

## TVMA's 2012 Award Winners and Executive Committee Members

The Texas Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) held the annual Awards and Installation Banquet on Feb. 4 at the Hilton in College Station. Dr. John M. Morton, 2011 TVMA president, along with Dr. Orlando Garza, 2012 TVMA president, presented awards at an honorary dinner for practitioner winners, colleagues, family and friends. Recipients were nominated by colleagues and chosen by the Awards Committee for their outstanding contributions in their respective areas.

### 2012 TVMA AWARDS:

#### 2012 TVMA Companion Animal Practitioner of the Year: Dr. Wendy Blount



Dr. Blount is a superior companion animal practitioner who donates countless hours to her clients and helping the animals as medical

director of the Nacogdoches Animal Shelter. She also volunteers her time to help other practitioners, mentor veterinary students and even guide high school and college students who are interested in veterinary medicine.

Because of her moderation and participation on the VetWitness4Him and TexasVet listserves, she has also done a great deal to bring Texas veterinarians together as friends and colleagues. She is a tremendous benefit to her veterinary colleagues, the citizens of Nacogdoches and the animals of East Texas. Her relentless pursuit of excellence in the field of veterinary medicine and her willingness to share her knowledge with her colleagues serve clients and the profession.

#### 2012 TVMA Distinguished Career Achievement Award: Dr. Thomas Hairgrove



Dr. Hairgrove's veterinary career has spanned 38 years, and he's spent more than 30 as owner of a rural northwest Texas mixed practice

By Kelly E. Lindner

with an emphasis on bovine medicine and surgery. Since 2008, Dr. Hairgrove has served as the program coordinator for Livestock and Food Animal Systems with Texas AgriLife Extension/Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory in College Station. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, certified in both beef cattle practice and food animal practice. He is currently serving as the American Association of Bovine Practitioners' designated member of the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. Dr. Hairgrove has earned national recognition by improving the health of Texas' livestock populations. In addition to his veterinary skills, he also has expertise in agro-terrorism, bio-security, emergency management, interstate and international trade, toxicology, herd health and overall livestock production. Dr. Hairgrove is dedicated to animal agriculture, veterinarians and the veterinary profession.

#### TVMA 2012 Equine Practitioner of the Year: Dr. Benjamin Buchanan



Dr. Buchanan's expertise and commitment to equine practice is unparalleled. After graduation from Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine (TAMU CVM) in 2001, he subsequently completed a one-year rotating internship in large animal medicine and surgery at the University of Tennessee. He stayed at UT to work on an ex vivo Equine Gastric Ulcer Syndrome research project with Frank Andrews and complete a large animal internal medicine residency. During his vacation and free time, he managed to complete a second residency in large animal emergency and critical care at the University of Pennsylvania. He became a diplomate of the ACVIM in 2005 and of the ACVECC in 2006. In 2005, he returned to practice in

Navasota with his father, Terrell (T-Bone) Buchanan, DVM, and brother, Charlie Buchanan, DVM. The practice has grown into one of the largest equine practices in the state of Texas with hospitals in Stephenville, Rockdale and Navasota. As the chair of the TVMA Equine Practice Committee, Dr. Buchanan was very involved with the TVMA efforts regarding Equine Dentistry in the 2011 legislative session. He is a founding board member of the Texas Equine Veterinary Association and the editor of their quarterly publication. He also serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care*.

#### TVMA's 2012 General Practitioner of the Year: Dr. Darrell Kinnard



Dr. Darrell Kinnard has been in the general practice of veterinary medicine for 38 years. With a practice that is 50 percent large animal (bovine

and equine) and 50 percent small animal (small and exotic), his hospital is truly non-specialized, though he does enjoy the occasional orthopedic or soft tissue trauma case for animals both large and small. Dr. Kinnard is very passionate about veterinary medicine and also takes a proactive stance on educating future veterinarians by mentoring veterinary students. For TVMA, he has chaired the Brucellosis Control, Farm and Ranch and Bovine Practice Committees. His veterinary clinic, Mabank Animal Hospital, Inc., has recently celebrated its 36th year.

#### TVMA's 2012 Medical Specialty Practitioner of the Year: Dr. Elaine Caplan



Dr. Caplan owns and operates Capital Area Veterinary Specialists and Texas Veterinary Oncology, a specialty hospital in Austin, and is

well-known for her expertise and surgical  
*Award Winners continued on page 16*