



VACA News

Winter 2010

A publication of the Virginia Animal Control Association

2010 VACA Conference Wrap-Up

Thanksgiving is only two weeks away as I write this article for the winter newsletter. Initially I'm supposed to be writing about the awesome great time we had at this year's conference-which we did; however this conference gave me pause to reflect.

Was it the influence of having all of our Past Presidents and



one of our Co-founding members of VACA being honored at the Awards Banquet, or was it something else about the upcoming holidays that put me in such a nostalgic mood.

Possibly the location of this years conference had an impact-who could argue with the Blue Ridge Mountains as

a back drop in Staunton, Virginia with all the leaves changing from green to gold, red, yellow, or orange and all shades in between. The weather was perfect and the company (that's you attendees out there) was exemplary. It was a great training opportunity with guest instructors Dr. Charlotte Robinson, Mark Kumpf, Kathy Strouse, Willie Tydings, and HSUS John Goodwin. Our Awards Banquet honored our Past Presidents-please visit our website for a list of all of those individuals and their years of service to our Association.

We had an outstanding Keynote speaker Mr. Matt Lohr-Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner who's speech made everyone feel as if we were a part of his



family growing up on a farm with life lessons/stories from his grandparents.

Thank you VACA members for your support at the 2010 VACA Conference and your continued support for VACA with your membership. Our newly elected Vice President Ricky Warren is out scouting the state of Virginia for our 2011 VACA Conference location-information regarding time and place will be announced by a later newsletter, e-mail, website, and face book.

Trish Dahl
VACA Secretary/
Treasurer

Special points of interest:
Conference Wrap-Up and 2010 Legislation

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Meet the VACA
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Two Useful Websites

The Virginia Animal Control Association website is the premier online resource serving animal control officers all across the Commonwealth of Virginia as well as online visitors from beyond Virginia's borders. A walk down memory lane with VACA's history and past presidents, a calendar of events, online educa-

tional resources, and an easy to use contact page are just some of the many great aspects of the VACA website. Visit now at www.vacaonline.net

The Virginia Animal Control Association Facebook page continues to grow. With over 400 people who "like" the VACA page, the

popularity of this valuable resource continues to grow. The VACA Facebook page has friends from all over the United States as well as individuals from Canada, India, Venezuela, and the United Kingdom. Take a moment to visit and share with your friends at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Virginia-Animal-Control-Association/158960413946>

Message from the President

VACA's Past...VACA's Future...



I am honored and eager to serve as the new President of the Virginia Animal Control Association and look forward to making an already outstanding organization even better!

Congratulations go out to our other newly elected officer, Vice President Ricky Warren and to our Secretary/Treasurer Trish Dahl, who was re-elected to her second term. And a special congratulations to Elective Member Kathy Strouse, who was re-elected to her fifth term! In addition, two other Elective Members of the Executive Committee were appointed. I am pleased to welcome Kimberly Miller from the County of Loudoun and William Bandy Jr. from the City of Salem.

For those of you that couldn't attend our 32nd Annual Animal Control Conference in Staunton, you missed out on thirty years of VACA history being made. We were able to pay tribute not only to our Founding Father, Dr. Kent Roberts, but to all of VACA's past presidents (click on Face Book, past presidents and photos on our website) by presenting each one of them with a small token of our appreciation for their service. It was truly a special and memorable event having all of them together for the first time as our guests!

My visions and goals as your president will be simple, substantial and straightforward. It will be my hope that through this approach that we will accomplish much, especially our most pressing issue...that the citizens and leaders of the Commonwealth can easily identify what we are about. And we ourselves continue to use it to remind us everyday why we are here. As a famous native Virginian by the name of Thomas Woodrow Wilson once stated, "It is only by working with an energy which is almost superhuman and which looks to uninterested spectators like insanity that we can accomplish anything worth the achievement".

Your continuous hard work and dedication to VACA as well as to the great citizens of our state will not go unnoticed and will be greatly appreciated; just as we commend our last leader, Kevin Kilgore for his untiring efforts, accomplishments and dedication over the past four years.

Now with the holiday season upon us, it's a special time for gathering with family and friends, sharing traditions old and new. It's a time to celebrate faith, love and life and to cherish the ones we hold dear.

