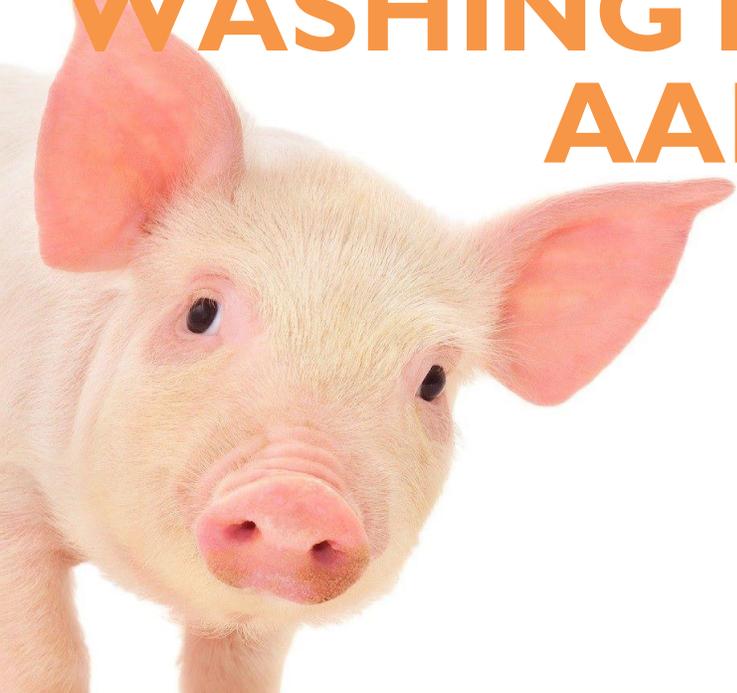


WASHINGTON BRANCH AALAS



SAVE THE DATE

Technician Roundtable

Join us for our Q3 virtual Technician Roundtable Event!

This virtual meeting is open to all Animal Technicians regardless of membership status. This is a great opportunity to network with colleagues from different institutions, ask questions, and learn.

The meeting will feature Cindy Buckmaster as a guest speaker. Cindy is the host of the GetReal! podcast. Get caught up on episodes and learn more about the podcast [here](#).

Cindy's talk will be followed by an open format conversation.

When: October 10th @ 1PM

Send RSVP's to: secretary@wbaalas.org



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CATCHING UP WITH WBAALAS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR WBAALAS PRESIDENT

Get Involved, Be Involved and Stay Involved!

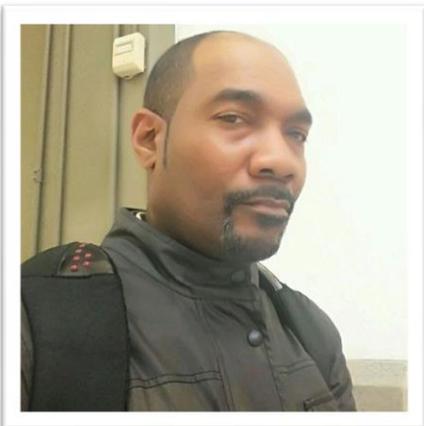
Dear Branch Members,

As always, I hope all of you are well and in good health! I would like to encourage each of you to carefully think about the seven words in the title of this message. Your local branch has so much to offer even during these challenging times. For example, there is training opportunities for AALAS certification, the learning library, webinars, continuing education credits offered, the manager roundtable and recently the technician roundtable! This is an excellent chance for technicians to receive training and voice their opinions on topics of interest.

Many advancement opportunities can come about through networking if branch members take advantage of these situations. Nowadays in the lab animal field many organizations look for resumes that show a potential candidate's interest in their local branch. This could mean that you can help assist the company to inspire others to do more! Also, taking further advantage to run for a position on the board can put you at the forefront of gaining vital communication skills in a team setting. Please do not let these opportunities pass you by, "**Get Involved**"!

First look at the branch website and see what interest you. Then, if you should have any questions, click on the contact tab to email a current board member or speak with your institution member. Either way we will make sure your questions are answered. Then click the join tab and follow the instructions and you will be glad you did! Once you are a member, "**Be Involved**", look to see how you can help fellow members. I would suggest volunteering to assist at an event or attend a webinar to get to know other fellow members that want to help. Or you may even want to submit an article for the newsletter!

