



Society of Animal Welfare Administrators

Network News – July 2005



From our President John Nagy, CAWA -

I just wanted to update you on what your board of directors has been working on this year.

In May, the board met for our spring meeting and to review our Strategic Plan. You will see that your board has been very busy continuing to provide tangible benefits to you.

SAWA's Strategic Plan has three key goals:

- **Membership-to retain and recruit animal welfare leaders to SAWA.** In a few weeks you will be receiving your 2005 membership directory. We have almost 400 members throughout North America, for you to contact and exchange information with. These are many of the leaders in our profession willing to share their expertise, I hope you will take the opportunity to make new or renew acquaintances at our conference or by calling them.

- **Professional Advancement – to provide our members with superior education, professional certification and peer networking opportunities as well as information resources.** Some of you attended the Directors of Operation and Directors of Finance and Administration management level retreats in Boulder, CO this past May. From the comments I have heard, the quality of the speakers and content was excellent. On November 4, the Directors of Development will meet and has scheduled an excellent fundraising speaker and author. During our main conference, you will hear three speakers on the topics of

collaboration, community networking, contract negotiation and generational trends. The Certified Animal Welfare Administrators (CAWA) examination will be offered on November 5 as we continue to promote the recognition of your professionalism and achievements. I urge you to come to Denver and take the examination. Our real time networking is available at SAWA's list serve that provides a timely exchange of information.

- **Financial Development to continue to identify and secure resources to accomplish our current and future goals.**

As we know from operating our own agencies, we need the dollars to fund our programs. Budgets and financial statements are a part of our lives, so it is with SAWA. We are thankful to our sponsors and trust that you, our members, recognize the value of your SAWA membership and the support provided by our sponsors.

Additionally, SAWA is a participant with The Coalition for Reuniting Pets and Families, which discusses and seeks solutions to the current microchip issues affecting animal care and control agencies in the USA. SAWA will host a panel discussion about the Asilomar Accords in practice at our November conference.

Also included in this issue:

- *SAWA Board Meeting*
- *Certification*
- *New Book Available*
- *Super Shelter Stories*
- *Training Your Adopted Dog DVD*
- *Transitions*



SAWA Board meeting in Tucson.

Front Row, Left to Right: Cheryl Naumann, Bob Downey, John Nagy, Karen Terpstra. Back Row, L-R: Victoria Wellens, Harry Dates, Don Mitton, Greg Bloomfield, Mark Goldstein, Nancy McKenney, Pamela Burns.

CERTIFICATION

By Harry Dates, CAWA & Karen Terpstra, CAWA

A few years ago, SAWA began to explore the concept of developing and offering a professional certification and continuing education program for executives in animal welfare and animal care and control agencies. Working with CPS, an organization that specializes in training, testing and certification programs, SAWA determined how to accomplish this goal. After extensive surveys of SAWA members to determine job descriptions and the knowledge, experience and skills necessary to serve in a leadership position in an animal shelter, a group of dedicated SAWA members worked together to develop the first certification exam.

SAWA has set an international professional standard for Animal Welfare Administrators. The Certified Animal Welfare Administrator (CAWA) designation identifies those who have the necessary relevant work experience and have passed the certification exam. Certification is a voluntary program designed to encourage a high level of achievement and professionalism. Becoming a CAWA demonstrates a commitment to the welfare of animals and to the people of the communities served. It has established a measurable level of excellence in our field and serves as a tool to improve service to animals and people.

Becoming a CAWA may give you an extra edge valuable in operational matters as well as in achieving personal professional goals. This includes, of course, the professionals in Animal Care and Control. Mr. Don Mitton, CAWA, of Toronto, Canada and Mr. John Snyder, CAWA, of Washington, D.C. are two highly regarded, experienced and respected ACO's who endorse certification.

Once achieved, maintaining the CAWA credential requires continuing education, which will also help to improve the knowledge, skills and professionalism of those in the animal welfare and animal care and control fields. The requirement of continuing education will help to fill the gaps in knowledge common to us all. The fact that SAWA encourages excellence through certification speaks volumes. A strong certification program will unify our field, enhance public identification and recognize qualified professionals from cities large and small.

Certification is truly an opportunity for professional growth. Thank you to AVID- The Microchip Company and Hills Pet Nutrition- Makers of Hill's Science Diet, Charter Sponsor of SAWA's Certification Program.

SAWA was recently included in the Animal Assistance Foundation's 2004 Annual Report, which highlighted their grant to SAWA for the focus group, out of which sprung the beginnings of certification. Thank you Animal Assistance Foundation for your support.

Harry Dates, CAWA was recently featured in an article in the Cincinnati paper highlighting "his 30 years as head of the local SPCA." Major anniversary and milestone!

Congratulations Harry!

Call for Entries in "Super Shelter Stories" Contest for National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week

This year, HSUS is sponsoring the "Super Shelter Stories" contest to bring attention to the essential services provided by animal shelters nationwide. The contest invites people to submit stories about the good work and community resources found at their local shelters, and hopes to illustrate the indispensable, multi-functional role of animal shelters in our society.

