

Writing Competition

Special Edition

~ News from Contest Chair

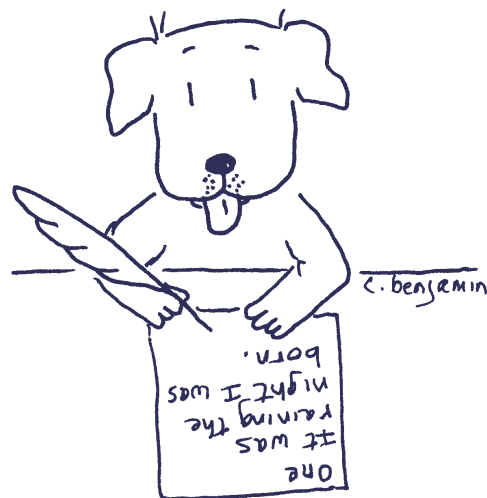
~ Rules

~ Categories

~ Entry Form

Entry Deadline is August 31st, 2008

August 2008



Ruff Drafts: The Voice of DWAA™

DOG WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.
FOUNDED 1935

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Mordecai Siegal emceed the Banquet and Award Ceremony, held at the Affinia Manhattan in February 2008.

Dr. Carmen Battaglia New DWAA President

Chris Walkowicz has resigned as president because of her numerous commitments. We thank Chris for all her years as our President (twice), VP, and Emeritus President. Chris has done so much for DWAA.

According to DWAA bylaws, when a president resigns or cannot serve any longer, the vice president steps up to the plate. Then we go down the line of officers, secretary and then treasurer. The vice president declined at this time so the Board of Directors was polled and voted for Dr. Carmen Battaglia, a behavioral scientist, to do the honors and accepted. We are grateful for Carmen's acceptance.



Nominating Committee Selected

The Board of DWAA had to vote on and name the Nominating Committee by August 1. Bardi McLennan, Phyllis DeGioia and Elaine Gewirtz were elected by all Board members.



Contest News

Entry deadline is August 31, 2008

By Liz Palika - new e-mail address lizpalika@gmail.com

I suppose we really ought to rename this contest. Although the focus is on writing, and always should be, we also attract some wonderful entries in photography, illustration, and so much more. This contest encompasses all aspects of dogs in a variety of types of media.


This year we have also added categories for websites and Internet writing – even blogging – so I'm really excited to see what comes in for these new categories.

You can see all the contest rules, regulations, categories, and special award information here in the newsletter, on the DWAA forum, or on the DWAA website. It's readily available – just print it out and follow the directions.

If you haven't mailed your entry yet, please note that this year the board moved the deadline up a month from previous years. Entries MUST be postmarked prior to August 31st, 2008. There can be no exceptions so don't call or email me and tell me how busy you've been. I cannot make any exceptions.

I now officially have more judges than I need. Wow! I can remember in previous years as contest chair I had to beg and plead for judges. I am thrilled! Thank you to everyone who offered their time and efforts. I have maintained a list of alternates so if a judge has to back out for any reason I have someone else who can step in. Having that as an option is a wonderful feeling.

Entries are trickling in. I expect the flood gates to open within the next few weeks. But I'm ready, so send them my way!



The official DWAA list is at http://dwaa.org/mailman/listinfo/dwaa-group_dwaa.org. It's simple to sign up and join our conversations! To post a message to all the list members, all you do is send email to dwaa-group@dwaa.org. This list is a fast way to network with your DWAA colleagues, ask questions about writing or dogs, and learn as well as share tips that make a dog writer's life easier and more profitable.

2008 OFFICERS

President: Dr. Carmen Battaglia, 335 Wexford Glen, Roswell, GA 30075, 770-998-3679
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rchagoll@capital.net

President Emeritus—Ranny Green, 4820 Tok A Lou Ave N.E., Tacoma, WA 98422, rannygreen@hotmail.com

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Mordecai Siegal - Honorary Board Member
Class of 2011 - Caroline Coile & Charlotte Reed
Class of 2010 - David Frei & Elaine Gewirtz
Class of 2009 - Patricia Cruz

Contest Chair

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Lizpalika@gmail.com

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Web Editor: Kim Townsend

Kimtownsend@hughes.net

For roster updates, or if you did not receive your newsletter or roster,
PLEASE NOTIFY Pat Santi.

