Annual convention highlights Foundation’s investment in future of equine medicine

In fulfilling its mission to improve the welfare of the horse, projects and programs supported by the AAEP Foundation touch virtually every corner of North America and beyond, from the classroom and research lab to the local barn and even the rugged terrain of Central America where Equitarians fix the tough old equids upon whose backs impoverished third-world families depend for sustenance.

Some of these funding recipients will be spotlighted in this issue of Navigator—most within the donor listings beginning on page 5—but the diversity of supported projects and programs share a common denominator: the generosity of AAEP members, horse owners and equine organizations that makes these projects possible.

The week of the AAEP Annual Convention traditionally is the Foundation’s most important fund-raising week of the year. During the 2016 meeting, held Dec. 3–7 in Orlando, Fla., combined proceeds from a benefit golf tournament, silent auction, special gifts and the inaugural Collegiate Challenge—won by Texas A&M University—raised more than $97,000 in support of the Foundation’s mission.

While the convention represents a significant funding source, the event also spotlights the Foundation’s substantial investment in the development of the next generation of equine veterinarians through support of student educational programming and award of scholarships. More important than ever given the rising cost of a veterinary education, scholarship support awarded at the convention to current students and recent graduates totaled $134,000.

This amount included award of the inaugural $75,000 Coyote Rock Ranch Veterinary Scholarship to Alaina Kringen, a fourth-year student at Iowa State University. She joined American Quarter Horse Foundation recipients Josh Singer and Jenni Wright in earning a Coyote Rock Ranch Scholarship.

Avid horsewoman and horse health advocate Penelope Knight created the Coyote Rock Ranch Veterinary Scholarship to fund four $75,000 scholarships for AAEP student members in 2017.

Foundation officials accept a $300,000 donation on behalf of Penelope Knight and her Coyote Rock Ranch to fund four $75,000 scholarships for AAEP student members in 2017.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To serve as the charitable arm of the AAEP to improve the welfare of the horse.
Don’t let infectious diseases get the jump on your horses

The equine herpesvirus outbreaks that cropped up across the country this winter, including a persistent outbreak first diagnosed in December at the Fair Grounds race track in New Orleans, La., that quarantined seven of the track’s 49 barns and affected field size, handle and horse movement, reinforce the importance of real-time infectious disease updates to raise awareness and mitigate disease spread.

The Equine Disease Communication Center (EDCC), the industry-funded hub for monitoring and communicating accurate equine infectious disease information, has elevated the collection and dissemination processes so that industry stakeholders can implement proper precautions in the wake of reported outbreaks.

Through email and social media, you can be alerted of confirmed outbreaks and updates to previously reported outbreaks. Sign up through equinediseasecc.org to join the more than 2,300 individuals receiving outbreak alert emails. Outbreak information is also posted on social media. Like the EDCC on Facebook at facebook.com/EquineDiseaseCC and follow @EquineDiseaseCC on Twitter.

Visit equinediseasecc.org and click the “Sponsors” link to learn how you can make a tax-deductible contribution to support the operation of the EDCC.

Dr. Walter Zent honored through My Mentor program

Dr. Walter Zent, longtime practitioner at Hagyard Equine Medical Institute in Lexington, Ky., has been added to the My Mentor Honor Wall thanks to colleagues, clients and others who nominated and donated a combined $5,000 to the AAEP Foundation in honor of Dr. Zent’s mentorship throughout his esteemed career. He joins Hughie Dean “Mac” McInturff on the honor wall.

To nominate, donate, view the honor wall or acquire more information, visit aaepfoundation.org and select “Other Ways” in the “How to Help” drop-down menu.

A dozen additional veterinarians, family members and others have been nominated but are awaiting final gifts before their names are added to the honor wall. Current nominees are:

- Bane Bigbie, Sr.
- Dr. Thomas D. Brokken
- Dr. Loren H. Evans
- Dr. Edward H. Fallon
- Dr. William D. Fishback
- Dr. Richard D. Holder
- Dr. William B. Ley
- Dr. David C. Parrish, III
- Dr. Charles W. Raker
- Dr. Howard C. Raven
- Dr. Charles F. Reid
- Dr. Jacob Eugene “Gene” Schneider

Any size gift is welcome; however, a combined $500 minimum must be donated to become a nominee. Once donations for a nominee reach a combined $5,000, the nominee’s name, photo and information are added to the My Mentor Honor Wall. The goal is raise $1 million to endow the My Mentor scholarships.

