



NEWSLETTER

Events

[WBAALAS Trade Fair](#) March 23rd, 2016

[NWABR and PRIM&R IACUC Conference](#) March 30-April 2, 2016

[Experimental Biology Conference](#) April 2-6, 2016

[LAMA Leadership Bootcamp](#) April 20-22, 2016

[Am. Veterinary Medical Assoc. Annual Meeting](#) August 5-8, 2016

2015 Member Appreciation Dinner Summary



CONTENTS

[Trade Fair 2016](#) 2-3

[President's Message](#)..... 4-5

[Award Nominations](#) 6

[Newsletter Deadlines](#) 7

[Member Information](#) 8-9

[News](#) 10

[Commercial Members](#) 11

[Institutional Members](#)..... 12

[About Us](#) 12

The 2015 member appreciation dinner was held on January 2nd 2016 during **Wild Lights at the Woodland Park Zoo**. We had over 54 RSVPs and because of the great turnout we plan to offer this event again! Thank you to everyone who answered the survey, we plan to incorporate your suggestions into the next event. Members enjoyed a buffet style dinner, delicious hot cocoa and a spectacular array of lights and animals during Wild Lights. **During the event, the branch awarded Tim D. and Susan B. with Lifetime Membership Awards for their many years of dedication to the organization.**

2016 Spring Educational Trade Fair

March 23, 2016 8:00am-2:00pm

University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture

<http://www.wbaalas.org/trade-fair/>

THE MOST EXCITING EVENT OF THE YEAR FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE PROFESSIONALS IN WASHINGTON STATE

Keynote Speaker- Cindy Buckmaster, Ph.D.- Director, Center for Comparative Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine

- ❖ Free for [members](#)!
-RSVP required
- ❖ Discover the latest products to make work easier and more efficient!
- ❖ Attend talks on species care, techniques, and career development!
- ❖ Attend to win a prize in the raffle!
- ❖ A full list of speakers, topics, schedule and directions available [here](#).



Start your day with a continental breakfast! Enjoy a full morning of interesting and informative speakers followed by lunch. After lunch we will announce the winners of the Member and Technician of the Year Awards.

Email RSVP@wbaalas.org to register today!

2016 Trade Fair Sponsors



ANIMAL SPECIALTIES, INC.
CERTIFIED ISO 9002 LAB DEALER

PURINA LAB & TEST DIETS, MAZURI,
BIO-SERVE, ANDERSON, SHEPPARD,
NORTHEASTERN, CAREFRESH



lab products

Rees Scientific

≡Allentown≡

The Andersons®

LAB BEDDING PRODUCTS



Ancare

biofresh™
The Science of Quality Care

Edstrom

Outgoing 2015 President Message

Greetings!

It's hard to believe we're at the end of another year! I'd like to thank all of the board members and membership for making 2015 a great success. I have enjoyed being a part of the leadership team and know that our incoming President Andrea S. will keep the momentum going. We've had a busy year and things are looking even brighter for next year. We got things off to a great start with our Membership appreciation event at the Woodland Park Zoo and then jumping next right into the Trade Fair in March, where we already have several great speakers lined up. I have no doubt that this next year will continue to be fun, fulfilling and educational for all of our members. Thanks for a great year and I look forward to seeing you in 2016!



Jennifer D. -WBAALAS President 2015

Incoming 2016 President Message



The AALAS Foundation Encourages You to Celebrate the Mouse!
2015 AALAS National Meeting - Phoenix, AZ



Meet Andrea S.

2016 WBAALAS President and
Newsletter Editor

Check out WBAALAS [About Us page](#)
president@wbaalas.org
newsletter@wbaalas.org

Dear members,

No matter what job we have, one thing we all try and do is make a positive difference and change the world around us. One of the ways we can change things is by leading. As your president for 2016, I hope to create change by connecting

with members within our organization and challenge each of you to help carry our message forward into the future. I am committed to enacting change and to WBAALAS. I ask you to get more involved this year, attend one of our board meetings either in person or call in over the phone. We hold elections each year and this could be a great step towards your future and professional development.

I want to continue improving how we communicate information to our membership and discover new ways to increase your involvement. My goal for 2016 is to increase the participation of WBAALAS members and our interaction with the local community of the Pacific Northwest and throughout the state. As Reddit founder Alexis Ohanian once said, "You no longer control the message and it is okay to lose control"



[Alexis Ohanian, How to make a splash in social media TEDX talk November 2009](#)
[Length: 4 min](#)

Sincerely,

Andrea S. -WBAALAS President 2016

**Please consider joining a committee at
WBAALAS**

Contact by email: president@wbaalas.org

Time Commitment: 1-2 hours a month

Where: From the comfort of your own home

Committees: Programs, Elections, Awards, Management
Information Systems, Newsletter, and Membership

WBAALAS AWARDS

Don't forget to send in your nominations by March 14th!!

Please nominate a staff member, fellow co-worker, friend, or acquaintance in the local research community that meets the spirit and intent of each of these awards, using the [online form](#). Recipients of each of these awards receive a plaque and a \$100 check.

Bette J. Varnam Washington 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.

