

Arizona Branch AALAS Newsletter

Vol. 10 No. 2
July 1997

Arizona Branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

You Could Win A Free 1998 AZ AALAS Membership - see form enclosed

INSIDE

<i>Arizona Members Have Fun in The Summer Sun</i>	1
<i>TBR Corner</i>	1
<i>Someone You Should Meet</i>	2
<i>Cage Washer Maintenance</i>	2
<i>Why Delegate?</i>	3
<i>Environmental Enrichment</i>	4
<i>New Bladder Cath Techniques for Rabbits</i>	5
<i>Masking Method</i>	5
<i>Diphtheria in Animal Facilities</i>	5
<i>Addressing Poor Performance</i>	6
<i>Application Processing Now Handled by AALAS</i>	6
<i>Updated Certification Diskettes</i>	7
<i>Certification Registry News</i>	7
<i>Quality at Work</i>	7
<i>Position Announcements</i>	8
<i>Vendor News</i>	8

Arizona Branch AALAS Newsletter

Arizona Branch AALAS

Timothy Martin, President
(602)406-4003

Michael Rand, President-Elect
(520)626-6705

Leigh Kleinert, TBR
(520)626-4707

Grace Aranda,
Secretary/Treasurer
(520)621-1330

P.O. Box 210101
Tucson, AZ 85721-0101
fax: (520)621-8833

Arizona Members Have Fun in The Summer Sun

On June 21, 1997 the Arizona Branch AALAS celebrated summer with our summer event at Justin's Water World. We had a good group of folks there and all had a great time in the many pools and slides. The food was good and the branch would like to thank Pharmacal Research Labs for helping to sponsor the event.

TBR Corner

Not much news for the summer. Everyone, including me, seems to be on vacation. The picnic at Justin's Water World was a lot of fun for those of us that attended. It was a great way to cool off for the day and enjoy Eege's food. Wish more people had attended.

I will be going to Nationals this year and hope to bring home more information for the branch.

National News

Don't forget about the AALAS Certification Registry. If you need

more information on it, please call or e-mail me.

AALAS Certification Program Change. The test center has changed and some of the rules have changed. Most of the information is in the last newsletter, or call me.

AALAS is on the web at www.aalas.org. All the info on testing, is there. In addition you can ask questions and there's a section for kids.

Local News

Plans are underway for the awards banquet on December 6, 1997 at Old Tucson Studios. It sounds like it should be a lot of fun. See the next newsletter for more information.

That's all for now. If you need to contact me for any more information I am at (520)626-4707 or e-mail me at lbk@u.arizona.edu.

Recent Publications from Arizona Members:

Williams, Stuart K., Berman, Scott S., Kleinert, Leigh B. "Differential healing and neovascularization of

ePTFE implants in subcutaneous versus adipose tissue," *J Biomed Mater Res*, 35, 473-481 (1997).

Salzmann, Dennis L., Kleinert, Leigh B., Berman, Scott S., Williams, Stuart K. "The effects of porosity on endothelialization of ePTFE implanted in subcutaneous and adipose tissue." *J Biomed Mater Res*, 34, 463-476 (1997).

Adair, C., Durham, Mary, "Calculating Per Diem Rates for Animal Facilities," *AALAS National Meeting*, Anaheim, California, November 17, 1997.

David G. Besselson, G. A. Bradley, Michael S. Rand, Donald W. DeYoung, "Acute Neurologic Disease in Random-Source Dogs," *AALAS National Meeting*, Anaheim, California, November 17, 1997.

Kilcullen-Steiner, Casey, Johnson, Cheryl, Mitchell, Andi, Ruddy, Tim, Criswell, Jane, "Cross Training for Success," *AALAS National Meeting*, Anaheim, California, November 17, 1997.

Kilcullen-Steiner, Casey, "Changing Face of Lab Animal Management," Round Table Discussion; Budgets: Doing More With Less, *AALAS*

National Meeting, Anaheim, California, November 17, 1997.

