

# The State of Affairs

.....

## Are You Working Up to Your Potential?

As usual, the traffic on I-5 in Seattle was horrendous as I made my home from a long day at work in Edmonds, Washington. The radio station played my favorite county music with the typical annoying commercials interspersed between songs. The good thing about sitting in traffic for nearly an hour each night is the private time to just sit and reflect. Of course, paying attention to traffic is important. The other day, I was reflecting on my newly appointed position as a NACA Board Member and wondered what I would bring to the membership. The music stopped and the UPS commercial played on the air ending with their slogan, "What can brown do for you?" Reflecting on that slogan, I was taken back to a time years ago when I thought to myself.... "What can I do for me?"

After nearly twenty years at the Edmonds Police Department as an Animal Control Officer, I found myself cruising along each day in my comfort zone. Challenges were presented and then met with confidence, a successful animal control education program for the schools was in place (for several years until budget cuts) and it seemed that I had in all figured out. What was lacking was a way to mature. Not only for myself, but also for the community I served. As an animal control professional, we owe it to ourselves to excel personally and professionally. What potential do you have?

Our State Directors originate from the field officer, supervisor, and agency director ranks. If you are a field officer and on the front lines giving that customer service and handling the calls, look around your community and department for opportunities. Is there is a possibility to do more? School programs are a great way to interact with the young people in the community that will someday be the pet owning adults. Disaster committees are popping up all over the United States in the wake of Katrina and September 11th. Being involved on a committee will expand your horizons about government operations and will certainly look good on your resume. Who knows better than you what the animal needs will be should a disaster strike in your area. How about finishing that college degree or starting a new degree at the local campuses? Education is something we can all do for ourselves whether we receive a pay raise or not.

If you are a supervisor, what are doing for your employees? Do they have aspirations for better service in the community? Do you support their ideas and give them the encouragement to improve themselves? By delegating duties to others some employees can be jump started to reach their own potentials. Supervisors often do more jobs than they need. While it is easier to just do a job yourself, think about the extra time you could gain if some were delegated. Take the time to train a person to do those jobs that don't require your supervisory expertise. In my small three member department, one maintains the Petfinder.com website, and the other maintains the dog license program. Do you write grants? If not, then consider taking a grant writing course. The motorcycle officers in my department find more free money than I ever knew existed. I will be personally looking into this area very soon.

And for those that are already agency directors, is there more? Do you cruise through the meetings, network with the employees, answer all the questions from various administrators or boards and then comfortably lock the door behind you only to return the next day to do it all over again? Many in this group are here because they have reached higher on the potential ladder than others. But are you at the top and done? My guess is no. You have skills that go beyond just running an agency. Leadership can be learned but more often it is a gift in combination with what we learn in life. Many

agency directors have college degrees that have helped them do well at their jobs. Do you? If not, consider going back to school to finish that Bachelors degree or maybe even reach for a Masters in Public Administration or Business. Again, education is something we can all do for ourselves. What is your potential?

In conclusion, most agencies have gone through the process of defining their agency mission statement. I too went through this process recently during graduate school. The process made me look at myself and define all that I am on paper. By writing a personal mission statement you accomplish three things. The first is an understanding of you through self awareness. The second is to renew your spirit with self development. And finally, though self esteem you write down your values. If you want to know more about writing a personal mission statement, I suggest reading "First Things First" by Stephen Covey. The following is my personal mission statement that I am happy to share with you.

*My mission will be to live each day to the fullest for myself and to respect all life God has created especially for those in our care.*

*To thank God for the health I still have and to continue to listen to that little voice in the back of my head which I now know to be his.*

*I will seize all the opportunities placed before me in the day and act in a compassionate, caring, and respectful manner.*

*I will seek opportunities to teach and inspire others as I have been taught and inspired by my past teachers, friends, family, and coworkers.*

*My natural talents for music will be shared with others to enjoy as I very much enjoy the center stage for performing.*

*I will remember to look to the future and not dwell on the past, remembering though to learn from the lessons of the past.*

*While complete financial independence is not something I hope to attain in my future profession, I will be satisfied with a comfortable life style and not envy over others who will have more material things.*

*While I value my private times to do activities alone I will treasure those social times with family and friends.*

*Finally, through my talents and teaching abilities I will cause an effect on those around me to carry out my vision of good will towards all living things as demonstrated over the course of my life.*

To answer my first question, I did go back to school and complete my Masters Degree in Public Administration. My horizons are broadened and I have a renewed sense towards public service. This will benefit both my community and me...

