
Enhancing the value, effectiveness and standing of our individual members in particular and the humane movement in general.
OUR MISSION
To promote the sharing of information among and within animal welfare and control agencies
To enhance a positive and professional image of animal welfare and control agencies
To provide educational opportunities for members

OUR VALUES
“Unless all members of an organization share a common vision and a similar series of values, the objective, purpose, and/or goals of that organization cannot and will not be achieved.”
-James MacGregor Burns

SAWA 2008 Board of Directors
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Michigan Humane Society

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Capital Humane Society

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Humane Society of Kent County

Neil Trent
Longmont Humane Society

• We believe in the intrinsic dignity and sanctity of human life.
• We believe in the intrinsic dignity and sanctity of animal life.
• We believe all animals are entitled to be free from suffering, abuse and exploitation.
• We believe that companion animals are a product of human intervention and that we have a special obligation to them in regard to humane treatment and responsible stewardship.
• We believe we have an obligation to alleviate suffering.
• We believe we have an obligation to prevent cruelty.
• We believe that people should treat each animal as kindly as possible.
• We believe we have a duty to protect and care for the suffering and homeless.
• We believe that our values, decisions, conduct and behavior should set the tone and be a model for others in their care and treatment of animals.
• The commitment, care and attention we afford to both human beings and animals are only differentiated by degree and not by kind.

Maurine Dyer Stevens, Executive Director
Society of Animal Welfare Administrators
15508 West Bell Road, Suite 101-613
Surprise, AZ 85374-3436
Phone 623-810-4268
Fax 866-299-1311
Email: fortheanimals@ymail.com
2008 - A Year of Accomplishment

2008 was truly a memorable year for the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators. Beginning with an intensive strategic planning retreat held in Denver, the Board of Directors made several key decisions regarding the future of SAWA – the most notable of which was the hiring of Maurine Dyer Stevens as SAWA’s first Executive Director. This not only changes the way in which the Board will function going forward, but will also enable the organization to grow well beyond its current size and stature. By turning over the day-to-day operational aspects of the organization to the Executive Director, the Board will be able to focus on issues that are more strategic in nature. Many thanks are certainly in order to Bob Downey, Harry Dates and Jan McHugh-Smith for their hours spent working as the Executive Search Committee.

Speaking of thanks, recognition is also due to the entire Board of Directors for the work done throughout 2008, but especially the following individuals who willingly chaired the various committees of the Board:

James Bias  Development Committee
Martha Boden  Finance Committee
Carl Bandow  Issues, Linkages and Strategic Alliances Committee
Christie Smith  Membership Committee
Harry Dates  Certification Committee
Alice Calabrese Smith  Conference Committee
Bob Downey  Governance Committee

While much of their work was “behind the scenes,” their dedication to SAWA is very much appreciated.

On a more visible front, two outstanding conferences were held in 2008: the Management Conference in Kansas City, Missouri and the National Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. Under the extremely capable leadership of Alice Calabrese Smith, the Conference Committee put together conference programs, which drew attendees from across the country (as well as three foreign countries). Plans are underway for the 2009 conferences, which will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio and Austin, Texas – stay tuned for more details from Alice and her Committee!

In a year that presented challenges for many organizations, SAWA’s financial position remained strong throughout 2008 with sponsor commitments at record levels. We remain very grateful for the support of our key sponsors, including Hill’s Science Diet and many others, who make it possible to continue to provide SAWA members with the high quality professional development opportunities you have come to expect.

2009 will be a year of continued growth and opportunity, and we invite everyone to stay focused, stay committed and perhaps most importantly, stay connected through SAWA. I look forward to seeing you throughout the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Cal Morgan
In early 2008, the SAWA Board of Directors convened for Strategic Planning. The Issues Committee was renamed the Issues, Linkages and Strategic Alliances Committee. The scope for the Committee is to monitor issues and make recommendations on issues affecting the operation of animal care and control agencies. Additionally, it is to participate on industry related advisory boards, working groups or committees and provide expertise or advocate on issues or developments that affect the animal sheltering community.

