The 2016 Member Appreciation Event was well attended by 100+ members, friends and family! Thank you to all our wonderful individual, institutional, and commercial members, and numerous volunteers. More photos from WildLights Event at the end of Newsletter.

Thank You to Our Gold Sponsors!

CONTENTS

2016 Winter Event .......................1
President’s Message .....................2
Elections .................................3
2017 Trade Fair Event ...............4
Seeking Nominations Awards .......5
Member Information.................6-11
TBR News & Views .................12-15
National Meeting 2017 ............16
Professional Development ......17
Commercial Members ..............18
Institutional Members ...............19
About Us..............................19-20
WildLights Photos .................20-25
Hi Everyone!

I am so honored that I was chosen to serve as WBAALAS President and I am looking forward to serving the branch in this position for 2017. I would like to congratulate our new board members for 2017: President-Elect – Traci W, Secretary – Tony G., and Board Member – Joe. I look forward to working with them throughout the year.

I hope everyone has had a great start to the New Year. We finished off last year with an awesome Member Appreciation event at the Woodland Park Zoo, I hope all who were able to join enjoyed themselves and were able to see some of the amazing WildLights displays. In the next couple of months there are some great events, starting with the WBAALAS Trade Fair on March 9th at the Center for Urban Horticulture at the University of Washington. WBAALAS membership includes this event, so be sure your membership is up to date. The 2017 District 8 AALAS Meeting will be happening March 22nd – 24th in Salt Lake City, this is a great educational event that will include a dual tract program that will appeal to all levels of laboratory animal care workers.

I have no doubt that this year will continue to be fun and educational for all of our members. I hope to hear from any of you that are interested in getting involved with WBAALAS!

Sincerely,
Jennifer K.
WBAALAS President 2017
president@wbaalas.org
Election of 2017 Officers

We are pleased to announce the results of the election for President-Elect for 2017, as well as Secretary and Board Member #3 for 2017-2018. Washington Branch AALAS depends heavily on its volunteer leaders who give their time and commitment to advancing our field. Please join us in thanking and congratulating all those individuals who have offered their time to volunteer in the Branch. The successful candidates in this year's election are as follows:

President Elect - Traci W.

I have worked professionally with animals for 17 years, 11 of those years have been in the field of laboratory animal science. I began my career as an Animal Technician, served as an Animal Use Training Instructor, Research Scientist, and Vivarium Supervisor. I am now the Veterinary Medical Unit Supervisor at the VA Puget Sound, I am LATg certified, and currently pursuing CMAR certification. I recently became involved with the WA branch because I am passionate about animal science and strongly believe in the importance of professional development. I am interested in increasing member involvement in an effort to encourage new and fresh ideas to support the local laboratory animal community. In my free time, I stay busy with a husband, three children, and three pets. I participate in two to three 5K Fun Run/Walks each year, and especially enjoy attending those that support local animal shelters. Thank you for electing me and I look forward to serving you as president-elect this year!

Secretary - Tony G.

Board Member #3 - Joe A.

Jennifer K. 2016 President Elect, will serve as President for the year 2017. The following elected members will continue their service to the WBAALAS board of directors in 2017: Andrea S. (Past President), Amanda K. (Treasurer), Sarah W. and Kari K (Board Members)

The Board wishes to thank outgoing Secretary Elizabeth C. and Jennifer D. Past President, for their many years of great service, time and dedication to the mission of Washington Branch AALAS!
**2017 Spring Educational Trade Fair**  
**Thursday, March 9th 2017 from 8am-2pm**

Don’t Miss the most exciting event of the year for laboratory animal care professionals in the State of Washington!

**RSVP:**  
Attendance is included in membership to WBAALAS. Fill out the online registration form (click here) to RSVP for the event.

**When:**  
Thursday March 9th, 2017, 8 AM to 2 PM  
(coffee, breakfast items and lunch are all provided)

**Where:**  
The Center for Urban Horticulture at the University of Washington (free parking) [Directions](#)

Attend talks on species care, techniques and career development. Discover the latest products to make work easier and more efficient! Attendance is included in your WBAALAS membership.

