A YEAR TO REMEMBER

2019

AN EXCITING FUTURE
Dedication and Celebration for Shelter Medicine Practitioners

The Association of Shelter Veterinarians is heading into 2020 with the incredible momentum built during 2019. This momentum stemmed from contributions by all involved with the organization. It is with tremendous gratitude for the ideas and hard work of our members, board and management company as well as the sponsorships that make this work possible that the ASV Board of Directors is excited to present this 2019 Year-in-Review.

Mission of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians

The mission of the ASV is to advance and support the practice of Shelter Medicine in order to improve community animal health and well-being.

ASV Vision

- ASV members are universally recognized as the authorities in shelter medicine.
- Every veterinary student receives education in shelter medicine.
- Animals in every community are supported by at least one ASV member.
- All ASV members feel supported by the organization.
Look Back, Move Forward

Dr. Erin Doyle
ASV Immediate Past-President

The Association of Shelter Veterinarians is heading into 2020 with the incredible momentum built during 2019. I’ve been honored to serve as the ASV’s president over the last two years and am equally honored to be able to hand over the reins in 2020 to the capable and wonderful Dr. Chumkee Aziz. Dr. Aziz will be taking over leadership of an organization that is primed for growth by the ideas and efforts of an engaged and enthusiastic membership and board.

In the excitement of looking towards the future, I would be remiss not to acknowledge the tremendous accomplishments of prior leadership in bringing the organization to where it is today. These accomplishments include not only the visionary work of our founding members but also the more recent structural work to enable sustainability of our growing organization. It is through the foundation laid by prior leadership that we can continue to grow and innovate as an organization.

This report will detail these areas of growth and innovation. Regardless of your role within the ASV, please never hesitate to reach out with comments, ideas or feedback. I give my tremendous thanks to all of you for all that you do for the organization and for allowing me the honor of serving as your president. I hope you enjoy reading about all the wonderful 2019 accomplishments of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians!

Past, Present and Future

American Board of Veterinary Practitioners Shelter Medicine Specialty – Continuing to Grow!

The fifth credentialing and examination cycle for the certification in the new ABVP shelter medicine specialty was completed in 2019. There continues to be interest and support for growing the specialty. The community continues to build support and knowledge that will help further develop a vibrant future for shelter medicine. The goal of certification remains to help veterinary professionals be the very best while advancing excellence in this special practice area.

For more information on the credentialing process visit the ABVP website.
2019 ABVP Symposium

ASV and ABVP collaborated to organize a shelter tour held Friday evening during the ABVP Symposium. The ASV-sponsored tour of Longmont Humane Society in Longmont, CO was kindly led and planned by Dr. Gail Rapport, Shelter Medical Director at Longmont Humane Society and active ASV member. Participants were treated to a chartered bus ride to the shelter, a guided tour of the facilities and delicious food and drink.

ASV Members Reception

The 2019 ASV Member Reception took place the evening of Thursday, October 10th in conjunction with the ABVP Symposium in Denver, CO. The event was held at the lovely Earls Glenarm in downtown Denver and was well-attended despite the cold and snow! As always, the reception was a delightful opportunity for ASV members to meet new colleagues and reconnect with friends. The event was also an opportunity to introduce incoming ASV Board members, honor outgoing ASV Board members, and recognize our well-deserving award recipients. Save the date for next year’s reception on October 15th in Chicago, IL.

Meritorious Service Award

Established in 2010, the Association of Shelter Veterinarians Meritorious Service Award recognizes remarkable members of the Association who have made sustained contributions to the advancement of Shelter Veterinary Medicine via leadership, public service, research, education, advocacy, and/or clinical practice. The ASV’s intent in conferring this award is to bring attention to excellence in Shelter Medicine by recognizing those who serve as exceptional ambassadors of the profession. Recipients are celebrated at our annual General Membership meeting and awards reception and receive a plaque and a $250 donation to an organization of their choice. Nominations are due by May 1 of each year. This year there were two recipients of the Meritorious Service Award – Dr. Gary Patronek and Dr. Claudia Baldwin.

