

Chapter Three

The Founding, Growth, and Development of Local Branches of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

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In a sense, the formation of “Branches” started when several organizations began to have local meetings as the field of laboratory animal science began to emerge. The following was happening in Chicago and is representative of what was happening nationwide.

In 1946, Nathan R. Brewer (University of Chicago) and Arthur R. Rosenberg (Northwestern Illinois University) started to have meetings to discuss mutual problems (1). They also held meetings to which the animal caretakers and technicians were invited beginning in 1946 (2). Nate Brewer recalls being surprised by the large attendance at the first meeting with the caretakers and technicians held at the University of Illinois. The meetings were designed to impress the caretakers and technicians with the importance of their work. There was at least one meeting about the care of nonhuman primates and occasionally there were invited speakers from the Lincoln Park and Brookfield Zoos. Sometimes mimeographed copies of the proceedings were distributed. The success of these local meetings prompted the group to pursue the idea of forming a national organization. After the formation of the national organization, the Animal Care Panel, the local meetings continued in Chicago but became limited to caretakers and vendors for a period of time (2).

The idea of having Branches formally affiliated with the Animal Care Panel (ACP) was first explored by L. Royal Christensen, then the director of animal facilities at New York University, Berg Institute (3). He began to discuss the issue with several of his colleagues in early 1957. On September 25, 1957, L. Royal Christensen sent the following letter (4). “Dear Member: A number of us in the Metropolitan area have felt that the formation of a local Branch of the Animal Care Panel would be a desirable project at

this time. We feel that the Animal Care Panel has progressed to the point where there is a need for participation by the animal technician, the laboratory technician using animals and others, at a local level. Members of these groups are ordinarily unable to attend the annual meeting. Further; the many problems that arise in the day to day operation of an animal colony, or the use of animals in the laboratory are not usually matters for presentation at the annual meetings, but such matters are entirely suitable for discussion at local Branch meetings. A local Branch may also be influential in establishing training courses, setting up standards for competence, and in general acting as a meeting place and forum for discussion of all matters best handled on a local or a regional level. I do not think the Animal Care Panel will fulfill its original aim or realize its full potentialities unless an opportunity is given for active participation by the animal technician, using the term in its broadest sense. If you are interested in the formation of a local Branch and in helping develop its aims and programs I would like to invite you to a meeting of the members of the Animal Care Panel in this area to discuss the organization of a local Branch. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of N.Y.U. Bellevue Medical Center, 550 First Avenue, at 7 P.M. on October 10. Please indicate on the enclosed card whether or not you will be able to attend. Sincerely, L. R. Christensen, Berg Institute, Science Services, N.Y.U. - Bellevue Medical Center, 550 First Avenue, New York 16, New York.”

The Animal Care Panel held its 1957 annual meeting in San Francisco and a proposal to start the Metropolitan New York Branch was discussed. At that meeting the board of trustees did not accept the concept of local Branches, and they did not approve the proposal. One of L. R. Christensen’s ardent supporters was Neville Cumming, and together they lobbied, garnering considerable support by the time the 1958 meeting in Chicago was held. They submitted their proposal, along with an application including a constitution and by-laws (the Branch by-laws of the American Association for Microbiology were used as a model) for the New York Metropolitan Branch (3). The Branch was approved, making the New York Metropolitan Branch the first Branch of the Animal Care Panel—effective November 29, 1958.

When the Southern California Branch attempted to join the next year they got the following response from ACP Secretary / treasurer Robert J. Flynn, dated November 9, 1959: “As Norm Bleicher has probably told you by now, the Board was pleased to hear that the Southern California Branch was organized and ready for affiliation with the Animal Care Panel. As he probably told you, we’re not quite ready to receive your group. The By-Laws of the ACP allow for local Branches but the requirements for official affiliation have never been defined. Until now we have had but one local Branch, namely the Metropolitan New York group. At this meeting, however, in addition to Southern California, official recognition was requested by Philadelphia, Madison, and Northern California. To bring some order to the situation, the Board appointed a committee to define the requirements for official affiliation. I am sure it will follow the example set by the New York group (which you followed) and that the machinery will be properly functioning in about 90 days. Meanwhile we are pleased with your progress and hope you will continue with your local activities. (Don’t worry about using the stationary with our name on it, we have no intention of suing you.)” (5).

In 1960 the Board had established its policies and New England (May 16, 1960), Southern California (May 26, 1960), Madi-



BRANCH MANUAL

son (July 1, 1960), Philadelphia (Aug. 15, 1960), and Northern California (October, 1960) became affiliated Branches (6). They were followed in 1961 by National Capitol Area (Aug 17, 1961); Chicago (September 28, 1961); Lower Midwest (September 28, 1961); and Minnesota (September 28, 1961) (6); in 1962 by Indiana, and Texas; in 1963 by Michigan, Southern Ohio and Upstate New York; in 1965 by Metro St. Louis; in 1966 by Kansas City, San Diego, and Georgia; in 1970 by Arkansas; in 1972 by

Arkansas; in 1972 by

Mid-Missouri, and Oregon; in 1973 by Nebraska, Northern Ohio, and Research Triangle; in 1974 by Florida; in 1977 by Mile High, Oklahoma, Utah and Washington; in 1978 by Three Rivers; in 1980 by Central Illinois; in 1985 by Arizona, Central Ohio, and New Jersey; in 1987 by Louisiana, Mid-South, and Palms to Pines; in 1988 by Caribbean-Puerto Rico, Kentucky, and New Mexico; in 1989 by Central Pennsylvania, Northern Rocky Mountain and Southern New England; in 1990 by Orange County; in 1991 by Appalachian; in 1997 by Northern Mountain; and in 1998 by Sierra Nevada. By 1998 AALAS had 48 Branches.

In 1966 the naming of Branches was thoroughly reviewed when the Kansas City Branch applied as the "Heart of America Branch." The Trustees adopted a policy that stated, "Branch names incorporate recognized geographical locations, i.e., names of cities, states, or regions." Because of this change, the "Heart of America Branch" became the Kansas City Branch; the "Upper Midwest Branch" became the Minnesota Branch, the "Lower Midwest Branch" became the Iowa Branch, and the "Madison Branch" became the Southern Wisconsin Branch (7). The Philadelphia Branch became the Delaware Valley Branch because it represented people from Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The Georgia Branch changed its name to the Southeastern Branch to more accurately represent its membership. In later years other Branches adopted names that were first challenged but eventually approved such as the Palms to Pines Branch, the Mile High Branch, and the Research Triangle Branch.

To provide communication from the Branches to the national organization, each Branch with more than 25 members was allowed to name a representative to the Board of Directors of the Animal Care Panel. As the number of Branches increased this began to create a problem. At the 20th Annual Meeting of AALAS, October 1969, in Dallas, the ad hoc Committee on Reorganization recommended the current structure of the Board of Trustees and Trustee Districts. The Board of Directors approved the new plan (8). The country was divided into eight districts and each district could elect two trustees to represent them. The new Board of Trustees became the 16 elected members from the eight

districts plus the president, president-elect and the immediate past president. There are currently five AALAS Branches in District One (Metro New York, New England, Northern Mountain, Southern New England, and Upstate New York); four Branches in District Two (Central Pennsylvania, Delaware Valley, New Jersey, and Three Rivers) one Branch in District Three (National Capital Area); six Branches in District Four (Appalachian, Caribbean-Puerto Rico, Florida, Mid-South, Research Triangle Park, and Southeastern); six Branches in District Five (Central Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Northern Ohio, and Southern Ohio); six Branches in District Six (Central Illinois, Chicago, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Southern Wisconsin); nine Branches in District Seven (Arkansas, Kansas City, Louisiana, Metro St. Louis, Mid-Missouri, Mile-High, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas); and 11 Branches in District Eight (Arizona, Northern California, Northern Rocky Mountain, Orange County, Oregon, Palms to Pines, San Diego, Sierra Nevada, Southern California, Utah, and Washington).

The current requirements for maintaining a Branch follow. "A Member Branch is a group of Individual Members and others in a local area dedicated to supporting the mission and philosophy of the Association and which desires to use the name American Association for Laboratory Animal Science in its own organizational title. A Member Branch status shall be authorized... by the Board of Trustees.... A Member Branch must meet criteria as established by the Board of Trustees (9).

"A group of individuals from a specific geographic area not currently represented by an AALAS Branch can be recognized as a Branch of AALAS if they meet the following conditions: A. Have a minimum of 10 Branch members who are current AALAS National Members in good standing. B. Have a proposed Branch Constitution and By-laws. C. Elect a proposed slate of officers to conduct the business of the Branch. D. Successfully petition the AALAS BOT [Board of Trustees] for recognition as a Branch of AALAS (10).

"AALAS Branches are not legal entities of National AALAS, and AALAS bears no legal responsibility for nor accepts any liability for the actions of Branches. Branches do not share the Association's tax-exempt status nor any other legal status of the Association." "Branches pay no annual fees or dues to National AALAS, and AALAS does not provide any financial assistance to Branches (11). Complete information for starting an AALAS Branch can be obtained from the Branch Manual which is available from the central office (12).

AALAS members are fortunate to belong to one of the few professions where the technicians and animal caretakers can advance and have a very rewarding career. One major key to advancement in this field is the training, education, and networking that occurs in the local AALAS Branches.

The Animal Technician Certification Program was established in 1961. Initially the Branches developed, administered, and graded the examinations for their members. Gradually the conduct of the examination became a central office function. For a complete history of the Certification Program, see the publication by Mattingly and Addcox (13).

There has been a very substantial contribution of the commercial organizations to the Branches. They have provided funds, dinners, speakers, awards, and other support crucial to the success of the Branches. In addition institutions have provided funds, secretarial support, meeting rooms, time off from work, and other support that has also been crucial to the success of the Branches.

In 1984, AALAS published a Branch Manual that explained how to start a local branch.

The following is brief information about the founding of each AALAS Branch. There is very little information in the central office files and many of the Branch files are incomplete. Some information is available in the Branch report section of the *Bulletin of the Animal Care Panel*, which became the *AALAS Bulletin* and finally was incorporated into *Contemporary Topics*. Each Branch should consider appointing a Branch historian and attempting to collect the early information on each Branch before even more is lost or forgotten. Update this information at least yearly while the information is fresh. Consider scanning the information onto a disc to make future storage easier.

