Can Do Canines®
ASSISTANCE DOGS
Celebrating 25 years of service

Tails from Minnesota

Assistance Dogs for: Hearing Loss • Mobility Challenges • Seizure Disorders • Type 1 Diabetes • Childhood Autism

See the message inside the cover.

"A Diamond in the Rough"
page 6

We want to include your name on the permanent campaign donor wall at the entrance to our facility!

See the message inside the cover.

Winter 2013
Volume 25 Issue 1

Can Do Canines®
ASSISTANCE DOGS

Dear Supporter of Can Do Canines,

We are bringing our capital campaign, the *Campaign for Independence,* to a close on December 31, 2013 and want to be sure that everyone who wants to be included in this historic effort has had the chance to participate. **Contributors to the campaign will have their names permanently installed on a display in the entrance to our facility.**

If you have already contributed to the campaign, *thank you!* Please take a moment to check your name on the back inside cover of this newsletter wrap to be sure your name is presented and spelled correctly for the permanent display. If there are any changes to be made, please let us know. You may also make an additional pledge to move into a higher recognition category.

Through our *Campaign for Independence*, we've raised the funds to acquire our property, add kennel space, and renovate the building and property to meet the needs of our clients and dogs in training. Thanks to the generosity of those who have contributed, $4.1 million of our $4.4 million goal has been raised. Part of these gifts and pledges will be used to pay off our mortgage by 2017. We are most grateful to all who have participated so far.

The final stage of the campaign will provide the critical staff and canine resources needed to more quickly serve the 181 people who are currently waiting for assistance dogs. This final step will help us achieve the mission outlined in our recently completed strategic plan for the future. More details about this campaign can be found on our website at http://can-do-canines.org/capital-campaign-for-independence/

If you have not yet made a campaign contribution and would like to be included, please make your contribution in one of these ways:

- Make a contribution online by visiting our website. Be sure to use the box marked capital campaign.
- Send in your contribution using the envelope attached to the center of this newsletter.
- Make a pledge to the campaign. A pledge made this year may be paid next year and for up to three years. Contact Janet Cobus, at 763-331-3000 ext. 153 for information.
- Purchase a plaque for display on our Commemorative Wall of Honor. Plaque purchases made by December 31 will also add your name to the permanent display at our entrance. Go to http://can-do-canines.org/capital-campaign-for-independence/ for information on purchasing a plaque or call us and request a brochure.

This campaign is above and beyond our annual fundraising efforts that support the regular operations of the organization. If you feel that you can only make one gift this year, we thank you and ask that you make that gift to our general operating fund. It is the life's blood for our current operations.

Please feel free to contact Janet Cobus or me if you have any questions about the campaign. And thank you for your ongoing support of Can Do Canines!

Sincerely,

Alan M. Peters
Executive Director

9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, MN 55428
Phone: 763-331-3000 • Fax: 763-331-3009 • www.can-do-canines.org

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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
Celebrating 25 years of service

Editor/Layout/Design
Alan M. Peters Mary Decheine-Rhatigan

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 equipment are provided to each client free of charge.

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To reach a staff member via phone, dial 763-331-3000. When you hear the greeting, press the extension number you need or press 2 for an employee directory.

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From the Executive Director

Happy Holidays!

On behalf of the board of directors and staff of Can Do Canines I want to extend a wish for a very happy holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year. We are very proud of our accomplishments during 2013 and look forward to a year of growth and achievement in 2014. Thank you for your support of our mission.

25 Years

During 2014, Can Do Canines will celebrate 25 years of training and placing assistance dogs in our community. Twenty-five years!

We will celebrate this milestone in a number of ways during the coming year, including a formal dedication of our facility and the installation of a permanent donor wall in our building to honor all those who contributed to the Campaign for Independence. It will be a fun and productive year as we take time to look back a bit, but concentrate on looking forward to the work still to be done. Please join us in the celebration!

Capital Campaign

Our capital campaign, The Campaign for Independence, began in 2009 and has been a huge success. We are now very close to reaching our goal of raising $4.4 million and we are stretching to raise the remaining $338,593 by the end of the year. Every gift is crucial to our success.

So far, we have acquired and developed our own facility in New Hope, Minnesota, and have created a wonderful environment for our clients, volunteers, staff, and, of course, our dogs! As part of the campaign, we have secured pledges and gifts to eliminate all debt for the organization by 2017.

A successful completion to the final phase of the campaign will allow us to add the needed equipment and staff to put our facility to full use and to actualize the overriding goal of increasing the number of trained assistance dogs placed with people with disabilities in our community.

Specifically, these final funds will create the resources necessary to increase the number of graduates by 10 new teams—each year—during each of the next four years. **This means that while we would expect to graduate 144 teams at our current pace—about 36 per year—we will instead graduate 244 teams during that same time period—a staggering 100 extra assistance dog teams in the community by the end of 2017!**

You can see why this last effort to complete the campaign is so important. Your gifts to the campaign will have a lasting impact on many lives.

If you have not had a chance to contribute to the campaign, please consider doing so now so your name will join with the many others who have already contributed on a permanent display in our entry foyer. Another way to support this special effort is by purchasing a plaque on our Commemorative Wall of Honor before December 31, 2013. A brochure describing the Commemorative Wall opportunity is available by mail or online at http://tinyurl.com/omqg37z . Feel free to contact me if you have questions or ideas to share.

Thank you for all you do for Can Do Canines. Happy holidays! ♥

Alan Peters

A Royal Succession

Collin Shaughnessy and Diabetes Assist Dog "Sir" Giles

Collin Shaughnessy of Shoreview, Minn. beams when asked how it feels to finish training with her assistance dog, Giles. "It feels wonderful. I can't believe we made it through!"

