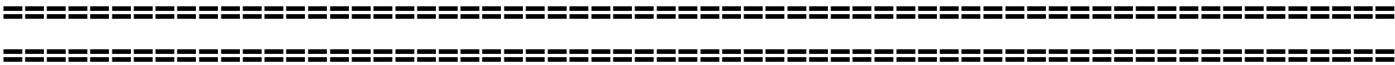


CWA COMMUNICATION CONTEST Covering Calendar 2018
Certificate of Excellence Winners
MUSE™ Medallion Winners
Special Award Winners
Other Award Winners
Awards presented May 18, 2019

Congratulations to All Winners!



Certificate of Excellence and MUSE Medallion™ Winners
Awarded May 18, 2019

Each Contest entry was independently judged by 3 Professional CWA members. Winning a Certificate of Excellence means that the average of those three judges' scores for the entry is 90 or above. All Certificate of Excellence winning entries become **finalists** for the **MUSE™ Medallion** in their Category.



Certificate winners are listed in alphabetical order within each category.

MUSE Medallion™ winners printed in RED



I.1 Magazine: National Circulation

Foley, Cynthia (with CatWatch Staff) CatWatch

Keiger, Teresa Cat Talk Magazine

II.1 Written Article: Health & General Care

Bahner, Sally Tips for a Cat-Friendly Summer

Barnes, Deb 10 Tips and Tricks to Keep Your Cat Happy, Healthy,
and Fit with Exercise

Barnes, Deb Enjoying the Chaos of the Holidays Safely With Curious Cats

Barnes, Deb Holiday Tips & Travel – Don't Leave Your Cat Alone If
You Won't Be At Home

**Barnes, Deb Stairs, Safety, and Senior Cats – 10 Tips to Help Ease
Your Cat Into His Golden Years**

Barnes, Deb Turning Cat Wheels: Could Your Cat Benefit From This
Feline Exercise Trend?

Bertolini, Claire What is pain in cat ? How to spot it ? How to relieve it ?

Brovelli-O'Brien, Christine Choosing the Right Cat Grooming Brushes
and Supplies

Dawson, Marjorie Facial Recognition Technology Helps Find Lost Pets
 Drury, Lucy Synthetic Feline Pheromones
 Eldredge, Kate An Itch You Just Have to Scratch
 Eldredge, Kate Emergency Cat Restraint
 Eldredge, Kate Trim Those Nails
 Eldredge, DVM, Deb M. Cats Hide Signs of Hip Dysplasia
 Eldredge, DVM, Deb M. On the Alert for Liver Problems
 Eldredge, DVM, Deb M. Your Cat's Subtle Hind-Leg Pain
 Garza, Janiss Unusual Household Items that are Poisonous to Your Cat
 Kelley, JaneA Kitty Blood Donors
 Kelley, JaneA New Cat Checklist
 Kelley, JaneA What Should You Feed Your Cat?
 Kern, Katherine Feline instincts
 Lapierre, Melissa 7 Ways to Make Your Cat's Senior Years Golden
 Lichtenberg, VMD, Debora FeLV: What Happens If I Bring a
 Leukemia-Positive Cat Into
 My Home?
 Nakchbendi, Yasaar 7 Ways to help your cat keep his cool in a heatwave
 Reeder, Jen How Helping Pets Helps People Escape Domestic Violence
 Thornton, Kim Campbell Cat Rehab
 White, Dawn 5 Top Household Poisons for Cats

II.2 Written Article: Behavior/Training/Enrichment (Tie!)

Bahner, Sally Fearless Kittens: Are They Made Or Born?
 Bahner, Sally Zoom! Zoom! Agility Training Gets Cat Off the Couch
 Barnes, Deb 10 Tips to Relieve Feline Boredom in the Same Old
 24/7 Environment
 Brovelli-O'Brien, Christine Understanding Your Cat's Body Language
 Jackson, Candilee Kitten Kindergarten
 Marek, Ramona D. Animal Mourning: Recognizing A Pet's grief
 Marek, Ramona D. Face Talk: What Your Cat's Whiskers Tell You
 About His Mood
 Marek, Ramona D. Feline Physics: How The Righting Reflex
 Helps Cats Stick A Landing
 Marton, Maggie Train Your Cat to Walk on Leash: Outdoor Safety
 for Indoor Cats
 Nakchbendi, Yasaar 9 Ways Catnip Can Enrich Your Cat's Life
 Nakchbendi, Yasaar How to make a cat grass bed for afternoon catnaps
 Stultz-Hairston, Beth Why Does My Cat...?
Thornton, Kim Campbell Friending Felines
Thornton, Kim Campbell Got a Fraidy Cat?
 Thornton, Kim Campbell Thunder Cats? Felines Can be
 Fearful of Storms, Too

