

Tails from Minnesota

Summer 2012



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*"He's a great companion.
He's my best friend."
pg 6*



www.can-do-canines.org



In 1988, Lucky, pictured above, was the first dog we adopted from an animal shelter. She was homeless and was scheduled to be euthanized that day. Lucky served as our demonstration dog for 11 years. She is symbolic of our commitment to save homeless dogs while fulfilling our mission to serve people with disabilities.

Tails From Minnesota

Published quarterly for friends and supporters of

Can Do Canines

ASSISTANCE DOGS

Editor/Layout/Design

Alan M. Peters Mary Rhatigan
Shelly Hiemer

Can Do Canines is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people with disabilities by creating mutually beneficial partnerships with specially trained dogs.

We envision a future in which every person who needs and wants an assistance dog can have one.

Assistance dogs provide the gifts of freedom, independence, and peace of mind to our clients and their families. Our fully trained dogs, often adopted from local animal shelters, are provided to our clients who live with disabilities that involve mobility challenges, hearing loss or deafness, seizure disorders, autism, or diabetes complicated by hypoglycemia unawareness.

Dogs, training and supplies are provided to each client free of charge.

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From the Executive Director



International Assistance Dog Week

Please join us in celebrating International Assistance Dog Week, August 5 through August 12, 2012. International Assistance Dog Week was created to recognize all the devoted, hardworking assistance dogs helping individuals mitigate their disability related challenges. The purpose of this special week is to recognize, honor, raise awareness and educate the public about assistance dogs, honor puppy raisers and trainers, and recognize heroic deeds performed by assistance dogs in our communities. You can access more information at www.assistedogweek.org.

Can Do Canines will kick-off the celebration of International Assistance Dog Week locally by sponsoring a unique event at our facility called the Can Do Woofaroo on Sunday August 5, 2012.

What in the World is a Woofaroo? (Say that three times quickly and win a prize!)

The Can Do Woofaroo is an event that benefits the work of Can Do Canines while spotlighting the wonderful work of these dedicated canine helpers. All are welcome, including your friendly pet dogs. There is no admission charge but event attendees will be invited to share a free-will donation to help forward the work of Can Do Canines. The Can Do Woofaroo will provide entertainment on a variety of levels.

- Live assistance dog demonstrations will take place on stage to highlight how our Can Do Canines help their human partners.
- Dog related presentations will happen throughout the day on the center stage including demonstrations by Police dogs, canine massage, obedience, fly ball, and more.
- Dress your pet dog in its best costume and compete for a prize in the fashion show competition.

- Facility tours will start every 30 minutes to give you a peek at the inner workings of the training center.
- KTWN FM 96.3 will be at our New Hope facility throughout the event and will provide music.
- More than 30 vendors will be present to share information about dog-related services around the Twin Cities.
- Food vendors will provide a range of tasty treats.
- Interactive games and contests will guarantee a fun afternoon for you and your pet dog.
- At 1:00pm, the highlight of the day will be a one mile fundraising walk for registered walkers who secure pledges in advance of the event to raise much needed funds so we can continue to provide trained assistance dogs, free of charge. A brochure inserted in this newsletter, gives more details. This part of the Woofaroo was previously known as the Heel and Wheel. Prizes and free food will be provided to each registered walker raising \$25 or more.

Sam and I are looking forward to this wonderful celebration! Please join us to celebrate International Assistance Dog Week! ❤️

"Lion" Sam Meets Lion Sid at Lions Multiple 5M Convention



Past International President Sid Scruggs and his wife, Lion Judy, visit with Multiple 5M Lions: President Pat Heffernan and Lion Terri Krake of the Minneapolis Can Do Canines Lions, District 5M5 Governor, Jan Cariveau, and Lion Al Peters of the Spring Lake Park Lions. Also pictured are assistance dogs Brody, Rufus and Samson.

Reclaiming Independence

Nancy Saatzer and Mobility Assist Dog Charity by Brent Hollerud

One good way to describe Nancy Saatzer's personality is strong-willed. Nancy was diagnosed with Chronic Progressive Multiple Sclerosis (MS) at age 29, but did not allow her disease to prevent her from having a fulfilling, successful career helping others as a social worker.

Nowadays, Nancy is 61 years-old, and her MS has robbed her of the use of both legs and her left arm. Despite her physical ailments, Nancy remains as strong as ever, vowing to hold on to her independence no matter what life throws at her.

Although her MS doesn't control her life, it greatly complicates it to say the least. Nancy, who lives in a senior apartment in Prior Lake, Minn., relies on a personal care assistant who helps her dress in the morning and helps her get into bed at night. In the time between, Nancy is left to fend for herself, which often creates difficulties, as she is unable to pick up things dropped on the floor, open and close doors and drawers, and perform other simple day-to-day activities.

One day, while getting ready to go out, Nancy knocked her keys to the floor. She tried to retrieve them using first one, then another grabber but also dropped them to the floor. Frustrated, she went to get a broom. The broom fell too and blocked the doorway, trapping Nancy in the laundry room. Getting a good run with her motorized wheelchair, Nancy tried to run over the broom. She only managed to get the front wheels over and was now stuck in the doorway over the broom. She eventually remembered that she had a magnet on a pole within reach and with it was able to pick up the metal grabber and use that to get the broom, plastic grabber and eventually her keys – all to go play scrabble.

All Nancy wanted was her independence back, which is why her family suggested that she consider an assistance dog. "An animal would be able to do everything that a roommate could do, but would be happier doing it," Nancy chuckled. After some research, Nancy decided on Can Do Canines, as she liked how

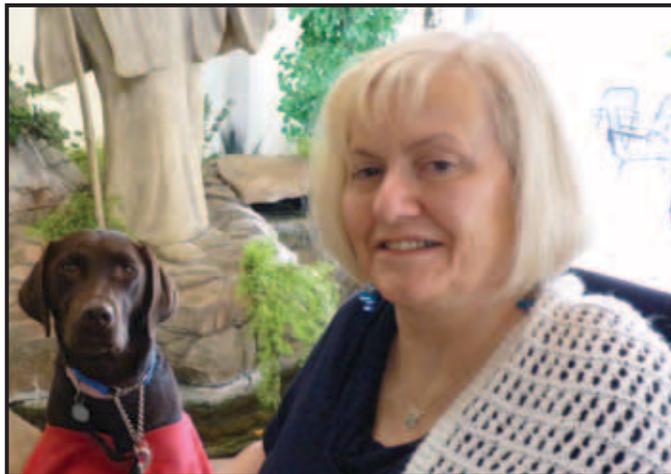
the majority of training could be performed in her house, rather than requiring her to travel and stay somewhere else.

