

celebrating **150** years | 1862 to 2012



## Proud legacy, bright future

OVC is nearly 150 years old, and we want you to be part of the celebration.

The calendar over the next 18 months is filling up with events to mark not only OVC's birthday but 150 years of veterinary medicine in Canada. More than a time to reflect on past achievements, it's also an opportunity to look forward to where the college is headed as a world leader working at the intersection of animal, human and environmental health.

To get into the spirit, we've updated the OVC's official crest and created a 150th-anniversary banner that you will be seeing on posters, advertisements and displays. We've also freshened the look of *The Crest* and will include anniversary content in each

issue over the next two years.

This issue provides a sneak preview of some initiatives that are under way, including the "top 150 milestones" project that looks at key moments in OVC history.

We're also working on a new 150th website to be launched in the spring. It will include anniversary news, event listings, photo and video galleries, links to special publications and information about how to get involved.

Historical touches will be added to OVC's regular alumni programs, and there will be special displays, memorabilia and books, including a literary celebration of the relationship between humans and animals. Please join us as we continue to make history.

**Renovations began** in December on a new home for the Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses (CPHAZ) on the main level of the former Pathobiology/Animal Health Laboratory complex.

The project is supported by a \$1-million

infrastructure grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation New Initiatives Fund. The grant will support CPHAZ as it conducts state-of-the-art research in animal-related aspects of public health, particularly zoonotic diseases.

## FROM THE DEAN

# Celebrating 150 years of achievement



LAST FALL, WE WELCOMED a new class of student veterinarians, who chose the “Emerald Elephants” as their mascot. It was a fitting choice because we had selected the book, *Water for Elephants*, for the 4th annual OVC Community Readers program. In the novel, a tragedy forces Jacob to drop out of veterinary school during the Depression. When the students met to talk about the book, the room was alive with discussion about the many questions the book raised. For example, Jacob’s father, who was a veterinarian during the Depression, found himself in serious financial trouble because he wasn’t charging his cash-strapped clients,

and he had mortgaged his house to pay for his son’s veterinary school expenses. We asked the students, “How would you decide whether or not to treat sick animals without charging?”

The Emerald Elephants join a long tradition of achievement by OVC students, most recently demonstrated by the OVC class of 2010. According to the score report of the North American Veterinary Licensing Exam, 99 per cent of these students passed on their first attempt, compared to 96 per cent from other veterinary schools across North America.

The OVC’s 150th anniversary is a special milestone, and the activities we have planned over the next 18 months are as varied as we are.

Last fall, we moved into the new Pathobiology/Animal Health Laboratory building. In addition to offices, labs and classrooms, the new building also includes the Dr. Frank Schofield Seminar Room. Working with OVC, the Korean Canadian Scholarship Foundation raised funds to create a special display in this room to tell the story of Schofield’s life at OVC and in Korea.

We all know that veterinary medicine is not just about animals, but also about people and the environment. We read a lot about the diseases that can spread between animals and people, such as H1N1, West Nile, *C. difficile* and *E. coli*.

Veterinarians are at the forefront in tackling these diseases and ensuring we have healthy animals and food from the farm to the family.

Being a veterinarian involves hard work and long hours. Sometimes, we may forget why we chose this career. As we celebrate 150 years of veterinary medicine in Canada, I encourage you to think of ways that OVC can help you and your colleagues restore and retain your joy in being a veterinarian.

DEAN ELIZABETH STONE



**Dr. Pavneesh Madan, Biomedical Sciences, was among several faculty and staff members to join students in a discussion of the novel, *Water for Elephants*, at the annual OVC Community Readers event.**

An **OVC oncologist** was featured in the October/November issue of *Dogs in Canada* magazine.

Dr. Paul Woods, co-director of U of G's Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation, is profiled in a series called "The Specialists."

The article talks about diagnostic and treatment options available for dogs with cancer.

Watch for the January issue when The Specialists will feature OVC theriogenologist Dr. Cathy Gartley.



## RESEARCH NEWS

# U of G receives \$2 million from E.P. Taylor Equine Research Fund

LIKE VETERINARY MEDICINE itself, OVC's story begins with the horse. The profession and the country have undergone profound changes since Andrew Smith founded the college in 1862. However, Ontario's equine industry still generates about \$1 billion for the provincial economy.

