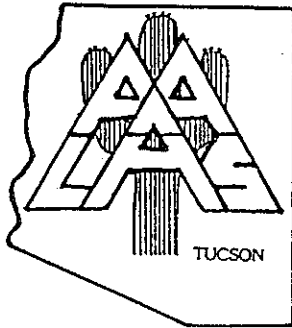


American Association For Laboratory Animal Science



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

February 1995

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A FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

The Branch saw some changes in 1994. Member participation began to grow outside the Tucson community. Our members in Flagstaff hosted the Annual Fall Symposium for the first time; they did an excellent job. I hope they will host the meeting again in the future (possibly 1995). Also the branch offered its first hands-on training program. I am sure the new president has ideas for more improvements.

I enjoyed working with all of you and look forward to serving as your Past-President. Now that I have moved from Tucson to Phoenix, my goal is to involve the central Arizona research community in branch activities. Someday the branch may truly be a state-wide organization.

Timothy Martin

WELCOME FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT

It has been a very rewarding experience to be a part of Arizona AALAS. I have learned a lot and gained many new friends through my association with the branch. I am looking forward to serving as this year's president. I will be working with the board to have more meetings and wet labs this year. If you would like to help, have any ideas or know of someone who would make a good speaker at one of our meetings, please let me or any of the other board members know. I hope all our members will take an active part this year and have a good time doing it. After all, the district meeting in 1996 is coming up on us fast and we need all the help we can get. See you at our first meeting in 1995.

Cynthia Richner

GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting was held at the College of Medicine in Room 4120. Vice President Jane Criswell introduced our guest speaker Mr Luis Miller, Educational Director for the Tucson Wildlife Rehabilitation Council.

OFFICERS

President

Cynthia Richner (602)621-1398

Vice President

Jane Criswell (602)621-1621

Immediate Past President

Timothy Martin

Secretary/Treasurer

Grace Aranda (602)621-1330

Board Members

Mark Barton (96) (602)626-7874

Michael Rand (95) (602)626-6705

Technician Branch Representative

Steve Stringer (602)575-8040

COMMITTEES

Awards

Mallory Spring (602)621-1330

Speakers

Jane Criswell (602)621-1621

Membership

Timothy Martin

Newsletter

Grace Aranda (602)621-1330

DISTRICT 8 TRUSTEES

Beth Ford (619)554-8280

Ron Orta (206)691-6364

Past District Eight Trustee, Casey Kilcullen-Steiner introduced the new Trustee, Ronald Orta. Ron expressed hope that Arizona Branch members will contact him with any concerns for National AALAS.

President Cynthia Richner called the business meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. Cindy announced the members of the board:

President	Cynthia Richner
Past President	Timothy Martin
Vice President	Jane Criswell
TBR	Steve Stringer
Secretary/Treasurer	Grace Aranda
Board Member	Mark Barton
Board Member	Michael Rand

Cindy mentioned that a sign-up sheet for volunteers for the 1996 District Eight Convention Committees was being passed around and she hoped that everyone would become more involved and sign up. This list of committees and a contact number will be included in the newsletter.

Cindy mentioned that the Board has proposed amendments to the Arizona AALAS constitution and by-laws. The proposed changes are: 1. Change Vice President to President Elect - this would be a 3 year commitment, 1 year as vice president, a year as president and then a year as past president - to add to the continuity and experience of the board; 2. Change the Technician Branch Representative from an appointed position to an elected position to allow more member involvement in the decision; and 3. Change the Board Member positions so that we have regional representation - A northern member and a southern member to ensure wider representation from the state as a whole. The proposed changes and ballot are included in this newsletter.

Secretary/Treasurer Grace Aranda mentioned that the branch plans on holding

another wet lab the last week in March or early April. This lab would be on the care and handling of rodents and rabbits. Further information will be available later on the exact date and cost for this lab. An announcement will be in the newsletter.

Jane Criswell, who is in charge of getting speakers for this year, requested that any ideas be called in to her.

The suggestion has been made to have a Spring Hayride and Cookout instead of the usual May picnic. Member Susan Sanders has offered to let the Branch host something at her new ranch.

Grace mentioned that the 1995 District Eight Meeting will be in Riverside, California in May. A request has been made by Sharon Jahn, ATCB Chair, that anyone interested in the Item Writing Workshop for the Certification Exams give her a call by February 14.

Board Member Mark Barton mentioned that dues for National AALAS are due March 3rd. Dues are still \$40 and the Branch will once again be using the University Animal Care Institutional heading.

Susan asked how many certification exams have been requested and taken since the new system was instituted. Response from Ron and Casey were that fewer tests were being requested and taken due in part to the cost and difficulty of traveling to a testing station. It was mentioned that University Animal Care may end up developing their own system due to these prohibitory factors. Ron stated he would bring up the issue to National.

Cindy adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

DISTRICT EIGHT TRUSTEE NOTES

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to those of you that supported my candidacy for the office of District Eight Trustee and pledge to all the constituents of this district that I will put forth my best effort to represent the views and voices of the district at the national level. I look forward to working closely with Dr Beth Ford, the senior District Eight Trustee, so that together we can best represent the interests of our district.