[If you have something published be sure to let Leigh know so that it can be included in a future newsletter]

Someone You Should Meet

This is the first issue where we will begin the "Someone You Should Meet" column. Each issue will highlight another member and we hope this will help the membership get to know one another. See the form included in this newsletter for your chance to win a branch membership. e must recei e your completed form by to be in the drawing

Pam Morris, Research Technician, University Animal Care, University of Arizona

Education level: Two years of college

Certification Level: AALAS Technician

Years in AALAS: 6 years

Most memorable moment in AALAS: When I got my technician certification

Best part of my job: Working with a variety of animals

Toughest part of my job: euthanizing when necessary

Most embarrassing moment: Too numerous to mention

My family: Husband Jim, son Ben, daughters Sheila and Shawna, grandkids Joey and Mandy & son-in-law Joe.

Pets: 3 dogs (Stormy, Angel and Lady), 1 cat (Kiss), 1 bird (Bishop), 1 tortoise (Morla) and tarantula (Fang).

Hobbies & interests: Writing, drawing, reading, dog training, hiking, hunting, antique horse collecting.

Heroes: John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, John Wayne & President Clinton

The one thing I would change about myself: Babbling

Personality traits I admire: easygoing, humorous, slow to anger

Personality traits I dislike: defensiveness, not listening.

People assume I am: How I appear most of the time.

What drives me crazy? Other drivers.

I hope I never have to: Eat sushi!

My fantasy is: Win the lottery, retire and travel.

Cage Washer Maintenance

One of the most critical operations in the lab facility is cage sanitation. The majority of animal facilities use cagewashers to clean and sanitize cages and other ancillary caging equipment. Well maintained equipment equates to sustained or increased productivity and most importantly the maintenance of conditions conducive to animal health.

Breakdowns, either electrical or mechanical, can trigger increases in labor costs, inefficient sanitization processes and of course, delays in production.

Most cagewasher breakdowns can be avoided. Doing proper preventive maintenance (PM) can eliminate major problems as well as fixing minor problems before they arise and become major problems. There are two significant types of PMs: the Daily PM and the Comprehensive PM.

Daily Preventive Maintenance consists of the following:

1. Cleaning of Spray Jets - Orifices often get clogged with bedding materials. Plugged spray jets will make the cagewasher become ineffective and inefficient in sanitizing caging equipment.
2. Cleaning of Pre-filter Screen - This is where most of bedding debris is trapped. Clogged screens will slow the flow of water for the pump to recirculate. Water, along with particles, will find their path toward the tank through any openings, especially where the screen is seated, and will eventually clog the secondary filter.
3. Cleaning of Secondary Filter - This filter is made of a finer screen. It is the final filtration of water pumped to the spray jets.
4. Cleaning of Sensing Probes/Floats - These devices regulate the water levels in the cagewasher tanks. When coated with dirt or detergent film, they lose sensitivity and may send false readings to the water supply control valve.

5. Drain Tanks at the End of Each Day - It is good to start with fresh water every day. This procedure will allow you to drain particulates that could plug your screens and spray jets.

The Daily PM is crucial to the operation of the water pump. Clogged spray jets or screens will make the water pump work harder and will reduce its life expectancy. Pumps are very expensive; replacement can cost up to \$7,000.00.

Comprehensive PM is performed quarterly, tri-annually or twice a year depending on your facility's workload and your physical plant's capability to perform troubleshooting and performance of minor as well as major repairs. Assigning a technician, preferably with strong mechanical abilities, to be responsible for the function and operation of the cagewasher is highly recommended. This technician must also be responsible for the performance of the daily PM. When the comprehensive PM is done, it must be monitored by the technician who is in charge of the equipment to insure that the PM checklist is performed accordingly.

Optional Preventive Maintenance - Depending upon the quality of your water supply (hard water) and detergent, you may have to descale the washer's chambers once a month. Your detergent supplier can probably advise you of the descaling process and frequency.

Records - Documentation is an excellent method of tracking and monitoring Daily, Comprehensive and Optional PM performance schedules and frequencies.

Facilities that lack the resources to manage a comprehensive PM program or make repairs can have those services provided by manufacturers or independent service technicians.

We have developed several PM Checklists that may be useful as references or models.

If you would like copies of the checklists or further information regarding PM and Repair service, you may call Nonie Esteves at (805) 447-3606 or Ken Golding at (818) 301-8270.

