

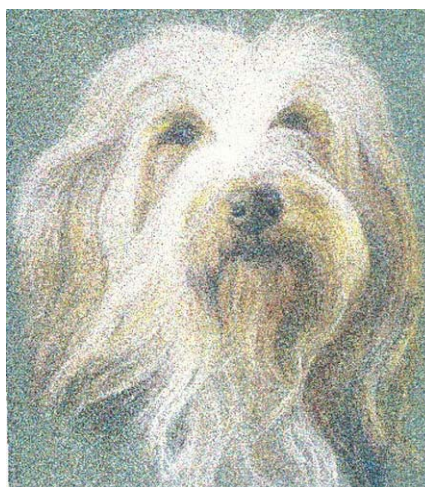


THE WRITE DOG

DOG WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

Founded 1935

February 2004



Tootsie made it to the wonderful age of 16. Chris Walkowicz enjoyed all of those years with Tootsie made it to the wonderful age of 16. Chris Walkowicz enjoyed all of those years with Tootsie. She was one of an all-brown litter. Since they looked like a box of chocolates, they were all named after candy bars. They were all as sweet as their names. They became orphans at one week when their mama died suddenly. It was a time of great agony, but the pups eventually turned things into ecstasy, as it seemed they were a "good luck" litter for me...Great buyers, great health, great temperament, great dogs. Tootsie, I believe, was the last wagging her tail clear to the end. 1/27/88-2/4/04.

Meanderings

“An ordinary man can . . . surround himself with two thousand books . . . and thenceforward have at least one place in the world in which it is possible to be happy.”
Augustine Birrell

“Sir the fact that a book is in the public library brings no comfort. Books are the one element in which I am personally and nakedly acquisitive. If it weren't for the law I would steal them. If it weren't for my purse I would buy them.” Harold Laski

Several months ago, I asked people to search their memories for people who had served as President of DWAA in the past. I received a treasure of articles in the mail a few days ago from Barbara Kolk, the AKC librarian. Not only had she catalogued several Presidents Emeriti for me, but the articles contained some interesting data about DWAA.

Members who have read the information about DWAA on the website, in various articles or even the application brochure know that DWAA (at that time just DWA, the “of America” was added in '55) was formed by journalists who wrote about dogs in newspapers. It would still be a mighty small group if we had only newspaper journalists, as they seem to be an endangered species. In 1938, membership consisted of 34 canine couriers. We have grown to about 500 members. Thankfully, membership has been opened to any published writer on the subject of dogs. (Although there are many who don't read the application and who cause our Secretary a great deal of backtracking to obtain the three published pieces, now printed in bold on our website!) We now have editors, publishers, photographers, newsletter writers and more in addition to the workaday journalists.

In the material, I also found so many magazines that, sadly, no longer exist, at least to my knowledge: Dog Lovers Digest, Kennel Review, and Popular Dogs, among others.

Originally, the dinner and meeting were held together (Popular Dogs, March 1940). The awards began in 1951, according to Popular Dogs. There were four awards in 1952. We've grown to 50 categories at the present. Our honored and prolific Maxwell Riddle cleaned up in several categories for many years. The first recipient of the “yearly award for that member whose efforts have done the most for dogs” went to C. E. Harbison, who was secretary-treasurer for many years.

When I began attending in 1986, we had NO (that's right zero) monetary awards. We now have 14, totaling \$7500.00! In 1961, two(!) judges judged the entire contest! Now we have three judges for each category and another for the Special Awards, a total of about 135 this year. Disclaimer: If any of these stats are wrong, it's because they were wrong in the articles I was sent.

Once upon a time, we had speakers at our annual banquet. (Actually one article in Dog World told of Lina Basquette giving a monologue, dancing “plus cheesecake” (hmmmm). It also told of Evelyn Monte, the President, singing a “ditty.” Please don't ask me to sing. And Jack Downing and Margaret Jones put on two or three acts.) In

fact, I remember the first one I attended in 1986 had a speaker. We now have so many award categories we can no longer afford the luxury of the time it takes to have a speaker. Many people rise at the crack of dawn the following day to begin their duties at the Westminster show.