I wish each of you a joyous time,

*Mike
VACA President*

" My visions and goals as your president will be simple, substantial and straightforward"



VACA Conference 2010 Animal Olympics

The Animal Olympics were very successful. There were six teams of five and everyone seemed to have a good time. The events included Pluck the duck, Feed the dog, the Critter Toss, and two new games, Ketch the dogs & Snare the Snakes. The team names were Can't Hold our Licker, Critter Getters, Pittbosses, Rabid Pitbulls, Solo & Friends, and The 3rd Floor Terrorists.

The 3rd place team was Rabid Pitbulls. Team members Benny David, Glenn Johnson, Paula Murray, Todd Moser, and Opie Taylor. Coming in 2nd place was Solo & Friends. Team members James Cooke, Bill Jarratt, Dwayne Farnen, Kevin Kilgore, and Willaim Hiter. The big winners were The 3rd Floor Terrorists. Team members Mark Kumpf, Zoe Kumpf,

Sam Lanier, Meghann McGillvray, and Rob Leinberger. Thanks to all that assisted in making this event a success.

Willie Tydings
VACA Board Member

Basic Animal Control Academy Graduates

Basic Animal Control Academy in Chesapeake

Chesapeake, Virginia, in cooperation with Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Newport News, hosted a 2010 Basic Animal Control Academy. Sponsored by VACA, the 110 hour academy began September 13, 2010 and welcomed 19 students. They came from the surrounding cities, as well as the City of Franklin and Isle of Wight, Spotsylvania, Southampton, Tazewell, Dinwiddie, Halifax, and James City Counties. Graduation was held on Friday, October 1, 2010. Certificates of graduation were presented by Chesapeake Chief of Police Kelvin L. Wright. Con-



gratulations to the ACOs and best wishes for success in their careers.

Rear (4th row) left to right: Richard Stewart, ACO Steven Davis, Tazewell County; ACO Leroy King, Halifax County; ACO Heather Johnson, Chesapeake; ACO John Babb, Isle of Wight County; ACO Chad Majette, James City County.

Third row left to right: ACO Renee Mulvey, Virginia Beach; ACO Jessica Johnson, Virginia Beach; ACO Holly Kline, Chesapeake; ACO Deborah Broughton, Dinwiddie County; ACO Aundrea Claughton, Halifax County; ACO Edward Griffith, Southampton

County.

Second row left to right: Chesapeake Deputy Chief of Police Mark Solesky; ACO Nicole Munro, Suffolk; ACO Jennifer Bray-White, Norfolk; ACO Maria Vargo, City of Franklin; ACO Kelsey Bova, Virginia Beach; ACO Ashley Krieger, Spotsylvania County; ACO Aaron Jones, Tazewell County; Chesapeake Chief of Police Kelvin Wright

Front row left to right: Animal Control Superintendent Kathy Strouse, Chesapeake; Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Amy James, Chesapeake; Chief ACO Meghann Chapin, Suffolk

An Opportunity to help VACA

What if Virginia Animal Control Association-VACA earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well now it can. GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.

And if you download the GoodSearch – Virginia Animal Control Association - VACA toolbar, our cause will earn money every time you shop and search online - even if you forget to go to GoodShop or GoodSearch first! Add the Virginia Animal Control Association - VACA toolbar at <http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/virginia-animal-control-association-vaca>

The Virginia Animal Control Association

VACA would like to thank all who contributed to the food drive at the 2010 annual VACA conference!

The Virginia Animal Control Association is now on Facebook! Why not join us? <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Virginia-Animal-Control-Association/158960413946>

Virginia Comprehensive Animal Law Books for Sale! \$10.00 VACA Patches \$2.50 each.
Contact: Trish Dahl (540) 672-9725

Useful Web Links:

vacaonline.net	municode.com
vaanimalfighting.com	acofunstop.com
virginia.gov	hrlostpets.org
nacanet.org	humanespot.org
familydogdigest.com	Find us on FaceBook
pet-abuse.com	

Training Opportunities

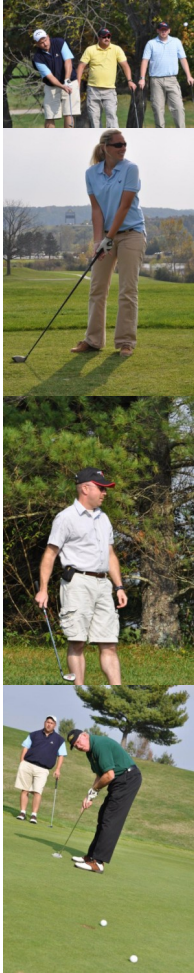
American Humane Customer Service for the Animal Welfare Professional

A must attend training for all staff and volunteers .

