



Colorado Veterinary
Medical Association

CVMA SERVICE AWARDS
2009 Veterinarian of the Year
Bruce Louderback, DVM

The Veterinarian of the Year exemplifies the extraordinary contributions that the veterinary profession makes to animal health and the economic viability of our state as well. This year's recipient has distinguished himself as a competent and highly ethical practitioner for over 30 years.

Says Bob Rhode, executive director of the Dumb Friends League and a client of this year's recipient for almost 30 years: "He is honest, direct, and very no-nonsense. When we met for the first time, I was new in the area, and my crazy Irish setter cut his paw and ligaments in his foot. I called this veterinarian and he met us at his clinic. He looked at the paw and said 'I don't have anyone to assist me. You know animals, right? Come and assist me.' And he has been my veterinarian—and now my son's—ever since. He never pulls any punches, and he is always fair and honest."

Keeping a busy schedule in his multiple-doctor small animal practice in Aurora has not kept him from actively participating in the affairs of his profession and his community. Over the years, his community has garnered the fruits of his involvement in many civic organizations including his role as a trustee, and later mayor, of the town of Foxfield.

With great dignity and sense of duty he has served on several CVMA committees where his leadership qualities shone bright. From 1999 to 2007, he served the profession and the consumers of Colorado in an exemplary manner as a member of the Colorado State Board of Veterinary Medicine, which he chaired from 2006 to 2007. Recognizing his outstanding qualities as a leader, in 2003 his colleagues on the State Board of Veterinary Medicine nominated him to the board of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards. Elected to this body in 2003, he quickly rose to become a member of the executive committee as secretary-treasurer and president-elect. This month, he takes over as chairman of AAVSB, a feat never before accomplished by any Colorado veterinarian.

Please join me in congratulating the CVMA Veterinarian of the Year for 2009, Dr. Bruce Louderback, for his outstanding contributions to his community, to CVMA, and to the veterinary profession.