



Dr. Stephen J. Vore



ASR President Message



Best Poster 2020



Tech Tips

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# SURGICAL SAVVY

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## Dr. Stephen J. Vore



The Academy recently lost one of its driving forces in Dr. Stephan Vore. Steve joined the Academy in 1996 and was an active member of the Academy's Board of Directors from 1999 through 2005, and remained involved even after he retired. He was an active member and attended the annual meeting for over 15 years. Please use the link below to the official obituary should you wish to send your condolences to the family or read more information about Steve.

[Obituary | Stephen J. Vore | Paul Funeral Home](#)

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## A Special Tribute

I had the honor of meeting Steven 20 years ago over a beer with Bob Coatney and Jim Manke while discussing how to revive the ASR.

Steven and I immediately became close friends and confidants. His favorite joke was upon checkin: Doctor Doctor, not that kind, don't call us to deliver a baby in the middle of the night.

Steven was a teacher and a mentor to many with no expectation of anything in return.

My sympathy and thoughts go out to Pat and his kids.

I will always love and cherish our friendship

Tom Long - your partner in crime

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Steve was president of the Academy in 2002 and 2003. He virtually kept the Academy alive over those two years. I would discuss issues with him for the years after that and he would always say he was a great worrier so he would ease our burden and worry for us. He told Patty that when he passed along the news of his death to tell Jim and Kathi that he will no longer be able to worry for us but he was going to look down as a naughty angel with a halo in his hand! Amen.

To view his obituary click here:

[Obituary](#) | [Stephen J. Vore](#) | [Paul Funeral Home](#)

Jim Manke, CAE  
ASR Executive Director

Like everyone else, I will also miss Steve and he really was a driving force for ASR during his tenure and even after he 'retired'. He truly loved the organization and most of all the people. I think the comradery that he felt with all of us, and us with him, was and is a critical part of the Academy. Even though some of us have had other work and life commitments change over the years, it's those bonds working with Steve and all of you that make ASR a special organization.

I'll miss Steve dearly but really cherish the time spent with him.

Mike

Michael Talcott, DVM, DAFLAM

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## 2020-2021 ASR President Message

I'd like to extend a huge Thank You to our 2020 President Heather Bogie! Last year was one of the craziest years any ASR president had to live through with all the unprecedented challenges due to COVID. Heather was required to make several tough decisions but ultimately managed to keep the Academy functional and strong. She worked diligently over the past few years to update our website, and also headed the project to optimize our abstract submission process on the new website. Heather also organized the first ever Virtual ASR Meeting, which included the option to access the meeting content until the end of the year. Those who attended the meeting thought it was extremely successful and provided overwhelmingly positive feedback. We were fortunate to have had Heather at the helm in 2020 and thank her again for her dedication to the success of the Academy!



Tracy Ziegelhofer

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### Please Welcome Tracy Ziegelhofer

Thank you for your very kind words for Heather Bogie. We are very pleased to be acknowledging you now as our ASR President for 2020-2021. You are coming in on a continuing difficult time and we appreciate all of the work that you have already taken on and are continuing with during your year as President. We are confident that you will be great and look forward to when we can all see each other again.





Spring Edition 2021

## The Michael DeLeo Award Poster Competition

The Michael DeLeo award is presented to the individual that receives the highest score in the poster competition at our annual meeting. During the 2020 Virtual Meeting we had a variety of posters that included original research, technology highlights from our industry partners as well as some favorites from years past. Attendees were asked to rate the posters based on abstract, methodology and conclusions, as well as the oral presentation. The winner of the Michael DeLeo award for best poster in the ASR 2020 Annual Virtual Meeting is Lena Medina from InStech Laboratories who presented the poster “Refining Rodent Vascular Access”.

