January 6, 2022

Richard Hynes, CPL

AAPL Nominations Committee Chair

Ft. Worth, Texas

Dear Richard,

I would like to nominate Wendy Dalton for the Individual Community Service Award. Rarely have I seen someone work tirelessly for the community. I am including a list of community service work that I personally know that she is involved with. I asked her to send me more details on each community project she works with, the details follow.

**Christmas Wish Project**

I started working with this charity while in high school (1991). We provided gifts for about 100 foster children that year. After a few years, I became the co-chairman with founder, Becky Haskin.  We have been together ever since. Today, my title is Vice Chairman of the Board. The project has continued to grow. We started with providing gifts for foster children in Tarrant County. The numbers grew to around 300 children for several years, then to around 650 for the next several years and now 30 years later, we provided gifts for about 1200 foster children in 5 counties. The Christmas Wish Project lets foster children "Wish" for a specific gift and we fulfill that wish. We also provide a second age appropriate gift along with books to each child. Some children ask for their first bike, a tablet, the hot new toy or the teenagers are able to request a gift card to their favorite store. What makes this project unique is that 100% of the donations go to the foster children. Everyone is a volunteer and we personally cover any overhead costs. The children we serve have been abused and neglected in unimaginable ways; their removal from those situations doesn't stop their pain and suffering or the trauma they feel from no longer being part of the only family they've known. As I read about all of these children every year and what some of them have been through, it breaks my heart and I just can't imagine not working on this project. Most of them don't know who we are or that their gifts come from us. They just know that their Christmas is a little brighter.

**Texas Golden Gloves**

Texas Golden Gloves is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit youth organization. I started volunteering with the first aid team for the Golden Gloves regional and state tournaments with my dad as a glorified gofer in 1990. The next year, I started handling paperwork for the team and eventually moved up to captain of the team. I was in charge of finding volunteers and making sure we had enough people each tournament night to cover all of our stations. Sometime around 2000, I joined the Double G Club which is the group that raises money for the tournaments including raising money to send the state winners to the national tournament. A few years later I was appointed to the Board of Directors for Texas Golden Gloves and to the Board of Directors for the Golden Gloves Youth Center. Both of these organizations provide an opportunity for young athletes to learn a skill as well as discipline and sportsmanship. The Youth Center provides a place for boxers to workout, train and socialize with other youth their age. Some of these athletes become mentors for the younger boxers. I helped create the annual golf tournament that raises most of the money used to send the state winners to the national tournament. All expenses for the 11 boxers and coaches are covered by Texas Golden Gloves. We held our 13th annual golf tournament this past September.

**American Association of Professional Landmen**

I am currently assistant chairman of the Annual Meeting Committee as well as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and Certification Education Committee. I'm also serving on a task force to review committee structures (I'm not sure if this is public knowledge, so I'll have to ask Carl next week). I have served as Second Vice President and Chairman of the Landman Scholarship Trust. I have served Assistant Chairman and Chairman of the following committees: Annual Meeting, Advisory Landman Connection, Ethics, Marketing and Field Landman. I have served on the Strategic Planning Committee, the Southwest Land Institute and represented the Ft. Worth APL as a Board Member of AAPL. I have served on both boards of the FWAPL and PBLA.

**Heart of Texas Akita Club**

An organization that promotes the highest values among Akita owners and breeders and does what is possible to protect and preserve the purity, health, welfare and well being of Akitas. Currently a member, but have served as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President.

In the most recent years, she has worked with Keep Midland Beautiful, the West Texas Food Bank and Christmas in Action.

I am available for questions or more information if you need it. Thank you for your consideration of Wendy Dalton as the recipient of the Community Service Award. In my opinion, this award has been earned, but not expected.

Warm regards,

Michelle Aurzada

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