Appalachian Branch (14): On December 14, 1990, Ed Schroeder (University of Tennessee), Debbie Hampstead (University of Tennessee), George Holburn (Vanderbilt), and George Borkowski (Vanderbilt) met in Room M303 of the Walters Life Sciences Building at the University of Tennessee for a preliminary organizational meeting for the new branch. At a previous meeting, Brunhilde Tober-Meyer stated that East Tennessee State employees were very interested, as long as all of the meetings were not held in Nashville, since that was a five to six hour drive. An interest survey letter was drafted for mailing on January 7, 1991. Institutions targeted were: University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge Associated Universities, Lincoln Memorial University, Virginia Tech, University of Chattanooga, East Tennessee State University, Middle Tennessee State University, Meharry, and Vanderbilt. Representatives from Vanderbilt were selected to telephone facilities in middle Tennessee and representatives from the University of Tennessee were selected to telephone facilities in East Tennessee and Western Virginia. The next meeting was scheduled for January 25, 1991, at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Tennessee. Those attending the meeting were: Debbie Threadgill (Maryville College), Steve Blevins (East Tennessee State University), Debbie Hampstead (University of Tennessee), David Sly (Vanderbilt), H. Orange (Oliver Springs), Cheryl Davis (University of Tennessee), Ron L. Roberts (University of Tennessee), Sonia Doss (University of Tennessee), George Borkowski (Vanderbilt), George Holburn (Vanderbilt) and Ed Schroeder (University of Tennessee). George Borkowski acted as president and Debbie Hampstead acted as secretary.

Two committees were formed. The Constitutional Committee was charged to have a constitution and by-laws ready for adoption at the next meeting, scheduled for April 5, 1991 in Knoxville. The Agenda Committee was charged to develop a program outline for Branch meetings.

At the April meeting, the Branch constitution and by-laws were amended and adopted. Then elections were held and the first Branch officers were: George Holburn (Vanderbilt) president; Steve Blevins (East Tennessee State University) president-elect; and Debbie Hampstead (University of Tennessee) secretary/treasurer. The first members of the Board of Directors were: Sherry Harbin (University of Tennessee), Brunhilde Tober-Meyer (East Tennessee State University), Debbie Threadgill (Maryville College), and David Sly (Vanderbilt).

At the July 19, 1991, meeting held at East Tennessee State University, the Branch had 43 paid members. An Education Committee was formed with Brunhilde Tober-Meyer, as the chairperson; Sherry Harbin, from University of Tennessee; and Michael Eades from Vanderbilt. The goal was to establish an active AALAS Certification program at all three universities. The name Appalachian Branch was selected, since the Branch had members from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia. On

October 20, 1991, the Branch became officially affiliated with the AALAS national as the 47th Branch. The Branch has the following awards: Technician of the year, Purina Prolab, Travel Award-District Meeting, Travel Award-National Meeting, and Merit Award. Sonia Doss was the first winner of the first Travel Award at the National Meeting in 1998.

Arizona Branch (15): The Branch was founded and had its first meeting July 11, 1985. On July 12, 1985, the petition to form a Branch was sent to the National office. The petition was accepted at the meeting in Baltimore, MD, in November, 1985. The founders included: Margaret "Casey" Kilcullen-Steiner, Peggy Knudrat (Levy), Robert Protell, Susan Wilson (Sanders), Jean Raviola (Chvapil), Douglas McKelvie, Louise Brooks, Karen Blohm (Mangone), Harry William Schechner, Lois Jones, Cynthia Luedke, Kari Nicosia, Cheryl Johnson, Jane Stone (Criswell), Otakar Koldovsky, Jack Copeland, and Donald Speer. The first Branch officers were Margaret "Casey" A. Kilcullen (University of Arizona), president; Harry William "Bill" Schechner (University of Arizona), president-elect; and Cheryl Johnson, (University of Arizona) secretary/treasurer. Casey Kilcullen was selected to be the group's first Technician Branch Representative and Newsletter Editor. Jane Stone (University of Arizona) was selected as the Regional Examination Board (REB) representative. Jane Stone and Robert Protell were the first board members.

In 1986, the Branch had 31 members; the first Technician Award Criteria were developed; and Ruben Tello designed their logo. In May, 1987 the Branch hosted their first District 8 meeting in Tucson, AZ. Peggy Knudrat received the first Technician of the Year Award from the Branch that year. In 1988 another Branch award was created for those persons who were active in the Branch, but were not technicians. The Branch began training classes for AALAS certification. In October, 1989 the first Arizona Branch Fall Symposium was held at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde in Tucson, AZ. In 1990 the proposal to raise membership dues was defeated and dues remained at \$5, the same as when the Branch began. In 1991 they began to give prizes for the top three posters at the Fall Symposium. In 1992 the Branch joined National AALAS as a Member Branch.

Arkansas Branch (16): The Branch became affiliated in 1970. The first officers were: Kenneth L. Rowland, president; H. E. Farris, vice-president; and Dorothy W. Barnes, secretary/treasurer. The Branch was not very active, until the establishment of the National Center for Toxicological Research. The Branch has always been small with about 50 members. The Branch hosted the 1989 National AALAS Meeting in Little Rock. The Branch usually meets only once a year. It has two awards. The Harvey Kalbach Award for professional excellence in the field of laboratory animal management; and the Arkansas Branch Technician Award, which recognizes an outstanding technician nominated by their peers.

Caribbean-Puerto Rico Branch (17): This Branch became affiliated in 1988 and had 21 members. The first officers were elected at the November 1988 meeting. They were: Dan Williams, University of Puerto Rico, president; Kenneth Thompson, San German, president-elect; Gerardo Garcia, University of Puerto Rico, secretary/treasurer; Dan Williams, University of Puerto Rico, Technician Branch Representative (TBR); Milton Rosario, Caribbean Bioresearch Inc., REB Chairman. The first board members were: Ricardo Ponton, Betzaida Torres, Ibrahim Ali, Milton Rosario, and Ivette Martinez. Ivette Martinez was the first recipient of the Purina Technician of the Year award in 1997.

Central Illinois Branch (18): This Branch was organized



1989 Central Illinois Branch Meeting. The individuals from left to right are: Bob Simons, President; Bounthanh Sylavong, Director-at-large; Ed Moffat, Director; Bill Heckt, Secretary/Treasurer; Judy Dennison, Past President; Richard Montrey, Director; and Gale Taylor, President-Elect.

starting in 1979 and became affiliated March 31, 1980. The founding members who attended the organizational meeting included: Jim Calkins, Vincent Chaffee, Michael Disbrow, Stephen K. Fisk, Dean Fox, Andy Gaydos, Joseph Hacker III, William Heckt, Russel Hockersmith, Steve Imig, John Page, Irv Rossoff, Ed Sands, Kay Schade, Bob Simons, Al Swinger, Lathi Taylor, Sally Trotter, William Voss, and Landrum Young. The Branch listed 38 charter members by May 31, 1980. The first officers were: Steve Fisk, president; E. Landrum Young, president-elect; and Ed Sands, secretary/treasurer. The directors were: William Voss and Bob Simons. The committee chairs were: membership, Joe Hacker; programs, Tim Silence; training/education, Vince Chafee; nominating, Ed Moffat; election, Andy Gaydos; and editor, Kitty Mabus. The REB representatives were: Landrum Young (University of Illinois), Ed Sands (Southern Illinois University, Springfield) and William Voss, (Southern Illinois University, Carbondale). The Committee on Laboratory Animal Technicians (COLAT) Representative was Joe Hacker (University of Illinois).

In 1980 Michael Disbrow, Beverly J. Nance, Kathleen J. Atteberry, James S. Kush, and Wanda J. Peters passed the assistant laboratory animal technician exam. That same year, Beverly J. Nance, Robert A. Busing, Peter V. Enloe, Cathryn S. Heneghan, Timothy C. Malone, Cheryl K. O'Loughlin, Blair L. Wingard, Michael R. Disbrow, and Sally Trotter passed the laboratory animal technician exam. The first newsletter was published in January, 1981. Bounthanh Sylavong won the Most Improved Animal Care Technician Award in 1982. Sally Trotter won the first Technician of the Year Award in 1984. Gary Sergent won the first Technologist of the year award in 1991 and Ed Sands won the first Merit Award in 1984. In 1998 only three of the original-founding members remained in the Branch: Joseph Hacker III, Bob Simons, and Landrum Young.

Central Ohio Branch (19): Hugh Harroff called a meeting on September 27, 1984, at the Battelle Columbus Conference Room C to organize the Branch. The individuals signing the petition that day were: Garrett Dill (Battelle), Leon Wallace (Battelle), Douglas Stone (Ohio State), Hugh Harroff (Battelle), Douglas Little (Battelle), Alvin York, Donna Violet; Arthur Peters, Harry Rozmiarek (Ohio State), and Ronald Bell (Ohio State). On April 8, 1985 ballots to elect Branch officers were sent to the members. On April 18, 1985 an election meeting was held at Battelle. The first president was Douglas B. Little, the president-elect was

Chip Keys, the secretary was Diana Edmister and the treasurer was Leon D. Wallace. On May 1, 1985, another petition was signed by national members including: Peter Jepsen, Diana Edmister, Leon Wallace, Alvin York, Donna Violet, Garrett Dill, Hugh Harroff, Jr., Ronald Bell, Harry Rozmiarek, Arthur C. Peters, and Douglas Stone. As of June 20, 1985 the Branch had 54 paid members and four institutional members. The institutional members were: Garrett Dill and Peter Jepsen from Battelle; Bob Voight and Bob Lemken from Edstrom Industries; Thomas L. Sweeney and John F. Cornhill from Ohio State; and Ken Shapiro from Pharmacal. The Council for 1985 was Chip Keys, Doug Stone, Diana Edmister, Darlene Stacey, Bev Weilbacher, Ira Grayson, Bob Voight, Leon Wallace, and Sandy Nowacki. The 1985 committee chairs were: Kate Colling and Diane Edmister, newsletter; Leon Wallace, membership; Diana Edmister and Doug Stone, program; Kate Colling, publicity/newsletter distribution;

Leon Wallace, nominating committee; Hugh Harroff and Sandy Nowacki, education; and Leon Wallace, election.

Central Pennsylvania Branch (20): The Branch became affiliated in 1989. The original membership roster listed 38 individual members and seven institutional members. The first officers were: president, Walter Sapanski; secretary, Randy Peper; treasurer, Ronald Young; TBR, Ann Hobbs; REB, Walter Sapanski; publications/newsletter, Amy Ingraham and Wendy Lawrence; program, Sally Wixon; education, Ann Hobbs; membership, Edward Meidel; and regulatory affairs, Frederick Ferguson.