Key to successful district representation is communication between the trustees and its members. Interests represent a two way avenue between the members and their representatives. The trustees need to inform the members about what is going on at the national level; such as new proposals or policy consideration that will effect us all. Likewise, members need to express their positions or views to their trustees. Your Trustees will always welcome hearing from their constituents. The best way to let us know what is on your mind is to write us a note and fax or mail it to us. Personal communication is always welcome but if we get it in writing, we are less likely to forget it!

As a new incoming trustee, I was able to sit in on the entire Board of Trustee meeting at the annual meeting in Pittsburgh. I was quite pleased with the democratic way the entire board functioned on the business at hand. There were many new proposals presented but the one that seems to be of the most interest to members is that of district realignment. This is still just a proposal, so it is important to find out the rationale behind it and let your trustees know your feelings about it and how it would effect your local area.

In summary, remember that I will be most willing to address local branch meeting to brief you on what is going on at the national level, at mutually convenient times with my travel schedule. The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for June so now is the prime time for discussion! The best way to express your interest at the national level is to be a national member and communicate with your trustees.

You can contact Ron at (206)691-6364/(206)691-6446 (fax)

SPONSORS

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

\$30 for business card size ad
\$60 for 1/2 page ad

\$40 for 1/4 page size
\$85 for full page ad

Each ad will run four times during the year. In addition, if your organization has any more general announcements and/or articles which would be of interest to our members, please feel free to send them to us for publication. Please send copy to Newsletter Editor: University of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721.

REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS - 1995

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 of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721. Or call Grace at (602) 621-1330.

Palms to Pine Branch AALAS Hosts 1995 District 8 Meeting

"Continuing Education: Keeping Current" is the theme for the 1995 District 8 AALAS meeting which will be held May 8-10 in Riverside, California. Located about 20 miles from Ontario International Airport, the Riverside Holiday Inn and the Riverside Convention Center are the headquarters of the meeting. The Riverside Holiday Inn not only offers spacious rooms at a reasonable price along with easy access to the Convention Center, but will provide complimentary shuttle service to and from Ontario International Airport with advanced reservations.

Although the meeting officially begins on Monday, there will be plenty to do on Sunday, May 7th. Sharon Jahn will facilitate the Item Writing Workshop from 9:00 a.m. until noon; Pharmacal will sponsor a picnic that afternoon; and Palms to Pine Branch will kick off the night-before-the-meeting with a Casino Night Party! Atlantic City Games will provide professional dealers for blackjack, roulette, and craps, as well as a grand prize of a three-day, two night visit to Las Vegas to be auctioned off (with all that funny money you win of course)!

The meeting will begin in earnest on Monday, May 8th. Lunch will be provided and served in the vendor area. Topics scheduled so far include the development of transgenic and knockout models, isolation and diagnosis of pasteurellaccae, what's your diagnosis, and facility design. Monday's workshop, scheduled from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., will outline an employer's responsibilities resulting from the Americans With Disabilities Act and the Family Leave Statutes. The District 8 caucus meeting will be held from 4:30 until 5:30, and the banquet that evening will feature Dr Stuart Sumida from Cal State University in San Bernardino. His talk is titled, "From Bones and Stones to Balloons and Toons: The Intersection of Science and Art." Dr Sumida bases his talk on his work consulting with the Walt Disney studios on animation of animals.

Tuesday's slate is not quite so full - although lunch will again be provided, the evening is left free for you to explore any of the fine restaurants and microbreweries near the convention center. Topics scheduled for this day include operant conditioning in primates, the influence of environmental factors on behavior, and animal allergies. Tuesday's workshop, courtesy of Cindy Sardo of the California Biomedical Research Association, will teach participants how to speak to grade school students about biomedical research. At 5:00 p.m. we will have a drawing for prizes for any meeting participant who has visited all of the vendors and returned the completed form found in the registration packet.

We've saved the best for Wednesday! The morning will begin with a mock IACUC discussing protocols, issues and controversies often faced by such committees. Controversy will follow controversy as the meeting ends with a debate between an animal rights activist and a research scientist. Since the meeting officially ends at noon, lunch will not be provided. For those who can stay the rest of the day, Palms to Pine Branch has chartered a bus to take us to a working winery in nearby Temecula for a tour and wine tasting. The bus will depart the Riverside Holiday Inn at 1:00 p.m. and return by 5:00 p.m.

Palms to Pine Branch cordially invites you to attend this exciting and educational meeting in beautiful downtown Riverside. See you in May! For more information and registration materials call Cindy Chrisler (909)824-4316.

ITEM REVIEW WORKSHOP AT 1995 DISTRICT EIGHT MEETING

The Animal Technician Certification Board (ATCB) is looking for AALAS certified Technicians, Technologists or veterinarians interested in participating in an exam question review workshop. Questions written by participants prior to the meeting will be evaluated and processed by PES. Participants will meet at the workshop to validate items written by other participants prior to being reviewed by the ATCB. Feedback will be given on their questions. Maximum workshop size: 25 participants. Please contact Sharon Jahn at (916)752-7077x2364 for more information.