After applying and waiting for the right match, Nancy was paired with the lovable Mobility Assist Dog Charity, a two-year-old chocolate Labrador Retriever. Her puppy raisers described Charity as relaxed, mellow and extremely comforting, which was precisely the personality that Nancy desired. "She is just like me," Nancy says, "To have that mesh is great."

The minute that Charity moved into Nancy's apartment, life improved for both of them. Charity was not only able to perform the tasks that Nancy struggled with, such as retrieving dropped objects, opening and closing doors and turning lights on and off, but she also seemed to enjoy doing them.

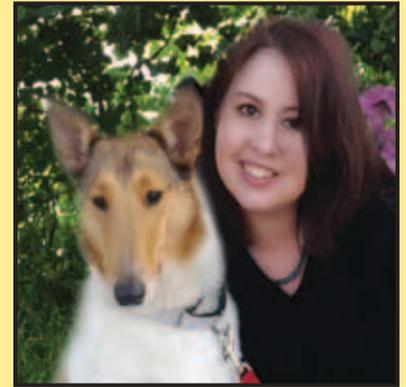
While Nancy expected an assistance dog to improve her life by performing the physical tasks she was unable to do for herself, she was overwhelmed by the emotional assistance and companionship Charity offers every day. "I have a purpose again: I have someone to do something for, and she does something for me," Nancy proudly states, as she gushes about Charity much like a grandparent boasts of a grandchild. Nancy additionally is grateful for the air of security Charity gives her, "If she can't see me, she will come looking for me. I can't tell you how she's enhanced my life."

Through Can Do Canines and Charity, Nancy Saatzer has been able to fight back, reclaiming her independence in the process, yet all she wants to talk about is her new best friend. "I have the most wonderful dog." ♥



Nancy and Charity

New Teams



Beth Kantor & Mobility Assist Dog Dazzle

"Life is changing for me, more like I'm getting a life," says Beth. "There's hope, and I didn't have that before."

Thank You

Dog Source – Oak Knoll Collies

Vet Services – Maryland Ave.

Pet Hospital

Puppy Raiser – The Hiemer Family

Foster Home – Inmates at the

Minnesota Correctional

Facility at Faribault and

The Robison Family

See their full story at www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter



Ernie Lapp & Mobility Assist Dog Dean

Ultimately, Dean has proven to be much more than an assistance dog to Ernie.

"He's a great companion.

He's my best friend.

Thank You

Dog Source – Oak Knoll Collies

Puppy Raiser- Jerry Schendel

See their full story on page 6

Taking Care of Each Other

Jenny Dalstad and Hearing Assist Dog Autumn

By Brent Hollerud

Fresh off her recent certification with her Hearing Assist Dog Autumn, Jenny Dalstad reflects on the training experience with her new partner. "We've come a long way."

The road Jenny and Autumn traveled to reach their Can Do Canines certification was one dotted with challenges, but now the two have forged an incredible relationship and partnership.

Jenny, a 29-year-old living in Rochester, Minn. was thriving in her post-college lifestyle. She found herself in a job she loved, working as a Media Specialist at the Kasson-Mantorville Public School system. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, especially out on the lake, and liked to sew in her free time.

However, Jenny has suffered from severe hearing loss since childhood, which posed several problems to independent living. Although her hearing is greatly improved with the use of hearing aids, one thing that had yet to improve for Jenny was her peace of mind. She lived with the fear of not hearing something as minute as an oven timer beeping, perhaps meaning supper was burned, or as severe as a smoke detector, something that could greatly endanger her safety.

Jenny's longing for greater security led her to the Internet in search of methods to train a dog to help her. During this search she came across the website for Can Do Canines, where Jenny says the positive testimonials led her to inquire about receiving a Hearing Assist Dog.

After applying, Jenny was paired up with Autumn, a two-year-old Smooth Collie, and the two embarked on their training journey to become a team. Even though Autumn was described by her fosters as a "great dog who is always motivated to work," Jenny admits there were times where she just couldn't figure out how to connect with Autumn to have her perform her duties.

Despite the challenges, Jenny realized all she needed was some patience and plenty of practice. She gives a lot of credit to her Field Trainer Julia Breza, who broke down her training "homework" into manageable

sections and made the process much easier. Julia encouraged the two to tackle training one step at a time.

What kept Jenny determined through the training process were the moments where her and Autumn finally connected. The eureka moments where the team was able to make large steps in their training Jenny describes as rewarding. "You can really see our progress, which is fun," Jenny says. The end result of all their hard work is a great team, with Autumn representing the extra pair of ears and the peace of mind that Jenny was seeking. Now Autumn alerts Jenny to many sounds in her home including someone knocking at her door, a timer, an intruder and yes, even the fire alarm. Jenny says she appreciates the reciprocal relationship they have: she knows that if she takes care of Autumn, Autumn will take care of her.

Even though the journey that Jenny and her new companion Autumn have taken in the last few months included a few bumps in the

road, it was well worth it. Jenny remembers one thing was easy from the first day the two met: loving Autumn. Everything else just fell into place. ❤️



Jenny and Autumn



Autumn alerting Jenny and taking her to the source of the sound

Can Do Canines Volunteer and Ambassador Training Sessions Set

Saturday, August 18, 2012
Volunteer Orientation 9:00 a.m.

Both new and 'seasoned' volunteers are encouraged to attend! At this informational session you will learn about our procedures, various volunteer opportunities available, the history of Can Do Canines and the assistance dog industry. We'll also be asking for your input on our volunteer engagement efforts. Please RSVP to Laurie Carlson at lcarlson@can-do-canines.org or 763-331-3000 ext. 113.

Can Do Canines Ambassador Training
10:00 a.m.

If you would like to join over 100 people who are currently serving as Can Do Canines Ambassadors, join us right after the volunteer orientation. Ambassadors spread the word about Can Do Canines in a brief, informal way to friends and people they meet. This session will give you the tools, including an Ambassador's Tool Kit, to help you represent our organization in your community.

Please sign up for our next training session by contacting Mary Rhatigan at ambassadors@can-do-canines.org to reserve a spot or for more information.

