

CAT WRITERS' ASSOCIATION HONORS TOP WRITERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS AND EDITORS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nancy Marano, Contest Chair
Email: nmarano@aol.com

WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK – The International Cat Writers' Association (CWA) honored top writers, photographers and editors in print, broadcast and online media at the 16th annual communications contest on Saturday at the Crowne Plaza White Plains Hotel.

This year, CWA offered corporate-sponsored special awards of \$500 to \$1,000, as well as its own Muse Medallions™ to winners in approximately 35 writing and graphic arts categories. The special awards in 2009 included topics in feline veterinary research, health, behavior, nutrition, seniors, kitten care, safety issues, the human-animal bond, rescue and rehabilitation, grooming and responsible ownership, plus awards for fiction and for new writers.

Here is a rundown of the winners in the regular and the special award categories. In the regular contest, each category was scored independently by three CWA member judges whose three scores were then averaged by the contest committee. Individuals had to score an average of 90 or better in order to become finalists and earn certificates. The top scorer in each category was awarded a Muse Medallion™.

These individuals earned Muse Medallions™ for scoring the highest in the following categories:

Monthly Magazine: Susan Logan, ed. *Cat Fancy*

Regional Magazine: Paul Glassner, ed. *Our Animals*

Magazine Article, Health & General Care: Fran Pennock Shaw, "Combat Heartworm," *Cat Fancy* and Kim Campbell Thornton, "Kittenproof Your Home," *Kittens USA*

Magazine Article, Behavior & Training: Nancy Peterson, "The Way to Tame a Feral Kitten's Heart," *Animal Sheltering*

Magazine Article, Any Other Topic: Julie Falconer, "Prowling the Divide," *Animal Sheltering*

Magazine Column: Cimeron Morrissey, "Foster Focus," *Cat Fancy*

Newspaper Article, Health & General Care: Fran Pennock Shaw, "Heartworm Disease", *Lancaster Sunday News*

Newspaper Article, Behavior & Training: Sally Bahner, "What Worked for Rainy," *Pets Press*

Newspaper Article, Any Other Topic: Anthony Nichols, "The Father of the Cat Fancy," *Our Cats*

Newspaper Column: Gregory M. Simpson, "Sheltering an Animal's Perspective," *Pets Press*

Newsletter, Breed Specific: Brigitte McMinn, ed., *Bengals Illustrated*

Newsletter, National Circulation: *Catnip*, Arden Moore, ed.

Newsletter, Regional or Membership Circulation: Cimeron Morrissey, ed., *Cat Tales*

Newsletter Article, Health & General Care: Elissa Wolfson, "Cats and Babies," *Catnip*

Newsletter Article, Any Other Topic: Kim Campbell Thornton, "The Lion in Your Lap," *Catnip*

Newsletter Column: Arden Moore, "Editor's Note," *Catnip* and Nancy Reeves, "UBCF Newsletter Column," *UBCF Newsletter*

Short Story: Clea Simon, "Dumb Beasts." *Dead Fall: Crime Stories by New England Writers*

Poem: Lesléa Newman, "Old Girl," *Nobody's Mother*

Brochure, Pamphlet, Short Publication: Nancy Peterson, "I am not a crazy cat lady," The HSUS

Annual or Long Publication: Su Ewing, *Cats! Train Your Owner!* (Cider Mill Press)

Opinion Piece, Essay, or Editorial: Nancy Reeves, "The Health of the Breed," UBCF Newsletter

Books, Fiction: Shirley Rousseau Murphy, *Cat Playing Cupid*, (Wm. Morrow)

Books, For Children: Dandi Dailey Mackall, *Starlight Animal Rescue*, (Tyndale House Publishers)

Books, Health & General Care: Sheila Webster Boneham, *The Multiple-Cat Family*, (TFH Publications)

Books, Other: Rosie Sorenson, *They Had Me at Meow*, (Buster Hollow Productions)

Video, DVD, or TV Productions: Amy Shojai, "Pet Talk: Allergies, Toxoplasmosis, Flea Product Safety," KXII-CBS

Radio, Podcast or Other Audio Presentation – Guest Interview Format: Amy Shojai, "Pet Peeves: Cat-egorically Wrong! Cats, Babies, Myth-takes," PetLifeRadio.com

Online Magazine, Newsletter, Website: Mary Anne Miller, www.felinexpress.com

Online Article, Health & General Care: Sandy Robins, "Cats and Toddlers," BringPetsHome.com

Online Article, Behavior & Training: Amy Shojai, "Claw Training 101," Shojai.com

Online Article, Any Other Topic: Linda Mohr, "The Cat's Mastery of the Present Moment," Artipot.com