Roster Updates

New Members

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Returning Members

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Please update your roster accordingly.

We encourage all members to check their mailing labels on this newsletter, as well as your 2008 Roster, to ensure that your own Roster entry is correct.



REGULAR CATEGORIES

A. NEWSPAPERS (Newspapers of any circulation except canine or animal newspapers or newsletters)

1. Newspaper: feature or news story
2. Newspaper: column (submit 3 copies each of 3 different columns)
3. Newspaper: editorial/opinion/essay

B. MAGAZINES (Professionally published magazine of any circulation)

1. Magazine: all breed (submit 3 copies of 2 different issues)
2. Magazine: single breed (submit 3 copies of 2 different issues)
3. Magazine: special interest dog or all animal magazine (enter 3 copies of 2 different issues)
4. Magazine: yearbook/annual/special publication
5. Magazine: feature in all breed magazine
6. Magazine: feature in single breed magazine
7. Magazine: feature in special interest magazine
8. Magazine: feature in all animal or general interest magazine
9. Magazine: feature in yearbook, annual or special publication
10. Magazine: article breed profile in any magazine
11. Magazine: article on training and/or behavior in any magazine
12. Magazine: column (submit 3 copies of 3 different columns)
13. Magazine: subject related series (submit entire series in triplicate)
14. Magazine: opinion/essay/editorial

C. CANINE OR ALL ANIMAL NEWSPAPERS or NEWSLETTERS (Professionally published of any circulation)

1. Canine newspaper or newsletter (submit 3 copies of 2 different issues)
2. Canine newspaper/newsletter: feature article on health and/or care
3. Canine newspaper or newsletter: feature on all other topics

D. INTERNET/WEBSITES/BLOGS

1. Website: entire website (submitted for designer and/or manager; supply hard copy in triplicate plus website address)
2. Website: feature article (hard copy in triplicate plus website article address)
3. Website: regular column (submit 3 different columns in triplicate in hard copy plus website address)
4. Online magazine, newsletter or publication (submit 2 issues in triplicate hard copy plus internet address)
5. Blog: single blog (submit in triplicate hard copy plus blog address)
6. Blogs: regular blogs (submit 3 different blogs in triplicate hard copy plus blog address)

E. GRAPHICS

1. Photography: color (Send entries in triplicate as tearsheets, as published or in the work that the photo is intended to illustrate)
2. Photography: black and white (Send entries in triplicate as tearsheets, as published or in the work that the photo is intended to illustrate)

3. Photography: series (Send entries in triplicate as tearsheets, as published or in the work that the photo is intended to illustrate)

4. Illustration or Painting (Send entries in triplicate as tearsheets, as published or in the work that the artwork is intended to illustrate)

5. Illustration: series (Send entries in triplicate as tearsheets, as published or in the work that the artwork is intended to illustrate)

6. Poster, Calendar or Special Publication

7. Brochure, Pamphlet, Short Special Publication

F. HUMOR/POETRY/FICTION

1. Humorous art (cartoon, comic strip, or other humorous art)
2. Humorous writing (published in any media/any form)
3. Poetry (published in any media/any form)
4. Fiction; short

G. OTHER MEDIA

1. Videotape/CD/DVD (if part of a series, enter one episode in triplicate)
2. Broadcast Journalism (if part of a series or regularly broadcast program, enter one episode in triplicate via tape or DVD)
3. Podcast (enter one podcast in triplicate via tape or DVD plus podcast internet address)

H. CLUB PUBLICATIONS: National

1. Club: magazine format (submit 3 copies of 2 issues)
2. Club: newsletter format (submit 3 copies of 2 issues)
3. Club: feature article
4. Club: editorial/opinion/essay
5. Club: regular column (3 samples in triplicate)
6. Club: subject related series (full series in triplicate)

I. CLUB PUBLICATIONS: Regional or Local

1. Club: magazine format (submit 3 copies of 2 issues)
2. Club: newsletter format (submit 3 copies of 2 issues)
3. Club: feature article
4. Club: editorial/opinion/essay
5. Club: regular column (3 samples in triplicate)
6. Club: subject related series (full series in triplicate)

