



# Arizona Branch AALAS Newsletter

Vol. 17 No.1  
January 2004

Arizona Branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

## International Technician Appreciation Week is February 1-8, 2004. Check [www.azaalas.org](http://www.azaalas.org) for Easy Access to Request Your Certificate of Appreciation

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### Presidents Welcome Message

Dear Members: Hello and Happy New Year! I am looking forward to an eventful year with Arizona AALAS. First of all, I would like to welcome our new board members Dr. Michael Rand and Christy Barber and thank the rest of the board and the membership for their continued support. We are once again planning an exciting year for AzAALAS. Technician week, which recognizes the importance of animal technicians in the lab animal field, is coming up quickly. We are planning on celebrating the event with cake as well as certificates for anyone working in the lab animal field. Info on where we will be celebrating is on the way. If you would like to send a certificate, here is the website: <http://www.azaalas.org/>. Next, we are working on finding speakers for our Spring video conference. If you have any ideas for topics or speakers, please contact me or anyone on the AzAALAS board. We are also asking for volunteers this year to help with the distribution of newsletters and other duties that are needed for the branch to run smoothly. If you are interested in volunteering or have any other questions or comments, please contact me. Thanks! April Wagner - (520) 626-0490 or ([awagner@u.arizona.edu](mailto:awagner@u.arizona.edu))

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

Spring Video Conference - TBA  
Summer Fun Event - TBA  
Fall Video Conference - TBA  
Holiday Installation Event - Tucson

### Past Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 9/18/03 Board Meeting

Meeting began at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was held in conference call with Barrow Neurological Institute, W.L. Gore & Associates and the conference room of the Central Animal Facility at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

President Tim Martin welcomed the board members and began the meeting by asking for approval of the minutes of the May board meeting. Minutes were approved as written.

Tim asked for a financial update. There was \$6,654 in our various accounts in our last statement not including some \$1,016 in outstanding items including: printing and postage for buyers guide, SwAEER membership, donation to Washington Branch for hosting

### Arizona Branch AALAS Newsletter

Arizona Branch AALAS

April Wagner, President  
[awagner@u.arizona.edu](mailto:awagner@u.arizona.edu)

Michael Rand, President-Elect  
[mrاند@u.arizona.edu](mailto:mrاند@u.arizona.edu)

Tim Martin, Past President  
[T3Martin@chw.edu](mailto:T3Martin@chw.edu)

Grace Aranda, Secretary/Newsletter  
Editor  
[garanda@u.arizona.edu](mailto:garanda@u.arizona.edu)

Christy Barber, Treasurer  
[cbarber@u.arizona.edu](mailto:cbarber@u.arizona.edu)

Jane Criswell, TBR  
[criswell@u.arizona.edu](mailto:criswell@u.arizona.edu)

Mike Dvorak - N Board Member  
[mdvorak@wlgore.com](mailto:mdvorak@wlgore.com)

James Badman, C Board Member  
[james.badman@asu.edu](mailto:james.badman@asu.edu)

Bob Perrill, S Board Member  
[robertp@u.arizona.edu](mailto:robertp@u.arizona.edu)

**Many thanks to those companies who made our 2003 Louise Brooks Memorial Raffle benefitting the Arizona Cancer Center's Child Life Activity Center a success! Please show your support for them by thinking of them first when making a purchase!**

|                             |                               |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A.K. Roseberry & Associates | Foothills Mall                | Nonies                        |
| Arcadia Ice Arena           | Fuego                         | Nuaire                        |
| Arizona Theater Co          | Golf N Stuff                  | Papagayo                      |
| Arrowhead Towne Center      | Hampton Inn                   | Park Place Mall               |
| Beyond Bread Café           | Harlan Teklad                 | Parties Plus                  |
| Blackjack Pizza             | Inglis Florists               | Philabaum Glass Gallery       |
| Blazin' M Ranch             | International Wildlife Museum | Residence Inn by Marriott     |
| Britz-Heidbrink             | Kingfisher American Grill     | Simonsen                      |
| Brooklyn Pizza Co           | La Quinta                     | Steamers                      |
| Charles River Labs          | Lithgow Lab Service           | Stein Mart                    |
| Clarion Hotel Randolph Park | Mesa Southwest Museum         | Target                        |
| Eegee's                     | Mid-Valley Athletic Club      | Tecniplast                    |
| El Corral                   | Midas                         | Tucson Hilton El Conquistador |
| Fiddlesticks in Scottsdale  | Midwest Research Swine        |                               |

The Arizona Cancer Center is dedicated to patient care, medical research, professional and community service. It is one of only 31 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers and is the Southwest's primary resource for new cancer therapies.