**Keynote Speaker:** Morag Mackay –AALAS Vice President-Elect
Nominate for 2017 WBAALAS Awards

Deadline February 27th 2017

Please nominate someone for both annual awards using the online form on our website. Your nomination should be a person in the local research community that meets the spirit and intent of each of these awards.

Recipients of either of these awards receive a plaque and a $100 check.

(all nominees must be current members of wbaalas)

Bette J. Varnam Branch Technician of the Year Award

The Washington Branch Technician of the Year Award was re-named in 1993 as a tribute to Bette J. Varnam. Bette was an Animal Technician with the Division of Animal Medicine (now the Department of Comparative Medicine) at the University of Washington for 14 years and lost her fight with cancer in June 1991. Bette defined the true meaning of why many of us entered the field of Laboratory Animal Science and remained in it for so many years; she loved the animals and they were her first priority. Throughout her struggles and challenges, Bette never lost sight of her devotion and commitment to being an advocate for those that could not fend for themselves—the animals. The recipients’ of this Award carry on a legacy of a true professional and compassionate colleague.

Ron Orta Washington Branch Member of the Year Award

Washington Branch Member of the Year Award was renamed to honor of our friend and colleague who died in 2007. The Award is presented to an individual who has actively participated in the Washington Branch and encourages participation by others in activities which promote Washington Branch AALAS and laboratory animal science in general. Ron had a brilliant career in Laboratory Animal Management and later sales, but his true calling was that of a teacher. He was an active member and participant in the Washington Branch and hosted many Branch Picnics. Because of his commitment of personal time and resources he was honored as an Honorary Lifetime Washington Branch Member. Ron never excluded anyone from anything. In his world there was never an uninvited guest. Ron was very compassionate about helping and fulfilling the needs of those less fortunate. Ron mentored, encouraged, and challenged everyone to achieve high standards in animal care, facility management, self-worth and esteem. His memory continues to remain with us through this Award.
D8 Meeting

Hawaii Arizona MountainWest
AALAS District 8, 2017
What's On The Horizon

SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 23-24, 2017

Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel
150 W 500 South, Salt Lake City, UT
$128/night including free WiFi, parking & shuttle to & from airport

Timely Topics:
Compassion Fatigue
Response to Disease Outbreaks

Don't Miss this Conference Full of Emerging Technologies, Diseases and Research Models!

Two Tract Program:
Husbandry specific & Manager/Vet Tech

Mini-Leadership Academy

Developing Social & Environmental Enrichment Programs

We have applied for RACE credits!

http://azaalas.org/district-8-aalas-meeting

DISTRICT 8 AALAS
PO Box 210101
Tucson, AZ 85721
520-621-3931
D8AALAS.org
**Newsletter Submission Deadlines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Topic</th>
<th>Issue Month</th>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summary from Trade Fair</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
<td>May 18th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Featured branch member</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the news</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AALAS elections VOTE!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event–Summer Picnic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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Remember you can join our secret WBAALAS group on Facebook. Just email past_president@wbaalas.org to be added to our group.

Remember you can join District 8 on Facebook. Just email acarte@fredhutch.org to be added to our group.
Congratulations! WA branch won this year's Branch Challenge from National AALAS! This award recognizes the branch with the largest increase in members compared to the previous year, who are also National AALAS members. We won out of 18 other qualifying branches. Thank you to Dean, Kari, and Traci for joining me on stage to accept this award on behalf of the branch. It is because of our wonderful members that we get to proudly display this banner at our local events. Thank you to the members of the WA Branch! I hope you were able to attend our member appreciation event on Saturday, December 3rd! (Left to right- Dean, Kari, Jennifer Smith- AALAS President Elect, Paige Ebert- AALAS President, Laura Conour- AALAS Past President, Andrea, Traci)
The WA Branch Submission was in 2nd place for the branch category and helped raise funds to help provide educational materials and outreach.