Since I've been attending, we've been through a flux of dinner sites. Although most were fun and served great meals, we've had problems with having enough seating, room to reach the podium, acoustical problems, lack of wheelchair access, and a dearth of taxis when we finish. The Southgate has been the "home" of our dinners for the past several years, which allows us to have more people attend the banquet and room to reach the front of the room to receive awards, as well as easy access to our rooms.

For many years we enjoyed the hospitality of Quaker/Ken-L-Ration/Heinz/Nature's Recipe at our hospitality suite in the Southgate. Tom and Edie O'Shea (and eventually Katie, their daughter) were our host and hostess(es) with the mostest. Boy, was that great food and fun. But, like so many other things, this grew like Topsy and became impossible to continue.

Look for the list of Presidents *Emeriti* on our website (<http://www.dwaa.org>), which has been updated, jazzed up and has a new address, thanks to Kathryn Buetow, our new website editor. Check back often as our 2003 winners, members' list of books and new pages will be added and changed from time to time. If anyone has any suggestions of other items you'd like to have on the site, please contact me or Kathy.

Taking Advantage of Sources and Resources

"Books are a delightful society. If you go into a room filled with books, even without taking them down from their shelves, they seem to speak to you, to welcome you."
William E. Gladstone

Thanks to Barbara Kolk for all these interesting articles. We all must remember to use the AKC Library to our advantage. It is a treasure of dog lore – who would have thought so many of our past Presidents would be recorded?! For those of you who have not visited the Library, make it a point to do so. It's fascinating, full of books, periodicals, national and foreign, back to the two of the first books on dogs: De Canibus Britannicis, by Johannes Caius, and The Boke of St. Albans, and maybe even one of yours – or a favorite of yours.

The staff is happy to answer questions. There is a small charge for photocopying and an hourly fee for extensive research by the staff. It is also accessible online at <http://www.akc.org/insideAKC/depts/library.cfm> or by e-mailing them at library@akc.org.

"Never lend books, for no one ever returns them; the only books I have in my library are books that other folk have lent me." Anatole France

It Was a Heck of a Party

Congratulations to all who entered the contest, to the successful nominees, and to the victors! Thanks to all who have given of their time and energy to make our annual meeting and banquet such a success. And our sponsors, what can I say! Thank you so much for appreciating and honoring journalists and their talents!

Plan now to attend next year's banquet to celebrate DWAA's **70th anniversary!** From time to time, throughout this next year, we will have tips on visiting New York City, things to see, how to go on a budget, etc. We promise you that you'll have a great time!

New Committees

We actually do have some brave volunteers in this organization. Added to our list of current committee chairs are: Bryna Comsky, Publicity; Elaine Gewirtz, Membership Solicitation; Jan Mahood, 70th Anniversary; Kim Thornton for Special Awards; and Darlene Arden, Deb Eldredge DVM, Cheryl Smith and Yours Truly, DWAA-PRO moderators. Cheers and thanks to all these people!

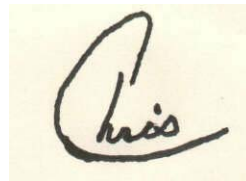
DWAA-PRO List

DWAA now has a DWAA-PRO Internet list, by and for DWAA members. Brags are allowable; but sympathy and congratulations should go privately. DWAA matters and news may also be discussed here.

DWAA-PRO list

Access DWAA-PRO through your browser URL: <http://yahoo.com/>
DWAA members may subscribe to the list by accessing Yahoo and subscribing by giving your user name and a password. You may then subscribe to DWAA-PRO at <http://groups.yahoo.com/> or by typing subscribe-DWAA-Pro@yahoogroups.com.

We look forward to lively and polite discussions about writing topics on this list.



2003 DWAA Writing Contest

by Liz Palika

Hopefully, by the time you read this, all the awards will have been handed out, the special awards checks passed on to talented winners, and everyone will have had a great time at the banquet. The 2003 contest will be completed.

