

Meow

The Award-Winning Newsletter of the Cat Writers' Association ♦ Fall 2012

A professional writers' association encouraging professionalism among cat writers, photographers, artists, and broadcasters

CWA's 19th Conference Convenes in L.A.!

Featuring Outstanding Speakers, Cat Assistants, and CWA's 20th Anniversary Celebration

Returning to the West Coast for the first time in many years, the CWA's Annual Writers' Conference will meet November 1-3 in Los Angeles. Cat behaviorist Jackson Galaxy, the star of Animal Planet's popular show *My Cat from Hell* and the author of *Cat Daddy: What the World's Most Incurable Cat Taught Me about Life, Love, and Coming Clean*, is expected to be the conference headliner; his seminar will wrap up the conference just before the much-anticipated Awards Banquet at which winners of CWA's coveted Muse Medallions™ and Special Awards will be announced.



CWA Co-Founder/Founding President Amy D. Shojai will guide conference attendees through a multi-media retrospective on CWA's 20 years of promoting the welfare of cats and cat writers, and CWA's Charter and Founding Members will be honored.

Other speakers will be drawn from leading novelists, authors, and cat behavior specialists. An unusual feature of two conference seminars will be the presence of cat assistants. Media and behavior expert Arden Moore and her Turkish Van-mix Zeki will talk about putting the Me-WOW factor into your career, while renowned cat behaviorist Marilyn Krieger will bring along a Bengal friend who will help her with a demonstration of clicker training techniques in action.

The schedule of outstanding conference seminars, speakers, and panelists is found in this issue of *MEOW*. Take a look and you must agree — this is a unique opportunity to learn about cats and writing, network with cat experts and expert cat writers, meet editors and agents, and garner memories that will last a lifetime. ♥



*Arden Moore's cat Zeki (above) and
Marilyn Krieger's Bengal friend (left)
will ensure that their conference
seminars will be the cat's whiskers!!!*

*Photo above © Arden Moore
Photo below © Marilyn Krieger*

INSIDE

President's Message	2
Thanks to Contest Judges	3
Certificate of Excellence Winners	4
CWA Membership, CWA Elections	5
Meet Your CWA Officers	6-8
Thanks to 2012 CWA Sponsors	9
CWA Conference News	10-16
Editor & Agent Appointments	12
Conference Seminar Schedule	13-16
Bits & Bytes	17-19
Market & Member News	20
Welcome Mat	21
The Cat's MEOW	23
Poems & Photos	22,25,27
Article: Not Now, Not Ever	23
Article: Remembering Kizzy	24-25
Article: Holistic Healing	26
The Cat's Meow	27

**Conference Dates: November 1-3, 2012
See You in LOS ANGELES!**



President's Message

By Susan M. Ewing, CWA President

Time for Another Great CWA Conference!

I'm b-a-a-ack!

It seems like only yesterday I was writing my final president's column, praising the willingness of members to volunteer. Now, it's a year later, and I can say the same thing. Linda Hardie, in spite of a full teaching schedule, volunteered to be the president of CWA because she believes in the organization and wanted to serve. Unfortunately, the addition to her workload proved to be too much, and she had to step down. I applaud Linda for her willingness to serve, and, for knowing she'd taken on too much.

So, rather than sit at home this year, I'll be flying to Los Angeles for another amazing conference. I'm always excited about the seminars, so it's hard to say if this is the best year ever, but Wow! This may be the best year ever! There'll be a seminar to help us understand self-publishing and another to introduce us to electronic publishing. Learn more about website writing and about blogs, as well as how to use social media to your best advantage. Learn about writing children's books and about how to recycle ideas.

Both Marilyn Krieger and Arden Moore will both be presenting seminars with the help of a cat buddy, so we can all get our "fur fix" to help get us through the weekend. And, we'll have two speakers who appear regularly on Animal Planet. Karen "Doc" Halligan will offer a seminar on "How to Succeed When You're on the Other Side of the Interview" and Jackson Galaxy will share the creative process behind his book, *Cat Daddy: What the World's Most Incurable Cat Taught Me About Life, Love and Coming Clean*.

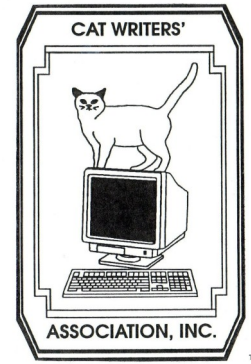
And, in between all the terrific seminars, don't forget to sign up for editor/agent appointments! These are an amazing part of our conference, and, you get 15 minutes for each appointment. I attended a conference last spring and we had five minutes, which, believe me, goes by all too quickly!

Saturday, we're offering time for an "autograph party." Bring your autograph-able items (books, calendars, greeting cards) and sign and sell between 2:30 and 4 p.m.

Oh, and don't forget to attend the Thursday Night Team (TNT) gathering, to stuff goody bags and socialize. This event has really grown from the original small gatherings in a hotel room!

Friday night, we'll be celebrating the 20th anniversary of CWA with a special multi-media presentation by Founding Member and multi-term CWA President Amy Shojai.

My plane reservations are made and my hotel room is booked. I'm ready, once again, for the best conference ever! See you there! ♥



Cat Writers' Association

(www.catwriters.org)

Officers

SUSAN M. EWING, President

Phone: 716-484-6155

66 Adams Street, Jamestown, NY 14701

Email: dogwriter@windstream.net

DUSTY RAINBOLT, Vice President

Phone: 972-724-0032 * Fax: 214-632-9367

P.O. Box 293413, Lewisville, TX 75029-3413

Email: dustycatwriter@pobox.com

WENDY CHRISTENSEN, Secretary

Phone: 603-878-4251 * Fax: 603-878-1000

256 Timbertop Road, New Ipswich, NH 03071

Email: wendy@wendycats.com

ALLENE TARTAGLIA, Treasurer

Phone: 732-977-1691 (C), 352-304-8531 (H)

9024 SW 91st Circle, Ocala, FL 34481

Email: ATartaglia1@cfl.rr.com

Council of Directors

Class of 2013

Jane Brunt, DVM

Andrea Dorn

JaneA Kelley

Class of 2012

Lyn Garson

Ramona Marek

Clea Simon

Co-Founder/Lifetime Director

Amy D. Shojai, CABC

Immediate-Past President

Amy D. Shojai, CABC

MEOW Editor Emeritus

Betsy Stowe

Newsletter Editor

KAREN PAYNE

Phone 305-665-1639 * Fax: 305-665-1639

P.O. Box 430784, Miami, FL 33243-0784

Email: karen90@attglobal.net

Webmistress

KAREN LAWRENCE

Phone: 905-934-5726 * Fax: 905-934-1661

P.O. Box 573, Lewiston, NY 14092-0573

Email: kml@cfa.org

***The CWA Cat Clowder is Waiting to Greet You
at the Annual CWA Writers' Conference!***

Thank You to Our Dedicated 2012 Contest Judges!

By Nancy Marano, CWA Contest Chair



judge in this year's contest. To maintain fairness, we are simply listing the members in alphabetical order and not by category.

Special paws up to Sally Bahner, B.J. Bangs, Sue

Bulanda, Jane Calloway, Wendy Christensen, Christine Church, Jane Denny, Andrea Dorn, Pune Dracker, Toni Eames, Susan Easterly, Mike Friese, Lyn Garson, Janiss Garza, Paul Glassner, Barbara Florio Graham, Heike Hagenguth, Linda Kay Hardie, Dena Harris, Catherine Holm, Lorie Huston, Helen Jablonski, Bernadette Kazmarski, JaneA Kelley, Ingrid King, and Marci Kladnik.



Photos © Nancy Marano

Nancy's 1-year-old helpers Callie and Max were efficient and indispensable supervisors. Without them, Nancy could not have carried out her task!

LOTS of purrs and furry applause for this year's judges! The contest committee for the 2012 Cat Writers' Association Communication Contest is thrilled that so many of you – 70 CWA members in all – volunteered to judge this year. Due to such a great turnout of volunteers, no one needed to judge more than two categories. My mailbox and email inbox filled up quickly with completed scoring sheets. Many thanks to those of you who returned your score sheets early.

By the end of September, the contest committee had calculated and recalculated all the scores to identify the entrants who earned Certificates of Excellence (averaging 90 points or more on a 100-point scale) and the "top cats" (the Muse Medallion™ winners) in each of the regular categories. Our goal is to send out Certificates of Excellence to qualifying contest entries by the end of October. Names of the Muse Medallion™ winners are kept secret until they are revealed at the awards ceremony – the feline writers' version of the Oscars – on Nov. 3 in Los Angeles, California, at the CWA conference.

We salute the following members who volunteered to

for Marion Lane, Anne Leighton, Kristen Levine, Susan Logan, John McGonagle, Priscilla Maltbie, Ramona Marek, Sharon Melnyk, Lynn Miller, Mary Anne Miller, Samantha Mittlemeier, Linda Mohr, Arden Moore, Cimeron Morrissey, Jacqueline Munera, Shirley Rousseau Murphy, Anthony Nichols, Robin Olson, Karen Payne, and Nancy Peterson.

And, three meows for Dusty Rainbolt, Sandy Robins, Mary Shafer, Fran Pennock Shaw, Amy Shojai, Peg Silloway, Raven Simons, Gregory M. Simpson, Betty Sleep, Betsy Stowe, Barbara Stretton, Debbie Swanson, Franny Syufy, Lynn Thompson, Sandra Toney, Kim Thornton, Val Veltre, Bob Walker, Saul Weber, Michelle West, Layla Morgan Wilde, Deborah Wolfe, and Elissa Wolfson.

Good luck to all the entrants and lots of paw clapping for all the judges! ♥

Also, high fives



Quarterly Quote

Ignorant people think it is the noise which fighting cats make that is so aggravating, but it ain't so; it is the sickening grammar that they use.

— Mark Twain



2012 CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

By Nancy Marano, CWA Contest Chair



The following members will be awarded one or more Certificates of Excellence
in the 2012 CWA Communications Contest.

This means they averaged a score by the judges of 90 or better out of 100.

The winners of the Muse Medallions™ will be announced from this list on November 3, 2012,
at the 19th Annual CWA Awards Banquet in Los Angeles, California.

Eve Adamson
Jeanne Adlon
Carrie Allan
Sally Bahner
Angie Bailey
Monique Balas
Deborah Barnes
Doug Bolton
Susan Bulanda
Arna Cohen
Christine Church
Christine Davis
Jane Denny
Andrea Dorn
Carole Nelson Douglas
Lisa Fleming
Lyn Garson
Janiss Garza
Lauri Henry
Catherine Holm
Newton Holt

Helen Jablonski
Carolyn Jimenez
Bernadette Kazmarski
JaneA Kelley
Ingrid King
Marc Kladnik
Mary Kolencik
Brad Kollus
Marilyn Krieger
Kristen Levine
Susan Logan
Tony LoPresti
Lyn McConchie
Brigitte McMinn
Priscilla Maltbie
Ramona Marek
Cecelia Martinez
Joan Miller
Elaine Wexler-Mitchell
Arden Moore
Melanie Morgan

Cimeron Morrissey
Maryann Mott
Jacqueline Munera
Shirley Rousseau Murphy
Anthony Nichols
Allia Zobel Nolan
Robin Olson
Lisa Padilla
Karen Payne
Nancy Peterson
Allie Phillips
Stephanie Piro
Arnold Plotnick
Dusty Rainbolt
Dian Curtis Regan
Kylie Riser
Stacey Ritz
Sandy Robins
Joanne Rocklin
Anne Segrest
Fran Pennock Shaw

Amy Shojai
Betsy Stowe
Barbara Stretton
Debbie Swanson
Rebecca Sweat
Lynn Maria Thompson
Mary Turzillo
Val Veltre
Nancy White
Layla Morgan Wilde
Wendy Bedwell-Wilson
Elissa Wolfson

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ ADDITIONAL ★
★ INFORMATION on ★
★ Certificate winners ★
★ has been posted ★
★ on CWA's web site, ★
★ www.catwriters.org. ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



I REALIZED UPON AWAKENING
THAT I WAS BEING USED AS A FORT.

© Bernadette E. Kazmarski

It's Time to Renew Your CWA Membership!

By CWA Secretary Wendy Christensen

If you want to remain a CWA member, and be listed in the 2013 Member Directory, you **MUST** pay your membership renewal fee (\$30.00) by December 31, 2012.

You can renew your membership online, right on the CWA web site, via PayPal. It's quick, easy, and secure. You can pay with funds from your own PayPal account, or use a credit card (VISA, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express).



Go to www.catwriters.org.

Scroll down to "Membership Information".

Click on "Membership Renewal Form".

Scroll down to the "RENEWAL" section.

For "Please select an option," choose "Renewal Fee \$30.00".

Click on the yellow "Pay Now" bubble.

You'll be transferred to a secure PayPal site —

Fill in your billing information, credit card info, etc., or log into your own PayPal account to pay.

Continue to follow the instructions to complete your payment.

That's all there is to it!



If you'd like to renew the old-fashioned way, send your check for \$30.00 (in U.S. funds), payable to the CWA, to the CWA Treasurer:

Allene Tartaglia, CWA Treasurer
9024 SW 91st Circle
Ocala, FL 34481

Remember, the deadline for dues payment is December 31, 2012.

