



PetLetter

Your Advocate in the Pet Industry

Fall 2011
Volume 32, Number 3

Letter from the President and CEO



One of the best parts of my job is thanking industry leaders that go “beyond the call of duty” and do something extraordinary to assist PIJAC and the pet industry.

Earlier this year, I had the pleasure of visiting Jim Stout of Coastal Pet Products in Alliance, Ohio. We discussed industry needs relative to advocacy. Jim’s daughter, Kim, called a few weeks later and proposed a PIJAC membership campaign in conjunction with Lone Star Pet Supply, a prominent distributor from Texas. Lone Star Pet Supply’s Dennis Stahl has been a driving force behind the industry’s response to negative legislation in Texas during the most recent term of the Texas Legislature. The idea developed by these pet industry leaders involves contacting, pitching the importance of PIJAC membership, and subsidizing the membership dues for pet retailers in Mr. Stahl’s service area.

It is common knowledge that the animal rights extremists are targeting pet stores that sell animals by trying to convince cities and counties across America to ban the sales of animals in pet stores. Although PIJAC tracks these proposed ordinances, transmits letters opposing the initiatives, notifies partner organizations and our members of the pendency of the matters, and testifies in response to such proposals, often it is the local voice that makes the difference. Local pet retailers provide that local voice.

Jim, Dennis and Kim understand this, as they are some of the most politically aware people in the industry. They thought correctly, that by working together, they could make a difference by spreading the word about sticking together as an industry. One way to do that is through PIJAC membership.

As of the date of this writing they have obtained outstanding results for the industry and *Continued on page 3*

Pet Industry’s Top to Top Conference Planning in Full Swing

Planning for the 1st annual **Pet Industry’s Top to Top Conference** is well underway! Keynote speakers James Carville and Mary Matalin, avid pet owners and nationally-renowned political advocates, will start the conference off. Additional planned sessions include:

- ◇ The State of the Industry & Town Hall Meeting
- ◇ The Changing American Demographic: How It Will Impact the Pet Industry
- ◇ Dogs, Cats, and Other Critters: How Trends Affect Your Business
- ◇ Changing Retail Channels: Are You Poised to Profit?
- ◇ The Humane Movement and the Pet Industry: Can the Two Live In the Same Dog House?



The luncheon speaker on Thursday, May 3rd, will be Wesley J. Smith, author of *A Rat is a Pig is a Dog is a Boy*, which is widely known in industry circles. His book, as well as his presentation, examines the human costs of the animal rights movement.

With exciting networking events such as the Retailer/Distributor/Manufacturer Meeting, and less formal networking events such as the Wine Tasting, Hospitality Suite, and daily breaks, industry leaders will have plenty of time to discuss what our industry needs to do to move forward.

Register today!

You’ll want to be a part of it!

Industry Leaders To Sponsor the Pet Industry’s Top to Top Conference

We are pleased to announce that the following organizations have joined as sponsors of the Pet Industry’s Top to Top Conference.



There are multiple opportunities for companies to sponsor various components of the conference. To take part in this ground-breaking event, contact:

Mike Canning, mcanning@pijac.org, 202-452-1525 x108
Cathy Calliotte, cathy@pijac.org, 202-452-1525 x107

Activists Go Local for Pet Sale Bans

If animal rights advocates have their way, asking about “that doggie in the window” may soon be a thing of the past. For years, activists have campaigned for legislation at the federal and state level to limit the availability of puppies for prospective pet owners. Such legislation has taken various forms, sometimes imposing restrictions on breeders, other times on pet stores, and often both. Of course, laws that ensure appropriate standards in the breeding and care of animals are not objectionable. In fact, PIJAC has worked for years to encourage efforts to raise the standards of care in the pet trade. However, when the intent behind these laws is not to protect animals, but simply to put responsible breeders and pet stores out of business, that’s when PIJAC objects - and so should anyone who cares about the right to have pets as members of their household.

