

DOG WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

Founded 1935 December 2004



As a reminder that the new year of 2005 will bring wondrous moments, here are Carol Hawke's puppies when they were a mere 5 weeks old, at which time Carol said "They're just getting their ears up....sort of." The boy is called Sammy and the girl is Gigi. No surprise, Carol says the beloved puppies are "very cute, very sweet, and very loved."

DWAA Writing Contest: The list of finalists will be on our website at www.dwaa.org by around mid-December, and will be included in the January issue.

Meanderings

New York on \$5 a Day . . . Well, Not Quite!

By Jan Mahood and Melanie Coronetz (President Chris Walkowicz's column will resume next month.)

New York, New York . . .

"Where there's more Italian eateries than in Rome, Greek coffee shops than in Athens, Jewish delis than in Tel Aviv, Irish pubs than in Dublin, Chinese food than in Beijing. And forget about sushi," according to New York Post columnist Cindi Adams. And to toast the terriers, Gordons, Deerhounds, and ALL the dogs, there are Scottish establishments where you can sample single malts from lists longer than most restaurants' wine lists. If you're planning to attend the DWAA Annual Meeting, 70th Anniversary Awards Banquet, and Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, when you hit the Big Apple pick up a copy of Zagat's New York City Restaurants or check out the listings in the latest issue of New York Magazine for locations, specialties, and prices. Whether you max out your credit card or dine out on the cheap, the moveable feast that is New York cuisine offers you more culinary choices than any other city in the world.

We're all there for the dogs, but if it's more than a wiener you want, here are some inexpensive-to-moderate (and one expensive) places near the Garden:

36 Bar and Barbecue (BBQ, Korean), 5 West 36th St., 212-563-3737 44 & X Hell's Kitchen (Southern/Soul), 622 Tenth Ave. (at 44th St), 212-977-1170 Ben's Kosher Deli, 209 W. 38th St. (betw. 7th & 8th), 212-398-2367 Keen's Steakhouse (Steaks, seafood), 72 W. 36th St. (Betw. 5th & 6th), 212-947-3636 Market Café (American, French), 496 Ninth Ave. (Betw. 37th & 38th), 212-967-3892 Napoli Trattoria (Italian), 331 W. 38th (Betw. 8th and 9th), 212-290-2651 Ida Mae Kitchen-n-Lounge (Southern/Soul) (The expensive one), 111 W. 38th St. (betw. Bwy & 6th), 212-704-0038

A superb reception and dinner that won't cost you a penny -- because you already will have sent your check to DWAA Secretary Pat Santi -- is the 70th Anniversary Awards Banquet Feb. 13 at the Southgate, where DWAA members and friends gather every year the evening before Westminster. The American Kennel Club is our host for the reception. Banquet sponsors are Purina and Ft. Dodge. Of course, on Wednesday, Feb. 16 – if you're still standing -- the place to be is Sardi's for the Dog Fanciers Club luncheon, at which the BIS winner is feted with steak on a silver platter, and group and BIS judges tell why they chose the top dogs.

Hottest Ticket in Town

We *are* here for the dogs, and they're here for us, at Madison Square Garden, for the most fabulous dog show on earth – The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show Feb. 13 and 14. Contact DWAA member and WKC Director of Communications David Frei for ticket information, <u>david@wkcpr.org</u>.

Early birds can catch the many specialties around town on Friday and Saturday, and the all-toy Progressive Dog Club Show on Friday. For details, check the Show Schedule section of www.infodog.com.

Dogs in Art

The best way to see any city is on foot. (If your dogs are tired from standing at ringside, there are other modes of transportation: the subway, buses, and taxis.) Walk off those sumptuous meals by trekking uptown to the canine art scene. The William Secord Gallery at 52 East 76th Street specializes in fine 19th century dog paintings. A special Westminster exhibition, Arthur Wardle, 1864-1949, will open on Saturday, Feb. 12. Hours are February 13th, 14th and 15th from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For regular gallery hours and other details, go to www.dogpainting.com

The Doyle Gallery at 175 East 87th Street will feature canine fine art during Westminster. For more information, go to www.DoyleNewYork.com. The American Kennel Club will hold an Open House Sunday, Feb. 13. If you attend, don't miss the AKC Fine Arts Collection displayed at AKC headquarters, 260 Madison Avenue. The collection includes paintings, prints, statues, and rare books -- all devoted to the dog. We'll have time to attend both the Open House and the DWAA Annual Meeting that day.

