

Research Triangle Branch American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

RTB AALAS Newsletter June 2023

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President's Message

Hello RTB Members!

Wow, where does the time go? Can you believe we are already halfway through 2023?! As we all continue to regain some semblance of our pre-COVID normalcy, RTB AALAS Council and members have been busy planning future events and coming together to network with colleagues, lend a helping hand, and have fun doing it.

In May, we saw the return of our annual Trivia Night, Family Feud style, hosted at Duke's Hock Plaza. In true Family Feud fashion, the night was filled with fun, laughter, and buzzer beating. Thank you to our host Steve Harvey (aka Fernando Orozco) for putting the game together and thank you to all the members who participated in the lab animal question survey. Without your participation, we would not have been able to reveal what the "survey says..."

We have several exciting events planned for the 3rd quarter. In August, we will be hosting a Suture Dry Lab at NCSU CVM for anyone interested in learning basic suture techniques or those who want a refresher and practice. We will also have a guided group tour scheduled at the Duke Lemur Center in late August. Both events have limited spaces available and are expected to go fast, so don't delay, sign up now to grab your spot before someone else does!

As we race into summer, be sure to take some time to rest, relax, and recharge. Whether you take a trip to the beach, travel abroad, hang out by the pool, read a book, or spend time with your kids on summer break, do something that is fulfilling and makes you happy. Self-care is essential in our line of work! As always, thank you so much for being a member of RTB AALAS and for supporting this organization. We couldn't do it without each of you!

Sincerely,
Amanda Pacio
2023 RTB-AALAS President



2023 Executive Council

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Local Arrangements – <u>Emily Weston</u>

Nominations & Awards – <u>Morgan Holmes</u>

Membership & Webmaster – <u>Nora Dragon</u>



2nd Quarter

RTB AALAS 2023 Events

August 1st – Suture Dry Lab at NC State CVM
August 24th – Duke Lemur Center
September 27th – Annual Golf & Cornhole Tournament
October 11th – Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh
November 17th – Carolina Tiger Rescue Event
December 14th – Board Recruitment Social Event

MARK YOUR CHLENDAR!

RTB AALAS Summer Dry Lab

Is Suture in Your Future?

Date: August 1, 2023

Time: 12:15pm – 4pm

Where: NC State College of Veterinary Medicine

Directions and parking information will be sent to registrants prior to the event.

Which type of suture is truly non-absorbable? What type of suture is best for urinary bladder closure?

This hands-on lab will cover basic needle and suture types utilized in veterinary surgery. We will discuss the pros and cons of each type and discuss scenarios for appropriate use. We will then quench your thirst (it is a dry lab after all) by practicing basic knot tying and suture patterns with inanimate models. This lab is geared towards those who are new to suturing, those who have sutured before but need a refresher, or participants seeking a little extra bonding time with fellow RTB AALAS members!





Registration for RTB AALAS Members is <u>only \$10.00</u> per person and <u>ends July 28th</u>.

Registration includes Suture practice pad, suture supplies and parking.

There are only 30 spaces for this Lab, so register now... and earn 2 CEUs for participating!!!