ATTENTION TECHNICIANS

AALAS is interested in your experience as a technician. Get involved and share your knowledge. Each time *Contemporary Topics* is published there is a section for a technician technical tips. Please make an effort to submit an article for the COLAT BRIEF of *Contemporary Topics*. Call Steve Stringer at (602)575-8040 if you would like some help or additional information.

SEARCHING FOR VOLUNTEERS

This year we are trying to encourage more involvement.

Membership - This committee is tasked to actively solicit applications for membership.

Program - This committee is responsible for selection of speakers, papers, films, etc for presentation at branch meetings

Nominating & Election - This committee shall select at least 2 candidates for each vacated elective office for the following year. Further they will prepare and distribute a ballot to each member for voting

Education & Training - This committee will conduct educational classes with the express intention of preparing participants for certification testing

In Preparation for the 1996 District Eight Meeting in Tucson to be hosted by the Arizona Branch we also ask for volunteers to help on the following committees:

Scientific Program - Finds and arranges speakers

Guest Speakers - Finds keynote and banquet speaker

Wetlabs - Arranges wetlabs

Financial - Deals with all financial matters

Vendors - Arranges vendor room and needs

Pre-registration - Handles call for abstracts, pre-registration mailings

Registration - Mans registration/information table

Printed Program - Puts together the meeting program

Autotutorials - Arranges room, equipment and supplies

Audiovisuals - Arranges for equipment

Social Events - Arranges tours, social activities

Posters - Arranges poster presentation room

Moderators - Arranges for moderators and audiovisual technicians

Awards - Arranges for various awards

Transportation - Arranges travel for labs and events

Security - Arranges for security

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If you would like to volunteer for one of these committees contact Cynthia Richner at (602)621-1330.

AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE

Nominations are now being accepted for this year's Technician/Member of the Year Awards. Only members in good standing may nominate and be nominated. These awards will be presented at the Annual Dinner. Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Must be a member in good standing of the Arizona Branch of AALAS
- ✓ Must have a year's worth of animal/animal related experience

Member of the Year

Nominee has exhibited devotion in personal time to assist in organization of programs, workshops, and other functions provided by the branch. Nominee encourages active participation within the branch, works diligently to meet deadlines, regardless of other daily obligations. Nominee volunteers to assist fellow members and provide support when needed. Education through meeting attendance along with active membership in the branch are viewed important for continued growth in the field of laboratory animal science. Exceptional accomplishments may include measures to encourage animal welfare in research, active participation in the local and national organizations for continued education, any paper presentation, articles or awards received to recognize exceptional contributions to the field of laboratory animal science along with active participation in community education and support.

Technician of the Year

Nominee demonstrates a positive attitude and a dedicated approach to the betterment of animal care through technical performance and education at their facility. Individual accomplishments may include participation in the AALAS certification process, assistance in facility training for fellow technicians, and the addition of personal certificates/diplomas earned in animals care related education. Any facility project initiated by a nominee to alleviate animal distress, enhance facility management, decrease animal numbers, or encourage skills in animal nursing and should be recognized. Exceptional accomplishments may include measures to encourage animal welfare in research, active participation in the local and national organizations for continued education, any paper presentation, articles or awards received to recognize exceptional contributions to the field of laboratory animal science along with active participation in community education and support. Must hold supervisor position or below.

Nomination forms are included in this newsletter and must be returned by April 28, 1995. Arizona Branch nominees will also be forwarded to the National office to be included in the National Awards Program.

CERTIFICATION EXAMS - Answers to Questions about the Certification Program

How do I get a certification application or information about the AALAS Animal Technician Certification Program?

Call Grace at (602)621-1330 for an application pamphlet.

How do I apply for an examination?

Carefully read the applicant information package. If you meet the criterion complete the application and return it in the self-addressed envelope to the Professional Examination Service for processing. If your application is complete and you meet the criterion for examination, you will be sent a post card notifying you that you are eligible to take the exam. If your application is returned because you do not meet the requirements or because the application is not complete, you will be required to send an additional \$25.00 fee when you resubmit your application.

When are examinations offered?

The examinations will be administered via computers at over 250 testing sites around the country. When you receive your post card advising you that you are eligible to take the examination, you will call the testing site and schedule the examination. Exams may be scheduled at the applicants convenience, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

How and when will I receive the results of my exam?

Because the examination questions have been rewritten, they must be re-validated before results can be released. One hundred examinations are required at a given level to validate the questions at this level. After the initial 100 examination have been administered at a level, examinees will receive their results immediately at the testing center when they complete the examination. If you pass, a letter of acknowledgement and an individually numbered certificate will be forwarded to you at a later date.