Dr. Patronek has been a pioneer in animal welfare and shelter medicine, in his leadership roles with the Animal Rescue League of Boston, the Center for Animals and Public Policy, and the Hoarding of Animals Research Consortium. He has published extensively on the subject of animal hoarding and the most sustainable and effective interventions for animal hoarders, but also on many other topics within shelter medicine. He has served as an exceptional ambassador in his collaborations with experts in other fields, including mental health and law enforcement, and through his years of excellence in education, advocacy, and research.

Dr. Claudia Baldwin has had a diverse and compelling career in academia, demonstrating her passion for shelter medicine education and advancement. Initially trained as an internal medicine specialist, Dr. Baldwin served for years as director of the Iowa State University Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program, where she developed and expanded shelter medicine education. She was also a member of the Shelter Medicine Residency Standards Task Force.
and a strong advocate for the development of a shelter medicine specialty. Her student-focused approach, collaboration with community partners, and consistent encouragement and mentorship had a profound influence on her students, many of whom have gone on to become leaders in the field of shelter medicine.

Congratulations on receiving these well-deserved awards, Drs. Patronek and Baldwin!

Veterinarian of the Year Award

The Association of Shelter Veterinarians Veterinarian of the Year Award was established in 2018. It recognizes extraordinary ASV members who have been outstanding in their role as a veterinarian to improve community animal health and well-being. The intent of this award is to applaud excellence in Shelter Medicine by recognizing those who serve as exceptional role models in the profession. Recipients are honored at our annual General Membership Meeting and Awards Reception and receive a plaque and a $250 donation to an organization of their choice. Nominations are due by May 1 of each year.

The 2019 recipient of the Veterinarian of the Year award was Dr. Katherine Polak. Dr. Polak has completed shelter medicine residency training, a masters in Veterinary Forensics, and is board certified in both Preventive Medicine and Shelter Medicine. She lectures internationally and is co-editor of the Field Manual for Small Animal Medicine. So far in her career, she has tackled some of the most challenging problems in shelter medicine and animal welfare on multiple continents, including animal hoarding, puppy mills, international sheltering, international dog transport, community dog and cat population management, and the dog and cat meat trade. She succeeds and has a lasting impact because of her practical yet evidence-based approach, and her strength and courage to confront and change unimaginable cruelty, particularly in her investigations of live dog and cat meat markets. She currently resides in Thailand, where she serves as Head of Stray Animal Care – Southeast Asia for FOUR PAWS International.

New 2020 Board Members

ASV has added four new Directors to its Board. These individuals were elected in 2019 from a group of highly qualified nominees presented by the general membership and current Directors of the organization. They represent the wide geographic and professional diversity of the multifaceted shelter medicine field.
Dr. Aimee Dalrymple
Aimee earned her DVM from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in 1995. She spent several years working in private practice before discovering the field of shelter medicine through the gift of an Association of Shelter Veterinarians membership from a cat rescue organization. Since 2009, she has worked as a shelter contract and relief veterinarian in the Boston area. She completed her Master’s degree in Shelter Medicine through the University of Florida in 2018 and now serves as Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor in the online program teaching courses in shelter animal physical health, behavior and welfare. Aimee joined the ASV board in 2020 and serves on the membership and position statement committees.

Dr. Brendan Bergquist
Dr. Bergquist received his DVM from Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in 2012. After graduation he moved to Pittsburgh, PA where he was in general practice while his wife completed her internship. After she matched for an oncology residency at Auburn University, they moved to Auburn, AL where he spent the next 3 years working as a shelter veterinarian at a private humane society and HQHVSN clinic in Columbus, GA. They then moved to Vermont where he spent the following two years working at a few small shelters as well as a HQHVSN clinic. Then they moved to Ashville, NC where Dr. Bergquist took a position at the ASPCA Spay/Neuter Alliance as an instructor. Most recently he and his wife moved back to Auburn, AL where he took a faculty position at Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine as Assistant Clinical Professor of Shelter Medicine. Dr. Bergquist really enjoys teaching 4th year veterinary students HQHVSN surgical techniques as well as exposing them to things such as best practices in animal shelters and outbreak management.