A perfect example of such an activist initiative is found in the current campaign to pass outright bans on the sale of pets. Because state legislatures have rejected such draconian efforts, activists have taken this battle to the local level where they forum shop for cities or counties they believe will be friendly towards the concept of a pet ban. Already they have found more than a few! Unbridled amazement is a typical response of the average American when presented with the notion of barring pet stores from selling...pets. Astonishment often turns to outrage, however, when people realize it’s not a joke. Unfortunately, members of the public are often unaware of these proposals until after they become law. And they have never even been considered in the vast majority of localities throughout the United States. That’s because the extremists who seek these pet bans don’t choose the “average” city, county or town, where they know such a radical ban will be met with adversity. The reality is that isolated instances of small localities banning pet store sales of dogs occurred years, even decades, ago. But these were not the result of the contemporary pet ban effort, nor were they motivated by the same antipathy towards pet ownership. These new bans started appearing only a few years ago and have gathered steam fairly slowly. Bans have been adopted

by cities in only a very few states, focused largely in California, Florida, New Mexico, and Texas. They typically focus on dogs and cats, and often no pet stores selling such animals even operate in the jurisdictions. This is the way advocates establish a precedent, pushing a proposal in a small locality where opposition is limited and then pointing to these success stories as evidence that a ban on pets is not so radical after all. While these bans have generally been limited to dogs and cats, the true goal of banning all pet sales could not remain hidden for long.

Indeed, PIJAC has joined animal lovers in aggressive opposition to the proposal in San Francisco that would ban the sale of not just dogs and cats, but of all pets. The resolution by the San Francisco Commission on Animal Control and Welfare was so controversial that it has received national media attention. PIJAC joined the sponsor in broadcast interviews to discuss the proposal, and successfully countered the arguments in favor of the proposal, only to see new disingenuous rationales emerge. Currently, the initiative is stalled at the Board of Supervisor level where elected officials have expressed reservations.

While extremists may hide their real motivations behind these proposals, PIJAC has joined with others in the pet trade to offer alternatives that would solve the problems proponents claim are what drive their efforts to enact bans. Though these overtures are not always well received, opportunities to pursue meaningful initiatives do exist. In Suffolk County, New York, for example, the sponsor of a proposed ban withdrew his ordinance and is now working with PIJAC and other stakeholders to develop a voluntary rating program that, rather than statutorily restrict pet sales, would provide pet owners with information about the sources of their pets. Such a market-based approach offers a real solution to concerns about sub-standard operators rather than penalizing quality breeders and pet stores with a blanket ban.

Still, anti-pet extremists who seek an end to pet sales will reject rational



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alternatives because these proposals won’t further their true goal. These advocates are not concerned about animal welfare; they simply oppose pet ownership as a matter of principle. Therefore, they will continue to pressure elected officials to enact bans and perpetuate the myth that pet store puppies are something less than an excellent choice for responsible pet owners.

The best response to such anti-pet initiatives is to educate legislators and the public alike. The tools of extremists are ignorance and emotional rhetoric. Defeating ill-conceived laws often requires a public outcry, and that can be achieved only by letting pet owners know these proposals are out there and arming them with the facts. Unfortunately, such local ordinances are often not well publicized. While PIJAC tracks the introduction of every federal and state legislative bill impacting the pet industry, there is no comprehensive system for identifying local initiatives. Thus, it is essential that those within the communities entertaining such proposals alert PIJAC to their existence, and then it is incumbent upon all who care about the right to preserve pet ownership to help PIJAC spread the word.

We will continue to see efforts to enact bans on the sale of pets, but the vast majority of Americans support pet ownership. It is critical to enlist the help of these pet lovers to ensure that they will continue to have the right to bring home a healthy, lovable pet animal from a pet store in their community tomorrow...and for years to come.