So it's only fitting that Canada's oldest veterinary college would be the beneficiary of a legacy established by one of the country's greatest names in horse breeding and racing.

In 2010, the University of Guelph received \$2 million from the E.P. Taylor Equine Research Fund to support clinical research in the health and performance of racehorses. The announcement was made in August during the second annual Equi-Challenge charity event in support of the proposed OVC Equine Performance and Reproduction Centre.

"The E.P. Taylor Equine Research Fund was established to honour the enormous contributions of E.P. Taylor to the horse-racing industry in Canada and, indeed, worldwide," said Dr. Robert McMartin, DVM '69, a longtime trustee of the fund. "This donation marks our belief in Guelph and its vision to build a centre of excellence for equine performance and reproduction. We believe clinical research



**OVC founder Andrew Smith discusses the condition of a horse with a client or groom in a scene painted by Ontario artist Paul G. Wickson in 1891. The painting hangs in the OVC dean's office.**

is an essential part of this vision."

The E.P. Taylor Equine Research Fund has been supporting graduate student and faculty research conducted through the University, OVC and Equine Guelph (a partnership between U of G and the equine industry) since the mid-1970s. It has sponsored more than 100 research projects that are central to the health and well-being of horses, from studies on debilitating diseases in foals to preventing pregnancy failures in broodmares and research on respiratory ailments.

"We take this latest gift as a vote of confidence that we are on the right track

with our plans to support and improve the health and performance of Ontario's racehorses," said OVC dean Elizabeth Stone.

Results of the University's equine performance research will be put into practice at the Equine Sports Medicine and Reproduction Centre planned for the OVC campus. Services will include advanced gait, respiratory and cardiovascular evaluation and cutting-edge diagnostics for performance and health. The reproduction facility will offer sophisticated services such as fertility evaluation, artificial insemination and embryo transfer.

**Dr. Brenda Coomber's** research was featured in the *Globe and Mail* on Nov. 23. Her findings show that a prescription drug thought to have anti-cancer properties when used off-label may not only be less effective than claimed, but may

actually protect some kinds of cancers.

Coomber's research team found that the drug sodium dichloroacetate had no impact on colorectal tumour cells and in some cases encouraged tumour growth.

## RESEARCH NEWS

# A history of promoting animal welfare



**Dr. Jason Coe**

THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY, OVC and the University of Guelph have achieved a number of firsts in promoting animal welfare.

In 1964, the University was the first in Canada to establish an animal-care policy for animals used in research and teaching. The Col. K.L. Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare, established in 1989, was the first of its kind in North America.

The tradition continued in 2010 with the appointments of Prof. Lee Niel as the Col. Campbell Chair in Companion Animal Welfare, and Dr. Jason Coe as the Nestlé Purina PetCare Canada Chair in Communications.

Niel's appointment is supported by a \$4.25-million gift to the OVC animal welfare fund from the estate of Mona Campbell, a longtime supporter of the University. The gift also supports research by Prof. Tina Widowski, Animal and Poultry Science, who was named the Col. K. L. Campbell University Chair in Animal Welfare.

"This is the ideal job for me," said Niel, a graduate of Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia. The Vancouver native comes to OVC following post-doctoral work in behavioural neuroscience at the University of Toronto.

Her work at Guelph will focus on assessing and mitigating pain and distress in companion animals in veterinary and shelter settings. She will also be looking at problems associated with aggressive dogs, how the problems develop and how to prevent them.

"The largest concentration of researchers in animal welfare in North America is at the University of Guelph," said Niel. "Being able to collaborate with others in this field is very exciting. I'm also eager to work with vet students because they are the real front line, the people who are going out and making changes in how animals are treated and cared for."

The goal of Coe's research chair, supported by a \$1-million gift from Nestlé Purina PetCare Canada, is to help prevent



**Dr. Lee Niel**

people from surrendering and abandoning their pets. The five-year chair will support teaching and research, including developing new strategies to encourage positive behaviour training and address pet overpopulation and abandonment.

