



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

APRIL 14, 2008

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to all of the new members of SVAALAS and thank you to all members with consistent membership! We have started 2008 with some great educational opportunities. The necropsy lab was a big success and much appreciated. The awards banquet was fantastic. We had a great turn out from local members, commercial vendors, Northern California Branch, and our guest speaker Mr. Bruce Kennedy.

Bruce provided us with an inspiring lecture on the importance of joining and participating in the local branch of AALAS. He emphasized the importance of AALAS certification and registry. Please visit our website for pictures of the awards banquet and ceremony; look for the special entry in this newsletter about the award recipients! Congratulations to everyone that was nominated for an award and to the recipients. We were very fortunate that Bruce Kennedy joined us again in March with Linda Brovarney to

explain the process for taking the CMAR exam. Bruce and Linda have both passed the CMAR exam. It was very helpful to hear their personal experiences preparing for the exam and to learn what helped them pass the exam. Their PowerPoint presentation is posted on our website.

I encourage all members to be involved with the next quarterly activities: Picnic Day, Membership Drive, Opossum lecture and Bird lecture. We have all heard the saying "You get out of something what you put into it." I encourage all members to provide input to the committee chairs about topics, tours, wet labs and other educational or social opportunities that you would like SVAALAS to provide. The SVAALAS mission will be successfully met if the members are actively participating in the process.

Along with participating in branch activities, we have the opportunity to influence the agenda at the 2009 District 8 meeting that we are co-hosting with NCB.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

- *April 19, 2008 – Picnic Day at UC Davis - 9am to 3pm, Cole B Facility*
- *April 24, 2008 – Membership Drive at Primate Center, 5:30pm to 6:30pm*
- *April 23-24, 2008 – AALAS District 8 meeting in Seattle, WA*
- *May 20, 2008 – Sarah Long, Lecture : Opossums, 5:30pm*
- *June 11, 2008 – Tom Hahn, Lecture : Birds, 5:30pm*

Volunteers are needed to make this meeting a success. Please contact [sonja.wallace@roche.com](mailto:sonja.wallace@roche.com) if you would like more information about how you can participate.

Lastly, start talking with your employers now about attending the National AALAS meeting in Indianapolis, IN on November 9-13. For more information, please visit: [nationalmeeting.aalas.org](http://nationalmeeting.aalas.org).

Looking forward to seeing you all at our membership drive!

-*Sherri Goss, SVAALAS President*

## SVAALAS BOARD MEMBERS - 2008:

- Sherri Goss, President**  
[slgoss@ucdavis.edu](mailto:slgoss@ucdavis.edu)
- Deneen Spence, Vice President**  
[drspence@ucdavis.edu](mailto:drspence@ucdavis.edu)
- Shannon Powell, Secretary**  
[shannon.powell@jax.org](mailto:shannon.powell@jax.org)
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## 2008 DISTRICT 8 MEETING WORKSHOPS AND REGISTRATION

### AALAS District 8 Meeting: April 23-24, 2008

Seattle Convention Center - Seattle, WA

**Register online:** <https://www.wbaalas.org/proc/Individual/index.php>

#### Vendor Registration Now open:

Gold Commercial Sponsorship \$700 - Includes 1 each 6' draped table, Registration for 2 Attendee's, 1/2 Page program Ad, 1 speaker Sponsorship (\$1000 value)

Silver Commercial Sponsorship \$575 - Includes 1 each 6' draped table, Registration for 2 Attendee's, 1/4 Page program Ad, (\$700 value)

Bronze Commercial Sponsorship \$475 - Includes 1 each 6' draped table, Registration for 1 Attendee.

- Additional Booth Attendee \$150 each
- Continental Breakfast Sponsorship \$1000
- Afternoon Coffee Break Sponsorship \$500
- Ice Breaker Cocktail Party Sponsorship \$2500
- Speaker Sponsorship \$250
- Key Note Speaker Sponsorship \$1000
- Full Page Program Ad \$250
- 1/2 Page Program Ad \$175
- 1/4 Page Program Ad \$125

#### 2008 District 8 Meeting Workshops

Preparing for Your First Management Position  
Instructor: Valerie Hamlin, LATG - Husbandry Services Manager, University of Michigan  
Wednesday, April 23, noon-4:00 pm at the convention center.  
Cost \$40

Washington National Primate Research Center Tour  
Thursday, April 24 noon-1:00 p.m.  
Thursday, April 24 1:30- 2:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$40

A visit to the university site of the WaNPRC, to include a

brief introductory presentation, and tour of selected areas.