Registration Open – Click <u>here</u> to register

Tentative Lab Schedule

12:15pm – Check in @ NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine

12:30pm – Tour of NCSU Laboratory Animal Resources

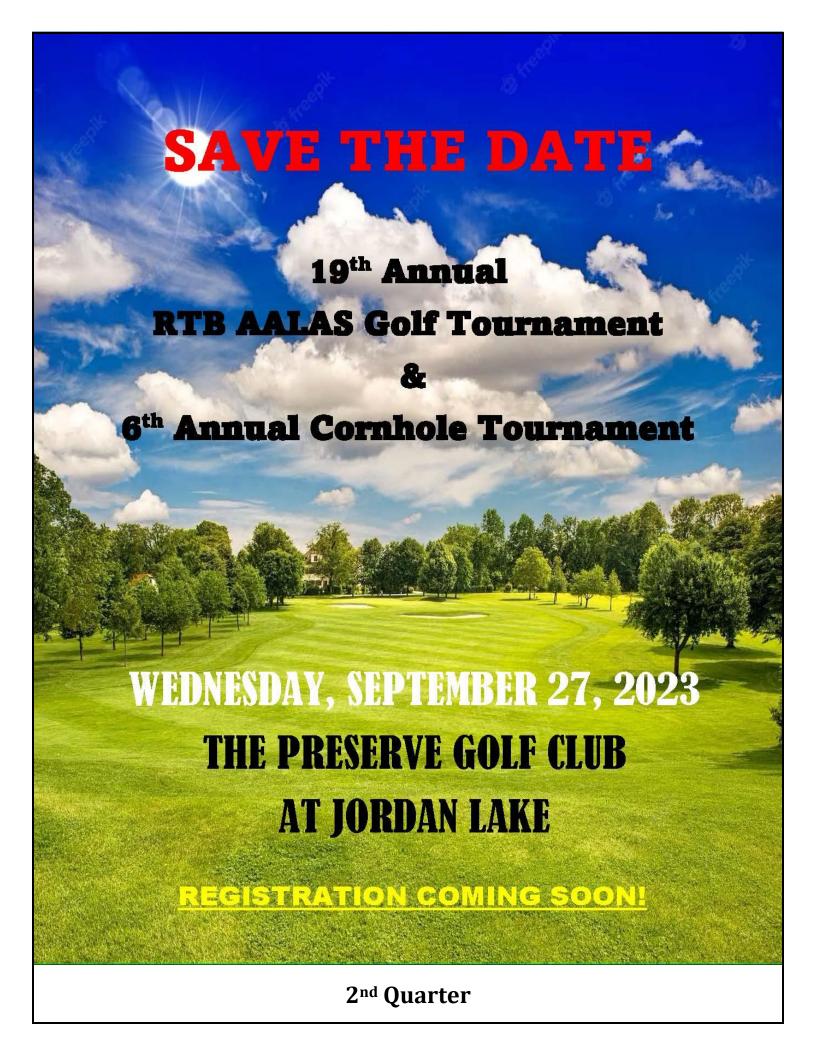
~1:30pm — Bio-Break & Walk Over to Training Space

2:00pm – Suture Demonstration and Training with

Dr. Tyler Long and Dr. Donna Webb

~2:30-4pm - Suture Practice and Hands-on Training







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AALAS Foundation "Boot Up for Research" Contest

Do you want to be part of an exciting and creatively challenging contest that is sure to be loads of fun and will also benefit the AALAS Foundation? Salt Lake City, Utah is known for being part of the old "Wild West!" That's why the AALAS Foundation is challenging contestants to paint/decorate a wooden 11" cowboy boot — an official wooden cowboy boot will be shipped to contestants upon registration and payment of entry fee.

How to Enter - Click here for details

A \$35 contest entry fee and a 2023 "Boot Up for Research" Contest entry form must be completed and received by the AALAS Foundation no later than August 31, 2023.

You do not need to attend the AALAS National Meeting to be eligible to win!

Categories & Winners

** There are four contest categories with one winner in each category. **
Individual, Corporate/Company, Branch, and Institution/Association

A "Fans' Favorite" winner will be awarded to the entry receiving the most Facebook "likes" on the AALAS Foundation's "Boot Up for Research" Facebook photo gallery by 11:00 am MST, October 25, 2023. Contestants must submit a digital photo of their entry to the AALAS Foundation by October 9th, 2023 to be eligible for inclusion in the "Fan Favorite" category of the contest. A "Best of Show" winner will be selected by members of AALAS Leadership.

Winners will be announced at the Appreciation Reception to be held October 25, 2023 at the AALAS National Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.





How many of you are on social media?

There are several organizations that are on Facebook as well! Some organizations you might want to follow are listed below.

