



SCACCA

News Update

Fall/Winter 2009

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www.SCACCA.org

Our website turned 2 this year and is just as strong as ever!

The SCACCA website is just one of the many ways we provide information to our members and animal supporters everywhere.

In addition to the latest news and events, the SCACCA website contains information on membership, training, legislative updates, and the latest edition of the SCACCA Newsletter, "News Update."

E-Mail Addresses

E-mail is a great way for SCACCA to get important news out FAST!

You can submit e-mail addresses via the "contact us" button on our website.

One Day Workshops Take the Place of 2009 Conference

Nearly everyone is feeling the economic crunch this year. In an effort to maintain preexisting programs, training budgets across the state have been slashed or eliminated. Surveyed agencies across the state reported that they would not be able to send as many staff members to a 2009 SCACCA conference. Some agencies would not have any representation at all. In response, the SCACCA conference planning committee decided to cancel the 3-day annual conference for 2009.

SCACCA is committed to promoting continuing education for South Carolina animal care and control professionals. Training will be made available in the form of one day workshops featuring high caliber speakers. These workshops will be scheduled in different parts of the state to create easy access for as many people as possible. Shorter workshops closer to home are intended to cut down on travel and lodging costs.

As these events are scheduled, notices will be sent out and updates will be posted on the website.

Memberships

It's that time of year again...time to renew your annual SCACCA membership! Annual Memberships are just \$36 for organizations (\$24 for associate members) and \$12 for individuals (\$9 for associate members). Benefits of joining at the organization level include year-round discounts on workshops and conferences. Newsletters, mailings, legislative updates, and more will be sent to members at both the organization level and the individual level.

For more information, contact Marli at mcdrum@columbiasc.net. You may also visit us online at www.scacca.org to download the online application.

Anyone interested in joining the Board of Directors should request an application from Marli. Please remember that all potential candidates must be a member in good standing for at least one year.

Humane Euthanasia Certification

Twenty five individuals completed SCACCA's first single day Humane Euthanasia Certification course, in Columbia. Twenty additional students attended an October course in Spartanburg. The course was held in one day in order to make it as affordable as possible for organizations. Members could receive their recertifications or their first time certifications during this time. Attendees agreed, the one day class was much more convenient and financially appealing.

Stay tuned to our website for dates and locations of future workshops.

Board of Directors:

President: Marli Drum

Vice President: Dr. Frank Murphy

Secretary/Treasurer: Vacant

Board Members at Large:

Sandy Christiansen

Natalie DiGiacomo

Jerry Gordon

Toni Lytton

Pearl Sutton

S.C.A.C.C.A.

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Emergency Preparedness and You By: Charlotte Krugler, DVM, MPH - CULPH (ESF-17)

Most of you respond to more than one emergency each day, so nobody needs to lecture you that “all emergencies are local,” right?

Part of the resources needed in response to any disaster (hurricane, flooding, ice storm, chemical spill...you name it) on every scale (county wide, regional or statewide) will be because of animal issues. While this isn't news to SCACCA, many emergency managers have learned through experience in the past few years that “animal issues are people issues.”

Part of my job at the state level under Emergency Support Function Animal-Agricultural Response (ESF 17), part of the State Emergency Operations Plan, is to raise awareness among emergency managers that there are valuable resources available to them who can assist with animal issues and allow them to concentrate on bridge and road closures, power outages, and the like during a disaster.

This brings me to my reason for writing this piece in this newsletter. Have you introduced yourself to your county emergency managers? While many of you are already involved in local government, some may not be. Being acquainted ahead of time, pre-disaster, is not only a good idea, but has also become a necessity in emergency preparedness.

The concept of having pre-identified, credentialed, emergency responders who are trained in the Incident Command System (ICS), has been adopted on a state and national basis. This is especially important when responders travel to another state as part of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). The rationale is to prevent rogue volunteers at a disaster scene who, by not being sufficiently mobilized into the organized response structure, are not protected and may actually detract from the successful overall response mission.

Here's another reason to be known pre-disaster: FEMA reimbursement to states for resources used in implementing the PETS Act (FEMA Disaster Assistance Policy 9523.19) are streamlined when volunteers are organized and listed as entities ahead of time. One such way to be grouped is under the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD).

So, how to put your skills to use in a disaster? You'll know better after your meeting with local emergency managers at which time you can determine which resources are needed and available for animal issues in your area. Some possible functions include assisting USAR teams with search and rescue, assisting Forestry Incident Management Teams (IMT) with animal decontamination, and setting up and managing temporary emergency animal shelters.

Contact Marli about any of these idea and/or feel free to contact me at any time at 803-788-2260, ext. 286

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Shelter Evaluations:

SCACCA provides shelter evaluations that cover a variety of areas including: housing, facility, layout, sanitation, disease control, record keeping, policy and procedures, organization, and more.

A nominal fee covers travel expenses, making SCACCA evaluations an inexpensive way to gain insights that will help you better serve the animals and people in your community.

Contact any SCACCA Board Member for more info or to arrange a visit.

Submit comments or articles for SCACCA News Update! Snail mail or e-mail accepted.

www.scacca.org