The 2003 contest had over 800 entries total in the regular categories and special awards. The largest entries were in feature article in all breed and in single breed magazines with between 60 and 80 entries each. Regular column categories were also huge. The largest special award entries were the Merial, HSUS and ASPCA special awards with between 60 and 80 entries each. The smallest categories were Internet feature and column, poetry, short fiction, and books under 100 pages. Some of these had 1 to 5 entries. The smallest special awards included the junior writer award, the freestyle award, and both training awards.

There were three judges per regular category. In most cases I assigned one expert in that subject or area; one writer, editor, writing teacher, or publisher; and one dog person. I felt this made the judging about as fair as I could make it. The three scores were then averaged and the highest score became the winner.

For the most part, the judges' comments were very favorable. Interestingly enough, the larger the category, generally the more favorable the comments. The smaller the category, the less favorable the comments. Perhaps the greater variety of work made finding 'that special work' more likely. Several judges who were assigned books said that the increasing popularity of 'generic' type or 'formula' books seems to have stifled creativity or has made too many books too much alike. Interesting thought.

Planet Dog (www.planetdog.com) was kind enough to ship two very heavy boxes to me during the contest. The boxes contained Orbee balls (The world's best dog ball!) for our contest judges. My dogs go nuts over Orbees and several judges found their dogs were just as excited. Planet Dog has a variety of unique items - both useful and for gifts - and they also donate 10% of their profits to Planet Dog Philanthropy. Please check out their website and tell them thanks for helping our contest.

Our other special award sponsors include the AKC, Howell Book House, Iams, ASPCA, HSUS, Merial, WCFO, Off Lead, Radio Systems/Pet Safe, DogRead, and Pedigree. Please, when you do business with them, tell these businesses, "Thanks!"

I will be taking a break for a few months before thinking about the 2004 contest; the last year that I have volunteered to do. However, a couple of suggestions will probably be implemented for the 2004 contest. A couple of people have called for the judges to be listed for the contest and I will implement that. When judges volunteer for the job, I will ask for their permission to be named. If they agree, I will list their name. If they prefer to remain private, I will honor that. Unfortunately, there have been problems in the past with judges being harassed by contest entrants so I want to keep that option open. If future contest chairs wish to list all judges, regardless, that's up to them. I want to protect our judges from harassment if I can.

Someone else has asked if we can add a humor category. This could include cartoon, comic strips, haiku, short stories and other expressions of canine humor. I think this is worth offering at least once to see what kind of response we get. So get that humor published now so it can be included in the 2004 contest!

The 2004 contest rules and categories should be up on the DWAA website by June or July, and will be in the newsletter shortly thereafter. So look for it then. Meanwhile, I am going to take a break from any contest thoughts and catch up on my work!

(The Newsletter Goddess and the rest of DWAA would like to take this opportunity to thank Liz, our wonderful contest chair, for all of her hard work. It's most appreciated!)

DWAA 2003 Writing Contest Winners

Each entry in each category is scrutinized by three judges. Each judge scores the entries from 100 (perfect) to 0. The three scores are averaged to come up with one score. The highest scoring entries in each category are the nominees and the highest score is the Maxwell Award winner. The number of nominees depends upon the judges' scores. Any entry that has an over all low score will not be nominated.