Anti-Pet Legislation on the Rise

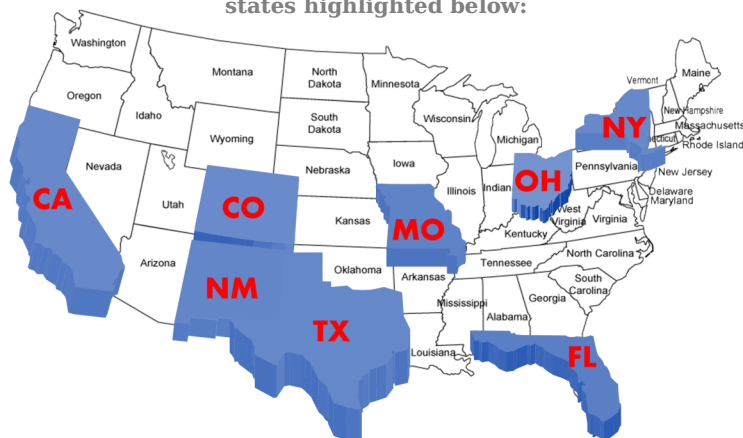
In 2009-2010, PIJAC screened more than **30,000** bills and regulations. In 2011 so far, PIJAC is trending at a **33% increase**.

In the last six months, the pet industry has seen the following legislative actions:

- 🌐 **10 states** have introduced breeder limits
- 🌐 **26 states** have proposed increased restrictions on pet stores
- 🌐 A U.S. **federal agency** has proposed a ban on the sale of fish, birds, frogs, and other reptiles

Proposed Pet Sale Bans

In recent years, retail bans have been proposed in 21 localities in the 8 states highlighted below:



PIJAC Honors

PIJAC recently honored one of its Board of Directors for his many years of support of PIJAC, and dedication to the pet industry.



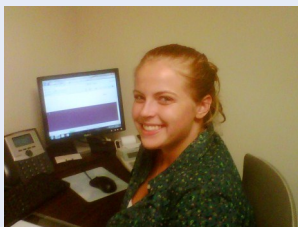
PIJAC Chairman Jim Heim (left) presents Elwyn Segrest with the Chairman's Award.

Elwyn Segrest, Segrest Farms, was presented with the Chairman's Award for his outstanding service as PIJAC Chairman (2007-2009). Elwyn Segrest, a long time dedicated and active PIJAC supporter, joined the PIJAC Board in 1998 representing the aquatic segment. He has worked tirelessly promoting PIJAC membership, actively served on PIJAC's government affairs committee and championed PIJAC's initiatives in every area. From 2007 to 2009, Chairman Segrest's "Howdy" greeted all of us as he took the reins to guide PIJAC through its leadership transition.

PIJAC Summer Interns

PIJAC brought two interns on board for the summer, Caroline Bailey (pictured) and Nicco Leone.

Caroline, a high school student from Silver Spring, MD, was instrumental in our daily life this summer. Her first mission was to contact our members to update contact information, with a focus on getting email addresses so that we can communicate necessary information quickly and more effectively. Caroline also put her administrative skills to work, organizing the file room and handling other administrative duties over the summer.



Nicco, a student at Georgetown University, has a special talent for videography. We quickly put him to work to create a video promoting the upcoming Pet Industry's Top To Top Conference, scheduled for May, 2012.

Caroline and Nicco, both skilled at social media, helped promote PIJAC through their social networks. But it wasn't all filing and blogging—they got to see advocacy on the front lines by attending meetings and observing the PIJAC legislative team at work.

A big thank you from the PIJAC staff for all of our interns' help this summer!

Letter from the President and CEO, *Continued*

PIJAC: over 100 new retail memberships for PIJAC in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi! On behalf of the PIJAC Board and staff, I would like to thank these thoughtful industry leaders for helping to make the pet industry stronger by supporting PIJAC. If you see Jim, Dennis and/or Kim, please say, "Awesome job!"

