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JANUARY 1, 2005 HAPPY NEW YEAR

Director Bruce G. Savoy

HELLO!

I hope everyone enjoyed a prosperous Christmas and a happy and safe New Year celebration. Per by-laws, I must announce my resignation as Director effective January 7, 2005. I have accepted a full time patrol officers position with the Town of Wells. As some of you know Wells employed me as their ACO for three years back in 1997. I am excited and anxious to start my new job. I expect that people will submit their names to MMA to run for State Director.

I truly feel that we are moving forward and are in good standing. Stanley Brown, South Portland ACO has been attending Rabies Work Group meetings and AWAC meetings. Jeff Cooper has been corresponding with Animal Welfare Director, Norma Worley and also attending AWAC meetings. The Association is strong and will continue to be a viable resource to other government agencies. Please remember when we took over in 1996 MACA had very few members and financially we were broke. We have come a long ways.

I want to thank the Awards Committee members, Chair Chuck Burnie, Lesa Gross, Cindy Dunton and Taryn Fontaine for an excellent job in preparing several awards that will be presented at the annual convention this spring. You folks rose to the challenge and made it happen! You are the reason the association is what it is today. THANK YOU!

Jeff and I are pleased to announce that our annual convention and training seminar will be held this spring at the Ramada Inn in Bangor. The dates are April 8 & 9, the annual meeting will be Friday night. Additional details will be forthcoming to you at a later mailing along with registration requirements. Jeff is working on the curriculum for Saturday's training seminar. The cost will be the same as last year and as always if you cannot afford to pay please call Jeff. We do not want anyone missing out because of financial reasons. Anyone contacting Jeff for assistance will be held in the strictest confidence.

From the desk of Jeff Cooper

Hi everyone, I hope everyone had a Very Merry Christmas and 2005 will bring you happiness and prosperity.

I want to express my sincere thanks to Bruce Savoy for all of his years of service as director of MACA. Bruce and Don Harper took over the association in 1996. Bruce was elected Director in 2002. Bruce has given so much unselfishly to all of us and to the welfare of the animals in this great state. Bruce served on the original Rabies committee who wrote our policy's for dealing with rabid and potentially rabid animals. Bruce worked hard to write and rewrite our animal welfare laws. Bruce spent countless hours setting up and organizing training sessions.

For me it has been a great pleasure to work side by side with this man. Bruce was my mentor as was he for a lot of others. Bruce was the type of person you could call anytime day or night to seek professional guidance. Bruce has an understanding for the law as no other person I know has. This is a tremendous loss for the association and for the ACO's in this state and a giant step forward for Bruce and we wish him the best.

No matter where Bruce goes or what Bruce does or who ever his employer may be, they can be assured that Bruce Savoy will give 110 percent of himself., as he did for all of us. We will miss you Bruce may God Bless you as you move forward in life.

I will be taking over temporarily as director of MACA; I will work on setting up this year's annual conference and business meeting where we can elect a new director. I will not run for director, I may consider staying on as webmaster, everyone please consider whom you would like as your new director. Anyone, who is interested in running for Director, please contact me and I will publish your name so everyone knows who is interested. It is time for new people with new ideas to step up to the plate. So I ask you please get involved it's your association and everyone needs to be involved.

Before I close I want to say thank you to Ann Jordan, Norma Worley and AWAC. For there time and efforts hearing me out and working with me in drafting new legislation that had to be submitted in December for the next legislative session. I will talk more about those issues in the next newsletter.

Sincerely
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From the desk of Cindy Dunton

The Animal Control Officer of the Year committee that was formed at the MACA Annual Meeting in April has corresponded throughout the summer via e-mail. We have come up with a set of standards to select the Animal Control Officer of the Year, Animal Shelter of the Year, Office Worker/Animal Educator of the Year, and Humanitarian of the Year. These awards will be given out at the MACA Annual Meeting every year.

On August 27th the committee met in Augusta to finalize the nomination process. The nomination forms will be up on the MACA website as soon as possible. Please take the time to look at the forms and nominate someone or a shelter to receive one of these awards.

The nomination period is January 1 through December 31 and the nominations need to be into the committee by January 31, 2005.

MMA has an Annual Meeting in October and we're going to have forms available there. We're also checking into either mailing or e-mailing the forms out to Town Managers, Selectmen and Animal Shelters.

In closing,

I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to serve you these last eight years. I have always been proud of each and everyone one of you and of this association and what it stands for. I have always stood by my beliefs and for the Animal Welfare Laws. There were times when I should of done and spoke differently. For those of you I offended, I sincerely apologize. Though my intentions were honorable I should of considered others feelings and respected their position on issues. I have been involved in animal control work since 1975, I would be lying to you if I say I will not miss it, I will. May God bless you, because he certainly has blessed me!

Bruce