Dr. Rachael Kreisler
Rachael graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine (Penn Vet) in 2012 after a decade long career in information technology. She completed a Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology from the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine in 2014 while working as a Lecturer in Shelter Medicine and Surgery at Penn Vet. In 2015 she became an Assistant Professor of Shelter Medicine at the Midwestern University College of Veterinary Medicine where she worked to create a didactic elective and clinical rotation in shelter medicine as well as an extracurricular mobile clinic program that involves 80% of the students. Rachael became board certified in Preventive Medicine in 2018 and achieved board certification in their
Epidemiology specialty in 2019. In 2019 she became president of the Association of Veterinary Informatics, following a year as president elect. She has a passion for research and has published multiple papers on topics that support clinical decision making in shelter medicine. She joined the ASV board in 2020 and serves on the membership committee.

**Dr. Staci Kehir**

Dr. Staci Kehir graduated from the University of Georgia with a bachelor’s in Animal Science in 2000. In 2004, she graduated from the University of Georgia Veterinary School. She completed an equine ambulatory internship in New Hampshire, focusing on equine power dentistry and ophthalmology, the following year. She continued to practice as an ambulatory equine veterinarian in New England until 2009. In 2009, she moved to New York City and started working at New York City Animal Care and Control, Manhattan Branch. Since then, she has stayed in shelter medicine and is currently the Medical Director of Greenville County Animal Care, where she’s been since 2014. Staci joined the Board of Directors in 2020. Her professional interests include soft tissue surgery and the welfare of the veterinarians and shelter staff. She also enjoys training veterinary students that come to Greenville County Animal Care for an externship. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, traveling and mountain biking.

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**THANK YOU FOR SERVING ASV**

**ASV Executive Officers for 2019**

- President: Dr. Erin Doyle
- Vice President: Dr. Chumkee Aziz
- Secretary: Dr. Staci Cannon
- Assistant Secretary: Dr. Uri Donnett
- Treasurer: Dr. Christie Kamiya
- Assistant Treasurer: Dr. Nancy Bradley

**ASV Executive Officers for 2020**

- President: Dr. Chumkee Aziz
- Vice President: Dr. Staci Cannon
- Secretary: Dr. Uri Donnett
- Assistant Secretary: Dr. Lucy Fuller
- Treasurer: Dr. Nancy Bradley
- Assistant Treasurer: Dr. Barbie Laderman-Jones
- Immediate Past Pres: Dr. Erin Doyle
New & Exciting Projects

Guidelines Review Task Force

The official Guidelines Review task force was convened in 2019, continuing the process towards review of this important document. The task force members include original authors as well as new authors from a variety of backgrounds and areas of expertise, all with close affiliation to the ASV. Dr. Jeanette O’Quin and Dr. Erin Doyle will be co-chairing this task force and Dr. Lena DeTar will be serving as task force liaison to the ASV Board of Directors. The group held a launch meeting in early February of 2020 to fully initiate the substantial process of evaluation, discussion and editing to ensure that the ASV’s Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters remains an up-to-date tool for shelter veterinarians and other animal welfare professionals.

ASV Mentorship Program

The ASV Board is putting final touches on tailoring a mentorship program that will be mobile-app based for our membership. The program will be rolled out this year as a pilot project and will have limited participant capacity initially, so please be on the lookout for announcements about signing up for the program. We are hopeful that the program will be user-friendly and will create strong member relationships. As part of ASV’s goals of serving as a community space for shelter veterinarians and helping to grow the field of shelter medicine, we also hope that the mentorship program will improve the sense of connectedness and community for ASV members. We are grateful to Boehringer Ingelheim, a continual supporter of ASV, for sponsoring this first year of our mentorship program and for recognizing it as a valuable membership benefit. A big thank you to BI, particularly Dr Julie Ryan-Johnson of BI for advocating for this support, as well as ASV’s mentorship subcommittee and development committee for making this happen! We look forward to sharing this project with you soon!

Membership Benefits

Position Statements

The position statement (PS) committee continues to meet monthly on the fourth Tuesday of each month via video conference.

