2017 NACA Awards Luncheon

The National Animal Care & Control Association understands that the work we do is physically and emotionally demanding, and requires individuals of the strongest character. Therefore, we have been recognizing individuals, agencies, organizations, and state associations for more than 26 years on the national level for their service within the animal care and control field.

Those of us working in animal care and control know exactly how much sacrifice and dedication it takes to truly excel in this field.
Bill Lehman Memorial Award

This Award is given to an individual not directly employed in the animal care and control field, but who has shown an exceptional awareness in animal care and control related matters, which merits distinction. The recipient will be recognized as a “friend” of animal care and control, for contributions and outstanding action that has assisted in furthering the positive image of animal care and control professionals through local, state or national animal control associations.
Bill worked for the SWAB Wagon Company of Elizabethville, Pennsylvania, from the time he was in High School until he retired in 1986. He became interested in animal control and designed equipment and vehicles that not only provided humane transportation for domestic pets, but increased safety for Animal Control Officers as well.

Bill helped design blower system to make transportation more humane. The ortho pet stretcher was also designed by Bill. Coworkers called him the "mad scientist" because his mind was always working on such creative inventions.

Bill attended every NACA conference since exhibitors became a part of the annual meeting. Along the way, Bill supported NACA financially, emotionally and spiritually. NACA lost the physical presence of Bill Lehman when he died in April of 1988. His spirit and memory remains with us and will continue to be a part of NACA each year as we honor his memory with this award.
Bill Lehman Memorial Award Recipient

Rachel Melancon - LA
Diane Lane Memorial Award

This Award is for outstanding volunteer service. The nominee is someone who is not directly employed in the animal care and control field, but serves in volunteer capacity within the animal care and control field or other animal welfare related activities. He or she will have demonstrated exceptional dedication, or performed outstanding work far beyond the requirements of the volunteer position.
Diane was one of the first females admitted into the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators.

Her services include:

- **Jackson Hole, Wyoming**
  - March of 1975 through January of 1978

- **Bozeman HS Gallatin Valley**
  - January of 1978 through October of 1983

- **Everett Animal Shelter, Washington**

- **Diane Lane passed away August 10, 1988.**
Diane Lane Memorial Award Recipient

Angela Stell
Founder of NMDOG Rescue
Outstanding State Association Award

This Award recognizes the State Animal Control Association that best promotes and exemplifies professionalism in the animal care and control field.
VACA strives to improve the quality of animal care and control in Virginia. Over the last 12 months, VACA has provided instructors for state mandated Basic Animal Control Academies across Virginia, Participated in two state mandated boards and discussion groups. VACA is proud to ensure that all officers have access to continuing education because they believe this is the key to success of the Animal Control Officers' ability to fulfill their job duties.
Outstanding Animal Care & Control Agency Award

This Award is given to a current Agency Member of NACA. Selection criterion for this Award includes effective training programs for personnel, outstanding/innovative public education programs, active community involvement, and average officer response time to calls for assistance.
Outstanding Animal Care & Control Agency Award Recipient

Boulder Colorado, Animal Services Unit
The Animal Care and Control Employee of the Year Award

This Award is given to an individual that has been directly involved in the animal care and control profession for a minimum of five years and is a current member of either NACA or his/her NACA Affiliated State Association. Recipients may be nominated for a single outstanding achievement in animal care and control, or for long-term exceptional performance in the animal care and control field.
The Animal Care and Control Employee of the Year Award Recipient

Terry Funderburk
Animal Control Officer
Citrus County Sheriff Department, Animal Control Division