Stories will be judged on originality, expression and story content. Patrick McDonnell, award-winning artist of *Mutts* comic strip, will select the top entry and feature the story in his comic strip during National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week.

All entries must be received by July 29, 2005. Entries may be no longer than 500 words. To enter or obtain a full list of contest rules visit, www.hsus.org/sheltercontest.

Transitions...

Mike Monk and Jim Tedford, CAWA have started a new direct marketing company called Alpha Dog. Services include direct mail, database management, newsletters, donor acknowledgment, creative/copy/design and analysis. Contact: www.alphadogmktg.com

Julie Morris reports that Randy Lockwood, PhD and Emily Weiss PhD will be joining The ASPCA as Senior Vice-President of Anti-Cruelty Initiatives and Training and as Senior Director National Outreach, Shelter Behavior Programs respectively.

New Book Available-

Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations, a new book designed specifically for animal shelters and other community animal welfare groups.

Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations - \$44.95 each

Buy it at www.amazon.com

PetsIncredible announces their 99¢ "Training Your Adopted Dog" DVD

For a limited time, the HSUS is providing free demos to humane societies, animal care and control agencies, and non-sheltered adoption groups. The "Training Your Adopted Dog" DVD can be purchased for just 99¢ to help adopters deal with all the normal dog behaviors that often lead to relinquishment. These include: crate training, house training, chewing, jumping, mouthing and teaching manners and obedience.

To learn more about the PetsIncredible DVD, contact Franklin Media Networks toll free at 866-DOGS-DVD or visit their website at www.petsincredible.com.

Save these dates!

Our fall conference in Denver Colorado promises to be a very exciting one.....here are some of the highlights:

- November 4: Director of Development Meeting (8:00-5:00)
- November 5: Certification of Animal Welfare Administrators Exam (8:00-12 noon)

The official conference starts on Sunday, November 6th with our keynote speaker Tom Spaulding speaking on “building your community network”...By popular demand, Jim Lukaszewski is returning and speaking about “how to build collaborative relationships and contract negotiations”...there will, of course, be the all popular roundtable as well....so mark your calendars November 6-8th...more details to follow.

SAWA would like to WELCOME our new members:

Executive

Julie Granito

La Plata County Humane Society – Durango, CO

Martha McPhee

Animal Humane Society – Minneapolis, MN

Timothy Shields

Minnesota Federated Humane Societies – Richfield, MN

Joseph Ray Elmore III

Humane Society of St. Thomas - St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

Johnni Prince

Greenhill Humane Society – Eugene, OR

Bruce Roney

Ottawa Humane Society – Ottawa, Ontario Canada

Frederick L. Saunders

Animal Samaritan SPCA – Thousand Palms, CA

Lynn Becker

Liberty Humane Society – Jersey City, NJ

Pam Carey

PAWS Chicago – Lake Forest, IL

Amy Crookshanks

McPaws Regional Animal Shelter – McCall, ID

Joan Carlson Radabaugh

Humane Society Vero Beach & Indian River County – Vero Beach, FL

Donna Keith Rex

PAWS Columbia, Inc. – Columbus, GA

Ed Sayres

ASPCA – New York, NY

Kathi Daniels

Humane Society Calumet Area – Munster, IN

George Duffee-Braun

Humane Society of South Mississippi – Gulfport, MS

Manager

Victoria Arrand

The Greater Birmingham Humane Society – Birmingham, AL

Donna Bode

Capital Humane Society – Lincoln, NE

Tina Dee

Humane Society of Kent County – Grand Rapids, MI

Debbie Hill

Humane Society of Missouri – St. Louis, MO

Karen Medicus

ASPCA – Austin, TX

Kathy Beltz

Greater Birmingham Humane Society – Birmingham, AL

Nancy Benton

Humane Society of Vero Beach – Vero Beach, FL

Mychelle Blake

Humane League of Lancaster County – Lancaster, PA

Richard Gentles

Animal Care & Control of New York City – New York, NY

Gillian Hargrave

Humane Society at Lollypop Farm – Fairport, NY

Steve Metzger

Humane Society of Boulder Valley – Boulder, CO

Kim Shannon

San Diego Humane Society & SPCA – San Diego, CA

Diane Rasmussen

Spokane Humane Society – Spokane, WA

Elizabeth Campo

Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA – Pasadena, CA

Business Class**Melissa Wagner**

Alpha Dog Marketing – Lincoln, NE

Wendy Blanch

VCA Animal Hospitals – Los Angeles, CA

Associate Class**Tara High**

Humane Society of South Mississippi – Gulfport, MS

Steve Putnam

The Humane Society of the United States – Washington, DC

Donna Reynolds

BAD RAP – San Francisco, CA

Donna Deweese

Animal Care Trust – Chattanooga, TN

Tell me! If you have news to share about another SAWA member (job change, awards, etc.) please let me know so we can include it in our next issue of our newsletter....

Pamela Burns

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