www.akc.org. "Working Dogs, Sporting Dogs and Other Faithful Companions," paintings, drawings and bronzes by nine contemporary artists, will be showcased through Westminster at the Frost & Reed gallery, 21 East 67th Street. Hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

If you've given yourself an extra day or two, one of those days will be well spent at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street. One of the world's great art museums, it's also one of the greatest bargains in the Big A, at \$12 suggested for adults, \$7 for students and seniors. Closed on Monday, www.metmuseum.org

Not to be missed is the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), which reopened in November after an extensive redesign. Opening day admission was free, but it'll cost us \$20 to get a look at the soaring atrium, huge skylights, Monet's *Water Lilies*, VanGogh's *Starry Night*, Picasso, Rodin, Giacometti, Wright, and on and on . . . There's a cafeteria and a dessert café, and if you have a new book contract or something else to celebrate, you'll want to reserve a table in the fine-dining restaurant. The art doesn't stop here; the tableware is from MoMA's design collection. 11 West 53 Street www.moma.org

Bargain Hounds

Let me amend my earlier statement: We're all here for the dogs – and the shopping! Start your spree a short walk from the Garden at these bargain-hunters' haunts:

Daffy's, "Clothing bargains for millionaires", 1311 Bwy @ 34^{th} , across from Macy's

H & M, 34th St. (betw. 5th & 6th), closer to 6th; trendy, inexpensive clothes & accessories

Lord & Taylor, Fifth Ave. at 38th St.; Newly redecorated. Fashionable stuff. Lots of sales and good prices.

If you have time to venture farther afield, a quick subway ride will take you to:

The Time Warner Building (opened just last spring) Columbus Circle at 59th Street Luxury boutiques and a subterranean, mouthwatering food market (you can grab a snack there, too) To get there, take 8th Ave. subway uptown: "A" or "C" train, exit at 59th St./Columbus Circle. Or take 7th Ave. line, local or express, and exit as above. From here you can walk east on Central Park South and visit Bergdorf Goodman and other high-end retailers along Fifth Avenue. Or you can go into Central Park, stroll east, and find yourself at the Wollman Rink. Rent skates and take a turn on the ice to wake up those dog show legs.

It's lovely going through the zoo! To get to the Central Park Zoo, take the subway near Macy's (the "N" or "R") direction – Queens. Exit at Fifth Avenue. It's about four or five stops. Enter Central Park and walk parallel to Fifth Avenue. The zoo is a short walk from the subway stop. Watch the sea lions being fed. Escape the chilly temperatures in the tropical building with free-flying birds. Have your photo taken with Balto, sled dog of legend. His statue is in Central Park on the east side near 67th Street and the East Drive, north of the zoo.

Broadway Shows

If you have a free evening and would like to see a show, get in line at the TKTS booth in Times Square, at Broadway and 46^{th} – 47^{th} , where you can buy discounted tickets for that evening's or matinee's performance. It's been cash only, and probably still is. Tickets are discounted between 30% and 50%, depending on the show.

So much to do, so little time! Here are some other uniquely New York places well worth a visit while you're here. There are so many, many more things to do and see, we know you'll come back again and again, but for now, here are a few of my favorites:

The Museum of the City of New York www.mcny.org

The Metropolitan Opera www.metopera.org

Birdland www.birdlandjazz.com

The Blue Note www.bluenote.net

The Chrysler Building www.greatbuildings.com/buildings/Chrysler Building.html St. Andrew's (No, it's not a church or golf course; it's the restaurant that boasts the largest selection of single malts in New York!) www.standrewsrestaurantnyc.com

But wait, as the TV commercials say, there's more! If you haven't seen anything here to whet your interest, talk to any New Yorker at the dog shows and the DWAA Banquet. He or she will be glad to steer you in the right direction. . . .

It's a helluva town!

Fort Dodge to Sponsor 70th DWAA Banquet

Fort Dodge and Purina will be major sponsors for our 70th DWAA banquet to be held on February 13th. Our members are grateful for their generous donations allowing us to discount the cost of the evening. Many thanks are extended to all of our sponsors. We have received donations from Schering-Plough Animal Health and from the Home-Again Pet Identification System also, which will add wine and more to our banquet. The American Kennel Club will sponsor a cocktail party. The DWAA Distinguished Service Award, sponsored by AKC, will be a plaque and a \$1000 cash grant.

