

# **Norma Thornton - Worley**

**Email:** njworley23@gmail.com

**Marital Status** Married

**Number of Children** 3

**Grand Children** 4

**Where do you Live now**

Full time RV'ers but call Jekyll Island, GA home in the winter

**Other Places you have Lived:**

Oxnard CA, Brewer ME & Sidney ME

**College Attended & Degrees**

Ventura College and earned a AA degree

**Still Working or Retired**

Semi-retired but am still an Ad Hoc Instructor for the University of Missouri - National Animal Cruelty Investigation School. I specialize in Animal Hoarding and the Link Between Animal Cruelty and Human Violence. I also instruct Animals and Disasters and Large Scale Animal Seziures Planning. I travel about 12 weeks a year and love teaching.

**What did you do for a living**

Retired after 21 years at Ventura County Animal Regulation. Retired after 8 years for the State of Maine Dept of AGR as the Director of Animal Welfare. I supervised a staff of 9 and removed over 4500 animals from cruelty situations with 100% conviction rate. Also authored numerous legislative bills which became law including allowing animals/pets to be included in "Protection from Abuse Orders." Maine was the first state in the nation to pass this legislation - now over 23 states have duplicated this law.

**What do you do for Fun:**

Travel of course but my passion is wildlife photography.

**Accomplishments in your Life**

My greatest accomplishments are my three children all leading very successful careers and of course my four grandchildren.

Protecting the animals in both Ventura County & the State of Maine has to be next. I also authored legislation creating the "Help Fix ME" dog and cat spay/neuter program for low-income pet owners which has altered over 75,000 animals; Created an Animal Welfare vehicle license plate and strengthened many of the animal welfare statutes which added more severe penalties for violators; and shut down over 50 "sub-standard kennels" aka



"puppy mills" including one we seized over 250+ dogs.

**Best High School Memories**

Lunch in the Senior Patio; Proms; graduation; and marching in the Rose Parade my freshman year.

**Favorite Teacher and Why**

PE teacher Miss Chilikus - was always supportive.

**Favorite Class and Why**

PE - loved being active and still do.

