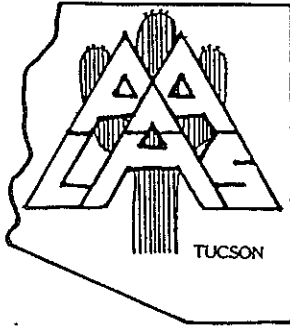


American Association For Laboratory Animal Science



ARIZONA BRANCH NEWSLETTER LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE "AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE"

April 1993

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GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting was held March 19, 1993 at noon at the College of Medicine in Room 1119BC. Vice President Cindy Richner called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. She announced that the first item on the agenda speaker, Stephen Wilson on "A Fetal Thymus Organ Culture Study of Type I Diabetes" followed by the branch business meeting.

President Casey Kilcullen-Steiner thanked everyone for attending. She stated that the last day to enter an abstract for the National meeting in Tennessee was March 12 and that 2 people from University Animal Care had sent in abstracts.

Casey mentioned that registration forms for District Eight in San Diego (March 22-26) are finally out. She has a copy if anyone is interested. They are still looking for abstracts and if you would like more information call Pete Willhite (619) 534-4262 or fax (619) 534-7316. Two abstracts have already been accepted from Arizona Branch members: Casey with "The Report Came Back Positive. NOW WHAT? A Case Study of SDAV Outbreak in a Multi-Use Conventional Laboratory Animal Environment," and Grace with "Educating the Public about Animal Research."

Casey thanked Cindy for doing such a great job getting speakers for the general meetings. She also reminded everyone that Assistant Chief Harry Hueston with UAPD and Lieutenant Ger Muehle of TPD will be giving "An Update on Animal Right's Activism" on March 24 in DuVal Auditorium at noon.

Casey thanked Grace, Brenda Kulik, Cindy, Cheryl Johnson, Louise Brooks and herself for bringing in refreshments to the meeting. In the future we will be asking for volunteers to bring refreshments.

Grace gave an update on the Symposium for this year. She had some problems reaching Stuart Houston up at W.L. Gore in Flagstaff and discovered he had been out of town. She did finally reach him, Dave Moddrelle and Dennis Dreher who are coordinating the meeting. They don't feel that they can get one done for this year and so suggested that they do it next in 1994 and 1995 to keep the proposed schedule of meetings intact. As we had wanted to combine the proposal for 1994 with the District meeting in 1996 to

ensure a price lock at the hotel on rates it was suggested we try to do it this year. Grace will look into the possibility of this. Jacie Gregus, Cindy, Andi Mitchell and Cheryl volunteered to help with the planning. As attendance on the ½ day of the session is usually so low it was decided to make the meeting a single day event. Casey had sign-up sheets available to volunteer to help with the meeting in 1996.

We have begun planning the Annual Picnic Social and need to check with the membership on preference of parks: Reid Park or Ft Lowell. It was decided to go for Ft Lowell and Grace will contact Parks and Recreation to reserve a ramada.

Cheryl reminded everyone to look at the changes in the certification procedures that were highlighted in the Branch Newsletter.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

SPONSORS

If you are interested in placing an ad in the newsletter the following price schedules are in effect:

\$30 for business card size ad

\$60 for 1/2 page ad

\$40 for 1/4 page size

\$85 for full page ad

Each ad will run four times during the year. In addition, if your organization has any more general announcements and/or articles which would be of interest to our members, please feel free to send them to us for publication. Please send copy to Newsletter Editor: University of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721.

REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS - 1993

Arizona has had a branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science since July of 1985. For those of you not familiar with this organization, AALAS serves as a clearing house for the collection and exchange of information on all aspects of the care and management of laboratory animals. Membership in the local chapter is only \$5/year.