Annual convention highlights, continued

Scholarships in 2015. During the convention’s opening session, it was announced that four $75,000 Coyote Rock Ranch Scholarships will be awarded by the AAEP Foundation in 2017 thanks to a generous gift of $300,000 from Knight and her Coyote Rock Ranch.

In addition, five second- and third-year students each received a $5,000 Merck Animal Health/AAEP Foundation Scholarship; six graduates in 2016 earned $4,000 awards through the Zoetis/AAEP Foundation Scholarship program and the Northwestern Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association Equine Symposium/AAEP Foundation Scholarship program; and a pair of promising researchers received $5,000 awards through the AAEP Foundation Past Presidents’ Research Fellow and the EQUUS Foundation Research Fellow.

The Foundation thanks its scholarship and convention event sponsors along with its global network of donors for their support of equine welfare and those in the field, referral hospital, laboratory, classroom and elsewhere who administer it.
Noted sport horse practitioner assumes reins of AAEP Foundation

Dr. Richard (Rick) Mitchell, co-founder in 1989 of Fairfield Equine Associates in Newtown, Conn., has been appointed chair of the Foundation Advisory Council, succeeding Dr. Jeff Berk whose three-year term expired.

As part-owner of Fairfield Equine, a sport horse practice that has served the United States Equestrian Team for over two decades, Dr. Mitchell’s specialties include equine medicine and surgery with an emphasis on lameness and imaging.

Last year marked his sixth visit to the Olympic Games as an attending veterinarian for the U.S. Equestrian Team. Dr. Mitchell is also an accomplished rider, having won two national championships and one world championship in various disciplines.

A 1974 graduate of the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Mitchell has served on the boards of multiple equine industry organizations, including a current stint as a trustee for the American Horse Council and chair of its Health and Regulatory Committee.

In addition to Dr. Mitchell’s appointment as chair, the Foundation Advisory Council recently welcomed four new members: Dr. Mark Baus, Dr. Rocky Bigbie, Dr. Elizabeth Fish and former Foundation chair Dr. Nat White.

Council members whose terms expired in 2016 are Dr. Jeff Blea, Dr. Amy Grice, Dr. Jackie Shellow and Dr. Tracy Turner. We sincerely thank each of them for their dedicated service and commitment to the Foundation and its mission.

Combine horse health and personal goals into a unique gift

The spring issue of Navigator traditionally includes our expression of gratitude to the many individuals, corporations, farms and others whose generosity and concern for the horse makes the Foundation’s mission possible.

While most of our donors make a simple cash contribution, with AAEP members often doing so at the time of dues renewal, did you know there are a multitude of giving options to meet one’s individual goals?

Every donation helps the horse but you can tailor your gift within IRS rules to minimize income or estate taxes, avoid capital gains taxes or achieve another desired outcome. There are gift options that won’t affect your cash flow or lifestyle. Other options will actually pay you income while expanding your giving ability.

Whether you’re seeking to make an immediate impact with your gift or create a sustainable impact that will benefit the welfare of horses for years to come, explore the multitude of giving options at your disposal at aaep.plannedgiving.org; or contact Jodie Bingham, Foundation development coordinator, at (859) 233-0147 or jbingham@aaep.org.
Legacy gift to spur scientific discovery, welfare advancements

Supporting causes that benefit the horse is essential to equine surgeon and university professor Dr. Wayne McIlwraith and former racetrack practitioner Dr. Nancy Goodman. One such cause is the AAEP Foundation, which Dr. McIlwraith previously chaired.

By including the Foundation in their estate plan, the couple are members of the Legacy Society. They recently discussed their estate gift, which they said will benefit horse, owner and practitioner by aiding in the discovery and advancement of science-based treatments for persistent medical mysteries.

Describe the important role horses have played in your lives. Wayne: I was fascinated by horses from my early days in Oamaru, New Zealand, sneaking up to watch the occasional race meetings in our small town unbeknownst to my mother. I was taught to ride by my aunt who showed show jumpers but then didn’t really focus on horses until my internship in large animal surgery at the University of Guelph and onto the residency and Ph.D. at Purdue. I really started getting involved in the equine industry as a whole when I started doing arthroscopic surgery.

