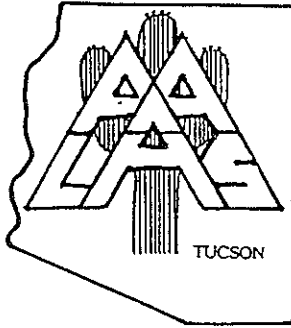


# American Association For Laboratory Animal Science



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

**JULY 1994**

*Other branches of AALAS may reprint without prior permission any portion of the contents of this newsletter, provided proper author, title and publication credits, where applicable, are given. The editorial board reserves the right to edit information submitted for publication in the newsletter.*

### GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting was held at the College of Medicine in Room 1119BC on June 13, 1994. President Tim Martin called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Tim announced that Dr. Stuart Houston of W.L. Gore & Associates had recently passed away. A suggestion had been made that the branch donate money to the Arizona Heart Center in his name. It was suggested that \$100.00 be donated, a vote was taken and unanimously approved. Grace Aranda will be asked to prepare the donation.

Tim went over the results of his survey, only 27 out of 1000 were returned. There is overwhelming need and support by the branch to offer hands-on training sessions. Karen Blohm, Jane Criswell and Cheryl Johnson will serve as investigators on a training protocol submitted to the UA IACUC. The Education Committee has been working on the first lab, which will hopefully be offered during the last week of July.

Tim reminded members about the annual picnic, which will be held on Saturday, June 18, at Reid Park in Tucson. A behind-the-scenes tour of the Reid Park Zoo will begin at 11:00 a.m. and members of the branch are encouraged to attend. There will be no-charge for the tour.

The National AALAS is asking for donations from every branch for a revenue raising raffle that will be held during the 1994 National Convention. The donation should be representative of our state. Anyone with suggestions should contact Kathy Stollberg at (602) 626-5015.

Tim reminded everyone to get their nominations for Technician and Member of the Year turned in as soon as possible to Mallory Spring.

Cheryl Johnson gave a summary of the District 8 meeting in Seattle.

This year's Fall Symposium will be held in Flagstaff on September 30 and October 1, at the Little America Hotel. Room rates are \$58.00 single occupancy, \$68.00 double, and \$10.00 for each additional person. A call for papers and registration information is included in the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m. and then Jose Orozco, M.D., gave a wonderful presentation on "Stereotaxic Ventriculostomy in Rabbits."

## **OFFICERS**

### **President**

Tim Martin (602)621-1640

### **Vice President**

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### **Immediate Past President**

Casey Kilcullen-Steiner (602)626-2055

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Brenda Kulik (94) (602)770-1259

### **Technician Branch Representative**

Cheryl Johnson (602)626-6706

## **COMMITTEES**

### **Awards**

Mallory Spring (C) (602)626-2026

### **Education**

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### **Membership**

Kathy Stollberg (602)626-5015

### **Newsletter**

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### **Speakers**

Karmen Munson (C) (602)621-1398

## **DISTRICT 8 TRUSTEES**

Casey Kilcullen-Steiner (602)626-2055

Beth Ford (619)554-8280

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

The past six months have been very busy. The Board amended the Constitution and By-Laws, which were approved by majority of the voting members. An Education Committee was formed to establish hands-on continuing education sessions. It appears that the Branch will be offering it's first wet-lab, "Handling, Restraint, and Techniques of Rodents" sometime in August, so keep an eye out for a future correspondence regarding the session. During this first session, we are also hoping to offer hands-on training for techniques using reptiles and amphibians. We also need volunteers for various committees and speakers for our General Meetings. It is a great opportunity to rehearse a presentation for national or state meetings.

I would like to take this time to thank our members in Flagstaff, who have been and are still working diligently on the Arizona Branch of AALAS Annual Fall Symposium to be held on September 30 and October 1, at the Little America in Flagstaff. They are in need of volunteers, anyone interested should contact Dennis Dreher at (602)779-2771. I look forward to meeting with many of our members there. So come meet at the Pines!

The date and site for the 1996 District 8 Meeting, which we will be hosting, have been established; it will held at the Doubletree Hotel in Tucson, May 19 - 23, 1996. There is still a lot that needs to be done! The Branch needs volunteers for a variety of committees for the 1996 District 8 meeting.