They finished and posted one new position statement (Play Groups for Shelter Dogs), two new backgrounders (Heartworm Disease Management; Carbon Monoxide Inhalation as a Method of Euthanasia), and two revised position statements (Non-Surgical Contraception and Heartworm Disease Management) this year.
The Depopulation and Early Age Spay-Neuter PS revisions are nearly complete.

In the works, are the Emergency Transport of Shelter Animals PS, International Transport of Shelter Animals PS, Euthanasia of Shelter Animals PS revision, and a new Outbreak Management PS per requests from board members and stakeholders.

The PS template was redesigned, and the PS backgrounders are presented on the website in a more user-friendly manner.

At the board meeting in October, we added 3 new members and said goodbye to 2 other members.

Continuing Education

The ASV has maintained its visibility on the agendas of national and regional professional conferences by coordinating shelter medicine tracks for VMX, WVC, AVMA, and ABVP. In addition, 2019 proved to be a year of significant growth in terms of CE partnerships. The goal has been to develop and strengthen partnerships with other animal welfare organizations to increase membership and membership benefits, to increase ASV visibility, to continue to be the voice of shelter medicine expertise in the animal welfare CE landscape, and to continue to provide unique CE opportunities.

1. ASV developed a working partnership with The Association for Animal Welfare Advancement (The Association) in 2019. The partnership has resulted in the development of a collaborative shelter medicine webinar series spanning from Sept 2019 to Dec 2020, in which ASV and The Association have selected a line-up of engaging speakers and topics that are relevant to both shelter leadership, as well as shelter veterinarians. The webinars presented thus far have been well-received. Both organizations also agreed to a membership promotion surrounding this series, in which members of either organization can receive a free 1-year membership to the reciprocal organization if they attend one of the webinars in this series. In addition, the webinar series has fostered collaboration between the two organizations and resulted in The Association asking for ASV support in helping to coordinate the first ever shelter medicine track at an Association conference. The Association’s next spring conference, to be held in Chicago in June 2020, will have a shelter medicine track consisting of three speakers.

2. ASV also developed a working partnership with HSUS’ Humane Society of Veterinary Medical Association (HSVMA). 2019 work involved the creation of an agreed upon set of shelter medicine presentations that will go into a speaker’s bureau portfolio. Veterinary school HSVMA and ASV student chapters will then be able to request presentations from this portfolio that HSVMA and ASV collaborators will speak on together at the requesting school. HSVMA and ASV also started creating a handful of collaborative webinar presentations that will be directed towards the membership of both organizations. These collaborative veterinary school presentations and webinars are anticipated to start in 2020.
VMX and WVC had identical programs in 2019

Dr. Phillip Bushby
Efficient spay neuter surgery
Unusual spay neuter surgery
The Optimal Time for Spay/Neuter: An Analysis of Critical Spay/Neuter Literature (part 1 & part 2)

Dr. Emily McCobb
Anesthesia for the Geriatric Pet in the Shelter or Community Medicine Setting
Quality of Life Concepts for Companion Animals
Coping with Opioid Shortages in the shelter environment
Preventing and Responding to Anesthetic Emergencies in the Shelter Setting

Dr. Chrissy Eckstrand
Emerging infectious diseases in domestic animals
Feline retroviral and coronaviral updates
Diagnostics testing of diseases that commonly affect shelter animals
Suspicious death? How to document findings and collect samples for potential legal cases; a pathologist’s perspective

ABVP 2019

The speakers in the Practitioner Workshop were:
Matthew Goetz - "Triple Positive!! Now What? Taking on co-morbidities in shelter dogs"
Allan Mergener - "Doxycycline, Clindamycin and Metronidazole combination therapy for Babesia gibsoni in fighting canines"
Cathlin Craver and Brian DiGangi - "Establishment of a framework for measuring short-term outcomes in animal relocation programs"
Uri Donnett - "Use of femoral head ostectomies in shelters"

Shelter Snapshot Column in dvm360

The ASV has continued our successful Shelter Snapshot series collaboration with dvm360. The five articles listed below were posted on dvm360’s site in the past year.

