

MACA News Fourth Quarter Edition, 2019

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Meet MACA's 2019-2021 President Kyle Shafer

During the 2019 MACA Annual Conference, a new president was elected for the 2019 to 2021 term. Elected by acclamation, President Kyle Shafer is the Chief Animal Control Officer for Saint Charles County, and assumed the presidency at the conclusion of the 2019 Annual Conference.

Shafer comes from a family of law enforcement officials and he is an animal lover. Combining his passions, he became an animal control officer in Saint Charles County in 2012. He is certified as an animal control officer at the national level by the National Animal Care and Control Association. Additionally, he is a certified Animal Cruelty Investigator and is certified in chemical immobilization.

He was promoted to Saint Charles County Chief Animal Control Officer in 2017. He says since assuming the mantle of Chief ACO, he has enjoyed leading his officers in animal care and control operations for the county. Shafer also feels proper training is essential for himself and his officers and so he tries to ensure they receive as much training as possible and that they stay in the forefront of the animal control profession.

Shafer was appointed to the MACA Board of Directors in January, 2019, to fill a board seat vacated by a resignation. He has served the association as the Social Media committee chair, and now as president. In addition to his presidential duties, Shafer will also chair the Positions Committee, developing the association's recommended position on a variety of topics, such as the wearing of ballistic vests, the need for certification training before an ACO uses OCAT spray, extendable batons, or performs chemical immobilization. Shafer will also represent the association's positions on proposed state legislation by providing written and spoken position statements during the state's legislative sessions and committee hearings.

President Shafer lives with his wife, Allie, and their three dogs, P.K., Ralphie, and Clark, in the Saint Charles area. He enjoys shooting sports in his free time. He says he hopes to bring new ideas to the Missouri Animal Control Association and its Board of Directors which will improve the services the Board provides to the association's members.

MACA Members Elects Three New Directors to the Executive Board

Long-time MACA members Matt Allen, Christina Elmore and Jaime Williams were elected to the MACA Board of Directors during the 2019 Annual Conference in Camdenton, Missouri, in September. All three are first-time Board members and are anxious to serve the association and its members. Each of them will be assigned to chair various committees and may be reached by email through the MACA website.

MACA Awards Presented at the Annual Awards Banquet

The Annual Awards Banquet was held during the Annual Training Conference with five of the six awards being presented this year. Hosted by acting Awards Committee Chair Beth Gillespie and Exhibitor Committee Chair J. T. Taylor, the presentations included a variety of non-official awards bestowed on members for a variety of topics through a power point presentation.

Through the power point, the Awards Committee showed members caught in the act of humorous or awkward moments such as Dan St Lawrence joining the long history of Best Snoring Award recipient's, and Christine Kalish receiving the Best Comedian Award for her acceptance of the John Rhodes Award on behalf of Rick Smith during the 2017 Awards ceremony. Inter-dispersed throughout the official awards, the unofficial awards earned many chuckles from the guests.

Of the official awards presented during the 2019 MACA Awards, the John Rhodes Award was presented to St Joseph's Stephen Norman. Beth Gillespie, of Gladstone, earned the Animal Control Officer of the Year, while Dr Tom Welsh received the Veterinarian of the Year Award. The Missouri Outstanding Animal Welfare Agency of the Year Award was presented to the Faithful Friends Animal Advocates, while the Pause for Applause Award was presented to Susan Punzo.

According to Beth Gillespie, the committee received no nominations for the Animal Care Specialist of the Year. Gillespie reminded the members present that the committee would begin accepting award nominations immediately following the 2019 Annual Conference.

"We all know people who go above and beyond in our jobs so don't be afraid to nominate someone deserving" Gillespie said.

Taylor also reminded the members present that the awards and criteria for each award is listed on the website at maca1.net, and he also encouraged everyone to nominate someone.

Requests for Topics Sought for the 2020 Annual Conference

With the conclusion of the 2019 Annual Conference, Vice President Holly Bowie has already begun preparations for the 2020 Annual Conference. The location of the conference for the next two years has been set by popular vote of the membership for Lake Ozark, and the Board has selected the resort *Camden on the Lake* for the location. Bowie is also looking for presentation topics the membership would like to see at the 2020 Annual Conference.

Anyone with a suggestion on presenters or topics should contact Bowie through her email listed on the association's website, maca1.net.

Several MACA Board of Directors' Committees Get Chair Shuffles

While the Board of Directors conducts the business of the association, most of this business is done through a variety of committees. Sixteen committees have been established to conduct this work. With the election of a new president, who had already been serving as a Director, and three board seats up for election during the MACA Annual Conference, a shuffle of committee chair assignments were made by new president, Kyle Shafer.

New director, Matt Allen was assigned to chair the Awards Committee as well as the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. President Shafer will chair the Positions Committee, while Jamie Williams will chair the Standard Operational Procedures Committee. Mark Hastings will take over Scholarships in addition to his Nominations and Historian duties, and JT Taylor will take over the newsletter in addition to his Exhibitor Committee duties. New director Christina Elmore has taken over the Social Media Committee.

From the Desk of the President...

Dear MACA Members,

I would like to first thank all of you for allowing me to opportunity to serve as the President of the MACA Executive Board of Directors. I hope to bring new ideas to the Board and help ensure we serve our members as best as possible. We have begun getting things together for the annual conference next year. We have a great selection of people on our Board and I have no doubt next year's conference will be great. I hope to lead the board in finding new ways we can serve our members, whether that is with the annual conference, our certification program, or our Mini-MACA trainings. I want everyone to know that I have an open door policy and I encourage all of you to reach out to me if you need anything or you have any suggestions on how the Board can better serve you. We also are looking for fun and/or inspiring stories from the field that we would love to share on social media or in our newsletter. Thank you again for allowing me to serve and I really hope to see you at our events.

Sincerely
Kyle Shafer, President

Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at the Springfield Brewing Company located at 305 S Market Ave in Springfield. The meeting will begin at 10:30 AM. Members are invited to attend.



Annual Scavenger Hunt Team... *"The Dead Armadillo's"* have fun at the Annual Conference Social 2019!