Washington, DC, Chapter Report

The Washington, DC, Area Chapter of ARPAS held six luncheon meetings with speakers during the 2014–2015 year. The dates, speakers, and titles of their presentations are as follows:

1. October 23, 2014
   Bill Price
   “Application of Laws, Policies, and Guidance from the United States and Canada to the Regulation of Food and Feed Derived from Genetically Modified Crops: Interpretation of Composition Data”

2. November 21, 2014
   Barbara Masters, senior policy advisor, Olsson Frank Weeda Terman Matz PC
   “Residue Issues in Meat from a Packer’s Perspective”

3. December 10, 2014
   Lowell Randel, Washington, DC, Representative of FASS
   “Building Support for Animal Science: Challenges and Opportunities”

4. January 22, 2015
   David Meeker, senior vice president of scientific services, National Renderers Association/Fats and Proteins Research Foundation
   “The Food Safety Modernization Act and Its Implications on the Feed Industry”

5. February 18, 2015
   Patrick Tovey, director, Technology and Regulatory Compliance, Pet Food Institute

6. March 19
   Michael L. Power, Nutrition Laboratory, National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute
   “Metabolic Consequences of the Early Onset of Obesity in Common Marmoset Monkeys”

The Washington, DC, Area Chapter of ARPAS held its annual Mini Symposium titled “Communicating Science to the Public” on April 29 from 1 to 5 p.m. with a reception following. The speakers for the symposium included Kay Johnson, president and CEO of the Animal Agricultural Alliance; Bethany Brookshire, science education writer for Science News for Students and noted science blogger; and Eric Mitthenthal, vice president of public affairs at the North American Meat Institute.

The reception program highlighted Lonnie Luther, one of the ARPAS Outstanding Animal Scientist Awardees being recognized by ARPAS Executive Vice President Ken Cummings. Two chapter members received the WDC Area Chapter Vern Pursel Outstanding Animal Scientist award. They were George Wiggins and Rich Edman. Wiggans is research geneticist at the Animal Improvement Programs Laboratory,
Agricultural Research Service, USDA, in Beltsville, Maryland. He is most noted for leading the implementation of multitrait evaluation procedures for type traits for goats and the dairy cattle breeds other than Holstein. Erdman is a professor of dairy science at the University of Maryland, College Park. He is most noted for his research to demonstrate induction of milk fat depression by rumen \textit{trans} fatty acids, and for his research to demonstrate that choline was a limiting nutrient in dairy cattle. Both are currently board members of the chapter and have been active in the chapter for many years.

The Washington, DC, Chapter has entered into an agreement with the University of Maryland for a scholarship fund used solely for scholarship support for a current junior, senior, or graduate student pursuing a degree in the fields of animal, dairy, or poultry science as well as aquaculture at the University of Maryland. The chapter committed to a $500 a year donation but is encouraging members and interested parties to contribute to this tax-exempt fund. Gifts to the fund can be mailed to the Office of Gift Acceptance, 4603 Calvert Road, College Park, MD 20740.

The new officers for 2015–2016 are Jessica Meisinger, president; Bill Price, president-elect; Robin Keyser, secretary; Gerald Poley, treasurer; and Adam Orr, past president.