**The Child Life Activity Center - "...a place where love never fails and hope continues on."**

*"Thank you for your support of University Medical Center (UMC) and the Child Life Activity Center. All children need to play, and sick children need it even more - they need it to heal, to restore themselves, and to reduce the trauma of hospitalization. Your gift helps to give all the children hospitalized at UMC the space they need for the therapy of play." - Ken Rollins, UMC Development, in a letter of thanks.*

National meeting, and awards ribbons. Grace will get another copy of the Washington branch request to Tricia. Expected future expenses include: mailing nomination and ballots to members, installation event, fall general video conference.

We currently have 124 paid members. A final dues reminder should have gone out with the newsletter. Paula has asked that a review be done on her dues receipt. Grace & Tricia will check on this.

Secretary Grace Aranda gave an update on the Buyers Guide. We received ads from 26

vendors. The 2003/2004 issue was completed, printed and mailed. Total receipts was \$2,090. Printing was \$372.08. Postage was \$80.06. Total Revenue from this years Buyers Guide is \$1,637.86.

Technician Branch Representative Jane Criswell has worked on the wording to include the boards proposed changes to the bylaws regarding awards policies. The board approved her material with a few minor changes.

President Elect April Wagner asked for ideas for the Fall Video Conference. A notice was to go out in the newsletter asking for ideas, but since the newsletter has

been held up she is asking for board assistance. It is being planned for either early or late October to avoid the National AALAS meeting in Mid October. If anyone has ideas please contact April. Since we no longer have access to the facility at Mayo Scottsdale and the BNI facility is too small, Grace and April will check with ASU and UA for other sites in Tempe/Phoenix.

Grace distributed a draft of the next newsletter to the board for preview prior to the meeting and has received some revisions. The presidents' message still has to be

submitted. As the nomination forms will be going out soon, they will most likely be included in this newsletter. It will go to the printers and be back the following week for mailing.

The installation event is being planned for December in Tucson. April has offered her home for this year's event. As dates in December are already being booked by other branches, she will check the calendar and get back to Grace with a date for the Arizona Branch event. The Louise Brooks Memorial Raffle will again be held at the Installation event to benefit the Child Life Activity Center. Board members are asked to each submit possible donors to be added to the mailing list. Suggested ways of getting these names are receipts or business cards from stores/restaurants they frequent.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

### **Minutes of the 11/17/03 Board Meeting**

Meeting began at 12:05 p.m. The meeting was held in conference call with St Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, Arizona State University and the conference room of the Central Animal Facility at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

President Tim Martin welcomed the board members and began the meeting by asking for approval of the minutes of the September board meeting. Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer Tricia Thorne gave a financial update. There was \$6,079 in our various accounts in our last statement not including some \$260 in outstanding items including: raffle costs for tickets,

postage and paper as well as video conference refreshments.

President elect April Wagner gave a summary of the Fall Video Conference. Though the meeting was not very well attended, she has received nothing but positive response on our Speaker and Topic: Dr Sharon Dial from the UA Vet Diagnostic Lab. She wanted to thank Northern Board Member Mike Dvorak, Secretary Grace Aranda and member Michael McGarry for arranging the refreshments at the meeting and Past president Paula Johnson for suggesting the speaker. Southern Board Representative Bob Perrill suggested in the future the program chair should follow up with the speaker the day before to be sure they have the time and place arranged.

Grace reported that the officers ballot and raffle flyer and tickets have gone out in the mail. Ballots are due on November 30<sup>th</sup>. TBR Jane Criswell and Paula will tally the votes and Jane will report the results at the Installation event. All nominees on the ballot should be encouraged to attend. Tickets will need to be submitted by December 2<sup>nd</sup> or brought the day of the event. Grace has received several donations already and will be updating the Raffle website as items come in. She would like to thank Central Board member James Badman, member Sandra Schenone, April, Tricia, Paula who have been willing to pick up donated items.

