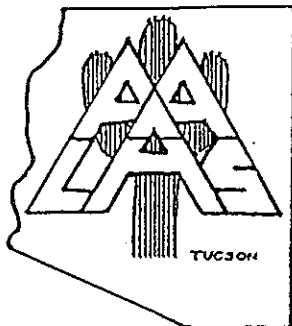


American Association Of Laboratory Animal Science



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

March 1989

MINUTES OF THE PAST MEETING

The meeting was held at University Medical Center. New president Grace Aranda introduced the branch officers: Vice-President Peggy Kundrat, Secretary/Treasurer Brenda Kulik, Board Member Casey Kilcullen, Regional Examining Board Dr. Stuart Houston; Kathy Marquez, Board Member and Technician Branch Representative; Dr. John Mulder, Regional Examining Board Chair and Dr. George Bjotvedt, Regional Examining Board. Grace updated the branch on the planned donation to Incurably Ill for Animal Research (iiFAR) of \$100. The check will be sent out soon. She mentioned that Dr. Mulder has offered to purchase the Technician/Technologist AALAS Certification slide series through University Animal Care.

Grace brought up the subject of the Technician of the Year Award. Casey passed out a form belonging to another branch that we might use to ensure that all nominations are presented in a similar manner.

The branch will purchase professional letterhead and envelopes from The Inkwell. Brenda read the estimates received and informed the branch of the 10% discount we are to receive.

The branch was mailed a questionnaire from National asking for branch opinions about reducing the number of window dates for taking certification exams. The members present had no major arguments against reducing the number of dates. Brenda returned the completed questionnaire.

Grace brought up Dr. Mulder's suggestion of an informational one day seminar for interested technicians, investigators and others statewide to explain AALAS, AAALAC, LLAMA, University Animal Care and any other area people may wish us to cover. Casey has a questionnaire for the newsletter to discover those other subjects which people are interested in. Brenda addressed the need for additional membership and membership renewals. Grace called for volunteers to serve on committees including: Speakers Committee, Fund Raising Committee and an Awards Committee. The next general meeting will be April 19.

IMPORTANT DATES

Remember: May 10 - 12. District Eight AALAS Meeting
Red Lion Inn Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon. Contact :
Nancy Traskell, Dept. Animal Care, L-110, OHSU, 3181 S.W.
Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, Oregon, 97201: phone: 503-
279-8425.

SPONSORS

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

\$20 for business card size ad
\$30 for 1/4 page size
\$50 for 1/2 page ad
\$75 for full page ad

Please send copy to Casey Kilcullen: University Animal Care
1532 E. Mabel St.
Tucson, AZ 85719

REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS

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

Membership in the local chapter is only \$5/year.

Please send your check or money order made out to Arizona Branch
AALAS c/o Brenda Kulik
University Animal Care
1532 E. Mabel
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 contact Dr. John Mulder, Regional Examining Board, for the Arizona Branch of AALAS at 602-621-3454 for additional information.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NEWS

Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc. Acquires Blue Spruce Farms

Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc. (HSD), Indianapolis, Indiana, one of the two largest laboratory animal breeders in the world, has announced the purchase of Blue Spruce Farms of Altamont, New York. Blue Spruce has been producing laboratory animals for over 39 years and is well known for its Long-Evans rat. It also produces the Sprague-Dawley, Gunn, and Brattleboro rats.

The Blue Spruce acquisition brings the total number of breeder facilities owned by HSD to nine: seven domestic and two European facilities. In addition to its locations in Indiana and New York, HSD has operations in Madison, Wisconsin; Frederick, Maryland; Houston, Texas; Haslett, Michigan; Prattville, Alabama; Oxford, United Kingdom; and Zeist, The Netherlands.

HSD currently produces over 120 stocks and strains of laboratory animals for the research market. Founded in 1931, HSD has over 57 years of experience in all facets of animal production. HSD also owns and operates TEKLAB, a manufacturer of

customized test diets and natural ingredient diets for laboratory animals; United Vaccines, the largest producer of mink and fox vaccines in the world; ISOTEC, a producer of flexible film isolators for virus-free animal containment; and Bioproducts for Science, Inc., an affiliate which manufactures and distributes immunological reagents for research.