Entry 47; Owner: Washington Branch AALAS, Decorator: Sarah W. Title: "Squeak Racer" Category: Branch — in Seattle, WA.
Thank you to everyone who came out for our first webinar re-broadcast. Plus a big thank you to Allentown for sponsoring the event. Not only was the webinar fantastic, but the insightful discussion afterwards was absolutely incredible! We talked about historical practices, validity of current standards, and anecdotal experiences. Everyone came away with some new information to consider in their respective programs.
Want FREE Help Earning Your Certifications?
Or Help Keeping Track of Your CEUs?

We have a new training page! [http://www.wbaalas.org/training/](http://www.wbaalas.org/training/)
You’ll find information about our certification courses and new offerings in the pipeline. Email education@wbaalas.org with comments and questions.

Introducing AMP's New Website!
[www.amprogress.org](http://www.amprogress.org)

Check out [AMP's new website](http://www.amprogress.org). Statement: Our priority is to put information, materials and talking points about the importance of animal research in your hands to assist you in your vital outreach and advocacy. We've created a more navigable website with additional resources, better tools, and a new visual design.
San Diego

SDAALAS outreach team had the unique opportunity to participate in the STEAM Maker Workshop at San Diego County Fair this summer. The two day event featured numerous make-and-take activity stations, daily steam challenges, a presentation stage, a kids drama workshop, a K-Zone with an insect theme, educational booths and vendors offering hands on activities and so much more. SDAALAS was there to spread word with the important message of the contributions to medicine achieved in the field of laboratory animal science. In sticking with the fair’s theme of Alice in Wonderland, SDAALAS came up with a cute handout featuring a dorm mouse along with other hand out materials: mouse/frog origami, animal roles in medical discoveries, and careers in biotech pamphlets.

Our Fall symposium was held at the Salk Institute. This is an all-day educational event offered to the membership, veterinary and biotech students who are interested in joining the pharmaceutical/biotech industry. This year’s keynote speaker was the very entertaining Dr. Joseph Garner from Stanford University, who discussed with us the importance of social housing. Our other presentations ranged from rodent diet to the northern white rhino initiative: Rhinoceros Care and Management.

Moving forward to finish out the year we are excited for our Winter meeting on December 9th at Casa Guadalajara.

Oregon

Oregon AALAS held their Summer Picnic in August. We had a small but fun group join the festivities.

We’ve added Oregon AALAS accounts to both Twitter and Instagram and hope to utilize both platforms in conjunction with our Facebook page to help members stay in touch.

Our winter Awards Banquet date has been set for January 27, 2017. The event will once again take place at the Wilsonville Old Church & Pub.

Monday, October 10th, OAALAS will be hosting a seminar/webinar titled ‘Compassion Fatigue and Compassion Satisfaction in the Workplace”. The speaker is Dr. Tracy Gluckman.

Lastly, we’ve recently discovered that the Branch met the requirements for the AALAS Branch Challenge. We’re looking forward to the National Meeting where we’ll learn which Branch won the challenge.
Southern California and Palms to Pines

The Southern California and Palms to Pines branches of AALAS had a very successful Summer Symposium this year. The day-long symposium was held at Cal Poly Pomona’s Kellogg West Conference Center and Hotel on August 17th. The keynote speaker was none other than Dr. Laura Conour, the sitting AALAS President. The symposium covered topics such as invertebrate care, mouse lemurs, the microbiome, sentinel testing, and large animal surgery. Attendance was excellent and everyone enjoyed a day of learning and engagement. Next up on the schedule will be our ever popular holiday meeting on December 8th.

Arizona

Here in Arizona we have an annual family fun event for our members and their family/friends. We alternate between Tucson (south), Phoenix (central) and Flagstaff (north). This year Tucson is hosting and we are going to the U of A’s Biosphere2 for lunch and a tour on Oct. 15th. Should be both educational and fun! Will hopefully have pictures to share for the next newsletter!
Happy Fall!

We hope everyone had a great summer and are looking forward to all of the wonderful things that come with the change of seasons. We are certainly excited about things that are happening within the branch!