The Pro Plan President's Award (\$750 and engraved bowl) is sponsored by Purina Pro Plan for the best entry among the Maxwell winners, our very own "Best in Show."

If you want to buy an ad in the program, see information in the (first!) October 2004 newsletter and contact Jan Mahood, and send them to her at 4564 Reservoir Road, Geneseo, NY 11454. Ads should be supplied in Macintosh format or on a CD, ROM, DVD or Zip Disk. Ads need to be placed by Dec. 15. If you could donate something to the silent auction, also contact Jan Mahood.

Order your Westminster tickets at www.westminsterkennelclub.org.

Raffle Tickets at February DWAA Meeting

Tickets are \$2.00 each or 6 for \$10.00. The prize is a giclèe print donated by The Westminster Kennel Club (valued at \$495.00). The proceeds will benefit the DWAA Junior Education Scholarship. Please send tickets (printed below, copy as many as you'd like) and check to: Pat Santi, Secretary, 173 Union Road, Coatesville, PA 19320-1326. You do not have to be present to win.

Name	 	 		
Address			 	

DWAA Junior Educational Award

DWAA is pleased to announce its Junior Educational award for youngsters who are planning to attend college and have been active in the dog and the writing worlds. Our 2004 winner was Katie Shepard. DWAA will be offering a Junior Educational Award annually. This is separate from the Junior Award given as part of the Writing Contest. Amounts of \$500 to \$1000 will be awarded directly to recipients. Applicants will be from 18 to 22 years of age at the time of application. Applicants may apply more than once during that time frame and may be given awards more than once. One to three applicants will be chosen yearly by a committee of 3 to 5 DWAA members.

CRITERIA:

Grades: Applicants must submit a copy of their most recent high school or college transcript (applicants may submit their own copies and do not have to pay for an official transcript). Applicants are expected to have a B average or better.

Dog Experience: Applicants are expected to have and document their experience with dogs. This will include a listing of experience and two letters of recommendation from non-family members.

Writing: Applicants will submit three samples of dog related writing. These samples must be published but not necessarily paid for.

WEIGHTING OF CRITERIA: 25% Grades, 25% Dog Experience, 50% Writing.

DWAA JUNIOR EDUCATION AWARD APPLICATION

Name:		
Address:		
Phone Number:	 Email	
Date of Birth	Email	

Attach a copy of the most recent school transcript (unofficial copies are sufficient) along with 3 samples of your dog related writing. Also list your dog experience and include two letters of recommendation from non-family members. This year only, the deadline is Jan. 1. Otherwise, applications are due by October 1 and applicants will be informed of their status by December 15. Send all of the above to Deb Eldredge, DVM, 4753 Deans Highway, Vernon, NY, 13476, debme@juno.com.

Roster Changes

New Members:

Jo Helms P/Freelance 824 S. Schaefer Street Appleton, WI 54915 920-739-7937

cheesedawg@earthlink.net

Sponsors: Jean Keating/ Darlene Arden

Linda Saraco A/Freelance 34 Farrow Street Winchester, MA 01890

781-369-1909 781-721-9200

CanineBodywork@aol.com

Sponsors: Alan Alford/ Darlene Arden

Jo Watkins, PhD

P/Freelance Box 9416

Truckee, California 96162

530-320-3368 Fax: 530-587-1354

jcwatkins@uwalumni.com

Sponsors: Pat Santi/ Chris Walkowicz

Karen L. Vogt

382 Mohegan Circle LaFayette, NJ 07848 973-579-9639

KLVOGT@warwick.net

Sponsors: Chris Walkowicz/ Pat Santi

Jane Brackman,PhD

P/Freelance 1337 E. Boston Street Altadena, CA 91001

626-794-0700 fax: 626-794-7687

siriuspress@earthlink.net

Sponsors: Erika Mansourian/ Pat Santi

Laurie Kaplan P/Freelance 11 Yerks Lane Ossining, New York 10562

914-941-0159 Fax: 914-206-4301

Laurie Kaplan@hotmail.com

Sponsors: Chris Walkowicz/ Pat Santi

Changes:

Joan B. Guertin 344 Paddock Drive Mabank, TX 75156-9109 Cell 903 887 8009

Susan Ewing

5055 E. University Avenue #H5

Mesa, AZ 85205-7200

No phone yet

Rue Chagoll P.O. Box 157 Lansing, NY 14882 607-227-0777 rchagoll@capital.net

Bronwyn Taggart AKC Gazette 260 Madison Avenue 4th Floor New York, NY 10016

Board Election Results

The election was uncontested. For the year starting February 2005 we have:

President: Jan Mahood Past President: Chris Walkowicz

Vice President: Ranny Green Class of 2008: Darlene Arden & Mordecai Siegal Secretary: Pat Santi Class of 2007: David Frei & Deb Eldredge

Treasurer: Rue Chagoll Class of 2006: Dr. Carmen Battaglia & Amy Fernandez

Book Reviews – Holiday Gifts!

The holidays are almost here, so consider giving one of your colleague's books as a gift. Since your Newsletter Goddess was dreadfully behind on reviews, I asked a few other people to help review all the books before the holidays. Many thanks to all reviewers!

By your Newsletter Goddess, Phyllis DeGioia

Hachiko Waits, by Leslèa Newman, Henry Holt and Company, LLC, \$15.95

This book for young readers aged 8 t o12 is a lovely fictional rendition of the true tale of an Akita named Hachi who waited every day for a decade at the train station for his master to come home from work, unaware that his master died of a heart attack while at work. Akitas are known for their loyalty. Newman winds the historically accurate details into a wonderful story, creating a fictional young man who helps care for Hachiko in the years after his master's death. The boy has taken the same trains twice a day with the professor when the boy goes to school, and the boy develops a relationship with the dog and professor. After the professor's death, the boy and the station master take care of the dog. Because so many people see the dog every day, the dog receives plenty of food and attention.

A statue of the loyal dog who became a national symbol of loyalty and hope was created and placed at the spot where the dog sat so faithfully. Even today the statue is still considered to be a good place for couples to express their devotion (actually, during WWII the statue was melted down so that the metal could be used in the war effort, but after the war, the son of the original sculptor created a duplicate). Newman's description of the relationship between Professor Ueno and the dog, Hachi, is eloquent and emotionally fulfilling without being cutesy, which gives the book a strong tone. Adults will like this book too.

Partners in Independence: A Success Story of Dogs and the Disabled, by Ed and Toni Eames, Barkleigh Productions (revised edition), \$19.95

First released in 1997, this revised edition available in 2003 takes a good look not only at guide dogs for the blind, but the newer and less known sectors of service and hearing dogs. Filled with wonderful photographs, the book covers the history of using assistance dogs to increase independence for people with various disabilities (including hearing), the volunteers who train the dog, what it's like to travel with assistance dogs, the rights that come with public access and the difficulties that can be encountered ("You can't bring that dog in here!"), consumer activism, special veterinary needs of assistance dogs, and many fascinating case histories of people who share theirs lives with different types of assistance dogs – guide dogs for blind people, hearing dogs for the deaf, and service dogs for people with physical mobility concerns. The Eames are well-known advocates for people with disabilities, and as they are both blind, their point of view is from experience. Told with the Eames' well-known sense of humor, this unforgettable book is a joy to read. Check out their 1987 wedding photo with their guide dogs as attendants, and the photo series of Peek, a service dog who happens to be a Papillon.

The Cat Fanciers' Association Complete Cat Book, edited by Mordecai Siegal, HarperResource, \$29.95

This nearly 500-page book is the feline equivalent of the AKC's "The American Kennel Club Complete Dog Book." Edited by Mordecai, the book is a very comprehensive resource designed to appeal to breeders, cat show people, and pet owners. It's hard to edit a book written by 40 contributing authors and keep a consistent tone and style in such a comprehensive book, but Mordecai Siegal has managed this difficult trick quite well. Kudos for a difficult, encompassing task done very well indeed!

It covers the definition of a pedigreed cat, where to get a cat; what cat shows are about; identifying coat colors in domestic cats; behavior; breeding; nutrition; and a veterinary care guide. Each of the 42 lovely breeds has a wonderfully written 4-page discussion. The writing in all of the breed descriptions is wonderful: "Though the Forest Cat will start to play with reckless abandon, its hunter instincts will turn the game into a contest of wills between the cat and its illusive adversary" is so much better than saying "the toy-obsessed Norwegian Forest Cat will start to play casually and quickly move into serious play." Dog people will get a kick out of seeing such breeds as Egyptian Mau, Oriental Shorthair, Sphynx, and the fluffy Persians. The breed photos are excellent.