Some of the Committee’s activities in 2008 included emergency management and the coordination of responses to disasters, microchipping and the CATalyst Council. SAWA members provided tremendous assistance to those members affected by the floods in the Midwest and hurricanes Gustav and Ike; a big thanks to Martha Boden and Dr. Becky Rhodes for their coordination activities. SAWA is participating as a member of the CATalyst Council; the purpose is to improve health care for felines, increase responsible pet ownership, enhance the stature of cats and enrich lives. Thanks to Cal Morgan and Neil Trent for past representation and to Jan McHugh-Smith, who has agreed to represent SAWA at future meetings. In 2008, the Committee was asked to look at the development of a single-point microchip registry. This would be similar to the Europetnet registry. Some existing work has been done in this area and the Committee is looking forward to seeing a finished product in 2009.

The Issues, Linkages and Strategic Alliances Committee anticipates a busy 2009 as the economy takes its toll on our members and other animal-related issues.
Throughout 2008, SAWA continued to collaborate with our government and national partners to advise on new policies and procedures being established for emergency sheltering and rescue of household pets for both local communities and the National Response Framework. We sat on a federal review committee to help design minimum staffing capacities for each State to adequately respond to the needs of animals in natural or technological disasters. We also participated in the National Conference for Animals in Disasters to help train and advise animal care professionals on preparing their shelters and communities.

In addition to attending a marathon of meetings, SAWA responded to many disasters from smaller scale hoarder and puppy mill cases to the devastating Hurricane Ike wiping out Galveston, Texas. SAWA members responded by transporting, rehabilitating and adopting out hundreds of dogs from overwhelmed small shelters dealing with a hoarder or puppy mill case. Then in September, both large and small shelters were damaged or destroyed from Hurricane Ike. The Houston SPCA with blown off roofs and flooded rooms led the response for the affected Galveston area and put out a request for help from SAWA. Dozens of SAWA members from as far west as San Diego and as far east as Rochester, New York quickly responded to assist with trained teams of animal care and rescue professionals. Thousands of Texas animals were rescued, reunited and adopted thanks to our members.

SAWA is the leading expert when it comes to professional rescuing and sheltering of animals – it’s what we do all day and every day.
As we closed out 2007, the first class of Certified Animal Welfare Administrators, who passed the exam in 2004, submitted the continuing education credits necessary to renew their CAWA credentials. This process was fairly simple using the online CEU submission format on the CAWA CPS website.

2008 was a year of positive change for Certification. The eligibility requirements were revised, presenting more opportunity to participate in certification and become a Certified Animal Welfare Administrator. New study materials were added and sections that merited additional study were defined to reflect the ongoing changes in the field of animal welfare.

The CAWA exam was not given in 2008. At the annual conference in Phoenix, the SAWA Board of Directors decided to offer the 2009 exam at no charge to SAWA members. In addition, SAWA will reimburse 2009 SAWA member test takers for the most expensive text on the CAWA reading list (Developing Management Skills, 7th Edition, Author: David A. Whetten and Kim A. Cameron, Publisher: Harper Collins College Publishers in 2006, Available from: www.amazon.com, ISBN-10: 0131747428, Cost: $114.00)

The 2009 Certified Animal Welfare Administrator exam will be offered in Cincinnati in conjunction with the SAWA Management Conference. The date of the exam is June 9, 2009. The exam site is the SPCA Cincinnati Humane Center located at 11900 Conrey Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45249. Candidates may use a hotel site other than the conference hotel, The Doubletree, the night prior to the exam. SPCA Cincinnati will provide transportation to the exam site and to the conference hotel following the exam. For questions regarding certification, please visit http://www.cps.ca.gov/tlc/sawa/about.asp.
SAWA is pleased to recognize the fifty-seven CAWA Certified professionals.

Ann Barnes
James Bias
Mary Pat Boatfield
Jocelyn Bouchard
Jodi Buckman
Judith A. Calhoun
Susan Carey
Veronica Constantine
Harold Dates
Vicki Davis
David Dubee
Kelley Durham
Joseph Elmore
Barry Evans
Rachel Finney
Dena Fitzgerald
Elizabeth Fourar-Laidi
Inga Fricke
Marie E. George
Mark Goldstein, DVM
George W. Harding, IV
Sharon Harmon
Eve Holt
Sara Houwerzyl
Kim Intino
Kimberly Janzen
Don Jordan
Mark Kumpf
Mary Martin
Marcia Mayeda
Jane McCall
Jan McHugh-Smith
Jean McGroarty
Nancy McKenney
Patricia Mercer
Rachel Michaud
Donald Mitton
Shelly A. Moore
John R. Nagy
Stephen J. Notaro
Philip L. Olson
Anne Oncha
Lisa Pedersen
Steven G. Pierce
Rebecca Rhoades, DVM
Robert Rohde
Kim Shannon
Ray A. Sim
M. Christie Smith
John Snyder
Kim D. Staton
Shelly Stuart
James C. Tedford
Karen Terpstra
Gary Tiscornia
Rita Victoria Truderung
Victoria Wellens
2008 SAWA Conferences – Learning and Networking

*by Alice Calabrese Smith*

The two SAWA annual conferences are designed to offer networking, relationship-building and learning opportunities for our members and friends. Our conferences are recognized in the industry as being among the best available to animal welfare professionals.