Soon, the CWA Secretary will be emailing each of you a copy of the information CWA currently has on file for you. You can then verify or correct it, all via email. (No forms to fill out!) This information will be listed in the 2013 CWA Member Directory.

CWA membership continues to be a real bargain. Why not renew right now, while you're thinking about it? ♥

CWA Officers Slate for 2013

By CWA's Nominating Committee Chair Ramona Marek

The 2012 CWA Nominating Committee proudly announces the following slate of officers:

President – Susan M. Ewing

Vice President – Dusty Rainbolt

Secretary – JaneA Kelley

Treasurer – Allene Tartaglia

**Council of Directors (four open seats) – Joan Miller, Allia Zobel Nolan,
Angie Bailey, and Robin Olson**



Executive officers are elected annually. Council members hold two-year terms. Because JaneA Kelley accepted the nomination for Secretary, leaving her Council seat vacant for the remaining period of one year, the committee had the option to appoint a person to fill the vacancy or select someone for a full two-year term. Since we had a tremendous outpouring of interest, we chose to select a fourth seat in the Class of 2014 for a full two-year term.

According to the CWA Bylaws, once the slate is published, officers are elected at the next annual membership meeting – this year it will be November 3, 2012, at the CWA Conference in Los Angeles, Calif. Only professional members may vote, and they may vote prior to the meeting by mail if they wish. However, when the election is uncontested, no ballots are mailed. A majority of the members present and voting at the annual meeting can conduct business, including the election.

A more detailed explanation of CWA's nominations and elections guidelines is posted on our web site at <http://www.catwriters.org/08nominating-guidelines.pdf>.

This year's Nominating Committee was Ramona Marek (chair), Fran Pennock Shaw, Nancy Peterson, and Lyn Garson. We thank the large record-breaking and outstanding pool of candidates and sincerely hope to see similar positive interest for leadership positions next year. ♥

Meet Your CWA Officers, Council & Nominees



Su and her Corgi Gael

Susan M. Ewing, CWA President

Su Ewing has previously served as the treasurer of CWA and was president for two years before stepping in this year to finish Linda Hardie's term. She writes a bi-weekly pet column for *The Post-Journal* of Jamestown, N.Y., and has written for many national cat and dog publications. She is a member of the American Society of Journalists and Authors and the Dog Writers Association of America, as well as CWA. Her cat flash cards, *Cats! Train Your Owner!* won a CWA Muse Medallion™ and the coveted CWA President's Award. She lives in Jamestown, N.Y., with her husband, Jim, and two Corgis, Rhiannon and Gael.

Dusty Rainbolt, CWA Vice President

Dusty Rainbolt, ACCBC, is vice president of the Cat Writers' Association and editor-in-chief of AdoptAShelter.com, as well as a member of International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants. She's the author of *Cat Wrangling Made Easy*, *Kittens for Dummies*, and several science fiction and fantasy novels. Her new novel, *Death Under the Crescent Moon* (Yard Dog Press), will be out in January 2013. Her anthology, which features some stories written by other CWA members, will be released in an e-format by Sky Warrior Books.



Dusty with Kiki

JaneA Kelley, CWA Secretary Nominee CWA Council Member, Class of 2013

JaneA Kelley is the webmaster and chief cat slave of *Paws and Effect*, a blog by cats, for cats and their people, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2013. She is also the news editor at www.catster.com, and by day she works as a communications officer for a nonprofit organization, where she specializes in social media and web content management. She lives in southern Maine and hopes to migrate to Seattle within the next few years.

JaneA and cat Thomas



Amy Shojai, CWA Co-Founder & Lifetime Director

Amy Shojai has been reinventing herself for years. She's a certified animal behavior consultant, and the award-winning author of 24 best selling pet books that cover furry babies to old-fogies, first aid to natural healing, and behavior/training to Chicken Soup-icity. She is the Puppies Guide at puppies.About.com, the cat behavior expert at cats.About.com, and host of the weekly half-hour Internet Pet Peeves radio show. Amy has been featured as an expert in hundreds of print venues including *The New York Times*, *Reader's Digest*, and *Family Circle*, as well as national radio and television networks such as CNN and Animal Planet's *DOGS 101* and *CATS 101*. She's been a consultant to the pet products industry and a host/program consultant for select "furry" TV projects. Amy brings her unique pet-centric viewpoint to public appearances, writer conferences, keynotes/seminars, and Thrillers With Bite! Her latest publication is a just-released thriller, *Lost and Found*.



Amy with Magic and Serenlores

Wendy Christensen, CWA Secretary, is an award-winning writer, artist, and illustrator; painter of cat portraits, cat behavior consultant, and pet columnist; and she's the author of *Outwitting Cats* and other books. She focuses on the social life, culture, and behavior of cats living in groups with humans; understanding feline behavior; and creative environmental enrichment for indoor cats. Her designs and illustrations have graced the CWA Conference Brochure for many years. She is a Founding Member of CWA. Wendy also designs unique cat jewelry and paints cat portraits. She shares her home on New Hampshire's Bobcat Mountain with 10 cats, all former shelter kittens. Her jewelry is available at <http://http://www.etsy.com/people/wendycats>.

Allene Tartaglia, CWA Treasurer, is an editor affiliated with the Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.

They are the cat's meow!

These are the current & future leaders of CWA. Join them!

Angie Bailey, Council Member Nominee, Class of 2014

"I write an award-winning cat humor blog called *Catladyland* and a monthly feline wisdom column in a local paper, and I am excited for my first book, scheduled for a fall 2013 release. I'm also a new screenwriter and recently co-founded a small production company. In addition to writing, my background includes corporate training, public speaking, volunteer coordinating, theatre, and small-scale event planning. I've always shared my home with cats and, even as a little girl, concocted silly stories about shenanigans in their "secret kitty lives." Not much has changed; I'm just older now and have access to technology. I share my Minnesota home with two human children, three furry kids, and one very patient husband who never, ever, ever tires of looking at my 783,849,839 cat pictures."



Angie and Phoebe



Joan and "Ice" © Linda Martino

An Oriental Shorthair owned by Dee Dee and Bryan Cantley, "Ice" was a CFA Grand Premier and top award-winning cat in the CFA Southwest Region. Following his show career he became one of the first San Diego Cat Fanciers "pet me" cats at the Club's Annual Cat Show in Del Mar, Calif.

Robin A.F. Olson, Council Member Nominee, Class of 2014

Robin A.F. Olson may be known for her award-winning blog, *Covered in Cat Hair*, but she's also an art director and copywriter with over 25 years experience in advertising and promotions. Olson is a self-confessed geek, having dived into the social media realm before it even had a name. She started one of the first online "chat" rooms on AOL, which ran from 1993 to 1998 and has been community building online ever since. In 2010, Olson turned her love for cats into the nonprofit rescue group Kitten Associates. In her free time Olson is a spotter for the National Weather Service and likes to do improv comedy.



Robin with one of her fur babies

Joan Miller, Council Member Nominee, Class of 2014

"Cat Writers Association members have a special opportunity to influence people's perception of cats. As cats are better understood they will be appreciated and valued. I look forward to working with the CWA to help build awareness of the organization among veterinarians, the general public, the pet industry, lawmakers, and the media.

"My background includes a broad variety of cat-related activities, all beginning with acquiring my first two pet kittens in 1969. Subsequently I raised and showed Abyssinian cats, leading to my love of pedigreed cat breeds and the pleasure of being a CFA Allbreed judge. I was an elected member of the Cat Fanciers' Association Board of Directors for 25 years, including 4 years as CFA Vice President; and I was President of the Winn Feline Foundation for 16 years; Chair of the University of California Center for Companion Animal Health External Advisory Board; and a

member of the Cornell Feline Health Center Advisory Board. Over more than 20 years I have also been involved in shelter issues. I make presentations at conferences and shelters to help train staff and volunteers about the basic nature of cats and proper handling of cats to enhance adoption. I actively oppose legislation detrimental to pet ownership or the conscientious breeding of pedigreed cats. As the CFA Legislative Information Liaison, I write articles and advocate on behalf of ALL cats – pedigreed, random bred, and feral/community cats.

"In addition to writing regular articles for *CatTalk Magazine* and the CFA e-Newsletter, I present educational programs at conferences, cat shows, and Pet Expos and have provided scripting for several video productions. Topics include the origins of domestic cats and breed development, the basic nature of cats, responsible pet ownership, feline color/pattern genetics, multi-cat environments, pedigreed cat breeding strategies for health, cattery management, handling shelter cats, and feral cat issues."

Allia Zobel Nolan, Council Member Nominee, Class of 2014

"I've been a CWA member for 16 years; Mordecai Siegel suggested I join the Cat Writers' Association when I interviewed him for a story in a children's magazine. He said CWA was the greatest. And I've found he wasn't lying. This Association has supported my books and my writing, helped me form dozens of close friendships, provided encouragement when things weren't so good, and shared in my joy when things were going great. The camaraderie is super – there is nothing like discussing the ups and downs of writing with people who actually write for a living (or try to anyway), people who are in your same field and are passionate about the things you are passionate about. And, while the cats are great to talk to, it is especially wonderful to have online friends you can interact with on a daily basis, who can keep you from going stir crazy as you sit in front of the big screen waiting for inspiration. I can't say enough about this organization. It's awesome."



Allia in a rare photo without one of her cats!

(continued)

You, too, can be a leader of CWA. Volunteer!

Jane Brunt, DVM, Council Member, Class of 2013

Jane Brunt, DVM, Executive Director of the CATalyst Council, Inc., graduated from Kansas State University with the intent of pursuing an “*All Creatures Great and Small*” career.” Over the next five years her interests transitioned from farm to feline, and she started the first feline-exclusive veterinary practice in Maryland, Cat Hospital At Towson or “CHAT” (the French word for cat). Today, four veterinarians and others on the CHAT team continue to provide great care for cats and clients alike. Throughout her career, Dr. Brunt has served in leadership roles for many local, state, and national organizations, and in 2008 she began serving as executive director of CATalyst Council, a nonprofit coalition of veterinary organizations, shelter professionals, commercial groups, members of the media, and other stakeholders. The CATalyst mission is “to ensure that all cats are valued and cared for as pets,” and the Council has developed many user-friendly resources and cat-friendly opportunities. She continues to focus on felines and find ways to help more cats receive the care they need and deserve. For more information, visit <http://catdoc.com> and <http://catalystcouncil.org>.



Jane with a kitty friend



Ramona

Ramona D. Marek, Council Member, Class of 2012; CWA Nominating Committee Chair

Ramona D. Marek is an award-winning freelance writer and former special education teacher who holds a Master of Education degree. For 20 years, she taught special needs students ranging in age from 18 months to 20 years in public and private schools.

A life-long animal lover, Ramona grew up with dogs, cats, a rabbit, and an iguana as family pets and actively rescued stray dogs and cats and also birds, squirrels, turtles, and rabbits that followed her home. When she was not rescuing animals, Ramona was busy writing and as a child, she and her mother often sat on the front porch creating stories together.

Ramona writes about various topics and rigorous research is her trademark. Freelance writing allows her to bring together her passions in life: animals, reading, writing, travel, music, and dance. She finds inspiration in her two feline muses, Tsarevich Ivan, a pedigreed Siberian, and Natasha Fatale, a full-time diva adopted from the local shelter.

Andrea Dorn, Council Member, Class of 2013

Andrea Dorn started her writing career with a neighborhood “newspaper” at the tender age of 8. She later widened her horizons by writing articles for national magazines such as *Veterinary Technician*, *Cats*, *Cat Fancy*, *Just Labs*, *Our Iowa*, *Cats USA*, and the *Cat Fancier's Almanac*. She has also written for newspapers such as *The Ames Tribune*, *The Des Moines Register*, and *The Nevada Journal*. Her personal life is run by the many felines who own her home and tolerate the only dog in the family. She is also a CFA Feline Agility Ringmaster, Feline Agility Coordinator for the CFA Midwest Region, and member of the CWA (since 1998), the Hawkeye State Cat Club (CFA), and the Cat ‘n’ Around Cat Club (ACFA).

Clea Simon, Outgoing Council Member, Class of 2012, is an award-winning journalist and author of cat mystery stories. A recipient of the prestigious CWA President’s Award, she has penned the Theda Krakow and Dulcie Schwartz mysteries and now, the Pru Marlowe pet noir mysteries. Her books have received rave reviews in national and pet media.

Lyn Garson, Outgoing Council Member, Class of 2012, is a writer, photographer, Certified Veterinary Technician, and specialist in animal health and special-needs pets. She serves on the National Veterinary Response Team (NVRT-1), Veterinary Medical Assistance Team (VMAT-1).



SINCEREST THANKS TO OUR 2012 CWA SPONSORS!