The veterinary care guide by Susan Little, DVM is particularly good, especially the discussion of vaccines that mentions both the benefits and the current concerns of overuse. She states the CFA's position on declawing (they prefer not to, and the real bonus is that it's not preachy). She also goes into some level of detail on disease often not well discussed, such as cardiomyopathy, and covers the more common ground of first aid and diabetes.

By Deb Eldredge, DVM

ABC Practical Guide to Dog Training, by Steven Appelbaum, Howell Book House, \$16.99

This book is not a guide to top obedience competition, but rather a wonderful common sense guide to training your dog to be a well behaved family member. Trainer/author Steve Appelbaum covers everything from the basic dog problems such as chewing and barking to how dogs learn. He ends with a discussion of finding a trainer to work with you and your dog as well as many resources for information and fun.

Mr. Appelbaum's premise is that dogs learn best with primarily positive training, but occasional discipline or correction may be needed. I personally find this approach to work best with my dogs (and my kids for that matter!) His basic training principles are excellent:

- 1. Be consistent
- 2. Be consistent
- 3. Understand why behaviors take place and deal with problems by dealing with the cause
- 4. Learn basic training techniques and then follow rules one and two.

Now, Mr. Appelbaum's goals, such as a dog who is never allowed on the furniture, may not fit into every household but his techniques for household problems are worth trying for many behaviors. He makes extensive use of having a leash on your dog much of the time so you can guide and intercept your dog. The book also has a section on off leash training for those who wish to progress beyond the basics. The use of "grades" for the level your dog has reached will inspire many families to work harder, I think ③. This is a good start as a training book for the average family and their dog.

Little Dogs: Training Your Pint-Sized Companion, By Deborah Wood, T.F.H Publications, 2004

This is a nifty little book (no puns intended ①) with a wealth of information for small dog owners. Ms. Wood provides basic information for training little dogs – starting with the challenges of diminutive dogs and even discussing various training philosophies. Her personal experiences living with and training small dogs (primarily Papillons) adds credibility to her techniques.

This is not a competition obedience book, but rather a home study guide for basic manners and behaviors that EVERY dog should know. House training, a notorious problem with small dogs, rates a whole chapter of excellent, easy methods and some added indoor solutions that are great for city and apartment dwellers. Along with basic

manners, Ms Wood goes on to include behavior problems, fun tricks and some of the advanced training needed for many dog sports. The review of dog activities includes a nice section on the Canine Good Citizenship test. Throughout the book, Ms Wood uses real life examples, both of her own dogs and others, to illustrate the importance of training. I really like the little side bar tips that emphasize some of the important points. I feel this is a good starter book for small dog owners (whether they have a new pup or an adult rescue or adoptee). In fact, this might be a good addition to toy dog breeder puppy packets!

By Patricia B. Hoffman

The Canine Hiker's Bible, Doug Gelert, Cruden Bay Books, \$19.95

The Canine Hiker's Bible lives up to its title. Author Doug Gelert has produced a complete guide to walking with your dog. From the beginning "Preparing to Go" through 255 fact filled pages, every aspect of the sport is detailed. There are contributions from experts in various fields, such as dangers of the desert, why leashes are a must, and other useful topics. There are droll illustrations by Andrew Chesworth, and quotations from famous authors, including Mark Twain.

Whether it's hiking in national or state parks (Canada included), necessary information is listed. For example, in Glacier National Park, which hosts nearly two million visitors yearly, dogs are not allowed on park trails but may stay in campgrounds. "Destinations" are given by area, and in addition to necessary data, historical and local information is given. History fans will be particularly pleased by "Exploring History with Your Dog." City walks aren't overlooked and there is a comprehensive list of beaches and their rules. Over 1300 are given, state by state. *The Canine Hiker's Bible* is well written, well illustrated, and a must for anyone who enjoys hiking with a dog.