February 18 2011 City center conference facilities, Newport news Call (720) 274-0027.

2010 Annual VACA Golf Tournament

To benefit the VACA memorial fund.



The annual golf tournament was held at The Club at Ironwood on October 19 in Staunton. We had about 16 golfers this year and everyone really enjoyed the day. It was a really nice day to play golf and to have fun with friends. We raised about \$ 280.00 for the VACA memorial fund.

ideas or questions please e-mail me at bcanimalcontrol@tds.net for next year.

As special thank you to Jackson Creek Manufacturing won the 50/50 raffle and donated the money back to the memorial fund.

As always our President Kevin Kilgore played and he really seems to be getting better each and every year. I guess now being that we have a new President Mike Quesenberry he will have to keep up the tradition of playing and it is ironic that both he and Kevin both play golf from the other side of the ball (left-handed) not that it is a bad thing but I have to give them a hard time about it.



Robbie Chestnut,
VACA Board Member

I hope next year we can have more people come out and play and have some fun and time to relax because I know we all can use that. Thanks to everyone who helped with the outing and played I really look forward to next year and if anyone has any

VACA's new Vice President, Ricky Warren

I would first start off by stating that I very much appreciate the membership for having faith in me to be the vice president of the Virginia Animal Control Association. I will approach the position as I do with every other job and organization that I am involved with. And that is to perform the position to the best of my abilities. I am a person who does not talk a

lot because I feel that actions are what gets the job done. With that said I will do my best working with the executive committee and board members to help our organization accomplish our goals to further our profession into the future. Once again I would like to thank the membership for this opportunity and I'm going to my best with the help of the board to make the

conferences both educational and entertaining.

2011 VACA Conference Mark your calendars for the 2011 VACA conference to be held in Virginia Beach. Please visit www.vacaonline.net for current details.

Ricky Warren
VACA Vice President



Ricky Warren

Message from Outgoing VACA President Kevin Kilgore

As the outgoing President of a strong organization it is easy to reflect and feel good about the things that the membership have accomplished over the past few years. However, I also deeply appreciate the legacy and rich tradition of that strength of a solid organization along with fantastic fellowship making for the high point in my career meeting and working with the best people I have ever known. I also will miss those that made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty both for their families and their communities that I knew and worked with making our lives better. It has been a wonderful experience with great people both with the membership and board

members and their supportive families and friends. To this I say a hearty, "Thank You".

The conference this year was one of the more historic in proportions and personnel that this body has ever witnessed and had the pleasure to see all of the past Presidents come together under one roof to honor the organization that has truly made the animal control profession great here in the Commonwealth and even abroad around the globe! Thanks go to the new President Mike and the fantastic job I know he will do to carry the torch into the future for us all the important body of first responders that protect our communities.

The awards also went

well with special superior thanks to our own savior Dr. Kent Roberts for helping to get our organization going. Then a special award was given to Jon Cliborne of Crater Academy for his outstanding support to VACA.

Jill Deegan and Michelle Welch each won their respective President's awards for their outstanding contributions to VACA. Then Garry Smith from Highland County won the Public Service award while Megan Moreland of Frederick County won the "Dr. Kent Roberts" ACO of the Year award in the grand finally!

Cheers and may God bless,

Kevin Kilgore



2010 Legislation

Bills for the 2010 legislative session, there were 1396 House Bills, 495 House Joint Resolutions, 40 House Resolutions, 739 Senate Bills, 274 Senate Joint Resolutions, and 20 Senate Resolutions. That made a total of 2,964 pieces of legislation.

Many bills did not survive. The House Bills that pertained to animals, animal control, and animal sheltering were as follows:



HB 140 - Patron Albert C. Pollard - Left in Courts
This bill would have narrowed exemption for cruelty penalties. Under current law an owner is permitted to use all reasonable force to protect his or her dog or cat on the owner's property from an attacking animal. This bill would have required actual injury to the owner's dog or cat before such exemption would apply.