Chicago Branch (21): In 1946, Nathan R. Brewer (University of Chicago) and Arthur R. Rosenberg (Northwestern Illinois University) started to have meetings to discuss mutual problems. Between 1947 and 1949 Lester E. Fisher and Bennett J. Cohen (Northwestern Illinois University); Robert P. Litt and Elihu Bond (University of Illinois Medical School); and Robert J. Flynn (Argonne National Laboratory) met at Nathan Brewer's office monthly to discuss animal facility issues. This group initiated a series of lectures on laboratory animal care. These lectures were well attended by animal caretakers and technicians. The success of these meetings prompted the group led by Nate Brewer to pursue the idea of forming a national organization. After formation of the national organization, the Animal Care Panel, meetings continued but became limited to caretakers and vendors for a period of time. The Branch became an official Branch on September 28, 1961. Nate Brewer was the first president. By 1968 the leaders were Nate Brewer and John Rust (University of Chicago), Bob Flynn and Cal Poole (Argonne National Labs), William Doloway (U. of Illinois at Chicago) and Bob Locke, Sr. (Hines VA and U. of Illinois at Chicago). During that time the meetings were held in the cafeteria of the American Medical Association and later moved to the St. Regis Hotel. After a fire damaged the St. Regis Hotel, the meetings were held at the University of Chicago for several years; then moved to the University of Illinois at Chicago. Eventually the meeting site rotated to various participating institutions.

Delaware Valley Branch (22): A meeting of individuals interested in forming the Philadelphia Branch of the Animal Care Panel was held on March 30, 1960, at the Faculty Club at the University of Pennsylvania. The meeting was called by James Fendrick of Smith, Kline, and French. Those present were: George Bjotvedt, Allen Creamer, Vincent DiFaglio, Lawrence

Ferrigan, James Fendrick, Samuel Foster, Allen Hayen, Georgia Kirkpatrick, and John Noonan. James Fendrick presented a constitution and by-laws modeled after the New York Branch. Section Three was changed to "Dues of \$3 per year are to be paid as of April 1960 and each subsequent year."

The group then nominated Allen Creamer, James Fendrick and Robert Sauer for president; Allen Hayn, Simon Levin, and John Scott for vice-president; Georgia Kirkpatrick for secretary-treasurer; and George Bjotvedt, Lawrence Ferrigan, Samuel Foster, and John Noonan for council.

The first meeting was held June 9, 1960, at the Wistar Institute Lunchroom. The first president, James Fendrick, presided. Those in attendance were the vice-president, Allen Hayn; members of the council, Lawrence Ferrigan, George Bjodvedt, and George Wold; and the secretary, Georgia Kirkpatrick. The treasurer, Clyde Lorde and council member Samuel Foster were absent. The president appointed two new members of the council, Alan Creamer and John Noonan. The Branch became officially affiliated on August 15, 1960. The Branch supports the Purina Prolab Award, the Allentown Caging Equipment Facility Manager Award, The Dr. Henry Schneider Recognition Award, and the JJ Noonan Scholarship Award.

Florida Branch: The Florida Branch became an official affiliate on August 1, 1974 (23). They held a meeting on November 25, 1974 at Nova University, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. The first officers were: president, Norman Altman; and secretary/treasurer Raymond Porter (Nova University). Their first technician training program started November 7, 1974 (24).

Indiana Branch (25): In the spring of 1962, Joe Garvey, executive secretary of ACP, was invited to Indianapolis to explain the requirements and procedures to establish a Branch. A luncheon meeting was held at the Claypool Hotel and was attended by C. A. Anderson, John Boucher, Elden J. Cox, Don DeValois, Hal P. Harlan, Steele Mattingly, and O. M. McAllister.

A further meeting was held on July 11, 1962, at the Union Building of Indiana University at Indianapolis. At this meeting the requirements for becoming a Branch were implemented.

On September 14, 1962, John Boucher was advised by R. J. Flynn, secretary-treasurer of AALAS, that the Board of Directors had made the Indianapolis Branch an official affiliate of the National organization. Eldon Cox had been serving as acting president and was voted in as the first president of the Branch. C.A. Anderson was elected vice-president and J.H. Boucher was made secretary/treasurer. Steele Mattingly was designated representative on the Board of Directors of ACP.

Hal Harlan, president of Harlan Sprague Dawley Inc., has been a long-term member of the Indiana Branch, and has supported many of its activities. Eldon Cox, the owner of Lab Supply Company, was a highly active member of the Branch. In memory of his contribution, an annual award bearing his name is given to those members of the Branch who have made significant contributions to the Indiana Branch and laboratory animal science. In 1998 lifetime members included A. Pat Riggins, Jr. and Robert K. Turner.

Iowa Branch (26): The Branch became affiliated September 22, 1961. The Branch was originally called the Lower Midwest Branch. When the National Office decided that the Branches should take names that were more descriptive, the name was changed to the Iowa Branch. The founders included: Alfred G. Edwards, Charles Thayer, and Bert Combs. Al Edward was the first president.

The organization's objective was to carry out the functions

of the National American Association for Laboratory Animal Science on a local level. The main objective was to serve as an information exchange on all phases of care and management of laboratory animals. The Branch was open to any person interested in laboratory animal care and management.

The Branch encouraged several different programs, some of which were technician involvement, training programs toward certification in AALAS for career advancement, awards program, Animal Awareness Week, and the Science Fair.

Each year the Iowa Branch hosts a Spring Fling, which in the past has included special tours of the Des Moines Zoo and Living History Farms. The group sponsors a booth at the Teachers Convention on a yearly basis to provide information regarding research, and schools are visited at their request. The Branch has a Fall Meeting each October where awards are given. Branch awards include: Outstanding ALAT, first won by Louise Smith in 1980; Outstanding LAT, first won by Mike Hatfield in 1980; Outstanding Supervisor, first won by Ron Moses in 1980; and the Ronald E. Flatt Award, first won by Joan Hopper in 1984.

Kansas City Branch (27): The Branch became affiliated June 17, 1966. The Branch tried to become affiliated as the Heart of America Branch; but the name was changed to the Kansas City Branch. Franklin W. Blinkley was president and M. N. Wardell of the Kansas University Medical Center was the national representative. Forty-two people registered for the first course for laboratory animal technicians for the Branch.

Kentucky Branch (28): The Branch was formed in the summer of 1988 with the leadership of Roger Thacker and Ed Timmons of the University of Kentucky, and Ralph Hornickel and Sara Katzmark of the University of Louisville. There were formative meetings of interested people held over dinner in January and February, 1988 at the Autumn Family Steakhouse in Frankfort, Kentucky, which is located approximately between Louisville and Lexington.

At the April 22 meeting 36 people attended. A Branch was formed late in the summer, incorporating the entire state. The newsletter editor was Bill Hornickel from University of Louisville and the chair of the Nomination Committee was Bob Shute from the Veterans Administration Hospital in Lexington. At the 1988 National Meeting in Detroit, the Branch became an official AALAS Branch. The first elections were for officers starting in 1989. Roger Thacker served as the first president; Ralph Hornickel was the president-elect; and Sarah Katzmark, the first secretary/treasurer. Committee chairs were Janet B. Rodgers (University of Kentucky), program; Daria Cloyd (University of Kentucky), membership; Ralph Hornickel (University of Louisville), regional examination board; Edward Timmons (University of Kentucky), legislative network; Leta Barnes (Environmental Health Research & Testing) newsletter editor; and Dave Dietrich (American Lab Services), vendor representative. A 1998 roster of members indicated 58 from the University of Kentucky, 18 from the University of Louisville, 10 from a Lexington private testing company, six commercial and six institutional. Twenty-two were National AALAS members. Meetings were held at the Frankfort location for the first year and were then held either in Louisville or Lexington at the academic institutions. At the 1991 meeting, the Branch changed the usual format to split sessions, designed to appeal to husbandry interests and research interests. This format is still in use by other Branches in the District. The 1997 meeting consisted of a series of four interactive workshops held in an informal networking setting. The Branch's best party was at the 1991 District meeting. Richard Cluck rented videotaped

horse races and the attendees were issued "money" for betting. A folk band (hammered dulcimer, violin and guitar) provided the music.

Louisiana Branch (29): On April 22, 1987, Rick Fish (Tulane Medical Center) and Bob Watkins (Tulane Regional Primate Center) sent an announcement to all research facilities in the state of Louisiana that utilized research animals. They invited all interested persons to meet on May 28, 1987 at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine in Baton Rouge to discuss the idea of establishing a Branch of AALAS. Sixty four people attended the meeting and 24 were National AALAS members. A draft constitution and by-laws were adopted and the following were elected as the first Branch officers: Rick Fish, president; Sheldon Bivin, president-elect; Bob Watkins, secretary/treasurer; William Greer, member-at-large to the Board of Directors; and Ed Watson, member-at-large to the Board of Directors. Rick Fish, Bob Watkins, Hugh Price, Dorcas Schaeffer, Margaret Hogan, Bob Wolf, Keith Liljedahl, Sheldon Bivin, Bill Greer, John Hardcastle, and Pat Mestayer signed the petition to the National AALAS organization. They requested Branch status on August 7, 1987, and were approved by the AALAS Board of Trustees on November 8, 1987. During the first year the Branch had 93 members and averaged about 140–150 in following years. The Branch met every six months until 1989 when they went to a yearly meeting. The meetings rotated between LSU Medical Center, Shreveport; LSU College of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge; University of Southwestern Louisiana; New Iberia Primate Research Center; Tulane Medical Center; and Tulane Regional Primate Research Center. In 1995 the Branch began to meet with the Texas Branch in Houston every third year.

Metro New York Branch (3): A proposal for a Branch was submitted at the 1958 meeting of the Animal Care Panel in Chicago, along with an application including a constitution and by-laws. (The Branch by-laws of the American Association for Microbiology were used as a model.) Both were approved. The charter members were: Alfred H. Barrett, Elihu Bond, Merrill C. Chase, L. R. Christensen, C. Neville Wentworth Cumming, Edith L.W. Cumming, John W. Cumming, Cloyd L. Elias, Henry L. Foster, Mark H. Friedman, Walter Sapanski, Jr., Albert Schaffer and Herman Steiniger. The charter officers were: L. Royal Christensen (New York University (NYU)) president; I. Clyde Miller (Manor Farms), vice president; and Elihu Bond (Veterinary Consultant), secretary /treasurer. The charter council members were Merrill Chase (Rockefeller University), John Nelson (Rockefeller University), Floyd Poling (Industrial Washing Machines), Walter Sapanski (Public Health Research of the city of New York), and John W. Cumming (Carworth Farms).