*Debbie Dawson, NACA Board Member*



## NACA-State Association Presidents

The following is a list of NACA state-affiliated animal control associations and their presidents. If you find any incorrect information, please call our Corporate Office at 913-768-1319.

### **Alaska**

Shana Anderson  
P.O. Box 307  
Valdez, AK 99686  
907-835-4560  
[sanderson@ci.valdez.ak.us](mailto:sanderson@ci.valdez.ak.us)

### **Arizona**

Tammie Pineda  
1124 North Avenue  
Sierra Vista AZ 85635  
520-458-4151  
[tpineda@ci.sierra-vista.az.us](mailto:tpineda@ci.sierra-vista.az.us)

### **Arkansas**

Stacy Dolan  
707 S. 10th  
Heber Springs, AR 72543  
501-362-8291

### **Colorado**

Rigo Neira  
P.O. Box 272450  
Ft. Collins, CO 80527  
970-226-3647, ext. 132  
[rigo@larimerhumane.org](mailto:rigo@larimerhumane.org)

### **Connecticut**

Terry Foss  
5 Unity St.  
Moosup, CT 06354  
860-564-8547  
[plfdaco@snet.net](mailto:plfdaco@snet.net)

### **Illinois**

Len Hackl  
29278 N. Hwy 83  
Mundelein, IL 60060  
847-949-9925  
[lhackl@co.lake.il.us](mailto:lhackl@co.lake.il.us)

### **Indiana**

Larry Klinger  
417 N. Franklin St.  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
219-863-0303  
[ball@nwiis.com](mailto:ball@nwiis.com)

### **Kansas**

Reggie Ford  
301 Court St.  
Scott City, KS 67871  
620-872-2133  
[reggie@kaca.net](mailto:reggie@kaca.net)

### **Kentucky**

Dan Evans  
1020 Mary Laidley Drive  
Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017  
859-356-7418  
[dan.evans@kacca1.com](mailto:dan.evans@kacca1.com)

### **Louisiana**

David Marcantel  
5500 A Swift Plant Road  
Lake Charles, LA 70615  
337-721-3730  
[dmarcantel@cppj.net](mailto:dmarcantel@cppj.net)

### **Massachusetts**

Emanuel Maciel  
871 Rockdale Ave.  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
508-991-6366  
[emaciel@ci.new-bedford.ma.us](mailto:emaciel@ci.new-bedford.ma.us)

### **Michigan**

Ernest Baker  
180 S. Ray Quincy Rd.  
Quincy, MI 49082  
517-639-3210  
[aco@cbpu.com](mailto:aco@cbpu.com)

### **Minnesota**

Nancy Johnson  
506 11 Ave. N.  
Minneapolis, MN 55411  
612-348-4250  
[nancy.johnson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:nancy.johnson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

### **Missouri**

Rick Smith  
701 Lower Lake Rd.  
St. Joseph, MO 64504  
816-271-5371  
[rsmith@ci.st-joseph.mo.us](mailto:rsmith@ci.st-joseph.mo.us)

### **Montana**

Phyllis Ruana  
383 Linda Vista  
Corvallis, MT 59828  
406-370-6668  
[Missimont@aol.com](mailto:Missimont@aol.com)

### **Nebraska/Iowa**

Galen Barrett  
516 Timber Circle  
Crescent, IA 51526  
712-388-0293  
[gbarrett@councilbluffs-ia.gov](mailto:gbarrett@councilbluffs-ia.gov)

### **Nevada**

Karen Rowe  
P.O. Box 969  
Carlin, NV 89435  
775-754-2221  
[karenr@frontiernet.net](mailto:karenr@frontiernet.net)

### **New Mexico**

Andrew Jaramillo  
35 Camino Justice  
Santa Fe, NM 87508  
505-984-2430  
[Nmaca@msn.com](mailto:Nmaca@msn.com)

## NACA-State Association Presidents

### North Carolina

Brenda Miller  
810 Stoney Mtn. Rd.  
Hendersonville, NC 286791  
828-697-4723  
[bmiller@hendersoncountync.org](mailto:bmiller@hendersoncountync.org)

### Ohio

John Silva  
9500 Sweet Valley Drive  
Valley View, Ohio 44125  
216-525-4824  
[c0jrs@cuyagogacounty.us](mailto:c0jrs@cuyagogacounty.us)