(SCB AALAS News, April 1997)

Why Delegate?

If you don't give the ball to your teammates, you will soon be sacked, a term that requires no sports-to-business translation.

It has come to my attention that to get their point across, corporate executives frequently resort to descriptions based on American football terminology. Very well, then! Having consulted with a stateside colleague regarding the fine points of this frightfully popular pastime, I will present a particular problem in terms of a football dilemma.

The quarterback, who mathematically speaking should be only fractionally as important as the halfback or the fullback, is in fact in charge on the field. The center, who given his embarrassing posterior-held-high posture should, by rights, be called the end, grasps the ridiculously shaped ball and snaps it, which does not in fact break it in two but rather propels it into the hands of the quarterback.

With thousands of potential plays at his disposal, this particular

quarterback hugs the inflated pork packaging to his bosom and hurls himself up the field, a process which ends rather abruptly through the vertical application of 11 burly bodies. Perhaps the results would be different if the quarterback allowed someone else to touch the ball. You see, for each play, our fearless quarterback has kept the ball and attempted to single-handedly run it down the field. The solution is clear: Give someone else a chance to carry the ball.

The same is true for the manager who attempts to do it all and suffers the bone-crunching consequences. To manage effectively, whether on the field or in the office, you must be willing to delegate tasks and authority to subordinates.

Note that I didn't say "delegate responsibility." Ultimately, you cannot delegate responsibility: As a manager, responsibility for the success or failure of your department is yours to keep.

That explains why many managers are loath to delegate important tasks: They fear their subordinates will fumble the

assignment, and the manager will be blamed.

What to Delegate

Which of your tasks should you delegate: Start with the ones you really enjoy. Ouch! You say. But consider how many jobs you still undertake merely because they are familiar, simple, and somehow pleasurable. Handing them off to a capable subordinate will allow you to spend time on matters that truly demand your own inimitable touch.

Once you have decided which tasks can be delegate and to whom, you must ensure that the person you have chosen is given every chance of success. That means briefing and training the individual, and letting others involved in the task know that someone else will be handling it from now on, so they might help him or her complete the mission. Even after delegating a task, you still have the responsibility to see that it is accomplished successfully. You must be available for questions and advice. And you'll need to establish a regular system for checking on your subordinate's progress. There's a fine line between actively managing a subordinate's work and interfering with it. You can't delegate responsibility, but you can and must delegate authority to make decisions and, yes, to make mistakes.

Like you, the people working for you are engaged in a learning process. By delegating tasks and authority to subordinates, then supporting them, you increase their job satisfaction and usefulness to the company. At the same time, you free yourself to concentrate on other challenging tasks more effectively. Or, returning to the language of

football, you'll can tackle new projects and intercept opportunities as they arise.

(Orange Co AALAS, 6/97)

Environmental Enrichment

We have used a variety of environmental enrichment objects for our small laboratory animals. They include the following:

Rats and Mice: Marbles and stainless steel nuts have been used. We have found that they like both, but we use mainly the marbles because they have a tendency to bury the nuts in their feeders. Also, a product called Neslets sold by Ancare is used. This is nesting material that we use even in suspended caging. This may be preferred for the rats and mice, but unfortunately not for GLP studies due to concerns regarding ingestion. Another item used for rats in non-GLP studies is Nylabones - both regular and chocolate flavored.

Guinea pigs: Nylabones and polypropylene mouse shoeboxes have been used. They seem to prefer the shoeboxes which have modified by either cutting them in half or cutting a suitable sized hole in one end and then turning it upside down. One noted observation was that the guinea pigs spent a lot of time huddled together in the "hutches" especially when someone walked into the room. Previously, there was a lot of chatter and scurrying when someone entered the room. Therefore, we feel the hutches have a security benefit. One drawback is that checking animals when they are "hiding"

requires more technician time.

Ferrets: Stainless steel dog bowls and PVC tubing have been used. The 3" tubing which was cut into approximately six 8" lengths was more of a toy while the dog bowls were used for sleeping. All the ferrets (up to 4) in one cage would be found snuggled together in the bowl every morning.