April, Paula and Grace have been working on the Installation event flyer. The board liked the format but we need to add that folks will need to bring a dessert item. Grace will be sending out the flyer to the listserve. Folks need to RSVP by December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The next issue of the newsletter will be in January after the Installation event. Grace asked that

folks send her articles and other items to include. She will need a farewell message from Tim and a welcome message from April by late December. Any suggestions for items to be included should be sent to her by this time as well. Grace thanked April, Jane, Bob, James and Mike for all their help this year.

James brought up the idea that next year's Louise Brooks Memorial Raffle might include regional charities. Although the Arizona Cancer Center benefits children from all over Arizona, it is believed that there would be more participation if each area feels they are supporting a locally known charity. After some discussion it was decided that in early Spring we will ask the members to submit names and information on local charities and provide some information about the charity. The Board will review them and approve a charity for each region. Once the choice is made we will begin to request donations in September to preempt the usual donation conflicts that come with requesting later in the fall. The donation letter would give the donor the choice of which charity to benefit.

Grace reported that National AALAS has contacted the branch leadership to remind them that Intl Technician Appreciation Week will be February 1-8, 2004. Last year we provided up to \$25 per institution for the purchase of refreshments to celebrate the event. We also gave each member a tech week pin and provided the service of producing specific certificates of appreciation. These items can be provided fairly inexpensively. It was suggested that April might send a letter to each responsible institution official about the event as a way of introducing both the

event and AZAALAS to all institutions. A suggestion was also made to try and get a vendor sponsor for an additional item (picture frame or puzzles) offered by national at the cost of \$1/member. Grace reported that she had found a possibility for AZAALAS to get some extra money by participating in the Bashas Thanks a Million fund raising program. Through the program a percent of each purchase is applied to a group that is registered. She has sent in registration for the branch and SwAEFR. Once we have received our registration number she will send a message about this to the listserve and include it in the newsletter. The program runs from Sept 2003 - April 2004. Jane thanked the board and branch for helping to send her to the National meeting in Seattle. It was a great experience for her and she learned a lot.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

### **TBR Travel Award Experience** by Jane Criswell

What a thrill! I was going to the national meeting in Seattle. I thought being nominated for the national TBR award was terrific, but being selected was awesome. I attended the Leadership Academy workshop as the Arizona Branch Representative. I had heard of the insight this training seminar provided, but now found out for myself how the national committees were selected and how they operate. This workshop provided me with the opportunity to meet the national AALAS officers and interact with them.

I volunteered for the CTAD booth where I was able to connect with other technicians from across the country and

exchange information. I also volunteered as a facilitator for a workshop and seminar. I was able to select which ones I wanted to attend and gained some valuable information.

The Baxter Black lecture was enlightening and extremely funny and was in no way dulled by the animal rights protestors outside the convention center. It was great to hear him refer to his mentor: Dr Douglas McKelvie whom we both had the pleasure of knowing.

My most rewarding experience at this convention was renewing old friendships and making some new ones. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity and wish to thank the CTAAD committee for choosing me and ensuring my attendance at this meeting.

### **2003 Branch Awards**

#### **Technician of the Year Nominees**

##### **Christy Barber** **UA Animal Care**

Christy seems to know her job really well. She has been promoted several times in the department. She trains people into the Animal Technician Sr. position which includes many different techniques. She also trains people on Micro-isolator techniques. She comes in contact with many types of people and works well with all of them. She is extremely positive even though she is always so busy. She has a great sense of humor and is a pleasure to work with. And I can tell that she genuinely cares for all the animals that she cares for.

##### **Scott Cannon** **UA Animal Care**

Scott is very conscientious and considerate individual. He truly

cares for lab animals. He performs his job duties to the best of his abilities. His love of animals and support of research is obvious in his job performance which is always outstanding. His interest in advancement is proven by the fact that he has passed both the ALAT and LAT exams within a 6 month period. He has also encouraged and helped coworkers study and prepare for the AALAS exams. He is self motivated and strives for excellence everyday. He shows sincere compassion for the animals and their welfare and is always striving to learn as much as he can about them. Scott is an absolute pleasure to work with and greatly deserves this award.