- Shelter Snapshot: 6 steps to healthy shelter partnerships by Dr. Katie Broaddus
- Shelter Snapshot: 9 ways to up your spay/neuter game by Dr. Uri Donnett
- Shelter Snapshot: Infectious respiratory disease in animal shelters by Dr. Nicole Ferguson-Morrison
• **Shelter Snapshot: Evidence-based answers to your dermatophytosis questions** by Dr. Lena DeTar

• **Shelter Snapshot: Questions about community cat programs?** by Dr. Erin Katribe

**Maddie’s Fund®—A Worthy Partnership**

Following the introduction of this partnership in 2017, ASV continues to collaborate with Maddie’s Fund to deliver high-quality, interactive webinars on topics related to Shelter Medicine Practice. Three webinars were delivered in 2019. ASV member veterinarians are eligible to receive RACE CE credit for these sessions. ASV is especially grateful to Maddie’s Fund for offering technical expertise, an online platform, and financial support. Ideas for speakers and topics are welcomed and appreciated by the CE Committee.

- October 3rd- Lena DeTar, DVM, DACVPM, DABVP - Caring for Exotic Pets in the Shelter
- October 9th-Cristie Kamiya, DVM, MBA - Change Management Principles to Make Hard Changes Simpler
- December 11th-Sara White DVM, MSC (Health Ergonomics) - Ergonomics for Shelter Veterinarians

**ASV Newsletters**

The newsletter committee has been working on revisiting the newsletter structure to ensure that it is a valuable resource to our members. We hope that the new format will serve to provide expert level advice, highlight members and their programs that are innovative, and connect membership with ASV and other shelter medicine resources. We have transitioned the newsletter to a topic-based model. This past year, two traditional newsletters were released and a third newsletter on the theme of behavior has been released. The committee, which is composed of both board and at large members looks forward to releasing 3 topic themed newsletters in 2020 and welcomes all member submissions for consideration!
Student Chapter Grants

The ASV has a network of student chapters at veterinary schools. We received 12 applications for ASV Student Chapter projects and funded 11 projects using our $10,000 grant from the ASPCA. Funded student projects in 2019 were varied and included spay/neuter and preventive care events for the public and community cats, creating enrichment programs for a shelter, purchasing much needed equipment for local shelters, providing supplies for foster programs and hosting continuing education events for veterinary students and shelter workers. The estimated number of animals impacted by the student chapter projects include over 1,200 animals.

Calendar of Events

ASV’s Events Calendar is in the Member Center on the ASV website (https://asv.memberclicks.net/events-calendar). It notes webinars, conferences, and seminars with information on Shelter Medicine or the field of animal sheltering. The Events Calendar is managed and updated by a team within the ASV Membership Committee. Many organizations host continuing education events that may be of interest to Shelter Medicine Veterinarians. The aim of the calendar is to organize all options in one place for easy access.

Facebook for ASV Members

A closed Facebook group was launched in late 2017 for ASV members and has grown over the past two years to over 850 members. The Facebook group is another avenue ASV is utilizing to connect members with each other and there are around 300 posts, comments and reactions in the group monthly. The Facebook group also enables members to share photos, videos and files, further enhancing their ability to discuss cases and share protocols. The group is open to all active ASV veterinarians and veterinary student members. To join, members can go to the ASV website and click on member center, followed by ASV member discussion Facebook group.
Community Forum

The ASV Website Committee maintains a Community Forum online for the organization’s members and the forum continues to be available in our newly designed website. This forum, along with our ASV Facebook group, is intended to be a means of connecting members with one another and enhancing communication within the field of Shelter Medicine. ASV members can access the Forum by logging into their account on the ASV website. Currently there are over 1,500 posts in the forum.

Job Board

ASV’s Job Board is a member and nonmember service for qualified shelter veterinarians enabling them to connect with organizations that seek their experience and skills. Candidates can review vacancies, post an anonymous resume, and generate new job alerts. Employers can post a job or look through the resume bank to find the right candidate. Click here to subscribe to job flash emails that list new jobs each month.