HARLAN SPRAGUE DAWLEY, INC. EXPANDS TO CALIFORNIA

Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc. (HSD), Indianapolis, Indiana, one of the two largest laboratory animal breeders in the world, has announced the establishment of a new maximum barrier production and distribution center in San Diego, California. This new HSD facility is the result of the purchase of a small southern California animal breeder and will serve as a base for production and distribution on the west coast. This location will form a solid tie with HSD's nationwide trucking service and allow the company to provide daily deliveries to the San Diego and Los Angeles area. The California acquisition brings the total number of breeder facilities owned by HSD to ten.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Premier Laboratory Diets, Inc., a company made up of former Continental Grain Employees, has purchased the Wayne Laboratory Diet business from Continental Grain.

Premier purchased the lab diet production plant in Peoria, Illinois, the Wayne lab diet formulas, the diet support information, and the name and packaging. Premier also assumes all current price quote agreements.

Premier will continue to offer the complete line of Wayne Lab Diets and add new diets as needed. They look forward to continued service to their present customers and the chance to discuss diets with anyone who is purchasing other diets.

They will be at the District and other AALAS meetings.

SILVER SPRING MONKEYS - AGAIN

A new development has arisen regarding the so-called Silver Spring monkeys. These are the animals which were removed from Dr. Edward Taub's laboratory in 1981 after Alex Pacheco (co-founder of PETA) infiltrated the lab and publicly charged Dr. Taub with animal treatment. Taub's lab was ultimately closed and he was convicted of animal abuse, a conviction which was ultimately reversed by a higher court.

Since 1981 the monkeys have been in the custody of the NIH. PETA has unsuccessfully tried to gain legal custody of the animals through the courts (all the way to the Supreme Court). Failing to win in the courts, they have been trying to get Congress to transfer the animals to a facility that will allow PETA access to the monkeys - Primarily Primates in Texas.

At this point in time, nearly eight years after the Taub case, it really doesn't matter what went on in the Taub's lab. What does it matter is that there are three of these animals whose physical condition has deteriorated to the point where anesthesia is warranted for humane reasons. This is the recommendation of a "blue ribbon panel" of animal care specialists and the Louisiana SPCA. All the experts agree the monkeys are suffering and in danger of serious life threatening injuries due to their deteriorating health.

Last month, the Department of Health and Human Services ordered their euthanasia. However, several animal rights organizations, spearheaded by PETA, filed suit contesting the decision. The suit was to be heard early this month, but it has now been transferred to a federal court which has requested an "undetermined" amount of time to gather background information.

This gives the animal rights activists time to pressure Congress into intervening and having the monkeys transferred out of NIH's custody. Cards and letters are pouring into Congress, so a note from iiFAR members asking your congressmen to support the DHHS's decision would be helpful. These animals should not have to continue suffering just so PETA can have their way. Send a copy of your letter to: Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Room 615F, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. If you would like more information on this situation, please contact iiFAR Headquarters: P.O. Box 1873, Bridgeview, IL, 60455. (Reprinted from iiFAR Newsletter).

CALL ME THE HUNTER

From a recent exchange of letters between Teresa L. Gibbs of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, in Washington, and Ted Nugent, the rock star. "Call Me the Hunter" ran in the March 1989 issue of Harper's.

Dear Mr. Nugent,

We have received several letters from our members and your fans about a recent article in STAR magazine describing your hunt and slaughter of a black bear.

As you point out in the article, there is no ethical difference between killing a bear and killing a cow, pig, or chicken. I would like to point out that killing any animal for reasons of taste, sport, or luxury is wrong. I am hopeful that, upon reflection, you will be eager to switch to a more humane, healthy pastime such as hunting down and collecting wild vegetables and fruits, hiking, or taking photographs of animals, such as bears, in their natural habitats.

Hunting is an extremely cruel and senseless form of "recreation." The stress that it causes animals-the noise, the fear, the constant chase- is nothing less than a form of psychological torture. Those animals who are hunted, but escape suffer from stress-related disabilities that reduce their ability to eat properly and store the fat and energy needed to survive the winter. The death of an animal is also devastating to his or her family, particularly when the young are

involved.

Although the flesh of a dead bear does not contain the high levels of hormones, antibiotics, and pesticides that are found in the flesh of factory farm animals, all meat does contain unhealthy levels of fat and cholesterol, which are responsible for most cases of cancer, heart disease, hardening of the arteries, strokes, arthritis, muscular dystrophy, and myriad other life-threatening human illnesses. Studies of vegetarian societies and sects have concluded that a meatless diet not only promotes a longer life but enhances the quality of life. Since meat is not only unnecessary for our survival but a major health risk as well, we cannot justify the slaughter of animals simply for reasons of taste or sport.