While we are on the subject of pet product distributors, PIJAC has been working with the Pet Industry Distributors Association to try to obtain more distributors as members—and thereby provide a conduit to their customers (the local stores) so the stores can get involved in local legislative matters. Fred Schober, PIDA's Chairman, and Steve King, PIDA's President, have been extremely supportive of PIJAC. For that the industry is most grateful. We look forward to bringing all distributors into the PIJAC family, so we can unite around protecting the industry from those that would like to do away with pet ownership.



Legislative & Regulatory News

Forty states have adjourned their legislative sessions for 2011, half of which will carry legislation over to the 2012 session. This leaves 10 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Congress still in session. So far this year, PIJAC has screened more than 11,500 pet industry-related bills, ordinances, and regulatory proposals, and is actively tracking more than 1,100. To stay abreast of the latest legislative and regulatory happenings, visit the [Breaking News](#) page of the PIJAC website at www.pijac.org.



California

Assembly Bill 1121, which provides for pet dealers and breeders to submit monthly reports to localities on all dogs they transfer during the reporting period, has been passed by the Senate and is currently on the Governor's desk awaiting signature. AB 1121 also creates a "puppy license" for dogs up to one year old, supplementing the existing licensing requirement.

City of Irvine. The Irvine City Council has scheduled introduction of a proposed ordinance which would ban retail pet shops from selling dogs and cats. The measure will be formally introduced at a public hearing on October 11th. The ordinance would also provide for spay/neuter implications as well as a ban on some circus and rodeo animals. The City Council tentatively plans to introduce language in late September/early October of this year.

City of Glendale. The Glendale City Council unanimously adopted an ordinance banning the retail sale of dogs and cats on August 23, 2011. The ordinance will become effective within 30 days, but existing pet stores have a one year "grandfather" period to cease sales.



Connecticut

Governor Malloy signed into law House Bill 5368 requiring "animal importers" be registered with the state in order to bring dogs and cats into the state for the purposes of "sale, adoption or transfer to a third party". The enacted bill includes PIJAC-proposed amendments exempting pet stores from registration requirements, since pet stores are

already well-regulated by the state Department of Agriculture.



Maryland

Charles County. The Charles County Board of Commissioners has proposed amendments to the county's current animal regulations. Amendments include new definitions, increased license fees, fines, tethering provisions and breed specific regulations (pit bulls). The Board of Commissioners held an informal public forum on September 22nd, and is planning to hold a work session on October 4th with county leaders.



Michigan

Bay County. The Bay County Board of Commissioners has adopted an ordinance repealing language declaring "pit bulls" as vicious animals. The new language provides criteria in which ANY dog may be considered vicious.

Ypsilanti Township. A proposed ordinance, regulating backyard dog breeders in Ypsilanti Township has been tabled by the Ypsilanti Board of Trustees for further study. The proposal provides for breeder licensing requirements, limits number of litters per year and restricts certain dog sales. The ordinance also completely bans the breeding of "pit bulls".

City of Saginaw. An ordinance requiring pet owners to register certain dog breeds ("Pit Bulls", Rottweilers, German Shepards, Bull Mastiffs and Presa Canarios) has been adopted by the Saginaw City Council. The ordinance also limits the number of dogs per household to three and sets restrictions on tethering.



Missouri

The Missouri Department of Agriculture has implemented emergency amendments codifying the "Canine Cruelty Prevention Act" (Senate Bill 161). The amendments, effective immediately and expiring on February 23, 2012, include new animal care facility definitions, rules governing licensing, fees, reports, recordkeeping, veterinary care, identification and holding periods and minimum standards of operation and transportation. SB 161 was the result of a compromise to repeal the so-called "Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act" ballot initiative in November 2010.

City of St. Louis. A proposed ordinance amending the city's animal laws is being considered by the St. Louis Board of Aldermen. The proposal was placed on the Board's informal calendar on September 16th, and could come up for a vote at any time. Under the proposal, pet owners in the city would be required to spay, neuter and microchip their animals, and pet stores would be banned from selling dogs and cats.



