The XIXth World Buiatrics Congress was held on July 8-12, 1996 in the beautiful, historic city of Edinburgh, Scotland at the magnificent new Edinburgh International Conference Center, recently opened by Queen Elizabeth II.

Over 1450 registrants and guests attended the Opening Ceremony at the Royal Museum of Scotland with Mr. Robert Hardy (Siegfried Farnon in James Herriot’s “All Creatures Great and Small” TV series) as Guest of Honor who presented the Golf Competition trophies. Music was provided by the Scottish Youth Orchestra.

The 1996 Pfizer Award ($10,000) was presented to Professor Etienne Thiry, Department of Virology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Liege. The 1996 Gustav Rosenberger Memorial Award was presented to Dr. Pavol Mudron, Kosice Veterinary University, Slovakia. The Award consisted of a scroll and $6,000, sponsored by Rhone Meriux.

The 2024 registrants included 1210 delegates, 312 accompanying persons, 165 speakers, 121 poster presenters and 216 trade representatives from 48 countries. Simultaneous translations in 4 languages were available in two theatres. There were several workshops, seminars and visits to scientific and agricultural sites.

The program on the final day was extended to include an extra session on bovine somatic encephalomalacia (BSE).

The Congress Banquet at the Royal Highland Showgrounds was attended by 800 registrants. There was the traditional “Haggis, Neeps and Tatties accompanied by a dram of whisky” along with roast fillet of Scottish beef and smoked fillet of Loch Etive trout.

Congress tours visited Stirling Castle, Edinburgh Crystal, Glenkinchie Distillery, Loch Lomond and Edinburgh City.

At the WAB General Meeting, tributes were paid to Prof. Jacques Espinasse, WAB President and Dr. Eli Mayer, Vice President who passed away earlier this year. They will always be remembered with reverence.

Officers elected:

President: Dr. H. J. Breukink, Utrecht, The Netherlands
Vice Presidents: Dr. R. Ugarte, Uruguay and Dr. G. Gentile, Italy
Secretary-General: Dr. Pierre Lekeux, Brussels, Belgium (re-elected)
Dr. James Jarrett, AABP Executive Vice President was elected to succeed Dr. Harold Amstutz on the Committee (Board) of Directors.

The WAB Committee unanimously agreed to support the recommendations on BSE published by the Office International des Epizooties (OIE).

The Secretary-General revealed that there were 471,797 Belgian francs in the WAB account.

In the field of observations, chance favors only the prepared mind.
—Louis Pasteur
American Association of Bovine Practitioners

At the WAB Congress in Edinburgh

AACV representatives promoting the 1998 WAB Congress

Dr. J. Keith Thomas, Past President

BCVA Past President Colin Whitaker and David Anderson, Scientific Program Chairman

Dr. Robert Hardy

BCVA President Chris Watson, Mary Coombs and Mr. Peter Gripper