Arizona Branch Planning A Cool Summer Event!

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Presidents Message

This year's symposium was very educational. All the comments received were very positive. The keynote speaker, Dr. Mark Haines, was very entertaining and knowledgeable. It was extremely interesting to find out how a contagion could be kept under control and what is involved in a clean-up. It was also very enlightening to see how animals can be used to help sick patients.

The symposium had 72 registered participants, but where was everyone else? Was it the wrong time of year? The branch sponsored all the breaks and the cocktail hour. It was fun visiting with the vendors to obtain some new ideas on caging and animals. I met some new people and renewed old friendships. There was a homed toad and tool time scrub shirt given away at the social for the vendor raffle. The team from Barrows won the Jeopardy game and all got beany rats! The last drawing netted the winners a scrub shirt and antelope rabbit.

The branch is planning a summer fun event possibly in Flagstaff where there will be cooler temperatures. More information should be coming soon. Hope to see you there.

In the fall a videoconference is planned with a local guest speaker soon to be announced. As always, if there is anything I can do to assist you, please don't hesitate to contact me at criswell@u.arizona.edu or 520-621-1621.

The "State of District 8"

Both Tim and I attended the Board of Trustees (BOT) Annual Session on Friday Nov. 3, 2000 in San Diego. We observed as our term began at the close of the Annual meeting. The summary BOT meeting is listed below (#8). Tim was our Alternate Trustee and stepped in to serve the remainder of Cindy Pekow's term since her election as Vice-President Elect. Janet Baer graciously accepted the role of Alternate District 8 Trustee, finishing the last year of Tim's position. Both positions will be open for election in May 2001.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Board Meetings
5/24/01 - 3-4 p.m. - CAF Conf Rm
7/26/01 - 3-4 p.m. - CAF Conf Rm
9/27/01 - 3-4 p.m. - CAF Conf Rm
11/29/01 - 3-4 p.m. - CAF Conf Rm
1/24/02 - 3-4 p.m. - CAF Conf Rm

General Meetings - TBA
Summer Social - July
Fall Meeting - September
Installation Event - December
Thanks to out-going BOT District 8 Trustee Timothy Lawson and to Cindy, both of them served our District well!!! Tim Martin and I strive to do the same and we welcome your questions, suggestions and comments. Tim: 602-406-4003, T3Martin@chw.edu; Ardis: 415-553-8131, ardis@attglobal.net

AALAS Highlights:
Michael Sondag, Executive Director, has resigned. A search committee has been formed; an intensive search for a replacement is underway. Search Committee members are: Steele Mattingly, previous AALAS president, Betty Fatzle, Lab Products, Michael McGarry, Mayo Clinic, Ralph Hornickel, past AALAS Treasurer, Abigail Smith, Jackson Labs, Curtis Black, Craig Frisk as BOT liaison and Judy Grisamore as National office representative as Ex-officio. Should you have ideas or questions please contact one of them, Tim or me. Judy Grisamore serves as the Interim Executive Director to return to Assistant Executive Director once the position is filled. This position is approved by and reports to the BOT.

10,000 AALAS memberships attained by the goal date of 12/31/2000!! Congratulations to our organization and all the members who registered or reapplied. AALAS is changing membership deadlines to a rolling calendar due date, whereby your membership is valid for an entire year from date of acceptance rather than the previous method of membership only valid through the calendar year. However, to be listed in the AALAS Directory, your application must reach AALAS Before March 31, 2001.

2000 Annual Meeting: The San Diego meeting was a huge success with the largest attendance on record: 4006!! Congratulations and a HUGE THANK YOU for an excellent hosting job to the San Diego Branch—Tom Barmeyer, local arrangements and Gary Rodemeyer, Pres. and Chair of Opening Reception, Jamie Smelser, Workshops, did a marvelous job. Their efforts and that of the entire branch are to be commended! They made District 8 look good!

IACET accreditation: We are close to receiving International Association for Continuing Education and Training accreditation; they have asked to do a site visit to review the ILAM program and its CEU records. ILAM was used as the model to get to this point. Thanks to the hard work of the AALAS Administration team, Tonia and Carolyn led by Jill Worley.

Contemporary Topics is now indexed in Medline and Index Medicus. Another testament to the quality of the publications and programs our organization is producing!