II.3 Written Article: Lifestyle

Brovelli-O'Brien, Christine Tips for Creating Your Cat's Own
 Social Media Account
 Camp, Deborah Bernie: The Emotional Cat
 Eifenbein, Dr. Hanie Are Cats Both a Liquid and a Solid
 Funkhouser, Maggie Cats and Coffee: a Purrfect Pair
 Gregg, Paula Ann Preparing for Disaster with Pets
 Gregg, Paula Ann Veterinarian Appreciation Day

Koester, Sierra Caring for a Cat When You're Visually Impaired

- Marek, Ramona D. Nameowste: Cats Reap Yoga Benefits, Too
Mlynar, Phillip How to Take Holiday Photos of Your Cat
Mlynar, Phillip Pouring Purrfection: 8 Cat-Themed Craft Beers
to Get Your Paws On
Nakchbendi, Yasaar Create the Purrfect Watering Hole Retreat
for Your Cat
Nakchbendi, Yasaar The Ultimate guide to Growing Cat Grass
Stultz-Hairston, Beth No Dogs Allowed: How cats only services
are thriving
Thornton, Kim Campbell Kitten Fever
White, Dawn Hiring a Pet Sitter is Good for Your Cat - And You!
Zinck, Iris and Barbara Stone-Newton What's in a Name?

II.4 Written Article: Feline-Human Bond

- Branco, Denise Lee WHEN YOU ARE CALLED UPON
Clark, Sherry The Last Meow
Coughlan, Laurie Taliban George
Garza, Janiss How to Buy a Therapy Cat
Gregg, Paula Ann Respect Your Cat Day
Holm, Catherine Can Fear Free Strategies Help When Your Cat Is Dying?
Kelley, JaneA My Cats Saved My Life, More Than Once
**Kern, Katherine Do cats need human interaction or are they
completely fine on their own?**
Kingson, Jennifer As Animal-Assisted Therapy Thrives, Enter the Cats
Rainbolt, Dusty Saving Private Hammer
Smith, Melissa Pets and Domestic Violence: What You Need to Know
White, Dawn Kids Bond With Cats Through Books - Paws to
Read at Tabby's Place
Willett, Susan Every Night my Cat Leaves me Gifts and
it's the Most Adorable Thing Ever
Willett, Susan When Popular Media Use Sensationalist Headlines
to Report on Scientific Studies

II.5 Written Article: Veterinary Medicine & Research

- Brovelli-O'Brien, Christine Do Cats Understand Mirrors?
Eldredge, DVM, Deb M. Potential Deadly Feline Calicivirus
Eldredge, DVM, Deb M. Screening Tests and Bloodwork
Eldredge, DVM, Deb M. Systemic Fungal Infections
Kern, Katherine The importance of veterinary care for cats and
why they're not getting it
Reeder, Jen How to Maximize Your Laser with Patients who are Cats
**Shaw, Fran Pennock Stem-Cell Therapy May Help Cats Resistant
to Traditional Treatment for FGCS**
Thornton, Kim Campbell 50 Years for Winn
Thornton, Kim Campbell Keep the Pain at Bay

