

March 2024

The ACO Voice

A Monthly Magazine from the Animal Control & Care Academy ▪ The Only Monthly Publication Dedicated to Animal Control



ACCA Welcomes Two New Instructors

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Notes from our CEO...

Greetings to all our followers, students and animal control professionals. As you read this, ACCA is excited to announce that our expansion and outreach efforts are well underway. Featured in this issue are interviews with our newly minted instructors who have joined the ACCA instructor core. Kelly Sears and Cody Mace join JT Taylor and me as academy professors sharing our progressive vision and passion for in-person instruction in animal control focused courses. Kelly recently served as lead instructor for our Basic Animal Control course in Springfield Missouri. Cody will be leading his first academy course in the near future. Both are certified ani-

mal control instructors, having graduated from the recent ACCA instructor school held in 2023. We are looking forward to great things, including increased ability to fulfil more requests to host our training courses with our new additions.

I would also like to welcome Janet Conner to our team as our new editor-in-chief. With a Master of Arts in English and Professional Writing, she will be a wonderful addition.

Another exciting expansion to announce is the ACCA International program. ACCA traveled in 2023 to American Samoa, a far-away land but one that is truly part of our great United States terri-

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Rolling out ACCA's newest certification course

ACCA CEO and Master Instructor Mark Kumpf introduced ACCA's newest certification program in Bermuda and graduated ACCA's first Certified Euthanasia Technicians this month.

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tories. This year ACCA is proud to have traveled to Bermuda to provide in-person training to their field officers on a variety of topics, as well as debut our newly revised Euthanasia by Injection curriculum. This certification program is based on the former HSUS program, with thanks to all those who have gone before, especially a mentor of ours, Doug Fakkema. We hope to submit our program to various states for approval, including Ohio and Pennsylvania in the immediate future!

Thanks to all our students and animal control professionals nationwide, and now internationally. The year is only going to get better with more exciting news and programs.

Thanks, and stay safe!



Hanging out with students of her first class

Certified Animal Control Instructor Kelly Sears pauses for photos with some of her first students during Springfield, Missouri's Basic Animal Control Officer certification course.

Mark Kumpf, CAWA

CEO / Master Instructor ACCA

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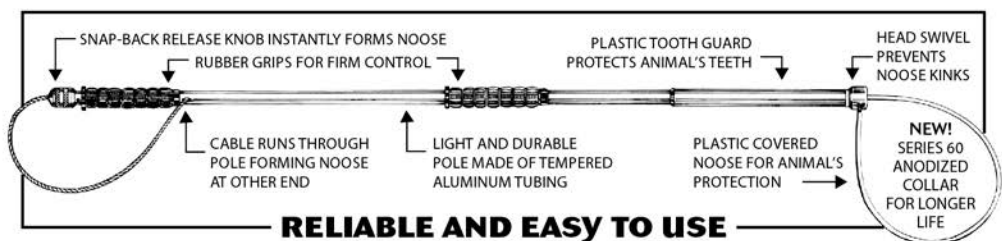
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Retracted, it is used as a longer heavy-duty restraining pole

ACCA Welcomes Two New Instructors

By J.T. Taylor, ACCA

Animal Control and Care Academy is pleased to announce it has added some new training programs to our course catalog and is proud to welcome two new certified animal control instructors to the cadre. Kelly Sears, director at Lucas County Canine Care and Control in Toledo, Ohio, has joined the instructor core, along with Cody Mace, lead animal control officer at Cedar Rapids Animal Care and Control, Iowa, and brings years of experience and enthusiasm to the team.

Sears began her animal care and control journey in 2002, as the program manager for Capital Area Humane Society in Lansing, Michigan. Promoted to shelter manager for Capital Area Humane in 2006, she remained there for three years before moving to Green Bay, Wisconsin, to become the director of animal welfare for the Bay Area Humane Society. She continued her humane work as the field program manager for PetSmart Charities in Phoenix, Arizona, from 2014 to 2016. Moving to Ohio in 2016, Sears became the vice president of operations for the Toledo Humane Society until she assumed duties as the director of Lucas County Canine Care and Control in Toledo.