The Right Tool

Erin Nolin and Diabetes Assist Dog Wiggs..... By Lindsey Trader

Erin Nolin of Rice Lake, Wisc. needed a way to manage her diabetes that fit into her active lifestyle. Though she lives in a tranquil country home and enjoys relaxing, the majority of her schedule is occupied taking care of her four children.

Diagnosed with Type-1 diabetes more than 14 years ago, Erin recently began to suffer from hypoglycemia unawareness, an inability to tell when her blood sugar is too low. She and her husband, Jake, have done whatever possible to prevent these unexpected lows. Jake is usually able to tell if Erin's blood sugar is low, but during the times he is away, the lows can be dangerous. Erin purchased a Continuous Glucose Monitoring Sensor to help keep track of her blood sugars. Unfortunately, the monitor has a 20 minute delay and didn't provide a full solution. That delay can mean the difference between Erin being able to treat the low herself and an ambulance call if she becomes unconscious.

About a year ago, while reading Prevention magazine, Erin learned about Diabetes Assist Dogs and specifically about the Can Do Canines organization. This sounded like a perfect solution to her problem and Erin applied. Shortly thereafter, she was matched with Wiggs, a two-year-old Labrador Retriever, who became a new tool for detecting the low blood sugars she was experiencing.

Wiggs alerts Erin when her blood sugar is dropping by pawing at her leg. Wiggs will then retrieve a juice box for Erin so she can drink it to raise her to a normal sugar level. The Nolin children have learned that if Wiggs is acting out of character, they need to remind mom to check her blood sugar. If no one is near Erin when her sugar is too low, Wiggs will find a family member in the house or retrieve an emergency phone for her. Having a Diabetes Assist Dog has given the family peace of mind, especially in the secluded country area where they live.



Erin and Wiggs

Erin is amazed at the dedication of the volunteers and donors at Can Do Canines. She says, "There's no way most people who need an assistance dog could purchase one, but to have all of peoples' time, energy, and resources donated is amazing!"



Wiggs fits perfectly with the Nolin family, being calm when it's time to work and energetic when it's time to play. She has a mischievous side, as demonstrated by her attempt to eat the pumpkins when the family was trying to carve them for Halloween! The entire family loves her and feels more comfortable about Erin's health knowing Wiggs is around. Wiggs has become the right tool for Erin to have in her arsenal for diabetes management. "None of us could imagine life without her now." ♥

Wiggs retrieving an emergency phone for Erin

New Teams



Deb Healy &

Mobility Assist Dog Hoover

Like other Can Do Canines dogs, Hoover brings significant intangibles to the relationship. "Aside from everything he does for me, there is this unconditional love we have for one another."

Thank You

**Dog Source – Mary Holsen
Vet Services – Maryland Ave.
Pet Hospital**

**Puppy Raiser – Jenny & Jake Schneider
Foster Home – The Hiemer Family**

**"Special Thanks" – Name A Puppy
Participants –
Hoover Elementary**

See their full story at www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter



Nancy Saatzer & Mobility Assist Dog Charity

"Nancy is grateful for the air of security Charity gives her. "If she can't see me, she will come looking for me. I can't tell you how she's enhanced my life."

Thank You

**Dog Source – Can Do Canines
Vet Services- Animal Wellness Center
Puppy Raiser- Stephanie and Seth Scott
"Special Thanks"- Kim Kriesel, Julie Mach**

See their full story on page 3

Small Jobs Make a Big Difference

Ernie Lapp and Mobility Assist Dog Dean

By Bill Johnson

For Ernie Lapp of Edina, Minn. the seemingly small tasks performed by Dean, his Mobility Assist Dog, have a profound impact on his safety and quality of life.

Complications from childhood polio have severely affected Ernie's use of his legs and arms. As a result, presumably simple tasks, such as walking to and from the mailbox, put him at risk for a fall and injury.

"I told a friend that I was thinking about adopting a dog from the humane society as a pet," explains Ernie. "My friend was concerned about this. He was afraid that when I got up to walk, the dog would get in front of me, and I would trip over the dog and fall. That's when he recommended Can Do Canines."

Ernie admits before he learned about the organization, he never considered an assistance dog. Nevertheless, he applied for a Can Do Canines Mobility Assist Dog. "I was very surprised I got a dog...but very happy!"

Part of Dean's training consisted of learning to walk behind Ernie. "He doesn't try to get in front of me, which might cause me to trip over him." Dean's ability to handle a variety of everyday jobs are helping Ernie maintain an independent, active lifestyle.



Ernie and Dean

Take mail delivery, for instance. The handsome two-year-old Smooth Coat Collie uses a special bag to haul mail from the mailbox to the dining room table. Other jobs performed by Dean include transporting clothes from the dryer to the bedroom and picking up dropped items.

"He learns how to do things real quickly," says Ernie. "Once he gets a task down, he does it right away."

Besides helping around the house, Dean enables Ernie to get outside more often. Now Ernie's outings come with a bonus: "When we go for a walk, we meet a lot of people because they are so interested in him."

Among Ernie's other outside pastimes are fishing, target shooting and dining out with friends. He also has a lake cabin and looks forward to sharing his getaway with Dean this summer.

"I hope he'll like going on the pontoon boat with me when I go fishing...as long as he doesn't eat the fish when I pull them in!"

While it's not yet known whether he has a taste for "freshwater sushi," Dean definitely relishes his treats. He enjoys a lot of other canine passions, too, such as trying to catch gophers in the yard and chewing on his favorite bone.

Beyond the physical needs that Dean satisfies, there's a tremendous bond between the two. It's manifested in many small ways, from morning tussles in bed to Dean's humorous howling when Ernie talks to him in a certain tone of voice. Ultimately, Dean has proven to be much more than an assistance dog to Ernie. "He's a great companion. He's my best friend." ❤️

• *Contributions are critical to helping us serve more people with disabilities and giving a good life to homeless dogs. But volunteering is equally important. We can't continue this work without dedicated puppy raisers like Jerry Schendel, who raised Dean. Visit our website at www.can-do-canines.org to learn about the many ways you can help or call Laurie Carlson about volunteer opportunities at 763-331-3000 ext. 113.*



Dean retrieving the phone for Ernie

A New Way To Relate

Taylor Ostenson and Autism Assist Dog Kashi By Anne Ingvaldstad

Six-year-old Taylor Ostenson has always wanted a dog, and now has a new best friend in Autism Assist Dog Kashi. Even though her autism spectrum disorder sometimes makes interacting with others difficult for Taylor, she will eagerly talk to someone who has an animal, or even just an animal story to tell.

