

For Immediate Release

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***The Story of Rex of White Way, The Blizzard King* by Jim Cheskawich**

Award-winning true story introduces a purebred Samoyed named Rex of White Way and his adventure-filled life in California's High Sierras as a rescuer, lead dog on a U.S. mail run, movie star, and more

“Some dogs are ‘special’...called to greatness, honored for making a lasting difference in the lives of others,” notes Jim Cheskawich in the introduction to his award-winning biography *The Story of Rex of White Way, The Blizzard King*.

This memoir about a remarkable dog lovingly chronicles Rex's heroic life with painstaking historical detail, significant pedigree and statistical research, award-winning art, colorful maps, vintage photography, and above all an engaging story.

Highlights from Rex's exceptional life from 1946–1957 include the following:

- His involvement in over thirty mountain rescues and how he received the nickname “The Blizzard King”
- His role as lead dog on a U.S. mail run over the 7,200-foot-high Targhee Pass during the snow season
- His extraordinary contribution to pulling out three downed planes at the Truckee, California, airfield
- His appearance on the set with John Wayne in the movie *Island in the Sky*
- His appearance in an episode of *Have Gun Will Travel*
- His delivery of Dr. Lawrence Nelson to the 226 passengers and crew aboard the snowbound streamliner *The City of San Francisco*, stuck at Yuba Gap in a January, 1952, blizzard

In addition, the book chronicles Rex's world record in weight pulling in Montana in 1954 as well as the many speed and freight races he won. Though an AKC conformation championship eluded him, Cheskawich notes, “Rex is behind almost every Samoyed in the United States and is the greatest U.S.-born male contributor to the Samoyed gene pool in the entire country.”

He adds, “Rex's breeder, Agnes Mason, felt that a movie should have been made of Rex's life back in the 1950s. Like Seabiscuit, Rex's story was simply waiting to be told. It's a riveting read for students in grades three and four on up to adults.”

Readers who wish to delve deeper will appreciate the comprehensive references section and six appendices that conclude the book.

For Cheskawich's efforts to convey the remarkable leadership, heart, intelligence, speed, and world-class strength of this beloved dog, *The Story of Rex of White Way* received a Gold Medal in April 2013 in the Global eLit competition in the Best in Animals/Pets category. For more information or to request review copies or media commentary, email samtres@earthlink.net or visit www.rexofwhiteway.com.

“A fantastic account of a once-in-a-lifetime dog, his breeder Agnes Mason, and his trainer Lloyd Van Sickle...Many thanks to Jim for bringing this important piece of history about a true HERO to the public. This is a great memoir filled with wonderful historic pictures...” ~ **Madelin Druse, Tamerack Samoyeds, retired Samoyed breeder/exhibitor/AKC judge**

The Story of Rex of White Way, The Blizzard King by Jim Cheskawich; Nonfiction; Pets/Dogs/Rescue Work; Hard cover 978-0-9883640-0-4 \$18.95; Soft cover 978-0-9883640-1-1 \$14.95; eBook 978-0-9883640-2-8 \$6.99

Availability: amazon.com and rexofwhiteway.com

Author: Jim Cheskawich has served as Samoyed Club of America president and treasurer and served for many years as treasurer of the SCA Education and Research Foundation. He received his B.S. and MBA from Penn State and served in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division. After twenty-eight years with the federal government, Jim now manages Woodland Kennels in Woodland, WA, and is treasurer of the Willamette Valley Samoyed Fanciers.