1. Newspaper: feature or news story: Joan Lowell Smith, "The Cost of Care" *The Star Ledger*
2. Newspaper: column: Steve Dale, "My Pet World" *Tribune Media Services*
3. Newspaper: editorial/essay/opinion: Sherry Carpenter, "Professor Takes Stance" *Sunbury Daily Item*
4. Magazine: all breed: AKC Gazette
5. Magazine: single breed: Celebrating Greyhounds
6. Magazine: special interest dog or all animal: Dogs Dogs Dogs
7. Magazine: Yearbook /annual/special publication: *AKC Gazette* "Dogs in Art"
8. Magazine: feature in all breed magazine: Janine Adams, "When Cancer Strikes" *The Bark*
9. Magazine: feature in a single breed magazine: Eve Adamson, "Form Follows Function" *Border Collies*
10. Magazine: feature in a special interest dog magazine: Eva M. Bernhard, "Tibial Plateau Leveling Osteotomy" *Retrievers Online*
11. Magazine: feature in all animal magazine: William Childress, "Bonnie's Big Break" *ASPCA Animal Watch*
12. Magazine: feature in general interest magazine: Sue Owens Wright, "Waddling in Dwight" *Mystery Scene Magazine*
13. Magazine: feature in canine newspaper or newsletter: Lorraine Houston, "Barry" *Dogs Dogs Dogs*
14. Magazine: feature in annual publication or other: Kim Thornton, "Advances in Veterinary Medicine" *DOGS USA*
15. Magazine: editorial/opinion/essay: Betsy Stowe, "Dog Days" *Meow*
16. Magazine: regular column: Michael Rosser, "The Dog in Art" *The French Bullytin*
17. Magazine: subject related series: C. A. Sharp, "When Worlds Collide" *Double Helix Network News*
18. Internet: feature: Carol D. Hawke, "Leaving the Stone Age Behind" *Canine Chronicle*
19. Internet: regular column: Mordecai Seigal, "The View from Mordecai Seigal" *goodnewsforpets.com*
20. Short Fiction: Gina Mireault, "Illusions" *AKC Gazette*
21. Poetry: Ned Bratspis, "Color Golden" *Golden Tales*
22. National Club: magazine format: *The Courier* Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

23. National Club: newsletter format: *Komondor Komments* Komondor Club of America
24. National Club: magazine feature: Rue Chagoll, "Daddy's Really Not Coming Home Anymore?" *Golden Retriever News*
25. National Club: newsletter: feature: Dr. David Mathews, "The Return" *The Fan Hitch*
26. National Club: magazine or newsletter: regular column: C. A. Sharp, "Genetics" *The Australian Shepherd Journal*
27. National Club: magazine or newsletter: subject related series: Carroll H. Weiss, "About Dick Mason" *The Spotter*
28. Regional/Local Club: magazine or newsletter: *Golden Tales* Rescue A Golden of Arizona
29. Regional/Local Club: feature: *Gail Chadwick, "Shelterwalking" *Golden Tales*
30. Regional/Local Club: regular column: Rue Chagoll, "Sit! Stay! Listen!" *Golden Tales (NY)*
31. Regional/Local Club: subject related series: No nominees
32. Photography: color: Harry Giglio, "Weimaraner" *AKC Gazette*
33. Photography: black and white: Samarra Khaja, cover photo, *ASPCA Animal Watch*
34. Photography: series: Anne Williams, "Camp Winnaribbon" *The Sacramento Bee*
35. Illustration/Painting: Chet Jezierski, "The Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever" *AKC Gazette*
36. Illustration: series: Lisa Bilinski, "Conformation 101" *Dogs in Canada*
37. Poster or Special Publication: American Kennel Club, *2002 Annual Report*
38. Calendar: Nutmeg Portuguese Water Dog Club, Inc. "2003 Calendar"
39. Videotape: Corally Burmaster, "Puppy Kindergarten"
40. CD/DVD: Lydia Kelley, "Teamwork" (Top Dog Productions)
41. Broadcast Journalism: Steve Dale, "Show #74" Animal Planet Radio
42. Book: single breed: Sheila Webster Boneham, PhD "The Simple Guide to Labrador Retrievers" (TFH, 2003)
43. Book: single breed pet guide: Margaret Bonham, "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Labrador Retrievers" (Alpha, 2003)
44. Book: general interest: Mike Lingenfelter and David Frei, "The Angel by My Side" (Hay House, 2002)
45. Book: general reference: Amy Fernandez, "Dog Breeding as a Fine Art" (Ltd Editions Media, 2002)
46. Books: care and health: Amy D. Shojai, "Complete Care for Your Aging Dog" (New American Library, 2003)
47. Book: training and behavior: Melissa Alexander, "Click for Joy" (Sunshine Books, 2003)
48. Book: fiction: Annie Smith, "Home Again" (Zebra Kensington, 2002)
49. Book: children's: D. Caroline Coile, PhD., "How Smart is Your Dog?" (Sterling, 2003)
50. Book: under 100 pages: Carina Beth MacDonald, "Raw Dog Food" (Dogwise, 2003)