Rabbits: Nylabones and polypropylene rat shoeboxes have been used. The shoeboxes are cut in half and used as "hutches" and sometimes litter boxes. However, they seemed to like both. One precaution with the shoeboxes was to avoid placing them near the water sippers as the rabbits would sometimes lodge them against the litix.

All the items used were readily sanitizable or disposable. Another benefit was the excitement generated by the animal care staff in trying to see which animals liked best. So, you could say the environmental enrichment was for all!
- Susan M. Hart, Proctor and Gamble Pharmaceuticals, Norwich, NY

New Bladder Cath Techniques for Rabbits

Our laboratory has developed a method to collect accurate urine samples during acute drug infusion studies. Anesthetized rats are surgically prepared to expose the urinary bladder. Polypropylene tubing (PE50) with a silastic tip is inserted into the bladder through a puncture hole and secured with VetBond. The abdomen is carefully sutured closed to allow exit of the tubing. The animal can then be placed in a ventral position to collect urine at a constant flow by gravity. Hydration is important to continue urine flow and is attained via a jugular vein catheter and saline infusion. For complete details, see article in: *Contemporary Topics* 1996, Vol. 35 - Kimberly W. Black, Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC

Masking Method

An innovative method of dispensing gas anesthesia is used in our facility. Nylon quick-release canine muzzles make efficient anesthetic cone mask halters. By keeping the mask in place, this device frees your hands for better restraint during induction or prevents dislodging during anesthetic mask-only procedures.

The small sizes are preferable for use with the small cone mask. Cradle the mask in the muzzle so that the hookup end of the mask protrudes through the snout end of the muzzle. Attach the gas machine hose as usual and the muzzle will now be permanently fixed. Adjust the straps accordingly before commencing your procedure so no

time is lost during the initial restraint period.

When the animal is relaxed, you can readjust the device to keep it tight without occluding the airway. We have safely used this technique many years, so we now keep them hanging from our anesthesia machines. It has especially come in handy since most of our patients are brachycephalic! - Brenda Ivey, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas

Diphtheria in Animal Facilities

Laboratory animal facilities located in human hospitals benefit in many ways from such shared space, but also shared problems as well.

Megaselia scarlaris, the humpbacked fly (family *Syrphidae*, the flower flies) and *Psychoda alternata*, the moth fly (family *Psychodidae*) are found in drains and sinks and represent more than just occasional nuisances. Although they are not recognized as pathogenic, both species congregate on decaying organic matter and serve as mechanical vectors.

When medical waste and garbage accumulate as on holidays and weekends, hospital and laboratory staff can expect flies to take up residence. Leftover food or other trash may have to be stored in-house if it comes in contact with human patients undergoing radiation treatment. This "radioactive" garbage may be stored for weeks until the radiation safety or nuclear medicine departments officially release it. Such a situation is ideal for flies. Constant vigilance is

essential to prevent these flies from entering operating rooms, cafeterias, patient rooms, and animal facilities. Entering through doorways, these lightweight creatures can fly against the positive pressure of barriers and hallways.

The combination of food and leaking water bottles in an opened rodent cage is the perfect environment for adult flies to lay eggs. In a week or less, maggots may be sharing close quarters with SPF, SCID, and other research animals, potentially spreading disease and alarming investigators.

Rooms in which medical waste is stored should be tightly sealed and monitored by professional exterminators. Carbamate insecticides are often used to rid a facility of flies, with caution exercised around birds, fish, and of course fruit flies used in genetic research. Cagewash floor drains should be sprayed first. Bags of feed that might be contaminated by flies, eggs, or maggots should be destroyed.

Approval should be gained from appropriate administrative sources before exterminators begin their work. Many

facilities do not allow any insecticides in animal rooms. Some reptiles are sensitive even to pest strips. Implementation of a suitable pest control program will eliminate flies and the potential hazard and nuisance associated with them. - Melanie S. Rembert, DVM

Addressing Poor Performance

Here are some statements you might use when you have to issue oral warnings about an employee's behavior:

"You know the policy, I'm sure, but I'll explain it just to make sure we both understand the rules."

"I don't want to give up on you, but if your performance doesn't improve, then you'll get a written warning. And a written warning always includes a probation statement."

"We talked about this two weeks ago. These are the standards you must meet, and here are the performance problems we have to work on."