Kelly earned a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies in Community Relations from

Michigan State University. In addition to being a certified animal control instructor, she is a nationally certified animal control officer, and holds additional certifications in euthanasia, chemical immobilization, and Fear Free. She is a member of the Ohio Animal Welfare Federation, Ohio County Dog Wardens Association, National Animal Control Association, the Northwest Dog Wardens Association, and the Association for Animal Welfare Advancement.

"I'm always excited for an opportunity to share new techniques and insights to my fellow animal
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Deep in discussion

Lucas County Ohio's Canine Care and Control Director Kelly Sears joined ACCA's instructors in January, adding her years of experience to ACCA's instructor core.

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control officers.” Kelly said. “After over 20 years in the field, one thing I know is we can never stop learning if we want to make animal welfare the best it can be for the people and animals we serve.”

Cody Mace began his animal care and control career as an animal control officer for the Polk County, Iowa Sheriff’s Department in 2018. He joined Cedar Rapids Animal Care and Control the following year, serving as field services officer for the next three years. In late 2022, he accepted a promotion to lead animal control officer, where he continues to supervise field officers and acts as the field training officer. Additionally, Mace routinely attends community meetings in Cedar Rapids, where he discusses newly drafted municipal code with members of the public, fostering transparency and a better understanding of the department’s role in the community.

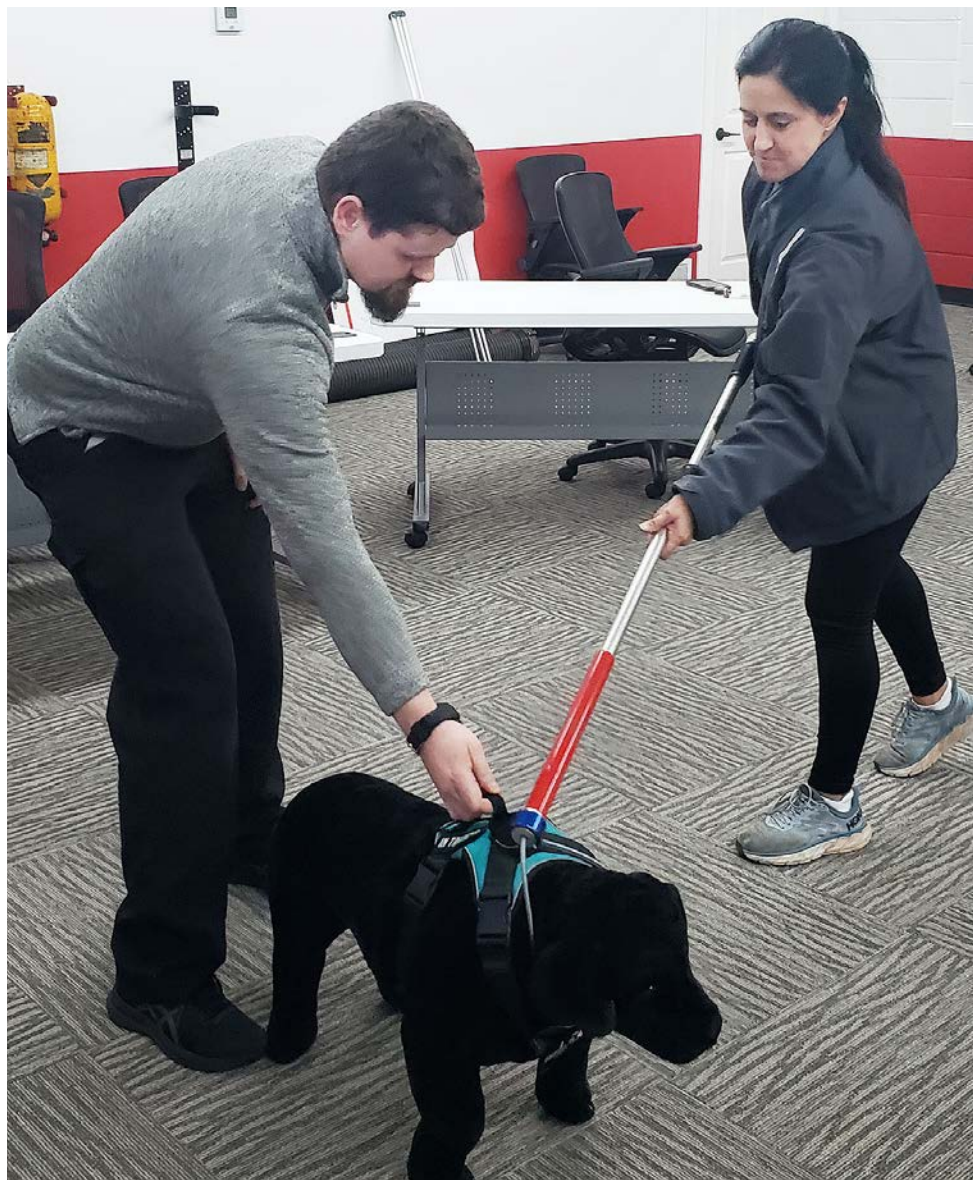
Cody is heavily involved in community outreach and is often a guest speaker at corporate safety training for community workers and first responders who encounter animals; is a guest speaker at in-service training sessions for the Cedar Rapids Police Department; and is a guest speaker at numerous area schools where he educates and builds relationships in the community.

