Commitment to Excellence

HAUSER CONSIDERS ‘BEING INVOLVED’ HER TOP ACCOMPLISHMENT

In Dr. Wendy Hauser’s 28-year career, she spent 26½ years in hospitals accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association. She values AAHA’s ongoing commitment to excellence in its hospitals and the difference that makes for clients, patients and teams. Her veterinary business, Peak Veterinary Consulting, is also committed to excellence by “Creating Happy Teams and Healthy Hospitals.”

“I enjoy consulting and presenting workshops on hospital culture, leadership, client relations and operations,” says Hauser, a 1988 alumna of OSU’s Center for Veterinary Health Sciences. “I perform limited relief veterinary services as part of my consultancy. I believe it is critical to keep a foot in the value of veterinary medicine at its foundational level — the examination room. My approach to consulting is influenced by my real-world experiences as a veterinarian who built a successful hospital from the ground up.”

Hauser’s volunteer efforts include:
- Southeast Pennsylvania local veterinary group leadership
- Medical advisory board for the corporate aggregator she sold her hospital to in 2005
- Collaborator and co-facilitator for the Colorado Veterinary Medical Association’s Power of Ten Recent Graduate Leadership Academy
- Communications coach at Colorado State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine
- AAHA task forces that created the AAHA business group initiative and the regional associate development course
- Veterinarian director on the AAHA board of directors in 2012
- AAHA board vice president in 2015

She calls “being involved” her greatest accomplishment with AAHA.

“Still doesn’t exist on this board,” she says. “By being a thoughtful, hardworking board member, participation is centered on collaboratively making the best choices for our members and providing resources to help them continue to succeed. Serving in AAHA leadership is truly one of the highlights of my veterinary career. As part of a team that helps direct the vision and mission of AAHA, I have been inspired to continuously develop new perspectives and skill sets.”

Hauser encourages others to follow in her footsteps.

Fancying Felines

SMITH’S VOLUNTEER WORK HELPS COUNTLESS CATS AND MORE

Dr. Roy Smith of Round Rock, Texas, has been volunteering and giving back to the community ever since he earned his DVM degree from Oklahoma State in 1962.

Smith was president of the Texas Veterinary Medical Foundation and longtime member of the Texas Veterinary Medical Association. He was president of the American Association of Feline Practitioners in 2011 and is the group’s current emeritus.

“My greatest accomplishment has been with the AAFP advancing feline veterinary medicine,” Smith says. “We have worked to educate the public on the importance of good health for their cats. People are beginning to recognize the vital role cats play in our lives as companions.”

Smith also supports multiple animal welfare organizations in his area. He has a special interest in feline leukemia, and in 2004, he and his wife co-founded Shadow Cat, a charitable organization where hundreds of special-needs cats have found a safe haven over the last 20 years. He is also a strong proponent of TNR (trap-neuter-return) programs.

Smith owns and operates Central Texas Cat Hospital in Round Rock. He has had the felo-exclusive, no-declawing practice for more than 13 years. He has owned three other small animal practices in his career.

He also serves on the board of directors for the Veterinary Information Network. VIBS is an online source for veterinary medicine that literally is accessible around the globe. Smith says: “The information we provide gets all over the world to veterinarians everywhere. It is particularly helpful in underserved areas where veterinarians can now access valuable information.”

Smith encourages others to volunteer:

“There are things coming down the road that are trying to change how we practice veterinary medicine,” he says. “We need people to get involved locally and nationally to keep the profession strong. Get involved when you are in veterinary college on the day one when you graduate. My motto is, ‘Get involved, stay involved and don’t be discouraged.’ Persevere. You can make a difference! Some may think it’s one way or one action doesn’t matter, but it does. It all starts with one. Get involved and make a difference in your community, your state, your region and the world.”

PAST 30 YEARS — Dr. Roy Smith

“My MOTTO IS...GET INVOLVED, STAY INVOLVED AND DON’T BE DISCOURAGED; PERSEVERE, YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.”

— DR. ROY SMITH

SOURCE: CVAH

DR. WENDY HAUSER

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