"I see that you're angry about this. How do you see the situation? What choices do you see? How can we resolve this together?" - *Why Didn't I Say That?: What to Say and How to Say It in Tough Situations on the Job*, by Donald H. Weiss

Application Processing Now Handled by AALAS

A new beginning for AALAS' Certification Program is here. As of April 1, 1997, The Chauncey Group International along with Sylvan Prometric began providing exam

development and administration services for AALAS.

The major difference you as an applicant will notice is a change in the application process. All application processing, fee collection, and score reporting will be handled directly by staff at your national AALAS office. Since early February this year over 600 technicians have applied for certification under the new program with almost 300 of those completing their applications and receiving authorization to test. Sherry Hatcher, Certification Assistant, will gladly assist you with all of your certification needs. If you have any questions, just give her a call at (901) 754-8620 or send her an e-mail message at sherry.hatcher@aalas.org.

Updated Certification Diskettes

Now that AALAS has begun testing with The Chauncey Group International, an updated version of the certification diskette is now available. This time it comes to you as two disks and can be ordered as item #97DD from the AALAS order Form for \$15 (members) and \$25 (nonmembers).

The disks contain the Basic Course Outlines and the Educational Resource Materials List for all three levels of certification, a copy of the *Candidate Bulletin*, and a current version of the AALAS Demo Exam. These are the basic items you will need to get started preparing and applying for your AALAS certification exam.

The Demo Exam is provided to give a candidate an opportunity to

see how the actual AALAS exam will appear on the computer screen. The candidate can actually move through the screens of the Demo and learn all the necessary keyboard and mouse functions. The Demo should help familiarize you with the exam format and computer operation enough to help eliminate some "computer anxiety."

The Demo Exam operates on Windows 3.1, and all text documents are in WordPerfect 6.0 format.

Certification Registry News

By now you've probably heard about becoming a "registered" ALAT, LAT, or LATG and acquiring a new acronym - RALAT, RLAT, or RLATG, respectively. The new Certification Registry went into effect April 1, 1997.

Requirements are different from those of the previous registry program at AALAS. For a full description of the program and requirements, use AALAS' Fax on Demand (901-754-2546) system and request the member section documents #520

and #530. A wall certificate will be provided to those meeting the Registry requirements and a Registry lapel pin will be available for sale in the near future to registered technicians or technologists. If you have questions on the Certification Registry, contact Carol Simonton by phone at (901) 754-8620 or e-mail at carol.simonton@aalas.org.

Quality at Work

Feeling appreciated motivates employees more than big bucks

by Fred Thompson

Considerable effort and energy is spent trying to identify and eliminate the barriers to employee motivation. Organizations that are institutionalizing quality as a business strategy are having more success with this endeavor than others.

Quality practitioners recognize that there is a dimension pertaining to employee efforts that money can't buy. Frederick W. Smith, chairman and chief executive officer at Federal Express, refers to this dimension as the domain of "discretionary efforts." These efforts are voluntary and can't be mandated.

With discretionary efforts, employees go beyond what the job description calls for to do what is needed to get the job done. Mediocrity and complacency have no place. Perfection and continuous improvement of all job related activities are the norm. All of us are gifted with the ability to apply discretionary efforts. It could happen when you decide to answer the phone even though it is not in your

job description. It might mean coming early or staying late to complete a task. It could be when you take the time to help a customer who is in need of directions. In the community it could mean taking the time to let a motorist know that a door is ajar. The list could go on.

One of the obstacles to unleashing these efforts is thinking that it is a financial matter. Abraham H. Maslow and other behavioralists have shown that above a certain point, money is not a motivator. What seems to be more significant is the company culture, the work environment and the treatment received.

It is important to understand and believe that it is innate to want to improve the output of one's work. Holding at a level of accomplishment is a position of boredom. No employee wants to be bored and it is the responsibility of those in charge to reduce the chance of this happening. Purveyors of quality understand that developing a culture that fosters teamwork, creativity, risk-taking and innovation is the best way to tap discretionary efforts. As coaches and facilitators, their focus is on the importance of the intrinsic rewards involved in employees making incremental improvements.

