

## **MACA Board to Consider Implementation of Code of Conduct and Ethics**

In light of concerns expressed by MACA members in recent years, and incidents which have occurred earlier this year, MACA Vice President Nycole Griffon and Director Holly Bowie made a recommendation to MACA President J. T. Taylor that a Code of Conduct and Ethics should be prepared and applied to the MACA Executive Board. Additionally, following concerns and issues with the MACA Facebook page, it was recommended that a Social Media policy should be established. President Taylor agreed and has drafted both documents for consideration by the Executive Board during its August 15, 2017 meeting.

Taylor said he researched common codes of conduct and ethics used by other executive boards, to include the National Animal Control Association and several other state associations when crafting the proposed language. After drafting the proposed Standard Operating Procedure, he sent the two proposals out to the Executive Board for review.

“Like most of our standard operating procedures, these will be living documents which will be revised periodically,” Taylor said. “Unfortunately, there is no way to foresee every situation that might be considered misconduct, but disparaging the association or its members is certainly unacceptable.”

Other concerns regarding the association’s Facebook page showing negative comments about animal control or animal welfare organizations; the appearance of promoting other training organization training programs over promoting MACA’s training programs; and the difficulty in finding news relevant to Missouri buried in so many news articles from other states, have been brought to the Board’s attention. A social media policy has been developed to address those concerns as well.

The Standard Operating Procedures Committee, which Taylor established in October, 2016, has at its heart the responsibility for establishing the written protocols that the Executive Board will use to conduct itself and the business of the Association. Misconduct on the part of a board member not only discredits that board member, but the association and its members.

## *Looking Back to Find the Future- From the MACA Archives and Records*

A study of MACA’s history is both fascinating and informative. Historical records, such as the MACA News and Board meeting minutes reveal the growth of the association throughout the years and the efforts of the past leadership. For example, according to the 1998 MACA News, the Board of Directors consisted of four Executive Officers and ten Board members. Names still familiar from the 1998 Board include Rick Smith and Barbara Ball. Topics covered in the newsletter included Weather Tips, Rabies Updates, Controlling Upper Respiratory Infections in Your Shelter and First Aid tips for animals. Sharon Yaffe received the John Rhodes Award that year. Look for further glimpses into the past in future MACA News issues.

**Next MACA  
Board  
Meeting**

Tuesday, August  
15, 2017 at  
10:00 AM in  
Columbia.

Meeting agenda  
is available at  
MACA1.net!

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**Save the Date to Certify!**

Certification Committee Chair Christine Portmann announced the training dates for the next Certification Training Program. Scheduled for October 25 and 26, in Harrisonville, the certification training program costs \$150.00.

According to Portmann, the fall program will be held at the Harrisonville Fire Department, at 903 S Commercial, Harrisonville MO 64701. Hotel reservations can be made at the Comfort Inn and Suites, which is located at 2304 S Commercial Dr., by calling ahead to 816-884-4124. There is a special MACA room rate of \$80.00 per night, but attendee's must register before October 10 and must state the purpose of the stay is for MACA certification training.

Portmann also said the tuition fee includes all training materials, the test fee, lunch and snacks for both days. For those who complete the training and become certified, their first two years of certification dues are also covered by the tuition.

***From the Desk of the President***

The 2017 Annual Conference is rapidly approaching and I can't help but marvel at how fast the year has flown by. Despite the speed however, I have to say I am very proud of this board and the many changes we have made in an effort to better serve our members. Where once there were concerns that the Executive Board did not keep the members properly informed on its work and activity, I am pleased to say I have received a number of compliments on our efforts to improve our transparency and in keeping the members we serve informed.

I have enjoyed working for the membership and look forward to the continued growth in the future as the Board strives to improve its service to the membership.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Conference in September and hearing any concerns or ideas you might have. Get registered now and see you at the Oasis!