Members traveled from Boston, upstate New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. This broad base was short-lived, as Branches soon formed in New England, Delaware Valley, and Washington, D.C.

Early meetings were held at the NYU Medical School. As time went on, meetings were held at other medical schools: Rockefeller University, Cornell, Mount Sinai, Columbia, and Albert Einstein. Meetings were also held in New Jersey; each meeting was hosted by a pharmaceutical firm. The first few installation dinners were held at the Henry Hudson Hotel on 57th Street. This was the site of the 1953 National Meeting, the first outside of Chicago, the first in a Hotel, and the first to have exhibits.

The Education Committee, under the leadership of Al Havemeier, got underway and developed programs for training, first for the supervisors then the actual caretakers. These early

programs were very general and dealt with issues common to animal facilities: cleanliness, types of equipment employed, and identifying traits found in healthy (as opposed to moribund) animals.

Just about the time the Branch was establishing itself, the Animal Welfare Act was passed by Congress. Responsibility for the enforcement of its provisions was placed with the USDA. Members who were connected to the national government, such as the veterinarians in the USDA came to the Branch to write the regulations for them, probably because of the New York Branch's presence in the District of Columbia area at the time. They appointed an ad-hoc committee and named Walter Sapanski chairman. L. Royal Christensen, George Collins, Rockefeller University, and Mark Friedman, Sloan Kettering Institute were also committee members. The Branch has provided four presidents of AALAS (1963, Lauritz R. Christensen; 1974, Bruce Ewald; 1979, Paul J. Ernst; and 1987, Dennis M. Stark). Many of the members have been recipients of national awards: the Griffin Award: 1958, John B. Neison; 1963, C. N. Wentworth Cumming; 1972, Lisbeth M. Kraft; 1973, L. R. Christensen; 1974, George R. Collins; 1989, Dennis M. Stark; and 1990, Steven H. Weisbroth; the Collins Award: 1961, Alfred Havemeier; 1963, George R. Collins; 1967, Walter Sapanski, Jr. & Robert A. Watkins; 1969, H. Osborn Bagg; 1980, Sheldon Scher; 1988, Kenneth C. Pyle; 1989, Ellen R. Kolb; 1996, Anita Piccoli; and Douglas McBride; the Garvey Award: 1984, Sheldon Scher; the Research Award: 1972, S. H. Weisbroth and Sheldon Scher; National AALAS Technician of the Year Award: 1976, Kenneth C. Pyle; 1981, Frederick I. Kyle; Dawn Conover; and Caroline Murray.

Metro St. Louis Branch (30): The Branch became affiliated March 10, 1965. The first officers were: president, Arthur O. Kelley; vice-president, H. C. Eschenroeder; national representative, John Keller and secretary/treasurer Herbert A. Graff. Two members still active in 1998 became members in 1966: Sherilyn Hall and John Olack. A partial list of some of the first members included: Charlie Goldstein, chemical salesman; Ira Smith, Washington University animal surgery supervisor; Henry Arnold, technician for Ira Smith; Bob Feldhaus, Washington University radiology supervisor; Henry Bramlette, Washington University neurology supervisor; Charlie Crawford, Washington University animal technician; Ed Moffat, salesman for Lab Products; Roy Abernathy, St. Louis City Hospital research technician; E. Kaye Smith, St. Louis University veterinarian; Sherilyn Hall, St. Louis University/Washington University veterinary technician; John Olack, Washington University facility supervisor; Paul Steingrubby, Scientific associates biologist; Bill Mazur, Scientific Associates; Bill Baum, Scientific Associates; Joe Rosenthal, chemical company salesman; Art Kelly, St. Louis City Hospital; and Herb Graff, St. Louis City Hospital.

Michigan Branch (31): On July 10, 1963, Bennett J. Cohen, Max M. Bree, Ronald R. Spink, Thomas M. Ford, and Robert A. Watkins all of the University of Michigan; Clyde Smith, Michigan State University; D. B. Meyer of the Michigan State Department of Public Health; William Prychodko of the Detroit Institute for Cancer Research; Ernest Feenstra of the Upjohn Company; Oscar Sorenson of the Parke-Davis and Company; Melvin Sikov of Wayne State University; William Hamilton of Ralston-Purina, and Ray McCullough of Washtenaw Farm and Garden Center met in the Animal Care Unit of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor to organize the Michigan Branch of the Animal Care Panel. Another organizational meeting was held on August 21, 1963, at Ann Arbor. The first formal meeting was held in Ann



1967 Michigan Branch Meeting. The individuals (from left to right) are: Robert A. Watkins, founding secretary/treasurer 1963, University of Michigan; Harold Albert, vice president 1967, The Upjohn Company; John Moore, president, 1967, Michigan State University; Richard Schwikert, executive council member 1967, President 1970, The Upjohn Company; and Norman Bleicher, Dow Corning Corporation, branch member 1967.

Arbor on November 7, 1963. The first elected officers were: president, Thomas Ford, University of Michigan; vice-president, Oscar Sorenson, Parke Davis and Company; secretary/treasurer, Robert A. Watkins, University of Michigan; national representative, Robert Duryea, consultant, Detroit Michigan; program, Harry Stoliker, Parke Davis and Company; council, Morris Foster, University of Michigan; council, W. R. Graham, the Upjohn Company; and council, Clyde Smith, Michigan State University. The annual dues were set at \$2 and there were 93 paid members in 1964. Approximately three to four meetings a year were planned. The Branch became an official affiliate September 30, 1965. At the ninth meeting, September 14, 1966, at the Kellogg Bird Sanctuary the Branch sponsored its first Animal Technician Training Program.

Mid-Missouri Branch (32): The Branch was started in the fall of 1969 by Arthur Hansen, Louis Nelson, and Keith Kraner. Arthur Hansen was also the first president. The Branch held its first training course for Junior Animal Technicians from January to March of 1970. Participants who were certified included Leroy Anthony, Kathy Berck, Kathryn Ann Campbell, Stanley Brebing, Alice Gertrude Hall, Orval Lewis, Robert Ritter, and Susan Scott. The Branch became affiliated May 8, 1972. In 1972 the officers were: Arthur C. Hansen, president; Stephen Fisk, president-elect; and John Mulder, secretary/treasurer. In 1975 Bob Ritter, Leroy Harrison; Stan Grebing and Leroy Anthony were the first Mid-Missouri laboratory animal technologists certified by AALAS. Their study group leader was Frank Garro.

Mid-South Branch (33): This Branch became affiliated in 1987. The principal organizer and first president was Norman Braune. Other original members included: Jack Hessler, Linda Toth, Jerry Olson, Jon Garcia, Nancy Miller, Jerry Rehg, Mike Strain, and Bonnie Belton. They met at local Memphis restaurants. The first regional meeting was at Mud Island in Memphis. The Branch interacted with the Arkansas Branch because it was closer than any other Branch, even though it was in a different district.

Mile High Branch (34): The Mile High Branch of AALAS ap-

plied for recognition and approval by the Board of Trustees on December 6, 1976. Ten National members signed the original application: Warren W. Frost (University of Colorado Medical Center), Thomas E. Hamm, Jr. (University of Colorado Medical Center), Gail A. Heidbrink (National Jewish Hospital), Margaret F. Isenhardt (University of Colorado Boulder), David H. Neil (Colorado State University), Frederick O. Stoll (Veterans Administration Hospital, Denver), V. D. Stauffer (Arvada Veterinary Hospital), Charles E. Thalken (US Air Force Academy), Eugene A. Thomas (University of Colorado, Boulder), and George A. Ward (Colorado State University). The first meeting of the general membership was held on November 3, 1977, at the Catacombs Restaurant of the Hotel Boulderado in Boulder, CO. The following were present at the founding: Roger Clark, University of Colorado, Institute for Behavioral Genetics; Jack Barritt, Allied Veterinary Medical Lab; Warren Frost, University of Colorado Medical Center; Thomas E. Hamm, Jr., University of Colorado Medical Center; Gail Heidbrink, National Jewish Hospital; Margaret Isenhardt, University of Colorado, Molecular Cellular and Developmental Biology; Riley Jackson, Denver Veterans Administration Hospital; James Lynch, National Asthma Center; David Neil, Colorado State University; Marynette Rihanek, University of Colorado Medical Center; V. D. Stauffer, Arvada; Frederick Stoll, Denver Veterans Administration Hospital; Patty Tantilla, University of Colorado Psychology Department; Charles Thalken, United States Air Force Academy; Gene Thomas, University of Colorado Institute for Behavioral Genetics; Peggy Walline, Cobe Laboratories; George Ward, Colorado State University; and James Wilson, University of Colorado Institute for Behavioral Genetics.



The 20th anniversary of the Mile High Branch. The individuals (from left to right) are: Gail Heidbrink and Gene Thomas, two of the branch founders; Linda Panepinto and Tina Fray.

Although the application was mailed, the members had met, officers were elected, and goals were established in the fall of 1977; the Mile High Branch met with a few obstacles and did not become an official Branch of AALAS until 1978. First, they were informed that the trustees had adopted a policy in 1966 that stated, "Branch names incorporate recognized geographical locations, i.e., names of cities, states, or regions." Therefore, Joe Garvey suggested that an alternate name to Mile High Branch be submitted on the application. The Branch wanted to keep Mile

High Branch as being descriptive of the region and the trustees finally approved the name. During this process, three of the original National members signing on the application, no longer qualified. Replacement signers Jack Barritt (Allied Veterinary Medical Labs), Riley Jackson (Veterans Administration Hospital, Denver) and James M. Lynch (National Asthma Center) signed for the Branch on September 29, 1977, and this information was sent to the National office on October 10, 1977.

