



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**March 3, 2009; 1130 PST (Whitehorse, Yukon)** - The 2009 Yukon Quest announced its award winners on Saturday night in Fairbanks, Alaska. This years' winners are as follows:

***Red Lantern Award:***

Presented to the last official finisher.

2009 Iris Wood Sutton

***Golden Harness Award:***

Presented to the Champion lead dog(s).

2009 Inuk and Nemo

***Dawson City Award:***

Presented to the first musher to reach Dawson City (home of the "greatest gold rush the world has ever known") who completes the race, they receive 4 ounces of Yukon placer gold!

2009 William Kleedehn

***Rookie of the Year Award:***

Presented to the highest placing official finisher who has never before reached the halfway point of Dawson City.

2009 Martin Buser

***Sportsmanship Award:***

Presented to the musher exhibiting the best sportsmanship along the trail. The selection is made by fellow mushers.2009

Brent Sass

***Challenge of the North Award:***

Presented to the musher who most exemplifies the "Spirit of the Yukon Quest", a spirit that compels one to challenge themselves and persevere. Voted on by race officials.

2009 Newton Marshall

***Veterinarian's Choice Award:***

Presented to the musher who demonstrates outstanding canine care for their dogs throughout the race, in the best spirit of the Yukon Quest. This award is a legacy for aspiring mushers to emulate in the humane treatment and care of their team. Nominees voted on by the race veterinarians.

2009 Michelle Phillips

\*\*For images of the race, please visit <http://yukonquest-media.4shared.com> and enter 'media' as the password to access images of the trail. You can also visit our Facebook page - just search for "Yukon Quest - Official".\*\*

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For more information:

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