FOUNDING SPONSOR

Nestlé-Purina PetCare Company

CROWN JEWEL SPONSOR

Hartz Mountain Corporation

DIAMOND SPONSOR

Nestlé-Purina PetCare Company

PLATINUM SPONSORS

ASPCA, PetFinder.com, Premier Pet Products

GOLD SPONSORS

Cat Fanciers' Association	Pioneer Pet Products™/Sticky Paws®
Central Garden & Pet/Comfort Zone® with Feliway®	Premier Pet Products®
CEVA Animal Health	Sergeant's Pet Care Products, Inc.
Dog Writers Association of America	

SILVER SPONSORS

Cornell Feline Health Center	Amy D. Shojai
Jacat Cattery	Sturdi Products
PETCO Foundation	The International Cat Association (TICA)
Precious Cat, Inc.	World's Best Cat Litter®
Sherpa Pet Group	

BRONZE SPONSOR

Pet Sitters International

2012 AWARDS and/or CONFERENCE SPONSORS

ASPCA (<i>Friday evening reception, Saturday lunch</i>)	PETCO Foundation (<i>general sponsor</i>)
Cat Fanciers' Association (<i>President's Award, general sponsor</i>)	Petfinder.com (<i>general sponsor</i>)
Central Garden & Pet/Comfort Zone® with Feliway® (<i>Membership Bounty; co-sponsor, Friday night dinner</i>)	Pet Sitters International (<i>networking sponsor</i>)
CEVA Animal Health (<i>award</i>)	Pioneer Pet Products™/Sticky Paws® (<i>award, general sponsor</i>)
Cornell Feline Health Center (<i>award</i>)	Precious Cat, Inc. (<i>general sponsor</i>)
Dog Writers Association of America (<i>general sponsor</i>)	Premier Pet Products® (<i>Scholarship, general sponsor</i>)
Hartz Mountain Corporation (<i>3 awards, Saturday breakfast, Saturday evening reception, general sponsor</i>)	Sergeant's Pet Care Products, Inc. (<i>general sponsor</i>)
Jacat Cattery (<i>award</i>)	Sherpa Pet Group (<i>general sponsor</i>)
Nestlé-Purina PetCare Company (<i>Awards Banquet, 7 awards</i>)	Amy D. Shojai (<i>award</i>)
	Sturdi Products (<i>neck wallets, pens, general sponsor</i>)
	The International Cat Association (TICA) (<i>award</i>)
	World's Best Cat Litter® (<i>award, general sponsor</i>)

2012 CWA Conference Details – Be There!

**The Time is Now:
Register for CWA's Conference!!!!**

**Join All the Cool
Cats at the CWA
Conference!**

You can register online at

<http://www.catwriters.org/annual-info.html#registration>.

You can also register by mail; send your registration form (you can find it at <http://www.catwriters.org/12conference-registration.pdf>) to Sharon Melynk, P.O. Box 9339, Berkeley, CA 94709.

News Flash!

Announcing an Early Early-Bird Sponsor for 2013 and a New Special Award!

I'm happy to announce a really early "early bird" sponsor. As many of you know, when Sticky Paws® was sold Chris Ruben started AdoptAShelter.com. Chris has always been a huge CWA supporter, and I'm happy to announce that AdoptAShelter has signed on as a sponsor for 2013. They will be sponsoring a writing award, as well as contributing to the general conference fund.

This is an award for online entries only, so all you bloggers, sharpen your claws and get ready to produce some winning entries.

Here's the full description: The ADOPTASHELTER.COM ADOPT A HOMELESS CAT AWARD, sponsored by AdoptAShelter.com, is presented to the entry that best describes the plight of homeless cats, the joy of cat adoption, and/or improving the quality of life of cats in a shelter environment. Entries will be judged for quality as well as the ability to persuade the reader. Qualified **online only** entries include single articles, features, columns, series of articles, short stories, websites, blogs, videos, photos, or any other accepted online venue. The award consists of \$500, a commemorative item, and inclusion in the AdoptAShelter.com online library.

— CWA President Susan M. Ewing

Volunteers Needed

Angie Holland Bailey is coordinating volunteers to introduce speakers at the conference. Contact her right away at catladyland@gmail.com.

Fun Awaits at the Book Sale & Autograph Party

Saturday afternoon, November 3, from 2:30-4 p.m., there will be a chance for conference attendees to sign and sell their books, calendars, and greeting cards. Tables and chairs will be provided, but it is up to you to get your merchandise to the hotel and to have your own money supply for making change.

More 2012 CWA Conference Details

ATTENTION: Non-attending Book Authors Information

Janiss Garza has volunteered to accept material from non-attending authors.

If you are a member of CWA and will not be able to attend the conference, but would like some materials to be on display at the conference (press release, bookmarks, book covers – anything flat), please send your items to Janiss Garza, 5328 Mt. Royal Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90041.

The deadline is October 24, and you may send up to 50 of any one item.

Recruit New Members for a Chance to Win the \$500 Membership Bounty Prize

Central Garden & Pet/Comfort Zone® with Feliway® graciously offers a \$500 Membership Bounty Prize, awarded each year to the CWA member who sponsors the most new members.

It's not too late!

Sign up lots of new members before the upcoming conference, and you may win the generous \$500 Bounty check. Help yourself and CWA!

Calling All CWA “Kittens” & Cats: JOIN THE CWA CLOWDER FOR TNT TIME!

By CWA President Susan M. Ewing

The Thursday Night Team will meet Thursday night at 7 p.m. in Wilshire A & B on the second floor of our conference hotel. The TNT gathering was started by former CWA President Nancy Peterson as a way to get goody bags stuffed quickly and efficiently. In those days, not everyone got a bag; names were drawn during the conference and the lucky winners got to take home some treasures. Now, thanks to Nancy's ceaseless efforts to gather donations, everyone registered for the conference gets a bag. The first gatherings were held in Nancy's hotel room, but they have expanded considerably since then; and now, close to 40 conference attendees meet each year to stuff bags and then enjoy some social time over snacks and beverages. It's a favorite activity for our CWA Kittens (conference newbies).

If you'd like to be part of the TNT festivities, please contact Su Ewing at dogwriter@windstream.net.

Premier Pet Scholarship Drawing

Hurry! There's still time to get your name in for the drawing for next year's Premier Scholarship. This scholarship is a \$500 stipend to help the winner attend a CWA conference; the money is always presented the winner at the next year's conference. So, if your name is drawn at the 2012 conference, you will receive your check at the 2013 conference.

Just put “Premier” in the subject line and send your name and member ID number to Barbara Florio Graham at BFG@SimonTeakettle.com, or mail it to her at 535 Charles-Desnoyers, Gatineau, QC, Canada J8P 3X4. **She must have your entry by October 12.**

Make Your Editor & Agent Appointments Now!

By Heike Hagenguth, CWA's E&A Appointments Coordinator

NOW is the time to make your agent/editor appointments for the upcoming CWA conference in Los Angeles, Calif. The one-on-one appointments will be held on November 2 and November 3 according to the availability of agents and editors. **All requests must be made by October 20, 2012.**

CWA Agent/Editor Appointments Coordinator Heike Hagenguth is making appointments now; contact her with your requests at worddesign@usa.net.

The venue will be the conference hotel, location TBA; and you will be informed of the exact meeting place and time. The deadline for requests is October 20, 2012. The final schedule will be sent to all attendees on October 25 and may be updated afterwards only at the request of agents/editors. Kindly read the guidelines below.

- (1) This offer is valid for CWA members who have paid their 2012 dues and full conference registration fees, and for guests who have paid full conference registration fees. All fees must be paid prior to booking the appointments.
- (2) The maximum possible number of appointments is **three**. The duration of each one-on-one appointment is 15 minutes. You are kindly requested to rank by priority. Clearly identify agents/editors by name as it is not the role of the coordinator to assume and make matches. Please visit <http://www.catwriters.org/annual-info.html#appointments> for updates on attending agents and editors. Updates will also be published by email via the ProList and on CWA's Facebook group. You can also email worddesign@usa.net for an updated list.
- (3) You may request additional appointments at a later time should you now wish to request fewer than three appointments or if any agent/editor cancels his or her attendance.
- (4) You are responsible to advise the coordinator in advance – as early as possible – in case you are involved in other activities and cannot be scheduled for appointments at certain times.
- (5) You are responsible to meet your appointments on time; agents/editors are not committed to reschedule your appointments if missed.
- (6) You can request your appointments by email to coordinator Heike Hagenguth worddesign@usa.net.
- (7) Kindly inform the coordinator as early as possible should you need to cancel your appointments.
- (8) In case of any editor/agent canceling his/her attendance, you will be notified by a general email directed to the list.
- (9) Requests for appointments will be disregarded after the deadline, which is October 20, 2012.
- (10) Please note that your requests and questions are welcome and will be attended to as early as possible; however, they cannot always be answered immediately due to geographic location/time zone (Cairo/Egypt) and work situation of the coordinator. Please refrain from requesting your agenda before its official publication date on October 25, 2012.

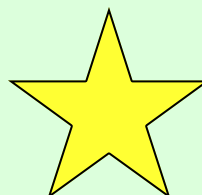
- (11) The list of participating editors, publishers, and agents will be updated continually as our invitations are accepted. Remember, appointments will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis, and all requests must be made by October 20.

POUNCE
On this great opportunity
to meet with
top-flight editors
& agents!

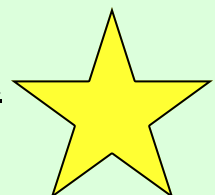
Available Agents/Editors as of September 3, 2012

- Susan Logan, *Cat Fancy* Editor, Bowtie
- Annie Shirreffs, *Cat Fancy* Managing Editor, Bowtie
- Anastasia Thrift, CatChannel.com Managing Web Editor, Bowtie
- Ernie Slone, *Dog Fancy* Editor, Bowtie
- Melissa Kauffman, Internet Editorial Director, Bowtie
- Georgia Hughes, Editorial Director, New World Library
- Lonnie Hull DuPont, Executive Editor, Revell, a division of Baker Publishing Group
- Ellen Price, Editor, *Pet Sitter's WORLD*
- Paul S. Levine, Agent, Paul S. Levine Literary Agency
- Katharine Sands, Literary Agent, Sarah Jane Freymann Literary Agency (schedule permitting)

Deadline for requests: October 20



**Meet the
Editors &
Agents!**



Cat Writers' Association 19th Annual Conference

Seminar Schedule

Join Us for CWA's 20th Anniversary Celebration in Los Angeles!

Friday, November 2, 2012

7:00-8:30 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:30-9:00 a.m. Announcements

By-Appointment Editor/Agent Appointments

9:00-9:50 a.m. Is Self-Publishing For You?: 12 Things You Should Know about Self-Publishing before Getting Involved

Hundreds of thousands of people write books each year, and most of them opt to (or are forced to) use self-publishing companies. What do these companies offer? Are they reliable? What can you expect from them? How do you choose the right one? How can you tell when you're being scammed? What is the author's responsibility when they sign with one of these companies? **Patricia Fry** will teach you how to be more proactive on behalf of your book project and avoid going with the wrong self-publishing company. She takes the mystery out of the self-publishing phenomenon and gives you the information and tools you need in order to make better choices.

PATRICIA FRY is a career writer, speaker, teacher, editor, and the author of 31 books.; see www.matilijapress.com. She is also the executive director of SPAWN (Small Publishers, Artists and Writers Network), www.spawn.org

9:00-9:50 a.m. Ten Things I've Learned from My Cats about Writing Children's Books: Writing for Children, Tweens, and Teens

LEE WARDLAW is the award-winning author of almost 30 books for young readers, including *Won Ton – A Cat Tale Told in Haiku* (Holt), winner of the 2011 CWA Muse Medallion®, the Fancy Feast® Love Story Award sponsored by the Nestlé-Purina PetCare Company, and the 2012 Lee Bennett Hopkins Children's Poetry Award.

10:00-10:50 a.m. WordPress 101

You can make your website look like a million bucks – and maintain it yourself – with this powerful, free, and easy-to-use tool.

JaneA Kelley provides a guided tour through the WordPress content management system and teaches key add-ons that will make your life as a webmaster a lot easier.

JANEA KELLEY has been building websites since the late 1990s. She is the webmaster and chief cat slave for *Paws and Effect*, an advice site “by cats, for cats and their people,” and the editor of *Catster's Kitty News Network* blog.

10:00-10:50 a.m. Herding Cats: Taming Your Creative Brain

Do you find your brain running in circles so you can't sit down and get to work? Do you have so many ideas you can't get started on any of them? Are you trying to do so many things at once that you can't focus on what's important to you? Here's help! This hands-on workshop will teach you how to tame your creativity by understanding your unique thinking style.

BARBARA STRETTON, author of the Tori Trotter cat mystery series, is an instructor with the Institute of Children's Literature. She is trained in the Herrmann Brain Dominance Instrument (HBDI).

11:00-11:50 a.m. WordPress 102

JaneA Kelley leads you through more advanced WordPress applications.

JANEA KELLEY has been building websites since the late 1990s. She is the webmaster and chief cat slave for *Paws and Effect*, an advice site “by cats, for cats and their people,” and the editor of *Catster's Kitty News Network* blog.

11:00-11:50 a.m. Writing for the Inspirational Market

What does the inspirational market mean exactly and how can you write and sell to it – in particular when you write about cats? A book editor who has been in the inspirational books market for nearly 30 years shares thoughts and tips for publishing to this market.

LONNIE HULL DUPONT is an acquisitions editor for the Revell division of Baker Publishing Group and the writer of many animal stories, some of them published under the pseudonym of Callie Smith Grant.

11:50 a.m.-1:40 p.m. LUNCH – on your own

1:40-2:30 p.m. Fiction vs. Nonfiction Book Proposals and Queries: Are There Really Differences?

You have only one opportunity to make a good first impression. Learn what you need to know before you approach that editor or agent with the next *New York Times* Best Seller.

LOREN R. GROSSMAN is a literary agent for the Paul S. Levine Literary Agency.

(continued)

CWA 19th Annual Conference Seminar Schedule *(continued)*

Join Us for CWA's 20th Anniversary Celebration in Los Angeles!