What are the requirements for AALAS certification? The requirements are as follows:

Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician (ALAT)

- Graduate of a two-year degree program, (AA, AAS, or AS) in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited program; or
- Graduate of a four-year BA/BS program in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited program; or
- Licensed DVM
- High school diploma or GED and upon completion or one year of animal care experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number

Laboratory Animal Technician (LAT)

- ALAT certification and one year of additional experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Graduate of a two-year program (AA,AAS,AS) in Veterinary Technology from an accredited program and two-years of additional animal care related experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Graduate of a four-year BA/BS program in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited program; or

- Licensed DVM; or
- High school diploma or GED and upon completion of three years of animal care experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance

Laboratory Animal Technologist (LATG)

- LAT certification and one year of additional experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Graduate of a two-year program (AA,AAS,AS) in Veterinary Technology from an accredited program and two-years of additional animal care related experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Graduate of a four-year BA/BS program in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited program and three years additional experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Licensed DVM; or
- High school diploma or GED and upon completion of three years of animal care experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance

How does the Professional Examination Service verify my employment?

The applicant must provide proof of the dates and duties involved for each employer listed. Verification by employers must be notarized on forms provided with the application. In addition, approximately 10% of the applications will be carefully screened by AALAS to verify the applicant's employment information. Applicants who misrepresent their credentials may be permanently barred from the certification program.

How much does it cost to take the certification exam?

Fees for 1995 will be as follows:

LEVEL	NATIONAL MEMBER	NON MEMBER
ALAT	\$125	\$250
LAT	\$150	\$300
LATG	\$175	\$350

Please note: Copies of membership cards must be sent with the application form, and membership fees may no longer be sent with the application. Therefore, to qualify for the member rate, you must obtain your AALAS membership and receive your membership card before sending your application form. If you have any questions call Steve Stringer at (602)575-8040.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NEWS

Job Opening - Animal Husbandry Supervisor

The University of Kansas Medical Center, Laboratory Animal Resources, is looking for a self-motivated, experienced individual to supervise 4-6 Animal Caretakers. This position is responsible for supervising the animal husbandry program for the Medical Center's 46,000 GSF, AAALAC accredited Research Support Facility.

The successful candidate should have an AALAS certification at the LATg level and, at least 5 years experience in a multi-species research facility with, at least, 3 years in supervision.

For information or an application please contact: University of Kansas Medical Center, Human Resources, 1033 Murphy, ATTN Carol Wagnor, 3901 Rainbow Blvd, Kansas City, KS 66160-7109, (913)588-7015

District Eight Meeting calendar:

3/4/95 - Delaware Valley Technology Seminar	(215)766-7413 Deborah
3/5-9/95 - Society of Toxicology Meeting - Baltimore	(703)438-3115
3/9/95 - N California Branch Transgenic Lecture	(415)855-5499 Peg
3/9/95 - N Capital Area Branch Meeting	(703)659-4474 Jesse
3/12-14/95 - Challenges & Changes for IACUC	(301)496-7163 Roberta
3/14/95 - Chicago Branch Meeting	(312)996-7048 Jeff
3/30-31/95 - CA Lab Animal Med Specialist Meeting	(415)496-3645 Vic
4/6-8/95 - St Louis Regional AALAS Meeting	(314)694-7985 Pat
4/7/95 - Appalachian Branch Meeting	(615)929-6700 Steve
4/11/95 - Chicago Branch Meeting	(312)996-7048 Jeff
4/13/95 - N Capital Area Branch Meeting	(703)659-4474 Jesse
4/25-27/95 - District Four Meeting in Durham	(919)990-6855 Angela
4/30-5/2/95 - NABR Spring Conference	(202)857-0540 NABR
5/3-5/95 - District Five Meeting in Indianapolis	(513)558-5171 Mike
5/8-9/95 - Well-Being of An Res Models	(301)345-3500 SCAW
5/8-10/95 - District Eight Meeting in Riverside	(909)880-5307 Cindy
5/11/95 - N Capital Area Branch Annual Picnic	(703)659-4474 Jesse
5/11-15/95 - ILAM Olive Branch	(901)754-8620 Judy
5/24-26/95 - Texas Branch Annual Meeting	(713)798-3256 Stacy
6/2-3/95 - N Rocky Mountain Branch Meeting	(406)243-5790 Phil
6/5-7/95 - Tribbranch Symposium in Philadelphia	(215)983-7777 Joan
6/11-14/95 - CALAS Meeting in Saskatoon	(403)492-5193 D. McKay
6/17/95 - UT Summer Party - Lava Hot Springs, ID	(801)585-3259 David
11/9-13/95 - National AALAS Meeting - Baltimore	
5/19-22/96 - District Eight Meeting in Tucson	(602)621-1330 Grace
11/3-7/96 - National AALAS Meeting - Minneapolis	

**Proposed Changes to the Constitution for the Arizona Branch
of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science**

Article V, Section 1 – Officers

Original:

There shall be a President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, and Secretary/Treasurer.

Proposed Change No. 1

There shall be a President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, and Secretary/Treasurer.

Article VI – Board of Directors

Original:

Section 1.

