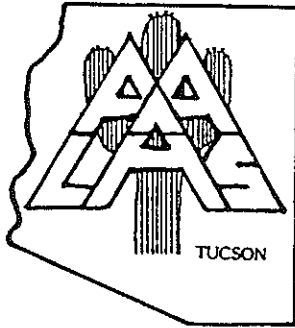


# American Association For Laboratory Animal Science



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

JUNE 1990

**THE NEXT MONTHLY MEETING IS JUNE 27TH AT 12:00 IN AHSC 2500F  
(COCHISE ROOM)!**

## **SUMMARY OF THE 1990 DISTRICT EIGHT MEETING**

The District 8 AALAS meeting was full of surprises plus the usual helpful educational information. The convention was originally scheduled at The Disneyland Hotel, but due to corporate policy not to "make waves or be controversial", the convention was moved to the Grand Hotel. The accommodations were nice.

The Arizona Branch was represented by Steven K. Stringer, Joseph T. Ramirez and Kathy L. Mariquez contributing excellent posters; and John B. Mulder, Jose A. Orozco, Jane Criswell, John Anderson and Kathy Henry presenting papers. The branch really appreciates all of the above getting involved and taking the time and effort to make their presentations.

The Arizona Branch will host the District meeting in 1996. Seeing as how it usually takes about two years to fully prepare for a convention of this type, it is really not too early to have ideas in the back of our head for it. Next year's convention will be in Utah. Lets get as many Arizona members to attend as possible. Lets present even more papers and posters than this year.

## **SPONSORS**

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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.

Please send your check or money order made out to **Arizona Branch AALAS**, University Animal Care, 2205 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85719.

### 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 exams (written and practical) and meet educational and experience requirements which are outlined in the 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 6 months of work experience in a laboratory animal facility and have education in animal science and/or relevant work experience totaling another 6 months.

(2) Laboratory Animal Technician - must have completed high school, have 2 years of 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 a laboratory animal facility and have education in animal science and/or relevant work experience totaling another 3 years.

Provisional certificates for all three certification levels are given to those applicants who meet the educational requirements and pass the examination (practical and written), but who do not yet 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 makes the recommendation.

Once the experience requirements have been met, the candidate may apply for full certification.

If you are interested in the certification program you may

call 602-621-3454 for additional information.

### AALAS Technician Continuing Education Registry

AALAS's Animal Technician Certification Program was an important step toward improving the overall care of animals used in research. However, the field of laboratory animal science is changing rapidly, with new knowledge, techniques and concepts being introduced almost daily. So it is essential that animal care workers periodically update their skills and knowledge to remain on the cutting edge of their profession. The AALAS Continuing Education Registry, authorized by the Board of Trustees in 1989, was designed to encourage such professional growth.

The AALAS continuing Education Registry is a voluntary program for documenting continuing education for all certified Assistant Laboratory Animal Technicians, Laboratory Animal Technicians, and Laboratory Animal Technologists. The term "technician," when used in this program, refers to persons certified at all three levels.

The purpose of the AALAS Continuing Education Registry is two fold: 1) to record the technicians continuing education, and 2) to encourage a standard for the minimum level of continuing education efforts to present and prospective employers. The program also provides managers of laboratory animal facilities with a ready reference of those technicians who are making an effort to keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date.

For more information and an application call Grace Aranda, (602) 621-3454.

### MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Nominations are now being accepted for this years' Member of the Year Award. Only members in good standing may nominate. Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- \* They must be in good standing with the branch (dues must have been paid before the April 1 deadline as stated in the bylaws).
- \* They must have been a member for at least one year (paid dues by April 1 of 1989 to be eligible this year).
- \* They must be active in the branch. Active has been defined as contributions made to the organization such as regular attendance at general meetings, and participation in organized functions other than the general meeting.
- \* They must set a good example above the organizations standards.

The winner will be announced at the annual meeting along with the Technician of the Year Award. The winner will receive a memorial plaque. Please call Casey Kilcullen (602)626-6702 or

Grace Aranda (602)621-3454 for further details.

#### WHAT'S NEW IN THE NEWS

##### Kansas and Maryland Governors Sign Facility Protection Bills

On May 12, Kansas Governor Hayden signed HB 776. "Farm Animal and Research Facility Protection Act." In accordance with the new law, any person who, without the consent of the owner, acquires or otherwise exercises control; over, damages, or destroys an animal facility or any animal property belonging to the facility; or remains concealed in the facility with the intent to commit the aforementioned acts or to take pictures by photograph, video camera or any other means is guilty of a felony. If the damage to the facility is less than \$500, the crime is considered a misdemeanor.