II.6 Written Article: Humor/Entertainment

- Willett, Susan Text from Cat: Rub My Belly**

II.7 Written Article: Rescue & Advocacy

- Aurit, Anita When Forever Isn't Forever

Banks, T.J. Dealing with Traumatized Rescue Cats
 Caballero, Christy Try Yoga With Cats
 Camp, Deborah Radical Rescues Updated (2 parts)
 Dawson, Marjorie Filming Solo For Your Rescue or Cat Blog
 (Hands-Free Movies)
 Drury, Lucy When Kitty Needs a New Home
 Funkhouser, Maggie Compassionate Conservation: A New
 Approach Emerges, Challenging Tradition
 to See Each Tree Within the Forest
 Garza, Janiss High Five to Save Cats' Lives With Cat Pawsitive
 Kelley, JaneA Forgotten Felines: Warm Hearts in a Cold Climate
 Kladnik, Marci Bootsy's Odyssey
 Lapierre, Melissa 4 Reasons to Consider Adopting a Diabetic Cat
 Lapierre, Melissa Debunking 9 Common Myths about Feral Cats
 Loehner, Rachel Pro Tips for Adopting a Shelter Cat
 (from a former shelter cat!)
 Mlynar, Phillip The Pipeworks Brewing Company Cats
 Reeder, Jen How to Help a Senior Cat Adapt to Life in a New Home
Thornton, Kim Campbell Out of the Cold
 White, Dawn Lola on the Road: Brooklyn Cat Cafe
 White, Dawn Why Lexy Writes to Save Lives –
 #RememberMeThursday 2018

III.1 Poem

Nichols, Karen Scout Sammy's Cat Scouts Christmas Story

Willett, Susan Ex-Mouse Gift
 Willett, Susan Haiku by Cat: Asking

IV.1 Short Story/Flash Fiction/Anthology

Kladnik, Marci A Magical Moment

Mitchell, Terilynn Beyond Fear

V.1. Annual or Long Publication

**Kazmarski, Bernadette Rescue, Foster, Rehome, Repeat
 2019: Pittsburgh C.A.T.
 2019 Calendar**

VI.1 Books: Fiction - Mystery

Craft, Michael FlabberGassed: A Mister Puss Mystery
 De Louise, Debbie Love on the Rocks: Cobble Cove Mystery #4
 DeSchane, Hillari A Christmas Tail: A Regency Holiday Mystery

**Douglas, Carole Nelson Absinthe Without Leave: A
 Midnight Louie Cafe Noir Mystery**

Fry, Patricia Furever Bound (Book 31)
 Fry, Patricia Secrets, Trickery + Meows (Book 27)
 Hunt, Mollie Cat Café
 Simon, Clea A Spell of Murder
 Stuckart, Diane A.S. Fool's Moon: A Tarot Cats Mystery
 Watkins, Eileen Feral Attraction
 Watkins, Eileen The Bengal Identity

VI.2 Books: Fiction - Sci-Fi/Fantasy (No entries)

VI.3 Books: Fiction - Other

Ward, Sandi **Something Worth Saving**

VI.4 Books: Nonfiction - Health & Behavior

Nicholas, BVetMed, Jason **101 Essential Tips Kitten or New Cat: Health & Safety**

VI.6 Books: Nonfiction – Other

Ewing, Susan M. **77 Things to Know Before Getting a Cat**

Freeman, Kim How to Find A Lost Cat: Advice from a Pet Detective

Johnson, Lawrence Show Cats: Portraits of Fine Felines

VI.7 Books: For Children (No Certificate winners)

VI.8 Books: Poems/Gifts/Other

Hunt, Mollie Cat Poems: For the Love of Cats

Redinger, Austin **CFA Ambassador Cats Adult Coloring Book**

VII.1: Video/Television Production: Health/Behavior/Training

Nugent, Zachary How to Leash Train Your Cat in 5 Steps

Nugent, Zachary **Pet Dish TV - Cat agility training**

Nugent, Zachary Pet Dish TV - Managing litter box issues

VII.2: Video/Television Production: Lifestyle

Nugent, Zachary **Pet Dish TV - Celebrating Captivating Cats**

VII.3: Video/Television Production: Humor/Entertainment

Grelyak, Alana **Is Your Cat A Nudist? –**

CATastrophes Web Series

Nugent, Zachary Busting Myths About Black Cats

VII.4: Video/Television Production: Rescue & Advocacy

Nugent, Zachary **Pet Dish TV - Chai the courageous cat**

Nugent, Zachary Pet Dish TV - Kitten Season

VIII.1: Audio / Broadcast: Any Format

LeBaron, StacyPodcast Episode 262: Karen Kraus,
Executive Director of the Feral Cat Coalition
of Oregon, and Bob Sallinger, Conservation
Director at the Audubon Society of Portland

IX.1 Blogsite/Website: General Care/Lifestyle (no Certificate winners)

IX.2 Blogsite/Website: Educational/Informative (no Certificate winners)

IX.3 Blogsite/Website: Rescue & Advocacy

LeBaron, Stacy The Community Cats Podcast website:

Introducing the Community Cat Pyramid (March 25, 2018)