I am making a plea for all members to get involved with the Branch. The Branch was established for everyone who has an interest in, takes care of, or uses research animals. It offers an opportunity to meet with others and discuss related items. There are many out there who have a lot of information and expertise to offer to a group such as ours, but the Branch can only be as good as the members that participate.

**So get involved today!**

## **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 - 1994**

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 Kathy at (602) 626-5015.

## **REPORT FROM THE 1994 DISTRICT EIGHT CONVENTION - BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON**

May 15 - 18, 1994 - Attending this year's meeting from the Arizona Branch were Grace Aranda and Cheryl Johnson as the 1993 Member and Technician of the Year as well as Tim Martin and Casey Kilcullen-Steiner. Among the workshops available at this year's meeting were: *Containing Contagion: Proper Use of Biosafety Cabinets*, *How To Make A Soundbite: On Camera Interviews with the News Media*, and *Tips for Training Trainers and Teaching Technicians*.

## **ITEM REVIEW OF CERTIFICATION EXAM QUESTIONS**

The Animal Technician Certification Board (ATCB) is still looking for AALAS certified Technicians, Technologists or veterinarians interested in writing exam questions for the AALAS certification exams. Questions written will be evaluated and processed by Professional Exam Services (PES). Feedback will be given on your questions. For more information please contact Sharon Jahn at (916)752-7077x2364.

## **ATTENTION TECHNICIANS**

AALAS is interested in your experience as a technician. Get involved and share your knowledge. Each time *Contemporary Topics* is published there is a section for a technical tips by technicians.

Please make an effort to submit an article for the COLAT (Committee of Laboratory Animal Technicians) BRIEF of *Contemporary Topics*. Call Cheryl Johnson at (602) 626-6706 if you would like some help or additional information.

## **1994 FALL SYMPOSIUM - FLAGSTAFF**

Come Meet At the Peaks! The Arizona Branch is setting up it's program for the 1994 Fall Symposium to be held in beautiful Flagstaff, Arizona. A copy of the abstract form is included in this newsletter; all entries are welcome. **Abstracts Due August 1, 1994!** Registration for this year's meeting will be \$45. The meeting will be held at the Little America Hotel (2515 East Butler Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86004. For hotel reservations call 1-800-352-4386). The cost of the rooms are \$58 single, \$68 double (\$10 each additional person) tax 9.05%. The cutoff date to preregister for the meeting and to reserve a room is September 15, 1994. For more information call Grace (602)621-1330.

## **SEARCHING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

This year we are trying to encourage more involvement. If you would like to volunteer for one of the following committees contact Tim Martin at (602)621-1640.

Membership - This committee is tasked to actively solicit applications for membership.

Program - This committee is responsible for selection of speakers, papers, films, etc for presentation at branch meetings

Nominating & Election - This committee shall select at least 2 candidates for each vacated elective office for the following year. Further they will prepare and distribute a ballot to each member for voting

Education & Training - This committee will conduct educational classes with the express intention of preparing participants for certification testing

## **AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE**

**Nominations are being accepted until July 29** for this year's Technician and Member of the Year Awards. Only members in good standing may nominate and be nominated. These awards will be presented at the Fall Symposium. Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Must be a member in good standing of the Arizona Branch of AALAS
- ✓ Must have a year's worth of animal/animal related experience

### **Member of the Year**

Nominee has exhibited devotion in personal time to assist in organization of programs, workshops, and other functions provided by the branch. Nominee encourages active participation within the branch, works diligently to meet deadlines, regardless of other daily

obligations. Nominee volunteers to assist fellow members and provide support when needed. Education through meeting attendance along with active membership in the branch are viewed important for continued growth in the field of laboratory animal science. Exceptional accomplishments may include measures to encourage animal welfare in research, active participation in the local and national organizations for continued education, any paper presentation, articles or awards received to recognize exceptional contributions to the field of laboratory animal science along with active participation in community education and support.