J. BOOKS

1. Book: single breed (in depth work)
2. Book: single breed pet guide
3. Book: general interest
4. Book: general reference
5. Book: care and health
6. Book: training and behavior
7. Book: fiction (adult, young adult, teen)
8. Book: humor (text, art, cartoons or other)
9. Book: children (picture book or easy-to-read)
10. Book: self published or print on demand (any subject/any reader category)

SPECIAL CATEGORIES

AKC Club Publication Excellence Award

Eligible: All AKC-affiliated club publications
Criteria: Best national, regional or local club publication
Award: \$500.00

AKC - Responsible Dog Ownership Public Service Award

Eligible: Regularly-published newspaper and/or magazine columns
Criteria: Consistently uses public platform to educate pet owners about responsible dog ownership. Submission to be a portfolio of columns published 9/1/07-9/30/08 (at least one must be regular entry).
Award: \$1,000.00

AKC - Canine Health Foundation Research Communication Award

Eligible: All media
Criteria: Best informs the public about canine health research, to be judged for clarity and interpretation of complex science and its terminology, making research principles and products understandable and immediately accessible to dog owners and breeders.
Award: \$1,000.00

Dogfessions Personal Dog Memoir Award

Eligible: Articles and series in all media
Criteria: Best article or series with a strong personal theme
Award: \$500.00

DWAA Junior Writer Award

Eligible: Writers under 18 years of age
Criteria: To recognize and encourage young writers who exhibit talent, resourcefulness, dedication, and integrity in their writing about dogs and dog-related topics.
Award: \$250.00

Eukanuba Canine Health Award

Eligible: Articles and books
Criteria: Best promotes the health and well-being of dogs, based on accuracy, clear writing, and representation of a fresh view of canine health (i.e., nutrition, veterinary care, etc.)
Award: \$750.00

Merial Human-Animal Bond Award

Eligible: All media
Criteria: Best highlights the special bond between people and their treasured pets, promoting the strengthening of this bond and highlighting the special relationship between a dog and its owner, as well as between dogs and veterinarians.
Award: \$500.00 + \$250.00 travel stipend if winner attends the awards banquet.

Morris Animal Foundation Advances in Canine Veterinary Medicine Award

Eligible: Newspaper articles or columns, excluding syndicated veterinarians' columns
Criteria: Best informs the public about cutting-edge advances in veterinary medicine for dogs, based on clarity, accuracy and topic originality.
Award: \$1,000.00

North Shore Animal League America Award

Eligible: All media
Criteria: "Best supports the missions of the League's program, encouraging spay/neuter initiatives as a way of reducing unwanted births and pet euthanasia rates; focus can be on community-wide programs or individual responsibility of pet owners."
Award: \$500.00

Ottawa Kennel Club/Bob Cole Award for Educational Writing

Eligible: Newspaper, magazine and club publication articles
Criteria: Offered for the article best illustrating either the fine points of a single breed or particular aspects of structure and movement in general, accurately informing and educating dog breeders and the public.
Award: \$350.00

Pet Sitters International Humor Award

Eligible: Articles
Criteria: Best humorous article
Award: \$350.00

Planet Dog Foundation Sit. Speak. Act. Canine Service Award

Eligible: All media
Criteria: For the best story promoting and celebrating a program in which dogs serve and support their best friends, by highlighting service dogs, therapy dogs, K-9 search and rescue or police dogs.
Award: \$500.00 + \$350.00 travel stipend if winner attends the awards banquet

Westminster Kennel Club Angel on a Leash Award

Eligible: Newspaper or magazine articles, television news features, Internet features
Criteria: For the best story focusing on the impact of the use of therapy dogs in any of the following applications: health care facilities, schools, rehabilitation, hospice, extended care, correctional facilities, or crisis intervention. This award is in honor of Angel on a Leash, a therapy dog program in cities across the country.
Award: \$500.00 + \$350.00 travel stipend if winner attends the awards banquet.