Nancy: I rode as a child. With the pressures of university studies, veterinary school and keeping ahead financially, I couldn’t afford to ride in college but team roped during veterinary school. I went to veterinary school at Colorado State University to become an equine racetrack veterinarian and achieved that goal when I went to work for Dr. Bart Baker at Equine Medical Center after graduating in 1981. That led to a 20-year career based at Los Alamitos. I also took up riding again showing show hunters, including being Amateur Owner Hunter Champion in California two years in a row. After retirement from the racetrack, my next career has been showing and breeding horses based on our farm in Colorado.

Is there an important moment, person or special reason connected with AAEP that influenced your decision to include the AAEP Foundation in your estate plans? Nancy: We are both long-term members of AAEP and were always supportive from the time the AAEP Foundation was conceived. We became more focused when Wayne chaired the Foundation Advisory Council from 2008 to 2013. In our various experiences with fundraising, it is certainly important that when you are doing it you also have to be participating! Including the AAEP in estate plans gives an opportunity to make a larger donation to support the ongoing work. We have always prioritized the Orthopaedic Research Center at Colorado State University as well as AAEP and ACVS in our annual donations and have continued this into our estate planning.

When you think of the AAEP Foundation, what key words or phrases come to mind? Wayne: Ensuring the welfare of the horse as well as we can. Our job as equine veterinarians is fixing horses, whether it be by individual diagnosis and optimal state-of-the-art treatment or through research answering the important questions that have still not been solved. Supportive research and recommendations based on science for current veterinarians as well as future generations will enable them to best serve their clients and the horses.

What legacy do you hope to leave through your estate gift? Wayne: This legacy is for the future benefit of horses, not a personal legacy to us. Having served on the Foundation Advisory Council for six years, I know that an accumulated corpus will be carefully used by the AAEP focusing on optimal care and education. Hopefully these actions inspire others to incorporate the AAEP Foundation into their estate planning.

If you’d like, talk about the steps, considerations or thought process that went into your planning. Wayne: Both of us appreciate what our careers as equine veterinarians have brought us in terms of pleasure, continued passion for what we do and, ultimately, a fantastic lifestyle. Much of our career successes are attributable to mentoring by equine veterinarians, great relationships all over the world with equine veterinarians and AAEP.

Nancy: Philanthropy is an important focus for us and estate planning is a critical part of life to ensure that our money goes to the worthy causes that have meant so much to us.

Interested in joining the Legacy Society?
Contact Jodie Bingham, Foundation development coordinator at (859) 233-0147 or jbingham@aaep.org.
You make it possible!

We extend our sincere appreciation to those who included the AAEP Foundation in their charitable giving in 2016. The generosity of AAEP members and their partners, clients and friends enable the Foundation to provide much-needed financial support to programs and initiatives that enrich the lives of horses and their caretakers around the globe. As a reminder, the entirety of every gift goes directly toward the welfare of the horse; no portion is used for administrative or fundraising costs.

Every effort has been made to accurately honor each and every contributor to the Foundation from Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2016. If you notice an error, please accept our apology and notify us so that we may correct the error and our records.

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January 1 - December 31, 2016

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($25,000 - $99,999)
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Estate of Michelle M. LeBlanc

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Stuart E. Brown
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Dr. C.G. Freeny prepares for a castration with assistance from her husband, Gerrod Dobecka, and Texas A&M veterinary students Mikaela Gondolfe and Erin Ricketts at an Operation Gelding clinic in Flower Mound, Texas, in December 2016. Foundation support of the Unwanted Horse Coalition’s Operation Gelding program has aided in the castration of 1,562 stallions at 122 clinics in 31 states through the conclusion of 2016.

Natalie Lord, a fourth-year student at Ross University, rasps the toe of a horse’s hoof during the 7th Equitarian Workshop, held Jan. 21-28, 2017, in Costa Rica. Lord was one of three students or recent graduates to receive scholarship assistance from the AAEP Foundation to participate in the workshop and provide much-needed care to the region’s working equids.
A student practices her dentistry skills under the watchful eye of Dr. Jon Gieche during a Foundation-sponsored Essential Skills Workshop at Michigan State University in January.