CMAR: The Certified Manager of Animal Resources certification program is on board. Look in the latest issue of CT for the details and contact the National office for an application. This is a 4-part certification, the first 3 portions involve management, and the 4th module concerns the Animal Facility and Resources program. NOTE: The criteria to sit for this certification is a minimum level of a Bachelor’s Degree. However, there is a Grandfather Clause that allows those members who have been in Lab Animal Medicine for at least 10 years with 5 of those years experience in direct Lab Animal Management to apply for this certification. The caveat is that you MUST APPLY no later than 12/31/01. You do not have to take the exams by then, but National office MUST RECEIVE Your Application by then. Once the application is received and accepted, you have an indefinite time to take the test.

District 8 Meeting: Orange County Branch hosts in Reno, NV on May 1-2 with the LAMA meeting directly following at the same location May 3 & 4. Contact Skeeter Georgeosan or John Duenes for details. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Summary of 11/3/00 Bot Meeting Actions:

B.) Membership survey to be conducted spring 2001 and thereafter every 3 years.

C.) Policies regarding ListServs were formulated as well as a non-endorsement of services, tapes and books that are produced independently by AALAS members. The National Meeting cancellation/refund policy was revised to be more flexible.

D.) Awards: A new annual award in recognition of advancement of the 3 R’s. Awards will be given for each of the poster sections of the National Meeting Poster Session.

E.) Certification Registry Board: A job analysis study will be conducted every 4 – 5 years for validation of the certification exams.

F.) Professional Development Coordinating Comm: Is investigating the advantages and limitations for continuing education to be a mandatory condition to maintain AALAS Certification status.

G.) On-line Learning: AALAS online learning is being developed, see the CT or discuss w/ committee member, Tim Martin.

Revised List of Sponsors
Our apologies to the following in not mentioning you in our last newsletter!

Raffle Sponsors
Suburban Surgical
Karen Blohn-Mangone for her handmade scrub tops
Past Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 1/26/01 Board Meeting

Meeting began at 12:10 p.m. The meeting was held in the conference room of the Central Animal Facility at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Branch secretary Grace Aranda passed out folders put together for new board members to help keep everyone organized. A copy of the constitution, member roster, past minutes and newsletters are included to give some background on the organization. This year we have also included a copy of the certification booklet which gives information on what is needed for AALAS certification and materials available from the national organization.

President Jane Criswell asked for an update on the Technician Survey done by the Technician Branch Representative, Kathy Stollberg. In discussions with UA University Animal Care she has found that this department will be trying to promote certification within its employees and will work on providing training for certification and scrubs with their certification level for those who pass their exams. As a more noticeable recognition they will begin using signs on a room which notes the level of certification for that rooms technician.

Jane mentioned that with the beginning of a new year we will need to approach vendors for sponsorship of branch events. In particular we are looking for assistance with the costs for videoconferencing and with the upcoming branch symposium. Jane will get last years letter from Past President Dave Besselsen and update it for mailing as soon as possible.

The matter of whether the board should be expanded by another board member was discussed. At present we have 2 board member positions which cover Northern (Flagstaff and Phoenix areas) and Southern (Tucson). We would like to add a separate Flagstaff area board member to get more representation for members in this area. Each board member position would then be a 3-year position allowing for interchanging areas and more consistency on the board. A legislative committee made up of Jane, as chairman, Dave and Northern board member Stephanie Munger will review the constitution and present a revision to the board to go out to vote among the general membership. Also discussed were the logistics of possible phone conference calls to allow board members statewide to attend board meetings. Another item discussed was making each board member a chairman of a branch committee to improve action among committees. It was agreed that the President will chair the legislative committee, Past President the awards committee, president-elect the program committee, secretary will chair the membership committee, treasurer will chair the nomination committee, TBR will chair the education committee and board representatives will chair the publication committee.

Dave gave an update on progress with the symposium program. At present he has received 10 abstracts. In order to get a notable keynote speaker and enhance the program he requested that the branch pay airfare and board for the keynote. The board agreed it would behoove us to have a notable speaker. There is to be no banquet at this symposium as the branch now presents its awards at the Installation event in December. We will have a social at which time we will have the poster viewing and vendor raffle. Items will need to be purchased for the raffle which is held to promote visitation of the vendors at the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Minutes of the 4/5/01 Board Meeting

Meeting began at 3:05 p.m. The meeting was held in the conference room of the Central Animal Facility at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Branch secretary Grace Aranda passed out a summary of the Spring symposium. Response to the symposium was greatly positive with a large number of attendees impressed by the caliber of speakers and the amount of information presented. There was a problem obtaining sponsors this year for the symposium break, etc. One possible reason for this was the short amount of time available to contact vendors for sponsorship. Total receipts for the symposium came to $3,210. Total expenses came to $4,990. This means the symposium had a net loss of $1,780. Grace explained that due to the fact we had no sponsorship for the breaks, etc, the branch had to put forth that money ourselves. An attempt will be made by board members to contact vendors who we do business with to find out why they did not respond to our sponsorship request.