"Far too many pets are surrendered to shelters each year for a variety of reasons," said Coe. "We believe that many of these can be addressed through communication and education. This partnership with Purina allows us to broaden the research in this area, to understand this important social issue and find ways to address it."

**Pathobiology professor** Dorothee Bienzle's Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in veterinary pathology has been renewed, part of a \$12.8-million investment in U of G scientists announced by the federal government in November.

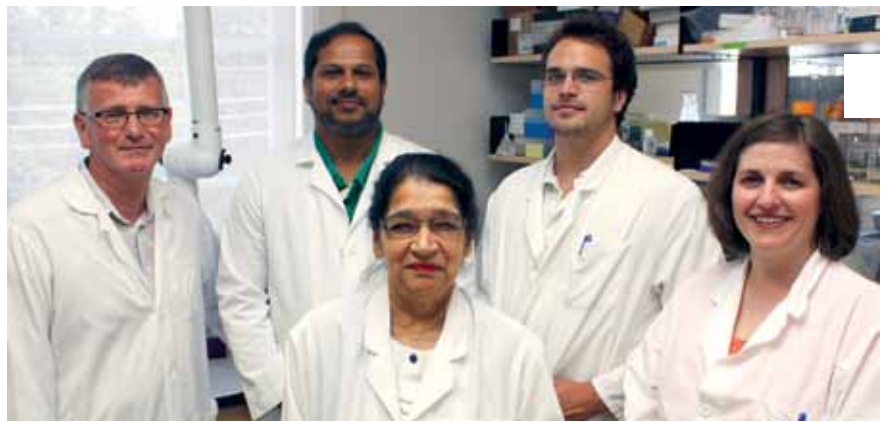
Tier 2 chairs, worth \$100,000 a year for five years, are awarded to researchers considered to have the potential to become world leaders in their field.

Bienzle's work is focused on studying the

role dendritic cells play in the development of feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV), and on understanding and developing new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to chronic lung inflammation in horses.

## RESEARCH NEWS

# Hybrid research breeds hope



**From left: Profs Pari Basrur and Allan King, circa 1975. Right: The research team in 2010 includes (clockwise from centre) Basrur, King, Dr. Basil Alexander, M.Sc. graduate Peter Seaby and Dr. Gabriela Mastromonaco of the Toronto Zoo.**

A COLLABORATION THAT BEGAN more than three decades ago entered a new phase recently with the renewal of Dr. Allan King's Tier 1 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in animal reproductive biotechnology.

Tier 1 chairs are considered world leaders in their field and receive \$200,000 annually for seven years.

The roots of King's research date back to the 1960s, a decade before he started his M.Sc. project with U of G professor emerita Pari Basrur. Widely recognized as a pioneer in the field, Basrur began her career at OVC looking at fertility problems in hybrid cattle.

Their work together has led to advances that may one day lead to new tools to help endangered species.

"Often the best way to understand how things are supposed to work is to look at

processes or systems that have broken down," said Basrur, whose early work focused on cattalo. In the mid-20th century, the bison/cattle hybrid attracted the attention of North American farmers and ranchers looking for a robust, low-maintenance alternative to domestic cattle breeds.

The hybrid did not live up to expectations.

"Because the general pattern with all hybrid mammals is the same — the female offspring can reproduce but the males are sterile — they provide an excellent opportunity for understanding the genetic basis for many reproductive problems and for studying the differences between closely related species."

Over the years, the research evolved and broadened from studying hybrids created "the old-fashioned way" to applying new tools and techniques that allow scientists

to fertilize and study embryos inside the lab, such as in-vitro fertilization, embryo transfer and somatic cell cloning.

The overall goal of King's work today is to better understand the impact of reproductive technologies on animal health and develop strategies to enhance reproduction in domestic species. But the potential spinoffs go far beyond boosting food production and agriculture.

"Much of the insight we gain from animal models can be applied to human problems of reproduction as well," said King. "We now have a much better understanding of the cellular mechanisms of embryo development, of how cells communicate with each other and how a cell's cytoplasm communicates with the nucleus, of gene expression and cellular differentiation, and how changes in the environment can influence embryo development."