The Board of Directors, composed of the Officers, two additional elected members, and an appointed Technician Branch representative shall be the legislative and administrative body of the Branch. It shall have the charge of the property and financial affairs of the Branch and perform all the duties as described in the Bylaws.

Proposed Change No. 2:

Section 1 – Composition

The Board of Directors, composed of the Officers, an elected Technician Branch Representative and two additional elected members shall be the legislative and administrative body of the Branch. One of the two additional elected members shall be elected by the association's membership in the northern half of the State of Arizona, and the other member shall be elected by the southern members to ensure equal representation.

Section 2 – Responsibility

The Board of Directors shall have the charge of the property and financial affairs of the Branch and perform all the duties as described in the Bylaws.

Vote:

Proposed Change No 1: Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Proposed Change No 2: Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Arizona AALAS
University of Arizona
Bldg 101, Rm 114
Tucson, AZ 85721

ARIZONA BRANCH OF AALAS

1995 NOMINATION FORM FOR TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR

Fill out as much of this form as you can then the branch will have the rest completed.

Name of Nominee _____

Job Title _____

Place of Employment _____

Years a member of AALAS: _____ **Arizona Branch**
National

Level of Certification to Date:

_____ AALAS Assistant Lab Animal Technician
 _____ AALAS Laboratory Animal Technician
 _____ AALAS Laboratory Animal Technologist
 _____ Certified Veterinary Technician
 _____ Other: _____

Educational Background:

Diploma/Degree

High School _____

College _____

Graduate School _____

Other _____

Special Courses: _____

Current Job Description: _____

Duties: _____

Years Working with Laboratory Animals or in the Laboratory Animal Field: _____

Describe Nominee's Participation in the Animal Care Field Outside of Work (ie. docents at the zoo, presenting papers at meetings, teaching training sessions, clubs, memberships, etc.): _____

Proficiencies (accomplishments, contributions, continuing education, AALAS participation, etc.) _____

Evaluation by immediate Supervisor (consider aspects such as character, personal habits, interest in advancement of self and animal care, job efficiency, and overall knowledge of laboratory animal science)

Signature, Immediate Supervisor

Date

Signature of Nominator

Date

In order to be accepted this form must be returned by April 28, 1995 to:
Arizona AALAS, Univ of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721.

**ARIZONA BRANCH OF AALAS
1995 NOMINATION FORM FOR MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

Fill out as much of this form as you can then the branch will have the rest completed.

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

JOB TITLE: _____

YEARS MEMBERSHIP IN AALAS (Check All Applicable):

NATIONAL: _____

AZ-AALAS: _____

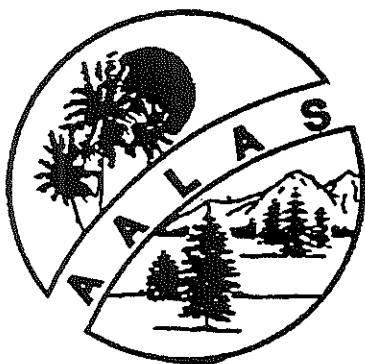
LIST AND DESCRIBE ANY SERVICE (s) CONTRIBUTED TO THE BRANCH:

LIST AND DESCRIBE ANY OTHER ANIMAL RELATED ACTIVITIES:

SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: _____ **DATE:** _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

**RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION AND EVALUATION BY April 28, 1995
TO: Arizona AALAS, University of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721**



Palms to Pines Branch AALAS

1995 District 8 Meeting

May 8 - 10, 1995

Riverside Convention Center, Riverside California

Registration Form

Name: _____

Institution or Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Registration (by April 1, 1995) \$100 \$ _____
(includes lunch on Monday and Tuesday and the Banquet)

Late Registration (after April 1, 1995) \$125 \$ _____
(includes lunch on Monday and Tuesday and the Banquet)

Spouse Registration \$25 \$ _____
(includes lunch on Monday and Tuesday and the Banquet)

Winery Tour (each) \$15 \$ _____

One Day Registration \$45 \$ _____
(includes lunch on Monday or Tuesday but not the Banquet; no lunch on Wednesday)

☐ Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ Wednesday

Optional Banquet for One Day Registration \$25 \$ _____

Workshops (please see the workshop descriptions)

A. Item Writing (must register by 2/1/95) \$15 \$ _____

B. ADA and FMLS: Employer's Obligations \$15 \$ _____

C. Spreading the Word: Speaking to Students \$15 \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Make checks payable to "Palms to Pines Branch AALAS".

Send this form along with your total remittance to:

Mia Molloy, Registration Chair

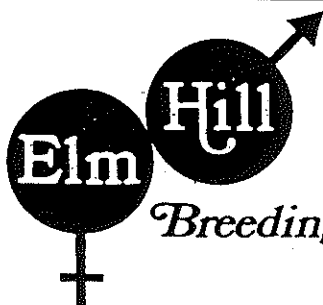
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P.O. Box 223

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Cancellations before April 1, 1995 will be refunded in full.

