

## AL & CAROLYN SCHILLER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

*Presented at the Mark W. Allam Lecture & Awards Ceremony  
8:00-9:30am, Thursday, Grand Ballroom, Gold Level, East Tower*

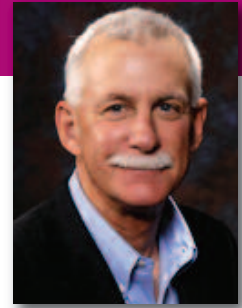
The ACVS Board of Regents has selected **Robert A. Taylor, DVM, MS, Diplomate ACVS**, as the recipient of the *Al & Carolyn Schiller Distinguished Service Award* for his exceptional contributions to the American College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Since becoming an ACVS Diplomate in 1985, Dr. Taylor has demonstrated a remarkable ongoing commitment to the ACVS. Shortly after attaining Diplomate status, he served on both the Constitution and Bylaws Committee and the Annual Meeting Committee and, in 1994, was appointed ACVS Treasurer. Dr. Taylor was a steady, forward thinking steward of the College's finances for over fifteen years. During his tenure, ACVS saw tremendous growth in the number of members, requests for services and requirements for maximizing large expenses balanced with appropriate money fund management.

Dr. Taylor initiated significant changes in how the monetary aspects of the College were handled. One of his most notable decisions, with Board approval, was to secure a professional investment organization to assist with the College's investments, which resulted in a significant increase in the net worth of the ACVS, thereby enabling the College to solidify and strengthen its programs.

With the thought of securing a better financial future for the ACVS, Dr. Taylor was one of the first members of the Board of Regents to suggest the College purchase, rather than lease, its office space. He spent many hours working with the Executive Director evaluating potential properties, including numerous trips at his own expense to the Washington, DC area to inspect, select and negotiate for the office space.

Dr. Taylor's contributions to the ACVS have been innumerable during a period when the College experienced significant changes – the budget grew to the millions, residency programs and the pipeline for examinees and membership were expanding and changing, the Symposia made strides in becoming bigger and better, the ACVS administration moved from a management company to its own staff, the office changed location with the purchase of property and an investment portfolio was established for both ACVS and the ACVS Foundation for fiscal soundness.



**Robert A. Taylor**

As a founding member, Treasurer and strong supporter of the ACVS Foundation, Dr. Taylor believed that the ACVS Foundation needed to stand independently from the College's business operations. His public declaration on this issue was instrumental to the Foundation's continued commitment to this goal.

Dr. Taylor is proud of his Diplomate status and the reasons behind the College's existence. He demonstrated this by sharing his surgical knowledge with the many veterinarians from around the world that would come to his hospital to scrub in with him; lecturing nationally and internationally on leading edge topics of the time; and his community service not only to his local and state veterinary association in leadership positions, but a wide variety of organizations where his training was a service to his community.

Through Dr. Taylor's sustained enthusiastic involvement, and his way of "thinking outside the box," the College has benefitted greatly. A colleague writes, "You will find no better ambassador for the American College of Veterinary Surgeons than Bob Taylor."

### **Past recipients of the Al & Carolyn Schiller Distinguished Service Award:**

- 1992 – William J. Donawick, DVM
- 1994 – Ghery D. Pettit, DVM
- 1997 – John "Jack" F. Fessler, DVM, MS
- 2009 – Alan J. Lipowitz, DVM, MS