##### **Cindy Madura** **UA Animal Care**

Cindy has received certification in the ALAT and LAT levels within the past year. She is one of those "day to day" heroes that we may not notice because she is usually working hard behind a closed animal room door. She is fully devoted to the animals in her care and the services she provides to advance the research of others. She is a perfectionist to the core but unlike most she is very good natured. She goes out of her way to offer the primates enrichment, even on the weekends. She has been accused of spoiling the investigators because of the high degree of care she puts into her tasks. She loves the animals and she loves the science. She has an eager curiosity and she influences others to work harder and learn more. She spends much of her free time studying the AALAS materials, helping a bed ridden friend, and painting her artwork.

She may not be out there in the spotlight, but she sure shines!

**Sandra Schenone  
ASU Animal Program**

Aside from being an outstanding caregiver for the animal groups for which she has responsibility "rhesus primates, rats, mice and pigeons", Sandra has distinguished herself as a "go-to" knowledgeable person for husbandry and health questions for a variety of species. Ever the eager instructor, she has given orientation and training to several student workers, as well as newly hired animal care technicians. A strong advocate for animal welfare, Sandra has earned the respect of the PIs she serves, the university veterinarian, IACUC members and her department peers. Eager to learn and be a part of "what's happening", she has begun to participate in a subcontract with the department involving administration of immuno-suppressive drugs as well as pre and post operative care to pigs. She has embraced the tasks with her usual flurry, becoming proficient in the technical aspects and immersing herself in whatever she can learn about the project and its objectives. She is fun to work with and a real asset to our program. She has voluntarily participated in the development and presentation of training programs for research students and technicians in the NonHuman Primate research area. Sandra organized and presented a paper at the most recent AZ AALAS Branch annual meeting and volunteered to facilitate at two sessions at the most recent AALAS National Meeting in Seattle, her first National. Sandra was a docent at the Mesa

Southwest Museum for 2 years. She is a strong advocate for nonhuman primate care, spending extra time developing enrichment procedures.

**Grace White  
W.L. Gore & Associates**

Grace is an integral member of our technical staff here at WL Gore. Her attitude is positive and rubs off on other associates. Her technical skills are top notch and her willingness to accomplish facility goals and certifications is unparalleled in our facility.

**Winner - Andi Mitchell  
UA Animal Care**

Andi has devised and implemented a number of programs related to the use of Biohazards for UAC this past year. Of particular note is the Select Agent Training Program which she assisted in developing and is now the trainer for UAC and researchers who work with select agents. She has done a fantastic job with this and has received high praise from the Institutional Biosafety Officer for her outstanding work. She has also had to deal with some very difficult personnel problems and has handled these in a very professional manner. She has been key in the development of the bar-code system for UAC's which will assist in reducing or stabilizing per diem costs for UA researchers. She works tirelessly to improve the care of animals in her facility and is very dedicated to animal welfare. Her outstanding work in support of the animal research community should be rewarded by this recognition. Being supervisor for Central Animal Facility is normally a full time responsibility. This year the Biosafety Level III laboratory, located in the Central Animal Facility, went through a major

inspection by the CDC. The bulk of Animal Care's responsibility fell on Andi's shoulders. She updated many SOPs and created new SOPs dealing with safety and security of CAF and the BL3 laboratory. She created and posted new signs for safety and security, and personally designed a training program and trained the many animal care employees and others who have access to the BL3 laboratory. Andi created Animal Care's Documentation paper trail in compliance with the CDC and other federal regulations. She spent countless hours to accomplish this before the CDC inspection date. The BL3 research staff greatly appreciates Andi's tireless efforts to accomplish this monumental task. The significant effort Andi puts into helping assure that work will continue in the BL3 Special agent laboratory is in addition to what we already felt was a strong sense of concern and responsibility toward our lab. Because of the special training required to work in the room and the limited staff that are able to complete the full tasks in there, Andi has many times been the one to volunteer to decontaminate the room or change the cages because the regular technician is sick. She is excellent at informing us early if problems in the room that UAC staff note, and is promptly responsive if we report problems in the lab to her. She has a strong how-can-I-help-you attitude that makes her a pleasure to work and underscores her professionalism and commitment to her job. She seeks an understanding of the work being performed, thereby appreciating the importance of a team approach in the management of such a lab. Andi has definitely taken a team

approach with this lab. We believe Andi has shown outstanding dedication to her profession and in particular to the complicated and specialized procedures of complying with new federal regulations associated with our highly sensitive lab in her facility.