New York

Suffolk County. A proposal to ban the sale of dogs in Suffolk County was recently withdrawn by its sponsor, Legislator Jon Cooper. PIJAC had opposed the ban, communicating with members of the Suffolk County Legislature as well as submitting correspondence to the County Attorney identifying legal

Continued on page 5

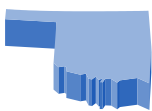
problems with the proposal. Subsequent to receipt of PIJAC's letter the County Attorney issued an opinion stating that Suffolk lacked the legal authority to adopt the proposal. Legislator Cooper indicated that he will put forward an alternative proposal for a rating system that would be "market-based." PIJAC has agreed to work with the legislature on development of the concept.



Ohio

The Ohio House of Representatives has passed House Bill 14, defining a "vicious dog" as any dog that "belongs to the breed that is commonly known as a pit bull dog". The bill also redefines both a "dangerous dog" and "vicious dog" and requires owners of dangerous dogs to obtain a "dangerous dog registration certificate". HB 14 is now in the Senate awaiting further action.

City of Euclid. The Euclid City Council has tabled an ordinance proposing to set new licensing requirements for pet shops and pet traders. The proposal provides for mandatory spay/neuter and microchipping, warranty expectations, and a restriction to only sell animals from certain breeders. The sponsor could still amend and reintroduce the proposal at a later date.



Oklahoma

Unlicensed commercial pet breeders in Oklahoma now have more time to become licensed in order to comply with the State Board of Commercial Pet Breeders licensing requirements. The Board has extended the initial licensing period from July 15th to October 3, 2011. Refer to the Board's website (<http://www.ok.gov/petbreeders/>) for more information.



Oregon

House Bill 2120, which sought to establish new fees for pet food manufacturers and fee increases on the sale of animal remedies, biologics and pharmaceuticals, died in the Joint Ways & Means Committee when the Oregon Legislative Assembly adjourned.



Pennsylvania

Philadelphia. A city ordinance banning animal retailers from selling any dog or cat that has not been sterilized has been signed into law by Mayor Nutter. Anyone who sells an unsterilized dog or cat will receive a fine and could be forced to cease operations for up to one year. The ordinance also increases dog licensing fees, adds recordkeeping requirements for animal retailers and provides standards of care requirements for animal owners and kennels.



Rhode Island

Legislation pertaining to dog tethering has been carried over to the 2012 legislative session. HB 5690 and SB 140 provide guidelines and penalties for any person keeping a dog outside tethered, penned, caged, fenced or otherwise confined without adequate shelter from the elements. The legislation also grants the Rhode Island SPCA authority to examine and enter property where dogs are tethered outdoors.



Texas

Texas Governor Rick Perry has signed into law the "Dog or Cat Breeders Act" (HB 1451), which mandates licensure for many breeders in the state. The Act adopts regulations that are far stricter than what is currently required by USDA for licensees under the Animal Welfare Act. It also creates a third-party inspection system that permits policing

powers by animal rights organizations that believe breeders shouldn't even exist. Due to an emergency clause, the law became effective immediately, however the Department of Licensing & Regulation reports that actual licensing will not begin taking place until 2012. Refer to the Department's website for up-to-date information <http://www.license.state.tx.us/bre/bre.htm>.



Washington

House Bill 1538 has been signed into law, directing the state Department of Agriculture to adopt a rule requiring that animals must be delivered or transported directly to the physical address that is specifically designated on the certificate of veterinary inspection, import health papers, permits, or other transportation documents. The Department has begun the rulemaking process and PIJAC has requested it be included. Rulemaking hearings are expected to begin in late October.