Wiley/Ellsworth S. Howell Award

Eligible: Articles
Criteria: Best writing on judging, exhibiting, dog-show reporting, or any other aspect of conformation showing.
Award: \$500.00

WCFO Excellence in Canine Freestyle Media Award

Eligible: All media
Criteria: Best work on the sport of canine freestyle
Award: \$150.00
TBD

SPECIAL AWARDS NOT REQUIRING APPLICATION OR ADDITIONAL FEE

AKC Distinguished Service Award

Honoring extraordinary achievement and communications excellence, the award, chosen by DWAA, recognizes the person who, by word, deed, exemplary conduct, publication communication and professional excellence, promotes the best interest of the sport of dogs.
Award: \$1,000.00
TBD

Pro Plan President's Award

Chosen by the President of DWAA from all winners of individual categories.
Award: \$750.00
TBD

Dogwise Best Book Award

Offered to the author of the best book, chosen by DWAA from the winners of all book categories
Award: \$500.00

Dog Writers Association of America 2008 Writing Competition Rules

Please read! There have been some changes made this year.

Eligibility

1. The contest is open to all writers, editors, publishers, photographers, artists and others whose work falls into the designated competition categories. The focus is always to be upon dogs.
2. The work must be original and must be published during the competition period from September 1st, 2007 through August 31st, 2008.
3. All entries must be published work.
4. Revisions, 2nd and additional revisions, and other re-writes of previously published work are not eligible for the contest even if the work had not previously been submitted.
5. There is no limit as to the number of times an individual or entity may enter; however, the same material may be entered only once in a regular category.
6. Entries must be postmarked by September 1, 2008. Late entries will not be accepted. No exceptions!
7. The contest chair retains the right to move entries to a different category, or disqualify an entry without notifying the entrant although a reasonable effort will be made to contact the entrant first.

Submission Format

1. Submit regular categories in triplicate with one entry form for each entry.
2. Submit one additional copy for each Special Award entry. Attach an additional entry form to each Special Award entry.
3. For a series, submit three sets of copies.
4. For columns, please submit your three best columns in triplicate. Only one three-column entry by the same author per publication is eligible.
5. Work may be photocopied or tearsheets may be submitted. No unpublished manuscripts or print-outs are acceptable except for syndicated newspaper work where original tearsheets are unavailable.

Entry Fees

1. Each regular category entry must be accompanied by a \$10 entry fee for current DWAA members and \$15 for nonmembers.
2. Each Special Award entry must be accompanied by a \$7 entry fee.
3. Please combine all entry fees in a single check or money order.
4. Make check or money order payable to "DWAA."

Mailing Instructions

1. Entries must be postmarked by September 1, 2008. No late entries will be accepted.
2. Mail entries to Liz Palika, DWAA Contest Chair, 250 Flame Tree Place, Oceanside, CA 92057.

3. Do NOT require a signature for delivery of your entry; the contest chair cannot be available all day every day to sign for packages.
4. Entries cannot be returned and the association is not responsible for entries lost during transit.
5. Arrival of entries cannot be personally acknowledged; I'm sorry but the contest is simply too large.

Entrant Responsibilities

1. It is the responsibility of the entrant to comply with all rules and guidelines. Deviation may result in rejection of the entry and forfeiture of the entry fees.
2. The maximum liability of the Association is limited to the refund of the entry fee at the Contest Chair's discretion.
3. Entries may be made on the behalf of someone else, but the name of the writer, photographer, website designer, or the person creating the work must be listed as the "entrant" and the person submitting the work is listed as the submitter. The submitter is responsible for receiving permission to submit the work prior to making an entry.

Judging and Awards Information

1. Each regular category entry will be judged by a panel of three judges, with a composite of the judges' scores determining the nominees and winners.
2. The decisions of the judges are final.
3. Nominees will be notified by mail in late December 2008.
4. Names of nominees will be published in the DWAA newsletter and on the website in January 2009.
5. Winners will be announced at the Awards Banquet on Feb 8, 2009.
6. Nominees in the regular categories will receive certificates; winners will also receive the DWAA Maxwell Medallion, named in honor of Maxwell Riddle.

Special Awards

1. Special awards are made possible through the generosity of individuals and organizations; and consist of certificates, plaques and/or cash grants.
2. An entry must be entered in a regular category to be considered for a special award.
3. Make sure the work being entered is appropriate to that special award. Work that does not fit the award description will be disqualified.
4. There will be no nominees in special awards categories.
5. Winners will be notified prior to the banquet.

Dog Writers Association of America - 2008 Writing Competition Entry Form

Please read complete rules; it is your responsibility to comply with them. Entries must be post-marked no later than September 1, 2008. No late entries will be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Mail your entry to: Liz Palika, DWAA Contest Chair, 250 Flame Tree Place, Oceanside, CA 92057 No signature required!

