A message from our President:

2005 PAST AND FUTURE BRANCH ACTIVITIES

I want to take a moment to update our general membership of the year 2005 past and future branch activities. Traditionally, the AALAS Washington branch holds three events a year; The Spring Vendor Trade Fair, The summer picnic or symposium and the Christmas party.

The Spring Vendor Trade Fair is held in March. The Fair has definitely become the member’s most popular gathering for more than a decade, with a consistent attendance of more than 130. This year, The Fair was held at the Golden Gate Park, a beautiful place but too far for most members. Next year we are bringing back The Fair to its original place, The Center for Urban Horticulture at the UW which is more accessible for our membership and the vendors.

The second event of the year is either a picnic or a summer symposium. The symposium did not get a strong response last year and we will probably switch back to an annual picnic.

The third event of the year is the Christmas party. During this event the new board members are announced and officially take position. This year the Christmas party will be on Friday, December the 9th.

Finally I'd like to thank all the events attendees for supporting our branch, also managers and supervisors for allowing your staff to be part of these events and my sincere gratitude to the vendors for their constant sponsorship, without it we would be unable to support our branch activities.

Thank you again.

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President (04-06)
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1 yr Board
Position Available
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Email: 

Chairpersons

Newsletter Editor:
Phone: 
Email:

Program Chair:
Phone: 
Email:

Awards Chair:
Gary Millen
Phone: (425) 407-0121 ext 2257
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Education Chair:
Phone: 
Email:

Honorary Lifetime Board Members:
Ron Orta
Gra Desfacheles

WBAALAS 2006 Board Nominations
It's that time again to nominate the people you know to WBAALAS board members! Please consult each individual you nominate before submitting their names. You can send your nomination via e-mail to Jolene Kidney at jolenek@alleninstitute.org. Please include contact information for nominee.

President Elect- This is a three year position. First a president elect, then president and finally past president. As president they will be responsible for calling and leading all board meetings, as well as, creating an agenda for those meetings. They will also oversee Washington Branch meetings (Spring Trade Fair and the Holiday Party).

Treasurer- This is a two year position. This individual will collect and deposit all membership dues and meeting fees. They give an account of all money accumulated and spent at the board at meetings. They will also write any checks necessary.

Board Member- This is a two year position. This individual will attend all board meeting and assist in the planning and executing of meetings. They will also give creative input to the board for keeping the Washington Branch successful at meeting the needs of Lab Animal Science professional's needs.

Board Member- This is a one year position. This individual will attend all board meeting and assist in the planning and executing of meetings. They will also give creative input to the board for keeping the Washington Branch successful at meeting the needs of Lab Animal Science professional's needs.

Official Ballots will be sent out in End of November
Technician/AALAS Branch Member Recognition

Each year during the Annual Trade Fair, the Washington Branch formally recognizes an Animal Technician for personal or professional accomplishments, contributions to the Washington Branch AALAS and to the field of laboratory animal medicine/management, innovative approaches to animal care problems, concern for animal welfare, duties, and demonstrated exceptional performance.

An AALAS Branch member of the Year is also recognized. This member is recognized for their contribution to the overall effectiveness of the Washington Branch. Nomination packets are included in the newsletter.

Additionally, if you, your co-workers, lead, supervisors, managers, PIs, Department Chair, President or CEO have done anything that deserves special recognition in the field of laboratory animal medicine, please send a short e-mail to the Newsletter Editor with the details. We have devoted a "You Deserve a Pat on the Back" area in the Newsletter to recognize those who make contributions daily that are worthy of recognition.

This is an opportunity for us to "give back" to those that have been giving all year.

Last year Ms. Huong Dang, ALAT, from Seattle VA, was recognized as the Bette J. Varnam Animal Technician of the Year.

Huong’s nomination letter reads: Huong is an exceptional worker. She is one of those people that you can assign a task and she will figure out how to accomplish it even if she has never done it before. She monitors the animals under her care with a careful eye, bringing any problem to the attention of the veterinarian and the researcher, and then giving us progress reports on the animal. The only thing that I have found that upsets her is finding an animal that has run out of food or water, to her that just should not happen. Huong is always willing to help any of her co-workers and often volunteers for extra cage changing when people are sick or on vacation. Huong is in the process of learning to manage transgenic breeding colony and is always looking for ways to improve her knowledge of the animals that she cares for. I feel Huong Dang exemplifies the spirit of the Better J. Varnam Technician of the Year award. I AGREE!

Marisa Dobiash was recognized as the Washington Branch AALAS Member of the Year. Marisa has worked tirelessly behind the scene in compiling information for and preparing the Branch Newsletter for a number of years. Thank you Marisa!

It's never too early to start thinking about next year's nomination!

Gary Millen 2 yr Board (04-05) and Awards Chair
Don’t forget to respond to your Evite Invitation!
Contact Shawn Hooper for more info!
shawn.hooper@crl.com

Annual WBAALAS Holiday Party
Save the date... hors d’oeuvres, drinks and prizes

- Date: Friday, December 9th
- Time: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- Where: Pinnacle Sonata Apartments Cabana (next to pool)
- Address: 23940 40th Drive SE, Bothell, WA
Welcome to the Washington Branch of AALAS! Thank you for being a member. Please include an Email address.

Membership Options:

☐ Individual- $10 per person

☐ Institutional- $50 (includes three individual memberships)

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Please remit with payment to:
WBAALAS SECRETARY:
Jolene Kidney
C/o Allen Institute for Brain Science
Ste 200, 551 N. 34th St, Seattle, WA 98103

The Benefits of being a member include:
- WBAALAS newsletter
- Spring Trade Fair
- Contacts with lab animal vendors
- Announcements of national AALAS activities
- Community involvement
- Leadership experience
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Some things never change...

Though when it comes to the Charles River Short Course, no two years are ever exactly the same.

New additions to the 2005 program are Camp ACLAM as well as Exploring Practical Behavior in Lab Animals and Humane Care in Toxicology Research tracks. However, we also know a good thing when we see it! Some mainstays to the program over the years include:

- Multiple tracks
- AAVSB CECs
- Scholarships
- On-line registration
- Social outings

This year's Short Course will be held at the Sheraton Ferncroft Resort in Danvers, MA, June 13-16, 2005. Please visit www.criver.com/shortcourse2005 for a full preliminary agenda and registration form.

Contact: Lisa Antolick • Iantolick@criver.com
978.658.6000 ext. 1217

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