### Technician of the Year

Nominee demonstrates a positive attitude and a dedicated approach to the betterment of animal care through technical performance and education at their facility. Individual accomplishments may include participation in the AALAS certification process, assistance in facility training for fellow technicians, and the addition of personal certificates/diplomas earned in animal care related education. Any facility project initiated by a nominee to alleviate animal distress, enhance facility management, decrease animal numbers, or encourage skills in animal nursing should be recognized. Exceptional accomplishments may include measures to encourage animal welfare in research, active participation in the local and national organizations for continued education, any paper presentation, articles or awards received to recognize exceptional contributions to the field of laboratory animal science along with active participation in community education and support. Must hold supervisor position or below.

**Nomination forms are included in this newsletter and must be returned by July 29, 1994.**

### WHAT'S NEW IN THE NEWS

The Arizona Branch recently suffered the loss of one of its dedicated members. **Stuart Houston**, DVM, 52, of **Flagstaff**, died May 26, 1994. He was born in Flagstaff and attended Northern Arizona University and Colorado State University, Fort Collins. He served as Arizona AALAS Regional Examining Board for Northern Arizona repeatedly and will be deeply missed. Dr. Houston received a heart transplant in 1990 at University Medical Center in Tucson. He later worked as a spokesman for the Tucson hospital and counseled transplant patients. Survivors include his wife, Sheryl; daughter, Michelle; son, Christopher; stepdaughter, Cara; father, H. Stuart; and a sister, Vassi Vandergrift. Contributions can be made to: University of Arizona Heart Center, Arizona Health Science Center, 1501 N. Campbell Ave., Tucson, AZ 85724.

*The Branch made a donation of \$100 to the Arizona Heart Center in Dr Houston's name and received the following response:*

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your gift for the University Heart Center in memory of Dr Stuart Houston. Contributing to a healthier future is a lasting remembrance for those we cared about in a special way. We have notified Mrs Houston of your thoughtfulness.

University Heart center - Arizona's finest cardiovascular resource - is dedicated to the prevention and cure of heart and vascular disease through research, education and patient care. The center not only does most of all cardiovascular research in the state of Arizona, but through its diverse educational programs will speed the application and dissemination of new knowledge

about heart disease. The construction of the University Heart center building will provide critically needed space so that our team of eminent physicians and scientists can expand and accelerate their efforts to conquer the nations #1 killer.

Only through support such as yours will we succeed. Your gift will help make our vision for a world-class cardiovascular center a reality. Thank you for becoming part of the future of University Heart Center.

Sincerely, Gordon Ewy, M.D., Director, University Heart Center

The Purina Mills Laboratory Animal Technician Award is the oldest award in AALAS, and considered by many to be the most prestigious.

Purina Mills invites you, your associates or anyone in your organization to submit nominations for this award. The unique feature of this award is that from the nominees, the winner is chosen by his/her peers. The selection committee is comprised of the previous three years' winners. This year's committee will consist of Sharon Jahn, Fred Douglas and Debbie Donohue.

Candidates will be chosen based on experience, animal care activities, and contributions to the advancement of all aspects of the animal technician field. The winner will be awarded a check in the amount of \$500 and a distinguished Purina Mills Laboratory Animal Technician Award plaque.

Please submit your recommendations along with a manuscript detailing the candidate's professional experience, his or her contributions to the advancement of technicians, a list of his or her published works, presentations and awards, national and state animal care activities, and a summary of "why you believe the nominee should receive the award". Please also include nominee's telephone number.

All nominees will receive the same careful and professional consideration. Please don't delay. Send your nomination to: Purina Mills, c/o Dr. Bill Sadler, P.O. Box 66821, St. Louis, MO 63166

## **CERTIFICATION EXAMS - Answers to Questions about the Certification Program**

*How do I get a certification application or information about the AALAS Animal Technician Certification Program?*

Contact the AALAS office, 70 Timber Creek Drive, Cordova, TN 38018; (901) 754-8620. The office will send you an application request card to send to the Professional Examination Service to request a candidate information package. Please do not contact the Professional Examination Service directly as this will only delay your request.

*How do I apply for an examination?*

Carefully read the applicant information package. If you meet the criterion complete the application and return it in the self-addressed envelope to the Professional Examination Service for processing. If your application is complete and you meet the criterion for examination, you will be sent a post card notifying you that you are eligible to take the exam. If your application is returned because you do not meet the requirements or because the application is not complete, you will be required to send an additional \$25.00 fee when you resubmit your application.