Xenopus Handling and Procedures 101  
Instructor: George E. Sanders, DVM, MS, Fish Pathologist,  
Univ of WA Harborview Medical Center  
Cost \$85

A Practical Approach to Rodent Necropsy  
Instructors: Piper M. Treuting, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVP -  
University of Washington and Sue Knoblaugh, DVM - Fred  
Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
Thursday, April 24 10:15 a.m- 12:15 p.m  
Harborview Medical Center  
Cost \$85

Non-invasive Bioimaging of Laboratory Rodents  
Instructors: Ben Weigler, DVM, PhD, Derek Masse, Barbara  
Lewellyn, Stacy Hansen  
Wednesday April 23rd noon-4pm  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
Cost: \$40

Anesthesia--It's a Gas!  
Instructor, Jim Houts, OMNIMED  
Wednesday, April 23 noon-4:00 p.m.  
Harborview Medical Center  
Cost: \$85

Mouse and Rat Humane Handling, Tickling, and Blood  
Draw Technique  
Instructors: Sylvie Cloutier, DVM - Washington State Univer-  
sity and Kari Koszdin, DVM - VA Puget Sound Health Care  
System  
Thursday, April 24 8:00 -10:00 a.m.  
Harborview Medical Center  
Cost: \$85

**Washington, Oregon and Northern Rocky Mountain  
branches are working to make this meeting both infor-  
mative and affordable. You won't want to miss out!**

## SVAALAS COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2008

<b>Audit Committee</b> Alan Ekstrand	<b>Nominations Committee</b> Isabelle Robinson
<b>Awards Committee</b> Margaret Tam	<b>Public Relations Committee</b> Trinka Adamson
<b>District 8 Committee</b> Beth Page Roy Hogleund	<b>Communications</b> Nicole Corley
<b>Education Committee</b> Bridget Maguire	<b>Membership Committee</b> Dr. Victor Lukas

**Newsletter Editor**  
Kandi Rodrigue

**Webmaster**  
Philip Barruel

Please volunteer to help the  
committee chairs make  
SVAALAS a great educational  
experience!

## BOARD MEETING DATES

April 21  
May 19  
June 16  
July 21  
August 18  
September 22  
October 20  
November 17  
December 15



**All members welcome!** (UCD  
CLAS conference room at 5PM)

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

You are all invited to the SVAALAS membership drive. This will be our final opportunity to recruit new members to our branch before the May 1st Branch challenge deadline:

**Date: Thursday, April 24th**

**Time: 5:30-6:30pm**

**Location: California National**

**Primate Research Center Seminar Hall**

**We will be providing pizza and beverages for all current and new members in attendance.**

We will have a general meeting followed by a social gathering.

Please **RSVP** so we have enough pizza and beverages available for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support!

-Sherri Goss, SVAALAS President

## 5TH ANNUAL LAB PRODUCTS ANIMAL TECHNICIAN AWARD

*A laboratory animals best friend is a healthy, caring Animal Technician.*

Lab Products, Inc. is pleased to announce the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Lab Products Animal Technician Award Program. This program is intended to reward a deserving animal care technician from each of the 8 AALAS Districts and Canada with the opportunity to attend their first National AALAS Meeting. One award recipient will be selected yearly from each of the 8 AALAS Districts and Canada. The award will be limited to animal care personnel, with at least one year of laboratory animal care experience, that have never attended a National AALAS Meeting. The recipients of the Lab Products Animal Technician Award will each receive an award recognition plaque; airfare, hotel and registration for the National AALAS Meeting; one year membership to National AALAS and \$250 to cover incidentals while attending the AALAS Meeting.

**For more information write Lab Products, Inc., P.O. Box 639, Seaford, DE 19973, or see the award description and nomination information on CompMed or Techlink.**

### **Award Selection Criteria:**

- 1) Nominee must have a minimum of 1 years work experience in a laboratory

animal facility.

- 2) Nominee must be a working supervisor, animal care worker or animal health technician. (Managers, Assistant Directors, etc. are not eligible).
- 3) The nominee must be someone that actually performs hands on animal care work or works in the cage wash area.
- 4) The nominee must be someone that would not be eligible for travel funds (from the University, Institution or Company) to attend a National AALAS meeting.
- 5) This award is intended to provide deserving animal care technicians with the opportunity to attend their first National AALAS Meeting. Therefore, only nominees that have never attended a National AALAS Meeting will be eligible.

### **Nomination Process:**

- 1) Nominations are to be submitted by letter, detailing the Technicians' work history, accomplishments, community involvement, and describing how this travel award will benefit the technician and their facility. AALAS/CALAS Branch membership, and involvement in branch AALAS/CALAS activities, will

be considered in the award selection.