**1910** ■ Dr. Frank Schofield graduates from OVC and begins a distinguished career in veterinary and humanitarian work. His most famous discovery was the identification of mouldy sweet clover as the cause of a bleeding disease in sheep and cattle, which

pointed the way to the discovery of the vitamin K inhibitors used in modern surgery to control unwanted clotting of blood. His missionary work in Korea made him a national hero and he is buried in the Patriot's Section of the National Cemetery in Korea.

## OVC TIMELINE

**1862** ■ Andrew Smith begins lecturing on veterinary science in Toronto

**1866** ■ Robert Robinson (pictured), William Elliot and George Kempchella become the college's first graduating class

**1885** ■ Smith's lecture notes are published as the first Canadian veterinary medical textbook

**1910** ■ Canadian Army Veterinary Corps is established, with several OVC students and graduates serving in its ranks during the First World War

**1922** ■ OVC moves to Guelph

**1928** ■ Elizabeth Barrie Carpenter is the first female graduate from OVC



**1862**



**1916**



**1928**



**1866**



**1922**



**1867**



**1876**



**1935**

**1867** ■ Canadian Confederation

**1876** ■ Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone

**1903** ■ Emma Baker (philosophy) and Clara Benson (chemistry) are the first women to graduate with PhDs from a Canadian university (University of Toronto)

**1929** ■ Stock market crash and start of the Great Depression

**1935** ■ Thousands of unemployed people board trains in Western Canada for the On to Ottawa Trek to protest dismal conditions in federal relief camps

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

**1928** ■ The Department of Small Animals was established at OVC under the directorship of Dr. Frank Cote, OVC '26, who used animals from his own established mixed veterinary practice. Upon his retirement in 1958, Dr. James

Archibald, OVC '49, was hired to run the department and under his direction OVC became the first veterinary college in North America to perform all surgery in aseptic conditions.



**1946** ■ The first veterinary diagnostic laboratory in Ontario is established in Kemptville.

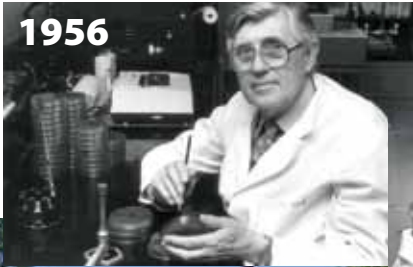
**1956** ■ Donald Barnum and F.H.S. Newbould publish research on the use of antibiotics to treat bovine mastitis

**1964** ■ OVC becomes part of the newly formed University of Guelph

**1987** ■ Patricia Shewen and Bruce Wilkie develop a vaccine for bovine respiratory disease; it becomes the most commercially successful patented veterinary vaccine

**2006** ■ Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses opens, providing research into diseases transmissible between animals and humans

**2010** ■ The Hill's Primary Healthcare Centre opens



**1956**



**1987**

**1987**



**2010**

MARTIN SCHWALBE



**1946**

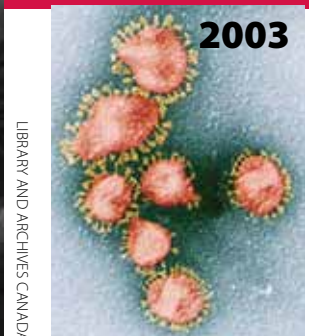


**1982**



**1945**

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA



**2003**

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

**1945** ■ End of the Second World War

**1965** ■ Canadian Pension Plan established

**1982** ■ Canada repatriates the Constitution from the United Kingdom

**2003** ■ Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak in Toronto

**2010** ■ G8 and G20 held in Ontario

**1932** ■ During the inauguration of the OVC Challenge Cup Hockey Tournament, principal C.D. McGilvray donated an award for the DVM interclass hockey competition in recognition of the sport's popularity among OVC students.



## GIVING

# Pet Trust: 25 years of showing you care



THIS YEAR THE OVC Pet Trust Fund marks 25 years of helping the college advance the health and welfare of companion animals. Since 1986, the fund has raised more than \$20 million.