A primary motivator for establishing the Branch was to form a Regional Examination Board and to encourage technician participation in the certification program. The official goals, as established by the members in 1977 were to attain a cooperative effort in Colorado with respect to the care and management of lab animals; have joint meetings with other Branches; have a National Meeting in this area as soon as possible; further the education of the animal technicians in this area; and promote National Membership in AALAS in Colorado. The third goal was obtained in 1987. The first officers were: president: David Neil, Colorado State University; president-elect, Gail Heidbrink, National Jewish Hospital; and secretary/treasurer, Marynette Rihanek, University of Colorado Medical Center. The board members were: Margaret Isenhardt, Gene Thomas, Patricia Tantilla, and Peggy Walline. The Newsletter Committee was: Diane Dieter, Chairperson; Levina Mroezko; Dixie Deans; and Ted Jones.

Minnesota Branch (35): The Minnesota Branch of AALAS was founded September 28, 1961, and at that time was called the "Upper Midwest Branch" of the Animal Care Panel. For the first decade, the Branch was almost wholly supported by the Medical College and the Veterinary College at the University of Minnesota. Three people signed the original proposal as a Branch: June Smith (University of Minnesota), Elizabeth Thorp (owner of the Simonsen Laboratories), and William Thorp (dean of the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine). Initial dues were \$2 per year. The first president of the new Branch was Paul Zollman (Mayo Clinic Rochester, MN) and the first program, presented on January 25, 1962, was "Chemical, Microbiological, and Biological Evaluation of Feed Ingredients of Animal Diets" presented by P.E. Kifer of Purina. By 1963, the Branch had a Board of Directors and a representative to the Board of Directors for the National Animal Care Panel. Despite being a new organization, it was extremely active and in 1963 provided its members with six programs during the year, including presentations by notable presenters such as Maurice Visscher, L. R. Christensen (president of National Animal Care Panel) and Sam Poiley from the National Institutes of Health. By 1964 there were 54 active members and the Branch conducted its first annual banquet, developed a Branch brochure for the general public, and created an exhibit booth on animal welfare and research which was displayed at eight sites that year (University of Minnesota Biomedical Library, University of Minnesota Student Center, county fairs and science fairs about the state). Additionally, key members were on two local television programs dealing with the care of laboratory animals. In 1966 the Branch changed its name to the Minnesota Branch of AALAS. By 1967 there were 144 members, increasing to nearly 200 members by 1969. Since this early era, the Branch membership has remained fairly stable with a membership averaging about 125 to 150 members each year. From that era to the present the membership has shifted to a makeup of approximately 50 percent University of Minnesota and 50 percent industry, most notably, Medtronic, Inc., and 3M Corporation. The Branch hosted the National Meeting in 1996.

National Capital Area Branch (36): This Branch became an

official affiliate August 17, 1961. In March of that year a group of individuals with interests in laboratory animals met to consider establishing a Branch of the Animal Care Panel. Those in attendance were: Berton F. Hill, National Academy of Sciences; Orlando Carbia, Maryland Breeders Association; Charles G. Durbin, Food and Drug Administration; R. J. Hopwood, National Academy of Sciences; George E. Jay, Jr., National Institutes of Health; John Keller, Hazelton Laboratories; John H. Morris, Walter Reed Army Medical Center; Paul Parks, Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Melvin M. Rabstein, Fort Detrick. Charles G. Durbin was elected chairman of the committee. A meeting to confirm plans for the organization was scheduled for April 18, 1961, at Dart Auditorium at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. The following members accepted assignments in preparation for that meeting: Melvin M. Rabstein, dues and programs; Berton F. Hill, publicity; John H. Morris, meeting site; John Keller, nominations; and Paul Parks, constitution and by-laws. On June 20, 1961, the first public meeting of the Branch was held at Dart Auditorium. The following Branch officers were elected: Charles G. Durbin, president; William I. Gay, National Institutes of Health, vice president; John Keller, secretary/treasurer; and Berton F. Hill, national representative. A letter requesting formal affiliation with the Animal Care Panel was forwarded to the Board of Directors on July 26, 1961.

Programs of speakers for the 94 active members soon expanded to include tours of local laboratories and a training course was given by Gene Bingham for junior animal technicians (former name for assistant laboratory animal technician). In 1962 the first issue of the newsletter was published and C. D. LeMunyan was the first editor. In 1963 the Outstanding Technician Award was established by President John Morris and presented to Floyd Brown, Animal Farm Division, Fort Detrick, MD. During 1964-1965 membership grew to more than 200 and the Branch established a course for senior animal technicians (former name for laboratory animal technician) and was notified that it would be the host Branch for the 1967 national meeting of the Animal Care Panel. At that meeting, the Animal Care Panel became known as the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS). In 1970 the Charles G. Durbin Award, in honor of the Branch's first president, was established as another recognition of animal care personnel within the Branch. It was presented to George M. Nelson. Although membership lagged in the early 1970s to less than 100, two initiatives provided a spark of life that resulted in success. The first National Capital Area Branch (NCAB)-AALAS Annual Seminar was held in 1971 at the Hunt Valley Inn in Cockeysville, MD. Robert Lemken and Jack Phipps co-chaired the first seminar.

Proving an immediate success, this two-day meeting has been held every year since, except when the National AALAS meeting was held in Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD. The other trend-setting practice was the beginning of "caravan" meetings which started in 1973. The intent of this activity was to have frequent meetings at numerous locations throughout the geographic area of the Branch. This system of meetings is still in use today and is a major factor in the popularity of the Branch. By the mid to late 1970s this already busy organization added more activities to its yearly agenda. The technician training program was expanded to allow more individuals to take the course at more locations. A series of day-long technician workshops started to permit in-depth coverage of selected topics in management or new techniques and scholarships were made available for technicians to attend laboratory animal science courses at the

National Institutes of Health's Graduate Program.

An institutional member program began in 1978 with George Brucker as the first chairman. It started with five to 10 firms and laboratories the first year. The revenue from this endeavor is responsible for the Branch's ability to sponsor its numerous training programs. In 1979 the first one-day technician workshop was held. It was co-chaired by Robert Russell and D. K. Johnson. Newsletter circulation went to more than 500. In 1981 the technician scholarship was started. The NCAB hosted the National AALAS meeting in Washington, D.C. (1982) and in Baltimore, MD (1985). In 1984 the Science Teacher Workshop and Investigator Technician Workshop were established. Individual membership grew more than 1000 and institutional membership reached 76. In 1985 the Technician Award was renamed the Richard L. Pierson Award. In 1996 the first annual information booth at the Maryland State Fair was supported by the Branch. In 1997, the Branch established the Information Phone System (888)-AALAS03 and a web page (www.ncabaalas.org).

Nebraska Branch (37): The Nebraska Branch became affiliated on February 22, 1973. The first officers were: president, Robert D. Conrad; vice-president, David Heard; treasurer, William Rafferty; and secretary, Karen Hoffman.

New England Branch (6): The Branch became affiliated on May 16, 1960.

New Jersey Branch (38): Several attempts were made before 1984 to form an AALAS chapter in New Jersey. The driving forces behind this idea were Ed Greenstein, Rutgers University and Mike Roell, Hoechst-Roussel Pharmaceuticals. The need to form a Branch had been apparent for a long time. Attendance at either the New York Metro meetings or Delaware Valley meetings meant long drives for anyone from New Jersey. On November 1, 1984, the first organizational meeting of the proposed New Jersey chapter of AALAS was held at the Rutgers University Alumni Faculty Club. In attendance were: Ron Banknieder, director, Animal Resources, Ayerst Research, Princeton, NJ; Larry Barbour, operations manager, Hoffman LaRoche, Nutley, NJ; Mike Fennel, Department of Animal Sciences, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; Ed Greenstein, university veterinarian, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; Leon Lewis, director, Hoffman LaRoche, Nutley, NJ; Bill Lillis, manager, Animal Resources, Berlex Labs, Cedar Knolls, NJ; Ray Pilote, supervisor, Lab Animal Care, E. R. Squibb, New Brunswick, NJ; William Porter, manager, Veterinary Services, Bio Dynamics, East Millstone, NJ; Mike Roell, manager, Animal Resources; Hoechst Roussel Pharmaceuticals, Sommerville, NJ; and Ceile Hedber, manager, Lab Animal Resources, Wallace Labs, Cranbury, NJ. Ed Greenstein welcomed the group to Rutgers and suggested a chairman and secretary be selected. Ron Banknieder volunteered to be the chair, and Ed Greenstein volunteered to be the temporary secretary. Bill Lillis made a motion that New Jersey represent the boundaries for the Branch. Mike Roell moved the chapter be named the New Jersey Branch of AALAS. Both motions were seconded and approved. Ron Banknieder indicated he would make contact with National AALAS and make certain that the group did everything necessary to become a Branch. The following committees were formed: membership: Bill Lillis, Mike Roell, co-chairmen; constitutional committee: Larry Barbour, Ceile Hedberg, and Norm Guilloud (chairman); Program: Bill Porter (chairman), and Ed Greenstein.

The purpose of the chapter would be to involve animal technicians in AALAS matters, public relations, and the education of animal care personnel at all levels. The committee met again on January 22, 1985, and made an outline of the documents that had

to be submitted to the National AALAS by August 1, 1985 for approval by the Board of Trustees at the National Meeting. Mike Roell was selected as the chairman of the nominating committee and Larry Barbour as the chair of the election committee. It was decided that since Ed Greenstein and Ron Banknieder had both worked so hard they would both be considered for the office of president, and the person not selected for president would become vice president. The original roster of officers of the New Jersey Branch were: president, Ron Banknieder; vice-president, Ed Greenstein; secretary, Ceile Hedberg; and treasurer, Stan Moun. The Board of Directors were: Leon Lewis, Norm Guilloud, Mike Fennel, and Bill Lillis. The committee chairs were: membership, Lee Wilson; program, Frank Marinaccio; nominating, Mike Roell; election, Larry Barbour; education, Ray Pilote; publication, Bill Porter; and REB, George Osman. The 13 charter members were: Bill Lillis, Ray Pilote, Ceile Hedberg, Mike Roell, Ed Greenstein, Ron Banknieder, Felix Garcia, Leon Lewis, Larry Barbour, Stan Moun, Bill Porter, Norm Guilloud, and Mike Fennel. A dinner meeting was held on April 9, 1985, at Evelyn's Seafood Restaurant in Somerville, New Jersey. The guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Taylor Bennett, president of AALAS. More than 160 people attended this meeting and became members of the proposed Branch. Meetings were held the third Tuesday of every other month beginning in September and ending in May. Within a few years, the New Jersey Branch was invited to become a participant in the Joint Symposium which was held in June in Philadelphia, New Jersey, or New York, and renamed the Tri-Branch Symposium. The Branch has established several awards including: Outstanding Contribution to the Field of Laboratory Animal Medicine. This award has been presented to Dr. Wright, Dr. DeBakey, Ms. Frankie Trull, and Dr. Henry Foster. The Lifetime Membership Award was created to award a member of the New Jersey Branch who has contributed significantly to the Branch and laboratory animal medicine. This award has recently been changed to the Mike Roell Award for Distinguished Service, in honor of Mike Roell who served the Branch for many years. The Technician of the Year Award is presented to one or several technicians who contributed to the Branch or at work for their efforts in regard to laboratory animal medicine.