HB 285 - Patron James M. Scott - Continued in Courts

This bill would have allowed courts to

extend protective order to companion animal, and order that persons abstain from harming them, if such harm is intended to threaten, coerce, intimidate or harm a child or family member with custody of the child

HB 366 - Patron Onzlee Ware - Passed By Indefinitely (PBI) in Agriculture
This bill would have required veterinarians to submit rabies information to treasurers on standard form to be developed by the State Veterinarian.

HB 429 - Patron Morgan Griffith - Died in Agriculture Subcommittee
This was a very contentious bill. It was intended to prohibit euthanasia or denial of adoption of dog based solely on breed. Opponents felt the bill opened the door to challenges of adoption policies that have been adopted for the purpose of matching dogs and homes. The bill first died in Agriculture Subcommittee. It was brought up again, and died again.

HB 551 - Patron

Daniel Marshall - Left in Agriculture
This bill would have allowed the Board of Agriculture to adopt regulations for transport of animals by ACOs that are different from existing Pound Regulations.

HB 809 - Patron Vivian Watts - Left in Courts
This bill would have added to section 19.2-368.2 under victims, those who have suffered injury or death by an attacking dog, making them eligible to receive compensation from Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund

HB 828 - Patron Scott Surovell - Left in Courts
This bill would have increased from \$200 to \$750 the value of goods or money to qualify for grand larceny.

HB 884 - Patron Clifford Athey- Died in Agriculture Subcommittee

This bill would have allowed police chiefs and sheriffs to utilize volunteer LEOs to enforce animal law chapter.

HB 914 - Patron

2010 Legislation

(Continued from page 8)

Robert Bell - PBI in Courts

This bill would have provided that any locality with a barking dog ordinance may require parties to use mediation or arbitration as an initial step before criminal proceedings.

HB 1056 - Patron Ward Armstrong - Continued in Agriculture Subcommittee until 2011

This bill would have changed the definition of ACOs to be sworn law enforcement officers. It would further have required localities to submit to the State Veterinarian information on any newly hired ACO, or change in existing ACO's status within 30 days of such hiring or change.

HB 1143 - Patron James M. Scott - Continued in Agriculture Subcommittee until 2011

This bill would have allowed for the new appointments of humane investigators, would have allowed any releasing agency to recommend a

candidate to the locality, and would have required the animal control authority to maintain a list of eligible persons. Lastly, it would have required the Circuit Court to notify animal control of any new appointment.

HJ 57 - Patron Morgan Griffith - Left in Rules

This House Joint Resolution would have created a legislative study to examine best practices of Virginia and other states with regard to animal humane law enforcement and regulation, the standards and training for ACOs, real and potential conflicts between animal welfare and animal health professionals, and the appropriate oversight for animal control. It would have also examined the costs of design shifts,

A number of Senate bills also died:

SB 125 - Patron J. Chapman Petersen - Failed to be reported in Courts

This bill was actually a companion bill to

HB 828, and attempted to accomplish a similar mission. It would have increased from \$200 to \$210 value goods or money threshold to qualify for grand larceny.

SB 249 - Patron Roscoe Reynolds - Carried over to 2011

Another companion bill, this time to HB 551. It would have allowed the Board of Agriculture to adopt regulations for transport of animals by ACOs that are different than existing Pound Regulations.

SB 251 - Patron Roscoe Reynolds - Died in Senate Agriculture

Similar bills have been introduced in previous years. This was again an attempt to expand the definition of a dangerous dog to include one that attempts to attack, or reasonably instills fear that an attack is imminent.

SB 274 - Patron Mary Margaret Whipple - Died in Senate Agriculture

This bill would have exempted from release to the public any

Legislation

(Continued from page 9)

owner information for any impounded animal pursuant to § 3.2-6557.

SB 281 - Patron Frederick Quayle - Stricken by the patron

This bill would have authorized participation by children of any age in activities of any animal care or welfare organization. Children under 13 would have had to be accompanied by a parent.

SB 570 - Patron Patsy Ticer - Left in Senate Agriculture

This bill would have prohibited persons from acquiring non-human primates. Zoos, nature centers, museums, registered exhibitors and laboratories, parks, and research facilities would have been exempted, as would persons already owning exempted

SB 641 - Patron Roscoe Reynolds - Died in Senate Agriculture

This bill would have eliminated the duty of Treasurers to send dog license

applications to residents who have vaccinated, but not licensed their dogs.