Please send your check or money order made out to **Arizona Branch AALAS**, University of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721. Or call her at (602) 621-1330.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE IN 1993

Beginning in January we will be offering our vendors institutional membership to the Arizona Branch of AALAS. For just \$50 they receive 2 branch memberships and one business card size ad which will be run for 4 issues of the Arizona AALAS Newsletter. For more information call Grace at (602) 621-1330.

OPPORTUNITY FOR AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

As of May 1992, the *AALAS Bulletin*, now called *Contemporary Topics in Laboratory Animal Science*, is no longer shipped in bulk to the branches, and certification examination fees, which have not been adjusted since the early '70's, increased. Non-national members who participate in this certification program will be charged an additional \$50 at each level. Branch members now have an opportunity to affiliate with the national organization. The Arizona Branch has purchased a Branch Membership in National AALAS and any member in good standing of the Arizona Branch may become an affiliate of National by simply paying an additional \$50 or \$20 respectively. By joining as a Member Branch, we can create a low cost vehicle for all branch members to affiliate with the national organization. The following two types of membership are still available:

Institutional Full Membership (\$50): Receives *Contemporary Topics in Laboratory Animal Science*, *Laboratory Animal Science*, the *Membership Directory*, and discounts for materials and services. They are eligible to vote for national officers, hold national office, and chair national committees

Institutional Affiliate (\$20): Receives *Contemporary Topics in Laboratory Animal Science* and discounts for annual meeting registration, certification examinations, and other materials and services. They do not receive *Laboratory Animal Science* and are not eligible to vote for national officers, or chair national committees.

Name: _____ Degree(s): _____
Title/Position: _____ Phone: _____
Department: _____ Soc Sec Num: _____
Certification level: ALAT _____ LAT _____ LATG _____ Other _____

Please make checks payable to **AALAS** and send to: Arizona AALAS, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721. For more information call Grace at (602) 621-1330.

What's New In The News

MAJOR CHANGES IN AALAS CERTIFICATION

By Ron Larson, REB Chair of SWAALAS

The national AALAS has identified the technician certification program as one of it's major efforts. The success of the program over many years is self evident. In recognition of it's high value, however, AALAS has set a course to continually improve this already successful program.

At the 1992 annual meeting in Anaheim the AALAS committee which oversees the program, the Animal Technician Certification Board, ATCB, announced a number of major changes in the certification program. A number of these will take place immediately. Others are going to be studied more before they are rolled out in their final form. the following paragraphs describe those changes. Please read carefully if you have any intention of applying for the certification exam in the near future. These changes may well affect you.

Exam Windows and Application Deadlines

A decision has been implemented to change the four examination windows of the past to three examination windows in 1993.

Slide Sets - Slides have been completely eliminated from the examination process effective with the January exam. Over the past several years there have been numerous comments about the quality of the slide portion of the examination. The ATCB eliminated enough slides that the slide portion of the examination was no longer valid in their opinion. As a result they have eliminated it. Wherever necessary the plan is to use graphic representation as a part of the written question if it is important to a particular question. As a consequence of this decision, the total number of questions for the Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician exam has been reduced from 140 to 100 questions. The Laboratory Animal Technician and Laboratory Animal Technologist examinations remain at 140 questions.

Provisional Certification

Provisional certification has been completely eliminated effective immediately. This decision was reached by the ATCB as a reaffirmation that practical experience in a laboratory animal facility was essential to being fully certified. There was also a strong opinion that the status of "provisionally certified" has been misused in the past and considered by many to be the equivalent of full certification.

Affiliate Membership

This portion of the process will not change in 1993. Applicants who are a part of institutions that are "institutional members" may apply to be affiliate members at a cost of \$20. This application can be made separately or at the same time as the certification application. If you are interested in this membership, please see the branch secretary/treasurer Grace Aranda (602-621-1330). Several other changes are anticipated in the future. It was felt by the ATCB that these changes required further discussion before implementation.