2016 Newsletter Content Calendar

	July	September	December
Topics		National AALAS meeting	Summary National Meeting (photos)
	2016 Trade Fair Review	2016 Summer Picnic Review	2016 National AALAS Review
	President Message	President Message	President Message
Member Highlights	-2016 award recipients -Earned Certs - Event summaries	-Earned Certs - Event summaries	-Earned Certs - Event summaries
Special Reports (TBR, AALAS)			
Events	Summer Picnic	National AALAS	Member Dinner

2016 Submission Deadlines

Main Topic	Issue Month	Article Submission Deadline
Member Picnic	July	June 25th
National meeting	September	August 27th
Member Dinner	December	November 19th

Online Laboratory Animal Science Master's Program

Eastern Virginia Medical School has an online master's program in Laboratory Animal Science. Applications are currently being accepted for the class of 2018.



Apply now for a LAS Master's Program: [Admission Requirements](#), [Application Process](#), [Tuition & Fees](#), [Apply Now](#)

http://www.evms.edu/education/masters_programs/las/

Want FREE Help Earning Your Certifications? Or Help Keeping Track of Your CEUs?



Washington Branch AALAS

FREE for WA branch AALAS members

Want help earning your **ALAT** or **LAT** certifications? Sign up for our online learning portal classes. We offer self-paced **ALAT** and **LAT** study courses with quizzes, worksheets, videos, games and access to a **personal eTutor** to help technicians earn their first certification. Website: wbaalas.learnupon.com

Set-up your **FREE** account by contacting learning@wbaalas.org. The branch launched a new feature in the [portal](#) you will find very handy - you can now track **all** of your CEUs in the Washington Branch AALAS Learning Portal, even those earned outside of the portal. That makes it really easy to see where you stand when renewing your "R" for certification or during performance reviews.

Charlotte, NC National AALAS meeting 2016

Stay current on AALAS National news. It's time to start planning for the AALAS 67th National Meeting in Charlotte, NC from October 30–November 3, 2016.

*Click [here](#) for our latest National Meeting email. The portal is open to **submit topics and/or abstracts for this meeting, due by March 15th**. Also, exhibitor registration is open! And, take the opportunity to recognize excellence in the LAS field by nominating a colleague for one of the six AALAS awards. Over \$13,000 in prize money will be awarded. Plus, read our latest [LAS Pro newsletter](#) and [Election 2016 update](#)*

District 8 Meeting Question

2017 District 8 meeting Planning committee Question

Q: Is there any interest in having a CMAR course or Testing for the AR portion at the D8 meeting in the spring of 2017?

Contact: D8 Trustee -Carte, Amber acarte@fredhutch.org

Narrow the Gap Discussion:

AALAS President, Laura A. Conour, DVM, DACLAM

Q: What can AALAS do to support the branches?

Q: What can the branches do to promote AALAS?

Q: What will strengthen us as a community?

Q: What will bond our grass roots organizations with our national presence?

Please share your thoughts to the questions by replying to newsletter@wbaalas.org or president@wbaalas.org thank you

NWABR's regional IACUC conference will be held March 31, 2016 in conjunction with the PRIM&R Conference April 1-2.

PRIM&R's
2016 Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
Conference • Bellevue, WA March 30-April 2
Pre-conference Programs March 30 • NWABR Regional IACUC Conference March 31

CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing

It is new and exciting technology being used today! Here is everything you need to know to sound up-to-date in the popular gene editing acronym.

- Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR)
 - CRISPR consists of two components: a “guide” RNA (gRNA) and a non-specific CRISPR-associated endonuclease (Cas9)
 - CRISPR/Cas9 can be used to generate knock-out cells or animals by co-expressing a gRNA specific to the gene to be targeted and the endonuclease Cas9
 - It is not “new” but new techniques have advanced the delivery of CRISPR for easier gene editing used commonly in research today.
1. <https://www.addgene.org/crispr/guide/>
 2. <http://en.hdbuzz.net/149>
 3. <https://www.jax.org/explore-by-topic/genetic-tools/crispr-cas9-system>
 4. *Three CRISPR approaches for mouse genome editing*
<http://goo.gl/m2IOL4>

Gnotobiotic Mice

Axenic, defined flora and gnotobiotic-what does it all mean? [And how do you pronounce gnotobiotic?](#) (no-to-biotic)?

Gut bacteria is one of the many new and exciting frontiers of discovery in biomedical research. We now know many diseases are affected by the bacteria in our guts. Have you heard about treating diabetes with stool transplants? Or what about someone who became obese after a fecal transplant? And how about getting paid \$13k a year for your poop?

1. <https://www.jax.org/news-and-insights/jax-blog/2013/may/the-difference-between-germ-free-and-specific-pathogen-free-mice>
2. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3918800/>

Foundation for Biomedical Research (FBR)

Recently the FBR newsletter announced new polling results will be made available later this month regarding the public views and support for biomedical research. Also, free resources are available to help spread the truthful message about the heroes of animal research, those who help save animal and humans alike. Check out their website and sign up for their email newsletter reports.
<http://fbresearch.org/media-center/news-campaign-2015/>

Vivarium Manager Roundtable

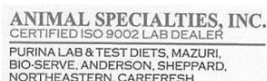
The WBAALAS has started a Vivarium Managers Roundtable as a forum for managers to interact with their peers. It provides an opportunity to share your methods and learn some new ones. The meetings are held every 3 months and held at a different institution each time. If you are a manager of a local facility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

Speaking of Research

Speaking of Research accepts guest posts from researchers, technicians, veterinarians, and those involved in outreach. If you are interested in [writing a post for them](#), please get in touch using the link.

<http://speakingofresearch.com/>

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS



INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

[Allen Institute for Brain Science](#)

[Center for Infectious Disease Research](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center](#)

[Novo Nordisk, Inc.](#)

[Seattle Children's](#)

[UW, Dept. Comparative Medicine](#)

[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.

