



THE WRITE DOG

DOG WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

Founded 1935

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Oslo is a Norwegian Elkhound who was a puppy mill rescue now registered as Swaggerin' Independence. Lexiann Grant says Oslo, her soul mate, has hip dysplasia and is hypothyroid but doesn't know anything is wrong with him. Lexi says Oslo is just as set on getting his way as she is, so they are emotional Siamese twins. Thankfully he believes as much as she does in order in the pack. "He is one very special dog," says Lexi.

President's Column

If ever a case could be built for establishing the worth of our Yahoo Pro List, it's been Hurricane Katrina. And did it ever prove invaluable. Thanks to our dedicated and creative members who continued to post and research the validity of new Web sites to which donations could be directed, the Pro List was an unsung DWAA hero. It helped keep us all connected and very updated into the needs of organizations heading for the Big Easy and its nearby surroundings.

Thanks to Cheryl Smith, Darlene Arden, Chris Walkowicz and Deb Eldredge – the List Dams – for all of their hard work, continued oversight, maintenance of standards and establishment of new rules when needed.

Your brainchild kept everyone in the loop and as a result undoubtedly encouraged many writers to get involved, get the word out to their readers and consequently be key links in fund-raising by creating a public awareness of where to send funds to deserving organizations.

Several days after Katrina unleashed her powerful forces of devastation on the Gulf Coast, the DWAA board of directors voted to send \$1,000 to the AKC CAR Canine Support & Relief Fund, where 100 percent of the donated dollars goes to the dogs. “No donated funds pay for any administrative costs,” according to the AKC Web site. The Web site reports the permanent charitable fund is designed to provide resources, support, funds and other assistance to:

Search and rescue animals and handlers participating in rescue and recovery efforts in connection with natural or civil disasters.
The veterinary units providing support to the canine rescue teams.
Not-for-profit animal shelters and similar not-for-profit organizations providing care for domestic animals orphaned or displaced as a result of natural or civil disasters.

Oversight Last Month

While detailing the specifics of the DWAA Hall of Fame in this column last month, I failed to credit this as the brainchild of our esteemed president emeritus Mordecai Siegal. My deep apologies, Uncle Morty, for this oversight. I hope you see it here first: I want you to be the presenter of the plaques to William Stifel, and the relatives of Walter Fletcher and Maxwell Riddle, the first three recipients of what hopefully will be recognized as the most prestigious awards in dog writing.

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