New Mexico Branch (39): The first meeting was held March 18, 1992. The officers elected were: president, Mary Thompson; president-elect, Carolyn Dison; treasurer, Steve Batson; and secretary Margie Weinholt. The directors were: Mike Richards, Diane Bolton, and Dave Burt. The TBR was Roy Ricci.

Northern California Branch (40): The Branch became affiliated in October 1960. The Branch has only had four secretaries: Evelyn Brotherton, Bob Ramus, Evelyn Hilbert, and Ardis K. Roseberry. Technician certification courses started in the 1960s. In 1998 the Branch had four lifetime members: Al Edward, Evelyn Brotherton, Sig Rich, and Evelyn Hilbert. The Branch sponsors the Purina Prolab Award, the Al Marshall Award, the Al Edward Award, the Technologist of the Year Award, and the Sig Rich Scholarship Award. In 1998 Gayle Hendricks of Charles River was the first winner of the Purina Prolab Award.

Northern Mountain Branch (41): Several people were instrumental in starting this Branch: Margaret L. Delano (University of Massachusetts), Andrea S. Howells, Cheryl L. Datkun, John R. Bell, Darrell E. Hoskins, Sharon P. Terry, Theresa L. Bechard and David Connor (all from Wyeth-Ayerst Research), Raymond X. Dauphinais (Dartmouth Medical College), Anne Marie Taylor (Merck Frosst, CANADA), Carol Peters, James B. Nichols, Paula K. Horton, and Scott A. Mischler (all from University of

Vermont), William Jay Bemen (USVAM's ROC Research), and Carol Spierto (W. Alton Jones Cell Science Center).

On May 19, 1994 approximately 60 individuals representing Wyeth-Ayerst Research, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, and University of Vermont (UVM) attended a pre-AALAS meeting, hosted by UVM. The agenda included discussion of the AALAS testing procedure for certification, discussion of the desire to begin a local AALAS Branch, an AALAS questionnaire game with door prizes, and a tour of the animal area. Volunteers to form a local Branch included: president, Andrea S. Howells; president-elect, Brian Ermeling; Technician Branch Representative, Cheryl D. Greenblatt; treasurer, John A. Denier, and secretary, Carol Spierto. Announcement of Branch formation was in the November, 1995 issue of *Contemporary Topics*. In November 1997, at the National Meeting, the Branch was approved.

Northern Ohio Branch (42): In 1972, representatives from Case Western Reserve University, Medical College of Ohio at Toledo, Beaumanor Farms, Highland View Hospital, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Mt. Sinai Hospital, Hardco Scientific, Hoeltge Inc., Carworth Farms, Cleveland Metro General Hospital and Kent State University met to establish a Branch. In September 1972, AALAS was petitioned and on April 18, 1973, the Branch became affiliated. The charter members of the Branch were: Patrick J. Behan (Medical College of Ohio at Toledo), Donald H. Clifford (Medical College of Ohio at Toledo), Alan H. Coogan (Kent State University), Keith L. Ewing (Kent State University), Robert B. Faroo (Hardco Scientific), Frank M. Garro (Kent State University), Thomas G. Herrick (Beaumanor Farms), Aaron M. Leash (Case Western Reserve University), Keith McCullagh (Cleveland Clinic Foundation), Edward D. Moffat (Carworth Farms), Sherman D. Sachs (Case Western Reserve University), William E. Thomas (Highland View Hospital), and Robert C. Voigt (Case Western Reserve University). The first elected officers were: president, Aaron M. Leash; president-elect, Keith McCullagh; and secretary/treasurer, Robert C. Voigt. The first members of the Board of Directors were: Donald H. Clifford, Robert B. Faroo, Keith L. Ewing, and William E. Thomas.

Interest dwindled between the years 1973 to 1978. Meetings were not held and the Branch died. During late 1978 to early 1979, a few individuals began to revitalize the Branch. Meetings were held at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine on March 7, 1978, and at the Brown Derby Restaurant in Sandusky on May 8, 1978. The first meeting of the revitalized Branch was held on May 8, 1979. On April 3, 1980, AALAS was petitioned to approve the reorganized Branch.

Northern Rocky Mountain Branch (43): Back in May 1989, a handful of dedicated animal care individuals got together at the Red Lion Inn in Missoula, MT, to discuss the formation of a new Branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. Those individuals included: Phil Bowman (University of Montana); Mike Parnell and Ralph Larson (NIH, Rocky Mountain Labs); and Melanie Olson, Jean Kundert, Warren "Jack" Frost and Leta Eng (Montana State University). In September 1989, the first official annual meeting of the Northern Rocky Mountain Branch was held on the picturesque Flat Head Lake at the University of Montana's Yellow Bay Biological Station. In 1990, the Branch petitioned the National AALAS office to change the district boundaries so that the Northern Rocky Mountain Branch would be incorporated into District 8 (rather than District 6). Later that year, the Northern Rocky Mountain Branch became the ninth Branch to join District 8. Representative institutions that make up the Branch membership included University of Montana,

Montana State University, NIH, Rocky Mountain Laboratory, Ribi ImmunoChemResearch, Inc., McLaughlin Research Institute, Washington State University, and University of Idaho. There are also numerous commercial members which represent many companies that served the northwest animal biomedical community. Due to the large geographical area of the membership, only one official meeting is held each year. The two-day meeting is held at the Yellow Bay Biological station on the east bank of Flat Head Lake. The rustic beauty and natural surroundings of the station adds to the enjoyment and enhances the learning experience for all who attend. Recently a boat cruise on the lake has been incorporated into the meeting schedule. Although the Branch is fairly young and not very large, the membership is currently planning to host the District 8 annual meeting in the year 2002.

Oklahoma Branch (44): This Branch became affiliated in 1977.

Orange County Branch (45): This Branch became affiliated in 1990. The first president was Skeeter Georgenson from University of California, Irvine. In 1998, they had about 120 members from University of California-Irvine, Allergan Pharmaceuticals, NAMSA, Cortex, Cocensys, Long Beach Veterans Administration Hospital, California State University Fullerton, Baxter, and McGaw. The Branch sponsors a yearly symposium, a yearly picnic, and has a yearly Christmas party with the Palms to Pines Branch.

Oregon Branch (46): The Branch became affiliated in 1972. The first officers were: president, Frank N. Dost; president-elect, Robert E. Larson; and secretary/treasurer, Dan Wilkins. People involved with the group at the beginning were quite varied in background—Frank Dost, Oregon State University, agricultural chemistry; Robert Larsen, Oregon State University, pharmacology; Al Rogers, University of Oregon's Medical School, Department of Animal Care; Fred Labavitch, University of Oregon Medical School, Department of Animal Care; Bill Dacy, University of Oregon Medical School, Department of Animal Care; Art Hall, Oregon Regional Primate Research Center, Animal Science; Nephi Patton, Oregon State University, Laboratory Animal Resources; Greg Stickrod, University of Oregon, Department of Biology; and others from Portland State University, the University of Portland, George Fox College, Reed College, the Washington Park Zoo, Linfield College, and Battelle Northwest Laboratories in Richland, WA. Prior to the establishment of the Washington Branch, the Branch had participation in Portland from the University of Washington and Washington State University.

Palms to Pines Branch (47): Towards the end of 1986, individuals living and working in the Riverside and San Bernardino Counties of California found it increasingly difficult to become active and attend meetings of the Southern California Branch of AALAS which held most of its meetings in the Los Angeles area. The enthusiasm and dedication of the technicians and veterinarians in the Riverside, Loma Linda, San Bernardino, and Pomona areas of Southern California prompted the formation of this new Branch of AALAS to be known as the "Palms to Pines Branch". After two initial organizational meetings, the Palms to Pines Branch held its inaugural meeting on February 5, 1987, at the University of California at Riverside. The name was selected because the members came from a large area encompassing the beaches, deserts, and mountains of the Inland Empire and Orange County—from palm trees to pine trees. The name itself met with some resistance at National AALAS. However, an agreement was reached that the name California be appended to the Branch name at the National level, which as of today has pretty much dropped from mention in the National AALAS records.

The "Founding Fathers" of the Palms to Pines Branch were

Charles Kean (Loma Linda University) and Bob Robinson (University of California, Riverside). At the first general meeting, the membership was polled for volunteers to serve as the acting officers and committee chairs until a formal election could be held. The following people accepted those responsibilities: acting president, Luann Rhine, University of California, Riverside; acting treasurer, Patrick D. Bush, University of California, Riverside; acting secretary, Charles Kean, Loma Linda University; acting programs and education chair, Ann Van Dyke, University of California, Riverside; and acting membership chair, Norma Kash, University of California, Riverside.

In March 1987, at the first Board of Directors meeting, an "Emergency Roster" of acting directors were appointed until the elections could be held in April. The roster went along with the consensus that there should be equal voting representation among the local institutions. The initial voting members were: Acting President - Luann Rhine, University of California, Riverside; Acting Treasurer - Patrick D. Bush, University of California, Riverside; Acting Secretary - Charles Kean, Loma Linda University; Acting Director - Richard Fehn, California State University, San Bernardino; Acting Director - Steve Wickler, California Polytechnic University, Pomona; Acting Director - Carlo Warren, Loma Linda Veteran's Administration Hospital; and Acting Director - Judy Wood, Loma Linda University. In addition to the voting members of the Board of Directors, there were several *ex officio* members: parliamentarian/TBR, Leigh Bruno, University of California, Riverside; newsletter editor, Sally Scott, University of California, Riverside; acting programs and education chair, Ann Van Dyke, University of California, Riverside; and acting membership chair, Norma Kash, University of California, Riverside.