GEORGIA HUGHES is the editorial director at New World Library.

PAUL S. LEVINE is a lawyer and a literary agent at Paul S. Levine Literary Agency.

1:40-2:30 p.m. Recycling Ideas and Articles (An Informal Workshop)

Learn how to make your work pay in this interactive, yet informal workshop. **Sandy Robins** gives you the know-how to take a topic, rewrite it, and resell it to different markets.

SANDY ROBINS is an award-winning multi-media pet lifestyle expert and author. Her award-winning work is very visible on many of the country's leading pet platforms such as MSNBC.com, TodayShow.com, and AOL's Pawnation. She is a regular contributor and columnist in national publications such as *Dog Fancy*, *Modern Dog*, and *Cat Fancy*.

2:40-3:30 p.m. Blogging for Beginners and Beyond: How to Build It, Brand It, Bring in Readers, and Become a Better Writer

Are you an author or a freelance writer with a niche? A blog will bring you more readers, strengthen your authority – and make you a better writer! Don't worry, you do not have to be a techie. **Janiss Garza** shows you what you need to know about working with the most popular blogging platforms, creating an "editorial calendar," branding, and bringing traffic to your blog, and she offers loads of handy tips!

JANISS GARZA is an award-winning author, photographer, editor, and speaker who began her career in 1986. She has earned Muse Medallions® for her cat writing and photography and for her blog, *Sparkle the Designer Cat*, written through the eyes of her Somali, Sparkle.

2:40-3:30 p.m. What Editors Wish You Knew (Panel)

Writers make query and writing errors that drive editors crazy. Find out what mistakes raise the hackles on editors' backs and how to avoid them.

SUSAN LOGAN is the editor of *Cat Fancy*.

ELLEN PRICE is the editor of *Pet Sitters WORLD*.

ANNIE B. SHIRREFFS is the managing editor of *Cat Fancy*.

ERNIE SLONE is the editor of *Dog Fancy*.

JANE BRUNT is a feline veterinarian and the executive director of CATalyst Council.

3:40-4:30 p.m. Using Social Media to Maximize Your Publicity (Panel)

These experts will share their knowledge about the latest social networking tools, plus ideas for increasing readership, advocating, and awareness with your Facebook page. Explore ways pet writers can benefit from strategic posting, tools for measuring results, and ways to make your posts stand out.

JANISS GARZA is an award-winning author, photographer, editor, and speaker.

JANE HARRELL manages editorial and social media marketing for Petfinder.com.

JANEA KELLEY is the webmaster and chief cat slave for *Paws and Effect*.

ANASTASIA THRIFT is the managing web editor at Bowtie Press.

3:40-4:30 p.m. Surefire Feature Writing

Paul Glassner provides a winning template (outline) you can easily apply to any feature story. He'll show how to do it (and how well it works). You'll have an opportunity to see lots of good and bad examples.

PAUL GLASSNER earned nearly 150 awards, including a bagful of Muse Medallions™, during 25 years as editor of the San Francisco SPCA's magazine. He is the past editor of *Our Animals Magazine* and an award-winning photographer.

4:40-5:30 p.m. Transitioning to Web Writing (Panel)

Learn about search engine optimization, keeping it short and simple, and a wealth of other must-know Internet secrets.

MELISSA KAUFFMAN is the website editorial director for BowTie, Inc.'s websites.

JANISS GARZA is an award-winning author, photographer, editor, and speaker.

ELLEN PRICE is the editor of *Pet Sitters WORLD*.

ERNIE SLONE is the editor of *Dog Fancy*.

4:40-5:30 p.m. Media Training: How to Succeed When You're on the Other Side of the Interview

A great interview requires knowledge and finesse. Animal Planet's **Karen "Doc" Halligan** provides suggestions for when the tables are turned and the interviewer becomes the interviewee. Role playing and exercises help you practice the skills you learn in this session.

KAREN "DOC" HALLIGAN is the author of the award-winning book *Doc Halligan's What Every Pet Owner Should Know: Prescriptions for Happy, Healthy Cats and Dogs* (HarperCollins, 2007) and has authored numerous articles for *PARADE* magazine.

CWA 19th Annual Conference Seminar Schedule (continued)

Join Us for CWA's 20th Anniversary Celebration in Los Angeles!

and other media. She has appeared regularly on television on the *The Doctors*, *The Bonnie Hunt Show*, *Regis and Kelly*, the *Today* show, *The Morning Show with Mike and Juliet*, *iVillage Live*, *Dr. Drew's Lifechangers*, *The Insider*, *CBS This Morning*, *Fox & Friends*, *Dog Tales*, *Animal Rescue 911*, and *Extra TV*. On Animal Planet, she frequently appears on *Dogs 101*, *Cats 101*, and *America's Cutest Pet*.

6:30-10:00 p.m. Reception/Dinner/Entertainment

Meow-mories: Cat Writers' Association 20th Anniversary Celebration

For "kittens" and "nine-lifers" alike, it's time to celebrate the 20th anniversary of CWA. The evening includes a Powerpoint® presentation of photos through the years, with commentary by Founding CWA President **AMY SHOJAI** and special recognition of the Charter and Founding Members who gave birth to the organization and nurtured its early growth.

Saturday, November 3, 2012

8:00 a.m. Registration

8:00-9:30 a.m. Breakfast & Membership Meeting

By Appointment – Editor/Agent Appointments

9:40-10:30 a.m. Kindle & Electronic Publishing

Amy Shojai discusses her journey of bringing back out-of-print nonfiction books into an Ebook (Kindle) edition, the challenges involved, and the potential advantage. She also discusses other e-publishing formats and options.

AMY D. SHOJAI is a certified animal behavior consultant, co-founder of Cat Writers' Association, and author of 24 nonfiction pet books (including several "Kindle-ized" books).

9:40-10:30 a.m. Saving Lives and Changing Perceptions: Cat Behavior and Clicker Training for Writers

Myths and legends have been woven about cats ever since people started sharing their world with them. One of the most persistent and potentially lethal beliefs is that unwanted cat behaviors cannot be changed. Because of this, cats are surrendered to shelters and often euthanized for fixable behaviors problems. It is up to us as communicators/cat-writers to educate people with *facts* – to change these archaic and false beliefs. Cat behaviors can be changed, and cats can be easily trained. Clicker training along with management, environmental changes, and other force-free methods are very effective tools for changing behaviors and training cats. This talk will discuss how it works, focusing on a few unwanted behaviors. Marilyn Krieger and her Bengal cat friend will hold a live demonstration of clicker training in action. A list of cat behavior and clicker training resources will be provided to attendees. **MARILYN KRIEGER**, Certified Cat Behavior Consultant, owner of The Cat Coach, LLC® and thecatcoach.com, solves cat behavior problems through on-site and phone consultations. Her award-winning book, *Naughty No More!* focuses on changing unwanted cat behaviors through environmental management and other force-free methods. Marilyn writes the monthly behavior columns for *Cat Fancy Magazine* and the weekly behavior columns for catchannel.com. She also is a member of the advisory board of NBC's Petside.com. In addition to consulting and writing, Marilyn teaches classes and lectures nationally on cat behavior and frequently guests on television and radio programs.

10:30-11:20 a.m. Going Multi-Media – Me-WOW!

Communicating accurate feline info isn't restricted to the printed pages in magazines. Arden Moore will share ways to make a living by landing deals on websites, radio, TV, and being hired as a media consultant and professional speaker. She will also demonstrate the value of teaming up with a spokescat with the help of Zeki, a former abused stray who happily travels as Arden's pet partner. In this social media world, it's all about re-invention, and Arden will show how to creatively think outside the (litter) box.

ARDEN MOORE, the founder of Four Legged Life.com and creator of National Dog Party Day, is an animal behavior consultant, best-selling author, professional speaker, and certified pet first aid instructor. Tune in to her *Oh Behave! Show* on Pet Life Radio, and visit www.fourleggedlife.com. **ZEKI** is Arden's partner and feline ambassador.

11:30a.m.-12:20 p.m. The Making of Cat Daddy; When the Prescriptive and the Memoir Collide

JACKSON GALAXY, star of Animal Planet's *My Cat From Hell*, shares the creative process behind his book *Cat Daddy; What The World's Most Incurable Cat Taught Me about Life, Love & Coming Clean*. Reflecting on their 14-year journey together, Jackson makes a promise to Benny (whom he semi-affectionately refers to as "the original cat from hell,") to tell the story of the immense behavioral, physical, and, yes, spiritual challenges that pushed Jackson to more fully embrace cat behavior as a career path. In the process, however, Benny threw Jackson one last curveball; in order to tell the cat's story, Jackson had to tell his own as well. Suddenly a book about applying Benny's lessons to all cats became an in-depth look at how two broken beings found and eventually healed one another.

(continued)

CWA 19th Annual Conference Seminar Schedule *(continued)*

Join Us for CWA's 20th Anniversary Celebration in Los Angeles!

JACKSON GALAXY is a cat behaviorist with more than 15 years of experience – and the host of Animal Planet's hit show *My Cat From Hell*. Galaxy specializes in helping individuals whose "out of control" cats are turning their lives and homes upside down.

12:30-1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30-2:00 p.m. Break

2:00-4:00 p.m. Autograph Party

5:30-6:30 p.m. Reception

6:30-10:00 p.m. Cat Writers' Association Awards Banquet / 20th Anniversary Celebration

PANELIST BIOS

JANE BRUNT, DVM, is a feline veterinarian and executive director of CATalyst Council, a communications platform providing evidence-based information to promote the value and care of cats in the United States.

JANE HARRELL is senior editor and manages editorial and social media marketing for Petfinder.com, the world's largest pet website. Jane uses her lifelong passion for animal welfare to connect the public with the perfect adoptable pet, and give families the resources to make their adoptions last a lifetime.

GEORGIA HUGHES is editorial director at New World Library, where she acquires and edits nonfiction books in the areas of spirituality, animals, personal growth, and sustainable business. Acquisitions include *Dogs and the Women Who Love Them* by Allen and Linda Anderson, *Guardians of Being* by Eckhart Tolle and Patrick McDonnell, and *Learning Their Language* by Marta Anderson.

MELISSA KAUFFMAN is an avid writer and pet enthusiast, and the website editorial director for BowTie Inc.'s 16 pet, animal, and agrarian websites.

PAUL S. LEVINE "wears two hats" – he is a lawyer (www.paulslevine.com) and a literary agent (www.paulslevinelit.com).

Paul has practiced entertainment law for over 30 years, specializing in the representation of writers, producers, actors, directors, composers, musicians, artists, authors, photographers, galleries, publishers, developers, production companies, and theatre companies in the fields of motion pictures, television, interactive multimedia, live stage, recorded music, concerts, the visual arts, publishing, and advertising. In 1998, Paul opened the Paul S. Levine Literary Agency, specializing in the representation of book authors and the sale of motion picture and television rights in and to books. Since starting his literary agency, he has sold over 100 adult, young adult, and children's fiction and nonfiction books to at least 50 different publishers and has had many books developed as movies-for-television and feature films.

SUSAN LOGAN has been the editor of *Cat Fancy*, the world's most widely read cat care and lifestyle magazine, for the past eight years. A veteran in print journalism for more than 20 years, she has spent the past 11 years devoted to pet and veterinary topics at BowTie Magazines based in Irvine, Calif. Under her direction, *Cat Fancy* received six Muse Medallions™ from the Cat Writers' Association in the national magazine category, and Logan was awarded the Muse Medallion™ twice for her monthly editorial column. Logan received a Master's of Professional Writing from the University of Southern California. Her first cat book, *Cat Calls: Wonderful Stories and Practical Advice from a Veteran Cat Sitter*, was published in September 2011.

ELLEN PRICE has worked for Pet Sitters International for 13 years as editor of *Pet Sitters WORLD* and as academic manager. PSI is the international membership association for more than 7,000 pet-sitting businesses. She previously worked in sports marketing for the *San Antonio Express News* and in the livestock publication industry.

ERNIE SLONE is editor of *Dog Fancy* and DogChannel.com and group editor of *Cat Fancy*, *Cats USA*, *Kittens USA*, and *Natural Cat* magazines, and of CatChannel.com and *Dog World*, *Dogs in Review*, *Dogs USA*, *Puppies USA*, and *Natural Dog*. He shares his many varied experiences in the world of dogs in his online column, *Editor Off Leash*. During a lifelong career in journalism, at top metropolitan newspapers and magazines, he has earned a number of awards and honors.

ANASTASIA THRIFT is the managing web editor at Bowtie Press. She has written about pets, their health, and their habitats for 10 years. She has contributed to CatChannel.com, *Cat Fancy*, BirdChannel.com, *Bird Talk*, *Birds USA*, *Critters USA*, *Rabbits USA*, *Ferrets*, *Ferrets USA*, *Ponds Magazine*, *Ponds USA*, *Koi World*, and *Water Garden News*. While cats might be interested in eating most of the pets she's written about, she still likes cats the best. Before writing and editing pet articles, Anastasia worked in public relations in New York and San Francisco.

Make travel plans now — don't miss the greatest CWA conference ever!