Taylor's mom Amber heard about Can Do Canines from the family of a graduate of the program. Since Taylor enjoys animals so much, Amber thought that pairing her up with a dog might help reduce Taylor's anxiety, and keep her safe in the community. Taylor's family likes to be outdoors and on the go, but busy public settings would often make Taylor anxious, and sometimes she would bolt away, unaware of the dangers that could pose.

Now that Taylor has the belt that comes from Kashi's vest around her waist, and the handle to hold onto, she doesn't even try to bolt. Amber says, "I can't wait until school break to be able to go out and do all kinds of stuff without taking an arsenal of people," to help keep an eye on Taylor. The last time the family went to a store Taylor was more interested in talking to the cashier about Kashi than in bolting. And if she would try, Kashi would provide the steady anchor to keep her safe until her mom could take care of her.

It seems that in their short time together, Kashi has become a way for Taylor to relate to other people in a positive way. One day the family was walking by a fire station, and Amber was surprised to see Taylor walk right up to the firefighters sitting outside and ask, "Do you want to pet my dog?" A 20-minute conversation followed! Amber says that this is not something that Taylor would have done before getting Kashi.

The one tantrum that Taylor has had since getting Kashi lasted only a few minutes, whereas in the past, they could last all day. Before Amber could even deal with what had upset her, it was forgotten and Taylor was wrestling around with Kashi and wanting to go out and play.

When asked what it is that Kashi does to calm Taylor, Amber says she doesn't know. It seems that just her presence decreases Taylor's anxiety – that and her soft ears, which Taylor loves to gently rub. Taylor also likes to rest her head on Kashi's side and read to her, which Kashi doesn't seem to mind a bit.

Amber says Kashi is a great dog, and knows the difference between playing in the backyard, and putting on her cape and going to work. "When I take her for a walk, she's just like any other dog – going everywhere, sniffing everything. But when we put on her cape, she is all about business. She stays on the sidewalk and stops at the street without me constantly having to direct her, so I can concentrate on Taylor."

One of Taylor's new responsibilities is to feed Kashi. Getting up in the morning used to take some coaxing, now all it takes is a quick reminder that "Kashi is hungry" to get Taylor bouncing out of bed to start the day.



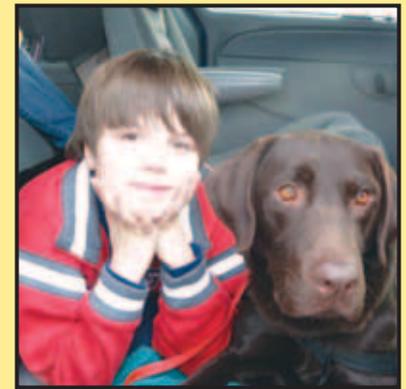
Taylor and Kashi

Recently, a member of the Lion's Club introduced himself when he saw the family out with Kashi. Amber was happy to have the opportunity to thank one of the generous groups that raise money for Can Do Canines, and the man was gratified to see an assistance dog out working, and to learn that the money he helped raise allows persons like Taylor and her family to receive these amazing dogs free of charge.

Having a dog is a lot of work, whether it be a pet or a working dog, but there are great benefits too. Amber says, "Take a chance, every minute is worth it." ♥

To make more dogs like Kashi possible for children on our waiting list, please visit can-do-canines.org or call Janet at 763-331-3000 ext. 153.

New Teams



Caleb Jacobs & Autism Assist Dog Cooper

"I don't think you can understand the difference this makes in our lives," Caleb's mom, Anee, says. "It doesn't just change [the life of] the one the dog serves. It's the whole family."

Thank You

Dog Source – Can Do Canines
Vet Services – Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital
Puppy Raiser – The Paul Larson Family
Foster Home – The Turner Family
"Special Thanks" – Kim Kriesel, Julie Mach, Name A Puppy Participant – Seagate

See their full story at www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter



Jenny Dahlstad & Hearing Assist Dog Autumn

The end result of all their hard work is a great team, with Autumn providing the extra pair of ears and the peace of mind that Jenny was seeking.

Thank You

Dog Source – Oak Knoll Collies
Field Trainer – Julia Breza
Vet Services – Veterinary Ophthalmology Special Practice, Maryland Ave. Pet Hospital
Puppy Raiser – Federal Correctional Institute at Sandstone
Foster Home – Laura Shirley & Bill Kempton

See their full story on page 4

Wish List

Dog Supplies

- ✓ Gift cards to pet supply stores
- ✓ **I.Click Training Clickers**
- ✓ **Car Seat Belt Harnesses – All sizes**
- ✓ **Halti Head Collars sizes 2 & 3**
- ✓ Martingale collars
- ✓ Soft Treats (BilJac, Zukes)
- ✓ **Giant Nylabones and Lg. Kongs**
- ✓ L or XL Vari-Kennels, new or gently used
- ✓ Wire Dog Kennels
- ✓ Frontline Flea and Tick Preventative
- ✓ Easy Walk or Freedom Harnesses
- ✓ Donated veterinary services
- ✓ Purebred puppies

Electronics

- ✓ **Laptops & Computers, Windows 7 and/or Mac 10.7 or newer**
- ✓ Wall mountable server rack 19U
- ✓ LCD TV, 32" or larger
- ✓ Home Theater system for meeting room

Automotive

- ✓ Gasoline cards
- ✓ Minivan
- ✓ Auto repair/maintenance
- ✓ Small Station wagon

Equipment

- ✓ **Complete office set with storage**
- ✓ **Queen bed and night stands**
- ✓ Office chairs
- ✓ Office cubicles
- ✓ Commercial Elliptical exercise machine

Miscellaneous

- ✓ Gift cards to
 - grocery stores
 - office supply stores
 - Michael's craft store
 - Party City
- ✓ Office supplies (paper, markers, stamps)
- ✓ Bleach, glass cleaner, HE laundry detergent
- ✓ Framed dog-related art
- ✓ Nature's Miracle Cleaner

Building Materials

- ✓ Bathroom storage cabinet, small
- ✓ Gift certificates home improvement stores
- ✓ **Pipe and drape, black (6 - 8ft x 10 ft sections)**
- ✓ **Stage skirting, black, (24 inch x 32 ft)**

Items in bold are our most pressing needs!
For more wish list items, please go to
www.can-do-canines.org ♥

Do you have an Enchanted Tale about your assistance dog?

