly ranch-type horses, appear not to have fared as well.

Consequently, the AAEP Foundation, the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association (LVMA) Equine Committee Foundation combined financial resources to donate approximately \$59,000 to the relief effort, with \$21,000 coming from the AAEP Foundation.

The Equine Health Studies Program (EHSP) at the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine and the Blue Devils Horse Platoon (BDHP) of the Walker Army Reserve Center in Grand Rapids, Mich., located the hay and are coordinating delivery and distribution. Many individuals and hay producers also have assisted in the efforts. The *Hay is for Horses* program will continue in Vermilion Parish until spring.

Disbursement of disaster relief funds continues

In September, the AAEP Foundation created an Equine Disaster Relief Fund to help with the recovery and rebuilding efforts for equine victims of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as well as future disasters that may occur. More than \$135,000 has been raised for this fund, and more than \$75,000 has been distributed to help horses in need in Louisiana and Mississippi.

The Foundation continues to work with agencies and veterinary members from the region affected by these disasters to identify and assist with the long-term needs in these equine communities. During the immediate aftermath of these storms, we coordinated supply and feed donations to these regions via AAEP's

Educational Partners and others within the horse industry.

As disaster relief efforts continue in the Gulf Coast region, and unfortunately since future disasters may occur, the Foundation has decided to continue its Equine Disaster Relief Fund. Donations to the fund received during 2006, not designated specifically towards the Gulf region relief efforts, will be held for future disaster needs. Thank you to all who have supported this effort, and for any future donations. Please visit www.aaepfoundation.org to make a donation to the fund.

Horse in Louisiana flood waters.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Neal Hamilton

Students benefit from Foundation

A key element of the Foundation's mission is investing in the education of future practitioners. A three-year program is underway that helps educate AAEP student members through hands-on courses. These Foundation-sponsored programs bring AAEP members together with veterinary students to teach short courses on the topics of dentistry, emergency preparedness and farrier techniques. The courses will continue through 2008.

Additionally, the AAEP Foundation awarded youth scholarships and sponsorships in 2005. The Foundation provided \$44,000 in funds to veterinary students in AAEP student chapters to attend the annual convention, as well as the Opportunities in Equine Practice. The Opportunities in Equine Practice event is designed to attract veterinary students to a career in equine veterinary medicine.

In an effort to reach younger equine-oriented individuals, the Foundation selected one high school student and one college student to receive a free trip to learn more about horse health at Horseman's Day 2005 in Seattle, Wash.

Shadow a Veterinarian program created to benefit student members

The AAEP Student Program and the AAEP Foundation recently created the *Shadow a Veterinarian* program for students of all ages interested in pursuing a

career in equine veterinary medicine. Participating member veterinarians will serve in a mentor-like capacity, and students will benefit from diverse experiences, such as riding along on farm calls or spending a day in the clinic. The veterinarian and student determine the duration of their mentorship. For questions or to sign up, please contact Mandy Roberts at 800-443-0177 or mroberts@aaep.org. A list of participating veterinarians will be posted on the AAEP Web site for students to view and make direct contact.

2005 ALSIC/AAEP Foundation scholarship recipients announced

The AAEP Foundation again joined with the American Live Stock Insurance Company to offer scholarships to fourth-year veterinary students who have indicated a strong desire to pursue a career in equine medicine. In addition to academic excellence, recipients are selected based on leadership ability and involvement in activities that benefit the health and welfare of the horse. Eight veterinary students were selected as the 2005 recipients of the \$2,500 scholarships. The AAEP and ALSIC have teamed up over the past 16 years to award over \$300,000 in scholarship funds to veterinary students.

Student members at the 2005 AAEP Annual Convention, held in Seattle, Wash.

Congratulations to the following 2005 ALSIC/AAEP Foundation scholarship recipients:

Chris Bell - *University of Saskatchewan (WCVN)*

Dale Brown - *Kansas State University*

Kelly Ann Butterworth - *Cornell University*

Mary Gochnauer - *The Ohio State University*

Lydia Gathagan Hamilton - *University of Pennsylvania*

Misty C. Jordan - *Texas A&M University*

Maureen Kelleher - *University of California, Davis*

Travis Tull - *University of Georgia*





Horse Facts campaign promotes benefits of research

The AAEP Foundation collaborated with the Foundation for Biomedical Research (FBR) to launch a new educational program entitled *HORSE FACTS* during the 2005 AAEP Annual Convention. Supported in part by a \$25,000 grant from the AAEP Foundation, this program aims to promote public understanding, respect and support for the vital role that equine research plays in advancing equine veterinary health and medicine. The proof can be found in the recent developments of new equine vaccinations and infertility treatments, medications for ulcers and seizures, orthopedic surgical techniques and innovations in post-surgical care for both animals and humans, as cited at the *HORSE FACTS* launch in December. To learn more about this campaign, or to receive promotional materials for your practice, visit www.horsefacts.org.

Adjunct bleeder medication study funded

More than \$350,000 has been awarded to equine research since the Foundation's inception. The most recent research project is the AAEP Foundation's collaboration with the Racing and Medication Testing Consortium and the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation to provide \$75,000 in funding for a one-year study on adjunct bleeder medication. The principal investigator is Dr. Howard Erickson of Kansas State University. To view a press release about this project, visit www.aaep.org/press_room.php.

Foundation coordinates first Equine Research Summit

In April of this year, the Foundation will host, in conjunction with other industry stakeholders, the first-ever Equine Research Summit. This summit will bring together top researchers, funding agencies and industry representatives to discuss and prioritize research needs for the horse industry. Agenda topics will include attracting more researchers to the profession, procuring more funding and more collaboration among researchers. A report will be published following the summit, ensuring AAEP members benefit from the new information gleaned from this gathering. The AAEP Foundation has hosted many pan-

els in the past, including an Equine Genome Panel, Laminitis Blue Ribbon Panel, Equine Respiratory Panel, and in 2005, the Eighth International Equine Colic Research Symposium.