"**Stay Involved**" by being active and positive as a branch member, share with others your experiences and tell others about the good association at local branch events. Seems simple, and the first step is just reaching out from within yourself! Please remember the Washington Branch AALAS needs you and mostly we want you!



Tony G

2021 WBAALAS President

CATCHING UP WITH WBAALAS

Elections for the 2022 WBAALAS Board Member Positions are coming up, and nominations are now open!

GET
INVOLVED!

OPEN POSITIONS

- **President Elect** - Becomes president the following year, leads when the President is not available.
- **Treasurer** - Manages branch membership and bank account. Elected two-year term
- **Technician Branch Representative** - Share technicians' activities, ideas, and suggestions with other branches and the national office.
- **Board Member 3** - Helps plan branch activities and support the other board positions. Elected two-year term

Send Nominations to president@wbaalas.org by **October 31st**

Please include Name and email of the nominee as well as which position you are nominating for.

We will confirm the nomination before elections.

Nominate yourself or someone else!

LEARN MORE

Want to know more about the open board positions or additional opportunities available?

- Read our [Bylaws](#) or [email](#) a current board member to learn more about a position

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Opportunity Development Manager
1-425-309-3440
shawn.hooper@jax.org



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CATCHING UP WITH WBAALAS

WBAALAS AWARD NOMINATIONS



We need **YOU** to 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

Award Recipients receive a **plaque** and a **\$100 check**

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about each of these awards and nominate someone
(nominations close Nov 30th)

The Bette J. Varnam Washington Branch Technician of the Year Award Recipients:

- 2020 – Wiley L.
- 2019 – Ramel V.
- 2018 – Peter D.
- 2017 – Alma R.
- 2016- Mercedes J.
- 2015 – Michael D.
- 2014 – Denise C.
- 2013 – Amy P.
- 2012 – Rick B.
- 2011 – Thanh T.
- 2010 – Mary F. and Loida T.



The Ron Orta Washington Branch Member of the Year Award Recipients:

- 2020 – Dave R.
- 2019 – Traci W.
- 2018 – Sakara P.
- 2017 – Dean R.
- 2016- Elizabeth C.
- 2015 – Andrea S.
- 2014 – Amber C.
- 2013 – Amanda K.
- 2012 – Rainy R.
- 2011 – Susan B. and Tim D.
- 2010 – Laurie W.



CATCHING UP WITH DISTRICT 8

AALAS D8 TRUSTEE MESSAGE – SUMMER 2021

I hope everyone has been able to find some enjoyment this summer, despite the early wildfire season and the surge in COVID-19 cases due to the Delta variant. I'm sorry this newsletter is getting out to you so late; in addition to a career change, a long-overdue family visit, and my dog needing emergency surgery (he's doing great now, BTW), I just returned from the AALAS BOT Summer Session and Leadership Summit in Memphis.

This annual event normally takes place sometime in June. This year, however, due to the pandemic, we decided to postpone the Summit by a few months. At the Leadership Summit, current and incoming standing committee and advisory council chairs work with the BOT and staff liaisons to evaluate the strategic plan and develop committee tasks for the following year that fulfill the board approved goals and objectives. This year's Summit also included diversity and inclusion training for our organization leaders. Even though we had to wear masks the entire time, our facilitator did a fantastic job keeping our training lively, engaging, and relevant. While it has been a longstanding goal of AALAS to attract, engage and develop a diverse and inclusive membership; I found it refreshing and encouraging that we continue to examine how to ensure we are providing the best service and opportunities for all of our members. Thank you to AALAS Past-President Tracy Parker, President Doug Taylor, and Vice-President Marc Hulin for leading the charge.

