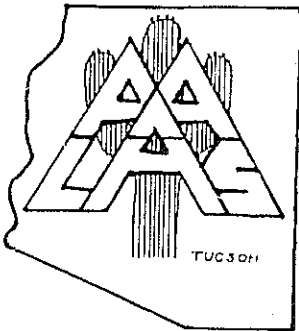


American Association Of Laboratory Animal Science



ARIZONA BRANCH NEWSLETTER
LOCAL CHAPTER OF "AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION FOR LABORATORY
ANIMAL SCIENCE"

August 1987

MINUTES OF THE PAST MEETING

The last meeting of the Arizona Branch of AALAS was held on July 29, 1987. Bill Schechner opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m. Grace Aranda read the minutes of the last meeting, April 22, 1987.

Casey Kilcullen gave a report on the District Eight Convention held in Tucson in May. Overall the convention was a success.

Grace Aranda gave the financial report. Copies of complete financial records were available for viewing.

Bill Schechner asked for ideas on how the branch could use the money in the treasury. Recommendations already suggested include: Paying for the transportation and registration to the next District Eight Convention for the recipient of the Technician of the Year Award, and educational training programs for Animal Technicians.

Proposals were submitted to try and regenerate funds through special money market accounts and fund raising. It was advised that a financial committee be formed to oversee these projects. It was proposed that Casey Kilcullen head this committee.

Sherry Gamble thought the branch should contact speakers from within the Arizona area to help with our educational programs.

Two changes in the Constitution and Bylaws were discussed. Detailed ballots will be sent out to all members in good standing.

The next meeting will be the annual meeting and nominations for officers will be accepted at this time.

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If you or anyone is interested in placing an ad in the newsletter the following price schedules are in effect:

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Casey Kilcullen
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REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS

Arizona has had a branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science since July of 1985. For those of you not familiar with this organization, AALAS serves as a clearing house for the collection and exchange of information on all aspects of the care and management of laboratory animals.

Membership in the local chapter is only \$5/year. If you would like to become a member of the Arizona Branch of AALAS simply send your check or money order payable to Arizona AALAS c/o; Grace Aranda

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CERTIFICATION EXAMS

AALAS has an Animal Technician Certification Program which serves two main purposes. It provides a mechanism for developing standards of competence for people who work in the field of laboratory animal science and it recognizes people who meet and exceed these standards by awarding them certification at three different levels: Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician, Laboratory Animal Technician, and Laboratory Animal Technologist.

In order to qualify for AALAS certification, applicants must pass their exam (written and practical) and meet educational and experience requirements which are outlined in AALAS publication 83-1, "The Animal Technician Certification program".

The minimum requirements to take the exams at each level are:

1. Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician - must have completed grammar school, have six months of work experience in a laboratory animal facility and have education in animal science and/or relevant work experience totaling another six months.
2. Laboratory Animal Technician - must have completed high school, have 1 year work experience in a laboratory animal facility and have education in animal science and/or relevant work experience totaling another 2 years.
3. Laboratory Animal Technologist - must have completed high school, have 2 years of work experience in an laboratory animal facility and have education in animal science and/or relevant work experience totaling another 4 years.

Provisional certificates for all three certification levels are given to those applicants who meet the educational requirements and pass the examination (written and practical) but who do not meet the experience requirements. A provisional certificate is valid for 3 years.

A candidate may apply for provisional certification once the education requirement is met and his or her instructor recommends it. Once the experience requirements have been met, the candidate may apply for full certification.

If you are interested in the certification program you may contact Jane Stone, Regional Examining Board, for the Arizona Branch of AALAS at 602-626-6702 for additional information.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NEWS

Continued Use of Pound Animals Approved in Albuquerque

On July 6, 1987, the Albuquerque City Council in New Mexico passed an ordinance to continue the sale of abandoned municipal pound animals to medical research. After three hours of debate, most of which focused on the pound animal provision, the ordinance received only one dissenting vote. The ordinance also increased the cost of each animal and the number of days an animal is held before it can be released by the shelter. Only untagged animals brought in by shelter officers or released by their owners will be sold. (Reproduced from NABR Update Vol. VIII, No. 16, July 17, 1987.)