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- Eileen Kellner
- Lisa Kelly
Texas A&M University doctoral candidate Dr. Canaan Whitfield, center, receives the 2016 AAEP Foundation Past President’s Research Fellow from 2016 AAEP Foundation Chairman Dr. Jeff Berk and 2016 AAEP President Dr. Kathleen Anderson. Dr. Whitfield’s research examines the role of equine gastrointestinal microbiota and their metabolites in non-steroidal anti-inflammatory enteropathy, Clostridium difficile-associated enterocolitis and intestinal anastomotic leakage.

Texas A&M University doctoral candidate Dr. Canaan Whitfield, center, receives the 2016 AAEP Foundation Past President’s Research Fellow from 2016 AAEP Foundation Chairman Dr. Jeff Berk and 2016 AAEP President Dr. Kathleen Anderson. Dr. Whitfield’s research examines the role of equine gastrointestinal microbiota and their metabolites in non-steroidal anti-inflammatory enteropathy, Clostridium difficile-associated enterocolitis and intestinal anastomotic leakage.
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Dianna Ziaket
Dianna Zlaket

Dr. Cal Davis floats a horse’s teeth during the Texas Equine Veterinary Association’s Equitarian project in Guatemala in October 2016. The project, which received financial support from the Foundation, provided needed veterinary care to hundreds of working equids, training support for local veterinarians and students, and education of the animals’ owners.

A student receives hands-on instruction during a podiatry lab at the 2016 AAEP Annual Convention. Student labs were funded in part by the AAEP Foundation.
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Zoetis

Presidents’ Circle
($25,000 - $99,999)
American Quarter Horse Association
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January 1 - December 31, 2016

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The League of Agricultural & Equine Centers, Inc.
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Veterinary Medical Center
Waller Equine Hospital
Wilhite & Frees Equine Hospital
Wisconsin Horse Council

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Clay Creek Equine Veterinary Services
Cleary Lake Veterinary Hospital
Coastal Veterinary Medicine, Inc.
Colorado River Veterinary Services
Colts Head Veterinary Services
Comstock Equine Hospital
Cornerstone Equine Services
County Line Equine Practice
Crown 3 Equine Veterinary Services

Five second- and third-year students receive Merck Animal Health/AAEP Foundation Scholarships during the AAEP’s 62nd Annual Convention. From left: Colton McIntuff, University of Tennessee; Sarah Appleby, University of Wisconsin; Sarah Morelli, Michigan State University; Molly Viner, University of California, Davis; and Zach Hulbert, Auburn University.
Friend ($1 - $499) cont.