ASV, Incorporated

Organizational Structure

The ASV Board of Directors governs the nonprofit professional Association, managing and overseeing property, affairs, and funds of the corporation as well as exerting all corporate powers. According to the ASV bylaws, no fewer than seven board members are required. None is compensated, other than for reasonable expenses. Each director serves a term of 3 years and can be reelected once for a second 3-year term. The Annual Meeting is set up by the President—or any two or more Directors. Board members may request the scheduling of other regular and special meetings to be held in person or by conference call.
ASV’s Board also directs the organization’s corporate officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and other officers as deemed appropriate. The Association has five classes of Affiliates: Active, Associate, Student, Student Chapter, and Honorary. Its standing committees are: Executive, Finance, and Nominating. In addition, the Board can create committees as needed, with the Board President appointing all committee chairs. A Committee is considered permanent unless a motion is approved to dissolve it. The Board may also vote to create Task Forces, which differ from committees in that a Task Force comprises a team of people, organizations, or resources working together to accomplish a specific goal. Non-ASV affiliates are often welcomed on a task force.

To help in the onboarding of incoming board members and to ensure all board members are held accountable to our positions within the organization, we have updated and refined our SOP for board member roles & responsibilities. In addition, we have created a one-pager that outlines board member responsibilities in a succinct but thorough manner. The one-pager was created after receiving insightful feedback from new board members about the onboarding process.

Association Management

ASV Board of Directors continues their association with ELEVATE DVM for association management services. Since 2015, ELEVATE DVM has provided a wealth of experience and knowledge in veterinary association management and professionalism to the organization. Along with covering daily administrative services they provide membership services, development and planning input and website maintenance for the organization.

Bimonthly Board Meetings

Bimonthly video conferences are held by the ASV Board of Directors for group discussion of ongoing business and to review progress on strategic plan initiatives. Once annually, in conjunction with the ABVP Symposium, the Board meets in person for an afternoon session to review current business, elect new Officers and Board members, evaluate board function and establish strategic goals for the upcoming year. In addition to meetings involving the entire Board of Directors, the Executive Board (elected officers) meets bimonthly and committees and task forces meet regularly.
Annual Board of Directors Self Evaluation

ASV conducted its first annual board self-evaluation this year. The goal was to use the evaluation as a tool to explore and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Board. The ultimate outcome was focused on how we can continue to improve our effectiveness as a Board. The evaluation was the first time that ASV has sought earnest, internal (but anonymized) feedback to guide us in improving our operations. Key takeaways from the evaluation included: clearly voicing our organization’s strategic plan and ensuring that all committee work is closely integrated into supporting our overall strategic goal; the need for more robust onboarding support for new board members; and the need for improved communication between the executive board and the rest of the Board to ensure work is effectively delegated and leadership is shared. The Board is already discussing ways to address these needs and we look forward to becoming stronger and more effective through this process.

Financial Review Snapshot

Thanks to our generous sponsors and an anonymous donor, ASV finished 2019 in a nice position to enter 2020. The strategies for raising the funds to accomplish the goals that have been set forth are ever evolving. The development committee has done a masterful job communicating the needs of the association to sponsors and partnering with sponsors to meet those needs.

Shelter Animals Count

As a stakeholder organization of Shelter Animals Count (SAC), ASV holds a seat on the board of SAC. The annual meeting was held in October. The board has been a working board but is transitioning to an oversight board with working employees, though some members of the board still provide a lot of services. SAC intends to be the main place to go for US shelter metrics. Collaborations with shelter software companies are in the works to help automate the process. A pilot project collecting individual animal data is in the works; as is a collaboration with Humane Canada.
Thank You to Our Sponsors

2019 General Sponsors

Boehringer Ingelheim
IDEXX Laboratories

Special Program Sponsors

ASPCA
Boehringer Ingelheim
Plan to Join Us at This Year’s

ASV Member Reception

Being Held in Conjunction with the Annual ABVP Symposium

Chicago Marriott Downtown Chicago, Illinois
October 15-18, 2020

DONATE TO ASV

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