This summer we had a very successful Summer Picnic, and are already looking ahead to 2017’s Trade Fair (mark your calendars: Thursday, March 9, 2017). The summer picnic was also a great time! We’re not sure who had more fun, the attendees or their dogs :)

For all individuals needing continuing education, there is a new wonderful opportunity. We have had one successful webinar re-broadcast on “Mouse Euthanasia”. We hope to have many more of these events, so stay tuned!!

This winter we are also planning another member appreciation event during WildLights this winter, so get ready to bundle up and have a good time!

Finally, for Tech Appreciation Week, we will be using our brains to win some great prizes! We will also be using the WBAALAS Facebook page, so if you aren’t a part of the group- email to Andrea S. past_president@wbaalas.org for an invitation.
District Wide

SAVE THE DATE: 2017 District 8 AALAS Meeting - March 22 - 24, 2017 at the Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel - $128/night including free wifi, parking and shuttle to and from the airport. Program to include a mini Leadership Academy, innovative research presentations and a social event at the Museum of Natural History.

More details are available at http://d8aalas.org/district-8/annual-meeting

Remember you can join District 8 on Facebook

Just email acarte@fredhutch.org to be added to our group
Get ready for Austin! It’s time to start planning for the AALAS 68th National Meeting, October 15-19, 2017.

Destination: Austin
Whether you plan on exhibiting in Austin, submitting a topic or abstract for the program, or nominating a well-deserving colleague for an AALAS award, the countdown to Austin starts now. Read below for the information you need to start planning for our 68th National Meeting.
Professional/ Personal Development

Recommended great book to help with those hard conversations “When Stakes Are High!”. Great resource for both personal and professional conversations with friends, family, co-workers. Examples and short chapters for easy use! Check it out at your local library or search online.

Vivarium Manager Roundtable

WBAALAS has a Vivarium Managers Roundtable as a forum for managers to interact with their peers. It provides an opportunity to share your methods and learn some new ones. The meetings are held every 3 months at a different institution each time. If you are a manager of a local facility and would like to attend, please RSVP to roundtable@wbaalas.org

Seating is limited
INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Allen Institute for Brain Science

Center for Infectious Disease Research

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Novo Nordisk, Inc.

Presage Bioscience

Seattle Children’s

ZymoGenetics, a Bristol-Meyers Squibb Company

About Us

At WBAALAS, we believe the involvement of laboratory animals is necessary for effective scientific and medical research. Discoveries made utilizing research animals has allowed for a greater quality of life for us all. We are dedicated to ensuring these animals receive proper care and treatment by providing members of the local lab animal community training, forums for discussion, recognition and community networking opportunities.

WBAALAS is the Washington Branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. The AALAS includes many branches across the US and even extends internationally through global partner affiliates. Through AALAS, members are offered technician certification programs, access to award-winning publications, political advocacy and support, outreach materials and more.

AALAS members have adopted a specific code of ethics to guide their actions in their professional and personal lives.

Each member is required to follow the standards listed below.

1. Maintain the highest standard of personal conduct.

2. Promote and encourage the highest level of ethics within the profession of laboratory animal science.

3. Maintain loyalty to the profession of laboratory animal science and pursue its objective in ways that are consistent with the public interest.
4. Recognize and discharge my responsibility and that of my position to uphold all laws and regulations relating to the profession of laboratory animal science.

5. Strive for excellence in all aspects of the profession of laboratory animal science.

6. Use only legal and ethical means in all professional activities.

7. Maintain the confidentiality of privileged information entrusted or known to me by virtue of my position.

8. Refuse to engage in, or countenance, activities for personal gain at the expense of the profession of laboratory animal science.

9. Always communicate associated internal and external statements in a truthful and accurate manner.

10. Cooperate in every reasonable and proper way with others and work with them in the advancement of the profession of laboratory animal science.

11. Use every opportunity to improve public understanding of the role of the profession of laboratory animal science.

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2016 WildLights Photos (Winter Member Appreciation Event)

Animal Encounter - Koba the Owl