Entrant's Name: _____

(Entrant is the writer, photographer, illustrator or other person who created the work. Submitter is the person sending in the entry when different from the entrant.)

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Country _____ Zip _____

Telephone: (circle) Day/Evening/Cell _____

Email: _____

Name of submitter if different from entrant: _____

Telephone: (circle) Day/Evening/Cell _____

Email: _____

Category number and description: _____

Title of entry: _____

Name of publication or publisher: _____

Issue or publication date: _____

Website or internet address when appropriate: _____

Special Award(s) for which the work is to be considered: _____

I certify that this work was published between September 1st 2007 and August 31st 2008. I understand and agree to abide by all contest rules.

Signature of entrant or submitter _____ Date _____

Entry Checklist

____ All entries have been submitted in triplicate with an entry form.

____ Check that the entry form is completed with the appropriate category marked for each entry.

____ An additional copy of each entry submitted for a special award has been enclosed, along with an additional entry form.

____ All entry fees have been totaled and a check or money order is enclosed, made payable to "DWAA."

____ If you have questions, email the contest chair at lizpalika@gmail.com

____ Mail your entry to: Liz Palika, DWAA Contest Chair, 250 Flame Tree Place, Oceanside, CA 92057 No signature required!

Good luck! Contest Chair ~ Liz

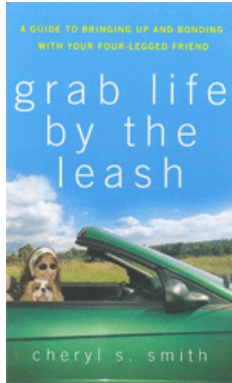
Book Reviews By Phyllis DeGioia

Grab Life by the Leash: A Guide to Bringing up and Bonding with your Four-legged Friend, by Cheryl S. Smith, Howell Book House, \$21.99, hardback, 242 pages

Trainer Cheryl Smith's wonderful guide is geared toward individual adults (not families), the ones who make the decisions and handle the training. What differentiates this book from other guides is the emphasis on why and how much people benefit from sharing their lives with dogs, which she refers to as the care crossover, rather than just teaching them how to train for specific activities or how to pick a good vet.

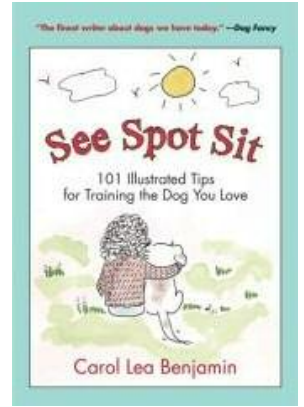
It's an overlook at all aspects of sharing your life with dogs: serious stuff, fun stuff, anal glands, mixed and same species introductions, matching dogs to human lifestyles, how dogs sense the world (not like we do!) and far more. I am particularly fond of her "personal notes" amongst the many sidebars as they contribute greatly to the overall meaning.

Really, this is more of a primer than a guide, and Smith offers some terrific advice and shares a wealth of knowledge. Some of the wonderful black and white photos are contributed by DWAA's own Jean Fogle and Dr. Bernd Guenter as well as Smith herself.



See Spot Sit: 101 Illustrated Tips for Training the Dog You Love, by Carol Lea Benjamin, Skyhorse Publishing, \$12.95, paperback, 120 pages

This book is nothing short of amazing. It's written and illustrated by Benjamin, and I absolutely love her simple graphics that so perfectly illustrate her simple wisdom. (Side note: it's the same type of illustration she has drawn for this newsletter's masthead.) Her illustration on what a dog's body language is saying comes under the category of "a picture is worth a thousand words." This book is basic training and communication distilled into a book so simple children will understand the message.



This simple lesson is stunning in its effectiveness: "Your most important training tools cannot be purchased. They are voice, posture, and attitude." Throughout this book, there is no discussion of types of training, no clickers, no long leads to teach stay, no Gentle Leaders, "just" a lot of sensible stuff in a small, incredibly accessible package. This book makes an excellent refresher for all of us, and is a perfect must-have gift for people getting their first dog or puppy, or their first one in a long time.

RESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Madison, WI
Permit No. 953

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