Can Do Canines would like to capture enchanted tales from graduates, puppy raisers, foster raisers and volunteers! Tell us how your Can Do Canine has enchanted your life and we may use your story at the Fetching Ball.

Send your tale to Shelly Hiemer at shiemer@can-do-canines.org.

Development News

To learn more about any Development News items, please contact Development Director Janet Cobus at 763-331-3000 ext. 153 or email [jacobus@can-do-canines.org](mailto:jcobus@can-do-canines.org)

Yum Yum – It's Chocolate Time



Everyone loves a good chocolate bar! Through lots of volunteer help, we raise over \$10,000 each year one candy bar at a time! Would you help us sell our World's Finest Chocolate bars? You can check out a box of 50 (cost \$25.00) and sell them for \$1.00 each. The organization earns .50 for each bar sold. They are delicious! They will be available at the Can Do Woofaroo event on August 5 or in our office. Call or email Kathy Broten now to reserve your box! 763-331-3000, Ext. 152 or kbroten@can-do-canines.org



Hear Ye, Hear Ye

The Minnesota Renaissance Festival is Coming...

Weekends from August 18 – September 30, plus Labor Day, September 3 and Festival Friday, September 28th

Help raise \$2,500 by volunteering to work in the Pet Gate and checking in a variety of dogs visiting the festival. Receive free admission to the festival on the day you work, a \$6.00 food coupon and a ticket to come back another day. Minimum age is 16 (with an adult). Four- hour morning or afternoon shifts are available. To volunteer, contact Patty Wirz at pattywirz@yahoo.com Sign up now, volunteer slots fill up fast!

Wine, Chocolate and Romance weekend, September 15 & 16

This fun, themed weekend will feature the 23rd Annual Charity Auction with 100% of proceeds benefiting Can Do Canines. Auction items include vineyard tours, hotel stays, specialized wines, theatre tickets, sports memorabilia and many more gifts for all ages. If you have an auction item to donate, contact Janet Cobus. Or if you simply want to attend the event and bid on some of the great items, please go to the (www.renaissancefest.com-link to wine weekend) to find out more information and to buy tickets to the festival.



Save The Date

Saturday, November 10, 2012

Our Enchanted Tails

Earle Brown Heritage Center
Brooklyn Center MN - 6:00 pm

You won't want to miss this one-of-a-kind creative black tie event. Enjoy an evening of fun including the Fido and Friends Fashion Show featuring designs only the most enchanting assistance dogs will be wearing. Jason DeRusha of WCCO-TV will emcee this unique event that also sports silent and live auctions, wine toss, dogtini bar and much, much more! What a fun way to raise funds for Can Do Canines assistance dog programs! We have sponsorship opportunities available and you can purchase individual tickets or purchase a reserved table now by ordering online at www.fetchingball.com or calling the Special Events Coordinator, Shelly Hiemer, at 763-331-3000, Ext. 115 for more information. Come have a ball!!!

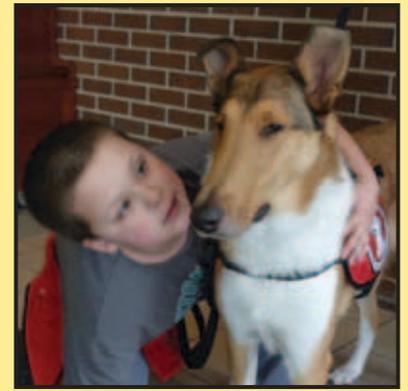


Volunteers and Puppy Raisers

Thanks to all of our volunteers and puppy raisers who gave of their time and talent from March 16, 2012 to June 15, 2012—we couldn't do it without you! Puppy Raisers are noted by a 🐾 beside their names