2003 Writing Contest Special Awards

ELSWORTH S. HOWELL AWARD sponsored by Howell Books for the best article on judging, exhibiting, dog-show reporting or any other aspect of conformation showing: Seymour Weiss, "Judging 101" *Dog World* Jan 2003

EUKANUBA CANINE HEALTH AWARD sponsored by the Iams Company for the article or book that best promotes the health and well-being of dogs: Eve Adamson, "The Simple Guide to a Healthy Dog" (TFH, 2002)

DWAA JUNIOR WRITER AWARD sponsored by DWAA to writers under 18 years of age: Jeannette Warner, "A Dream Come True" *Canine Review* Aug 2003

HUMANE ISSUES SPECIAL AWARD sponsored by the ASPCA for the work which best illuminates one of the following aspects of the ASPCA mission: pet overpopulation, humane education, shelter adoptions or the prevention of cruelty: Jane Musgrave, "Reality Check: Young Adult Dogs Flood Shelters" *Dog Fancy* Feb 2003

AKC CLUB PUBLICATION EXCELLENCE AWARD sponsored by the AKC for the best article in a national, regional or local club publication; magazine or newsletter format: Rue Chagoll, "Daddy's Really Not Coming Home Anymore?" *Golden Retriever News* Sept/Oct 2002

MERIAL HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND AWARD sponsored by Merial for the work which best highlights the special bond between people and their treasured pets: Mike Lingenfelter and David Frei, "The Angel by My Side" (Hay House Inc, 2002)

The World Canine Freestyle Organization sponsored an award for the best print, radio, television or internet coverage of canine freestyle: Verne Foster, "Freestyle Rhythms: It's My Dog's Music" *The Courier* Mar/Apr 2003

Off Lead sponsored the best training article: Deborah Wood, "From Terrified to Terrific" *AKC Gazette* April 2003

Radio Systems/Pet Safe offered an award for the best training publication in book or other bound form: Melissa Alexander, "Click for Joy" (Sunshine Books, 2003)

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION RESEARCH COMMUNICATION AWARD sponsored by the AKC Canine Health Foundation for the work that best informs the public about canine health research: Eva M. Bernard, "Tibial Plateau Leveling Osteotomy" *Retrievers Online* Mar/Apr 2003

The DogRead list sponsored an award for BEST BOOK: Mike Lingenfelter and David Frei, "The Angel by My Side" (Hay House, 2003)

The Compassionate Care Award sponsored by the Humane Society of the United States on the humane treatment of dogs: Jane Musgrave, "Reality Check: Young Adult Dogs Flood Shelters" *Dog Fancy* Feb 2003

PEDIGREE PRESIDENT'S AWARD sponsored by Pedigree for the best entry among the Maxwell winners, our very own "Best in Show." The award consists of a plaque and a \$750 cash grant: Amy Fernandez' [Dog Breeding as a Fine Art](#).

The American Kennel Club offers the Distinguished Service Award to the person for extraordinary achievement and communications excellence. To recognize those who, by word, deed, exemplary conduct, public communication and professional excellence promote the best interest of the sport of dogs. The award consists of a plaque and a \$7500 cash grant. This was awarded to Pat Santi for her long history of being a handler, breeder and exhibitor of top dogs, as well as being a rescuer of dogs and dog people, not to mention her long term as DWAA secretary.

To Prior Maxwell Winners

Maxwell pins may be ordered on the honor system that you have won a Maxwell. Send \$3.50 to cover handling/postage to: Pat Santi, DWAA Secretary, 173 Union Rd., Coatesville, PA 19320.

General DWAA Meeting Minutes, February 8, 2004

14 Members and two guests present. Chris Walkowicz thanked, Pat, Liz Palika, Susan McCullough, Maggie Bonham, Phyllis DeGioia, Alan Alford, Mordecai Siegal and Kathy Buetow for all their help this past year. Chris called for a moment of silence for Nigel Aubrey Jones and Elizabeth Crosby Simpson.