Leaders in quality recognize the importance of the activities associated with continuous improvement as a way to prevent boredom and to promote a sense of usefulness. After all, looking for ways to improve things is a lot more interesting and less stressful than fixing things gone wrong.

Zealots of quality believe that it is human nature to want to satisfy and even excite those being served - the customer. They believe that if an organization can internalize and

develop systems to support this belief, it will have motivated employees who will exercise discretionary efforts routinely.

The company that can institutionalize continuous improvement to support the belief that doing a good job is desired by all will have a good chance of becoming a world class organization. This can only happen through having highly motivated employees.

(Orange Co AALAS, 6/97)

Position Announcements

Research Assistant

Cortex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a neuroscience company that specializes in the development of therapeutics for treating neurological disorders such as Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, stroke, and cerebral vasospasm. We are currently seeking one or two outstanding individuals with a Bachelor's or Master's degree, and/or with significant laboratory experience. The successful applicant(s) will have strong general laboratory skills, and the ability to quickly learn gel electrophoresis, tissue culture, and histological techniques.

The compensation level is competitive, and includes stock options and medical/dental coverage. Cortex is located in the Irvine Spectrum business area, with immediate freeway and Amtrak access. Please submit a letter of introduction and a business resume or academic CV (no phone calls please).

Mail Information to: Ben A. Bähr, Ph.D., Research Assistant Position, Cortex Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 15241 Barranca Parkway, Irvine, CA 92618

Cortex Pharmaceuticals is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to excellence through diversity.

Assistant Lab Technician

The California Institute of Technology is seeking an individual to assist with specialized lab cleaning/maintenance, record keeping and preparation of associated work areas in the Biology Division's Transgenic Core Facility. Duties include assisting with inventory, participating in training activities, performing specialized technical tasks, and other related duties as assigned.

Requires minimum 6 months of related experience, excellent communication (verbal/written) and organizational skills, and ability to maintain accurate logs and lift up to 50 lbs. Must be able to work overtime and on weekends, and successfully complete an AALAS examination. A Post-Offer of Employment Physical Examination is required. Interested candidates may submit a resume with salary history/requirements, or apply in person Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5p.m. at: Caltech Employment Dept., Position #4071, 1200 E. California Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91125

Caltech is an AA/EOE. Women, minorities, veterans and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Vendor News

Nichimen to Distribute Taconic Transgenic Models in Japan

Taconic announced that it has entered into a distribution agreement

with Nichimen Corporation (Tokyo, Japan). Nichimen will be the exclusive distributor of Taconic Transgenic animal models for basic research, toxicology and human disease research. Given the magnitude and growth of research and development activities in Japan, this distribution channel is extremely important. This arrangement with Nichimen further strengthens Taconic's position as the leading supplier of transgenic animals to the research community worldwide. Taconic's product line of transgenic animal models includes some of the most widely used transgenic models in the world. The TSG-p53 transgenic mouse, deficient in p53 tumor suppressor gene, is probably the most widely used transgenic animal model today. Over 200 laboratories worldwide have used this model for cancer research in such areas as studying the biological effects of electromagnetic fields to investigating how calorie restriction affects tumor formation. The TSG-p53 mouse is being evaluated by the National Toxicology Program as an assay to allow government regulatory agencies a quicker means of identifying potential human carcinogens. The TSG-p53 mouse can potentially cut the time needed to identify carcinogens by 75 percent.

Taconic's product line also includes important human disease and immunology models. The HLA-B27 transgenic rat contains a human gene that predisposes the animal to arthritis. The HLA-B27 rat has been used to test human anti-inflammatory compounds. A new mouse model, the *pfp* knockout mouse was recently introduced by Taconic. Containing a disruption of the pore forming protein gene, the mice lack perforin and killing activity of cytolytic T cells as well as natural killer (NK) cells is impaired. Other immune deficient models in the product line include mouse models deficient in the *rag-2* gene, MHC Class I and Class II.

Nichimen is an international trading company with headquarters in Japan. The company views the new distribution agreement with Taconic as an opportunity to enhance the activities of its bio-related specialty business. The

Fine Chemicals Division of Nichimen has access to the animal models market directly and through its subsidiary, Immuno-biological Laboratories as a sub-distributor for the transgenic animal models. Nichimen management sees the agreement with Taconic as a logical extension of its growing specialty chemical business activities.