Jose Negron-Garcia  
Program Chair

**Title of the poster is: [Refining Rodent Vascular Access](#)**

**Company Description: Founded in 1971, Instech Laboratories, Inc. is focused on the design and manufacturing of equipment for rodent infusion, sampling and oral dosing.**

**Lena Medina, RLATG, 2020**

Lena Medina is passionate about Laboratory Animal models and is presenting on Refining Rodent Vascular Access. The presentation will explain the VABs from Instech and how they can help contribute to the 3Rs in research including compassion fatigue since these are so freaking easy to use! Why the hell everyone isn't using-- them we don't know? They stop the pain to animals and are easy for the human to use.

**Congratulations Lena!**

Please remember the next time that we can all see each other again in person at our ASR annual meeting say Hi to Lena and get to know a little more about this knowledgeable, interesting - and fun – individual.



## VIRTUAL BRAD 2021

Biomedical Research Awareness Day

ASR has partnered with Biomedical Research Awareness Day, a program devoted to honoring the role of animals in biomedical research and promoting career opportunities in the field. The official 2021 BRAD will be held in the fall due to the current widespread restrictions on in-person events. In the meantime, BRAD is once again hosting a “virtual BRAD” this spring on **April 15th**. The COVID-19 pandemic has repeatedly highlighted the critical role of animals in public health and vaccine development. Let’s help the world see how animal research benefits each of us every day by sharing our stories of health and survival.

BRAD is collecting personal stories about diseases or medical conditions that have directly impacted your life or that of a loved one, human or animal. On April 15th, watch as BRAD social media posts connect real patient stories with animal research. They will specifically highlight which species helped find the treatment that benefited your friend, family member, pet, or yourself! We would love ASR membership to share their stories! To participate, simply click [this link](#) and share your story.

We encourage you to submit a photo with your story and be a part of the BRAD poster series to be printed & included in BRAD 2021 boxes.

And guess what...there are exclusive prizes for ASR members, including free annual meeting membership, free BRAD registration, and BRAD t-shirts! Institutional prizes\* are also available for participating.

\*The prizes above apply to institutions in North America. Prizes for international institutions are available as well and will be determined on an individual basis.

[Here’s a link with more information](#), and two flyers are attached with details about the activity and the prizes that will be offered.

Ready to register for the official BRAD on September 16th, 2021? Click [here](#).



## What would you like to share?

The ASR newsletter needs you!

Send us a tech tip or article to share your knowledge with other members.

Tell us about yourself and/or where you work, what you do, an amazing story from work.

## CEU's are Awarded

2 CE credits are awarded for a tech tip

CE credits have increased from 2 to 4 for articles

4 CE credits are awarded for the submission of an article that is accepted by the Certifications Committee and published in Surgical Savvy.

Submission of articles is accepted anytime.

Please submit electronically to Norleen Caddy

[norleen.caddy@drdc-rddc.gc.ca](mailto:norleen.caddy@drdc-rddc.gc.ca)

Attach any pictures in jpg format and documents in Microsoft Word format.



## Member Highlight

**Lori Mattox, RVT, RLATG, SRA**

**Senior Animal Health Technician  
The Ohio State University**

### AALAS Technician of the Year Award

The Technician of the Year Award recognizes an individual for their accomplishment and contribution to the promotion of laboratory animal care.

Criteria for the nomination is:

1. Current member of National AALAS.
2. Have daily contact with laboratory animals in the form of handling, feeding, watering, changing cages, or delivering veterinary technical services.
3. Contribution to the laboratory animal field at the institutional level through identification and implementation of new or improved techniques in the care of animals.
4. Demonstration of outstanding individual work performance, positive attitude, team work, and motivation.
5. Hold an animal care position with minimal supervisory responsibilities.
6. Demonstrated interest in attaining additional education and training preferred.
7. Successful candidates must have:
  - RALAT, RLAT, or RLATG certification
  - Participation in the AALAS Registry
  - Active in local or National AALAS through participation on committees or other volunteer commitments preferred

Lori was nominated by a thoughtful co-worker and has been a member of ASR since 2015.