- 2) Supporting letters are encouraged and will be considered, but are not required.
- 3) Send nominations to:  
Attn: Awards Selection Committee  
Lab Products, Inc.  
P.O. Box 639  
Seaford, DE 19973  
Ph. 800-526-0469  
Fax 302-628-4309
- 4) Award recipients will be notified by August 1, 2008.

### **Award Recipient Requirements:**

- 1) After attending the National AALAS Meeting, the award recipients must present a paper at their next annual Branch or District AALAS meeting on how the AALAS Meeting experience affected them.
- 2) Award recipient agrees to attend the Lab Products, Inc., Tuesday night social during the National AALAS Meeting for a formal award presentation.
- 3) Award recipient agrees to be a judge for the selection of the next year's award recipients.

### **NOMINATIONS MUST BE**

**RECEIVED BY JUNE 16, 2008**

## SVAALAS WEBSITE RENEWED

We owe a big THANK YOU to Dave Clary for keeping our website up and going. Check out the new postings when you get a chance at [svaalas.org/news.php](http://svaalas.org/news.php).

## 2ND ANNUAL SVAALAS AWARDS BANQUET WINNERS

Three SVAALAS members received awards at the second annual SVAALAS awards banquet. The winners are:

### **Shandell Solbach, Technician of the Year**

As an Animal Resources Supervisor for the Center for Lab Animal Science, Shandell oversees the care of many different species. The award recognizes her dedication to the profession through excellent animal care and staff training. Shandell has helped create a staff development plan that prepares technicians to provide the best possible care while achieving upward mobility in the profession. She is known for her willingness to fill in for absent co-workers so that the animals receive the best possible care. Shandell exemplifies the type of person needed to manage animal care

facilities.

### **Terry Hewett, DVM, Member of the Year**

Terry is a Clinical Veterinarian for UC Davis Campus Veterinary Services. As the 2007 SVAALAS Education Committee Chair, Terry provided innovative educational opportunities for the SVAALAS members. Terry won the branch contest for signing up the most members in 2007. She has provided many ideas for increasing participation and membership and is a mentor and supporter to technicians who wish to improve their knowledge of lab animal science.

### **Sherri Goss, Purina Award**

Sherri is the Training Coordinator for Campus Veterinary Services at UC Davis. In this role she has helped many individuals pass the AALAS

certification exams, achieving a 100% pass rate thus far. Sherri teaches and prepares animal technicians and researchers in lab animal skills. She has participated in the Veterinary Technicians Committee, which is supported by National AALAS, to educate and recruit veterinary technicians into the lab animals science community.

Our second annual awards banquet was a huge success. Bruce Kennedy, immediate past-president of AALAS, inspired us all to become more active in our local branch. We had many commercial supporters who donated money and gifts for the awards and raffle. I BIG thank you to Jessica Davis for all of her hardwork and dedication to coordinate this event.

*-Sherri Goss, SVAALAS President*

## CMAR PRESENTATION BY LINDA BROVARNEY AND BRUCE KENNEDY

On Monday March 3, 2008 Linda Brovarney, IACUC Director at UCSF, and Bruce Kennedy, immediate past president National AALAS, presented a lecture to our branch on the steps and requirements for taking the CMAR exam.

Check out our website - the PowerPoint is posted in case you missed the lecture - [svaalas.org/news.php](http://svaalas.org/news.php).

Also, please check out the CMAR link on the AALAS website: [www.aalas.org/certification/cmar.asp](http://www.aalas.org/certification/cmar.asp).

The requirements for taking the exam have changed. More of us qualify to take this exam now. There are only 14 people in California that have the CMAR. I challenge our branch to

have 14 SVAALAS members certified within the next 3 years! Please contact Sherri [slgoss@ucdavis.edu](mailto:slgoss@ucdavis.edu) if you are interested in forming a study group.

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## NATIONAL AALAS AWARDS AVAILABLE - JUST NOMINATE SOMEONE

Would you or your branch like to nominate someone for a national AALAS award?

There are currently ten (10) national AALAS awards presented at the AALAS national meeting to the labo-

ratory animal science field each year. The seven awards which require nominations are the: Griffin, Garvey, Brewer Scientific Achievement, the Collins, AALAS Technician of the Year, Bhatt Young Investigator, and the Cohen Animal Stewardship

Awards. Award nominations are due by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**. Nomination information may be found on the left side of front page of the AALAS web site under ASSOCIATION.

## REGISTER FOR DISTRICT 8 BY APRIL 18TH

Hello District 8!