National Testing Service

If the details can be worked out it is highly likely that the exam will be administered by a national testing service in the future. This will have pluses and minuses depending on your location. A likely plus is that a person will be able to apply and take the exam when

it is mutually convenient to them and to the testing service. The downside is that the testing services are not located in every city that has a testing branch. The location of the testing service will not be known until one is selected. It would be necessary for examinees to travel to the testing service location to take the exam.

Regional Examining Boards (REB)

Administration of the examination by the testing service would eliminate the need for REB members to be involved in proctoring examinations. It is likely that REBs as they currently exist would be eliminated. Exam applications would be made directly to the national testing service. The positive side of this is that it would eliminate the tedious double check system that is currently in place. The down side is that the "user friendly" way of dealing with incomplete applications would no longer exist. If the exam applicant were not able to fill out the application properly, it would simply be returned to them.

Examination Requirements

The ATCB plans a complete review of the requirements to take each level of the certification examination. These requirements have not been comprehensively reviewed for a number of years and they may change.

Let me close by emphasizing that the last few issues are under discussion at this point and no final decisions have been made. I am personally supportive of much of this change. The group making the decisions is the ATCB, a standing committee of the national AALAS.

If you have an opinion on these issues please write to the chairman of the ATCB at the following address: **John Worsing DVM, Director of Laboratory Animal Resources, Medical Research Division, American Cyanid Co., North Middletown Rd, Bldg 56B, Rm 234, Pearl River, NY 10965**

1993 Examination Dates

Examination Date	Applications Due to REB, chair
January 15-31	October 20, 1992
May 15-31	February 20, 1993
September 1-15	June 1, 1993

AALAS Members Have Their Own Bulletin Board System for Conferences, E-Mail, etc.

It's called LAB ANIMAL BULLETIN BOARD SYSTEM (LABBS). LABBS is dedicated to information exchange among those working in the field of laboratory animal science. In laboratory animal science, we use a variety of tools every day to exchange information. Devices like the telephone and fax machine, and print media like newsletters and journals are familiar and useful to us. Yet there are probably times when you want to consult multiple sources or have the need to broadcast a message to a wide audience quickly. This is now possible via the latest means of information exchange, an electronic bulletin board system. Sponsored by AALAS, this service is available to all national AALAS members. For those unfamiliar with computer bulletin boards, they function much like the cork bulletin board you see in the hallway. An increasingly popular means of dynamic mass communication, the LABBS is split into several conferences where different groups or interests can exchange either public or private electronic mail. Programs or text files also can be uploaded or downloaded from the LABBS. Examples include lecture notes, local newsletter items, job notices, etc. LABBS can provide ready access to experts in practically any lab animal field imaginable, as well as to the AALAS national office staff. Now veterinarians and managers have easy and rapid access to other AALAS members on the system to exchange ideas, problems, messages, and files. **Contact Enrique Morales at AALAS: (901) 754-8620 for further details.**

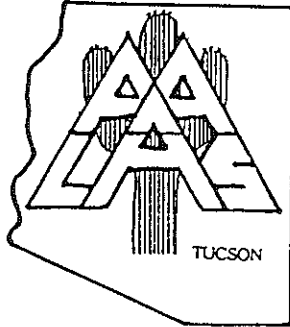
Ron Orta Joins Allentown Caging Equipment Company, Inc.

Allentown Caging Equipment Company, Inc. is proud to announce that Mr. Ron Orta has joined their sales staff and will be representing Allentown as their Technical Consultant on the west coast. Mr. Orta, a long-time resident of the Northwest had recently moved to Texas while associated with Research Equipment Company Inc. as director of sales and marketing. He will be representing Allentown in the same territory that he had for REC prior to his move to Texas. Ron will be responsible for the following states: California, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Alaska, Washington, Wyoming as well as western Canada. Mr. Orta's vast experience in the laboratory animal field will be a complementing asset to allentown and their excellent staff in promoting their fine line of caging and equipment. Ron is really excited about the expanded line of products he will now be representing. He is particularly excited about Allentown's line of plastic cages and expanding that market for them on the west coast.