While the new law permits photos to be taken during facility business hours, The Kansas City Star reported that the regional director of the Humane Society of the United States claims the latter will hinder animal cruelty investigations because investigators take photos to document evidence. "It takes away our power and authority to do something about cruelty problems. It's more than obvious their intention is to keep us out of puppy mills." In response, Governor Hayden said, "It (HB 776) does not conflict with the measure I supported and sign into law two years ago, which was designed to put a stop to unethical puppy mills in Kansas." When it was introduced on March 19, 1990 and as it advanced through the legislature, HB 776 met no recorded opposition.

Effective July 1, 1990, a person who breaks and enters into a research facility in the state of Maryland with the intent to alter, eradicate, damage, deface, destroy, remove, obtain unauthorized control over, move in a manner intended to cause harm to, or engage in conduct that results in the removal of research property will be guilty of a felony. Upon conviction, the guilty party will be subject to imprisonment for not more than five years, a fine or not more than \$5,000, or both. After being approved by the House and Senate on March 23 and April 4, respectively, Maryland HB 662 was signed by Governor Schaefer on May 2.

Ten states now have laws to protect research facilities, staff and animals from the illegal activities of the animal rights movement - Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota and Utah. Facility protection legislation is pending in Arizona, Illinois and New York. (Reprinted from NABR Update, Vol. XI, No. 17)

##### AAAS Reiterates Support for Animal Research

At its 1990 meeting, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) passed a resolution to continue its support of the humane use of animals in research, testing and education. The resolution states that scientists must provide laboratory animals with proper care, minimize pain and discomfort, adhere to relevant laws and regulations and communicate respect for

animals to employees, students and colleagues. On the topic of testing, AAAS stated "that the development and use of complementary and alternative research or testing methodologies, such as computer models, tissue, or cell cultures be encouraged where applicable and efficacious." The organization also resolved "that the use of animals by students can be an important component of science education as long as it is supervised by teachers who are properly trained in the welfare and use of animals in laboratory or field settings and is conducted by institutions capable or providing proper insight." (Reprinted from NABR Update, Vol. XI, No. 18)

#### POSITION AVAILABLE

The National Jewish Center in Denver, Colorado has an immediate opening for a Unit Leader in Husbandry in the Animal Care Facility. Responsibilities include the daily supervision and training of laboratory animal caretaker technicians in a modern 12,500 square foot facility, which houses many species of lab animals, including mice, rats, hamsters, rabbits, guinea pigs, dogs and cats. Unit Leaders are working supervisors and will have husbandry assignments. Other duties include participating in hiring, and performance evaluations.

Candidates must possess a degree in animal science, veterinary technology or a related field. One to three years of supervisory experience is also preferred. Candidates should also possess or be eligible for certification as an AALAS Laboratory Animal Technician.

For more information, please contact:

Ellen R. Kolb, Director  
National Jewish Center Animal Care Facility  
1400 Jackson Street  
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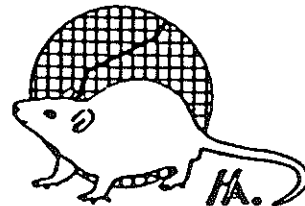
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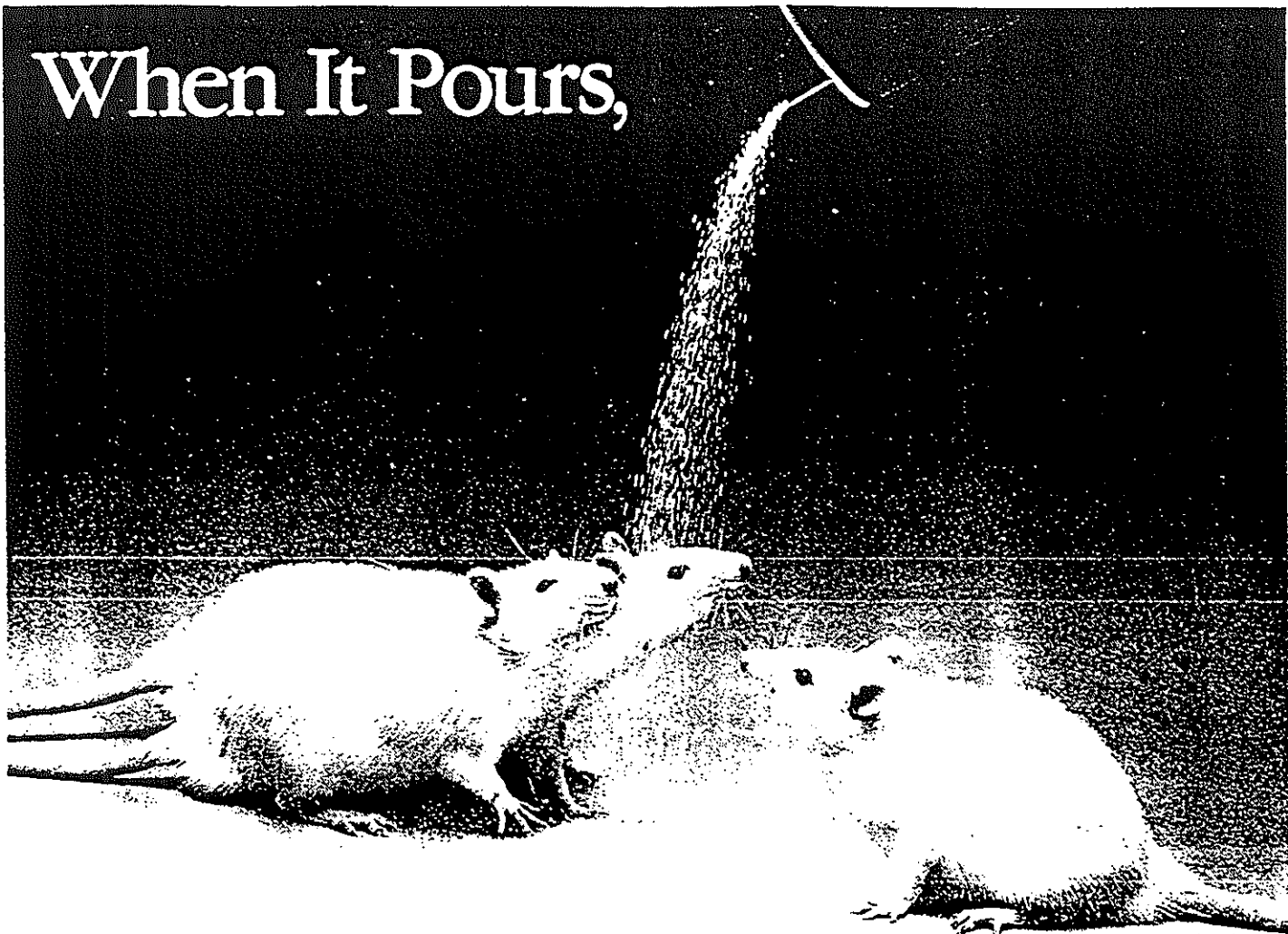
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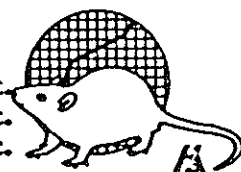
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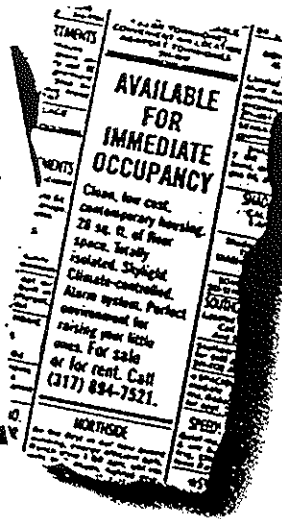
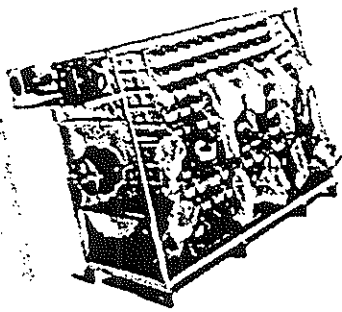
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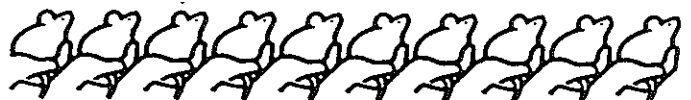
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JOB TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP IN AALAS (Check All Applicable):

NATIONAL: \_\_\_\_\_ HOW MANY YEARS/MONTHS: \_\_\_\_\_

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LIST AND DESCRIBE ANY OTHER ANIMAL RELATED ACTIVITIES:

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SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION AND EVALUATION BY SEPTEMBER 28,  
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2205 E. Speedway  
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