

**Executive Director's Report**  
**February 2018**

Submitted by Brad Shear

**Software Change**

We have moved our animal management database from a product called Chameleon to Shelterluv. The new database is web-based which gives us more flexibility. We can now use much less paper, work on tablets and laptops rather than having to go to the desktop and have much better integration with our website and third party aggregators so information on the site is more up to date. Clients will also be able to fill out adoption and surrender profiles on our website that will feed directly into our software.

**Website change**

Our website update has been completed. There were some issues with the transfer, but those have mostly been resolved. The site is running slower than we would like so we are looking at changing hosting companies. The primary reason for the change was to provide better access to the back-end of the site so changes could easily be made in-house. The site is now on the Wordpress platform which is more easily managed.

**Speaking engagements**

I will be speaking this month at the Midwest Veterinary Conference in Columbus Ohio on best practices for animal transport. In May I will be presenting at Animal Care Expo in Kansas City, also on animal transport. In June at the SAWA Management Conference in Chicago I will be introducing Best Practices for Veterinary Care in Animal Shelters. I have just spoken at two of a four part ASPCA webinar series on best practices for animal enrichment in shelters. If our committee completes our next industry best practice in time, we will be presenting best practices for adoption programs at the November SAWA conference as well.

**Legislative efforts**

We had a very successful Potter Pet U. to help people understand the legislative process and how to get involved. We are working on several bills with other organizations including clarifying that Trap/Neuter/Return for cats is not abandonment, revising the requirements around confining and tethering dogs, creating a vicious dog commission to advise the state on revising the vicious dog law, prohibiting the sale of puppies and kittens younger than 8 weeks old, and banning the sale of puppy mill dogs in pet stores.

**OSAC Update**

As I mentioned at our last meeting, the Ocean State Animal Coalition is having great difficulty. We hold a board seat and are represented by Kara. Several board members have resigned over what appears to be a combination of poor management, poor leadership and personal conflict. OSAC's most important asset is the Rhode Island Community Spay Neuter Clinic, the largest provider of spay/neuter services in the state. The future of OSAC is uncertain, we plan to use our influence on the board to either fix the issues with the clinic, or find another organization willing to take over the operations of the clinic.