Deb Eldredge and David Frei are now DWAA board members.

Committee Reports

Secretary Report: We have 496 members at this time. We have lost several members that are not writing any longer. Elaine Gewirtz will be helping with sending out applications for membership to different publications. This should bring in more new members. We have processed 30 applications this past year. We returned 5 that had no writings with them and 3 of them generated writings and joined. We have several people who are in the process of writing for local newsletters and then will apply. The best story is the 80-year-old man who wrote a 3-line poem to his dead dog and published it in a local newsletter. He asked if that would qualify him for membership. The cutest was the young girl needing help writing a school paper about dogs. She does not have a dog of her own, but plays with a neighbor's dog because he needs her. She let me know she got an A on her paper. The Web site generates the most applications today and now with a new web site coming it should even be more positive.

If someone is ill or needs a card to cheer them up, let Pat Santi know and she will send them a note from DWAA. Please try to let her know about your changes of address and e-mail.

Treasurer Report: Alan has the books at the Audit. Jan Mahood just received them.

Contest Report: This year's contest went relatively smoothly. There were fewer regular category entries but more special award entries: total entries 800. Several categories had very small entries; a couple as few as one entry. The smallest categories overall were the Internet categories. Newspaper categories also continue to be very small. The largest categories continue to be features and columns for all breed and single breed magazines-between 60 to 80 entries in each. The largest special award categories included Merial, HSUS and ASPCA special awards with between 60-80 for each of them. The smallest entries for special awards were for the two training awards. Three judges were assigned to each regular category and one to each special award category. Judges included dog experts, breeders, conformation judges, trainers, obedience judges, writers, publishers, editors, college writing professors/teachers and veterinarians. The names of this year's judges were not released as permission to do so was not requested of the judges at the

time they volunteered; however, due to requests for this information, that permission will be solicited for the 2004 contest.

Several judges made comments on the quality of the work being judged and comments ranged from 'awesome' to 'poor.' Those judging larger categories obviously had more work to look at and the comments were generally more positive. Those judging smaller categories tended to have less positive comments.

Liz has volunteered to chair the contest one last year for the 2004/5 contest and will continue to fine-tune the contest turnover file as she does so. She has made a schedule of what needs to be done during the year as well as a file for letters, forms, and so forth. This way her successor will have a much easier time taking over the contest. Terry Albert will be the New Contest Chair in 2005 and will work with Liz this year. Susan McCullough has done the Special Awards for our contest and Kim Thornton will now take over her job.

Jan Mahood will be chairing the 70th Banquet Sponsorships and is asking for volunteers for 2005.

Tonight we have lovely gifts for all attending the banquet from AKC, Westminster Kennel Club, Bowtie, Fancy, Sherpa, Dog Treats, Harper Collins Books, along with our own bookmarks.

Our New Web Editor is Kathy Buetow and she is working on a new server for our site. The new site will allow us more pages. The site should remain at www.dwaa.org

Book Signing: Amy Fernandez gave her report on signings and is planning to try and have a signing at the Southgate next year and perhaps one at the Eukanuba Classic in Florida this year.

Bryna Comsky is our new PR Person. She will be handing out envelopes with the winners for publishers and editors tonight.

The Board will support the CWA/DWAA seminar again this year in Houston, Texas.

Old Business:

The Brainstorming meeting held by the DWAA in Houston was well attended this past year.

The Board has voted to change our Constitution: Section 2 (d). It now reads to promote and support the Dog Writers Educational Trust. *Change will read: to promote and support an Annual Writing Competition.* This will appear in 3 newsletters, one to announce it, the second to discuss the change and the 3rd for a vote of the membership.

New Business:

Janine Adams presented the new Maxwell lapel pins we made for all who have won a Maxwell. They will be given with each Maxwell Award. Those who have won a Maxwell before today can send for one from the Secretary for \$3.50 postage and handling.

We have a new DWAA e-mail list. Members may subscribe to the DWAA-PRO e-mail list. You subscribe to DWAA-PRO at <http://groups.yahoo.com/> this is for members of the DWAA only and guidelines will be sent to you when you subscribe.