### **Member of the Year Nominees**

#### **Grace Aranda UA Animal Care**

She is a dedicated member of AALAS and gives a lot of time for the branch. She has been a member of the board and works hard on branch activities. She provides support for the Arizona branch. She gets people motivated to get involved. She is a founder of the CFAAR group as well as its newsletter editor and coordinates activities for the SwAEBR organization. She has been the newsletter editor for the AZAALAS branch too.

#### **Jane Criswell UA Cancer Center**

Jane has worked to encourage members to complete their AALAS certification for employment advancement. In the past she has set up and taught classes for technician training including IACUC training. She is involved closely with Arizona AALAS, a founding member and holding various offices and committee positions. Jane promotes technician involvement at the state and national level. She has presented papers, posters at national meetings and has volunteered in the LRC and as moderator. Promotes attendance by technicians in the Arizona branch. She has been in

touch with CTAD and is planning to become more involved. She has been involved with the SwAEBR as a science fair judge and mentor, and is available as a classroom speaker. She is also been a volunteer for many years on the publishing committee of the CFAAR to promote research & science to students and the general public. Jane won a travel award to national this year where she worked at several sessions.

#### **Bob Perrill UA Vet Science**

Bob has been a board member of AZAALAS and has been a very active advocate for the membership. He not only attends all meetings possible, but he is also diligent about offering his opinions and ideas. He helped to make the publishing of the Branch Buyers Guide as easy as possible this year and is always a careful proofreader of the Branch Newsletter. Bob has worked with animals for years and worked in the UAC surgery area for some time. He was on staff at the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum for 15 years and shows a keen interest in animals as well as coworkers.

#### **Winner - April Wagner UA Animal Care**

April has been an officer of the branch and is always willing to help out with any branch duties. Although she is a very busy person, she always attends AALAS meetings and functions and tries to promote others to do the same. She has been a member of the newsletter publication committee for some time now and always lends her expertise in a friendly and helpful manner while taking the responsibility very seriously. It is a pleasure to work with her not only within the branch but in everyday work as well as she is always

helpful and positive. She has been a co-presenter of several posters and has been an assistance in wetlabs. She was a presenter at this year's Spring Symposium and also lent her talents to help in planning the meeting. She is an important member of the UAC Diagnostic Services. She is a central figure in performing research experiments, some of which involve working with animals. She has also participated in several presentations to local schools during National Pet Week. She is a willing and careful member of the editorial board for the Arizona CFAAR organization.

### **International Tech Week**

Dedicated to Caring - Making a Difference

International Laboratory Animal Technician Week is celebrated this year from February 1-7. This annual event, now in its 5th year, is sponsored by the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS). The theme is "A Career in Caring" and emphasizes careers in the field of lab animal science, the significance of biomedical research, and the importance of everyone as part of the research team. Investigators, veterinarians, IACUC members and staff, animal and research technicians, office support staff - we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of them for a job well done. The efforts of these hard-working professionals are an integral component of the successful research team, and I encourage everyone to show their appreciation for their valuable contributions - not only during International Laboratory

Animal Technician Week, but everyday. We couldn't do it without them!

For more information go to the branch website at [www.azaalas.org](http://www.azaalas.org)

**AZAALAS has signed up for the Bashas Thanks A Million Program: Our number is 23406**

*SwAEBR has also signed up: Their number is 23408*

The Bashas' fundraising program, Thanks A Million For Friends and Neighbors, will run from September 1, 2003 - April 30, 2004.

**How the program works:**

Bashas' customers link the group ID number to their Thank You Card and a portion of every Thank You Card purchase is donated to that group.