“Many of the improvements we have made in companion animal care have come about as a result of donations to Pet Trust,” says Dr. Gordon Kirby, OVC’s associate dean of research and innovation. “We owe a lot to the vision of founders like Roger Warren, former dean Ole Nielsen and Drs. Wayne McDonell and Ted Valli.”

Each year, Pet Trust funds a wide range of studies that benefit pets and their people the world over. It has supported improvements to the hospital’s intensive care unit and helped purchase vital equipment such as ventilators, radiation therapy equipment, the MRI unit and 3-D ultrasound machines.

The fund also supports clinical positions and graduate students in areas such as ophthalmology and radiology.

“Pet Trust funding has led to major improvements in anesthesia and pain control for pets through research led by people like Dr. Karol Mathews,” says Kirby. “It has also funded a range of studies in public health and zoonotic disease, heart disease and understanding the human-animal bond.”



**Top:** Over the years, the OVC Pet Trust Fund has played a key role in supporting research by people like Dr. Michael O’Grady, left, and the late Dr. David Holmberg, shown early in their careers. **Bottom:** Guelph photographer Dean Palmer focuses on Pembleton, an African bullfrog, during the Pet Trust photo day fundraiser held Nov. 27 for the OVC Animal Cancer Centre. Palmer volunteered his services for the event; his father, Nigel, DVM ’63 and M.Sc. ’75, was a pathologist at OVC and OMAFRA .

**1953** ■ The OVC established the Farm Service Ambulatory Clinic, directed by Drs. Douglas Maplesden, DVM '50, and Jack Cote, DVM '51. The service is offered to farms within 20 miles of Guelph, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In ad-

dition to providing clinical care, the ambulatory clinic also provides opportunities for research into fluid therapy, mastitis control, parasite control and respiratory problems, among others.



## ALUMNI NEWS

# Looking back at the Class of '57

PRIOR TO 1949, the curriculum for students enrolled at OVC was as short as 18 months and as long as four years. The five-year curriculum was introduced in 1949. From the 1950s to the late 1960s, successful applicants were still accepted directly out of high school. Predictably, many were ill-prepared for the academic (and social) rigours of college life.

Failure rates were high, and in the 1950s, “Christmas graduates” (students who did poorly on the mid-term examinations in first year) were required to withdraw from the program. Students also faced the possibility of failure later on, usually during the first three years. In 1952, 66 students were enrolled in the class of OVC '57 (60 men and six women). Only 41 (39 men and two women) graduated on schedule.

During this era, initiation rites were administered to the hapless first-year students during the first two weeks of class by an enthusiastic second-year class. Typical activities included requiring the new recruits to wear a large bone around their neck on a string at all times and name every protuberance on said bone on demand; run around the campus at 5 a.m.; and address all sophomore students as “O, Learned One” during initiation week.

The Second World War had ended in the previous decade and there were several foreign students enrolled in the



**Back row, from left: Tony Knirsh (Czechoslovakia), Philip Taylor (England), Stan MacLean (Canada), Gilbert Van der Spank (Netherlands). Second row: Wolfgang Sack (Germany), Paul Pennock (U.S.), Jean Ikeda (Japanese-Canadian), Jon Ochalski (Poland). Front row: Leo Niilo (Estonia), Chris Ilori (Nigeria), Etienne Cucuel (France).**

class of '57, including some who had fought on opposite sides for the Canadian and German armies, Polish Air Force and French Resistance. Despite their military history, there was never any indication of animosity between the war veterans. Wolfgang Sack, our classmate from Germany, was in combat at the age of 16, wounded and taken

as a prisoner-of-war by the Allies near the end of the war in 1945. Following graduation, he received a PhD at the University of Edinburgh, became a faculty member at Cornell University, published several textbooks, and developed an enviable international reputation as a veterinary anatomist.

DEAN PERCY, DVM '57

**2007** ■ The Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation (ICCI) opens. With the OVC Animal Cancer Centre as its clinical arm, the ICCI is the first of its kind in Canada, dedicated to fostering collaborative research to broaden

the understanding of cancer. Construction is to begin in early 2011 on new facilities for the Animal Cancer Centre, to be located in the former pathobiology building adjacent to the Small Animal Clinic.

