Hello and Happy New Year! Oh wait, that was months ago. Well believe it or not, a lot has been happening. We’ve had some changes on the board and finally have someone willing to put together and send out this newsletter on a regular basis, Lynn Reed. A big thank you to Lynn since it’s a bit of a thankless job, not to mention one requiring a lot of time to get together. We also owe thanks to all our Board members and especially our past-president, Carlos Toledano. Everyone puts in a lot of time over the course of a year and it’s not always easy to get everyone together after-hours.

Since not everyone knows me I thought I’d give you a brief background of my history. I started working as an Animal Technician at The University of Washington in January 1982. I worked at both Comparative Medicine and The Regional Primate Research Center there for four years. I left to begin my journey into biotech at a small start up called Ultra Diagnostics and then to another Seattle company called NeoRx. After spending four years there as a Research Associate/Animal Facility Supervisor I left to work for Bothell based ICOS Corporation. I spent the next 14 years of my life there as Animal Facility Manager while focusing the majority of my time as a pseudo Research Associate. It was about this time I started feeling like I should try something new so I accepted a position with Charles River Laboratories to be their Northwest Research Models and Services Sales Representative. It has certainly been a big change for me but I feel like I learn new things all the time. It is my belief that this is what keeps us all motivated and feeling positive about our jobs. Learning new things, however trivial they may seem, is one of the most important factors in keeping you interested in what you do for a living. Whether by attending continuing education classes, going to wet-labs, reading job
related publications or going to local meetings, you stay in an active process of enhancing your job performance as well as your own job satisfaction.

We have a great board this year and are hoping we can convince many more of you to become active in our Branch. It is very hard for a few people to try to guess what the whole group would like to see or do. We are currently finalizing plans for our Annual Spring Trade Fair being held on March 22nd and have some exciting new and relevant talks that will be of interest to all. This year look for a survey to fill out after attending so we can get your direct input on how you think it was and what you would like to see the following year. Be sure to talk to any of your Board Members to find out how you can be more involved. It won’t be long before we host the District 8 AALAS meeting here in Seattle and we will need lots of your support. It’s a good way to meet new people and become more established in our industry. Remember, sometimes it really is who you know that can open new opportunities for your future!

I wish you all a safe, successful and prosperous year (what remains of it☺) that most importantly ends with self-satisfaction! Feel free to contact me at any time if you have comments you’d like to share, questions or concerns of any kind. I’m here to work with you any way I can and look forward to the continual improvement of our Branch.

Best Regards,
Shawn Hooper

2006 WBAALAS Board

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Awards Chair- Gary Millen
Phone- (425) 407-0121 ext. 2257
Email- Gmillen@snblusa.com
Washington Branch of AALAS  
Cordially invites you to attend

The Spring Educational Trade Fair  
University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture  
3501 NE 41st Street  
Seattle, WA 98105

March 22, 2006  
Wednesday 8:00 AM-2:00 PM

8:00 to 9:00 a.m.  Coffee and Pastries  
Vendor Display Set-up

Presentations:
9:00 a.m.  Opening introduction

9:05 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.  Presentations regarding Lab Animal Science

10:15 a.m. to 10:35 a.m.  BREAK (stroll around and visit the Vendors, drink more coffee)

10:35 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.  More presentations

12:00 p.m.  Lunch (catered by Pogacha) and Tabletop exhibits by Vendors

1:00 p.m.  Awards presentations:  
Technician of the Year and Branch Member of the Year

1:15 p.m.  Raffle (prizes donated by generous vendors)

**WBAALAS members: $10.00**  
**Non-members: $20.00, which includes WBAALAS membership (we will bill later)**
Call for the Animal Technician and Member of the Year Award Nominations

Each year the Washington Branch of AALAS formally recognizes an Animal Technician of the Year and a Washington Branch Member of the Year who have made significant contributions. The Bette J. Varnam Animal Technician Award is presented to an individual directly involved in lab animal care who performs daily husbandry duties, handling/restraint, feeding and watering, room sanitation, health observation, etc., and has demonstrated a sincere concern for the well being of the animals under his/her care. The Member of the Year Award is presented to a branch member who has contributed significantly to the Washington Branch. Both are announced during the annual WBAALAS Trade Fair to be held March 22, 2006.

This is an opportunity for each of us to submit a nominee to be considered for these prestigious awards and an opportunity to recognize our staff for their outstanding efforts. Please use a separate form for each nominee and return the nomination form(s) by March 13, 2006. E-mail is encouraged: gmillen@snblusa.com

On behalf of the nominees, thank you for your time to honor them.  

Gary Millen
Nomination Application for:

The Bette J. Varnam Animal Technician of the Year

Name of Nominee: ______________________________
Occupational Title: ______________________________
Employer: ______________________________

Please check those that apply/fill in the blanks:

____ Member of National AALAS
____ Held office in National AALAS past 3 years
____ Presentations at National AALAS past 3 years

____ Member Washington Branch AALAS
____ Held office in Washington Branch past 3 years
____ Active participant in Washington Branch

Membership in other scientific organizations:
List organization with position(s)

AALAS Certification: List current Level: ____________

Degree(s): ______________________________

Please attach a short narrative to include but not limited to the following: Personal or professional accomplishments, contributions to the Washington Branch AALAS and to the field of laboratory animal medicine/management, innovate approaches to animal care problems, examples of concern for animal welfare, duties, and demonstrated examples of exceptional performance.

Please use a separate form for each nominee and return the nomination form(s) by March 13, 2006. E-mail is encouraged: gmillen@snblusa.com
Nomination Application for:

**Member of the Year**

Name of Nominee: ______________________________

Occupational Title: ______________________________

Employer: ______________________________

Please check those that apply/fill in the blanks:

___ Member of National AALAS
___ Held office in National AALAS past 3 years
___ Presentations at National AALAS past 3 years

___ Member Washington Branch AALAS
___ Held office in Washington Branch past 3 years
___ Active participant in Washington Branch

Membership in other scientific organizations:
List organization with position(s)
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

AALAS Certification: List current Level: _____________

Degree(s): ______________________________________

Please attach a short narrative to include but not limited to the following: Personal or professional accomplishments, contributions to the Washington Branch AALAS and to the field of laboratory animal medicine/management, innovate approaches to animal care problems, examples of concern for animal welfare, duties, and demonstrated examples of exceptional performance.

Please use a separate form for each nominee and return the nomination form(s) by March 13, 2006. E-mail is encouraged: gmillen@snblusa.com
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

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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Jolene Kidney
C/oAllen Institute for Brain Science
Ste 200, 551 N. 34th St, Seattle, WA 98103

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Contact: Lisa Antolick
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Across
2. small cavity within a body or organ
4. map
6. tooth grinding
9. in a prone position
10. absence or loss of hair
12. unit of illumination
15. AKA nerve cell
16. caudal-most sternal process
18. toward the nose

Down
1. imaginary line connecting auditory canals
3. to focus an x-ray beam
5. immobile joint between skull bones
7. cost of housing one animal one day
8. "night" monkey
10. instrument to measure air flow
11. to derive by asexual reproduction
12. a sheet of fibrous, connective tissue
13. disease producing organisms greatly reduced
14. radiograph
17. tough membrane over brain and spinal cord
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