Taconic is an international supplier of quality laboratory animals and services founded in 1952. In 1995, the Transgenic Models and Services Division was formed to facilitate access to transgenic and knockout animal models. The company has been known throughout the laboratory animal care industry for its dedication to Quality, Integrity, Service and Dependability, resulting from a consistent record of accomplishments and innovations which have progressively set new standards of excellence for the industry.

Results from Study of Sodium Hypochlorite By Pharmacal Research

Degradation of Sodium Hypochlorite A simple solution of 5% Sodium Hypochlorite was prepared for analysis. The sample was stored in an opaque bottle that was capped and left on the counter top in the laboratory. The overhead lights were turned on five days per week for approximately nine hours per day. The laboratory was vacant over

the weekend. The implications for the animal care specialist is that sodium hypochlorite solutions should be dated upon arrival and used within a specified time. A 5% sodium hypochlorite solution degrades to about 3.5% over a period of 90 days.

Degradation of Sodium Hypochlorite over time: Room Temperature vs. Refrigeration

A simple solution of 15% Sodium Hypochlorite was prepared for analysis. It was then divided into two equal amounts. One was stored in an opaque bottle that was capped and left on the counter top in the laboratory. The overhead light was turned on five days per week for approximately nine hours. The laboratory was vacant over the weekend. The other sample was stored in a similar opaque bottle but was placed in the refrigerator. The refrigerator maintains a temperature of approximately 48 F. It was shown that the 15% Sodium Hypochlorite in the refrigerators remained stable, but the 15% sodium hypochlorite on the counter degraded to around 12% over a period of 50 days. The implications for the animal care specialist is that sodium hypochlorite degrades over time. If the solutions are kept at cooler temperatures (DO NOT FREEZE), the degradation process is minimized. For further information on this study and other products, contact Pharmacal Research Laboratories, Inc., 33 Great Hill Road, Naugatuck, CT 06770. Phone (203)729-5237, (800)243-5350 or fax (203)729-5230.

New Products Available from Edstrom Industries

The newest products from Edstrom are:

Stainless Steel Pressure Regulator

- Direct replacement for existing plastic regulators
- 316 stainless steel construction with sanitary finish Two pressure ranges available

- High flow capacity enhances flushing effectiveness
- Long term operation with extended warranty

Filter Bank Station

- Enhances your water quality with) .2 micron final filter
- Reduces your maintenance cost with fewer filters to change
- Durable construction - Stainless steel panel, piping and fittings
- Standard component for "Next Generation" watering systems

If you would like product sheets on these products or would like to receive update, a quarterly publication, please contact: Edstrom Industries, Inc., 819 Bakke Ave, Waterford, WI 53185. Phone (800)558-5913, fax (414)534-5184. For contact by e-mail: edstrom@edstrom.com. Or visit their web site at <<http://www.edstrom.com>>

Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc. 1997-98 Product Guide Now Available

The Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc. 1997-98 Product Guide is now available. Offering over 240 stocks and strains, the new product guide contains pricing for laboratory animals produced in the U.S., including rats, mice, hamsters, guinea pigs, gerbils, cats, beagles, hounds, and miniature swine. A listing of stocks and strains produced by Harlan's worldwide facilities is also included.

In addition, information on the following is contained in the new product guide: Harlan Health and Genetic Monitoring programs, surgical and contract services, immunological products and services, Harlan Isotec flexible-film isolators, growth and survival data, filtered shipping containers, and Harlan Teklad laboratory animal diets and bedding.

To request a copy of the product guide, or for more information about our products and services, please call our National Customer Services Center at (317)894-7521.

Sponsors Page

The Arizona Branch of AALAS would like to thank those vendors who have sponsored the branch through advertising in the Arizona Buyer's Guide. We ask that members patronize their business and show our support of them too!

A. K. Roseberry & Associates

Ardis Roseberry

Phone: (408)773-1952

Alternative Design Mfgt & Supply, Inc.

Eddie Loyd

Phone: (800)320-2459

Ancare, Corp.

