

# Animal Control News

Apr/May/June

2007

## A Word from the President

Wow! This has been a very busy Spring already! We've had a flurry of activity legislatively, and we're hoping to have more. We held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting this month, too. It's amazing how much our little organization has accomplished in just two years. Thanks to those who attended. For those who couldn't come, we missed you.

Although our House Resolution was extended, it's now obvious that the Task Force meetings will not take place. Instead, we will likely be preparing some revisions for the Illinois Animal Control Act for those Senators and Representatives who need dangerous and vicious animal legislation to present at the next Session.

You may have already received the informal opinion from the Illinois Attorney General relating to breed bans. If you haven't, contact one of the board members for a copy. Essentially, the opinion states that "home rule" municipalities are not prohibited from instituting such bans. The County Animal Controls of Illinois does not endorse such bans; however, many communities continue to consider them as a way to deal with dangerous and vicious dogs. This trend presents another reason the Animal Control Act needs revision.

We have several exciting projects underway for the remainder of the year. The Training Committee plans at least two additional workshops on animal control issues. We're also hoping to create a template for animal bite reports so that we're capturing the same information state wide. And, we're continuing to work on bringing more verified statistics for animals handled throughout the State to the attention of the public and other organizations. Be a part of this exciting work – become a member and/or get involved today!

**Check our website at [www.cacillinois.org](http://www.cacillinois.org).**

Greg Largent  
Sangamon County Animal Control

## Annual Meeting Update

The second Annual Meeting of CACI convened on May 1, 2007, in Bloomington. The group approved the following:

- **Treasurer** Gary Longanecker reported 55 members for CACI and submitted a Treasurer's Report.
- **Membership Committee** acknowledged that 15 members have not renewed for 2007 but 7 new members were added. All CACI members are urged to contact nearby counties to encourage membership and renewals.
- **Training Committee** reported that the first CACI workshop held February 15, in Peoria was a success with more than 45 people registered. The committee plans to offer at least two additional workshops in different parts of the state in 2007. The committee will also contact the Police Training Institute for possible animal control certification classes.
- **Legislative Committee** reported that HR 1525 passed extending the date for the Animal Control Act Task Force to June 30 but no appointments had been made. It is likely that this resolution will expire without any action. The Committee is currently considering other legislative options.
- **Governmental Affairs Committee** continues to pursue approval of the curriculum for the animal control training to be offered and has requested information regarding the number of animals handled by shelters throughout the state.
- **PR/Communications Committee** announced the new website address [www.cacillinois.org](http://www.cacillinois.org) as well as an organizational e-mail [cacillinois@gmail.com](mailto:cacillinois@gmail.com).
- **Board of Directors Meetings** are August 14, 2007 in Kankakee, and November 13, 2007, in Kane County.
- **Presentation** by Winnebago County Assistant State's Attorney Greg Miner was appreciated by those in attendance. He offered prosecutorial insight for the Animal Control Act and Humane Care for Animals Act.

## Training Opportunities

*Training is extremely important. Too often, animal control is accused of being untrained, uneducated, and unprofessional. Take advantage of as many of the training opportunities offered as you can!*

**July 9-13, 2007** – NACA Training Academy, Level I, in Louisville, KY. For more information, contact [www.nacenet.org](http://www.nacenet.org).

**Aug 6-10, 2007** – NACA Training Academy, Level I, in Chicago, IL. For more information, contact [www.nacenet.org](http://www.nacenet.org).

**Sep 10-14, 2007** – NACA Training Academy, Level I, in Bloomington, MN. For more information, contact [www.nacenet.org](http://www.nacenet.org)

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## Help CACI Grow!

CACI has 55 members; more than 50% of the counties eligible! But we still need more. You can help – encourage counties near you to join our efforts. Make sure your dues are current – you can see a list of current members by contacting any board member. Remember, membership in CACI also gets you membership in NACA! For information on becoming a member, visit our website at [www.cacillinois.net](http://www.cacillinois.net). Help us make animal control more effective, professional, and respected – Join CACI today!

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## Mission Statement

*County Animal Controls of Illinois represents animal control agencies throughout the State of Illinois. CACI pledges to influence companion animal legislation in order to assure public health and safety for all citizens, develop and implement professional training standards for animal control personnel, and provide educational information.*

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## New Website and E-Mail

CACI has a new website address – [www.cacillinois.org](http://www.cacillinois.org). Please watch this site for information on legislation, training, and other important issues. You may contact the organization at [cacillinois@gmail.com](mailto:cacillinois@gmail.com).

Board of Directors

*Please contact any board member with a question, concern, suggestion, or comment.*

### **Officers:**

**President:** Greg Largent, Sangamon County Animal Control, 217-535-3065, [gregl@co.sangamon.il.us](mailto:gregl@co.sangamon.il.us)

**Vice-Pres:** Kerri Vinkler, Dupage County Animal Control, 630-407-2808, [Kerry.Vinkler@dupageco.org](mailto:Kerry.Vinkler@dupageco.org)

**Secretary:** Buzie Bertagnolli, Macoupin County Animal Control, 217-854-4204, [buzieb@hotmail.com](mailto:buzieb@hotmail.com).

**Treasurer:** Gary Longanecker, Winnebago County Animal Control, 815-877-3073,

[glonganecker@co.winnebago.il.us](mailto:glonganecker@co.winnebago.il.us)

### **Directors:**

- Stephanie Joos, Champaign County Animal Control, 217-384-3798, [sjoos@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:sjoos@co.champaign.il.us).
- Julie Boudreau, Kankakee County Animal Control, 815-937-2949, [jboudreau@k3county.net](mailto:jboudreau@k3county.net)
- Len Hackl, Lake County Animal Control, 847-949-9876 x 103, [lhackl@co.lake.il.us](mailto:lhackl@co.lake.il.us)
- Peggy Gibson, McLean County Animal Control, 309-888-5060, [peggy.gibson@mecleancountyil.gov](mailto:peggy.gibson@mecleancountyil.gov)
- Richard Glessner, Rock Island County Animal Control, 309-737-0297, [glessner@co.rock-island.il.us](mailto:glessner@co.rock-island.il.us)
- Lauren Malmberg, Peoria Animal Welfare Shelter, 309-494-8911, [Lmalmberg@ci.peoria.il.us](mailto:Lmalmberg@ci.peoria.il.us)
- Pat Sikorski, Kane County Animal Control, 630-208-3814, [sikorskipat@co.kane.il.us](mailto:sikorskipat@co.kane.il.us)
- Shane Boyer, Vermilion County Animal Regulation, 217-431-2660, [shane.boyer@us.army.mil](mailto:shane.boyer@us.army.mil)

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## Want to Get Involved?

Interested in serving as a CACI Board member or on one of our very busy committees? We need everyone's help to make this organization effective and successful. You can be a part of that by serving on the Board or a committee. For more info, contact Greg Largent at [gregl@co.sangamon.il.us](mailto:gregl@co.sangamon.il.us) or 217-535-3065.

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