Federal

PIJAC actively opposed provisions in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 which established new restrictions on the importation of dogs into the United States, and was successful in securing certain amendments to the legislation. The resulting statutory restrictions imposed by that Act have been in effect for some time, but USDA's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has now published a proposed rule to implement requirements of the law in regulation. The proposed rule prohibits importing dogs for resale unless they are at least six months of age, and establishes a permit system for imports. USDA is accepting public comments on the proposal through October 31, 2011.



Education News

Congratulations to those who have earned PIJAC Certified Animal Specialist credentials.

AVIAN (CAS)

Christine Abarca, Ontario, CA
 Roxanne Alexander, Riverside, CA
 June S. Allen, Lincoln, CA
 April Allie, Chatsworth, CA
 Andrew Almanza, San Dimas, CA
 Hector Alvelar, Inglewood, CA
 Angel Ambrose, Winchester, CA
 Tonie Marie Ayala, Highland, CA
 Jennie Bailey, Lompoc, CA
 Lawrence Barbella, San Jose, CA
 Michael Benninger, Sacramento, CA
 Michelle Bettcher, Marysville, CA
 Cassie Black, Penn Valley, CA
 Carmen R. Bleach, Rialto, CA
 James Boan, Long Beach, CA
 Justin M. Borchert, Thousand Oaks, CA
 Steven Brown, Lathrop, CA
 Tomas Bueno Jr., Woodland, CA
 Phillip M. Bulthuis, Anderson, CA
 Kimberly Burns, Fillmore, CA
 Marie Brittany Bush, Mountain View, CA
 Jessica Caldwell, San Pedro, CA
 Carlos David Campos, Canogoa Park, CA
 Roxann Caracristi, Janesville, WI
 Adam Castro, Granada Hills, CA
 Daniel R. Chambers, San Jose, CA
 Donna Christy, Lakewood, CA
 Maria-Pilar Claravall, Sacramento, CA
 Travis Campbell Cline, Palos Verdes, CA
 Rebecca Colvin, Petaluma, CA
 Marie Cooper, Fontana, CA
 Ian Crandall, North Hollywood, CA
 Jason Crociani, Vallejo, CA
 Tiffany Rochelle Crociani, Suisun City, CA
 Heather Crocker, Concord, CA
 Larry Crosier, Yuba City, CA
 Patricia A. Dancosse, New Bedford, MA
 Brian Daniels, Poway, CA
 JoAnn R. Davidson, El Cajon, CA
 Lindsay DelBorgo, Woodland, CA
 Haven Denny-Gillum, Irvine, CA
 Ashley DeRosier, San Diego, CA
 Megan Despues, Los Angeles, CA
 Mark Diamond, Redding, CA
 Gina Dinato, Azusa, CA
 Gonzalo Diyarza, Chatsworth, CA
 Leslie Dotzler, Poway, CA
 Son Douglas, Bakersfield, CA