Foster “Failure” — The Real Story (July 8, 2018):

The Volunteer Program Wellness Check (August 19, 2018):

White, Dawn **Lola The Rescued Cat**

IX.4 Blogsite/Website: Humor/Entertainment (No Certificate winners)

X.1 Column / Online Column

Foley, Cynthia (with CatWatch Staff) Ask Elizabeth:

Garson, Lyn T. Technically Speaking

Kelley, JaneA Keep it Clean

Lapierre, Melissa The Purrfect 10

White, Dawn Catnip Nation

White, Dawn Lola on the Road

White, Dawn Summer Safety Tips for Cats

XI.1 Social Media Expression: Health & General Care (No Certificate winners)

XI.2 Social Media Expression: Behavior & Training (No entries)

XI.3 Social Media Expression: Lifestyle

Marton, Maggie A Year in the Life of a Cat and Her Dog

Rainbolt, Dusty Jeffy's Daily Mews

West, Dorene DAYS IN THE LIFE OF THE CAT AUTHORS

XI.4 Social Media Expression: Rescue & Advocacy

Jablonski, Adam Alley Cat Rescue's Instagram account (alleycatrescue)

Wilde, Layla Morgan BlackcatsofIG A Year of Making A Difference on Instagram

XI.5 Social Media Expression: Humor & Entertainment

Glovatsky, Debbie GLOGIRLY - Tails of Two Funny Cats & Their Girl Facebook Page

XII.1 Photography: Single

Garson, Lyn T. Clarence

Garson, Lyn T. Pussy Face

Glovatsky, Debbie Gratitude

Glovatsky, Debbie Thankful

Glovatsky, Debbie Waffles the Four-Eyed Kitty

Gregg, Paula Ann Caturday Art - Second photo (Truffle profile)

Gregg, Paula Ann Wordless Wednesday

Johnson, Lawrence Cat Talk Magazine cover

Loehner, Rachel Toe Day

Marek, Ramona D. Ivan Kitty Kisses, (Month of May, Happy Cat, Healthy Cat in weekly planner)

Marek, Ramona D. Natasha, Morning Sungazer

White, Dawn Kitten in a Cat Cafe

Willett, Susan A Work of Art

Willett, Susan Calvin on the Couch

XII.2 Photography: Series

Glovatsky, Debbie Freckles and Fangs

Glovatsky, Debbie Frenzied Feline Fun

Glovatsky, Debbie Vanity and the Orange Manecat
Shutt, Mollie **Ex-Mouse Gift**
Wilde, Layla Morgan Out Of This World Snow
Day Adventures

XII.3 Photographic Art

Aurit, Anita Bring Me My Catpuccino
Glovatsky, Debbie Bohemian CATsody
Glovatsky, Debbie **GLOGIRLY Cats 2019 Desk Calendar**
Glovatsky, Debbie GLOGIRLY Cats Meowy Christmas Collection
Keiger, Teresa CFA Ambassador Cats 2019 Calendar
Lowbeer, Carol Happy National Button Day

XII.4 Cartoon

Denson, Abby Speaking Yiddish to My Cat
Piro, Stephanie Back
Piro, Stephanie **Cat Ancestors**
Piro, Stephanie Christmas Presents
Piro, Stephanie Kitty New Year
Piro, Stephanie Purrs
Piro, Stephanie Starter Cat
Runcie-Unger, Marc-Andre and Elisabetta Palmeri
The Adventures of the Katzenworld Cats: Renegade
the World Traveller ends up in...

XII.5 Illustration: Single

Nakchbendi, Yasaar **Cover - Cat Blogging Calendar 2019**
Solomon, Cori Siamese Christmas

XII.6 Illustration: Series

Kazmarski, Bernadette **Klepto Cat Covers 27 through 32**

XII.7 Graphic Design

Barnes, Deb Marketing Series – 2018 Cat Writers'
Association Conference and Awards Banquet
Glovatsky, Debbie Sheer Fun For Cats® Toy Project
Keiger, Teresa **CFA National Awards Banquet**
Awards Booklet Cover
Wilde, Layla Morgan 2018 Cat Holiday Calendar

XII.8 Fine Art

Grelyak, Alana Black Cat
Kazmarski, Bernadette Allegro Moderato
Kazmarski, Bernadette Chocolate Bath
Kazmarski, Bernadette Commissioned Portrait: Feebee,
Amber, Buckley, Allegra and Ruby,
and the Red Maple
Solomon, Cori **Sima**