Dakota Hills Veterinary Clinic
Davie County Large Animal Hospital
Davis Equine, LLC
Del Oeste Equine Hospital
Delmarva Equine Clinic
Des Moines Equine Veterinary Services
Desert Edge Equine Veterinary Services
Doctors Choice Supplements-Equi-Shine
Eggleston Equine LLC
Eleven Point Equine Clinic
Equine Medical Center of Ocala PL
Equine Medical LLC
Equine Medical Services LLC
Equine Services LLC
Equine Veterinary Dental Services
Equine Veterinary Hospital of Northern Indiana
Equine Veterinary Practice LLC
Erskine & Associates Equine Veterinary Practice, LLC
F9 Equine Clinic PLLC
Foundation Equine Clinic
Foxdale Equine Veterinary Services
Freedom Run Equine Veterinary Service
Genesee Valley Equine Hospital
Grand Prix Equine, LLC
Great Basin Equine Hospital
Harbour Ridge Equine Harmony Equine Veterinary Services PC
Highland Hill Veterinary Service
Housatonic Veterinary Care LLC
Irongate Equine Clinic Ltd.
Island Equine Vet Services Ltd.
Jensen’s Animal Hospital
Kansas Horse Council
Keeneland Association Inc.
Kentucky Horse Council, Inc.
Kentucky Lake Equine Hospital
Kleinpeter Equine Sports Medicine, LLC
Kentucky Thoroughbred Farm Managers’ Club
Lake County Equine Practice LLC
LakeShore Equine Services
Lisbon Veterinary Clinic Inc.
Maryland Horse Council
Massachusetts Equine Clinic
Mayfield Veterinary Clinic
McOwen Veterinary Services Ltd.
Mersant International Ltd.
Mid Coast Equine
Mid-South Equine
Mid-Hudson Veterinary Practice
Mobile Horse Doc
Modern Equine, Inc.
National Reining Horse Association
New Jersey Equine Clinic
North Bridge Equine Associates
North Stonington Veterinary Clinic
Northeast Equine Veterinary Dental Services, LLC
Oakwood Veterinary Services
Old Friends Thoroughbred Retirement Farms
Oregon Equine Inc.
Pacific Crest Equine
Panama Equine Hospital
Peak Performance Equine Services
Pine Ridge Equine Hospital
Pioneer Equine Veterinary Service, Inc.
Providence Equestrian Center Inc.
Quodomine Veterinary Services Inc.
Randall Equine Veterinary Group
Redbud Equine Veterinary PLLC
Retama Equine Hospital
Ridgeline Equine Veterinary Services Inc.
Rivendell Large Animal Hospital
Riviera Equine Internal Medicine & Consulting
Rocky River Large Animal Veterinary Clinic
Rogue Equine Hospital
Salem Valley Veterinary Clinic
Salmon Brook Veterinary Hospital
Santa Sofia Equine LLC
Sawtooth Equine Services
Shafer Equine Services LLC
Andrea Sotela
South Florida Equine Associates Inc.
Sox For Horses, Inc.
Spendthrift Farm Staff of WV DOH
Stonefield Equine Clinic
Strain Equine Services LLC
Tampa Bay Equine Practice LLC
The Feiner Equine
The Piedmont Equine Practice
The Solutions Group, LLC
Thomasville Animal Hospital
Thoroughbred Racing Associations
Three Oaks Equine Veterinary Services PLLC
Three Pines Veterinary Clinic
Tillotson Equine Internal Medicine Mobile Services
Tryon Equine Hospital PLLC
Valley Equine Associates PLLC
VBAH Development Corporation
White Oaks Vet Clinic Inc.
Willow Creek Equine Veterinary Services
Wise Insights LLC
Woodside Equine Clinic Inc.

Zoetis, longtime sponsor of the AAEP Foundation Celebration, invests in the Foundation’s mission to improve the welfare of the horse with a $100,000 contribution during the 19th Annual Foundation Celebration. From left: Jon Lowe, Zoetis’ vice president of U.S. cattle and equine; and Dr. Jeff Berk, 2016 AAEP Foundation chairman.
Tribute Gifts
January 1 - December 31, 2016

We are grateful for the sincere recognition provided by each of the following tributes. Tribute gifts are a thoughtful way to honor or memorialize someone of special importance in your life. When the Foundation receives a gift in tribute, we immediately notify the honoree or family member you specify. Gift amounts are not disclosed.

If you wish to honor a friend or colleague on a special occasion with a tribute gift or remember the memory of a loved one through a memorial gift, simply let us know and include the name and address of the individual(s) to be notified. To learn more, please visit aaepfoundation.org.

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Equine Services LLC

In Memory of Cynthia Barrie
El Sol Equine Practice

In Memory of Peter Bousum VMD
Scott & Janet Palmer

In Memory of James F. Brittain
El Sol Equine Practice

In Memory of Douglas Campbell
El Sol Equine Practice

In Memory of Patsy Carson
Jan O’Rorke

In Memory of Mary Celsi
Richard Celsi

In Memory of Christine Cieslowski
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In Memory of Verna Curnutte
Staff of WV DOH

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In Memory of Sam Williams
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In Memory of Bobbi Wood
Blue Ridge Equine Clinic
Why helping the AAEP Foundation makes a difference in the well-being of horses

Foundation support focuses on three important areas:

Education
In 2016, the Foundation awarded more than $168,000 to 40 veterinary and graduate research students; and over $100,000 in support of veterinary student education programs such as labs that teach core treatment techniques, farriery and dentistry.

Research
The Foundation distributed more than $223,000 last year in support of pertinent and timely research projects, including two support-limb laminitis projects launched in 2016 and a pair of exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage (EIPH) studies expected to be completed later this year.

Benevolence
Several programs that provide direct benefit to the horse either immediately or in the future received more than $45,000 in Foundation support in 2016. These included Equitarian workshops that improve healthcare for working equids and educate caretakers in impoverished countries; the Unwanted Horse Coalition and Operation Gelding programs; and disaster preparedness programs in Louisiana.

To learn more about investing in the welfare of horses, visit aaepfoundation.org.

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