Hovsep Dovlatian, Van Nuys, CA
 Denise Ellegard, Murrieta, CA
 Bruce Fleisher, San Diego, CA
 Albert Flores, Fresno, CA
 Jason Flores, Petaluma, CA
 Brian Fontana, Moorpark, CA
 Shelly Fox, Lincoln, CA
 Ashleigh Frantz, Oceanside, CA
 Robin Lee Gallegos, Madera, CA
 Jef Gamino, Rocklin, CA
 Trevor Gannon, Rancho Cordova, CA
 Michael Garcia, Los Banos, CA
 Danielle Gathers, San Jose, CA
 Andre Gomez, Los Gatos, CA
 Andres Gonzalez, Burbank, CA
 Denise Gonzalez, South Gate, CA
 Richard Gonzalez, Palm Desert, CA
 Ronald Gray, Clayton, CA
 Candice L. Green, Arcata, CA
 Christian F. Guadarrama, Pico Rivers, CA
 Krista Guaraldi, San Jose, CA
 Emily McNair Gough, Candler, NC
 Alicia D. Haertling, Pomona, CA
 Joseph E. Hanson, Live Oak, CA
 Danielle Harpe, Citrus Heights, CA
 Kenneth Hassler, Rohnert Park, CA
 Laurie Hebrard, Paso Robles, CA
 Suzelle Heller, Roseville, CA
 Jason Henderson, Long Beach, CA
 Mary A. Henderson, Poway, CA
 Ryan Henry, Tustin, CA
 Jennifer Herbert, San Jose, CA
 Gina Hiscock, Alviso, CA
 Brittney Hoag, Deland, FL
 Scott A. Hodge, Valencia, CA
 Robert Hohmann, Woodland, CA
 Kimberly Hynes, Long Beach, CA
 Edward Paul Iniego, San Bruno, CA
 Predi Jauregui, Long Beach, CA
 Tiffany Jones, Newhall, CA
 Kimberly Jordan, Yuba City, CA
 Sara Kessler, Beale AFB, CA
 Anton Khatsanovich, Bakersfield, CA
 Sherry Kiet, San Jose, CA
 Cheryl King, Citrus Heights, CA
 Jessica King, Biggs, CA
 Natalie M. Kirksey, Corona, CA
 Cathryn V.F. Kizzia, Santa Clara, CA
 Sarah K. Kuersten, Eureka, CA
 Erica Kuethe, La Mesa, CA
 Brianna Latino, Sacramento, CA
 Samuel Leopardo, Novato, CA
 Brian Letterman, Antelope, CA
 Dona-Marie Lopez-Tinoco, Long Beach, CA

Tara Mack, Redding, CA
 Shana S. Magee, Palm Desert, CA
 Joelle Manrique-Fowler, North Highlands, CA
 Augustine Marciel, Oxnard, CA
 Kiersten Marshall, Concord, CA
 Albert Martinez, San Diego, CA
 Dale A. Mather, Huntington Beach, CA
 Lourene McBride, Atascadero, CA
 Lisa McMurray, Torrance, CA
 Laura Medina, South Gate, CA
 Javier Mendez, San Jose, CA
 Crystal Merenda, Hesperia, CA
 Silvia C. Meza, Chula Vista, CA
 Krisztina Mikola, Astoria, NY
 Michelle Lynn Milner, Colfax, CA
 Lilia Montano, Calexico, CA
 Vanessa G. Monroy, Sylmar, CA
 Amber Moore, Petaluma, CA
 Kristin Moore, Colfax, CA
 Stephinie Nagy, San Jose, CA
 David Nall, Yuba City, CA
 Jerry Neel, Nipomo, CA
 Emily Nomi, San Jose, CA
 Karen Olsen, Citrus Heights, CA
 Ryan Olsen, Citrus Heights, CA
 Betty T. Ordaz, North Hollywood, CA
 Patricia Palmer, Bonita, CA
 Rebecka Dawn Parris, Vacaville, CA
 Sherry M. Patterson, Torrance, CA
 Arthur Perkins, Vacaville, CA
 Rachel Perkins, Westchester, CA
 Nicole E. Person, Ontario, CA
 Shari Peterson, Murrieta, CA
 Deborah K. Potter, La Mesa, CA
 Carlos Quintanilla, Clayton, CA
 Geneva Ramirez, Bellflower, CA
 Krista Rose Ramirez, Chico, CA
 Matthew Reed, Lawndale, CA
 Anthony M. Rivera, Pacoima, CA
 Yvett Rodriguez, Freedom, CA
 Megan Ross, La Habra, CA
 William T. Rosse, Sacramento, CA
 Jonathan Rozborski, Chico, CA
 Darnell Rucker, Sacramento, CA
 Charlene Schatz, Clayton, CA
 Paul Schuldt, Los Osos, CA
 Michelle Shannon, Kingsburg, CA
 Kris Shintani, Woodland Hills, CA
 Brandon S. Sigala, Salinas, CA
 Gabriel Silva, San Jose, CA
 Kaelin E. Slape, Palm Desert, CA
 Robert Slater, Portuna, CA
 Lisa Smith, Hidden Valley, CA
 Jose Soriano, Antelope, CA