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SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS – 2018 CWA CONTEST

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Special Award #01 AAFP Cat Friendly Award

Judge: Erin Fenstermaker

Winner: Jen Reeder

Winning Entry: The Cat's out of the Bag

Judge's Comments: This article was chosen as the winner for 2 key reasons. First, it did an excellent job at conveying why being a certified Cat Friendly Practice was good for all stakeholders involved-- the cat, the cat owner and the veterinary practice. Seeing a win-win-win trifecta for all parties was truly eye opening. Second, the article had a variety of quotes from interviews with both cat owners and vet practice managers, speaking about the benefits they have seen from using cat friendly techniques. These first hand accounts made the information very relatable for the reader, making the article an easy read despite being packed with information.

Special Award #02 ALL Cats Big and Small Award

Judge: Dr. Liz Bales

Winner: Molly DeVoss

Winning Entry: Special Challenges of Senior Cats in Shelters

Judge's Comments: Ms. DeVoss' piece focuses on challenges of the senior cat in the shelter environment. Her sensitivity in highlighting the medical, nutritional, behavioral and enrichment needs of these deserving geriatric shelter residents opens the reader's eyes to life from the aging cat's point of view. The awareness Ms. DeVoss brings to the geriatric shelter cat's needs will create positive and meaningful change.

Special Award #03 CATALYST COUNCIL CONNECTION AWARD

Judge: Rich Anderson

Winner: Dusty Rainbolt

Winning Entry: Saving Private Hammer

Judge's Comments: The story of Pfc. Hammer is one that will resonate with people of many stripes – military, feline and canine alike. Dusty Rainbolt's skill as a writer and storyteller is apparent from this short but impressive piece. Saving Private Hammer powerfully communicates how an animal (in this case a kitten) can positively impact a human life in a most unexpected moment and place. This story is a wonderful portrayal of the human-animal bond. The story was clearly the best of the bunch!

Special Award #04 CWA Council of Directors Newcomer Blogger's Home Enrichment Award

Judge: Carol Bryant

Winner: Katherine Kern

Winning Entry: Are your cats bored?

Judge's Comments: (none given)

Special Award #05 DR. Jim Richards Cornell Feline Health Center Veterinary Issues Award

Judge: Dr. Robin Downing

Winner: Fran Pennock Shaw

Winning Entry: Stem-Cell Therapy May Help Cats Resistant to Traditional Treatment for FCGS

Judge's Comments: Choosing the winning entry for the Dr. Jim Richards Cornell Feline Health Center Veterinary Issues Award was particularly challenging due to the exceptional nature of the submitted pieces. The Award is given for the highest-quality entry about technological advances, research, new medical developments, or innovations in feline veterinary medicine. The entries this year were diverse and robust, reflecting exciting activities in feline medicine. The award winning article this year is: "Stem-Cell Therapy May Help Cats resistant to Traditional Treatment for FCGS." his article provides a window into an innovative approach to one of the most frustrating of feline medical problems, feline chronic gingivostomatitis (FCGS)- - stomatitis for short. As a veterinarian who has been charged with treating these cats, I can attest to the refractory nature of the disorder. The article discusses the ground-breaking work at the University of California College of Veterinary Medicine using fat cell-derived stem cells to treat cats with FCGS who have not responded to conventional therapy, which consists of full mouth dental extractions and immunosuppressive therapy. Learning about this game-changing approach to FCGS will provide hope to cat owners who long to see their cats' suffering come to an end.

Special Award #06 Fear Free Pets Award

Judge: Beth Adelman

Winner: Cheryl Kolus DVM

Winning Entry: COOPERATIVE CARE WITH A CAT: USING A FUN TRICK TO FACILITATE EASY NAIL TRIMS

Judge's Comments: There's a lot to love here. It tackles an often-contentious but very important part of regular cat care—nail trims. The videos are easy to follow and clearly show the training techniques. The text is relatable. The author admits to being clumsy with a clicker and to making timing mistakes, just like the rest of us! So instead of a superstar trainer with a brilliant and perfect cat, we see a human trainer and a feline pupil who are just like us and our cats. This makes the training task seem so much more attainable.