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| The Abrahamson family 🐾 | The Dawn Johnson family | Steve & Becky Hallan | Kim Makie | 🐾 Dora & Howard |
| 🐾 The Accola family | Joanne Day | Jennifer Hankey | Carrie Maloney | Schroeder |
| 🐾 Diana Adamsom | Dr. Jean DeJong | 🐾 Mel & Brian Hanson | Mary Manders | 🐾 The Schroeder family |
| Jayson & Kathryn Alexander | Liz Dillon | Deb Hanson & family | Kari Martin | Kate Schroven |
| Jennifer Alexander | 🐾 The Doyon family | Ronnie Hartman | 🐾 Christina & Nick Martinez | 🐾 Holly & Ken Schultz |
| 🐾 Mary & Jon Alexander | Judy Dunbar | Jackie Hauge | Bill Mather | Judy Schwab |
| Linda Altergott | Sarah Durant | 🐾 The Heffernan family | Ruth McAlindon | 🐾 Ken & Stephanie Scott |
| Nick Anderson | Elizabeth Eagle | 🐾 The Herberg family | Kevin McCauley | 🐾 The Scott family |
| Tom Antikainen | Laurie & Ron Ehlert | 🐾 The Herr family | Kelly McClure | Annette Scribner |
| 🐾 Dianne & Doug Astry | Megan Ehlert | 🐾 Matt & Laura Hofkens | Kaity McGinn | 🐾 The Sears family |
| Bruce Backlund | 🐾 Sara Ehlert | The Holicky family | 🐾 Michele & Shawn McLane | Adrianna Shannon |
| The Barnes family | Sara Elstad | 🐾 The Hollerud family | Gwen McMahon | Collin & Bob |
| Nancy Bauman & "Nigel" | Jeff Ercebo | Patricia Hughes | Kim Medin | Shaughnessy & "Cher" |
| Bill Beddie | 🐾 Lia Enger | Anne Ingvoldstad | Kevin Medzis | Carrie Sherno |
| Briana Bindert | Lauren Engfer | Kelly Jackson | Sue Melrose | Kathryn Sherwood |
| Kim Bloomer & "Tagg" | Galen Engholm | 🐾 Annette & Mark Johnson | Dr. Lindsay Merkel | Laura Shirley |
| The Bloomquist family | The Essen family | Bill Johnson | 🐾 The Merkel family | 🐾 Dave & Marge Skeic |
| Jan Boe | Jean Euteneuer & "Lexie" | Emily Johnson | Ingrid Miller | Michelle Skrypcc |
| Jim Borthwick | Mark Falstad | Kathy & Randy Johnson | Jake & Teresa Miller | Melissa Stam & "Kramer" |
| Rhonda Bosacker | Deb Fauber & "Camille" | Linda Johnson | Andrea Miller & "Drake" | Sharon Steinbrecher |
| Mike Branch | 🐾 Mike Ferber | Junebug Band | Mike Molzahn | Ken & Judy Stenzel & "Calvin" |
| Janet Bratkovich | Tom Fiecke | Beth Kantor & "Dazzle" | Jake & "Guido" | Greg Stevens |
| Sara Braziller | Duane Finger | Sheila Keenan | Sarah Murphy | John Stungess |
| Darlene & Vern Breamer | Liz Fischbein Palkar | Mary Kelley & "Brinks" | Kelly Neal | Donna Taylor |
| Sarah Breidenbach & "Moxie" | Maggie Flanagan | Karen Kelly & "Joy" | Joanne Nichols | Brian Toews |
| The Broten family | Kevin Florence | Bill Kempton | 🐾 The Niederloh family | Lindsey Trader |
| Alexa Buckingham | Sue Forsberg | Lora Kennedy | Ron Norton | 🐾 The Tuenge family |
| Julia Buege Freeman | Barb Frame | Brian Kerr | Paul Oberhaus | The Turner family |
| Erin & Rob Bunting | Holly Friday | Barb Kirby | Alison Olausen | Udemone Band |
| Robert Burns | Marlys Gapster-Sand | Sue Klein | Dr. Carl & Lynn Osborne | The Urbandale Helpers |
| Jennifer Burt | Jamie & Angie Garfield | Caitlin Knealing | 🐾 Betty Otto | Patty Van Landschoot |
| Charlyn Cadwell | Casey Gast | Don Knutson | Janice Parrow | Sandy Vance |
| Manny Camilon | Bonnie Genin | Ken Kolding | 🐾 Alan Peters | Kevin Peterson |
| Julie Carlblom | Cheryl & Christopher Gibbons | Terri Krake & "Brody" | Kevin Peterson | Jon & Sandy Pidde |
| 🐾 Pia & Ben Carlsen | Diana & Michelle Gillman | Mary Sue Krueger | Jon & Sandy Pidde | The Piotrowski family |
| Hannah Carlson | Mark Given | Victoria LaBerge & "Newman" | Ann Platt | Maureen & Paul Pranghofer & "Bentley" |
| Nancy Carlson | Ver Tech Students- Globe College/MN School of Business | Julianne & Nick Larsen | Maureen & Paul Pranghofer & "Bentley" | Kirsten Purvis |
| Mike Carter | Dr. Jonathan W. Godsell | Karen & Ray Larsen | Jared Rhatigan | Jared Rhatigan |
| 🐾 The Chang family | Belinda & Alan Golan | The Paul Larson family | Mary Rhatigan & "Ebony" | Mary Rhatigan & "Ebony" |
| Beth Cherryholmes | Diane Golden | Belle Lazere | 🐾 The Ruppe family | Sharon Russell |
| Tim & Marcia Clennon & "Rosy" | Jimmy Good | Steve Levens | Sharon Russell | Janelle Samuelson |
| Gary Cobus | Katy Goodwin | Steve Linder | Janelle Samuelson | Julia Sand |
| Jordan Colbert | Kathy Grant | Joan Lisi-McCoy | Julia Sand | Dave & Mary Sandstrom |
| Bob Copus | Becky Grosseth | Robin Littlewolf | 🐾 Poomina Sathyanarayanan | 🐾 Jerry Schendel |
| Emily Cox & "Mason" | Craig Grossman | Paul Loken | 🐾 Jerry Schendel | Allison Schildknecht |
| Daddy Jive Band | Savannah Gruber | Liz Lucast | Lynn Schoensted | Theresa Schrank & "Willow" |
| Nacia Dahl | Caitlin Gunderson | Jan Lund | | |
| David Yellen Band | Sharolyn Hagen | Jean Lundquist & "Juno" | | |
| | Susan Hager & "Mattie" | 🐾 The MacKay family | | |
| | | Cindy Madsen | | |
| | | Stephanie Magelky & "Stevie" | | |
| | | Megan Majsterski Lazere | | |

New Teams



Paul Laube & Autism Assist Dog Dawson
"There is a smile on his face every time he comes home because the first thing he is going to do is find Dawson," Cecilia says. "Paul has never been happier than right now."

Thank You
Dog Source – Oak Knoll Collies
Vet Services – Maryland Ave. Pet Hospital
Puppy Raiser – Karen & Ray Larsen
Foster Home – The Turner Family
 See their full story at www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter



Name: Erin Nolin & Diabetes Assist Dog Wiggs
The entire family loves her and feels more comfortable about Erin's health knowing Wiggs is around. Wiggs has become the right tool for Erin to have in her arsenal for diabetes management. "None of us could imagine life without her now."

Thank You
Dog Source – High Voltage Retrievers
Field Trainer – Sara MacFarland
Puppy Raiser – The Sears Family
Foster Home – Inmates at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault, The Niederloh Family
"Special Thanks" – Name a Puppy Participant Steve Kittay

See their full story on page 5

Gifts In Honor Of

Gifts given in honor of and in memory of have been received between March 16 - June 15, 2012

- Donated ByIn Honor Of**
 Babolik "Gypsy"
 Kristine Bisanz..... The Sherry and Jim Duggan Family
 Bonnie Bonnie Dwelle Chari Myers, just because
 Kathi DeJohn..... 2013 Officers of Myrtle Chapter OES
 John Donham The Flierman boys' birthdays
 Shanna Ferber..... Michael G. Ferber
 Roland Franceschi.....birthdays of Cora Quinn, Michael Franceschi, and Susan Russel
 Marie Frandsen..... "Ernie"
 Shirley Franklin..... Maureen Pranghofer
 Todd Geske..... "Dinger", "Moxie", Gibson", "Odie"
 Katrina Goldmore..... "Ember" Martinez
 Sean Goldsworthy..... "Vi"
 June Holden "Moxie".
 Danni Jaeger..... Mr. and Mrs. Herschbach
 Jonne Kardell..... Anna Laufer and "Capri"
 Barry Kessler..... Rhonda Hamer
 Sylvia Knazan, Ann Berg, Patricia Callaghan, Kathleen Cameron, Susan Hammersten, David Godfrey, Jordana Kojha-Volk, Jan Kooistra, Gretchen Ulbee
Lisa Knazan on her retirement