BITS & BYTES



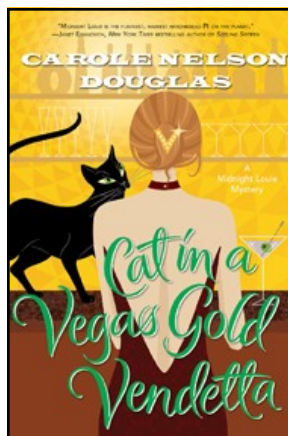
Running Press recently picked up **Angie Bailey's** cat humor book, now due for publication in the fall of 2013. Angie writes the *Catladyland* blog; see it at <http://www.catladyland.net/>.

Ellen Perry Berkeley was honored by Alley Cat Allies when its Winter 2012 *Alley Cat Action* newsletter featured Ellen and her two comprehensive books on the domestic cat "gone wild" – *Maverick Cats: Encounters with Feral Cats* (1982, expanded and updated, 2001), and *TNR Past, Present, and Future: A History of the Trap-Neuter-Return Movement* (2004). Elsewhere in the issue, the president of Alley Cat Allies, Becky Robinson, said, "I can't think of anyone who has done more to provide solid education about feral cats than Ellen." In 1984, Ellen's article in *Cat Fancy* was the first U.S. article on TNR (trap-neuter-return), and she is considered a TNR pioneer. Find her books at <http://www.amazon.com/Ellen-Perry-Berkeley/e/B001K7WP82>.

Susan Bulanda's book *Faithful Friends: Holocaust Survivors Stories of the Pets Who Gave Them Comfort, Suffered Alongside Them and Waited for Their Return* was awarded second place in the Non-fiction category in the National League of American Pen Women's national contest. You can get it at <http://www.sbulanda.com/books.htm>. Her other books include *God's Creatures: A Biblical View of Animals*; *READY! Training the Search and Rescue Dog*; *Ready to Serve, Ready to Save: Search Missions*; *Boston Terriers*; *Scenting on the Wind: Scent Work for Hunting Dogs*; and *The Canine Source Book*.

Andrea Dorn won first place in the fine arts division at the Iowa State Fair for her beaded necklace. The design was an abstract of a cat face using leaves and vines. One of Andrea's hobbies is to make beaded jewelry using seed beads and usually a loom. "I don't do it very often anymore because I'm running short of ideas and it takes me all winter to do just one necklace," she said. "But I do enjoy it. Maybe now I'll get going on another. I'm just so darn proud!" See <http://andreadorn.blogspot.com> and <http://krazeeoutfitters.blogspot.com>.

Carole Nelson Douglas has two recently released Midnight Louie books: the paperback of *Cat in a Vegas Gold Vendetta* (June 29) and the hardcover *Cat in a White Tie and Tales* (Aug. 7). Midnight Louie is clawing toward the end of his alphabetical mystery series, but has new escapades in his future. Both snail mail and e-scribe versions of the



the annual Midnight Louie newsletter are available from Carole at cdouglas@catwriter.com.

In other news, **Carole** will be inducted into the Texas Literary Hall of Fame Oct. 19. She left her daily newspaper job and home state of Minnesota in 1984 to write fiction fulltime in Fort Worth.

Midnight Louie's first eBook from **Carole's** Wishlist Publishing, *Fruit of the Tomb, a Short Story and Past Life Adventure in Ancient Egypt*, frequently appears on the "Cats" and "Historical Mystery" categories Top 100 Bestseller list on Amazon.com. The story is accompanied by a piece in which Midnight Louie interviews Carole about his real-life and literary origins.

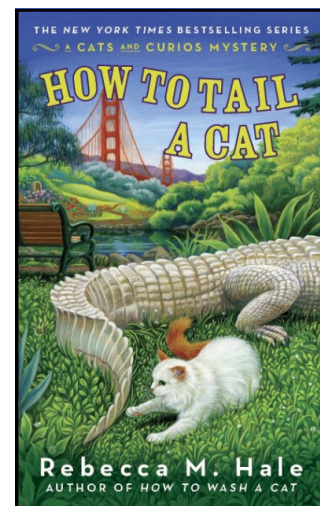
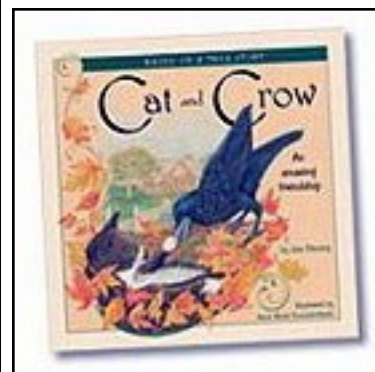
With the passing of Midnight Louie, Jr., in July 2011, **Carole** and her husband adopted a black male kitten from the Humane Society, Midnight Louie III, partly to comfort their grieving indoor feral, Audrey. After Louie III passed the exuberant kitten

phase, the two finally became sleeping buddies. Carole thanks all the CWA members and volunteers for their work on behalf of cat writing and cats.

Blue Buffalo Pet Food, with corporate offices in Connecticut, selected **Lisa Fleming's** book *Cat and Crow: An Amazing Friendship*, for the July 2012 Book Club. This was included in their *Blue News* (newsletter), which reaches 3.6 million

subscribers. "A real honor!" said Lisa. "But all the glory goes to the stray kitten named Cassie, who was saved and cared for by her feathered friend Mo, the crow." *Cat and Crow* is also available at Barnes & Noble, <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/cat-and-crow-lisa-fleming/1104578167>. Cassie the cat and Mo the crow have their own Facebook page, too!

From *New York Times* best-selling author **Rebecca M. Hale**, *How to Tail a Cat*, the next book in the Cats and Curios mystery series, was released on September 4 (Penguin \$7.99). Starring Rebecca's cats Rupert and Isabella, the series takes place at an antique shop in San Francisco's historic Jackson Square. Each book features a treasure hunt-style mystery relating to a different aspect of California history – from the Gold Rush (*How to Wash a Cat*), to the San Francisco escapades of Mark Twain (*Nine Lives Last Forever*), and the Bear Flag Revolt (*How to Moon a Cat*). The alligator romp *How to Tail a Cat* explores the wealthy businessmen who endowed the city's famous Steinhart Aquarium. Rebecca is also the author of the Mystery in the Islands series (*Adrift on St. John*).



(continued)

BITS & BYTES (continued)

Rebecca's books can be found at your favorite bookstore or online, wherever books are sold. See the author websites: HowtoWashaCat.com and MysteryintheIslands.com.

Dena Harris has good news! Ten Speed Press has accepted her newest humor book proposal. *Does This Collar Make My Butt Look Big? A Diet Book for Cats* will be released in Fall 2013. "Naturally, very excited!" said Dena. "Now I just have to write the darn thing." Follow her work at www.DenaHarris.com.

Catherine Holm has fulfilled a long-time dream of bringing her cats to the page, and has published the cat fantasy gift booklet *Kali's Will: A Cat Fantasy Short Story*. Find it in the online bookstore on her website at www.catherineholm.com. This 24-page modern day fantasy is suitable for all ages and is the story of the warrior cat Kali, who accidentally dreams her boyfriend (the orange tomcat Tedral) back into his 10th life. Now the magic these cats manage is corrupted, and Kali may have to make a terrible sacrifice to restore the equilibrium of this magical world. Featuring a phenomenal color cover and original attractive layout, the booklet was completely designed and printed in northern Minnesota. Catherine plans to publish additional cat fantasy gift booklets, featuring different cats and new storylines. The next in the series is expected in time for the Cat Writers Association annual convention.

Also, **Catherine** won an honorable mention in the Speculative Literature Foundation's Older Writer's Grant competition for her short stories *Kali's Will*, *La Neveria*, and *The Bone Whisperer*. The annual grant is for writers 50 years or older. One winner and five honorable mentions were selected from 84 applicants.

Tim Link is now a regular contributor on Catster (and Dogster, too). The link to his profile page is: <http://www.catster.com/author/tim-link>.

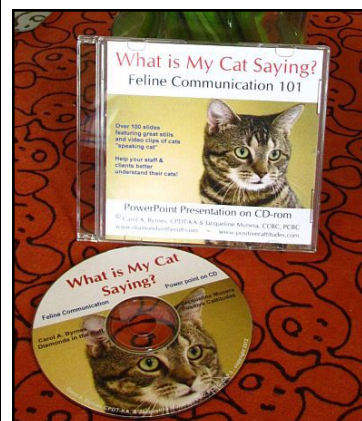
Lyn McConchie has been busy! In March, her serious non-fiction book, *Where There's Smoke; The Fire That Changed the Law* was published. In May the second of her young adult "four seasons" quartet, *Autumn of the Wild Pony*, was pubbed by an American small press. (And yes, there's a cat in it.) In June, her collaborated "alternate history" *Queen of Iron Years*, was published by a UK publisher. In July, her Australian publisher asked for the 7th in her DAZE series for publication first quarter of next year, so she's hard at work on *Agricultural Daze*. (And yes, there's a cat in that one, too.) Said Lyn: "It's amazing how many people say 'You live alone, right out in the country, don't you get lonely and bored?' Lonely? I have Thunder, my Ocicat, a library of 7500 books, and a constant trickle of visitors.... Bored? ... If I schedule very carefully I might possibly find ten minutes somewhere in 2025 for that. But probably not."

A chapter from **Linda A. Mohr's** award-winning book *Tatianna—Tales and Teachings of My Feline Friend* has been included in the anthology *The Amazing Life of Cats*, published in Australia by Allen and Unwin. This rich collection of true cat stories compiled by Candida Baker celebrates many tiny miracles

and heart-warming moments, as well as feats of extraordinary mischief, courage, and sacrifice. The anthology is available at www.amzn.to/QkqyCy.

CWA member **Jacqueline Munera** and her colleague Mikel Delgado have had a cat-related research project accepted for publication by the distinguished journal *Anthrozoos*. The project, titled "Human Perceptions of Coat Color as an Indicator of Domestic Cat Personality," evaluated whether or not people believe a cat's cat color is indicative of his or her personality. This topic is particularly relevant for the shelter and rescue communities in which hidden biases may influence an adopter's choice of cat. The paper will be available in *Anthrozoos* this fall. Jacqueline is the instructor for the Feline Behavior Module at the Companion Animal Sciences Institute, www.CASInstitute.com; she's a certified cat behavior consultant, a blogger and a product reviewer for www.AdoptAShelter.com. "I hope to help shelter and rescue people be more aware of biases potential adopters may have about superficial cat characteristics," Jacqueline said. "If we aren't aware of them, it can get in the way of educating adopters about what's really important to look for in making a successful cat-human match!" *Anthrozoos* is a peer-reviewed quarterly publication whose focus is to report the results of studies, from a wide array of disciplines, on the interactions of people and animals. See <http://www.bergpublishers.com/?TabId=519>.

Also forthcoming from **Jacqueline** is her *What Is My Cat Saying?* CD. "Can't wait to have this done and get it out to help kitties!" said Jacqueline.



Dusty Rainbolt's new novel, *Death Under the Crescent Moon* (Yard Dog Press) will be out in January 2013. Set in 1939, *Death Under the Crescent Moon* is story of recently widowed Eva Dupree. After the has-been silent screen star receives devastating news that she suffers from a terminal condition, she seeks out life-saving treatment from the eccentric owner of the haunted Baker Hospital and Health

Resort. Once she arrives at the hospital with her maid and her late husband's cat in tow, she discovers that the hospital is not what Norman Baker promised. Her first night there, Eva witnesses the suicide of a teenage girl, a death the hospital staff denies. Eva must find out if the Baker Cure is more deadly than the disease, and what has happened to all of those patients who suddenly "went home." Based on real-life events at Baker Hospital/Crescent Hotel in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, *Death Under the Crescent Moons* weaves reality and fiction into a tale of hauntings, healing, and ultimately hope. Artist Dell Harris is the cover artist. For more information check out Dusty's website, www.dustycatwriter.com, or go to www.YardDogPress.com. The book will be available in eBook format and at science fiction conventions, Amazon.com, and the Yard Dog website.

Dusty Rainbolt was interviewed for a piece about the Cat Writers' Association that ran July 1 in *The New York Times*; it mentioned the contest and included a live link to our web page. See <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/07/01/magazine/the-one-page-magazine.html>.

BITS & BYTES (continued)



Amy Shojai (www.AmyShojai.com) reached a milestone with the publication of *Lost and Found* (Cool Gus Publishing), her debut thriller featuring an animal behaviorist, service dog, and hero Maine Coon cat. The book garnered great reviews as soon as it became available in all eBook formats and as a trade paperback on its September 20 release date. Amy was interviewed about her journey from writing 24 nonfiction books to becoming an International Thriller Writers

(ITW) Debut Thriller author at <http://nataliecmarkey.wordpress.com/2012/08/17/a-conversation-with-non-fiction-and-now-fiction-author-amy-shojai/>. *Lost and Found* is featured in *The Big Thrill* (newsletter) October issue, and she was interviewed about the book at <http://tinyurl.com/9gd2351>. Amy also has a “virtual discussion” coming up on the ITW site on myths about thrillers in early October; join the conversation at <http://tinyurl.com/9tv7yg8>. Also, Amy is the guest author discussing her thriller on DogRead Oct 1-15 (go to <http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/DogRead/>).

Amy's co-written hilarious play, *Kurves, the Musical* returns by popular demand in mid-October; in it, eight quirky characters trapped inside a women's gym for a day find what they needed to complete their lives. Amy and her co-playwright are working on the next project, *Strays, the Musical*, which features – you guessed it! – cats and dogs. One of the play's touching songs is titled “Rainbow Pets.” Info about Amy's play *KURVES* with pictures and even audio links (Amy singing, too!) can be found here: <http://amyshojai.com/kurves/>.