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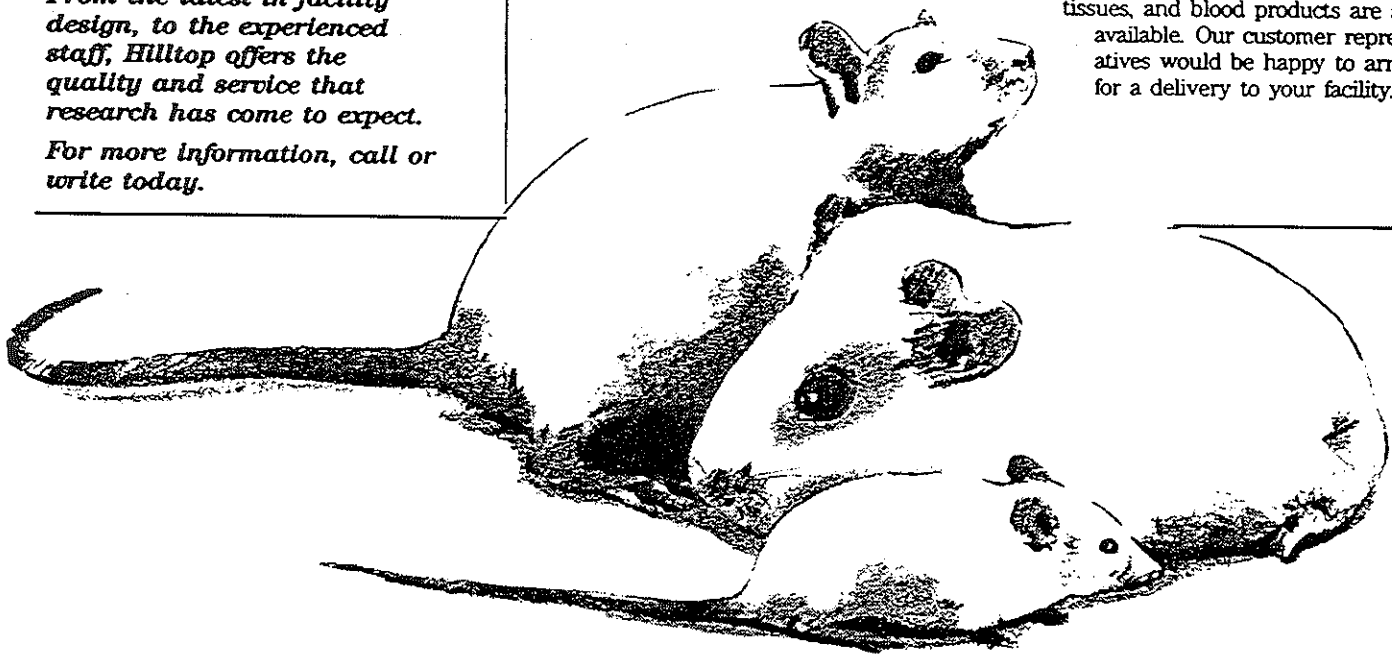
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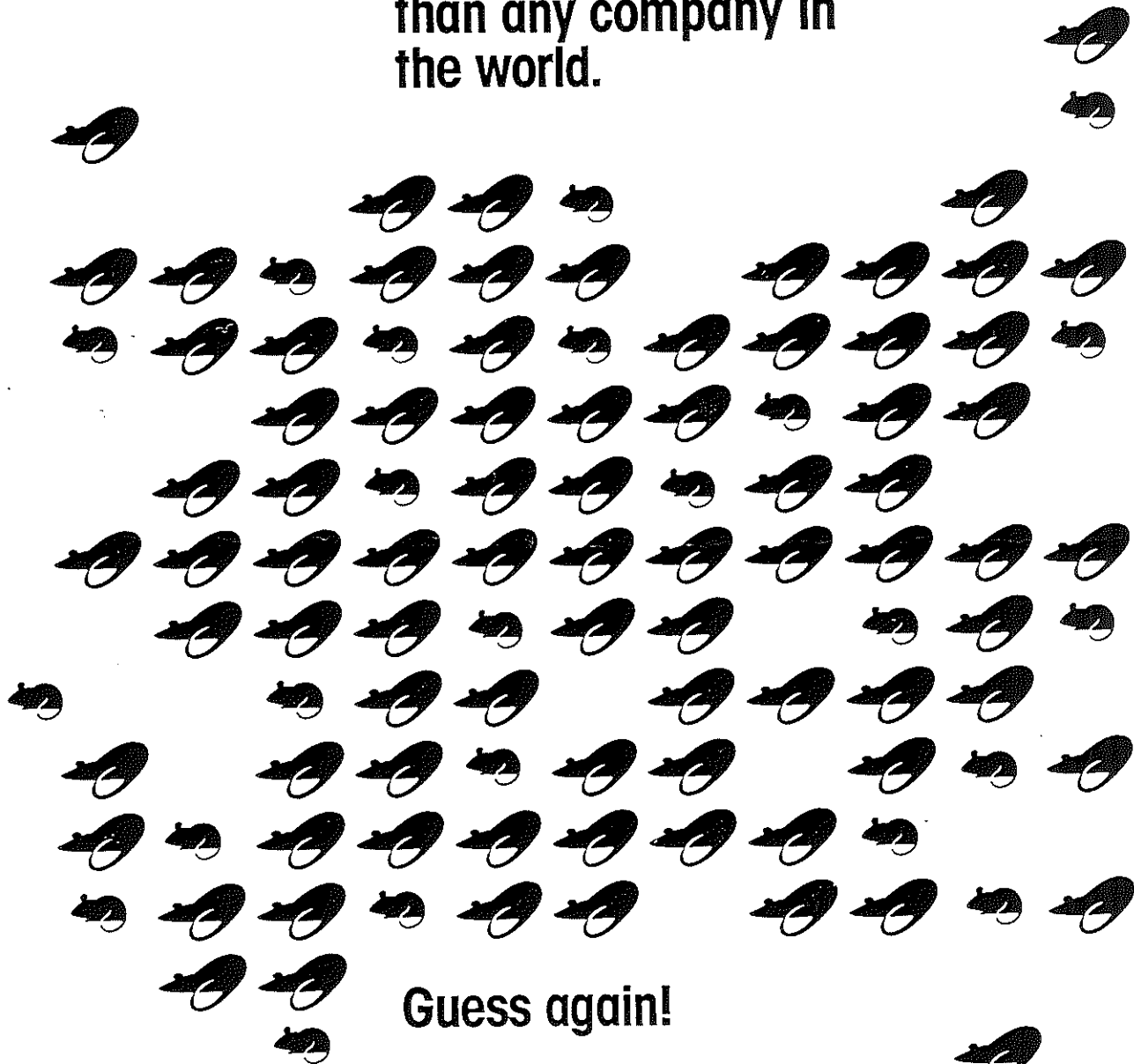
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February 6, 1995