## ZOONOTIC TALES

# Veterinarians summon their muse



VETERINARY MEDICINE plays an essential role in protecting public health, particularly in the prevention of zoonotic diseases.

As part of OVC's 150th anniversary, a new book to be published in 2012 features veterinarians writing about zoonoses — both well-known and not-so-well-known — in a unique collection of stories that will fascinate, inform and entertain.

The book features submissions from researchers and practitioners inside and outside OVC chosen by an editorial committee that includes Drs. Elizabeth Stone, Jan Sargeant, Cate Dewey, David Waltner-Toews and Scott Weese. Two excerpts are included below.

“Parasite’s Log” by Dr. Andria Jones tells the story of an *Aniskis simplex* worm,

a parasite that infects the gastrointestinal tract of humans who consume raw or undercooked seafood.

The second excerpt is from Dr. Paula Menzies’ story, “A Bad Day,” which chronicles the struggles of a woman who becomes infected with Q fever after her family switches from raising swine to dairy goats. She thinks she has the flu until she talks to her veterinarian.

Q fever is caused by bacteria called *Coxiella burnetii* that can infect mammals, birds and insects. In humans, it can cause symptoms ranging from mild flu-like illness to serious or chronic disease. A recent outbreak in the Netherlands infected more than 2,000 people and led to the culling of more than 50,000 dairy goats.

“It can be a very serious zoonotic disease, but I believe it’s under-reported in people partly because many physicians are not familiar with the disease,” said Menzies. “It’s very important to educate people to get timely diagnosis and treatment.”

Menzies said she enjoys reading short stories, but hadn’t tried writing fiction since high school.

“It was fun. No references!”

### “Parasite’s Log”

Day 1:

*“Not the most glamorous of entries to the world, I realize, but such is my fate.*

*Today, I have been released in the form of an egg from the gut of this seal who has served as my host. And so begins my Ultimate Mission — to complete my life cycle. To mature to an adult *Aniskis simplex* worm, and to reproduce. It’s not so strange a life goal, is it? Surely many species operate under similar missions?”*

### “A Bad Day”

*“The alarm went off and pulled Helen from a fitful sleep. She had gone to bed early the night before. She felt like an actor in a pain reliever ad on TV. Fever, headaches and myalgia. What the heck is myalgia anyway — oh yeah, muscle aches. That fit her, every muscle, every joint was in pain. She had been exhausted from the work and the worry and thought a good night’s rest would fix things, but this morning she felt no better.”*

## ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

These are a few of the many 150th-anniversary events planned for the coming months.

**September 2011** ■ OVC Community Celebration at the college

**Summer 2012** ■ OVC Historical Exhibits at Guelph Civic Museum and U of G Library

**May 23 to 25, 2012** ■ OVC's annual VetMED Evolution Seminar Series on international veterinary medicine

**June 11 to 13, 2012** ■ U of G President's Dialogue during convocation week

**June 15 to 17, 2012** ■ Alumni Weekend

**June 15, 2012** ■ American Veterinary Medical History Society meeting

## ALUMNI NEWS

# OVC AA looks ahead to 150th events

I AM WRITING THIS having just returned from the memorial service for Dr. Roberto Poma, a beloved faculty member in the Department of Clinical Studies, who died unexpectedly on Nov. 15. I was overwhelmed by the sense of community as past and present students, faculty and staff — some of whom had travelled great distances to attend — gathered to pay their respects and support Roberto's grieving wife, Dr. Becky Valentine, and family. It's at times like these that we reflect upon where we come from and all of the amazing people, like Poma, who have made OVC the kind of community it is today.

I overheard someone comment on how unfortunate it is that many of us only reconnect at sad times like these. I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to reconnect with the unique OVC community during our anniversary celebration. The 150th is an opportunity to look back on the people who have shaped our college. While the face of OVC continues to change, the sense of belonging and



camaraderie will never go away.

The mission of the OVC Alumni Association is to support a worldwide network of proud alumni and advance the goals of the college. We do this in a number of ways, including hosting alumni receptions at veterinary conferences worldwide and networking events such as the OVC Career Watering Hole on Jan. 27. We also depend on you to make nominations for our alumni awards so that we can celebrate the people who

make us proud to be part of OVC.