Mace graduated from Kirkwood Community College with a degree in Applied Science/Humane Officer in 2017. He is also a 2022 graduate of the Public Employees Leadership Institute at Iowa State University, where he studied Supervisory Techniques and Skills. He became a certified animal

control instructor in 2023, before joining Animal Control and Care Academy as an instructor.

“As an ACCA instructor,” Mace said, “I most look forward to meeting animal control officers, helping them strengthen their skill sets, build confidence, and contribute to the professional development of the animal control industry.”

Kelly Sears made her instructor debut in Springfield, Missouri in late February where she graduated her first round of ACCA Basic ACO certified animal control officers. Cody Mace is being worked into the training schedule and will be teaching ACCA courses in the near future.



Animal Control Instructor Cody Mace works the pole

Cody Mace developed and presented a specialty training program on catch pole use, which has now been adopted by ACCA for use in equipment and animal handling training.



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You may download the current edition of our e-magazine via this link:

<https://accacademy.net/newsletter>

Please take a moment to review the rate card on the next page and let us know if we can assist with your advertising needs.

Sincerely,

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"The ACO Voice"

2024 Advertising Rates

"The ACO Voice" is an electronic magazine that is published 12 times each year by the Animal Control & Care Academy to provide information of interest to Animal Control Officers. Advertising is provided on a space-available basis.

Publication Dates: The first week of each month.

Available ad sizes are: Full Page (7½" x 10") and Half Page (7½" x 5")

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Upcoming Training Opportunities

For a registration form, visit www.accacademy.net or call 937-825-6709

Basic Animal Control Officer Certification • Hosted by the Lander County Sheriff's Office

April 8-11, 2024 • Battle Mountain, Nevada

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Laws and Enforcement Procedures; Interpersonal Communication; Officer Safety and Protection; Basic Animal Control Officer Investigations; Evidence Law and Collection; Courtroom Testimony and Report Writing; Canine Behavior and Aggressive Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment

Chemical Immobilization Certification • Hosted by the Lander County Sheriff's Office

April 12, 2024 • Battle Mountain, Nevada

Schedule of Training

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

Advanced ACO Certification Course • Hosted by the Springfield - Greene County Health Department

April 15-18, 2024 • Springfield, Missouri

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Attack Investigation and Reporting; Animal Crime Scene Photography, Videography and Sketching; Animal Hoarding Investigations; Illegal Animal Fighting; Livestock and Exotics Cases; Obtaining and Executing Search Warrants; Officer Safety in the Field; Proactive Animal Control; Using Forensics in Animal Cruelty Investigations

Training Course for Animal Control Professionals • Hosted by the Holmes County Dog Warden

April 22-23, 2024 • Holmesville, Ohio

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Baton/Bitestick Certification; Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol Training Certification