The question I'm sure everyone is asking is, what's up with the 2021 AALAS National Meeting? We are proceeding with holding the meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, October 17-21, in a hybrid format - registration is now open for in-person and virtual attendance. Early registration ends on September 27, so be sure to register now! The AALAS Housing Bureau is now open, so reserve your hotel room while they are still available. This year's meeting will have all of the features you love about the National Meeting - high-quality presentations, networking opportunities, exhibitors, AALAS Foundation live auction, though some events, such as the Technician Fun Fair and the AALAS Foundation silent auction will be held online this year instead of on-site. More details are available in the preliminary program.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate our newly elected officers, Vice President-Elect Robert Quinn and Treasurer/Secretary Tim Mandrell. For the complete election results, visit <https://www.aalas.org/get-involved/election> to see the results for the Trustee and Alternate Trustee positions that were up for election in other districts this year.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the National Meeting in October. Until then, please enjoy the rest of your summer, stay safe, and remember to take care of yourself. As for me, I'll be meeting with your District 8 Council Representatives later this week (virtually), then seeing how many days of fishing and kayaking I can get in before it gets too cold.

Best regards,



Tom Chatkupt, DVM He/him/his
Trustee, AALAS District 8

CATCHING UP WITH NATIONAL

NATIONAL AALAS MEETING

2021 National Meeting

October 17-21, 2021

Kansas City Convention Center

301 West 13th Street

Kansas City, MO 64105



AALAS National Meeting

Each fall since 1950, the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science has held its annual National Meeting. During the five days of the meeting, members and nonmembers come together to enjoy the workshops, lectures, poster sessions, and exhibits. The program is designed to have topics relevant to the entire membership. Exhibitors have an opportunity to interact with AALAS members from the academic community, research institutions, government organizations, and commercial companies. The AALAS National Meeting is the largest gathering in the world of professionals concerned with the production, care, and use of laboratory animals.

[FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT AALAS.ORG](http://AALAS.ORG)

Celebrate the Monkey!

The AALAS Foundation “Swing into Science” contest is on and WBAALAS is participating!

This year the University of Washington will be decorating our entry. Check the WBAALAS Facebook page to keep up to date on the progress and to vote from October 1st – October 20th



Do you want to enter the contest too?

Visit the AALAS website to enter



Celebrate the Monkey

NATIONAL AALAS MEETING



VOTING

Online voting will be open from October 1st – 20th. A “vote” is a financial donation to the AALAS Foundation. Each “vote” requires a minimum \$5.00 donation.

Visit the [AALAS website](#) to vote



Monkeys Save Lives

Decorated by Mariela M.
from the WaNPRC

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Visit the [AALAS Foundation](#) Facebook page to “vote” for your favorite designs by liking the pictures!

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IN THE COMMUNITY



Honest conversations about animal research so we can make compassionate choices...together

GetReal! is a podcast by Cindy Buckmaster who has over 25 years of experience in the field. It covers issues that we face every day in the animal science community

Episode 8 – The DMD Heroes of Texas A&M

Texas A&M University has endured several years of harassment and intimidation by PETA and their followers, including Sir Paul McCartney, based on claims made by PETA about how dogs involved in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) research are treated at this university. And, while many of us support research aimed at improving the lives of children and dogs affected by this devastating and terminal disease, we are also animal lovers who struggle in our hearts with what we've been told by PETA.

Listen to the latest podcast episode to find out what these dogs truly experience!



Visit getrealpodcast.info to learn more, subscribe to the podcast, and join the conversation!

INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR FACEBOOK GROUP?



Send an email to secretary@WBAALAS.org with the email you used to sign up for facebook

You will receive an invite to join the group!

HeroRAT Update

Catching up with Carolina

**Welcome to the latest Impact Update for Carolina,
your adopted HeroRAT!**



During the month of July, Carolina put her nose to work and sniffed through **1,670 samples** brought in from local clinics. She helped to identify **31 additional cases of tuberculosis (TB)** with an **83% accuracy rate**.

The spread of Covid-19 remains a concern in Tanzania; all APOPO staff are adhering to recommended safety protocols, including wearing masks and limiting the number of people in laboratory spaces. It is because of our donors support that we are able to continue helping those suffering from tuberculosis during the ongoing global pandemic.



SMALL BUT MIGHTY

Though Carolina weighs less than a half-gallon of milk, her powerful nose has helped save hundreds of lives.



HeroRAT Update

Catching up with Carolina



CARING FOR THE CAREGIVERS

Tuberculosis places a heavy burden on families. In places like Tanzania, the women of the home often care for the household, the children, and several members of the extended family. They help carry out hard physical labor in the fields or garden to grow food and many must work a job outside the home, too. Those that are able also make time to help with their children's education.