Unfortunately, due to the economic downturn of the past few years, our efforts have been impaired by a lack of funding. Student events and awards have suffered significantly, and we call on your generosity to help us reinstate the support that we were previously able to provide. As you reflect on your own time at OVC, please consider the effect that events supported by OVC AA had on your experiences. We need your help to ensure that our current student veterinarians share those same experiences and develop the bond that we have with our college community.

I encourage you to get involved by donating time or money to help carry on our proud legacy. You'll be glad you did. To learn more, please contact Kim Robinson, OVC's alumni advancement manager, at 519-824-4120, Ext. 54454, or [krobin01@uoguelph.ca](mailto:krobin01@uoguelph.ca).

Thank you for your ongoing support.

BLANAID DONNELLY, DVM '09  
OVC AA PRESIDENT

## OVC '75 TOURS WINE COUNTRY

MEMBERS OF the class of '75 held a 35-year reunion from Sept. 17 to 19 in Picton, Ont. at the Waring House, an inn and conference centre owned by class-

mate Dr. Chris Rogers.

The group shared memories and took in the attractions of Prince Edward County, including tours of three of the region's 31 wineries.

A surprise guest for the weekend was

Dr. Bob Curtis, DVM '61, the honorary class president of OVC '75. A professor in field service at the time, he went on to become a faculty member at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Charlottetown, where he has since retired.

**Equi-Challenge a hit** A sold-out crowd of over 500 horse lovers were on hand as top riders in a variety of disciplines “changed hats” at the second annual Equi-Challenge event held Aug. 26 at the Halton Place Equestrian Centre. Organized

to help raise funds for the proposed OVC Equine Sports Medicine and Reproduction Centre, the event showcased riders in a unique team-style competition, with such matchups as jockeys on show jumpers and dressage riders playing polo.

## OUTREACH

# Symposium celebrates human-animal bond



**Dr. Marty Becker**

A RENOWNED PET EXPERT, best-selling author and television personality will be the featured speaker at this year's OVC 150th-anniversary seminar series.

Dr. Marty Becker will talk about how pets make their owners healthier and happier in a keynote address at Changing Roles of Animals in Society — The Human and Animal Bond, the third in a four-part VetMed Evolution symposium series.

The symposium will take place at the University of Guelph on May 28 and is

open to the public.

“We wanted to celebrate the human-animal bond and its importance to the veterinary profession — after all, it's the basis for our very existence,” said Dr. Jason Coe, Population Medicine.

Nestlé Purina PetCare Canada is a key sponsor of the symposium through its support of a research chair in communications held by Coe.

The symposium will focus on a variety of themes, including the benefits of the human-animal bond and preventive health care for companion animals.

Becker is a popular contributor to ABC-TV's *Good Morning America* and a frequent guest on national television and radio programs in the U.S. He is also co-author of the fastest-selling pet book in history, *Chicken Soup for the Pet Lover's Soul*.

For more information about the symposium, visit [www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/](http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/) or contact Tara O'Brien at 519-824-4120, Ext. 54402, or [tlobrien@uoguelph.ca](mailto:tlobrien@uoguelph.ca).

## COMING EVENTS

### JAN. 16, 7 P.M.

North American Veterinary Conference, Alumni Reception | Orlando World Center Marriott, Crystal Ballroom | Orlando, Fla.

### JAN. 27, 7 P.M.

OVC Alumni Watering Hole | Hill's Pet Nutrition Primary Healthcare Centre

### FEB. 21, 7:30 P.M.

Western Veterinary Conference, Alumni Reception | Mandalay Bay Hotel | Las Vegas, Nev.

### MARCH 24 TO 27

AAHA/OVMA Conference | Metro Toronto Convention Centre

### APRIL 1 AND 2

OVC Alumni Challenge Cup Hockey Tournament

### MAY 28

OVC Symposium Series | "Changing Roles of Animals in Society: The Human Animal Bond" | University of Guelph

### JUNE 17 AND 18

Alumni Weekend

### JUNE 18

OVC Alumni Association AGM | OVC Lifetime Learning Centre

### The Crest

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### The Crest

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