Advanced ACO Certification Course • Hosted by the Plattsmouth Police Department

April 29 - May 2, 2024 • Plattsmouth, Nebraska

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Attack Investigation and Reporting; Animal Crime Scene Photography, Videography and Sketching; Animal Hoarding Investigations; Illegal Animal Fighting; Livestock and Exotics Cases; Obtaining and Executing Search Warrants; Officer Safety in the Field; Proactive Animal Control; Using Forensics in Animal Cruelty Investigations

Chemical Immobilization Certification • Hosted by the Alabama Animal Control Association
May 7, 2024 • Prichard, Alabama

Schedule of Training

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

Chemical Immobilization Certification • Hosted by White County Animal Control
May 9, 2024 • Cleveland, Georgia

Schedule of Training

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

Advanced ACO Certification Course • Hosted by Jefferson County Animal Control
May 20-23, 2024 • Kearneysville, West Virginia

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Attack Investigation and Reporting; Animal Crime Scene Photography, Videography and Sketching; Animal Hoarding Investigations; Illegal Animal Fighting; Livestock and Exotics Cases; Obtaining and Executing Search Warrants; Officer Safety in the Field; Proactive Animal Control; Using Forensics in Animal Cruelty Investigations

Basic Animal Control Officer Certification • Hosted by Marana Animal Services
June 3-6, 2024 • Marana, Arizona

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Laws and Enforcement Procedures; Interpersonal Communication; Officer Safety and Protection; Basic Animal Control Officer Investigations; Evidence Law and Collection; Courtroom Testimony and Report Writing; Canine Behavior and Aggressive Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment

Training Course for Animal Control Professionals • Hosted by Marana Animal Services
June 7, 2024 • Marana, Arizona

Schedule of Training

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Baton/Bitestick Certification; Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol Training Certification

Basic Animal Control Officer Certification • Hosted by the Horse Plus Humane Society
June 10-13, 2024 • Hohenwald, Tennessee

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Laws and Enforcement Procedures; Interpersonal Communication; Officer Safety and Protection; Basic Animal Control Officer Investigations; Evidence Law and Collection; Courtroom Testimony and Report Writing; Canine Behavior and Aggressive Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment

Shelter Technician Certification • Hosted by the Springfield - Greene County Health Department
June 17-19, 2024 • Springfield, Missouri

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Care in a Sheltering Environment; Animal Disposition Options; Animal Identification: Breed and Description; Animal Shelter Design and Operations; Animal Shelter Record-Keeping; Canine and Feline Behaviors and Assessments; Disease Exposures in a Sheltering Environment; Emergency Animal Sheltering; Proactive Animal Sheltering

Training Course for Animal Control Professionals • Hosted by the Springfield - Greene County Health Department
September 9-11, 2024 • Springfield, Missouri

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Canine Behavior and Aggressive Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment; Officer Safety and Protection; Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol Training Certification; Baton/Bitestick Certification

Advanced ACO Certification Course • Hosted by the Horse Plus Humane Society
July 29 - August 1, 2024 • Hohenwald, Tennessee

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Attack Investigation and Reporting; Animal Crime Scene Photography, Videography and Sketching; Animal Hoarding Investigations; Illegal Animal Fighting; Livestock and Exotics Cases; Obtaining and Executing Search Warrants; Officer Safety in the Field; Proactive Animal Control; Using Forensics in Animal Cruelty Investigations

Comprehensive Animal Management Certification • Hosted by the Horse Plus Humane Society
September 23-25, 2024 • Hohenwald, Tennessee

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Advanced Case Supervision; Basic Budget Planning; Disciplinary Investigations; Equipment, Vehicles and Operational Needs; Evaluating Staff; Interviewing and Selection; Managing Generational Employees; Meetings: Individual, Specific Groups, Entire Staff; Policy and Procedures: Review and Development; Pushing Paperwork: Reports, Memos and Correspondence; Supervising Daily Operations; Training and Staff Development; Transition from Staff to Supervisor; Workplace Harassment and Violence

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Want to host some ACCA training?

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