An AABP landmark! - on July 1, 1985 the Association had 5600 members, plus 1000 student members. Another important landmark was a meeting in May when the AVMA invited representatives from all food animal practitioner groups and related groups to meet in Chicago for an AVMA Food Animal Task Force. AABP representatives were requested to present a position paper on the concerns of bovine practitioners. Among the list of 15 major concerns were:

1. Availability of bulk drugs to veterinarians
2. Government harassment of bovine practitioners.
3. Federal fee basis
4. Liability insurance rates
5. AABP relationship with AVMA
6. Cost benefit ratio of services offered by bovine practitioners
7. The limited numbers of approved drugs available to bovine practitioners.

The 18th Annual Convention opened on a very cordial note when representatives of the New York State Veterinary Medical Society hosted a reception and dinner for AABP officers, the Board of Directors and their spouses on Monday evening, November 18 at The Hyatt Regency Hotel. Dr. Francis Fox, the guest speaker, kept his audience well entertained in his own inimical style. Each guest was presented a cup and cap bearing the Society’s centennial logo. Dr. Harold Amstutz received a buffalo memento in appreciation of his long and dedicated service to the AABP.

At the Convention Opening Ceremony in the Buffalo Convention Center, the mood for an outstanding meeting was set by the Caledonia Pipe Band of Buffalo as they made their grand entry followed by the Honorable James Griffin, Major of the City of Buffalo and local arrangements chairman, Dr. Kenneth Benson. The Mayor gave the large audience a warm welcome to Buffalo “the Queen City” where the weather also cooperated throughout the week!

Eleven Technical Seminars were presented Pre-Convention with some emphasis now shifting to animal environment and health, embryo transfer and “total living” seminars.

Spouse activities included a wine and cheese reception, family relations seminar, a visit to Niagara Falls, Buffalo site seeing, copper punch instruction, “Dream Girls” musical and “Comedy Night at the Tralf.” The highlight and most enjoyable social event was a “Touch of Elegance,” beginning with a cocktail party at the Convention Center followed by a dinner of choice roast prime rib of beef or broiled white fish. Entertainment consisted of the hilarious antics of a ventriloquist, a magician, a seven-piece country and western traveling show and dancing until midnight.

Dr. Herbert Lloyd presided over the Annual Business and Membership Meeting.

Dr. Harold Amstutz, Exec. Sec.-Treas, reported that the financial year had been changed from calendar year January 1 - December 31 to July 1 - June 30 in an effort to get all meeting finances and dues for one year into one financial report.

Special thanks were given to Jane and Kenneth Benson, Gene and Sandy Sellick and Pat and Ron Mayhew for excellent local activities.
Officers and Directors for 1986

President: Dr. Neil Anderson
President-Elect: Dr. Donald Hudson
Vice-President: Dr. George Washington, Purcellville, VA
Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Harold Amstutz

Directors:
District 2: Dr. Joe Manspeaker, Ellicott City, MD
District 5: Dr. Roland Jeans (re-elected)
District 6: Dr. Richard Shirbroun (re-elected)
District 8: Dr. James Wright (re-elected)
District 11: Dr. Erich Studer (re-elected)

President Lloyd handed the gavel to incoming President Neil Anderson.

Post Convention Tour

A bus-load of enterprising bovine practitioners and their spouses journeyed to Cornell University. They were welcomed by Dean Robert Phemister, NYS Veterinary College. Dr. Donald Schlafer, Director gave an overview of the research programs at the Bovine Research Center. There followed a tour of the Diagnostic Laboratory and the Large Animal Clinic. After lunch at the Johnson Art Museum, there was a tour of the Large Animal Research Unit of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the Reed Farm facility and the bovine specific pathogen-free unit.

The happy travelers returned via the Taughan-nock Falls and visited the Wagner Vineyards Estate Winery.

Endnotes

Over 35 letters with 100+ signatures were received by Dr. Amstutz requesting the AABP to apply pressure on the AVMA and Federal Agencies to secure bulk drugs for veterinarians.

District 6 Director William Blohm resigned because he was retiring from full time practice.

Editor Eric Williams had prepared an Index for the Bovine Practitioner and the Proceedings. Cost of Journal: $20.00 per copy; Proceedings: $20.00 per copy.

The Board approved a motion to establish liaison with the National Cattlemen’s Association Animal Health Committee for a 3 year term, with a maximum of 2 terms per AABP representative. Dr. Bob Bohlender was AABP’s first representative.
Bovine Practitioner of the Year

Dr. John B. Herrick, Paradise Valley, Arizona was named the 1985 Bovine Practitioner of the Year.
Dr. Herrick is a native of Sheffield, Iowa. He received the B. S. degree in agriculture in 1941, the D.V.M. degree in 1946 and the M.S. degree in 1950 from Iowa State University. Dr. Herrick was engaged in private practice in Iowa, 1946-47; chief Veterinarian Farmer’s Hybrid Hog Co., Hampton, Iowa, 1947-48 and spent many years on the Faculty, Iowa State University. Since 1983 he has been an animal health consultant.

Further information of Dr. Herrick’s biography was published in the Convention Proceedings, p. xii

AABP Awards for Excellence in Preventive Medicine

Beef Program

Dr. Dee Griffin, Guymon, Oklahoma was the recipient of the Beef Program Award.
Dr. Griffin received the D.V.M. degree from Oklahoma State University in 1975 and the M.S. degree from Purdue University in 1978.
Dr. Griffin’s positive attitude about veterinary medicine, coupled with his innovative approaches to preventive medicine have resulted in a successful and cost-effective health program for the 350,000 head of cattle under his supervision. Dr. Griffin assigned $750 of the Scholarship to Oklahoma State University and $750 to Purdue University.

Dairy Program

Dr. Lester L. Larson, Veterinary Department, American Breeders Service, DeForest, Wisconsin, received the Dairy Program Award.
A native of Amherst Junction, Wisconsin, he received the D.V.M. degree in 1953, the M.S. degree in 1954 and the Ph.D. degree in 1957 from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Larson is a Charter Diplomate, American College of Theriogenologists and became Head, Veterinary Department, American Breeders Service in 1974.

Further information on the Awards and the biographies of the recipients was published in the Convention Proceedings p. xiii