The Management Conference was held in June 2008, for administrative, operations and development managers and directors. Animal welfare professionals from 25 states, Canada and Australia attended the conference held in Kansas City, Missouri. The topics included “Outbehaving” Your Competition, Engaging Employees in Your Mission, 990 Changes, New Audit Requirements, Advancing a Culture of Philanthropy, Donor Stewardship, Forensics in Animal Cruelty Investigations, HR Hot Topics, and Shelter Architecture. Many conference attendees took the opportunity to tour Wayside Waifs Shelter while in Kansas City. From the opening reception hosted by Hill’s Pet Nutrition to a night watching the Kansas City Royals play the San Francisco Giants, the attendees felt the networking opportunities were one of the top benefits of the conference.

Scottsdale, Arizona was the site of the 2008 SAWA National Conference in November. Two hundred and fifty members, sponsors and guests enjoyed the Valley of the Sun while enhancing their skills and networking with colleagues. The participants attended sessions ranging from “Why Dogs Wag Their Tails” to an entire track on Cats in the Shelter, to a presentation by FEMA on Evacuating, Rescuing and Sheltering Pets in Disaster. Many of our sponsors had exhibit tables at the conference. The National Federation of Humane Societies’ Margarita Hour, the Opening Reception hosted by Newport Creative, the Hill’s Happy Hour and the Boot Stompin’ Cowboy Cookout hosted by Grizzard and Convio offered a chance in the evenings for participants to catch up with old friends and meet new colleagues.

We owe thanks to our sponsors for making these conferences possible. Without their support, it would be impossible to present such high quality programs at such a low cost to our members.
The value of SAWA has never been more evident and the 2008 membership total reflects that value. SAWA has 520 members at the end of 2008, the second year in a row in which we attained an all-time high.

218
Executive – chief executive of an agency that operates an animal shelter and/or enforces animal regulations

182
Manager – managers in agencies that operate animal shelters and/or enforce animal regulation, or board members and commissioners

57
Associate – all parties interested in animal welfare and control, excluding for-profit businesses

46
Business – for-profit businesses interested in animal welfare and control

17
Honorary – a member in good standing who has officially retired from animal care and control

JOIN US & BECOME A MEMBER
A major benefit of joining SAWA is the opportunity to network with peers from across the country. Face-to-face networking takes place at the annual National and Management Conferences. All members receive an annual membership directory, quarterly e-newsletters, and have the opportunity to join SAWA’s online discussion group to interact with peers. Other benefits include special discounted member rates for SAWA conferences, access to the bi-annual Salary Survey and SAWA’s professional certification program. To become a member, visit www.sawanetwork.org.
SAWA’s revenue increased 29% over the prior year, while expenses increased only by 5%. The growth in revenue was primarily due to sponsorships and membership income, key indicators that we are on the right track.

**Income**

Sponsorship ..................................................... $437,058  
Membership Dues ............................................ $99,205  
Conference Registration ............................... $42,484  
Interest .............................................................. $9,952  
Other ................................................................. $21,380  
**Total** ............................................................. $610,859

**Expenses**

Conferences ..................................................... $220,239  
Administration ................................................ $92,089  
CAWA Certification .......................................... $4,944  
Membership/Grants ......................................... $35,006  
Board Expenses ............................................... $31,649  
Disaster Planning .............................................. $3,912  
Grants ................................................................. $9,964  
Income Tax ........................................................ $7,036  
**Total** ............................................................. $404,839

*Income and expense numbers are preliminary pending accountant review.*
National Conference
Sponsored by:

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Purina

Pets for People

HomeAgain

Celebrating Animals | Contracting Cruelty

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OF THE UNITED STATES

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More SAWA members have joined the Hill's Science Diet Nutrition Program than any other program.