Constitution Change Voted on by Board and Officers of the DWAA

THIS IS FOR YOUR REVIEW THIS MONTH, WE WILL PUBLISH IT AGAIN NEXT MONTH FOR YOUR DISCUSSION AND THEN WE WILL ASK FOR A VOTE OF THE MEMBERSHIP THE FOLLOWING MONTH.

CONSTITUTION SECTION 2 (d)

READS: TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT THE DOG WRITERS EDUCATIONAL TRUST.

PROPOSED CHANGE: TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT AN ANNUAL WRITING COMPETITION. PLEASE DIRECT YOUR CONCERNS OR COMMENTS TO THE SECRETARY.

Roster Changes

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Chicken Soup Publishers Invite DWAA Members to Submit

Chicken Soup for the Pet Lover's Soul and *Chicken Soup for the Cat & Dog Lover's Soul* co-authors, Dr. Marty Becker, D.V.M. and Carol Kline, along with multi-book author and pet journalist, Amy D. Shojai, invite all DWAA members to submit stories for their new book: *Chicken Soup for the Dog Lover's Soul* to be released in autumn of 2005. This highly anticipated *Chicken Soup* book—just for dog lovers—will consist of heartwarming true stories about dogs and the people who love them. A Chicken Soup story is an inspirational, true story with a beginning, middle and an end. Each story should illustrate some aspect of the human experience in the company of dogs or showcase one of the many qualities dogs possess that make them so lovable and important in our lives. Stories should be approximately 1200 words or less and in English. The deadline for submissions is October 15, 2004.

Anyone may submit original unpublished stories or previously published material such as newspaper, newsletter and magazine articles, excerpts from books, online materials, etc. Please indicate if you are the author. If you are not, be sure to provide as much information as possible about the author and the publication in which it appeared.

The base rate of payment base starts at \$200 for non-exclusive rights for each story that ends up being published in the book. The book will also contain a short bio on each contributing author. These bios have proven valuable in helping writers market their other books or themselves. Please visit www.yourpetstory.com to find out more about

this project, including what a Chicken Soup story is...and isn't, contact information and how to access the link for submitting stories online (which is preferred).

Blue Raven Press Seeks Submissions

Barbara J. Gislason, a law school professor teaching Animal Law, who is also the founding Chair of the Animal Law Committee for the Minnesota State Bar Association, has founded Blue Raven Press. It is a company that publishes adult nonfiction and fiction books on the subject of animals.

Blue Raven Press's mission is to: Acknowledge each life as sacred; understand that each creature has a purpose; realize that animals are conscious; want to learn their language; appreciate each creature for what it is; strive to protect their habitats; respect nature's food chain; enjoy the beauty of animals, in whatever form; help the weak among them; seek justice for animals; respect their right to grieve; trust their guidance; bless them as they pass into the next world; above all, we remember that we are animals, too.

We are looking for exceptional nonfiction and fiction titles by authors with authentic voices whose work has transformative impact. Our books will reflect an admiration for and appreciation of "other animals." Nonfiction books we admire include *Dominion* by Matthew Scully, *When Elephants Weep* by Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, *The Mind of the Raven* by Bernd Heinrich, and *The Healing Power of Pets* by Marty Becker. Loved fiction titles include *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London, *Watership Down* by Richard Adams and *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd. Blue Raven Press's titles will primarily focus on other animals.

Blue Raven Press, located at 219 S.E. Main St., Suite 506, Minneapolis, MN 55414, welcomes submissions from the Dog Writers Association. If writing nonfiction, please send your proposal and SASE; if writing fiction, please send your query, synopsis and first three chapters with SASE.

When he just sits loving and knows that he is being loved, those are the moments that I think are precious to a dog; when, with his adoring soul coming through his eyes, he feels that you are really thinking of him.

- John Galsworthy

Dues Notice

Dues are due March 1, 2004

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Business _____

Fax _____

e-mail _____

Freelance or _____

Make checks payable to the DWAA and send to:

Pat Santi, Sec.
173 Union Road
Coatesville, PA 19320-1326

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