We are just around the corner until our District 8 meeting this month and this will be your last reminder to register. I am asking you all to help me spread the word to get people to respond quickly & get their registrations in. Time is running out! If you belong to a listserve, please forward this on. Our meeting in Seattle will be off and running!

So...have you all registered for the meeting yet? **The deadline to register for the District 8 meeting is April 18th.** If you haven't decided yet, view [the program](#) so you can see the great line-up of speakers we have in store. Don't miss this opportunity.

If your reasoning is that you are too busy and under-staffed, please consider the one day registration. If you haven't asked your boss yet because you think you'll be turned down, by all means, ask!

Workshops are filling up real quick so if you are interested but haven't signed up, you need to do that today.

Registration will be \$100.00/day or \$200.00 for both days AFTER the April 18th deadline so hurry and register and save 50 bucks! It's easy, just go to: <https://www.wbaalas.org/proc/Individual/index.php> and fill in the blanks.

I hope to see you all in Seattle later this

month. If you have any questions, please respond back and let me know!

**Vickie Riojas, D8 Publicity Chair**

[vickieriojas@hotmail.com](mailto:vickieriojas@hotmail.com)

If I can be of further assistance, let me know.

Grace Aranda

District 8 Council

P.O. Box 210101

Tucson, AZ 85721-0101

Phone: 520.621.3931

Fax: 520.621.3355

E-mail: [garanda@u.arizona.edu](mailto:garanda@u.arizona.edu)

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[www.district8.org](http://www.district8.org)



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## UCDAVIS OFFERS AALAS PREP CLASSES

**Interested in taking a preparatory class to help prepare for the ALAT, LAT or LATG?**

Please contact Sherri Goss [slgoss@ucdavis.edu](mailto:slgoss@ucdavis.edu), if you are interested in attending AALAS prep classes offered at UCD on Wednesday mornings.

Be sure to include which preparatory class you are interested in attending. Before classes will be scheduled, we must know how many people will be in

attendance. The classes are offered at no charge to current SVAALAS members.

Attendees will be required to purchase their own training manual through AALAS:

[www.aalas.org](http://www.aalas.org).



## SVAALAS LISTSERVE AVAILABLE

As part of your membership, you have the **option** of joining the SVAALAS listserve. This will allow you to send information to other members. Just keep in mind that anytime someone sends something to the listserve everyone who joins will receive the email. This is meant to provide a quick way to disseminate information that is related to our field or branch. It should not be used for personal information.

If you would like to join the listserve, please send an email to [svbaalas@gmail.com](mailto:svbaalas@gmail.com) requesting subscription.

Thank you, Sherri



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## District 8 Meeting April 23-24, 2008



Seattle Convention Center  
Seattle, WA

### Soak up the Knowledge!

#### Topics to Absorb:

- Geckos
- Humor in the Workplace
- Murine Norovirus
- Rodent Colony Management
- Humane DNA Sampling
- "Lean" Management

#### Guest Sprinklers:

- Kathy Laber - AAALAC Council President
- Helen Diggs, UC Berkeley Veterinarian
- Chris Newcomer - 2008 AALAS President
- Ann Turner - AALAS Executive Director

#### Get Wet Workshops:

- Xenopus Frogs \* Rodent Handling
- Blood Draw Techniques
- Rodent Necropsy
- Gas Anesthesia
- Rodent Imaging Technology

www.district8.org  
www.wbaalas.org

## CODE OF ETHICS

The Code of Ethics for members of AALAS has been adopted by the Board of Trustees to promote and maintain the highest standards of professional and personal conduct among its members. Adherence to these standards is required for membership in the Association and serves to assure public confidence in the integrity and service of AALAS members.

- Maintain the highest standard of personal conduct.
- Promote and encourage the highest level of ethics within the profession of laboratory animal science.
- Maintain loyalty to the profession of laboratory animal science and pursue its objective in ways that are consistent with the public interest.
- Recognize and discharge my responsibility and that of my position to uphold all laws and regulations relating to the profession of laboratory animal science.
- Strive for excellence in all aspects of the profession of laboratory animal science.

- Use only legal and ethical means in all professional activities.
- Maintain the confidentiality of privileged information entrusted or known to me by virtue of my position.
- Refuse to engage in, or countenance, activities for personal gain at the expense of the profession of laboratory animal science.
- Always communicate associated internal and external statements in a truthful and accurate manner.
- Cooperate in every reasonable and proper way with others and work with them in the advancement of the profession of laboratory animal science.
- Use every opportunity to improve public understanding of the role of the profession of laboratory animal science.

(Extracted from AALAS Webpage  
04/06/08)

<http://www.aalas.org/>

**Contact SVAALAS:**  
svbaalas@gmail.com  
www.svaalas.org