Education News, Continued

Melissa Springer, Valley Springs, CA
 Beth Stevens, Fontana, CA
 Caprice Stow, Fortuna, CA
 Tiffany Stueland, Moreno Valley, CA
 Joseph Stulting, Lancaster, CA
 Christopher J. Swanson, Riverside, CA
 Deborah A. Sylvia, Montague, CA
 Jason Tattershall, Apple Valley, CA
 Farima K. Thomas, Palmdale, CA
 Jeff Thompson, Fairfield, CA
 Ashley Tiner, Roseville, CA
 Isalei Amber Tonga, Paso Robles, CA
 Kevin Toombs, Chico, CA
 Teresa Torio, La Mesa, CA
 Josie Torres-Bates, Ontario, CA
 Dave Treto, Bakersfield, CA
 Travis Trujillo, Reseda, CA
 Molly Trump, Martinez, CA
 Marie Turner-Bailie, Citrus Heights, CA
 Justin Van Ert, Pacific Palisades, CA
 Karen Van Zile, Bellflower, CA
 Maria Vanegas, Burbank, CA
 Amanda Vargas, Montebello, CA
 Brenda Wagers, Corona, CA
 Kristie Wagner, Roseville, CA
 Michelle Renee Waldram, Fairfield, CA
 Jeremy Weiss, Huntington Beach, CA
 Kathy Welker, Lompoc, CA
 Nancy Wenkel, Marina, CA
 Nikki Wheeler, Lake Forest, CA
 James White, Sonoma, CA
 Jyl Wilkinson, Napa, CA
 Karlie Willey, Redding, CA
 Donavon Brad Williams, Redding, CA
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 Tiffany Wilson, Napa, CA
 Aleatha Worthington, Torrance, CA
 Teri Wright, Pine Grove, CA
 Chris Zeleny, Fair Oaks, CA
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To inquire about certification, contact Nancy Knutson at Nancy@pijac.org

Maryland to Examine Spay/Neuter Issues



Kurt Gallagher, PFI Director of Communication and Export Development (left) and Mike Canning, PIJAC President and CEO, discussing the new Spay/Neuter Task Force

The task force, announced in SB 639, and will add their collective experience to work towards proposing appropriate legislation, if any, during the next session of the Legislature.

The State of Maryland has formed a task force to examine issues surrounding the sterilization of pets. Earlier this spring, PIJAC and the Pet Food Institute were alerted to the existence of legislation in the Maryland General Assembly creating a task force to study these issues. After a little research, Kurt Gallagher of PFI and Mike Canning of PIJAC determined that the effort was spearheaded by anti-pet groups. Both spent a day in Annapolis, Maryland—the state capitol—visiting legislators to discuss the merits of the proposal.

PFI has been active on legislation in other states where spay/neuter funds are set up to pay for the alteration of pets and then surcharges are placed on pet products to fund the effort. PIJAC and PFI have been appointed to

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Holds Monthly Meetings on “Dangerous Wild Animals”

At the request of Governor John Kasich, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources formed a “work group” to discuss the regulation of dangerous wild animals. This group was created in response to an end of term, last minute Executive Order and Emergency Administrative Rule banning the possession, sale, and transfer of “exotic pets” by former Governor Ted Strickland. The group, which meets monthly in Columbus, consists of 10 diverse stakeholder organizations from across the state. The meetings are not open to the public, but a summary from each meeting and information on the work group, can be found at <http://ohiodnr.com/tabid/23387/wildanimals.aspx>.

PIJAC has been following the activity and progress of the group. The general public may also send comments to the group via the website listed above. PIJAC is especially concerned about the potential ban on certain kinds of constricting snakes, which are widely held as pets.

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 Jim Boschee (WPA), Chuck Latham Associates, Parker, CO

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