Research summaries needed for EquineResearch.net

We need your help with our ongoing effort to document worldwide equine research efforts. The AAEP Foundation requests all members affiliated with ongoing research to submit a synopsis of these studies for input on the Web site www.equineresearch.net. This site is an on-line, keyword-searchable database of current equine research and is available to the public and scientific community. Its goal is to decrease unnecessary duplication of research and foster sharing of information between researchers at universities and equine organizations. To submit your studies, please contact Amelia Geran at ageran@aaep.org.

New research scholarship announced

The Foundation recently announced a new research scholarship to be awarded in late 2006. Titled the AAEP Foundation Research Fellow, the goal of this scholarship is to supplement post-residency research while addressing the increasing need to direct future researchers to the field of equine veterinary research. AAEP-member graduates of AVMA-accredited schools/colleges of veterinary medicine who are conducting equine research are encouraged to apply for this \$5,000 grant. This concept was developed by past presidents of the AAEP, who will award the scholarship. Applications must be received in the AAEP office by July 1, 2006. The winner will be notified on Nov. 1, 2006, and will travel to the AAEP Annual Convention held Dec. 2-6, in San Antonio, Texas to accept the scholarship. For more information, or to download an application, visit the scholarship section of www.aaepfoundation.org.

Thank you to our 2005 donors

The Foundation proudly thanks all AAEP members, horse owners, individuals, equine industry organizations and corporate partners who supported our efforts to help the horse in 2005. Whether through an auction donation or purchase, equine memorial contribution, general donation, equine disaster relief or other donation method, your gift makes a difference. Thank you!

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| | Carolina Equine Clinic | | |
| | Dr. Robert Carr | | |

Committee member service

The AAEP Foundation wishes to thank the following Foundation Advisory Committee members whose terms ended in 2004. Your service and dedication are greatly appreciated:

Dr. Bobby Lewis

The Foundation welcomes the following new committee members:

Dr. Reynolds Cowles, Jr.

Dr. Robert Shideler

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And all others who
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White paper panel conclusions available on-line

The Foundation regularly convenes panels of equine researchers to determine the future needs and directions of pressing health issues. White papers of the following panel conclusions are now available on the Foundation's Web site, www.aepfoundation.org:

Colic Research Panel report

Immediately following the Eighth International Equine Colic Research Symposium, held in August 2005 in Quebec City, Canada, the Colic Research Panel met to discuss the future direction of research on equine colic. That meeting produced the Colic Research Panel Report.

The AAEP Foundation, with the support of AAEP Educational Partner Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, put the Symposium together as a way to exchange information about colic among researchers, help increase collaboration and stimulate new research. Topics ranged from the latest information on colic, to shock, gastric ulcers, intestinal motility and diagnosis of the acute abdomen. Many of the advances that will affect the way veterinarians treat colic and related problems in the next few years were presented at this series of lectures and poster sessions.

Laminitis Panel conclusions

The first-ever Equine Laminitis Research Panel and Meeting, held in July 2004 met

to summarize the state of laminitis research. A list of those conclusions and recommendations to help direct future research is now available.

More than 40 researchers and graduate students from around the world as well as representatives from the equine industry, funding foundations and equine publications participated in the Equine Laminitis Research Panel and Meeting. The event was sponsored by the AAEP Foundation, the American Quarter Horse Association Foundation, the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation and the Morris Animal Foundation.

Respiratory System priorities for research

A report of a panel held in conjunction with the World Equine Airway Symposium at Cornell University on July 19-22, 2005 is now available. The group addressed the questions provided by Nathaniel White, II, DVM, on behalf of the Foundation. Infectious and non-infectious diseases were considered separately. In each section of the report, there is a statement of issues followed by a list of research priorities.

To access any of these papers, please visit the research section of www.aepfoundation.org, and click on the Panels and White Papers heading.

Researchers learn new information about colic at the Eighth International Equine Colic Research Symposium held in Quebec City, Canada in 2005.



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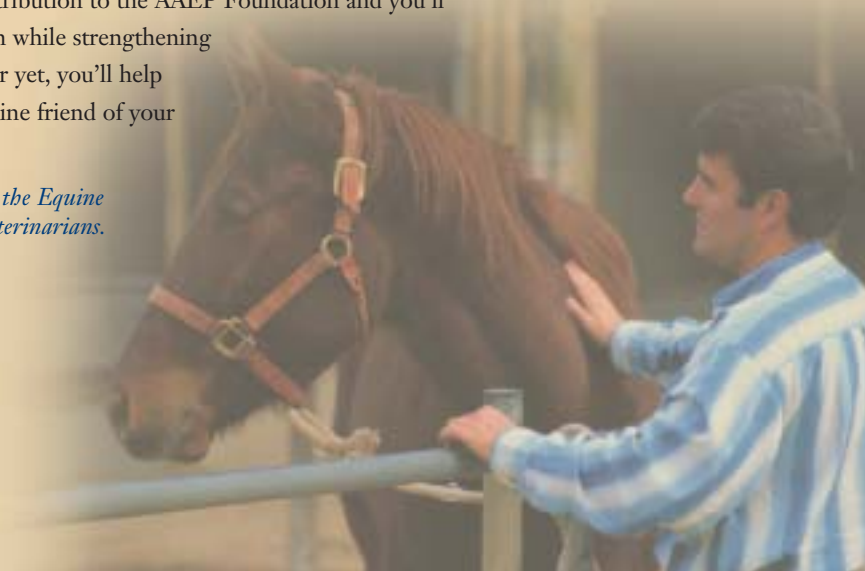
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