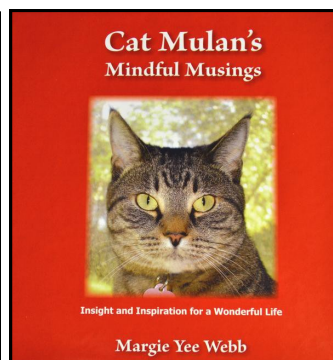
Amy Shojai's newest nonfiction pet Kindle title, the last in a three-book series, is now available. *ComPETability: Solving Behavior Problems In Your Multi-Dog Household* also has a chapter on cat-to-dog intros, as well as “cutting to the chase” so the dog won't pester the kitty. See <http://www.amazon.com/ComPETability-Behavior-Multi-DOG-Household-ebook/dp/B0095ZJ2HS>.

Clea Simon's second Pru Marlowe mystery, *Cats Can't Shoot*, published earlier this year, was included in a roundup of five cozy mysteries in the *Washington Post*. See http://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/books/crime-is-cozy-in-these-five-foes-of-murder/2012/08/28/7051f886-ec6c-11e1-aca7-272630dfd152_story.html.

Also, Clea's first mystery, *Mew Is for Murder*, has been offered by the publisher for free on Kindle. See [Mew is for Murder: A Theda Krakow Mystery \(Theda Krakow Series\)](http://www.amazon.com) at www.amazon.com.

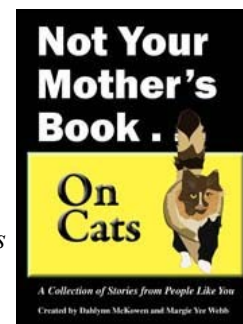
Roxanne Snopek has announced the release of a romance novel, *Three River Ranch*, the first in a series. It's got horses, dogs, cowboys, babies, an animal rescue subplot, and the usual happy ending. The digital book was published by Entangled Publishing, and you can find it here: http://www.amazon.com/Three-River-Ranch-ebook/dp/B0091ZR6UM/ref=sr_1_1?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1345931931&sr=1-

[1&keywords=three+river+ranch](#). As for all our fellow CWA-ers, remember likes, tags, follows, stars and reviews!! Roxanne is on the web at www.roxannesnopek.ca.

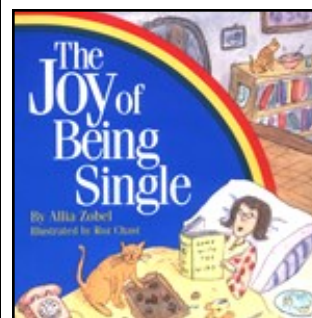


Margie Yee Webb was awarded “Best Nonfiction, Gift Category” and “Best Book Design, 2nd Place” for *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings: Insight and Inspiration for a Wonderful Life* in the Northern California Publishers & Authors Association's 2012 Book Awards. Check the book out at

<http://www.catmulan.com/>. Margie's *Cat Mulan* gift book has led to her next project, *Not Your Mother's Book... On Cats*, for which she is seeking true, funny, entertaining cat stories. *Not Your Mother's Book (NYMB)* is a new anthology for a new century from Publishing Syndicate; *On Cats*, *On Dogs*, and *On Writing* are a few of the almost 40 NYMB titles. Margie is wanting hip, fun, modern, and very-much-today type stories. To find submission



guidelines and story deadlines, visit http://publishingsyndicate.com/publishing_syndicate/submissions/nymb_submit_guidelines.html.



Allia Zobel Nolan's Workman book, *The Joy of Being Single*, illustrated by *New Yorker* cartoonist Roz Chast, was featured in the August edition of *Connecticut Magazine* on

its 20th anniversary in print. Her new children's book, *When God Turned on the Light*, illustrated by Laura Bryant, will pub in January 2014. Meantime, if anyone wants to or knows anyone who would enjoy reviewing her new book, *Whatever: Livin' the True, Noble, Totally Excellent Life*, a tween devotional from Zondervan's FaithGirlz series, please email her at alliazobel@optonline.net for a free book (the offer includes tweens, too.)

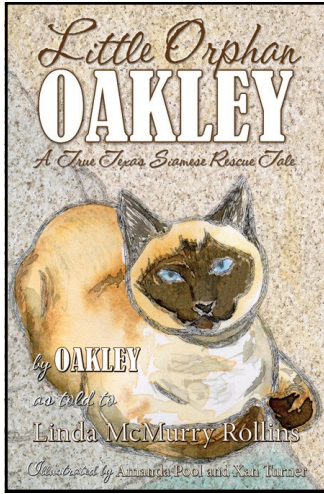


**As every cat owner knows,
nobody owns a cat.
~ Ellen Perry Berkeley**

MARKET & MEMBER NEWS

Little Orphan Oakley to Raise Funds for Texas Siamese Rescue

The heartwarming story of an abandoned Siamese kitten comes to life on the colorful pages of *Little Orphan Oakley*, a book recently published by Tattersall Publishing for the benefit of Texas



Siamese Rescue. Written by Linda McMurry Rollins, the story is told from the viewpoint of young Oakley, whose original owners tire of his kittenish antics and dump him at a kill-shelter. Before he is pulled from the shelter by Texas Siamese Rescue (TSR), he experiences the grief of losing his family, the sadness of being passed over for adoption, and the terror of watching as other cats and dogs are taken away, not to be seen again. But once in the loving custody of Texas Siamese Rescue, he becomes hopeful of finding a Forever Home, which he does, with the

author. The book is illustrated by Texas Siamese Rescue volunteer Amanda Pool, with design and layout by CWA member **Crystal Wood**, who is also a TSR volunteer. Proceeds from the sale of *Little Orphan Oakley* benefit Texas Siamese Rescue, which is located near Dallas. Cost is \$10 per book plus postage, available exclusively from the Rescue: www.tx.siameserescue.org or phone 940-367-7367. Credit cards and PayPal accepted.

A Fan Club for Your Pets, and a Retail Site for You...

Barbara Florio Graham has new articles on using social media, one for *Freelance Writer's Report*, and the other for *SCRIBE* (a newsletter for newsletter editors). Also, Bobbi's famous cat, **Simon Teakettle**, keeps adding pets to his fan club. There are now 87 cats, 49 dogs, a parrot, 4 alpacas, a llama, a horse, a rabbit, 2 fish, 4 hens, a robin, 2 ducks, a pig, and a goat, from 10 countries, 22 states, 7 provinces, and 2 Canadian territories. All this is designed to drive traffic to the website and Terzo's popular blog at www.SimonTeakettle.com/blogterzo.htm.

Lynn Maria Thompson's retail site, OldMaidCatLady.com, sells cat products. Check it out, along with Lynn's blog and social networking posts. Contact Lynn at lynn@thompsonwriting.com, and follow her on Twitter @gatorlynn and @OldMaidCatLady. If you have a few cool items you'd like to sell, email Lynn and she will send information to you about selling through the site. She wants more original artwork on the site from both individuals and galleries. She gets books through Baker & Taylor, but if you have a publisher where Lynn can buy directly and they'll drop-ship for her, she can sell your books that way. She regularly includes CWA members' books; new members may want to email her in order to add their books.

**Send your news and accomplishments for publication in MEOW.
Email: karen90@attglobal.net**

2012 WINN MEDIA APPRECIATION AWARD GOES TO CWA'S DARLENE ARDEN

The Winn Feline Foundation awarded the annual Winn Media Appreciation Award to author, broadcaster, and certified cat and dog behavior consultant **Darlene Arden**.

"Darlene is renowned for her work with toy dogs, but the little secret I know is that few have championed the cat as she has," says Winn Board Member and past Media Award recipient Steve Dale. "Back in 2002, when I began the Ricky Fund (to support research to study heart disease in cats), Darlene was one of the first asking how she could help. And to this day, when Winn is mentioned anywhere, she's there re-Tweeting and posting on her Facebook Page."

Since 2005, the Winn Feline Foundation Media Appreciation Award has recognized journalists and editors who publicly support Winn Feline Foundation's mission to advance feline health studies and to communicate facts about feline health and welfare.

Arden's current acclaimed book is *The Complete Cats Meow: Everything You Need to Know about Caring for Your Cat*. Her other books include *Rover*, *Get Off Her Leg*, *The Angell Memorial Hospital Book of Wellness and Preventive Care for Dogs*, and the classic *Small Dogs, Big Hearts*.

Arden transitioned from the stage, as an actress and dancer, to covering dogs who dance with their people (as a World Canine Freestyle Organization judge). She's hosted several radio and TV shows, and has written for publications as wide ranging as *Cats* (as contributing editor) to *Soap Opera Digest* to the *Boston Herald*. "As a pet expert, Arden appears on countless radio and TV shows, and doesn't hesitate to mention Winn Feline. For years, she's been leading the cheer to support cat health studies, courageously pointing to the sad reality. "Though cats are America's number one pet, far more money is spent on studying dog health compared to cats. The scale is becoming more equitable, and Darlene's willingness to tackle the topic is a part of the reason," Dale says.

Past recipients of the Winn Feline Foundation Media Award have included Beth Adelman, Pam Johnson-Bennett, Steve Dale, Amy Shojai, Kim Thornton, and Kari Winters.

The Winn Feline Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 1968 which supports studies to improve cat health. For more information, see www.winnfelinehealth.org.

CONGRATULATIONS, DARLENE! ♥

Here's a Link for the First Internet Cat Video Festival

The Walker Art Center of Minneapolis presented the first Internet Cat Video Festival in August, drawing an audience over 10,000. The people's choice award, the Golden Kitty, was presented to William Brandon, creator of *Henri 2, Paw de Deux*. Drawing over 10,000 online nominations, the festival included videos submitted from around the world in the categories of Comedy, Drama, Foreign, Animated, Musical, Documentary, Art House, Honorable Mention, and Lifetime Achievement. The videos from the festival are available on Animal Planet's website and at <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC0B137D835A3C970&http://walkerart.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=676886a9cd25ef4fe0e56c868&id=341c20dead&e=57cd134be8>>.



NEW MEMBERS [member numbers in brackets]

Linda Gardner Crandall [P700-12], 4813 Salem Ridge Road, Holly Springs, NC 27540; 919-557-9692 (home office), 919-882-3162 (business), 919-859-7917 (for fax, call first); Email: LGC@LIGHTHDM.COM; Websites: <http://www.cfaphp.com>, <http://www.petpartners.net>; Twitter: Linda_L_G_C. Linda specializes in pet health care, pet insurance, and the pet care industry. Her interests include behavioral and holistic issues and pet therapy. Her sponsor is Karen Lawrence.

Debbie Glovatsky [A701-12], 221 1st Avenue NE, #18, Minneapolis, MN 55413; 612-849-5472; Email: glogirl@visi.com; Website: www.glogirly.com. Debbie is a cat blogger specializing in humor. Her blog is called *Glogirly*. She also does graphic design and book cover design. Her sponsor is Janiss Garza.

Stephanie Harwin [P697-12], 5 Talia Lane, Kendall Park, NJ 08824; 732-841-1960; Email: catsparella@gmail.com; Website: <http://www.catsparella.com>. Stephanie is a blogger who specializes in cat culture and entertainment. She writes the blog *Catsparella*. Stephanie's sponsor is Ann Dziemianowicz.

Mary E. Lowd [P696-12], 2361 Jefferson Street, Eugene, OR 97405; 541-740-2525; Email: Mary.lowd@comcast.net. Mary is a fiction writer. Her sponsor is Dusty Rainbolt.

Kimberly H. Maxwell [P699-12], P.O. Box 844, Mountain Home, NC 28758; 828-393-7298; Email: info@KimberlyMaxwell.com; Website: <http://www.KimberlyMaxwell.com>. Kimberly is the author of *The Friendly Floppy Ragdoll Cat*. Kimberly's sponsor is Wendy Christensen.

Change of Address

Susan A. Bulanda has a new address and phone. Please note the new contact info: Susan Bulanda, 2420 Hughes Shop Road, Westminster, MD 21158; 410-848-3080.

Paris Permenter [P706-12], P.O. Box 1389, Cedar Park, TX 78530; 512-250-1599; Email: parisandjohn@parisandjohn.com; Website: www.cattipper.com. Paris specializes in rescue and adoption as well as the economic side of pet guardianship. She is the publisher of CatTipper.com, an online magazine celebrating felines and forever homes. She was a professional travel writer for over 20 years. Paris's sponsor is Dusty Rainbolt.

Lisa Richman [P704-12], 2417 West 123rd Terrace, Leawood, KS 66209; 913-491-4946 (home), 816-274-4097 (business; for fax, call first); Email: Lrichm2@gmail.com; Website: <http://www.atonkstail.com>. Lisa Richman is a published author, professional copywriter, pilot, and director/producer of film and video with over 20 years behind the lens. Lisa's blog, *A Tonk's Tail*, is written in the voices of her three cats. Her sponsor is Janiss Garza.

Michelle Russell [P702-12], HC1 Box 232-31, White Haven, PA 18661; 570-443-8275; Email: Catsong2@netzero.net. Michelle's specialty is writing about cats and their thoughts. She's also interested in history, music history, and theater. Her sponsor is Mary A. Shafer.

