



Virginia Animal Control Association
P.O. Box 20462
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For immediate release

Virginia Animal Control Association Completes Successful Conference

The Virginia Animal Control Association (VACA) held its 33rd annual training conference in Virginia Beach, October 19 - 21. Animal care and control professionals from across the Commonwealth and Maryland were in attendance. The more than 100 in attendance participated in classes on compassion fatigue, the new agricultural animal code of Virginia and equine emergency preparedness just to name a few.

Keynote speakers Secretary of Public Safety Marla Graff Decker and Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services Garth L. Wheeler gave encouragement and inspiration at the awards banquet as they stressed the importance of education and training. Honored at the banquet for their dedicated work in the animal welfare community were:

- The Dr. Kent Roberts Award for Animal Control Officer of the Year
 - Chief Animal Control Officer Todd "Sammie" Moser, Halifax County
- Public Service Award
 - Chief Animal Control Officer Darlene "Dee" Price, City of Waynesboro
 - Patrolman Jeremy Johnson, City of Waynesboro
- President's Award
 - Magistrate Leilani "Lonnie" Monahan, Front Royal
 - Sue Williams (Founder/Operator Holly Help Spay/Neuter Fund), Bristol

The VACA food drive saw 80 lbs of people and pet food donated to the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia. The silent auction and raffle during the conference helped raise money for the VACA Memorial Fund.

The 2011 VACA conference was generously sponsored by the ASPCA, The Humane Society of the United States, Petfinder.com, Jackson Creek Manufacturing, Inc., PetSmart Charities and Swab Wagon Company.

Look for the Virginia Animal Control Association next year as it celebrates its 34th annual conference in Charlottesville!

Providing a united voice for Animal Care and Control Professionals throughout Virginia!
www.vacaonline.net