

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

February 14, 2018

Press Release

Contact: Elizabeth McArthur

[Elizabeth@vetpartners.org](mailto:Elizabeth@vetpartners.org)



**Photo caption:** (l to r) VetPartners 2018-2019 Board of Trustees: Jeff Thoren, President, Bill Schroeder, Director, Camala Bailey, Treasurer, Pamela Stevenson, Director, Nancy Dewitz, Vice President, Gina Fortunato, Secretary, Debbie Boone, Director, and Bruce Truman, Immediate Past President.



**Photo caption:** (l to r) Executive Director Christine Shupe, Immediate Past President Gerard Gervasi, and President Jim Nash.

**VetPartners™ Names 2018-2019 Board of Directors**

***Inducts 22 new members, announces Pioneer Professional Award recipient***

**Villanova, PA – February 13, 2018 - VetPartners™**, a national nonprofit association of veterinary business specialists dedicated to serving the veterinary

profession, named its 2018-2019 Board of Directors at their Annual Meeting January 31 – February 2, 2018, in Orlando, Florida. Also at the meeting, the organization inducted 22 new members and honored the **Veterinary Hospital Managers Association (VHMA)** with the prestigious Pioneer Professional Award.

The award, presented to an individual or organization, is in recognition of 20+ years of service as a 'pioneer' in veterinary practice consulting or advising. For more than 30 years, the VHMA has worked to fulfill its mission to *enhance and serve veterinary management professionals, through superior education, certification and networking.*

"VHMA was the first professional environment in which I could learn, grow and freely share amongst practice management peers. It has gifted me with lifelong friendships and enriched my professional development beyond a measurable scale. I could not be who I am today without VHMA," shared VetPartners Member Shelley Johnson of Patterson Veterinary.

VetPartners Board Director, Debbie Boone offered, "VHMA has been the ultimate resource for practice managers to connect and share information and tips. Many new managers have used VHMA and it's members as a lifeline when they are given a management position with little to no guidance or training. It has shined a light on what good practice management should look like and offered focused training to help even skilled managers improve. It is one of the professions most important resources."

Of the Annual Meeting, newly appointed Board President Jeff Thoren said, "VetPartners' Annual Meeting was one of our best, most well-attended yet. I'm honored to be leading the organization with a group of dedicated board members who offer invaluable expertise and insight. And, it was particularly special to present the VHMA the coveted Pioneer Professional Award, as they are a vital resource and contributor to our industry."

The newly appointed VetPartners™ Board of Directors is as follows:

**Officers:**

**Jeff Thoren, DVM, PCC, BCC, President**

**Nancy Dewitz, Vice President**

**Camala Bailey, CPA, CVA, Treasurer**

**Gina Fortunato, Secretary**

**Bruce Truman, MBA, Immediate Past President**

**Directors:**

**Debbie Boone, CVPM**

**Bill Schroeder**

**Pamela Stevenson, CVPM**

At the organization's Annual Meeting, a record 22 new members were inducted from various veterinary industry backgrounds. "We're proud that VetPartners continues to attract talented industry professionals. It speaks to the power of our collaborative community and the passion our members have to work together for the good of the veterinary profession," added Thoren.

Established in 2002, VetPartners™ now has 270 members ranging in over ten professional categories of expertise pertaining to veterinary practice management. VetPartners™ members are committed to providing services to the profession to help practices maximize their potential. Many members are available for speaking engagements on industry-specific themes and topics. Members believe in exemplary character and agree to abide by a Code of Ethics.

**For more information, please visit [vetpartners.org](http://vetpartners.org) or email [admin@vetpartners.org](mailto:admin@vetpartners.org).**

#####