Elizabeth Ann Scarborough [P698-12], 1240 Center Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368; 360-385-3740; Email: scarboro@olympus.net; Website: <http://www.eascarborough.com>. Elizabeth is a novelist and short story writer who specializes in mysteries, science fiction, and fantasy. She's a member of the Science Fiction Writers of America. She's been a professional novelist for 30 years. Her sponsors are Jo O'Brien Singer and Carole Nelson Douglas.

Rachel Shubin [A703-12], 9710 Flintridge Court, Fairfax, VA 22032; 703-424-188; Email: Rachel.shubin@gmail.com; Website: www.sandpipercat.blogspot.com; Twitter: blueglassesgirl. Rachel is a "huge animal rescue person" and is "very into" pet blogging. Her blog is called "We Have a Situation." She loves writing about personal experiences, book reviews, and giveaways. She also hopes to write a book someday. Rachel's sponsors are Dusty Rainbolt and Ingrid King.

Ken Siman [P695-12], Publisher, Siman Media Works, 201 East 12th Street, #516, New York NY 10003; 212-677-5031; Email: ken@simanmediaworks.com; Website: www.simanmediaworks.com. Ken is the editor and publisher of *Strays*, a book by Arne Svenson. His sponsor is Wendy Christensen. ♥



Omnia Morsi with Carole Stevens Bibisi at the 2011 CWA Conference. Carole was incorrectly identified in the last issue of Meow.

We must fight against the spirit of unconscious cruelty with which we treat the animals. Animals suffer as much as we do. True humanity does not allow us to impose such sufferings on them. It is our duty to make the whole world recognize it.

Until we extend our circle of compassion to all living things, humanity will not find peace.

~ Albert Schweitzer, *The Philosophy of Civilization*



Edgar Allan Paw

By Dianna Diatz

Edgar Allan Paw invented new forms of fiction.
These were the Cat Detective Meowstery novel,
And the Meowcabre.

He had a purrpensity for stories involving
Murder, and cats being buried alive.

Edgar was obsessed with birds.

"The Raven," a pawem that made him famouse,
But not wealthy,
Was copied and sold by other cats,
Hence, the term "copy cats."

Edgar's nickname was "Edgy,"

Because his writings
Always kept readers on
The edge of their seats.

Edgar is pawticularly known
For his carefully crafted
Short stories such as:

"The Tell-Tail Purr,"

"The Purrloined Letter,"

"The Pet and the Pendulum,"

"The Oblong Litter Box,"

"The Murder in the Rue Meowerge," and

"The Black Cat."

Unfortunately, well before his 9 lives had been spent,
Edgar was last seen wandering the alleys of Baltimewre
In a cat-a-tonic stupor from drinking
Too much cheap catnip wine.

Edgar has become more famous after his death.

His writing has become pawpularized into movies and plays.
Modern Meowstery Writers of Americats call their awards,
The "Edgars."

And there is another meowstery.

Every year on the anniversary

Of his birthday on January 19th,

A secret cat admirer toasts Edgar

With a glass of catnip cognac.

The empty bottle and a dead raven

Are always left on his grave.

Drawing and Text © Dianna Diatz 2012



Photo: Layla Morgan Wilde © Cat Wisdom 101

BLACK-WHITE-AUTUMN-CAT

(At right)

It was in the mid-90's
in Florida for several
weeks when Christine
Booras snapped this
photo of one of her
ferals, Trina, giving
her a very hazy, lazy,
summertime yawn.
(He wanted to show
her his teeth, too!).

Kitty Star is in the
background snoozing.



TRINA'S BIG YAWN

© Christine Booras

Not Now, Not Ever

By Rosie Sorenson

It's a rainy Saturday. The ritual has begun: the tinny clink of utensils sorted and placed in their appropriate drawers, the clomp of bowls lifted from the dishwasher and put away in the cupboard, the soft murmuring of a man's soothing baritone floating up to me in my upstairs writing loft.

"This little Baby Bill... No, you're not allowed.... No, don't scratch," all said in sweet and cooing tones, the tones of a man in love with his young son. "No, Billy," he says but doesn't mean.

I'm familiar with every move, every gesture, every word in this oft-played scenario between my sweetheart Steve and our strawberry blonde rescue kitty, Billy. I've stood many times outside the kitchen and watched as Billy tried to climb up Steve's rock-hard leg, those sharp kitty claws piercing Steve's oh-so-human flesh.

From a cat's point of view, why would he think of it as anything but a handy tree stump?

"Not now, not ever," says Steve, his voice rising in pitch on the "now," and descending on the "ever." Even though I'm upstairs at my desk, I know what Steve is doing – he's picking Billy up ass over teakettle, bringing the kitty wide-eyed joy. Steve's is a musical voice, the one I fell in love with 13 years ago. The one I plan to listen to forever.

When I hear him murmuring to our Billy downstairs, I smile. "We're going to have to chuck the Billster," he says with a foolish laugh. More clinking, more clapping. "Just chuck him." The dishwasher tray clanks along as it's urged back inside, rattling the cups and glassware.

For me, this is the true measure of a man – how much does he love cats? Not "like," you understand, but LOVE them – insane, irrational, do-anything-for-the-kitty kind of love. Cuddle love. Putting a special pillow and towel on his lap so Billy can lie there as Steve works at his desk, the kitty batting at pens and papers. Steve turning on the heater under his desk. The kitty must stay warm, you know.

Like any relationship, however, where one party mostly gives and the other party mostly receives, Steve and Billy have their "issues."

Billy likes to bite his Daddy, not hard enough to break the skin but with enough pressure to get Steve's attention, usually after Steve has tried to stop Billy from messing about on the desk. "He doesn't like it when I curtail his activities – he doesn't think it's right," says Steve with more patience than, say, if I were the one who'd been doing the messing about.

"Could you please get something for me?" Steve will often call up to me from downstairs.

"Got the Billster in your lap again, do you?"

"Yes, I know... it's not right that we let them run our lives, but..."

"Why don't you just chuck him onto the floor?" I say but don't mean.

"Not now, not ever...." ♥



"We're going to have to chuck the Billster...."

©2012 Rosie Sorenson

Rosie Sorenson, MA, MFT, is the award-winning author of *They Had Me at Meow: Tails of Love from the Homeless Cats of Buster Hollow*. See www.theyhadmeatmeow.com and www.zazzle.com/theyhadmeatmeow (for T-shirts, mugs, greeting cards, etc. featuring the cats of Buster Hollow). You can also become an associate and sell products through the site; see <http://www.zazzle.com/sell>.

Photo of Billy and text © 2012 Rosie Sorenson

REMEMBERING KIZZY

By Toni Eames

In October 1993, after the death of my beloved cat Disney, I put out the word that I was looking for an orphan kitten. Disney had been hand raised and was completely bonded to me. I wanted a similar relationship with a new kitty.

A four-week-old apple-headed Siamese had been brought into the Central California SPCA in Fresno the day I phoned. My friend Debbie and I drove down to meet the little 12-ounce boy. He had obviously wandered away from his mother and littermates the day he was found, because he had no fleas or medical issues. The folks at the SPCA asked me to foster him until he was seven weeks old and adoptable.

You know the story: He found the most fabulous forever home with my husband Ed and me! Since he was Disney's successor and destiny brought us together, we named him Kismet.

He was so tiny, I kept him in a small dog kennel at night. We have a wonderful picture of Kizzy sleeping under the Christmas tree. Some folks seeing the photo think Kizzy is an ornament that fell from one of the branches. As he outgrew the crate he preferred to cuddle with us and our guide dogs. Ed's Golden Retriever Kirby was his particular favorite.

Kizzy was a relatively healthy cat except for a bout of asthma as a kitten. After a short time on Prednisalone, which caused an increase in appetite, Kizzy became food obsessed throughout the rest of his life. I jokingly described him as a 10-pound kitty who longed to be a 60-pound Golden Retriever! If food spilled on a chair and wasn't wiped up immediately, he would begin chewing on the fabric. If Ed had dog treats in his pockets and didn't hang up his pants at night, Kizzy would chew the clothing. If friends visited with dog food in their suitcases, the cat-vulture would invade their luggage and consume the vittles.

Kizzy did not restrict his culinary interests to dog and cat food. He took advantage of Ed's blindness and naivety about cats by jumping on the table and stealing food from Ed's plate! One of Kizzy's strangest culinary fixations was steamed mushrooms. I discovered this when preparing spaghetti one day. The thief tricked me that day by getting on the counter, where he scarfed down the bowl of mushrooms I had prepared to add to my sauce. After that, if we wanted him to follow us into another room, we'd offer him a mushroom and he'd come running.

Kismet's curiosity often created havoc in the household. If we weren't vigilant, he would run out the front door, so when the bell rang I would temporarily put him in the downstairs powder room. One Thanksgiving holiday we were trying to thaw a 20-pound frozen turkey and thought the bathroom would be the safest place away from the cats. Forgetting about Kizzy's vulturous tendencies when the doorbell rang later that evening, I grabbed my Siamese escape artist and enclosed him in the

bathroom. By the time our guest left several hours later, I remembered in horror that Kizzy had been alone with that frozen turkey for a very long time! He was a very happy boy, having spent his time gnawing on the breast until he created a large hole. We still roasted that bird for Thanksgiving, but I was annoyed that Kizzy had consumed my favorite part of the bird!

With multiple cats moving throughout the house, I could distinguish them with different-sounding bells on their collars. It

was Kismet's little cowbell that saved his life one scary day! My curious Siamese rascal hopped into the microwave as I put two large thermal mugs of tea into the oven. Not noticing his antics, I turned the machine on and immediately heard some strange noises, most likely emanating from the metal bell. Within two seconds, I opened the door and out popped Kizzy unharmed, but I was extremely "shook up" for hours. If I had nine lives, I would have lost at least three of them!

The back door of my townhouse opens onto a concrete fenced patio. To give the cats a safe outdoor enclosure, where they could observe the goings-on in the backyard, I had the patio screened and a large cat tree built in. Kizzy loved to jump from the table to the top of the tree. On the hottest

summer days, Kizzy would stay on his perch for hours playing lord of his kingdom. It made me so sad when he was unable to jump during the last year of his life.

Fortunately, my boy had a soft voice and did not overuse it. However, in his older years, he discovered a loud Siamese yowl and used it at high volume when he saw another cat in the yard or wanted to be let back into the house.

From the time of his early kittenhood, Kizzy enjoyed kneading on people, dogs, and things he loved. Besides me, he had a favorite large stuffed lion he cuddled with, but his all-time favorite kneading objects were my two Golden Retrievers. When my friend Eve came to my home to grind the dogs' nails, the silly Siamese would lie down on top of them, purring and kneading. Since the dogs were not thrilled with the nail-grinding procedure, I assumed Kizzy was providing his feline form of comfort!

Fresno puppies learn cat manners quickly at my home, and Kizzy was a master at training puppies in cat manners. He would march over to the youngest pup to test her behavior around cats. Predictably, the puppy would energetically attempt to greet Kizzy, who hissed and bopped the little canine on the head. As soon as the pup sat quietly, Kizzy roamed over to the next candidate for training. In the course of one evening, Kizzy taught three guide dog puppies how to quietly greet cats! The Guide Dogs for the Blind trainers at San Rafael must have been impressed with the Fresno dogs that came in for training. They were so well cat-socialized!



Photo © Toni Eames

KISMET: A kooky, fun-loving, destructive, wonderful, confusing, entertaining, troublesome cat!

(continued)

REMEMBERING KIZZY



Kismet (Kizzy) in one of his frequent mischievous moods.

For Indy and Sue

By Margy Ohring

Look, Momma, did you know that I can fly?
I soar above the moon and stars that shine.
I didn't know a cat could go so high,
and I can see the life that once was mine.

I see you wipe the tears as they come down;
I see you thinking I am far away;
I hate to see you sad, wearing a frown,
but know that I'm beside you every day.

I'll never leave you; I am your best friend;
I'll still know every thought that's in your head;
I'll be with you; the circle never ends;
but I'll be in the Rainbow here instead.

My love for you will wrap you round with fur,
and if you listen hard, you'll hear me purr.

©2012 Margy Ohring

Autographed copies of Margy's award-winning book *Cat-House Sonnets*, 100 poems celebrating cats, can be ordered by emailing Mcat19@gmail.com. Margy also writes condolence sonnets by request.

Visitors to my home were very taken with my friendly Siamese boy. He would immediately jump onto their laps and entrance them with his loud purrs. Of course, they would start petting him, at which point he would get over-stimulated and deliver a significant bite. This behavior greatly stressed me, because Kizzy often drew blood. After Ed needed to undergo antibiotic treatment from a Kizzy bite, he encouraged me to have the cat euthanized. Instead, our veterinarian put my crazy boy on Prozac for a while. Until the dose could be adjusted, Kizzy was way too sedated and not at all his active self. By the time we had the dose reduced to the smallest amount, the biting was under control and I stopped the medication.

As Kizzy aged, his first noticeable disability was deafness. He no longer responded to his name and often slept through events that would previously have excited him. Approaching his 17th birthday, this agile cat no longer jumped to his high perch on the enclosed patio and spent more time curled up on the floor. But the hardest thing for me was when his vulturous appetite diminished and I had to coax him to eat. After he was diagnosed with advanced mast cell cancer, I elected to treat him as long as he would tolerate it. Known by the veterinary staff as a difficult-to-manage patient, Kizzy was weakened to the point of accepting home treatment from a veterinary technician friend.