REMINDER - 1993 CHARLES RIVER SHORT COURSE

There are still limited spaces available for the 1993 Charles River Short Course. Anyone interested in attending should make an inquiry as soon as possible. It will be held June 14-16, 1993 at the Marriott Hotel, Andover, MA. Track 1 is designed for veterinarians preparing for the ACLAM boards and Track 2 for laboratory managers and supervisors seeking to better their knowledge of specific laboratory animal issues. **For further information, please call Deborah Ruggiero at (508) 658-6000, ext. 468.**

American Association For Laboratory Animal Science



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

TIME TO SEND IN YOUR NOMINATIONS
FOR TECHNICIAN/MEMBER OF THE YEAR.

Do you know someone who is a good worker? Someone who gets along with everyone? Someone who constantly strives to improve their work? Well you may know our next Technician/Member of the Year!

Nominations are now being accepted for this years' Technician/Member of the Year Awards. Only members in good standing may nominate. These awards will be presented at the Annual Dinner. Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- a. Must be a member in good standing of the Arizona Branch of AALAS.
- b. Must have a year's worth of animal/animal related experience.
- c. Must be personable and get along with investigators and co-workers.
- d. Must make contributions to make operations run better.
- e. Must hold supervisor position or below.

Any questions, call Grace at 602-621-1330.

Nominations must be submitted to Grace Aranda, Bldg 101, Central Animal Facility, Tucson, AZ 86721 no later than Friday, April 30, 1993.

**ARIZONA BRANCH OF AALAS
1993 NOMINATION FORM FOR MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

JOB TITLE: _____

YEARS MEMBERSHIP IN AALAS (Check All Applicable):

NATIONAL: _____

AZ-AALAS: _____

LIST AND DESCRIBE ANY SERVICE (s) CONTRIBUTED TO THE BRANCH:

LIST AND DESCRIBE ANY OTHER ANIMAL RELATED ACTIVITIES:

SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: _____ **DATE:** _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION AND EVALUATION BY April 30,1993

TO: Grace Aranda/U of A, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721

**ARIZONA BRANCH OF AALAS
1993 NOMINATION FORM FOR TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR**

Name of Nominee _____

Job Title _____

Place of Employment _____

Years a member of AALAS: _____ Arizona Branch
 _____ National

Level of Certification to Date:

____ AALAS Assistant Lab Animal Technician
____ AALAS Laboratory Animal Technician
____ AALAS Laboratory Animal Technologist
____ Certified Veterinary Technician
____ Other: _____

Educational Background:

Diploma/Degree

High School _____

College _____

Graduate School _____

Other _____

Special Courses: _____

Current Job Description: _____

Duties: _____

Years Working with Laboratory Animals or in the Laboratory Animal Field: _____

Describe Nominee's Participation in the Animal Care Field Outside of Work (ie. docents at the zoo, presenting papers at meetings, teaching training sessions, clubs, memberships, etc.): _____

Proficiencies (accomplishments, contributions, continuing education, AALAS participation, etc.) _____

Evaluation by immediate Supervisor (consider aspects such as character, personal habits, interest in advancement of self and animal care, job efficiency, and overall knowledge of laboratory animal science)