Mitchell Kanarek

Phone: (800)781-0755

Charles River Labs

Patricia Wilkens

Phone: (508)658-6000x326

Edstrom Industries

Skeeter Georgeson

Phone: (800)558-5913

Hilltop Lab Animals Inc

Edward Miedel

Phone: (412)887-8480

LGL Animal Care Products, Inc

Dale Bush

Phone: (409)775-1776

Marshall Farms

Nikke Nicoletis

Phone: (516)627-2454

Myrtle's Rabbitry Incorporated

Rebecca Dodson

Phone: (800)424-9511

Nuaire, Inc.

Scott Christensen

Phone: (800)328-3352

Purina Mills, Inc.

Lynn Freese

Phone: (919)598-9998

Red Basket Ranch

Alvin Illig

Phone: (760)649-9488

Rees Scientific Corp.

Todd Perez

Phone: (800)327-3141

Shepherd Specialty Papers

David Kelly

Phone: (800)253-3286

Simonsen Laboratories Inc.

Ardis K. Roseberry

Phone: (408)847-2002

Steris/AMSCO

Stephen Bob

Phone: (800)989-7575x21201

Suburban Surgical Company, Inc.

Tim Bartlet

Phone: (800)323-7366

Summit Ridge Farms

Michael Panasevich

Phone: (717)756-2656

Thermocare

Lee Cunningham

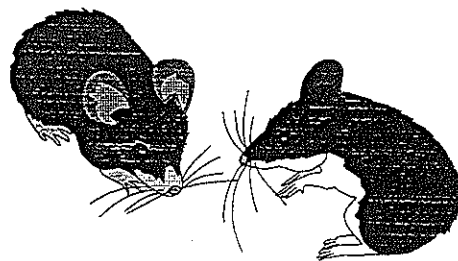
Phone: (702)831-1230

***Be sure to look for their ads
in the Buyer's Guide!***

Arizona Branch AALAS General Meeting Announcement

When: August 14th, 1997 at noon

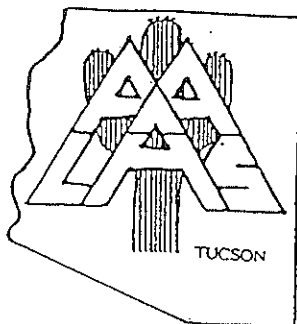
Where: UMC Rm 3505



Guest Speaker: Lesley Castro, PhD
Research Instructor, College of Medicine

"The Siberian Dwarf Hamster Blues: The Life and
Times of an Animal Model of Depression."

Business meeting to follow.
Refreshments to follow.



American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210101, Tucson, AZ 85721

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

SEND IN YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR TECHNICIAN/MEMBER OF THE YEAR.

Do you know someone who is a good worker? Someone who gets along with everyone? Someone who constantly strives to improve their work? Well you may know our next Technician/Member of the Year!

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

- a. Must be a member in good standing of the Arizona Branch of AALAS.
- b. Must have a year's worth of animal/animal related experience.
- c. Must be personable and get along with investigators and co-workers.
- d. Must make contributions to make operations run better.
- e. Must hold supervisor position or below.

Any questions, call Grace at (520)621-1330.

Nominations must be submitted to Grace Aranda, University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210101, Tucson, AZ 85721-0101 no later than Tuesday, September 30, 1997.

ARIZONA BRANCH OF AALAS
1997 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 September 30, 1997
to: Arizona AALAS, Univ of Arizona, P.O. Box 210101, Tucson, AZ 85721.

ARIZONA BRANCH OF AALAS
1997 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 September 30,
1997. TO: Arizona AALAS, Univ of Arizona, PO Box 21010, Tucson, AZ 85721

1998 ARIZONA BRANCH AALAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby apply for membership in the Arizona Branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science.

BRANCH DUES (\$5.00) _____ Arizona Branch Newsletter subscription is included

Name _____
Affiliation _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____ Email: _____

Please make check payable to Arizona Branch AALAS and send to: Grace - Arizona AALAS, University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210101, Tucson, AZ 85721-0101

Arizona Branch AALAS
University of Arizona
P.O. Box 210101
Tucson, AZ 85721-0101

113010

Address Change Requested

Important Time Dated Forms Enclosed