On April 14, 1987 at the second general meeting, the first Board of Directors was announced and approved by the membership. They were: president, Luann Rhine, University of California, Riverside; president-elect, Melissa Davis, Loma Linda University; treasurer, Patrick D. Bush, University of California, Riverside; secretary, Norma Kash, University of California, Riverside; director, Richard Fehn, California State University, San Bernardino; director, Steve Wickler, California Polytechnic University, Pomona; director, Carlo Warren, Loma Linda Veteran's Administration Hospital; and director, William Winchester, University of California, Irvine. By June 1987, the Branch established a membership of 65 individuals and held four general membership meetings. The membership of the Branch was concerned primarily with member education and education of the community. Discussion centered around training high school biology teachers, and teaching individuals to deal with the media or small groups. In addition, there was a push to offer a class in laboratory animal technology.

The first year saw many quality meetings and programs. At the last meeting of the year, the following people received awards: Technician of the Year, Elizabeth Dashne; Supervisor of the Year, Luann Rhine; and Outstanding Service, Luann Rhine. By the end of the first year, the membership grew to 96 members, including 11 institutional members, and the Branch had been officially recognized as an official Branch of National AALAS. Also during this year, Sally Scott, newsletter editor, resigned after the release of the second issue. Her duties were taken over by Judy Wood of Loma Linda University. Melissa Davis resigned the office of president-elect in October. A general election was held for the position, and Richard Fehn became president for 1988 and Patrick D. Bush became president-elect in 1988. In addition two new

Board members were elected: Charles Kean, replacing Richard Fehn, and Judy Wood, replacing William Winchester.

Research Triangle Branch (48): On November 20, 1972, Barbara Z. Phillips, Clayton A. Cisar, James R. Pick, Eugene M. Wright Jr., Daniel Moncol, Joe Wagner, Don Feldman, Bill Macklin, Dennis G. Casey, Gordon Houston, Bill Lewis, Lyman C. Franklin, and Helen R. Sanders signed a petition of affiliation to establish the Research Triangle Branch of AALAS. On December 14 1972, the Research Triangle Branch sent the petition for affiliation to the National organization. The petition was sent by the first president, Clayton Cisar, who was chief of the Animal Care Section at the Environmental Protection Agency in Research Triangle Park. He was elected president at the first Branch meeting in November 1992, which was attended by 25 people. Stephen Trombitas, from Becton, Dickinson Research Center, was elected as the secretary-treasurer at the same meeting. Joe Garvey sent the proposed Branch by-laws to Harvey Sarner, an attorney in Chicago, Ill. for review. Sarner asked only that the word fellowship be deleted from Article II, Section 2. He also suggested that "this Branch is unique in that it represents such a narrow geographic area." He suggested that the "members of the Executive Committee may wish to discuss whether this is a major change in the Branch system." Joe Garvey called (and followed up with a letter dated January 18, 1973) Clayton Cisar and told him that "the subject of naming Branches was reviewed very thoroughly the year that the Kansas City Branch was approved as an affiliate. The original application stipulated the name 'Heart of America Branch.' The Board of Trustees recommended that Branches consider the use of states and large metropolitan areas in the selecting of Branch names." He then listed other Branches which had changed their names and stated that he would be willing to submit the application as it stood or wait until the group reconsidered the name. Kenneth D. Quist, one of the District 4 Trustees at the time, wrote on January 23, 1973, to suggest that the Branch call itself the "North Carolina Branch or something more descriptive of a broader area." The Branch met in February 1973 and voted to keep the name the Research Triangle Branch for several reasons, expressed in a February 22, 1973 letter to the Board of Trustees.

"First, the majority of National members (all but three from the mailing list) in North Carolina are located either within the Triangle itself or within commuting distance. Second, the geographic area encompassed by the Triangle is larger than that of the area covered by the National Capital Area Branch which could also be described as a narrow geographic area and that the concentration of research facilities in this area now and expected in the future is somewhat unique. Last, because of this concentration and the characteristics of the Research Triangle Park itself, we feel that the majority of the research institutions moved or established in North Carolina will be in our area." He stated that the Branch was meeting the second Tuesday of each month in the auditorium of the National Environmental Research Center, EPA. The Branch was affiliated on March 12, 1973. The first officers were: president, Gene Wright; vice-president, Bill Macklin and secretary/treasurer, Ann Troutman. The Branch incorporated as a 501(c)(3) corporation in North Carolina on April 21, 1980. The first meeting of the directors was held at the offices of Sloan, Hassell and Broadwell in Raleigh on April 24, 1980. The directors were: Norman Braune, William Brown, Richard A. Carter, Don Feldman, Phillip T. Johnson, Blair Rehnberg, Helen Sanders, Billie Sumrell, and Norman L. Sloan. Helen Saunders was elected chairman and Blair Rehnberg was elected secretary of the meeting.

San Diego Branch (27): The Branch became affiliated June 6, 1966. Wesley Hendricks of the University of California, San Diego was the first president. The Branch was instrumental in initiating a training program for animal technicians at San Diego City College.

Sierra Nevada Branch (49): On April 22, 1998, 17 individuals from the University of Nevada-Reno and Sierra Biomedical, Inc., met to discuss the need for a local Branch. Dick Simmonds presided over the meeting. Eighteen signatures were collected from National members in the Reno, Sparks, and Las Vegas areas including: Rick Saucedo, Hilario Lopez, Marisa Garza, Roy Balban, Steve Cleveland, Tricia Zeman, Satch Siviga, John Cody Resendez, Tracy Guorio, Russell Starr, Audra Long, Richard C. Simmons, Marsha E. Moon, Jewel S. Sutton, Fred D. Howe, William Heckt, Rebecca Mihm, and Richard Eisenhauer. Acting officers were elected: William Heckt, University of Nevada Reno, president; John C. Bernal, Sierra Biomedical, vice-president; and Marisa A. Garza, secretary/treasurer. The name Sierra Nevada Branch was also selected. The petitions, along with copies of the constitution and by-laws were sent to the National office on May 1, 1998. On June 8, the Branch was informed that they were approved as the 49th Branch.

Southeastern Branch (50): In 1966 the Southeastern Branch was chartered, originally named the Georgia Branch. The first officers were: president, Kenneth D. Quist; president-elect, Norman Guilloud; and secretary/treasurer, William R. Thomas. Five years later, in 1971, the name was changed to the Southeastern Branch to be more representative of the membership, which consisted of members from South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi.

Southern California Branch (51): On April 30, 1959 a meeting was called to discuss setting up the Branch. Those attending were: Norman Bleicher, University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA); Lester S. Skinner, UCLA; Gus Breuer, UCLA; Clark Ward, Cedars of Lebanon; Niles Hoag, University of Southern California, (USC); Arline M. Herman, UCLA, Bennett J. Cohen, UCLA; Thelma J. Dean, West Los Angeles Veterans Administration Medical Center; Bob Constable, UCLA; and Sam Spillers, Mission Laboratory Supplies. On May 11, 1959, Norman Bleicher wrote to Robert J. Flynn, the Secretary of the Animal Care Panel, informing him of the effort to form a Branch. The first meeting of the proposed Branch was held June 23, 1959 at the University of California Medical Center, Los Angeles. Bennett J. Cohen addressed that meeting.

Sidney Sobin, College of Medical Evangelists (CME), suggested that the group be organized as the Southern California Branch of the Animal Care Panel. Ralph D. Gann (California Clinical Animals) moved that the constitution be adopted as presented. Otto E. Lobstein (Chem-Tech Labs) moved that the Organizing Committee continue and have the authority to screen the members to have a better representation from the Southern California area. Otto E. Lobstein moved that the organizing dues be \$1. At the next meeting on September 17, 1959, at the UCLA Medical Center the following officers were elected: president, Marietta Voge, UCLA; vice-president, Sidney S. Sobin, College of Medical Evangelists; secretary/treasurer, Norman Bleicher, UCLA; and national representative, Norman Bleicher, UCLA. The Branch was affiliated on September 17, 1959. On October 15, 1959 the president appointed the following members to the council: Sam D. Spillers, Lester S. Skinner, J. Knox Smith and Karl W. Hagen. Thelma J. Dean was appointed chairman of the Program Committee and member of the council. The first dues were \$1 until January 1, 1960, when dues were raised to \$3 for

members and \$1.50 for associate members. The membership list on April 8, 1960 listed 51 members. Twenty five were members of the Animal Care Panel.

Southern New England Branch (44): This Branch became affiliated in 1989.

Southern Ohio Branch (52): The initial meeting of those involved in laboratory animal care in Cincinnati was held April 29, 1952, at the Kettering Laboratory. George Acheson chaired the session, with Jules Cass presenting "Highlights of Papers Presented at the Annual Animal Care Panel" in Chicago, November, 1951. There were 27 members in attendance. The second meeting, August 27, 1952, was chaired by Jules Cass. L. H. Schmidt of Christ Hospital spoke on "Husbandry of Monkeys, Twenty Years of Experience." Informal meetings were held periodically with one on March 22, 1955, at the University of Cincinnati with two innovative topics—Consideration by several groups across the nation regarding the development of a plan for accreditation of people in the field of laboratory animal care and the rules of animal care being developed by several scientific and professional organizations such as the AMA, the American Physiological Association, and others. An organizational meeting publicized as the "Greater Cincinnati Animal Care Panel" was held July 25, 1962, at the Veterans Administration Hospital. About 16 institutions were represented by 37 members. A pro-tempore slate of officers were selected: Richard Hoar, president and William D. Wagner, secretary/treasurer.

On October 31, 1962, a meeting was held at the Christ Hospital Institute of Medical Research to approve the constitution for the Southern Ohio Branch of the Animal Care Panel. The following officers were elected: Richard Hoar, president; Carl Smith, vice president; William D. Wagner, secretary/treasurer; and Elmer J. Hoeltge, national representative. The Branch became officially affiliated on September 30, 1963. President Richard Hoar outlined the format of a proposed training course for laboratory animal technicians at the October 30, 1963, meeting. The incumbent officers were reelected for 1964. The officers for 1965 were: Carl Smith, president; J. W. Newberne, vice president and William D. Wagner, secretary/treasurer. Steele Mattingly was president in 1966–1967.