*When are examinations offered?*

The examinations will be administered via computers at over 250 testing sites around the country. When you receive your post card advising you that you are eligible to take the examination, you will call the testing site and schedule

the examination. Exams may be scheduled at the applicants convenience, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*How and when will I receive the results of my exam?*

Because the examination questions have been rewritten, they must be re-validated before results can be released. One hundred examinations are required at a given level to validate the questions at this level. After the initial 100 examination have been administered at a level, examinees will receive their results immediately at the testing center when they complete the examination. If you pass, a letter of acknowledgement and an individually numbered certificate will be forwarded to you at a later date.

*What are the requirements for AALAS certification?* The requirements are as follows:

Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician (ALAT)

- Graduate of a two-year degree program, (AA, AAS, or AS) in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited program; or
- Graduate of a four-year BA/BS program in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited program; or
- Licensed DVM
- High school diploma or GED and upon completion or one year of animal care experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number

Laboratory Animal Technician (LAT)

- ALAT certification and one year of additional experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Graduate of a two-year program (AA,AAS,AS) in Veterinary Technology from an accredited program and two-years of additional animal care related experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Graduate of a four-year BA/BS program in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited program; or
- Licensed DVM; or
- High school diploma or GED and upon completion of three years of animal care experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance

Laboratory Animal Technologist (LATG)

- LAT certification and one year of additional experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Graduate of a two-year program (AA,AAS,AS) in Veterinary Technology from an accredited program and two-years of additional animal care related experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Graduate of a four-year BA/BS program in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited program and three years additional experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance number; or
- Licensed DVM; or
- High school diploma or GED and upon completion of three years of animal care experience in an approved facility, defined as a facility with either a USDA registration, AAALAC accreditation or PHS assurance

*How does the Professional Examination Service verify my employment?*

The applicant must provide proof of the dates and duties involved for each employer listed. In addition, approximately 10% of the applications will be carefully screened by AALAS to verify the applicant's employment information. Applicants who misrepresent their credentials may be permanently barred from the certification program.

How much does it cost to take the certification exam?

Fees for 1994 will be as follows:

LEVEL	NATIONAL MEMBER	NON MEMBER
ALAT	\$125	\$250
LAT	\$150	\$300
LATG	\$175	\$350

The current refund policy allows for all but \$25 to be returned to unqualified applicants.

*Please note: Copies of membership cards must be sent with the application form, and membership fees may no longer be sent with the application. Therefore, to qualify for the member rate, you must obtain your AALAS membership and receive your membership card before sending your application form. If you have any questions contact Cheryl Johnson at (602)626-6706.*

## **LAMA - What Is It And What Can It Do For You by Patty Jenkins**

Springborn Laboratories, Spencerville, Ohio

LAMA (Laboratory Animal Management Association) is a group of supervisors, managers, directors, and future management people who continually network to "Enhance the quality of management and care of laboratory animals throughout the world."

Laboratory animal management used to deal with housing, nutrition and basic animal husbandry. Today's management deals with these items in addition to laboratory security, implementation of new laws and regulations, computerization, recordkeeping, refined scientific techniques, new animal models, employee health, safety and training programs.

HOW DO YOU AS A MANAGER KEEP UP WITH ALL OF THIS? LAMA's objectives are to 1) promote the dissemination of ideas, experiences, and knowledge, 2) encourage continued education, 3) act as a spokesperson, 4) actively assist in the training of managers and as any member can tell you, 5) be there when you need help.

Have you ever had a problem and were unable to find someone who could help you solve it? Since joining LAMA, I have met and networked with the people who have helped me solve these problems. LAMA and the people in it are very committed to the profession of laboratory animal management and any member is more than willing to assist you whenever they can.

What can you do for LAMA? Join, put your ideas, experiences and knowledge to work assisting in the education and training of our present and future laboratory animal managers.

