I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who were nominated for one of the NACA Awards. You are all deserving, unfortunately only one nominee could be selected for each award. I would also like to thank each and every one of you for being here. I ask that you thank your administration for allowing you to attend NACA’s Annual Training Summit. You are your county or city’s biggest asset in public safety. You respond to and meet four times more citizens than your police officers. Your contacts are more emotionally charged. That is why you MUST be the professional and this conference and all NACA training strives to prepare each of you for those situations. Thank you, again, for being here. Please spend the rest of your time networking with other attendees, share ideas and thoughts. Make new friends and rekindle old ones. Remember that NACA is here for you, we are the only national organization for animal care and control professionals. Do not hesitate to contact NACA Corporate either by e-mail, fax or phone. Our staff has more experience and access to more resources than any other organization. We are here for you.

*Misha Goodman, President NACA*

NACA Corporate Office
101 N Church Street, Suite C
Olathe KS 66061
www.nacanet.org
Tel: 913-768-1319 Fax 913-768-1378 e-mail naca@interserv.com
Mailing address: PO Box 480851 Kansas City, MO 64148

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2010 NACA Award Recipients

Animal Control Employee of the Year

Cynthia Gilbert, Montgomery County Animal Resource Center Ohio, goes regularly to school career days to speak about being an animal control officer promoting a positive image in the community. She instructs in the Animal Awareness Diversion Program. Additionally, she has written an operational guide for dispatchers when the function switched to the Sheriff’s office and has developed numerous operation forms for the agency.

Diane Lane Memorial Award

Kathi Cavanagh, Plano, TX. Has been a volunteer with Animal Services since 2005. She completely revamped the volunteer program including policies/procedures, job specifications and orientation guide. Kathi is the volunteer liaison and handles most volunteer issues. Volunteer hours are up 300%. Kathi personally volunteers 100 hours a month.

Bill Lehman Memorial Award

Jill Deegan serves as the Assistant Attorney for Botetourt County, Fincastle, VA. She works closely with Animal Control going to crime scenes, necropsies, etc. Jill attends and speaks at veterinary and animal control conferences. She updates legislation, helps find homes for animals from her cases and keeps the public aware of animal crimes in the community. She truly cares about her work and it shows!

R.D. “Bob” Ward Posthumous Award continued

Ray Bland, ACO, Chicago, IL Commission on Animal Care and Control passed away suddenly on October 6, 2009 while responding to a cat bite. ACO Bland collapsed in a hallway and was pronounced dead at the scene due to a medical condition. According to his supervisor, Ray was extremely hard working and dedicated to his job. He would give you the shirt off his back and would do anything to help a stranger. He will be greatly missed.

Chadwick (Chad) Alan Carr, (31) Deputy Sheriff and Investigator, Green County VA was killed in a vehicle accident while on duty June 4, 2009. Chad began his animal control career in 2002 and transferred to the Green Co. Sheriff’s Department in 2008 where he worked as a deputy. He served on the Virginia Animal Control Association Board. “Chad had a great love of law enforce and will be truly missed by his fellow officers and workers, “ said Greene County Sheriff Scott Haas.

Tax deductible contributions NACA’s Memorial Wall/Garden Fund
Visit www.nacanet.org
Outstanding Animal Control Agency Award

The Montgomery County Animal Resource Center moved into a new building in 2005 and is committed to providing a state of the art facility to service both the citizens and the animals. The agency has an excellent training program for personnel, outstanding/innovative public education programs and is very active in the community partnering with local animal welfare shelters, veterinarians and corporations in a collaborative effort to end the euthanasia of healthy, adoptable pets by 2015.

The dedicated and compassionate staff truly understands the concept of animal welfare and strive to follow the best practices model for animal care and control on a daily basis.

Outstanding State Association Award

The Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers Assoc. has been proudly serving animal control officers for the past 51 years including holding a yearly training conference showing us all the true meaning of sustainability. Additionally, MAACO established a State Academy for Animal Control Professionals in 2006 and works diligently with state lawmakers on legislation proposing changes to current laws and creating new ones.

MAACO’s goal to educate, equip and encourage officers and others through training, support and networking.
R.D."Bob" Ward Posthumous Award

This award is for animal control employees killed in the line of duty. NACA has a long history of acknowledging and honoring those among us who have made the ultimate contribution to the animal control field. Although I know we all agree that if we ever present this award again, that would be too soon, we don’t want to be remiss when the unthinkable occurs. 2009 was not a good year for our profession, we would now like to honor four members of our family.

Theresa Foss, ACO (47) Plainfield, CT Police Department was hospitalized September 29, 2009 with a head injury after being knocked to the ground by a dog. ACO Foss had responded to the call of an aggressive dog that had trapped a family inside their home. Up until her death on October 8, she remained hospitalized. ACO Foss was a 17 year veteran and very dedicated to her job. Chief Robert Hoffman said, “She loved animals, she loved what she did. She was a good colleague, we could count on her to do the right thing.”

Sherman L. Logan, ACO, (50) Halifax County, VA died while on duty in a single motor vehicle accident. He was an excellent officer and considered the backbone of Halifax County Animal Control for many years.