Paw Prints Through the Years, by Jean Keating, Astra Publishers, \$28

In 1981 Jean Keating saw a Papillon at a dog show, fell in love with the breed, and promptly acquired her first bitch. This was the beginning of over two decades of successful breeding and showing with the "Astra" prefix.

Paw Prints is the author's highly personal account of those years. As a major part of her experience, her "butterfly" dogs have provided comfort, support, and joy through life's ups and downs. Coping with problems such as retirement, health, and a mother with dementia has been much easier with the presence of these attractive and intelligent little creatures. The book isn't all about bad times: there are lots of funny and touching anecdotes. Ms. Keating loves all animals, and her home has been a haven for rescued dogs and cats. The pleasures and pains of raising dogs from birth to death will be familiar to any dog owner. At the end of each chapter there is a Christmas newsletter "written" by one of the Astra crew, which summarizes the year from a canine's view. Artist Beverly Abbott has provided charming color illustrations and sketches. Paw Prints will please Papillon owners, and fanciers of other breeds will find it an enjoyable read.

By Kate Eldredge

A New Owner's Guide to Pembroke Welsh Corgis, By Susan M. Ewing, T.F.H. Publications, 2004

Talk about information overload. I think I learned more about Corgis from this book than I have in the past 2 years! Ms. Ewing covered everything from health care to picking a puppy to the different doggy sports your Corgi can participate in. This book is geared toward new owners, and starts out with a history of the breed. I think it's good for new owners of any breed to know their dog's background. In the chapter dedicated to the Standard, Ms. Ewing puts in some comments after each AKC definition of a desired trait in the PWC (example: the perfect Corgi body). Her comments make the Standard much more understandable to the average pet owner.

In the health chapters, Mrs. Ewing touches base on vaccinations, parasites, common Corgi problems and, best of all, a whole chapter on dental care! Many owners' guides tend to leave out or minimize the dental section. As far as owners neglecting their Corgi's healthcare needs, this quotation says it all: "Your dog will never need the latest in jogging shoes, will never want a car, will never need a tuition loan. Don't skimp on his health care."

Mrs. Ewing also dedicates a chapter to traveling with your Corgi. She provides lots of good tips on boarding kennels, house sitters, and how to make a trip with your Corgi a positive experience for the whole family. Above all she stresses the need for a crate, an accessory that many dog owners don't have. She wraps it up with chapters on identifying your Corgi and behavior. Adding a little humor to the paragraph on not letting your Corgi jump on people, Ms. Ewing reminds us that, "Not everyone thinks clothes decorated with muddy paw prints are attractive." I never would have guessed! All in all, I think this is a great book for new Corgi owners, and even for those of us who have had them for many years. Enjoy!

Unbelievably Good Deals And Great Adventures That You Absolutely Can't Get Unless You're A Dog, by Darlene Arden, McGraw Hill, \$14.95

My Mom was hoping I would never become interested in this book. After reading the chapter on doggy stores, I could see my money dancing out of my wallet and racing off to be spent! Just reading about those stores made me want to go out and shop!

This is an excellent reference book for the traveling canine enthusiast. Ms. Arden starts off with a chapter listing doggy stores all around the US and the world. My Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Flash, particularly enjoyed the food chapter. I would be reading about some bakery (there is one in Hawaii that sounds pretty nice!) and Flash would look from the page to me, page to me. She also liked the dog spa that was listed under Health and Grooming.

The other chapters include reading material, travel (airlines, hotels, etc) art, training and daycare. I also liked the Off Beat chapter, which listed dog related museums and monuments. This is a terrific little reference book, the perfect means of finding cute doggy Christmas and birthday gifts and a wonderful gift in itself!

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President – Chris Walkowicz, 1396 265th St, Sherrard, IL 61281, 8533 – 309.754.8723 – walkoway.dogbooks@mchsi.com Vice President — Jan Mahood, P.O. Box 612, Geneseo, NY 14454 585-243-1932 - dogrose@rochester.rr.com Secretary – Pat Santi, 173 Union Road, Coatesville, PA 19320 – 610.384.2436 – Rhydowen@aol.com Treasurer – Alan Alford, PO Box 377, Sudbury, MA 01776 – aialford@aol.com President Emeritus – Mordecai Siegal, 135 Charles St., Apt 3G, New York, NY, 10014, 212.352.9765 – Mordecai@mordecai.com

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Pat Santi 173 Union Road Coatesville, PA 19320