Hotsheet

New Director of Professional Development and Education Onboard at AALAS

Please welcome Ms. Jill Worley to the AALAS National Staff. Jill will be onboard around mid-February 1995, charged with the responsibility of putting greater emphasis on education for AALAS members.

Jill was most recently employed at the University of Tennessee Medical Center, Department of Comparative Medicine, in Memphis. Having been a technician herself and certified at the LATG level, she understands the needs of technicians.

With the realignment of Ms. Judy Grisamore to Director of Member Services and Policy Coordination and the hiring of Jill, we hope it is obvious to all AALAS members that we are sincere in our desire to respond to the needs of our members. Please take advantage of the excellent staff available to assist you.

May 1 Deadline for AALAS Awards Nominations

Someone you know could be the recipient of one of the 1995 AALAS National Awards! You have until May 1 to nominate a colleague for the Griffin Award, the Garvey Award, the Collins Award, the Technician of the Year Award—and this year for two new awards, the Nathan R. Brewer Scientific Achievement Award and the Young Investigators Award. Send a nominating letter, curriculum vitae, and supporting letters to: Awards Selection Committee; c/o AALAS; 70 Timber Creek Drive; Cordova, TN 38018. See your March issue of *Contemporary Topics* for details, or call Dr. Stanley P. Liebenberg, Chair (315-432-2485); or Judy Grisamore (901-754-8620) in the AALAS office.

Abstract Deadline Approaching

The deadline is approaching for submission of abstracts for the 1995 National Meeting. They should be received in the AALAS office on or before the deadline, March 10. The program committee, chaired by Dr. Steven Schiffer, is encouraging participation at all levels: technician, managers, researchers, etc.

The '95 meeting in Baltimore is expected to be the largest in attendance in AALAS history.

If you need additional forms, please call the AALAS office, or you may duplicate the original form mailed to all members in December.

Is Redistricting in the Future for AALAS?

All National AALAS members received information on the proposed redistricting options being considered by the Governance Review Committee and Board of Trustees in the January 1995 issue of *Contemporary Topics*. We urge

each of you to read Dr. Fineg's article carefully and respond with your thoughts to your trustee or to the National Office. The Governance Review Committee is chaired by Dr. Bob Mueller, and their next meeting is scheduled for February 27–28, 1995.

Certification News

A checklist is provided on the back of the Candidate Application Handbook for you to verify that you have all the information required by PES to process your application. An incomplete application will only delay your sitting for the exam in a timely manner.

PES processes applications weekly (Wednesdays), with approval letters mailed on Thursday of each week.

Annual Report: PES began administering the new technician certification examinations in March of 1994. The number of technicians applying for and taking exams dropped off dramatically from 3,132 in 1992 to 292 in 1994. With fee increases, change in eligibility criteria, and the move to computerized testing, technicians have been reluctant to apply for the exam.

The percentages of candidates passing the exams from March 1994 to present have remained fairly consistent with past years: ALAT (75%), LAT (76%), and LATG (35%). The LATG level has a lower percentage of candidates passing, however, as only 66 candidates have tested at the LATG level thus far. To date,

Join! Renew! Recruit! Your Only Way to Win in the Supergoal Membership Sweepstakes

Eligibility: To qualify, renew your membership or join National AALAS by no later than March 31, 1995. Drawing will be held April 1995. National Board of Trustees members and AALAS staff are not eligible.