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** **Laboratory Animal Management Association**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Office: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ National AALAS Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Animals or Animal Models: \_\_\_\_\_

Management Techniques: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Topics for Workshops or Seminars: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$30.00 per year. Make check payable to LAMA. Send to:

**LAMA \* Attn: Treasurer \* P.O. Box 1744 \* Silver Spring, MD 20915**



**Arizona Branch AALAS**  
**Rodent, Amphibian, Reptile**  
**Hands-On Training Session**

**Saturday, August 13, 1994**  
**8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Registration Fees**

**\$5          Members**

**\$10        Non-Members**

- ✓ Identification & Sexing**
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- ✓ Common Diseases**
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**For further information and registration  
call Tim Martin at 621-1330.**

***R.S.V.P. BY 7/29/94***

**ARIZONA BRANCH OF AALAS  
1994 NOMINATION FORM FOR MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

*Fill out as much of this form as you can then the branch will have the rest completed.*

**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 July 29, 1994**  
**TO: Mallory Spring, University of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721**

**ARIZONA BRANCH OF AALAS  
1994 NOMINATION FORM FOR TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR**

*Fill out as much of this form as you can then the branch will have the rest completed.*

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 July 29, 1994 to:  
Mallory Spring, University of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ  
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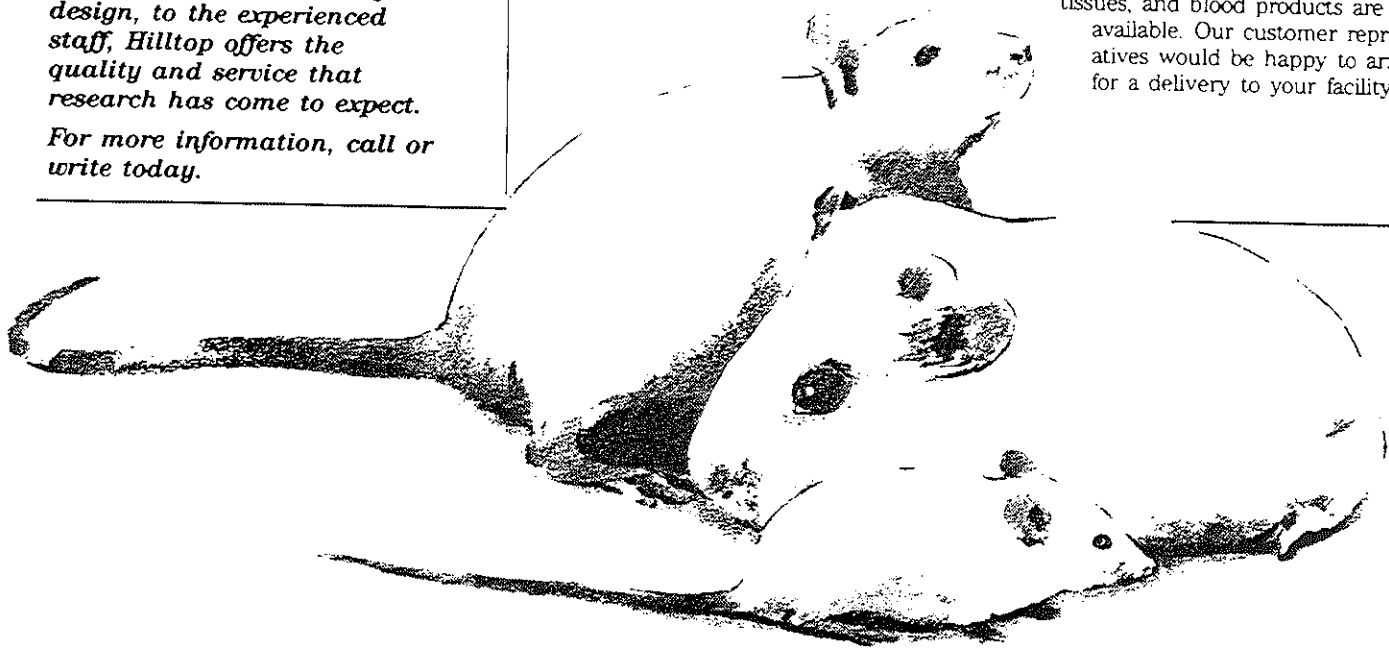
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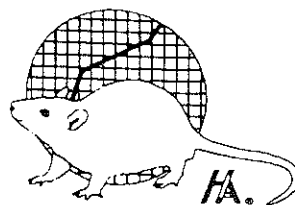
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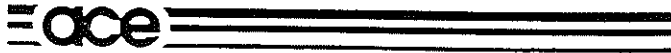
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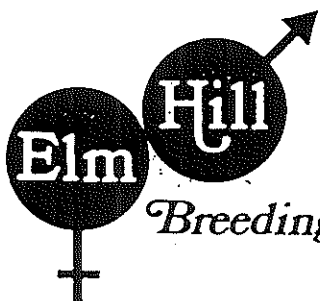
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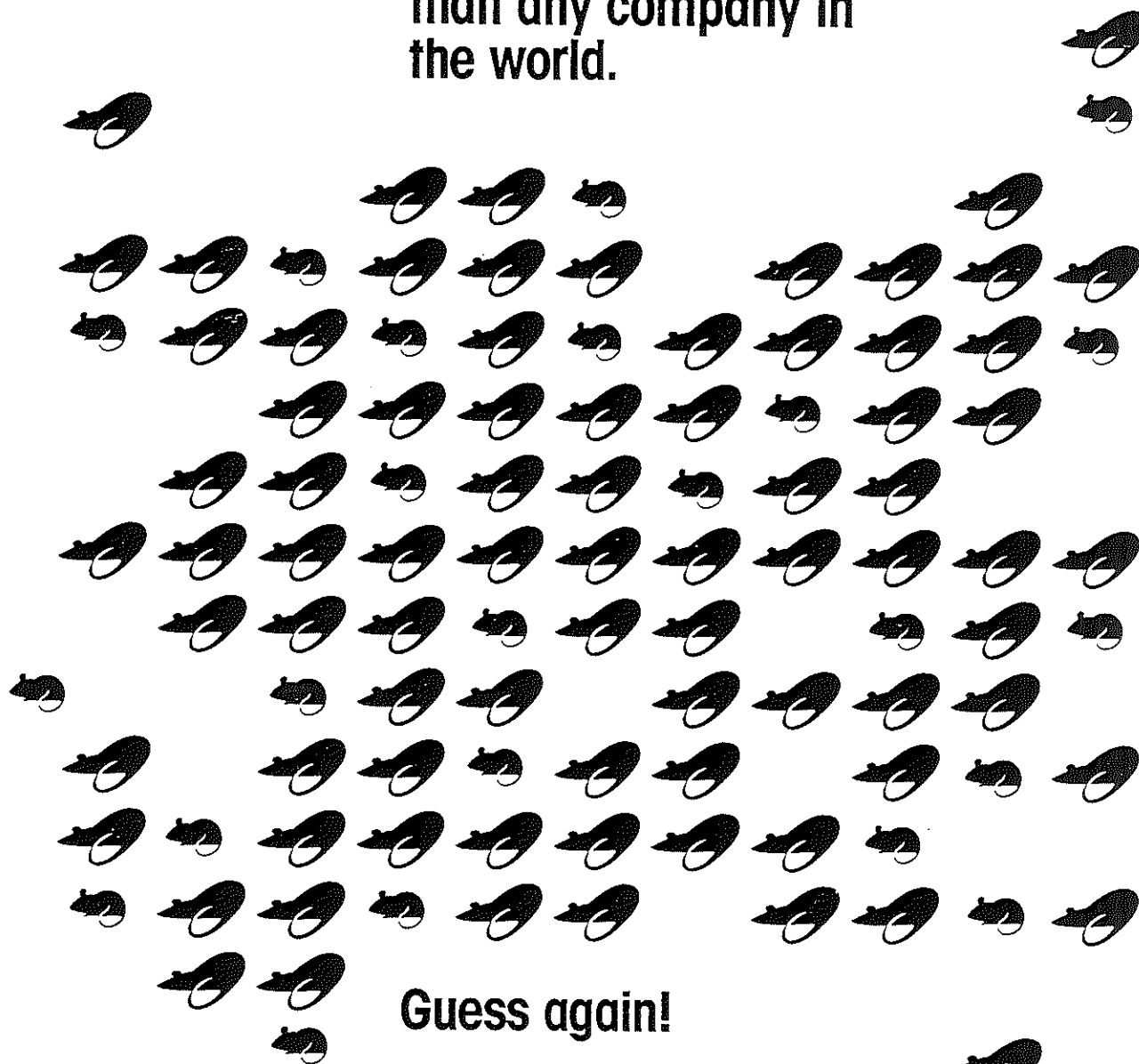
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