

FEBRUARY 2023

# THE ACOAM CATCH

A MONTHLY NEWS LETTER BROUGHT TO YOU BY ACOAM

## LETTER FROM THE BOARD:



Welcome to ACOAM’s “Monthly Catch,” our new monthly bulletin designed to keep our membership informed on everything that your ACOAM Board is working on. We hope to shine a light on all that ACOAM works to achieve for our membership and ACOs across the state, outside of what is accomplished through the academy.

During the past month, your board members are working hard to bring you the training you have been asking for! We were pleased to greet 36 participants, consisting of Animal Control Officers, Animal Health Inspectors, Natural Resource Officers, and Wildlife rehabilitators to our Wingmaster training in February and have several upcoming trainings in addition to the start of the next ACOAM academy class coming in March!

The round tables that have been happening across the state have been opening up some great dialogs amongst ACO's and our animal welfare partners. We are excited to see these meetings grow and strengthen our humane networks.



# GREAT CATCH BROCKTON ANIMAL CONTROL!

**YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT YOUR NEXT CALL WILL BE!**

## FEBRUARY 9TH:

It was 10:30 pm, almost closing time for the night shift Officers of Brockton Animal Control when the calls started coming in for an ostrich running loose on the east side of the City. With some skepticism, the Officers headed out to see what type of creature was disturbing the peace on what seemed like a regular night. Once they arrived on the scene to their surprise, stood a 6'4" Australian flightless Emu. Without much hesitation the giant bird took off running, reaching speeds close to 30 mph. A resident of Brockton captured a video of the large bird running alongside his moving car. Through the wonders of social media, the bird's owner contacted Brockton Animal Control and assisted with its capture.

Contrary to media reports it was animal control officers, not the police officers that responded. The ACOs and Emu owner were able to capture Mallory by cornering the bird whilst the owner grappled the monster from down under into submission and restrained it. Mallory had traveled over 3 miles in just a few minutes, Causing chaos and confusion among residents of our City. Once captured Mallory was safely brought back to her home in East Bridgewater, and only had a small scratch on her leg from her adventure.



# CATCH #2 BROCKTON ANIMAL CONTROL

## FEBRUARY 17TH:

The day started like many others on this Friday morning for Brockton Animal Control Officer Josh Parker. He was sent on a routine assist with State Police for an arrested party who had a dog their in the motor vehicle. While en route to pick up the dog, He learned that there was a structure fire on the east side of the City, he hoped there were no animals at the house but after picking up the Belgian Malinois for the State Police, he got a called to assist Brockton Police and Fire at the scene of the second alarm fire.

Upon arrival, the Deputy Fire Chief alerted ACO Parker that there was a single cat alive in a back bedroom. ACO Parker was escorted into the charred remnants of the first-floor bedroom where he found a large tabby cat hiding behind a TV stand. This cat was easily scruffed and secured in a crate. Before leaving he searched the room for any other cats, low and behold there were 4 more terrified felines huddled together behind a table leaning against the wall. ACO Piche arrived on-scene, and now with backup from his fellow Officer, they began to snatch up the trembling fur babies. Two of the four cats gladly accept the help from the Officers. However, the other two cats suddenly turned into four-legged parkour runners; leaping from floor to ceiling as if they were playing a game of the floor is lava. After a few minutes of dancing around with the distressed cats, The officers were able to safely contain all of them.

One firefighter was taken to the hospital with minor injuries, and sadly, there was one cat from the second floor that did not survive. However, all five of the cats rescued from the first floor are being held at the animal control facility and their owner visits with them just about every day until he can find new housing for his little fur family.

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# CONT. BROCKTON ANIMAL CONTROL



## UPCOMING TRAININGS & EVENTS:

- 03/01: Southeastern Regional Meeting
- 03/02: Western Regional Meeting
- 03/08: ACOAM Board Meeting
- 03/21: Training Essex County Marine Mammal Stranding
- 03/30: Central Regional Meeting
- 03/30: Training Franklin County Rainforest Reptiles

## MARCH IS NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION MONTH:

March is National Poison Prevention month, which helps increase awareness of the dangers of poisoning. The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) is here to provide support 24 hours a day, every day of the year.



(Please scan or click QR code for Pet Poison Prevention Infographics and Resources)

## TRAINING FLYERS:

- [Rainforest Reptiles](#)
- [Central Round Table](#)
- [Marine Mammal Training](#)

(Click the links above to see Training Flyers.)



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A.C.O.A.M.'s mission is to promote and improve through education and training, skills, professionalism, knowledge of applicable laws, personal safety and security of animal control officers employed by the cities, towns, counties or other municipalities located within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.