Special Award #07 Fear Free Cat Enrichment Award

Judge: Tony Buffington, DVM, PhD, DACVN (emeritus)

Winner: Maggie Marton

Winning Entry: Train Your Cat to Walk on a Leash: Outdoor Safety for Indoor Cats

Judge's Comments: This entry, by Maggie Martin, aimed directly at cat owners (interesting for a dog site!), focused on a particular activity, and was written at an appropriate literacy level in an engaging "voice". Ms. Martin provided clear, detailed instructions, pointed out potential problems and limitations, and provided a clear summary conclusion. The author also asked for comments, and responded to the ones she received. The site also has a clean, uncluttered look, used an easily readable font, was of reasonable length (for me) and used pictures sparingly and to augment the text.

Special Award #08 GoodNewsforPets.com Human-Animal Bond Award

Judge: Lisa Lippman, DVM

Winner: Katherine Kern

Winning Entry: Do cats need human interaction or are they completely fine on their own?

Judge's Comments: I think one of the most common misunderstandings about cats is that they are independent to the point of indifference. When in reality, cats are often just as bonded to their humans as dogs (though they show it in a very different way!) I chose the entry as the winner because it represents one of the most important facets of the human animal bond, whether it be between pets and their owners or pets and their veterinarians, and that is that while we cannot always expect animals to show us affection in ways that make sense to our human brains, we can learn to interpret their love for us and appreciate the subtle power of the human-animal bond. This post, in which the author tries to clarify the various misinterpretations around a cat's understated feelings

towards their humans, is a perfect example of how I wish all pet owners would view their pets: as creatures with their own feelings and preferences that need to be respected and understood. Rather than expecting her cats to act like dogs or humans, she values and loves them for who they are. As a veterinarian, I need to rely on minute cues to help me understand what is wrong. Animals can't speak to us, so we have to learn to interpret their language. Whether it's in a veterinary setting or at home, learning to understand how our pets communicate with us (even if it's not always in the way we'd like) is crucial to the success of the pet-human bond.

Special Award #09 Grooming and Feline Skin Care Award

Judge: Dana Humphrey

Winner: Kate Eldredge

Winning Entry: Time Takes its Toll on Tangles

Judge's Comments: This article is straight forward and easy to digest, yet educational! Great read.

Special Award #10 Kari Winters Rescue and Rehabilitation Award

Judge: Stacey LeBaron

Winner: Zachary Nugent

Winning Entry: Pet Dish TV: Chai, the Courageous Cat

Judge's Comments: Oh my gosh- the tissues have been put aside and Chai is the kitty for me! Zachary Nugent and Animal Humane Society have done an excellent job of telling a story and creating a strong call to action. Chai profiles so many of the kitties that have so many medical complications upon entry and have magical endings! The editing and visuals are well done and this is a very professional production. Congratulations.

Special Award #11 Kitten Care and Rescue/Adoption Award

Judge: Tip Burrows

Winner: Bernadette Kazmarski

Winning Entry: Rescue Story: Resourceful Mom Cat Gets Her Kittens Rescued

Judge's Comments: This was super hard to judge! Every single entry was good, and they all told different and equally wonderful stories. I have chosen the loading dock rescue story after much deliberation, and re-reading them all a few times. It highlighted the difficult and common dilemma of what to do about seemingly abandoned kittens in a dangerous location. It underscored the need for compassion, patience and urgency, all at the same time. The details and ultimate success of this particular rescue were conveyed in a very relatable manner, and the included photos were a perfect accompaniment. Anyone involved in cat/kitten rescue could certainly learn a few things from this story; I certainly did!

Special Award #12 Kuykendall Image Award

Judge: Mike Bagley

Winner: Bernadette Kazmarski

Winning Entry: by Allegro Moderato

Judge's Comments: The quality of images this year was outstanding. The winner is a beautiful piece!

Special Award #13 Catster/Belvoir Marketing Group Lorie Huston Health Award

Judge: Mike LoSasso, DVM

Winner: Helen Fitzsimons

Winning Entry: Tanya's Comprehensive Guide to Feline Chronic Kidney Disease

Judge's Comments: Tanya's Comprehensive Guide to Feline Chronic Kidney Disease provides an extensive, incredibly detailed reference for owners of cats with chronic kidney disease. Written in a way that non-veterinarians can understand, it provides important information that may or may not be covered in a brief (or even extended) veterinary visit; topics ranging from causes to diagnostics to

treatment options and quality-of-life issues. An overwhelming amount of information is broken down into sections to help cat owners consume this content at their own pace, and I can see this as an important resource for caretakers of these cats, one that I will start using in my own practice.