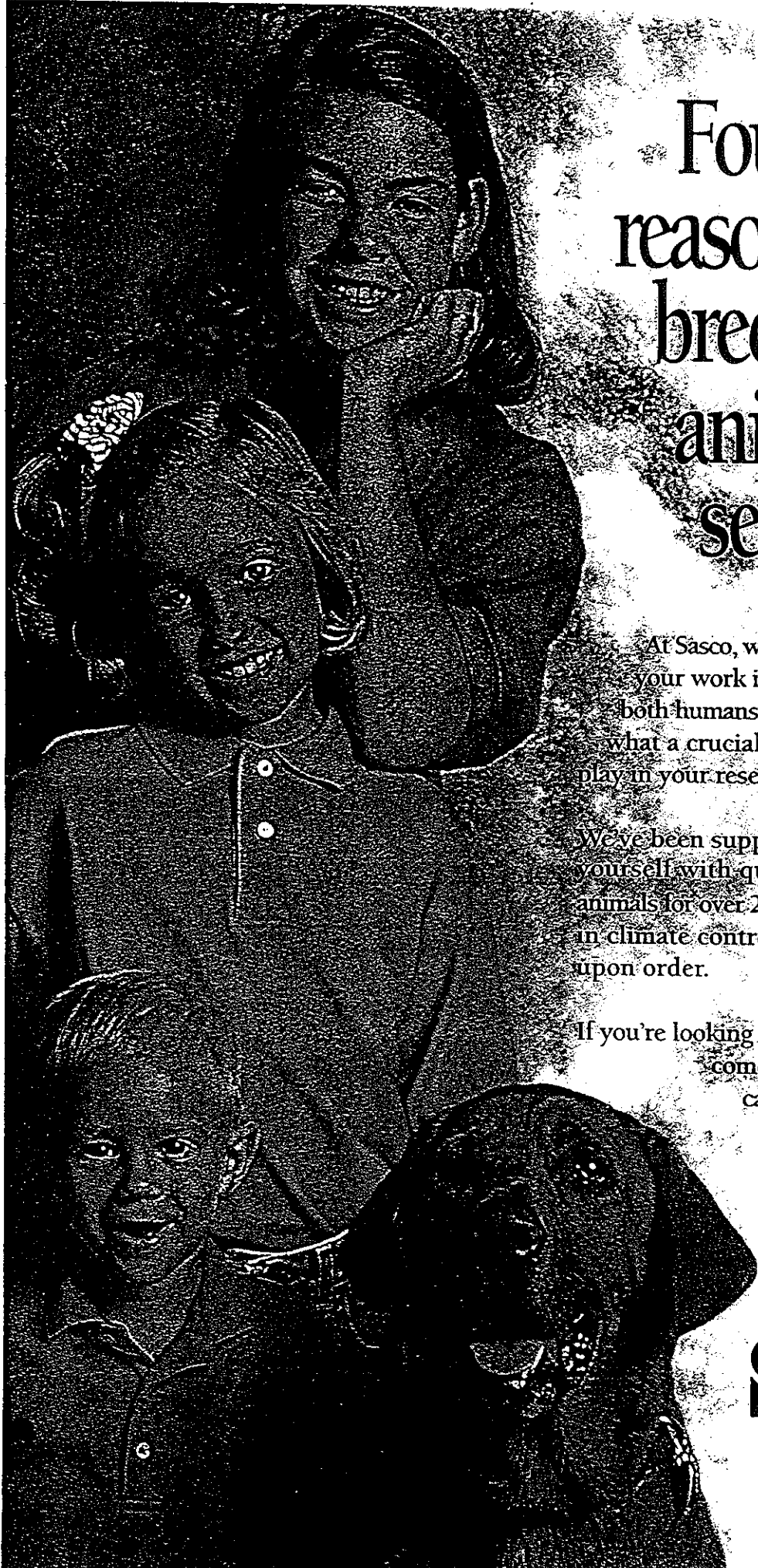
Signature, Immediate Supervisor

Date

Signature of Nominator

Date

In order to be accepted this form must be returned by April 30, 1993 to:
Grace Aranda/ U of A, Bldg. 101, Room 114, Tucson, AZ 85721