Homes for Animal Heroes

Homes for Animal Heroes (HAH) is a national program dedicated to rehoming retired research animals, mainly dogs, and sharing the facts about the critical role animals in research play in curing disease. HAH is building a network of dog experts that can effectively work with research institutions to rehome retired research dogs in every state across the country, one location at a time. Our goal is to permanently rehome these animal heroes into loving homes through a comprehensive foster-based program. https://www.facebook.com/homesforanimalheroes/

Understanding Animal Research

This page regularly shares a weekly roundup of animal-based research results called "This week in animal research." The features have pictures and a link to the Understanding Animal Research page. The page then links to each of the six studies featured. It's easy to share these to your own feed to help your FB friends know what discoveries animal research has led to. http://www.facebook.com/UnderstandingAnimalResearch



The Foundation for Biomedical Research

This is the Facebook page for the well-known advocacy group. They regularly share items related to animal research that can help keep you in the know about what's happening in biomedical research.

http://www.facebook.com/FBResearch

AALAS

Our parent organization is on Facebook! Their page feed has news about deadlines and changes going on at AALAS and occasional features on services and products AALAS offers.

http://www.facebook.com/pages/AALAS/221279445386

The AALAS Foundation

The AALAS Foundation is very active on Facebook. They host part of the Share That You Care campaign on Facebook and regularly post ideas for public outreach and awareness in biomedical research.

http://www.facebook.com/aalasfoundation



GetReal! is a podcast with Dr. Cindy Buckmaster that lays out the facts about biomedical research with animals, so you have the power to make informed decisions about the future health of your loved ones - both people and animals. https://www.getreal.naiaonline.org/

Technician Achievements



Wake Forest University School of Medicine

ALAT

Jeff Brown

Evan McGilvary

Estephanie Hernandez Espinoza

ALAT

Rebecca Collins

LAT

William Marchal

BD

LAT

Gracie Haynes

LATG

Janee Cadlett-Jette

Risa Dalsing



Tech Week 2023



A look inside DCM's 2023 International Laboratory Animal Technician Week...

The theme? "Technicians Bring the Magic".

This week, and every day DCM aims to celebrate the ones who make the research happen, the foundation of it all... the Technicians!

DCM celebrated AALAS' International Laboratory Animal Technician Week, "Tech Week", in style from January 30, 2023 – February 3, 2023. Activities kicked off weeks before with technicians organizing teams, signing up for events & competitions, and selecting meals and movies! With such a large and diverse department, there were many technicians ranging from: surgery techs, husbandry techs, cage processing techs, vet techs, colony management, transportation, enrichment, and more to count.





2nd Quarter

Tech Week 2023



"The highlight of this year had to be the food!"- Actual feedback from the technicians and managers. This year we provided a wide variety of Daily Donuts, cupcakes, bagels, and other refreshments. Technicians were served lunch from Chick-Fil-A as they watched a movie on the big screen. There was also a Masquerade PPE Fashion Show, where fashion was served, and Bingo was played! Magic was here, it was there, it was in Bio... awaiting Marlo Drummond as she won a brand new 43" flat screen TV! With entry into every event, team "Mouse of Culture", from GMUB took home the legendary G.O.A.T.T trophy and bragging rights....

UNTIL NEXT YEAR!

Congrats to Melinda, Dean, Angel, Sorali and, Maddison- our 2023 G.O.A.T.T.'s and shout out to the outreach committee, managers, AODs, and vendors that helped organize and support it all!



CORRAL Volunteer Event

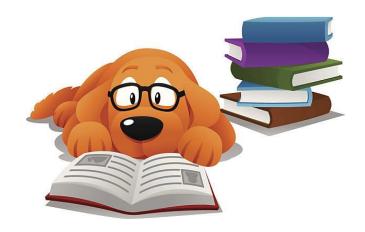


This spring, several RTB members volunteered their time and energy on a rainy day in April to help cut grass and other farm chores at CORRAL Riding Academy. This nonprofit helps equip girls in high-risk situations through long-term, holistic programs of equine therapy and education. Volunteer support is critical to

CORRAL's operation, and we thank those members who gave their time to represent RTB and help CORRAL continue their work.



Be In the Know!!



Want to know more? Check out some of the latest blog stories from one of our vendors



Laboratory Animal
Technicians: The Heart of
Biomedical Research

We're taking a moment to celebrate, honor, and recognize our community's incredible lab animal technicians.