This kooky, fun-loving, destructive, wonderful, confusing, entertaining, troublesome cat brightened and frustrated my life for 18 years, but at last it was time to say goodbye to this loved one and allow the wound in my heart to heal by adopting and loving another needy kitten. Farewell, my Kismet! ♥

Toni Eames, M.S., is an Adjunct Professor of Sociology at California State University, Fresno. Toni and her husband Ed Eames coauthored the book A Guide to Guide Dog Schools and Partners in Independence: A Success Story of Dogs and the Disabled (Second edition, Barkleigh Publications, Mechanicsburg, PA, 2004).



Toni was inducted into the National Hall of Fame for Persons with Disabilities in 1998. Ed and Toni were founding members of the International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP) and, since Ed's untimely death in October 2009, Toni has taken over the presidency of IAADP. Toni is also an award-winning member of both Dog Writers Association of America and CWA. She lives with her beloved guide dog Keebler, Ed's retired guide dog Latrell, and cats Meadow and Yancha. For information, go to <http://www.iaadp.org/>.



Holistic Healing for our Feline Family

By Allie Phillips

Introduction

Whenever I talk about *energy healing*, I discover more people who have heard of it or are interested in learning more. It is not seen as *woo-woo* or taboo anymore. While there are those people who believe that healing can come only through pharmaceuticals and traditional medicine, a growing population knows the power of energy healing. I specialize in helping companion animals experience physical and emotional well being through energy healing, particularly those in shelters or who have experienced abuse or neglect.

Energy Healing

Energy healing comes in all different forms and generally involves channeling a higher source of healing. Some people tune out as soon as I mention a *higher source*. But I think most people can agree, regardless of religious affiliation, that there is some higher power that governs our universe. We are discovering that there are different layers and sources of energy and when you are attuned to this energy, you can connect with a healing source.

Energy healing is subtle. Anyone who expects an immediate cure or cessation of symptoms may be disappointed; however, there will most often be an immediate physical or emotional shift. Because physical and emotional issues may be deeply embedded, one session will start to release the issue, and ongoing sessions will help even more.

Energy healing allows the body to relax to the point where the body can heal itself. The energy allows the body to achieve the highest healing available, even if that does not mean *getting better*.

Energy Healing Specialties

I am certified in Usui Reiki, Integrated Energy Therapy, and Crystal Healing. Many other areas of healing (some of which I incorporate) benefit companion animals, including flower essences, crystal elixirs, aromatherapy, Healing Touch for Animals®, massage, animal communication, acupuncture/acupressure, and more.

Reiki is a Japanese healing modality that means *universal life energy*. It promotes relaxation and balances energy at the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual levels. Companion animals are highly attuned to energy, and even a short treatment can produce visible significant relaxation. I have even had a few companion animals snore happily as they soaked in the energy.

Integrated Energy Therapy® (IET) “gets the issues out of tissues.” Integration points on the body relate to an emotional issue, such as fear, stress, or powerlessness. When the emotional issue is released, physical healing is able to occur in that area.

Crystals have a set dominant oscillary rate (a vibration) of pure energy, whereas humans and animals have a variable rate that changes with our environment. When a crystal comes into contact

with the body’s energy field, the energy field will sync to the rate of the crystal.

How Energy Healing Works with Cats

In 2009, my Flame Point Siamese cat Sammy was diagnosed in the early stages of kidney failure. Knowing that fear energetically resides in the kidneys, I remembered that Sammy lost his hearing in 2008. His world went silent and that must have been fearful for him. I offered daily IET to Sammy and focused on his kidneys to remove the fear. He also loved to soak up Reiki every evening as he would lie on top of me and relax. While I never expected to reverse the kidney failure, and knowing that no person or animal is immortal, I wanted to extend his life for as long as

possible and provide good quality of life. Crystals specific for the kidneys were placed near his bed and I rubbed flower essences on the inside of his ears to help him with being a senior cat. I use Green Hope Farm flower essences (www.greenhopeessences.com) because I feel that those essences are keeping up with the raising vibration of the Earth. Although Sammy passed away on February 24, 2012, he lived a higher-quality and longer life than I had anticipated. I attribute his longevity to high quality food, fluids in the final months, and energy healing.

Cowboy and Raider are about 5 years old and were surrendered to King Street Cats, a no-kill shelter in Alexandria, Va., in August 2012. Both had been huddled together in a cage for days and were not showing signs of

relaxing. They were also not eating. I sat about 2 feet away and offered Reiki to them. As Raider relaxed, I moved a little closer until I was touching him. I heard a purr and he arched his back for a tail scratch (a sign that the energy was working). Cowboy was crouched in the corner of the cage up against Raider. After 10 minutes, both boys relaxed

and were lying down in a more relaxed state and looking me in the eye. Raider even rubbed his face against the bag of crystals hanging from his cage.

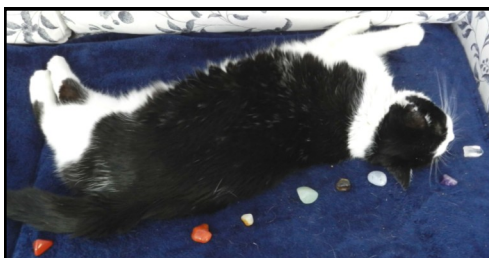
I have numerous stories of how energy healing has helped the cats at King Street Cats and also the pets of my clients. To watch videos of how cats relate to crystals, check out my YouTube page at www.youtube.com/manifestedharmony.

Conclusion

When animals come from an abusive or neglectful environment, or soak up our daily stress, we must remember to heal them. I hope that more veterinarians, shelter staff, and rescue volunteers will learn and use energy healing to benefit shelter animals and reduce the number surrendered for physical or behavioral issues. ♥



Allie doing Reiki on Chester
(below) Oscar chakra balancing



Photos & text © Allie Phillips

Allie Phillips is the author of *How Shelter Pets are Brokered for Experimentation: Understanding Pound Seizure and Defending the Defenseless: A Guide to Protecting and Advocating for Pets*. The owner of *Manifested Harmony, LLC*, she is certified as a Usui Reiki Master-Teacher, Integrated Energy Therapy® Master-Instructor, Crystal Healer, Law of Attraction Counselor, and Life Coach. For more information, see www.manifestedharmony.com.

The Cat's MEOW

Then and Now: CWA's First Two Decades

By MEOW Editor Karen Payne

Twenty years ago – as the Russian Firebird fairy tales say, “It was some time ago, a long time or a short time” – the Cat Writers’ Association was born.

As I think back, sometimes that seems like only yesterday, and sometimes it seems like an eternity ago. Twenty years ago Princess Kitty®, “The Smartest Cat in the World” and my soulmate, was alive and at the height of her career as an entertainer and cat training pioneer. In Miami, the big event was Hurricane Andrew, which hit with category 5 fury. Princess Kitty and I missed it, having fled to Orlando thanks to a timely warning from our friend Ross J. Becker, the founding editor of *Good Dog!* magazine.

(Ross, along with our good friend/legal adviser Professor Bruce Winick, my dear friends Jack St. Martin in France and DeAlva Holmes in Texas, and my father, Thomas Payne, have all transitioned to spirit since 1992, as has my beloved Princess Kitty. The poet Paul Verlaine sighed, “*Ah, les beaux jours de bonheur*” — Oh, the happy days. I miss my loved ones.)

Twenty years ago the number of pet cats (62 million) in U.S. households surpassed the number of pet dogs (53 million) for the first time in the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association (APPM) survey. Today the numbers are 86 million cats and 78.2 million dogs.

As editor of *Pet Business* magazine, in 1992 I saw all the new cat products, and all I can say about proliferation of cat-related products of all kinds since then is “omg”! Specialty food, furniture, behavior modification aids, cat fences, catios, high-tech and high-end toys – so many things now tempt us to pamper and spoil our kitties. The monetary value of all segments of the pet industry has grown tremendously.

Likewise, in veterinary medicine, advances in science and

technology have boosted medical care for cats and dogs nearly to the quality (and cost!) of human medicine. Digital x-rays, laparoscopic surgery, MRIs, labs – it’s all available. The Winn Foundation, the Ricky Fund, the CATalyst Council, Alley Cat Allies – so many initiatives are afoot to improve research on cat medical problems, bring new solutions to the problems of cat overpopulation, and elevate the status of and respect for cats in our society. Sadly, cats also have come under fire in new and insidious ways; felines remain a favored target of the forces of darkness, perhaps just because cats are so good.

Cat writers have played their part during these two decades to protect cats and bring about positive changes for them. Some of CWA’s founders worked for pet product companies, publishers, or cat-related groups; some wrote books; and some were cat-writing part-timers. Back then, they were like voices crying in the wilderness on behalf of cats. Imagine their joy when they found each other and came together to form CWA!

Our CWA members were poised for the takeoff of the Internet – which took place in the early 1990s, exactly in sync with our group’s formation. Regulation of domain names began in 1992. Our members have led the way in writing and creating websites, blogging, eBook publishing, digital photography, and use of Facebook, Twitter, and other social media to spread accurate information and advance the welfare of cats. And, many CWA members have broken out of the specialty niche to achieve mainstream recognition.

Our CWA conference this year gives us a chance to look back and remember how it was – and to look forward and imagine how it will be. What can we do for cats, and how will cat writers meet the ever-changing demands of publishing in this digital age? So, my fellow CWA-ers, go forth to the CWA conference, find the answers you need, and then go into all the world and preach the truth about cats to every creature! Twenty years hence – a short time or a long time from now – we’ll get together again to celebrate and assess how well we did. ♥

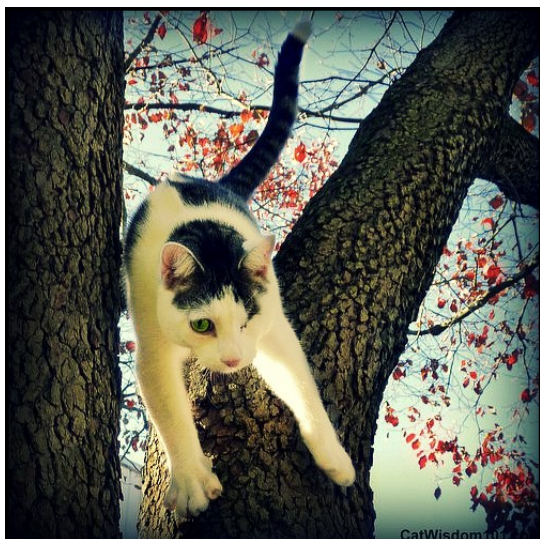
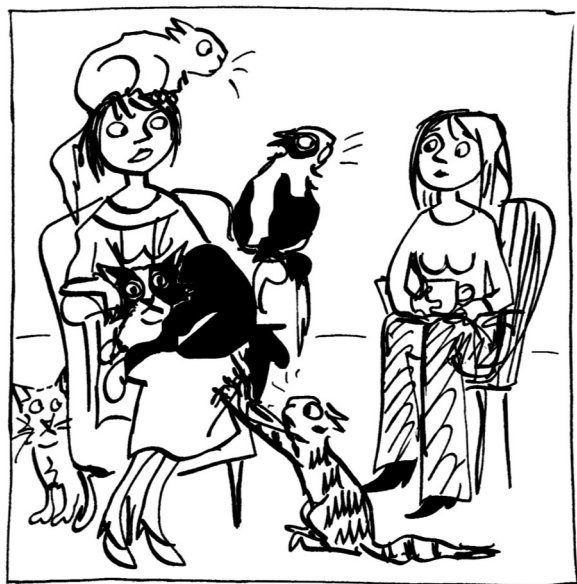


Photo: Layla Morgan Wilde © Cat Wisdom 101

Autumn leaves and Odin hanging onto a tree



Stephanie © 2011

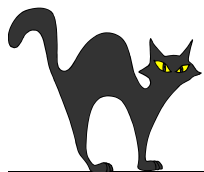
“They’re a bit demanding of my attention when I’m home!”

© Stephanie Piro

In order to continue receiving
CWA mailings, please forward
all changes of address
or phone number to

JaneA Kelley
CWA Secretary
53 Sheridan Street #3
Portland, ME 04101
207-323-1132

janea@paws-and-effect.com



MEOW is the newsletter of the Cat Writers' Association. It is the winner of an APEX® Award of Publication Excellence and the CWA Muse Medallion™. *MEOW* is published four times a year. © 2012 CWA; all rights reserved.

Meow

Fall 2012
Vol. XX, No. 4

CAT WRITERS' ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 430784
Miami, FL 33243-0784

First Class

Deadlines!

CWA Conference Dates—Nov. 1-3

Premier Pet Scholarship Drawing — Oct. 12

Editor/Agent Appt. Requests Due — Oct. 20

Non-attending Author Material — Oct. 24

**Your CWA Membership
Renewal is due by Dec. 31, 2012!**

2013 Article Deadlines for MEOW:

Winter 2013 issue — January 3

Spring 2013 issue — April 3

Summer 2013 issue — June 3

Fall 2013 issue — September 3

Note: Deadlines are firm.

All submissions welcome.

Make a Note!

~ Heartfelt thanks to the generous sponsors who make our CWA Conference possible ~
~ Special thanks to our generous *MEOW* contributors ~



DOMINO & AUTUMN LEAVES

Photo: Layla Morgan Wilde