

2008 RECIPIENT

IETS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

RICHARD CARMICHAEL

Award Presentation: Tuesday, January 8 at 13:30

Richard A. Carmichael was born on January 2, 1930 in Sigourney, Iowa. He went to high school in Sigourney, Iowa and to Washington Junior College in Washington, Iowa. Richard received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1955 from Iowa State University. After graduation he became an owner and partner of Speaker and Carmichael Veterinary Clinic, Keota, Iowa. This was a general practice, including both large and small animal practice and specific pathogen free swine surgery. He was involved in this veterinary clinic from 1955 until 1972. In 1972, Richard traveled to Cambridge, England where he took part in the first embryo transfer training conducted by Dr. L.E.A Rowson. He spent a period of time in Cambridge during this training and upon his return home founded Maplehurst Ova Transplants, Inc., specializing in commercial embryo transfer and training of embryo transfer technology to qualified veterinarians and reproductive physiologists. He was the President and General Manager of Maplehurst Ova Transplants from 1972 until 1990. In 1990 he founded and was President and General Manager of Maplehurst Genetics International Inc., specializing in embryo transfer, domestic and international marketing and training. Richard is currently the President and General Manager-Maplehurst Genetics International Inc., specializing in international marketing and consultation. He has trained scientists from over 41 different countries in the technologies of embryo transfer.

On the airplane trip home from England in 1972, he had his first idea about forming an international society dedicated to this new technique of embryo transfer. His initial idea was to form a society that would begin with the practical, applied side of embryo transfer and foster the dissemination of scientific information to its membership and then mature it into a society that focused on the basic biology of mammalian embryos. Richard was the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the group that became the IETS. His vision for the society has come to fruition. Richard Carmichael has served the IETS in many capacities over the years including membership on the Board of Governors in 1974 and 1975, as secretary/ treasurer in 1976 and as President in 1977. Richard was Program Chair of the IETS Workshop in 1979 and has been a member of the IETS Import/Export (now HASAC) Committee since 1980 and served as the Chairman of the Government Liaison & Regulatory Sub-Committee. Richard has served the embryo transfer industry in many ways over the years. He served on the United States Animal Health Association Committee Import/Export and the Sub-Committee Embryo Movement. Richard has served on the Board of Directors of the American Embryo Transfer Association in 1981, as the AETA Vice-President in 1982 and as President in 1983. In 1985, Richard served on the IETS International Embryo Transfer Society Committee to International Organization of Epizootics with the primary purpose to present scientific data on the pathogen-free aspect of the washed bovine embryo. This initial meeting resulted in the free movement of bovine embryos worldwide. He was on the National Commission on Agricultural Trade & Export Policy as an Advisor on the Embryo Transfer Report to the President in 1985. He was also a member of a research project to Review Embryo Transfer and Disease Transmission for Agriculture Canada in 1987 and an advisor to the National Cattlemen's Association Livestock Semen and Embryo Export Subcommittee in 1988. Richard served as the industry representative to U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture hearing and as the industry representative to Federal Register hearing on proposed embryo import regulations in 1990. Richard has received a number of prestigious awards including the AETA Embryo Transfer Practitioner of the Year Award in 1985; the AETA Award for excellence in publishing to promote and publicize the embryo transfer industry in 1988; the AETA "Tough Egg Award" in 1989; he was awarded Life Membership to Iowa Veterinary Medical Association and Charter Member of National Cattlemen's Beef Association in 1996; Honorary Life Membership to American Embryo Transfer Association in 2002 and was presented the Stange Award for Meritorious Service in Veterinary Medicine from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University. Richard Carmichael has spent countless hours promoting the IETS, embryo transfer technology, and the embryo transfer industry. For all of his efforts and vision over the past 35 years, Dr. Richard A. Carmichael is a most worthy recipient of the 2008 International Embryo Transfer Society Distinguished Service Award.