Online Column: Kim Campbell Thornton, "Creature Comforts," msnbc.com

Blogs, Regular Blogs: Suzanne Stowe, "Crazy for Cats," Catchannel.com

Black & White Photograph (single): Arden Moore, "Race for the Food Bowl," *Catnip*

Color Photograph (single): Dr. Monica Shephard, "Frankie Meets Her Shadow," *Our Animals*

Color Photographs (series): Janiss Garza, *Sparkle the Designer Cat 2009*, (Café Press)

Cartoon: Stephanie Piro, "20 Cats," King Features

Illustrations (series): Michael Sleep, *Purrlock Holmes and the Case of the Missing Treasure*, (Felineity Press)

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

Here is a list of the special award winners in 21 categories.

2009 CWA Special Awards Winners

1. **AKC COMPANION ANIMAL RECOVERY AWARD:** *"Let's See Some ID,"* Dusty Rainbolt, *Catnip*
2. **DR. JIM RICHARDS CORNELL FELINE HEALTH CENTER VETERINARY ISSUES AWARD:** *"Good Medicine for Saving Lives,"* Christine Rosenblat and Paul Glassner, *Our Animals*
3. **FANCY FEAST® LOVE STORY AWARD:** *"First-Time Fosterer,"* Paul Glassner, *Our Animals*
4. **FORT DODGE / HEALTHY CATS FOR LIFE TURNING POINT AWARD:** *UBCF Newsletter,* Nancy Reeves, ed.
5. **FRISKIES® WRITER OF THE YEAR AWARD:** Cimeron Morrissey *"Cat Tales, A Gift of Love, So Happy Together, A Real-life Fairy Godmother, A Walk on the Wild Side, Feline Superstar, Baby Love, Pedigrees by the Pound"*
6. **HARTZ EVERY DAY CHEWABLE VITAMIN AWARD:** *"Tiny Beads Create a Big Revolution in Cancer Treatment,"* Dr. Phil Zeltzman, Dr. Phil Zeltzman's Newsletter
7. **HARTZ GLAMOUR-PUSS AWARD:** *Fabulous Felines: Health and Beauty Secrets for the Pampered Cat,* Sandy Robins, (TFH Publications)
8. **HARTZ MILK REPLACEMENT FOR KITTENS AWARD:** *"First-Time Fosterer,"* Paul Glassner, *Our Animals*
9. **KATHRYN HOPPER "FRITZ-THE-BRAVE" AWARD:** *"Sammy the Survivor,"* Elissa Wolfson, *Catnip*
10. **KARI WINTERS RESCUE AND REHABILITATION AWARD:** *"First-Time Fosterer,"* Paul Glassner, *Our Animals*
11. **MERIAL HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND AWARD:** *"Deciphering Cat Chat,"* Fran Pennock Shaw, *Catnip*
12. **PRO PLAN® PEDIGREED CATS AWARD:** *UBCF Newsletter,* Nancy Reeves, ed.

13. **PURINA® CAT CHOW® NUTRITION AWARD:** “*Nutrition for a Happy Healthy Cat,*” Kim Campbell Thornton, *Cat Fancy Natural Cat*
14. **PURINA® ONE® HEALTH AWARD:** “*Sammy the Survivor,*” Elissa Wolfson, *Catnip*
15. **PURINA® KITTEN CHOW AWARD:** “*First-Time Fosterer,*” Paul Glassner, *Our Animals*
16. **STICKY PAWS® TRAINING AWARD:** “*Kitten Behavior 101,*” Helen Jablonski, *Cat Fancy*
17. **TIDY CATS® FELINE BEHAVIOR AWARD:** “*The Lowdown on Litterbox Issues, Part 1 & 2,*” Arden Moore, Examiner.com
18. **WORLD’S BEST CAT LITTER-ARY AWARD:** *A Cat’s Eye View of Life and Love by Sterling,* Marta Felber, (Life Words)
19. **SHOJAI MENTOR AWARD:** Betsy Stowe
20. **KUYKENDALL IMAGE AWARD:** *Bengals Illustrated,* Brigitte McMinn, ed.
21. **CWA PRESIDENT’S AWARD:** Su Ewing, *Cats! Train Your Owner!* (Cider Mill Press)

ABOUT THE CAT WRITERS’ ASSOCIATION, INC.

CWA was founded in 1993 and is dedicated to providing news, information, and education on all aspects of cat care and welfare, as well as improving the quality of writing about cats. CWA provides members with networking opportunities and encourages professionalism and communication among cat writers, photographers, artists, editors and broadcasters. Amy Shojai, of Sherman, TX, serves as president of this organization. Learn more by visiting the CWA website: www.catwriters.org.

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