Special Award #14 Professional Pet Care Award

Judge: Scott Black

Winner: Paula Ann Gregg

Winning Entry: Choosing a Pet Sitter

Judge's Comments: Choosing the right pet care professional is crucial to your furry family member's safety, in this case cats, and the peace of mind for the kitty mom or dad. That being said, this was a very difficult decision. Each submission presented great information, however, the one that stood out the most to me was entry number 003. The information provided was very educational to a cat owner that may be looking for a professional pet sitter for the first time. The resources mentioned are the things I strive every day to live up to as a professional pet care provider. Credentials, and continuing education are imperative in the pet care industry, especially with the app based pet care businesses raising red flags to both pet parents and legitimate pet care professionals. The graphics and links to the PSI and NAPPS websites for additional educational information, as well as noting word of mouth, and established relationship with veterinarians for referrals are key to all professional pet sitters. The interview check list, and how to prepare for your pet sitter hit a home run with me. Living in Houston and having made it through hurricane Harvey and all the flooding associated with the storm, knowing where cat carriers and emergency/evacuation kits and first aid kits are at all time is a must for every professional pet care provider. Of the four entries, number 003 in this pet pro's opinion is definitely the "Cat's Meow."

Special Award #15 Senior Cat Well-Being Award

Judge: Briony Scott

Winner: Deb Barnes

Winning Entry: Stairs, Safety, and Senior Cats – 10 Tips to Help Ease Your Cat Into His Golden Years

Judge's Comments: I chose this one because I felt it had very good tips for the cat parents to assist their cats as they get older. I own a pet sitting company and we care for many geriatric cats. I see time and time again, none of these adjustments being made for their cats and the cats in turn suffering. I appreciate this article for educating cat parents. I feel it's simple enough for every cat parent, yet detailed enough to point a cat parent in the right direction if they want more information. Yay for Senior Cats!

Special Award #16 Sleepypod Traveler Award

Judge: Joette White

Winner: Janiss Garza

Winning Entry: Five Things They Don't Tell You About Flying with Your Cat

Judge's Comments: From the cat's perspective...lol...cute. More and more people are traveling with their cats. Being prepared for a disaster is great, but why not be prepared to travel with your cat for business or pleasure as well? I have seen more people with cats on a plane than I ever have in the past. I felt this article really made you think about all the things you could encounter and how best to prepare. I especially like the part about acclimating your cat to a harness/leash. So many cat owners don't even consider this with cats, but taking the time to do this means you and your kitty are ready to hit the road...walking, riding or flying.

Special Award #17 Smart Cat All-Natural Litter Training Award

Judge: Samantha Martin

Winner: Janiss Garza

Winning Entry: Can An Adventure Lifestyle Benefit Your Cat?

Judge's Comments: It was a tough choice! I chose her article because I think it's important for cats to have the opportunity for a more active lifestyle and to be a part of their humans adventures. It's a newer concept that most people don't consider when raising a cat, where dogs have had this opportunity for years. She did a good job of covering the benefits of having an adventure cat, as well as very important tips on how to accomplish and manage the process safely.

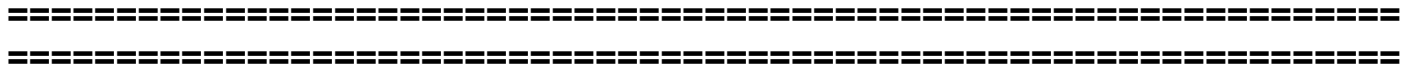
Special Award #18 World's Best Cat Litter-Ary Award

Judge: Cindy Rigoni, DVM

Winner: Mollie Hunt

Winning Entry: Cat Café

Judge's Comments: None received.



Other Awards



Shojai Mentor Award

Winner: Ramona Marek

Michael Brim Distinguished Service Award

Winner: Janiss Garza

President's Award

Winner: Fran Pennock Shaw

**For: "Stem-Cell Therapy May Help Cats Resistant to
Traditional Treatment for FCGS"**

*published in the Purina Pro Club Cat Update newsletter,
2018 Summer edition*

Congratulations to All!