Bashas' will donate one percent of the total sales linked to each group's ID number, up to \$2,500.

Remember to take your group numbers with you to link it to your card next time you go to Bashas!

How do I find a Bashas store near me? Check out their store locator at: <http://www.bashas.com/location.php>

How do I start shopping for a group? Once you have a 5-digit number for a group that you would like to shop for, take it with you to Bashas' the next time you go shopping. You can have it written down on a piece of paper, in a newsletter, etc. The cashier will punch it in and it will be printed on your receipt to confirm you have signed up. Every time

you shop at Bashas' a portion of your total sales will be donated to the group linked to your Thank You Card.

How many groups can I shop for? You can shop for up to 3 groups during the program. Once you sign up for 3 groups, you cannot delete those groups or add any other groups during the program. If you link more than one group your donation will be equally divide among your chosen groups.

**Gibbon Producer Doesn't Just Sell Hogs** By Carol Stender

Thank Dave Theis for your flu shot this year. While the Gibbon-area swine producer isn't directly responsible for producing the vaccine, his hogs have helped in its development. Theis and his wife, Terry, have developed a healthy herd that is ideal for medical research. The demand for research swine prompted them to start Midwest Research Swine. Part of their herd is sold for medical research, which includes a dermal patch to aid healing and research in organ transplants and diabetes.

Theis grew up in rural Gibbon but had parents who had in-town jobs. Theis worked at agricultural jobs, including custom application, before purchasing a 12-acre farmsite with his wife. Theis had to decide how he would cash-flow his operation. "It was between hogs and dairy," he said. "I chose hogs. I'd already milked enough cows growing up, so I knew I didn't want to do that."

He purchased a portable farrowing house in 1978 and started raising hogs. As he started his operation, he began collaborating with University of Minnesota researchers. His first was with the late Al Leman in a sow culling project. "Then other people asked us to collaborate on

other projects," he said. "And one thing led to another..."

Theis saw an opportunity to get other producers involved in Midwest Research Swine. Tom and Connie Trunk of Princeton, Dave and Ramona Gottwalt of Royalton and Brien and Terri Hansen of Wood Lake are independent contractors who own their own facilities but use Theis' genetics - Yorkshire-Landrace sows bred to Durocs. "One of the neat things about these operations is that they have 100 to 250 sows," Theis said.

The entire operation sells 12,000 pigs annually with half of them sold for bio-medical use. The others are raised as finishers on the Theis farm and sold commercially. Each farm maintains strict bio-security controls. The pigs must be in exceptional health for research purposes.

His bio-medical marketing took a personal turn when his nephew, Todd, was diagnosed with sudden liver failure and needed emergency care at the Mayo Clinic. Thanks to research using hogs, the Mayo has tested a device using live pig cells to clean toxins from patients with disabled livers. Todd was among patients used in human trials of the technique. When one researcher needed small skin samples for a cancer study, she turned to Theis. "There is a quality assurance people are getting," he said. "My pigs might look the same, but they're not. We actually don't sell the pig - we sell the health. It's the bugs they don't have that sells the pigs."

(Agri News, 12/9/03)

**Take a Bite out of PETA**

Despite its deceptively warm-and-fuzzy public image, People

for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has donated over \$150,000 to criminal activists - including those jailed for arson, burglary, and even attempted murder. In 2001, PETA donated \$1,500 to the North American Earth Liberation Front, a criminal organization that the FBI classifies as "domestic terrorists." And since 2000, rank-and-file PETA activists have been arrested over 80 times for breaking various laws during PETA protests. Charges included felony obstruction of government property, criminal mischief, assaulting a cabinet official, felony vandalism, performing obscene acts in public, destruction of federal property, and burglary.

Like millions of other nonprofit groups in the United States (e.g., universities, houses of worship, social service organizations), PETA pays no federal taxes on its income. But few of these other tax-exempt groups share PETA's total disregard for the law. In 2002 PETA collected over \$17 million from Americans, avoiding over \$3 million in federal income taxes. Because this tax break amounts to a huge subsidy, *every American taxpayer is footing the bill for PETA's behavior.*

PETA's tax-exempt status was granted by the U.S. government on the basis of the group's willingness to conduct itself in a lawful fashion. We believe that PETA has failed to live up to its end of the bargain, and that the Internal Revenue Service should cancel PETA's tax-exempt status.