Grand Prize: Trip to 1995 AALAS National Meeting in Baltimore. Package includes round trip airfare on USAir, five nights hotel accommodations, and free registration to the National Meeting.

Second Place: (Two winners) Spaulding sports bag, complete with AALAS towel and T-shirt and gift certificate from a major department store.

Third Place: (Five winners) AALAS monogrammed towel.

New Member Incentive: A certificate for a 3-day, 2-night stay at any Hyatt Hotel in the United States for the National AALAS member who recruits the most new members.

the ATCB doesn't have the demographics information to adequately complete this report, and the LATG numbers (66) are too low to accurately make any comparison to

previous years (note: AALAS tested 734 candidates at the LATG level in 1993).

The Role Delineation Documents (RDD) are used for writing examination items, so I strongly urge anyone interested in the examination process to refer to the RDD for his or her level. Many candidates who have been applying with the minimum qualifications have not had enough experience in the field and have had a difficult time with the examinations. More information will follow in the May issue of *Contemporary Topics*.

Item Writers Wanted

Wanted: Certified AALAS ALATs, LATs, LATGs, or veterinarians to write items (questions) for the certification examination-database. Contact the AALAS Office at (901) 754-8620.

Invite a National Rep to Your Meeting

Looking for National Representation at your upcoming Branch or District Meeting? If you would like someone from the National Leadership or National Staff to attend one of your upcoming meetings, please make contact with that person soon. Calendars are filling fast! We want to make every effort possible to assist you with your upcoming functions.

AALAS: Your Resource Center

We are here to help! The National AALAS Office has many tools to help you grow professionally and expand your knowledge of laboratory animal science. Check out the list of materials for sale in *Contemporary Topics*. If you ever have a question about anything in AALAS, look to your National Office as an

information source. We're here to help you!

Technician Registry Committee to Meet

Mark Dittmar has accepted the position as Chair of this very important committee. They will be meeting at the AALAS office in Cordova, TN, on February 17-19 to decide the future course of the registry. If you have recommendations or suggestions about where the registry should be going, please contact Mark at 405-271-6815, or send him a fax at 405-271-6283.

AALAS Holds Meeting with PES.

On January 20, Chair Sharon Jahn, Vice Chair Dr. Hugh Price, and AALAS Executive Director Mike Sondag met in New York City with Professional Examination Service (PES). Numerous issues were discussed such as exam development, the handling of applications, and the validation of exams. Further discussion will be forthcoming as a new contract with PES is being proposed for the next three years.

Certification Exam Jitters?

Do you have computer anxiety with the new testing method? If you have reservations about taking the computerized AALAS Certification Exams, we think we can help. The AALAS National office has a limited number of slide sets that we will gladly loan out for use in Branch or institution meetings. The slides show what a person would see upon going to a Drake Test Site. Making use of these slides and the disk containing the practice exam can help you overcome the anxiety. If you'd like to take advantage of this opportu-

nity, please contact E.C. Gresham at the National Office at (901) 754-8620. There is a \$5 charge required to cover shipping costs.

AALAS to Exhibit at SOT Meeting

AALAS will be exhibiting at the March 5-9 meeting of the Society of Toxicology (SOT) in Baltimore. Executive Director Mike Sondag and area members of AALAS will be on hand in the new AALAS booth to inform attendees about the benefits of our organization. If you plan to attend the SOT meeting, stop by the AALAS booth.

Subscribe to *Laboratory Animal Science*

Did you know that Science Citation Index ranks AALAS's journal, *Laboratory Animal Science*, in the top one-third of journals cited in the field of science? Did you also know that if you're an AALAS national member, you can save \$40 off the nonmember subscription price? Order your subscription today by calling E.C. Gresham at the National AALAS Office at 901-754-8620. Members pay only \$50 for a one-year subscription. For nonmembers, it's \$90.

AALAS President On-Line

You can send your comments, suggestions, and concerns by e-mail to the president of AALAS, Dr. Jerry Fineg, at "president@aalas.org." If you are on LABBS, type "PREZ" at the main menu to send him e-mail. (LABBS is a dial-up computer service available to members at 901-758-0401.)

1995 Membership Directory to Include E-mail Addresses

March 31 is your membership renewal deadline for inclusion in the 1995 *Membership Directory*. This year's directory will include e-mail addresses. When sending in your renewal, check to make sure we have your correct information (address, phone, fax, degrees, e-mail address).

"Old" ALAT Manuals For Sale

The 1984 edition of the *Manual for Assistant Laboratory Animal Technicians* is now available.

The \$35 manuals are unrevised, bound photocopies of the original. To order, call AALAS at 901-754-8620 and ask for manual number 84-1.

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**For Registration Information
Call Grace At 621-1330.**

1995 ARIZONA BRANCH AALAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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