### Oklahoma

Robert Sands  
P.O. Box 21  
Jet, OK 73749  
580-626-4673  
[animal@kanokla.net](mailto:animal@kanokla.net)

### Oregon

Jim Dohr  
1117 S.E. Jackson Street  
Albany, OR 97321  
541-917-7683  
[theprez@oacc.net](mailto:theprez@oacc.net)

### South Dakota

Wayne Fischbach  
132 North Dakota Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57102  
605-367-8764  
[wfischbach@siouxfalls.org](mailto:wfischbach@siouxfalls.org)

### Tennessee

Judy Ladebauche  
5125 Harding Place  
Nashville, TN 37211  
615-862-7928  
[judy\\_ladebauche@mhd.nashville.org](mailto:judy_ladebauche@mhd.nashville.org)

### Texas

Keane Menefee  
4900 Martin Street  
Ft. Worth, TX 76119  
817-392-3737  
[keane.menefee@fortworthgov.org](mailto:keane.menefee@fortworthgov.org)

### Southwest Texas

Billie Zercher  
P.O. Box 310231  
New Braunfels, TX 78131  
830-629-5288  
[info@stacca.org](mailto:info@stacca.org)

### Utah

Jim Barker  
45 S. Main St.  
Springville, UT 84663  
801-489-9421  
[jbarker@springville.org](mailto:jbarker@springville.org)

### Vermont

Jodi Harvey  
PO Box 145  
Huntington, VT 05462  
802-434-3267  
[jharvey@bpdvt.org](mailto:jharvey@bpdvt.org)

### Virginia

Kevin Kilgore  
P.O. Box 470  
Hanover, VA 23069  
804-365-6485  
[kmkilgore@co.hanover.va.us](mailto:kmkilgore@co.hanover.va.us)

### Washington

Rebecca Long  
P.O. Box 55  
Wenatchee, WA 98007  
509-662-9577  
[rlong@wenatcheehumane.org](mailto:rlong@wenatcheehumane.org)

### Wyoming

Mike Kiggins  
221 C. St.  
RockSprings, WY 82901  
307-352-1455  
[MikeKiggins@rswy.net](mailto:MikeKiggins@rswy.net)

## The NACA BOARD

E-Mail: [nacaboard@mindspring.com](mailto:nacaboard@mindspring.com)

#### **PRESIDENT**

Misha Goodman  
410 E. Washington St.  
Iowa City, IA 52240  
319-356-5297  
Fax: 319-356-5298

#### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Nancy Hill  
2521 N. Flora Road  
Spokane, WA 99216  
509-477-1967  
Fax: 509-477-4745

#### **SECRETARY/TREAS.**

Mark Kumpf  
6790 Webster Street  
Dayton, OH 45414  
937-898-4457  
Fax: 937-454-8139

#### **DIRECTOR**

Galen Barrett  
2821 S. 15th Street  
Council Bluffs, IA 51526  
712-328-4656  
Fax: 712-388-0293

#### **DIRECTOR**

Mark Byers  
775 N. Main St.  
Spanish Fork, UT 84660  
801-798-5070  
Fax: 801-798-5079

#### **DIRECTOR**

Debbie Dawson  
250 5th Avenue N  
Edmonds, WA 98020  
425-771-0205  
Fax: 425-771-0208

#### **DIRECTOR**

Andrew Jaramillo  
100 Caja de Rio  
Santa Fe, NM 87507  
505-992-1621  
Fax: 505-986-2473

#### **DIRECTOR**

Kevin Kilgore  
P.O. Box 470  
Hanover, VA 23069  
804-365-6485  
Fax: 804-365-6488

#### **DIRECTOR**

David Marcantel  
5500 A Swift Plant Road  
Lake Charles, LA 70615  
337-721-3730  
Fax: 337-437-3233

#### **DIRECTOR**

Lesa Murray  
P.O. Box 768  
Olathe, KS 66051  
913-971-6343  
Fax: 913-971-6927

#### **DIRECTOR**

Keith Robinson  
5115 Cotswold Ln.  
Memphis, TN 38125  
901-758-8752  
Fax: 901-737-3494

#### **DIRECTOR**

Len Selkurt  
10735 S. Maass Court  
Oak Creek, WI 53154  
414-766-0479  
Fax: None