Southern Wisconsin Branch (53): The Wisconsin Branch of Animal Care Panel was formed in the early 1960s in Madison, but was dissolved by the late 1960s. In 1971, when Wisconsin again started a Branch, it was in Milwaukee and only included Milwaukee institutions. Madison was beginning to organize and considered starting a separate Branch in the late 1970s, but eventually ended up joining Milwaukee to form Southern Wisconsin AALAS. The Southern Wisconsin Branch of AALAS (SWAALAS) was founded in 1971 by 10 national members of AALAS including Ron Larson, Ed Moffat, Oscar Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Edstrom, and Jim McDonald. Members of the Branch represented Wisconsin institutions including the Medical College of Milwaukee, Covance Laboratories, the University of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Regional Primate Center, ARS Sprague-Dawley, Madison Area Technical College, the Veterans Administration Medical Center-Milwaukee, and others. In 1974, the Branch joined forces with the Chicago Branch (CB-AALAS) to create an annual regional meeting, known as the InterBranch Meeting. The InterBranch Meeting was formed to provide educational and networking experiences for those unable to attend the National Meeting, and provide an experience platform for those with upcoming presentations at the national meeting. The Branches celebrated the 25th year of this

annual meeting on September 18, 1998, at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee, Wis.

Texas Branch (54): J. D. McCrady attended a summer course at the Baylor College of Medicine in 1960. In 1961 he was asked to join Baylor as director of their vivarium. He was teaching at Texas A & M in the fall, so he stayed and kept that obligation. He joined Baylor in 1962. He immediately realized that there was a great lack of information about how to run a vivarium and he wrote to the executive committee of the Animal Care Panel for help.

Joe Garvey wrote and told him that if he could find 25 people they could start a Texas Branch. He contacted John Jardine at the Texas Medical Center and Archie Flowers at Texas A & M University and they began to plan the first meeting. On December 12, 1962, the first meeting was held at Texas A & M. Thirty-three members and approximately 50 veterinary students attended. M. B. Starnes, Health Science Center at Dallas, was asked to preside and temporary officers were elected: chairman, Gene M. Gowing; vice-chairman, Robert Young; and secretary, M. B. Starnes. On May 1, 1963, at a meeting at Texas A & M, 23 members attended and five guests. Gene M. Gowing acknowledged the early work of J. D. McCrady in getting the Texas Branch organized. Elections were held and the following were elected: Gene M. Gowing, president; Archie. I. Flowers, president-elect; and M.B. Starnes, secretary/treasurer. The Board of Directors were: J. D. McCrady, Sara E. Huggins, Dale Bold, and Thomas Wolfe. The constitution and by-laws were adopted at that meeting. At the November 1, 1965, meeting, at the El Tropicano Motel in San Antonio, the publication of a newsletter was placed under consideration.

At the next annual meeting, November 4–5, 1966, at the University of Texas in Dallas the board requested, after recommendation of the Professional Education Committee, that Texas A&M establish a post-doctoral training program in lab animal medicine and a course in biomedical medicine at the Bachelor of Science level. Archie Flowers started the masters program in laboratory animal medicine as a joint effort of Brooks Army Hospital and Texas A & M.

In a letter dated April 5, 1966, Sidney O. Brown informed J.D. McCrady that the Texas Branch had voted to have a newsletter published four times each year. The 1967 annual meeting was held on March 17 at Texas A&M in conjunction with the Texas Academy of Science. The estimated attendance was 200. The board received the recommendation to change the name from the Texas Branch of the Animal Care Panel to the Texas Branch AALAS.

In 1971 A. O. Broome, and William Voss launched a major effort to get the commercial vendors actively involved in the annual meeting, which greatly strengthened the financial stability of the organization and the Branch grew rapidly. Other people who were instrumental in the early days of the Branch were Robert Young, Jerry Fineg, Bill Hill, and Al Broome.

Three Rivers Branch (55): On November 3, 1977, the first formal meeting was held to organize an AALAS Branch at the University of Pittsburgh and 42 people attended.

The first draft of the constitution and by-laws was prepared by December, 1977. A second meeting was held on January 18, 1978 and provisional officers were elected. Paul Bramson became president; Diane Tipton became secretary/treasurer; and Anthony Battelli became program chairman.

The constitution and by-laws were amended in March 1978. On May 4, 1978, a letter was sent to Joe Garvey, Executive Secretary of AALAS, requesting approval of the Three Rivers Branch of AALAS. The letter included the constitution, by-laws

and the names of the 13 National Members. On May 25, 1978 another letter to Joe Garvey was sent that had the signatures of the 13 National Members. They were: Robert L. Alfieri, West Virginia University; Tony Batelli, Magee Women's Hospital; Paul Bramson, Carnegie Mellon Institute of Research; Deborah Burton, Carnegie Mellon Institute of Research, Naomi Condra, Carnegie Mellon Institute of Research; Joseph Dantoni, Westminster Scientific; Robert B. Faroo, Hazelton Systems, Inc; George R. Fritz, Jr., University of Pittsburgh; Amy Ingraham, Magee Women's Hospital; Bill Miedel, Hilltop Lab Animals Inc.; Jim Miedel, Hilltop Lab Animals Inc.; and Diane M. Tipton, Dubois Chemical Company.

On September 1, 1978 a letter from Joe Garvey brought the news that the Branch had been approved July 18, 1978. On September 20, 1978 the Branch had its first official meeting. They nominated officers and committee chairmen and established a technician certification training program. The first officers were: president, Paul Bramson; treasurer, Carol Acrie; and secretary, Amy Ingraham. The charter membership list for 1978 included 40 individuals, one associate/student, and three institutional members. They were: Carol A. Acrie, Robert L. Alfieri, Tony Batteli, Gene A. Bingham, Sallie S. Boggs, Paul H. Bramson, Deborah Sue Burton, Naomim Condra, Joseph L. Dantoni, Denise L. Eisler, Robert B. Faroo, George R. Fritz, Edward A. Haller, John W. Harkness, Warren Hertach, Amy S. Ingraham, Charles F. Krito, Heinz W. Kunz, Keith J. Madrishin, James E. Madrishin, Bill Meidel, James Miedel, Tom Miedel, George S. Miller, William H. Mitchell, John H. Munster, Lauren Beth Nethery, Donna Paich, David C. Phillips III, Daniel E. Rihn, Duane R. Saylor, Walter Scott, Jr., Roger F. Sembrat, M L. Simmons, William C. Smith, Diane M. Tipton, Jean Watson, Gordon Weinstock, Charles White, Walt Zepanski, and William J. Zivic. The institutional members were: Hazelton-Prime Labs, Hilltop Lab Animals, and Penn State University. On February 27, 1979, the first technician training course was begun under the direction of David Phillips and 25 students were enrolled. In March, 1979, the first newsletter was sent. George Miller was the editor and Donna Paich was the assistant editor. In February 1989 the First Agway Animal Technician Award was presented to Mary Ann Depta of Hilltop Lab Animals. In 1980, Donna Paich of the University of Pittsburgh was presented the first Special Merit Award. Michael Maranowski received the second Special Merit Award in 1997. In December 1983, the first Donna Paich Award for outstanding service to the Branch was awarded to Anthony Battelli of Magee Women's Hospital.

Upstate New York Branch (56): The Branch was organized under the name of the Upstate Animal Care Panel. It became affiliated September 30, 1963.

The earliest meeting records are for a meeting which was held on April 1, 1964. Twenty nine members joined at that meeting. The first Branch president was Sam Martin. Other early members included Victor Kadar, John Gilmartin. W. W. Stone, Frank Melrose, C. J. Terhaar, Dennis Baker, Ed Greenstein, Rich Langenbach, Jim Huftalen, Michael Chapman, and Hans Kappel.

A constitution was drafted that year and the geographical boundaries were set as Watertown (north), Binghamton (south), Albany (east), and Buffalo (west). The first Branch roster listed a total of 102 members. Within two years the Branch had grown to 166 members. As early as 1965 the Branch was already involved in technician training when 196 technicians enrolled in the first training program. Classes were held concurrently in Albany, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo. The Branch developed several

annual awards. The most prestigious, the Charles E. Schadler Award is given annually to the individual who has made a long-term commitment and outstanding contributions to the principles of humane laboratory animal care. The first recipient was Rich Langerbach in 1972. Other awards were the Agway Award, first won by Vern Korths in 1977; the Purina Mills Prolab Award, first won by Thomas Roberts in 1996; the Ancare Award, first won by John Lumpkin in 1976; the Harlan Teklad Award, first won by Dennis Piccione in 1989; the Wayne Award, first won by Sam Martin in 1966; the Technician of the Year Award, first won by Janet Neubecker and Jim Young in 1979; the Branch Scholarship Award, first won by Lynda Jenson Young in 1986; the Allied Trades Award, first won by Bob Bentzinger in 1994; and the Poster Awards.

In 1997 the Branch established a lifetime membership category. At a special ceremony, 15 lifetime members were inducted: Dennis Baker, Deborah Bond, Michael Chapman, John Gilmartin, James Huftalen, Gerry Houck, Hans Kappel, Vernon Korths, Richard Angenbach, Gilman Marshall, Samuel Martin, Jon Mott, Frederick Ritter, Edgar Villa, and David Wheatley. Eleven individuals were present to receive their award.

Utah Branch (44): This Branch became affiliated in 1977.

Washington Branch (57): Although the formation of the Washington Branch had been discussed for many years it did not have its beginning until the District 8 meeting was held in Seattle in May, 1978. On May 9, an organizational meeting was held in the Sea-Tac Red Lion Inn.

The meeting was chaired by Jim Thomsen and the following people were present: Sharon Baze, M. Gil Brown, Gary Ell, Linda Gorham, Carol Hanf, Roy Howard Jr., V. Glenn Horstman, Charles Hunter, D. O. Jenkins, Dan Johnson, Dick Jol, John Ludders, Glen Miller, Ron Orta, Wallace Peterson, P. D. Pierce, Carol Shelmerdine, Don Snyder, Mary Thomsen, Jim Thomsen, Jan E. van den Broek, Gerald L. Van Hoosier, and Edward Wierman. Some of the institutions represented included Battelle Northwest, the University of Washington, Simon Fraser University, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, and the University of British Columbia.

The National President of AALAS, Charles Hunter, was introduced and was asked to take the petition for the Branch formation to the National office for approval. New officers were elected: Jim Thomsen, president; V. Glenn Horstman, president-elect; Carol Shelmerdine, secretary; and Don Johnson, treasurer. The Board of Directors included Gerald Van Hoosier, M. Gil Brown, Jan E. van den Broek, Bill Johnson, Gerald Blakley, and Ron Orta. In June 1979, Jim Thomsen sent out Vol 1, Number 1 of the newsletter with an application enclosed. On November 16 the Branch had its first meeting at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. Seven members attended that first meeting. The Branch now has 82 individual and seven institutional members.

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