Mention was made of putting the meeting on-site in the future to reduce the expense. Due to the amount of construction going on around campus this was not a logical choice for this year. Mention was made that we may have it coincide with spring break to increase chances of availability of space on campus. The next symposium will be in 2003 and is scheduled to be hosted by the folk in Flagstaff. A question was also raised as to why there were not more members participating and Past President, Dave Besselsen, will put together a closing survey to be distributed to members and local researchers.

President Jane Criswell asked for input on what the branch was interested in doing for a summer event. Consensus was that we would
like to head north as it would make for a cooler time and hopefully get more of the northern members to participate. Suggestions were for slide rock and other national monuments up north. Mention was made of the good time had by all who attended the Mormon Lake event a few years back. Jane will contact Roger VanAndel in the Flagstaff area for ideas and assistance.

Jane mentioned that she and President elect Paula Johnson are looking for a local speaker for the Fall Videoconference in September. Possible speakers would be Dr. Stuart Williams in Biomedical Engineering or Mike McGarry. In the past we have had our national speakers in the spring but with the change of our symposium from fall to spring, it seems to make more sense to always do them in the spring whether or not the symposium is held that year. Possible speakers for next spring could be the Dr Rich Lenneman, the veterinarian from the NASA animal program (and formerly of the Naval Dolphin training program) because we need a ten month notification time for him. Paula will put this on her calendar to contact him in plenty of time for spring.

Grace gave a progress report on this year’s buyers guide. We currently have 12 vendors with a total of 15 paid sponsorships for the guide. There are some missing vendors and she will make contact with them to verify their missing ad was not an oversight.

TBR, Kathy Stollberg, was not available to present her results of the Technician Survey. Jane and Stephanie will be in touch with her to check if they can be of assistance with the survey or compiling its results.

Treasurer Miguel Diaz gave a financial report. We currently have $9700 in our various accounts though there are a few checks outstanding that still need to clear. Our CD will mature in May and discussion was held on whether to roll that money into the Money market account or let it roll over for another year. Upon discussion it was decided to leave it in the CD.

The creation of a new board member for the Flagstaff area was discussed so that they will have a direct representative on the board instead of sharing the person with Phoenix area. Jane will contact Penny Trouvillon with Gore as well as Roger at NAU to get their impressions. The constitutional change necessary to make this change was put on hold until the feeling of these members could be ascertained.

Dave is working on putting together a nomination packet for our branch technician of the year for the national award. Some question was raised as to whether there are enough letters of support. Jane agreed to write one from the position of the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Southwest Association for Education in Biomedical Research: SwAEBR Speakers Board

SwAEBR disseminates information to improve the public’s understanding of how responsible research has led to significantly improved health care for man and his animal companions.

Education of the general public, our young people and their teachers is of vital importance to the future of science and biomedical research. At all levels of society, the facts concerning the process of medical discovery must be instilled. Without exposure to the truth concerning research, many of our next generation will be deceived into believing that biomedical research is unnecessary.

Check out our website at www.swaebr.org

For more information, call Grace Aranda at: (520)621-3931 you can e-mail: garanda@u.arizona.edu

Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Be a Member of Az AALAS!

10) Great way to meet others in the state with interests in laboratory animal science

9) Access to new AALAS training manuals for ALAT, LAT, and LATg certification exams (coming soon!)

8) Free food and fun at the annual summer fun event

7) Reduced registration fee for spring symposium

6) Spring and fall general meetings now accessible in Flagstaff, Phoenix, and Tucson by videoconference

5) Great Christmas party

4) Quarterly newsletter keeps you abreast of hot topics and the latest branch news

3) Fall general meeting will feature nationally recognized speaker

2) Registration and airfare to District 8 AALAS meeting for technician and member of the year awardees,

1) All this for only $5 a year!

If you know of someone who should be a member of AZAALAS and isn’t, be sure to pass this information and a membership form along to them!
## 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!

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

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Please send me a receipt for my records: Yes  No  
Please mail me a paper copy of newsletter: Yes  No  

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

Arizona Branch AALAS  
P.O. Box 210101  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0101  
113010

Address Change Requested

It is not too late to renew your membership - see form attached.