If you agree, please add your name and contact information below. Your "signature" - along with those of thousands of other Americans - will be used to encourage U.S. government

officials to take action. PETA is currently being investigated by the IRS, so this is the perfect time to make your opinion known. *Note: We will not sell or otherwise transfer your personal information to any business, organization, or government agency.*

For more information go to: <http://www.consumerfreedom.com/petapetition.cfm>

### **SwAEBR High School Essay Contest - You Could Win a PAID Summer Internship!**

The Southwest Association for Education in Biomedical Research sponsors an essay contest each year for high school students. Winners in the Tucson and Phoenix metropolitan areas receive a paid summer internship, which could range from 6 to 10 weeks, dependent on student and institution schedules, working in a research lab in one of the following institutions: Arizona State University, Barrow Neurological Institute at St. Joseph's Hospital, Harrington Arthritis Research Center, Mayo Clinic - Scottsdale, Sun Health Research Institute, or The University of Arizona. Winners from other high schools in the state who may be unable to work in the metropolitan areas receive a cash award of \$150.

The purpose of this contest is to help identify and recognize students who can demonstrate superior understanding of the scientific process used in research, the importance of the use of animals in the medical and biological sciences, and who can artfully communicate that understanding in writing. All entries are judged on the basis of scientific accuracy, logic, originality, creativity, command of the English language and an understanding of

the scientific process and the importance of use of animals in research.

The topic of the essay is:

### **"How Has Biomedical Research Using Animals Benefited a Pet, You, or Someone You Know?"**

All high school students in public, private and parochial schools are eligible, providing they will be 16 years of age by the start of the summer internship.

**Entries for the 2004 contest must be postmarked no later than March 22, 2004.**

Submit essays in standard English with a bibliography that must cite several different references (may include documented oral sources).

Essays should be typed on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper, double-spaced and not to exceed 750 words.

Fill out a coversheet at [http://www.swaebr.org/essay\\_coversheet.htm](http://www.swaebr.org/essay_coversheet.htm)

**You must submit a coversheet and two copies of the essay to:**

**SwAEBR, University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210101, Tucson, AZ 85721-0101**

There should be no identifying information on the essay except for the title. Each essay should be the original work of the student who enters and becomes the property of SwAEBR upon submission.

**For more information about the essay contest, call**

**520.621.3931 or email  
SwAEBR at  
[swaibr@ahsc.arizona.edu](mailto:swaibr@ahsc.arizona.edu)**

**What is SwAEBR?**

The Southwest Association for Education in Biomedical Research (SwAEBR) has been formed with the specific mission of developing and implementing a strong proactive campaign to educate school children, as well as the general public, in the vital role biomedical research plays in their everyday lives. SwAEBR disseminates information necessary to improve the public's understanding of how responsible and humane animal research has led to significantly improved health care for man and his animal companions.

**Membership** is open to any organization which supports the purposes of SwAEBR, and is involved in at least one of the following endeavors: 1) the conduct of biomedical research, education or testing; 2) the conduct of other scientific research or education, or 3) the promotion of human or animal health. Institutions may be admitted to the Association by a vote of a majority of the board of directors and upon payment of the financial contribution as established by the board of directors. Each member institution is allowed one official representative and one vote.

**Friends of SwAEBR:** Individuals may support SwAEBR through honorary membership known as Friends of SwAEBR. Friends are not required to pay dues or entitled to vote, but may make contributions and do have access to all services and programs sponsored by SwAEBR.

**How Can You Help?**

Provide financial support - For general support, production of educational resources and sponsorship of the summer research internship program.

- C \$25 helps sponsor educational materials for the classroom
- C \$50 sponsors a game for a class of students
- C \$100 thanks teachers for getting their students involved in the essay contest
- C \$250 helps pay for videos to be used by in classrooms
- C \$500 sponsors awards for one of the regional science fairs
- C \$1200 sponsors a student in the summer internship program

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**Vendors** - SwAEBR is still looking for sponsors for this years' Essay contest. If you are interested in helping to sponsor an essay winner please [contact us!](#)

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Act as a science fair mentor or judge - Volunteers are requested for this great experience for mentor and student!