Total Pound Ban Introduced By Pennsylvania Senator

Pennsylvania State Senator Greenleaf introduced S.B. 890, a bill to ban the use of pound animals obtained from both within and outside of the Commonwealth. Under existing law "No dog so caught and detained by any legally constituted enforcement agency or municipality shall be sold or given freely for the purpose of vivisection or research to be conveyed in any manner for any such purpose". S.B. 890 seeks to prohibit any person from purchasing or accepting "an animal, dead or alive, or any part of an animal in the custody of any humane society or animal control organization within or outside of this Commonwealth for the purpose of, but not limited to, testing, medical or scientific teaching or demonstration, research or experimentation". (Reproduced from NABR Update Vol. VIII, No. 16, July 17, 1987.)

Arrest Made in University of Oregon Break-In

On July 10 Eugene police arrested Roger Troen, a 56 year-old Portland man, in connection with the October 26, 1986 break-in at the University of Oregon in Eugene. The arrest was the first in the nine-month investigation. The Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the approximately 135 animals that were stolen and over \$36,000 in damages. Troen has been charged with second-degree burglary and first-degree theft. All three offenses are Class C felonies. Each are punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$100,000 fine. (Reproduced from NABR Update Vol. VIII, No. 17, July 31, 1987.)

Animal Activists Encounter Legal Obstacles

Another ruling has been handed down regarding the attempt by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to gain control of the New England Antivivisection Society's board. After the slate of NEAVS's board election was allegedly "stacked" by PETA through a petition process, a judge ruled in April that the petitions were invalid. Earlier this month another judge ruled that all candidates could participate in the election, but granted a temporary injunction barring PETA candidates, Ingrid Newkirk, Neal Barnard, and Annette Pickett, from occupying board seats.

The judge also ruled that Gul Agha and Lawrence Kennedy, NEAVS members, would be placed on the board. A trial to decide the composition of the board is anticipated in the future.

A temporary injunction was granted against three lawyers representing a group of animal activists that are trying to win control of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. At the annual meeting of the SPCA held in April of this year, activists elected an alternative board of directors. The alternate board was denied control of the organization by the preliminary injunction, but is planning to appeal the injunction. The 120-year old Pennsylvania SPCA has an endowment totalling \$16 million. (Reproduced from NABR Update Vol. VIII, No. 17, July 31, 1987)

Dr. DeBakey Speaks Out on Mrazek Bill

In a Washington Post article entitled "Medicine Needs These Animals," Dr. Michael E. DeBakey, famed heart surgeon, stresses the importance of the use of pound animals in biomedical research. In the editorial, published June 4, 1987, Dr. DeBakey opposes the Mrazek Bill which seeks to ban the use of pound animals in any research funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH, the primary funding source for biomedical research in this country).

As Chancellor of the Baylor College of Medicine, and Director of the DeBakey Heart Center, DeBakey knows first-hand of the "particular value" of pound animals in research. He stresses without research with pound animals he and his colleagues "would have been helpless to offer many of our patients any real hope at all". DeBakey says, "a ban on their use could have grave and far-reaching consequences for human and animal health." He points out that the cost of specially breeding each dog and cat would be substantially more than obtaining pound animals - a burden that would necessarily be placed on all taxpayers. (Reproduced from Foundation for Biomedical Research Newsletter, Summer, 1987)

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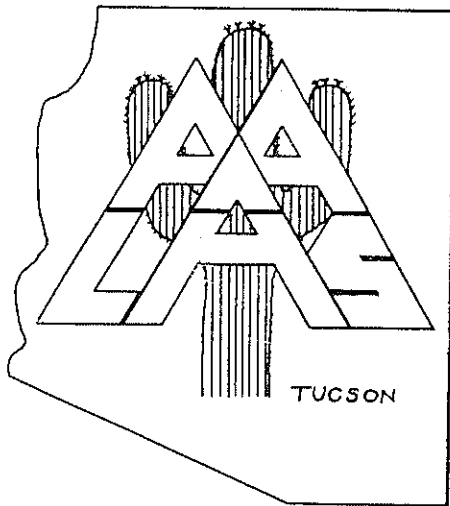
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