SB 648 – Patron Jill Vogel – Stricken by the Patron

This bill would have reinstated the full Humane Investigator Program. It would have provided for new appointments of His, and would have permitted recommendations from any releasing agency to recommend. It would have required the local animal control authority to maintain list of eligible persons, and the Circuit Court to notify a n i m a l control of any new appointment.

SB 698 - Patron Jill Vogel - Stricken by the Patron

This bill would have privatized recordkeeping and inspection for facilities housing companion animals. It would have required the State Veterinarian to award a 5 year contract to a private entity as a deputy inspection agency. Fines from civil penalties levied due to violations found by inspectors would go

into an Animal Welfare Fund that would fund the private entity. Interference with any inspector would result in a civil penalty up to \$1,000.

There were a number of important bills that passed and became law in 2010. Those House Bills were:

HB 239 - Patron William Janis

This bill will require localities with a County Management style government (Henrico) to have at least one animal protection police officer and one deputy.

HB 281 - Patron David Albo

For ACOs across Virginia, this was arguably the most important piece of successful legislation for this session. Delegate Albo's bill increases the penalties for failure to provide for companion animals under §3.2-6503:

A second or subsequent violation of failure to provide adequate food, water, shelter or veterinary care is now a class 2



Legislation

(Continued from page 10)

A second or subsequent violation of adequate space, exercise, care, treatment or transport is now a class 3 misdemeanor

HB 322 – Patron Kenneth R. Plum

This bill provides for the Board of Health regulation to craft an exemption to the rabies vaccination requirement for dogs or cats whose veterinarian determines them to have serious underlying medical conditions, and where a life-threatening condition may be the response to a rabies vaccination.

HB 621 - Patron Bobby Orrock

This bill provided a comprehensive re-vamping of the rabies statutes. It provided for such things as:

Allowing a medical record to substitute as a rabies certificate

Requiring veterinarians at rabies clinics to ensure a licensed veterinary facility maintains records

Clarifying the authority of local health directors

Requiring local health

directors to develop a rabies plan that identifies the authority of law enforcement and animal control and the reporting requirements in rabies control matters

One of the most significant provisions for ACOs is the clarification of the duty of veterinarians to release owner information to ACOs for rabies control purposes, or when such information is necessary to identify an owner.

HB 904 - Patron Robert Bell

This housekeeping bill corrected a conflict that was unintentionally created by 2009 legislation. The bill removed language from section §3.2-6555 that stated interfering with an ACO is a class 4 misdemeanor. (In 2009, under §18.2-460, such interference became a class 1 misdemeanor.) The bill also added language to sections §19.2-71 and 72 making it clear that ACOs have the authority to secure a felony warrant from magistrate, as is also provided under §3.2-6555.

HB 1145 - Patron James Scott

This bill was originally introduced to make veterinarians mandatory reporters of cruelty to animals. As passed, it provides immunity for any veterinarian who chooses to make such report.

2011 will be here before we know it. To view bills once session has begun, go to <http://leg1.state.va.us/>.

When called upon this session, please do your part for the animals and your fellow ACOs. If not you then who??

For questions about bills, their status, how you can help or the legislative process, contact Kathy Strouse at katacb@yahoo.com or at 757-630-1214.



Providing a united voice for
Animal Care & Control
Professionals throughout
Virginia.

Virginia Animal Control Association MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I, _____, hereby apply for membership in the Virginia Animal Control Association. If accepted, I will abide by the Constitution and by-laws and uphold the aims and purposes of the Virginia Animal Control Association.

Please Check One

- Active (ACOs) \$30
 Associate (Kennel staff, interested parties) \$25
 Organization \$45

Name:	
Jurisdiction:	
Home Address:	
Business Address: If you prefer to be billed choose: HOME or BUSINESS Address?	
Phone:	Email:
If paying by Credit Card; Name as it appears on card:	
Card Number:	
Card (circle one): VISA/MASTERCARD	Expiration Month/Year:
Signature:	
<small>Mail or FAX to: Patricia Dahl, 11362 Porter Road, Orange County, Virginia 22960 Fax 540-672-9727 Membership (includes NACA) is one calendar year, October 31st through October 31st the following year.</small>	