- Eva KripkeSusan and Jeff's 28th Wedding Anniversary
 Daryl Kunik, Mardi Kunik, Randall Kunik,
 Tim Lodge, Daniel Segal, Millie Segal
 Muriel Erickson's 90th birthday
 Phyllis Lundeen 66th anniversary
 Stephanie MagelkyThe Patti & Galen Swenson family and their dog "Jessie".
 Gretchen Mantalica.....Deb Healy and "Hoover"
 Cindy Ness Kim Bloomer
 Marjorie Nethererton, Peggy MalcolmDee and John Hollerud and "Echo"
 Sheri Radoux..... Zachary, Ethan and Emma
 David Rogers..... "Ernie"
 Stephanie Roseland..... Michelle Propp O'Kelley
 Dora and Howie Schroeder....."Cooper"
 Sharon SingletonShirley Burgoyne's 90th birthday
 The Leede Group LLC Michael Branch
 Carole Weatherby "Tommy" and "Buddy"

Volunteer Spotlight – Mary Decheine-Rhatigan

Graduate and volunteer Mary Decheine-Rhatigan certainly doesn't let the grass grow under her feet!

While completing her training and certification in late 2009 with her Diabetes Assist Dog, Ebony, Mary jumped into helping Can Do Canines in any way she could. She began by helping our Development Director with grant writing and graphics projects. In 2010, she showed staff members several InDesign tricks to enhance their knowledge in graphics.

Passionate about Can Do Canines and determined to get the word out to as many people as she could about our programs, she began speaking to groups. She has spoken to service groups and to individuals wherever she goes. Mary has been a guest speaker for us at functions such as our 2010 Tails of Independence fundraising luncheon, All-Member, Grand Chapter banquet for Order of Eastern Star and at several Lion midwinter conventions. Mary was a founding member of the Benevon committee at Can Do Canines and when we implemented our Ambassador program,

she created the Ambassador Toolkit and jumped in to assist training other graduates, volunteers and supporters how to speak on our behalf.

That's not all! Mary has helped with our newsletter layout and other graphics needs, and did the layout for our last two annual reports – no small feat! She served on the 2011 Fetching Ball gala committee, has been a Table Host at the 2010, 2011 and 2012 Tails of Independence luncheons, and always jumps in to help wherever she sees a need.

Mary encouraged her son, Jared, to volunteer as well. Jared has helped exercise dogs and worked with our Super Puppy program.

In late 2011, Mary was elected to the Can Do Canines board of directors. She continues to spread the word about Can Do Canines whenever and wherever she can.

Thank you Mary, for your Can Do spirit, love and passion for what we do. Can Do Canines sincerely appreciates all of your assistance in furthering our mission! ♥



Mary Decheine-Rhatigan and Diabetes Assist Dog, Ebony

What about you?

Are you willing to give the gift of your time? We need help in the following areas:

- Lawn maintenance and landscaping
- Assistant for event planning
- Puppy Raisers (14-16 months)
- Foster families (2-4 weeks)
- Receptionist
- Marketing Assistant

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Laurie Carlson at lcarlson@can-do-canines.org or 763-331-3000 ext. 113.



New Board Member John Sturgess

A knowledgeable entrepreneur in the pet services business, John Sturgess owns and operates the ADOGO Pet Hotel located in Minnetonka, Minn. His love for dogs, along with his 23 years of hotel management experience, inspired him to open the hotel in 2011. Offering boarding, daycare, grooming, training, and a small retail component, the ADOGO Pet Hotel is in one of the few industries that continues to grow during this down economy.

John was recently honored with the prestigious Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year Award presented by the TwinWest Chamber of Commerce.

John is honored to be a member of the Can Do Canines Board of Directors, accepting the appointment in March of 2012. "I am most excited about working for what I consider to be an extremely important cause, and to work with such a great group of people."

Sturgess lives in Eden Prairie with his wife Stacey, his daughter Ellie, and his golden retriever named Frankie. ♥



John Sturgess with daughter, Ellie, wife, Stacey and Golden Retriever, Frankie



Can Do Canines is pleased to have NutriSource Super Premium Pet Foods as our dog food sponsor



Correction:

In our spring 2012 issue of Tails from Minnesota we incorrectly identified the dog source for Mobility Assist Dog Drake. He was donated by the Lenneman Family. We apologize for the error.

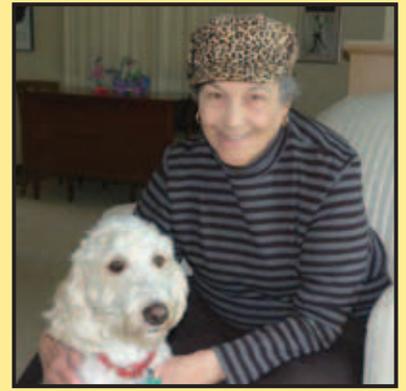
Gifts In Memory Of

Gifts given in memory of have been received between March 16 - June 15, 2012

Donated By **In Memory Of**
 Duane Aipperspach Dr. Richard Peterson
 Rebecca Amstutz "Frango" and "Maxwell"
 Holly Anderson "Coogie"
 Animal Wellness Center "Addi" Brown, "Bailey" Kelson,
 "Bailey" Kilroy, "Freckles" Myhre, "Holly" Carlson, "Kiki"
 Bergstrom, "Killara" Spence-Parsons, "Lucky" Dioquino,
 "Quinn" Brink, "Snickers" Hall, "Trixie" Valerius, "Zak"
 Dingel, "Bailey" Arnold, "Boddy" O'Neill, "Fozzy"
 Schmidt, "Freckles" Akermann, "Fuzzy" Brown, "Riley"
 Stewart, "Beau" Gumbrell, "Boulder" Pzynski, "Brandi"
 Futrell, "Buddy" Wood, "Cali" Guthrie, "Chase" Phelan,
 "Cruiser" Heise, "Earl" Booth, "Fox" Metts, "Kayla"
 Lindsay, "Lucky" Madsen, "Magnum" Hotchkiss, "Max"
 Brost, "Max" Little, "Snuggles" Book, "Summer" Brown,
 "Tasselhoff" Smith, "Tex" Martin, "Bailey" Phillips,
 "Curious" Feriancek, "Fritz" Annoni, "Jaz" Olson,
 "Jordan" Crandall, "Locket" Anderson
 Stacy Avery "Couch"
 Wayne Cederberg, Kathy Labat,
 Otto's Bakery, David Rossow Marty Alford
 Sherry Christiansen "Tasha"
 Cokato Lions Club Ken DeWall
 Kristin Copeland Knutsen,
 Anderson Landscape/Lawn Care, Donna Christensen,
 Jill Nothwehr, Cheryl Thompson Richard Meuwissen
 Lindsey Cory "Miller"
 Lynn Cox Brian Cox
 Florence Dacey Lee Perish and her friendship with
 Florence's brother Everett Chard
 Donna Dean Bradley Schwartz, M.D.
 Karen Finch "Yanni"
 Angela Frerichs Bud and former service dog "Teko"
 Marcia Fritzmeier, Morgan Willow Lee Perish
 Janet Galvin "Belle"