**Congratulations Lori!!**



Spring Edition 2021

## 37th Annual Virtual Meeting

Save the Date! OCT. 4 - 8, 2021

Program Details Coming Soon!

This year's meeting will be conducted virtually the week of October 4<sup>th</sup> 2021, providing the opportunity for attendees to participate in all sessions. Key highlights of this virtual meeting include:

- A diverse program that includes the latest trends and best-practice recommendations in topics such as surgical techniques, anesthesia and analgesia, pre-, intra-, and post-operative care, catheter and vascular access port care and maintenance, telemetry, medical devices, animal welfare and the 3Rs, and more.
- Program content that will be accessible on-demand for a number of months following the event.
- Automatically-tracked attendance for your CE credits

In our new virtual format, you will have the option to present content as a Live Webinar (with a focus on either the Scientific nature of your work or the Surgical Methods) or as an On-Demand Poster.

For more details go to the ASR website or use the link below:

<https://surgicalresearch.org/annual-meeting/>

### Abstract Submission Process

<https://surgicalresearch.org/annual-meeting-submission>

**Submit directly online! Abstract Submission Deadline: August 14, 2020**

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## Tech Tips

This section is intended to present some useful tips that have been shared from some of our members and co-workers. They are brief and meant to help make our work lives at least a little easier.

Please keep them coming by submitting to: [norleen.caddy@drdc-rddc.gc.ca](mailto:norleen.caddy@drdc-rddc.gc.ca)

Kathryn Nichols at DSI collected these from some of her co-workers:

### Perioperative support/Techniques

- To keep ECG leads from pulling out of the muscle, place a tack suture in the muscle and tie the tails around the lead just before it enters the muscle.
- Hydrate tissues often, dry tissues are dead tissues
- Make sure your animals are kept warm during prep as well as through surgery and recovery.
- For mouse carotid telemetry surgery, always determine depth prior to implanting your catheter.
- Make sure your square knots are secure.
- Dental acrylic does not adhere to anything wet, and it must be applied smoothly on the skull for implantable EEG telemetry. During application, hold the skin on the head with rat-tooth forceps and use the wet underside of the skin to smooth out any rough/uneven areas before it cures fully.

### Devices/Equipment

- If you need to cauterize a small vessel, hold the vessel with forceps and touch cautery to the forceps to easily stop bleeding.
- If you do not have a cautery device and only a capillary bleed to deal with: heat the tip of a small blunt probe or similar in a glass bead sterilizer for approximately 20 seconds and apply to the site of bleeding. This is also great if you do not have a regular use for a cautery instrument.
- Gelpis can be used for retraction to minimize tissue damage.
- To keep fluids warm for rodent surgery, place your sterile saline in a specimen cup in a personal-size crockpot. Make sure the crockpot isn't too full, otherwise your saline cup will float.
- If you have trouble obtaining Actril for sterilizing DSI telemetry devices, you can use Spor Klenz. It's the exact same thing.

**Note: If you have tips that you would like to share please send them in along with any more categories that you would like to suggest. We have had plenty of requests for this feature so let's keep it going!**



## Volunteer to be on one of the ASR Committees

You can reach out to any board member and do that at any time for more information on how to help out

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## Please consider becoming a corporate sponsor of ASR

To learn more, visit:

<https://surgicalresearch.org/corporate-partners/>

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## ASR Communications Committee

Norleen Caddy	<a href="mailto:norleen.caddy@drdc-rddc.gc.ca">norleen.caddy@drdc-rddc.gc.ca</a>
Tracy Ziegelhofer	<a href="mailto:tracy.ziegelhofer@covance.com">tracy.ziegelhofer@covance.com</a>
Liane Pinkos	<a href="mailto:lpinkos@sai-infusion.com">lpinkos@sai-infusion.com</a>
Jennifer Sheehan	<a href="mailto:jennifer.sheehan@covance.com">jennifer.sheehan@covance.com</a>

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<https://surgicalresearch.org/>

Remember to also complete your member profile in the Members Only section by signing in.