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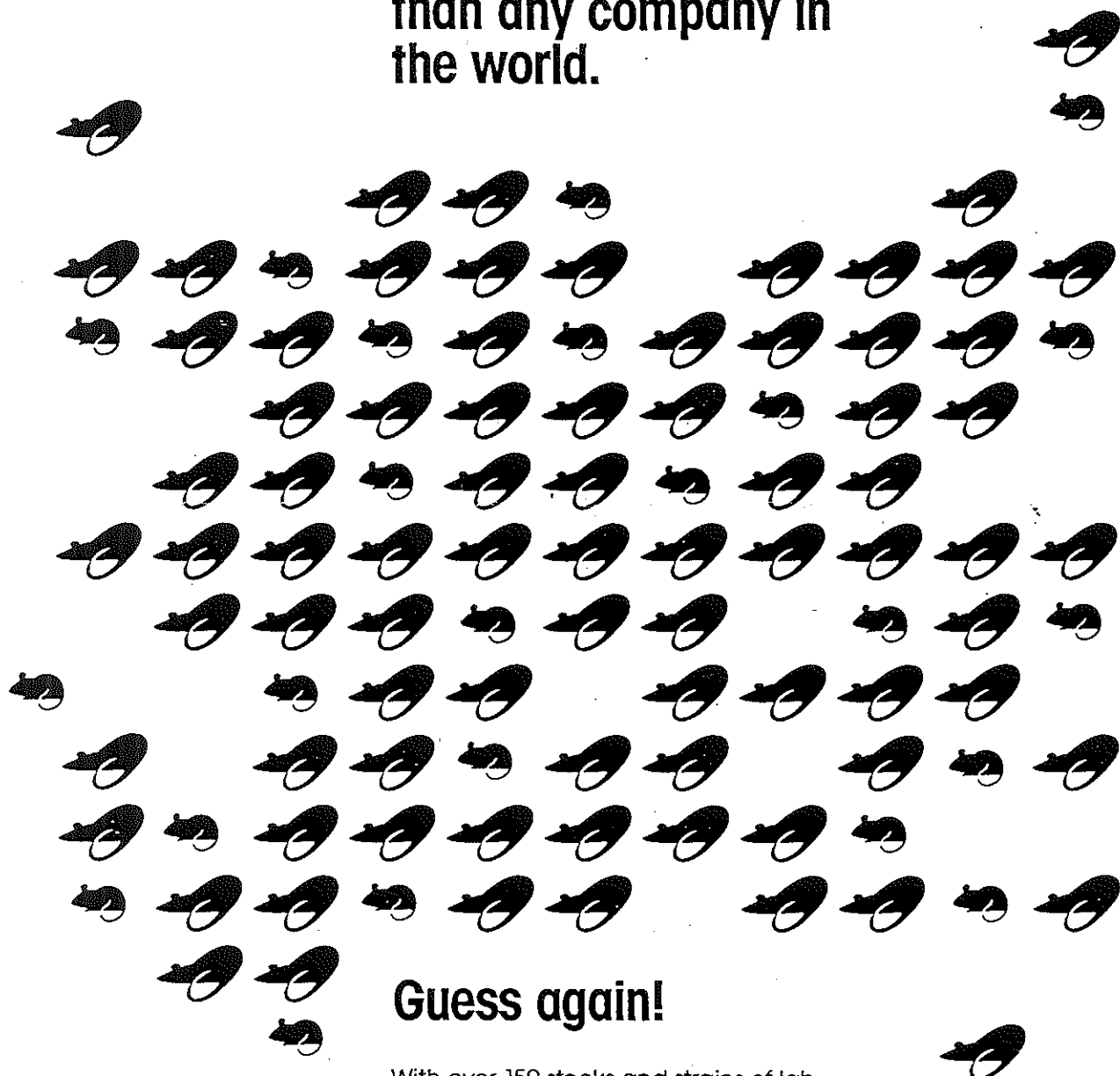
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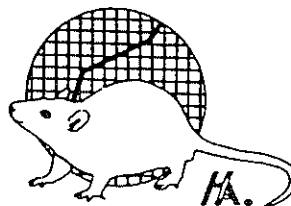
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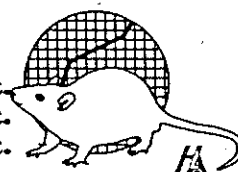
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* Please inform us of any address change.