When Maria's husband became sick, she held their family together, caring for him and their 4 children. Now infected with tuberculosis herself, Maria was in pain and weakened. HeroRATs like Carolina checked Maria's sample and confirmed her positive test by detecting the tuberculosis bacteria immediately. Within 24 hours, APOPO had contacted her clinic and so that Maria could get started on antibiotics and begin to feel better.

[Maria's story](#)

Learn more about APOPO and HeroRATs at apopo.org

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HeroRAT Update

Catching up with Carolina

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. GEORGIES MGODE



In July, the entire APOPO team was saddened but the unexpected passing of our colleague and Tuberculosis Program Manager, the esteemed Dr. Georgies Mgode.

Dr Mgode was among the pioneer researchers of tuberculosis detection using rats; in 2012 Dr. Mgode was awarded the presidential Medal of Invention and Scientific

Research by H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of Tanzania, for his novel research on TB diagnosis. Georgies worked tirelessly to expand APOPO's reach in TB diagnosis and build strong and trusted relationships within the health sector.

Georgies is remembered as a brilliant and kind man who devoted his life to helping those sick and vulnerable by helping expand access to accurate diagnosis and, in turn, faster access to treatment.

JOB BOARD

RESEARCH SCIENTIST/ENGINEER 1

WaNPRC

Seattle – This primary purpose of this position is to support research and core programs within the WaNPRC. The employee in this position will provide care to the research animals and ensure that procedures and daily activities are performed in accordance with associated protocol and regulatory requirements. This position will provide support to the outstanding biomedical research directed towards significant human health issues and health of non-human primates. Not only will this person provide support via clinical care of experimentally manipulated animals, they will also provide technical support for actual experimental procedures. For more information, visit:

<https://uwhires.admin.washington.edu/eng/candidates/default.cfm?szCategory=jobprofile&szOrderID=194752&szCandidateID=0&szReturnToSearch=1>

RESEARCH SCIENTIST 2

WaNPRC

Seattle - Under the general supervision of the Research Support Supervisor, this Research Scientist 2 provides comprehensive research support for investigators conducting research using nonhuman primates (NHPs) at the WaNPRC. This position provides an essential function by coordinating and performing routine scientific work for research projects utilizing NHPs. Multiple projects involving different experimental protocols and schedules are conducted concurrently. This position requires excellent organizational skills plus the flexibility to work in an environment with constantly shifting and occasionally conflicting priorities. For more information, visit:

<https://uwhires.admin.washington.edu/eng/candidates/default.cfm?szCategory=jobprofile&szOrderID=193218&szCandidateID=0&szReturnToSearch=1>

Animal Technician I-II

FRED HUTCH

Seattle - The Animal Technician I-II performs routine rodent husbandry, custodial care for the animal areas, and processes equipment. The Technician I-II position is overseen by the Animal Technician Lead and is a direct report to the Animal Technician Manager. This is considered an entry level position for individuals with no prior experience in laboratory animal care procedures or skilled individuals who are transitioning from other animal care positions. The position of tech I-II will be determined depending on experience. For more information, visit:

<https://careers-fhrcr.icims.com/jobs/20046/animal-technician-i-ii/job?mobile=false&width=1153&height=500&bga=true&needsRedirect=false&jan1offset=-480&jun1offset=-420>

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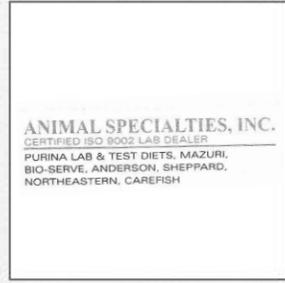
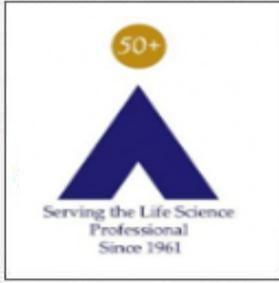
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COMMERCIAL MEMBERS



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Visit the Washington Branch AALAS website at wbaalas.org/join for information on membership fees, benefits, and other perks!