Steven Gelderman Beverly Hanson
 Bonnie Genin Bertha Hofland
 Bonnie Genin Gary VanWatermolen
 Melvin Goldenbogen "Dude"
 Hazel Johnson "Maggie"
 Dana Knopic "Emmie"
 Lynn Krafve, Jean Moburg,
 Michelle Morgan, Penny Villeux Dean Wetzel
 Christopher Lavalle "Titan" Lavalle -
 You were the best pal a person could want.
 We miss you buddy.
 LaVonne Ludke "Mandy"
 Charles Magnuson "Holly Berry" and "Carter"
 Christine Maloney "Cassidy"
 Amber Mathwig In memory of Lion Darwin Mathwig in
 recognition of his 60th birthday
 Pat McCauley, Nancy Morin Alice Rogers
 Maryann Merideth "Murphy"
 Keith Mortimore "Babe" and "Dusty"
 Marie Nagel "Kippy"
 Mary Nelson Pam Palen
 Robert Pederson Mike Watters
 Elaine Radloff Dr. Gordon Kubesh
 Donna Ritzi Frances Olson
 Barry and Vicki Riven Ruben Zamansky
 Millie Segal Jane Greengard
 Katie Simon Dasty Karon Wendt
 Susan Smedberg "Wiley"
 Bruce Thorson "L.A."
 Twin Valley Lions Club "Ernie" and Brandy",
 best friends - good dogs
 Barb Verhage Clarice Erickson
 Claralouise Walker "Stitchie"
 Toni Yeamans "Blossom"

New Teams



Name: Sharon Levitsky & Diabetes Assist Dog Murray

Besides her juice, another thing Murray has been able to give Sharon and her family is confidence and greater peace of mind. "I've felt a lot safer since Murray came," Sharon says.

Thank You

Dog Source – Kathy Pescovitz
Vet Services – Animal Wellness Center
Puppy Raiser – Mike Ferber & Betty Otto
Foster Home – Julie & Lex Stolis, Inmates at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault

See their full story at www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter

Welcome New Staff Member

Kathy Broten joined our staff in January 2012 as the new Development Assistant. She often brings her whippet, Tigger, with her to work to socialize with the other dogs.

Married for almost 22 years to Mark, a 3rd grade teacher in the Minnetonka School District, Kathy lives nearby in Plymouth and has two children. Haley just finished her first year at the University of North Dakota, and Kyle will head to Minnesota State University, Mankato in the fall. Both are active volunteers at Can Do Canines.

Kathy has been a familiar face around Can Do Canines since she began volunteering at the front desk in March 2011. Before that she worked at a St. Paul publishing company for 20 years. She is much happier with her current four-minute commute!



Kathy and Tigger

Kathy loves sports and plays softball, volleyball, and broomball, and is an avid walker. She and her family are big Twins fans and attend several games throughout the summer. Welcome Kathy! ♥

Can Do Canines Legacy Club – IRA Gift Tip:

Q. I'd like to make a charitable donation from an IRA. What's the next step?

A. You can designate Can Do Canines as the beneficiary of a percentage of your IRA assets. The full value of the funds given to us will then go to support our mission (income taxes will not erode their value). To make your gift, you simply need to complete

a beneficiary designation form, naming Can Do Canines as beneficiary and specifying the percentage to go to us. This designation is completely revocable during your lifetime, and your estate will receive an estate tax charitable deduction for our share. For more information on planned giving, please visit our website: <http://can-do-canines.org/gifting-and-planned-giving/>



Taylor Ostenson & Autism Assist Dog Kashi

It seems that just Kashi's presence decreases Taylor's anxiety – that and her soft ears, which Taylor loves to gently rub. Taylor also likes to rest her head on Kashi's side and read to her.

Thank You

Dog Source – HayShaker Labs
Puppy Raiser – Darell & Julie Carlblom
Foster Home – Inmates at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault, Nancy Piotrowski, Dora Schroeder,
Special Thanks - Name a Puppy Participants – UBS Financial Services

See their full story on page 7



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Your brochure and pledge sheet are inside this issue!

Upcoming Events

July 21	Tails To Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
August 5	Can Do Woofaroo, 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
August 14	Tails To Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
August 14	Speakers Bureau Training, 11:30 a.m.
August 18	Volunteer and Ambassador Training 9:00 a.m.
September 13	Tails To Tell Tour, 7:00 p.m.
October 13	Tails To Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
October 28	Graduation, 1:00 p.m.

** All Tails to Tell tours take place at our facility, located at 9440 Service Center Drive, New Hope, MN 55428*
Please call our office at 763-331-3000 or email tour@can-do-canines.org to reserve your spot!

- See demonstrations
- Learn what assistance dogs Can Do!
- Watch the Terpsichory Courtly Dance Troupe perform
- Tour the Can Do Canines facility
- Visit our exhibitor booths
- Enjoy family and doggie games
- **Collect pledges and participate in our one mile walk at 1:00 pm!**

Can Do Woofaroo Sunday August 5 at Can Do Canines

Join us for this light-hearted event that will bring together supporters of our assistance dog organization, pet lovers and the community for a fun and educational day!

To register online or for more details, visit our website at www.CanDoWoofaroo.org



Join us Rain or Shine!



11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Exhibitor Area Open
Entertainment ongoing
1:00 p.m. Woofaroo Walk

(Formerly the Heel and Wheel)