I am enclosing some information that I hope you find interesting. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Meanwhile, I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Teresa L. Gibbs

Dear Teresa,

I don't know how often you leave beautiful downtown D.C., but you obviously rarely leave the pavement. I've spent a lifetime out-of-doors with real wildlife, and it disturbs me whenever someone makes a detrimental judgement based on a make-believe emotional belief.

Killing animals is not wrong. It is certainly part of the real world. God does it. Mother Nature does it. Animals do it. And man does it. An ounce of common sense would show you the importance of death in the wild. But you obviously don't really care about the animals or you would know firsthand the damage your fantasy would cause. Try going snowshoeing in an area with deer after a severe winter, and tell me how you like the mass, slow, lingering death as an alternative to a national harvest. You are a cruel bunch of liars.

You are wrong about stress. The animal world is designed for stress, man or no man. And sorrow to the animal family? You really flashed your pathetic ignorance here. I've seen hundreds of doe and deer beat hell out of their fawns for a tidbit of food in the winter. The concept of family is ridiculous is you know that boar, bears and male lions, more often than not, eat their young.

In regard to the consumption of animal flesh, man does, can, and will-justifiably-utilize animal flesh for food. Animal products are also wonderful for clothing and many other uses.

The information you sent was not interesting. As someone who has seen and experienced the truth, such nonsense only disgusts me.

Come on Teresa, get your fat ass out of the office and let me take you along with my children and friends to the beautiful world of truth and experience.

Sincerely,

Ted Nugent

FROM iiFAR NEWS

It is with great sorrow that we report the passing of Rick Simpson, our Founder and President, following an unexpected heart attack on March 5, 1989.

Rick's untimely death is a poignant reminder of life's fragility and the urgent need for medical research. Rick was acutely aware of this need and had dedicated his last four years to seeing that medical research was not impeded or compromised by the lack of laboratory animals. We owe a great deal to Rick. His foresight, love of life and dedication to iiFAR has been an inspiration to everyone of us. His presence will be missed, but we are even more determined than ever to continue the good work Rick started in the spring of 1985.

Our Vice President, Margaretha Durka, is serving as iiFar's chief corporate officer until we have completed the process of selecting a new President.

Finally, we wish to express our condolences and offers of support to Rick's family - his wife and fellow Board member, Peggy, and his two sons and step-daughter.

TECHNICIAN/MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

It's that time of year again, time to send in your nominations for Technician/Member of the Year Award.

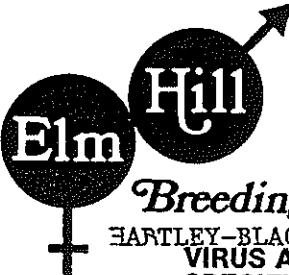
If you know someone who is a good worker, gets along with coworkers and investigators, who constantly strives to improve their work, then you may know our next Technician/Member of the Year!

Nominations are now being accepted for this years' Technician/Member of the Year. This award will be presented at the Annual meeting held in October. 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.

Nominations must be submitted on the form provided to Grace Aranda, 1532 E. Mabel, Tucson, Arizona, 85719, no later than the next general meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 19, 1989.

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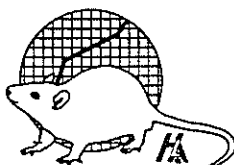
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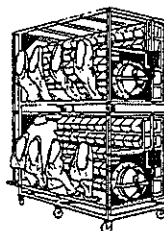
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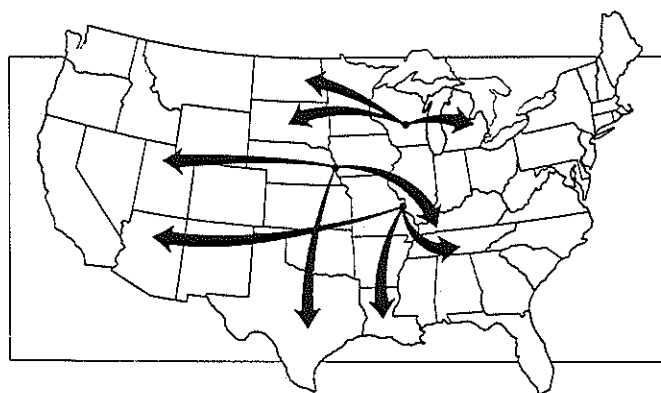
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