<u>Iuneteenth: Celebrating the</u> <u>Remarkable Black Leaders</u> <u>in Biomedical Research</u>

In honor of Juneteenth, we are taking a moment to celebrate some of the most awe-inspiring, motivational and influential black leaders in biomedical research.

https://blog.allentowninc.com/juneteenth-celebrating-the-remarkable-black-leaders-in-biomedical-research/

Feel free to check out all of our blog stories at the following link: https://blog.allentowninc.com/.



Animal Research Education and Awareness (AREA) Program

Since 1995, the AALAS volunteers have conducted the Animal Research Education and Awareness Program in conjunction with the AALAS National Meeting.

This enlightening and entertaining program has introduced thousands of high school science students and teachers to laboratory animal science and the vast array of career opportunities in biomedical research.

Fueled by the passionate financial support of Pfizer, the AREA program is a prime example of how AALAS and the AALAS Foundation are striving to educate the next generation of leaders about the essential role of animals in research, education, and product safety testing.

Based on the success of the AREA Program at the AALAS National Meeting, many AALAS branches throughout the country have hosted similar programs at branch and district meetings.

This guide is designed to provide AALAS branches with the information and resources needed to conduct a successful AREA Program. Sign up to serve as a Tour Guide or be an Exhibitor stop in our scavenger hunt at the 2023 National Meeting AREA Program in Salt Lake City, Utah. (Must be a registered attendee of the 2023 AALAS National Meeting to participate.)



The Importance of Public Outreach

The health of laboratory animal science tomorrow depends on improved science preparation of our students today.

Nothing is more essential to the health of biomedical research than human resources — the people we are counting on to produce the next generation of knowledge and products in laboratory animal science.

We must, as an industry, continuously promote the benefits of biomedical research to preserve public support for animal research and maintain a steady flow of talent into the nation's science workforce.

The AREA program not only provides students with authentic information about the care and use of animals in research, but also gives students the opportunity to interact with dozens of passionate laboratory animal science professionals.

This interaction drives home the fact that AALAS members are compassionate professionals who are dedicated to providing the best possible care to the animals that are enabling us to advance human and animal health.

Participating in the AREA program is a great way to advance students' understanding, respect, and support for the critical role of laboratory animal science and the people who work in this field, and it's a fun way to make an impact on the lives of young people interested in science and medicine.

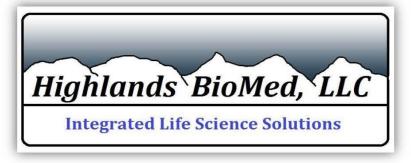
<u>The AREA Program Guide</u>- contains complete instructions on how to conduct this tried-and-true program. The guide includes everything you need – from student invitations to links to PowerPoint presentations – to make this an easy and rewarding experience for your branch members and AREA Program participants. You may also find the slides to the <u>"2016 National Meeting Branch AREA Program Training Workshop"</u> helpful. In addition to the step-by-step guide, AALAS also offers-if available-free AREA Program backpacks, notebooks, pens, and Foundation outreach materials.



Want to get more involved with RTB AALAS but don't know where to start? Are you ready to use your talents, and have fun at the same time? The RTB Executive Committee is looking for help from our branch members to keep everyone active and to continue our mission! Please click here to fill out an interest form and a committee member will reach out to you as soon as possible!

VOLUNTEERING IS A GREAT WAY TO GIVE BACK TO THE LOCAL AALAS BRANCH. PEOPLE JUST LIKE YOU GIVE THEIR TIME, ENERGY, AND EXPERTISE TO HELP SHAPE, ADVANCE, AND PROMOTE THE FIELD TODAY AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES? CONTACT US





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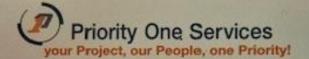
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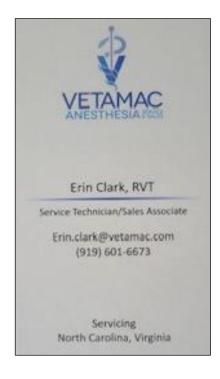


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