Serve on our speakers bureau - Speakers are requested for classroom and organization presentations. These opportunities educate the public of the purpose, process and remarkable health benefits that basic biomedical research holds for man and animals.

**How Will Your Company Benefit?**

- Your website will be linked through our actively viewed webpage
- Satisfaction of contributing to the education of promoting an

environment in which science and responsible research can flourish.

- Through sponsoring the essay contest winners, your company directly affects the workforce of tomorrow by enhancing their interest in science and technology.

**For more information go to  
[www.swaibr.org](http://www.swaibr.org) or  
[swaibr@ahsc.arizona.edu](mailto:swaibr@ahsc.arizona.edu)  
or call (520)621-3931**

**Have you renewed your membership yet?**

**If not, now is the time. AZAALAS memberships run from January to December so take a moment to print out a membership form and write your check today. You can find the membership form at:**  
<http://www.azaalas.org/Forms/membership-form.htm>

**Are you a vendor needing to renew your space in the Buyers Guide?**

**Just print and fill out the vendor checklist at:**  
<http://www.azaalas.org/Forms/membership-form.htm> and return it with your check.

## Sponsors Page

The AZAALAS would like to thank our vendors who have sponsored the Arizona branch through advertising in the Buyer's Guide. We ask that members patronize their business and show our support of them too!

### **Alternative Design Mfct**

Eddie Loyd  
(479)524-4343

### **Ancare**

Mitchell Kanarek  
(800)645-6379

### **Bio Medic Data Systems**

Diana Kelsey  
(619)470-0856

### **Braintree Scientific**

Ruth Benvie  
(781)843-2202

### **Charles River Laboratories**

Marcia Murphy  
(877)274-8371

### **Colonial Medical Supply**

Ken MacLeod  
(888)446-8427

### **Cyber Visions**

Ron Bender  
(928)771-0004

### **Getinge USA**

Frank McFadden  
(800)475-9040x4608

### **Harlan**

K.C. Reese  
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### **Hilltop Lab Animals**

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### **Lab Products**

Robert Graves  
(214)544-0986

### **Lithgow Lab Services**

Robert Drye  
(702)413-0832

### **Marshall Farms**

Nikke Nicoletis  
(516)327-0002

### **Nuaire Inc**

Scott Christensen  
(763)553-1270

### **Myrtle's Rabbitry Inc.**

Rebecca Dodson  
(800)424-9511

### **Pharmacial Research Labs**

Paul Chavez  
(800)243-5350

### **Rees Scientific Corp.**

Steve McCollum  
(858) 277-5188

### **ResearchSupply.com**

Anne-Marie Sullivan  
(866)722- 2226

### **Schlyer Machinery Co**

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(800)932-7364

### **Simonsen Laboratories Inc**

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(408)847-2002

### **Steris Corporation**

Stacey Betts  
(800)989-7575x23218

### **Taconic**

Kathy Meunier  
(578)537-5200

### **Tecniplast USA**

James Lerza  
(484)875-0500

Can't find your company name and number listed on this page? You must have missed last years' deadline for the Buyer's Guide.

To keep this from happening again this year, be sure to return your vendor checklist and check right away!

For more information on sponsoring our Buyers Guide send us email at:  
azaalas@ahsc.arizona.edu

2004 ARIZONA BRANCH AALAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby apply for membership in the Arizona Branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. BRANCH DUES (\$10.00) \_\_\_\_\_ Arizona Branch Newsletter subscription is included

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If a new membership, name and phone number of (2) AALAS members \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me a receipt for my records No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail me a paper copy of newsletter No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

*(In order to reduce printing costs we are looking to send most newsletters electronically)*

Please make check payable to Arizona Branch AALAS and send to:  
AALAS, University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210101, Tucson, AZ 85721-0101

Arizona Branch AALAS  
University of Arizona  
P.O. Box 210101  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0101

*Address Service Requested*

LAST CHANCE to Renew Your AZAALAS Membership

Check the mailing label for your status  
**THIS IS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED!**

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