Indeed, this past summer has been a time of great losses and gains for Collin. Her assistance dog, Cher, a well loved and critical fixture in her life for the past four years, passed away in June from lymphoma. Two days later, Collin's mother passed away and two weeks after that, she lost an aunt and a good friend as well.

Collin and Giles

When she learned that Cher was ill, Collin applied for a successor dog from Can Do Canines, knowing that with her Type 1 diabetes complications, including hypoglycemia unawareness, she would need another dog quickly to help keep her safe. The dog would also need to have mobility assist skills to help her with challenges with fibromyalgia.

In July, Can Do Canines found a great dog to match Collin's needs. Giles, a sweet two-year-old black Labrador Retriever had the talent for diabetes scent work as well as mobility skills work.

"I call him Sir Giles, it sounds so British, and okay, also because I'm a princess," Collin laughs. "I had to be patient and learn to work as a team, to get to know each other and bond. That happened best when we were alone together." The training process went quickly and within a few weeks Sir Giles had moved into Collin's house.

Collin appreciates staff trainer Dora Schroeder's expertise in helping the two work together. "Dora made it fun. She taught me how to be patient, which was important when emotions ran high. I needed encouragement and she gave me that."

Now, Giles alerts Collin when her blood sugar is low, gets juice when she needs it and helps her with retrieving items. He retrieves the brace for her foot, helps with the laundry and pulls off her socks at night. She exclaims, "The most wonderful thing in the world! I don't have to bend down to pull them off." She adds proudly, "Giles has 'a double major'." Her husband Bob says, "I feel better about being gone from home. I feel more secure knowing they are okay."

Collin is so appreciative of all the love and training Giles received growing up. "The Puppy Raisers, I really want to thank them, they did a terrific job. Giles is a sweet and smart dog thanks to them. I'd also like to thank the inmates who worked with Giles. One wrote notes on his training with Giles and tricks he taught him. I got to read that and it was really fun to learn that about him."

Collin knows that donors to Can Do Canines enable clients to receive the dogs at no charge. "What you do means everything. I couldn't afford to get an assistance dog without your contributions." She has done all she can to help raise funds for the organization, including directing all memorials for her mother to go to Can Do Canines. "We try to do whatever we can to repay what they've given us. Can Do Canines has always been appreciative of whatever amount we could give. That makes me feel good."

Thank You

Dog Source: Can Do Canines
Puppy Raiser: The Martinez Family
Special Thanks to: Jennifer Leary and The Inmate Handlers at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault

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A True Labor of Love

Deborah Javinsky-Wenzek and Mobility Assist Dog Zach

by Pam Streiff

Did you know that Can Do Canines could help an owner train the family pet as an assistance dog?

Deborah Javinsky-Wenzek lives in St. Louis Park, Minn. with her husband Michael, their cat Bella, and Zach, a small four-year-old Jack Russell Terrier mix. Deborah and Zach recently finished training and certified as a Mobility Assist Dog team with Can Do Canines.

Deborah lives with a rare progressive myotonic disorder from an unknown source, which the University of Minnesota diagnosed at age eight. She experiences periodic weakness, muscle pain, and muscle stiffness. By 2003, Deborah found she could no longer work due to the unexpected bouts becoming more severe and frequent. Her energy level changes quickly; every day is different.

Deborah is a true dog lover. She confesses to bonding deeply with her pets and spending much time and training with each of them. When her pet dog passed away in 2010, she was heartbroken at the loss of her 14-year-old companion. After a month, concerned friends convinced her to accept an 11-month-old puppy they had rescued—on a trial basis. Since Zach had previously lived most of his life confined to a kennel, there were bound to be challenges. Zach's rehabilitation would prove to be a true labor of love.

When Zach got out of the kennel he discovered freedom. He was initially wild, unmanageable, and high spirited; Deborah considered giving him back—several times. It was probably Deborah's tenacity, as well as a fear that he might be put down, that kept them together. With the love, and aid from her husband, Deborah and Zach were able to complete three levels of obedience training. This calmed Zach and gave him good-dog behavior. In level four Zach was bored, yet he had the spirit and smarts to do more.

Deborah learned about Can Do Canines from her obedience teacher at the Animal Humane Society and through further investigation on the Internet. A certified assistance dog would be safer and she would feel more comfortable alone, so she and Zach applied to the program and were accepted.

Deborah and Zach

Deborah and Zach's team training at Can Do Canines focused on two primary elements: home and community. With the help of a Can Do Canines trainer, she learned what to expect from Zach when in public, as well as how to work with Zach on new skills to help her at home. Deborah really appreciated her trainer's excellence and flexibility. Now in addition to being a sweet and loving lap dog, Zach enjoys his assistance work. He retrieves dropped items, removes Deborah's socks, and can even bring a cordless phone to her in an emergency. She comments, "People think those things are cute, but these are vital skills." With Zach by her side, Deborah is more comfortable going into the community on her own.

Deb is grateful for the help she received from Can Do Canines in enabling Zach to become certified as her assistance dog. She says, "I also wanted to thank the donors for their generosity and for the opportunity for Zach to receive the training. The training has been and will continue to be beneficial for both of us." ♥

Nutri Source Super Premium Pet Foods

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

Gifts In Honor Of

Gifts given in memory and honor of have been received between September 1, 2013 to November 31, 2013

Betsy Aird ..... Barney and Bailey
Deann Appling ..... My sister, Jenna, who volunteers at Can Do Canines every week
Alicia Blank ..... Tanner, my wonder dog
Berton Bongard ..... Rachel Seurer
Bob Bunger ..... Dianne and Mike McCarthy
Andrea Chardonnay ..... A & R
Christopher Gibbons ..... Sarah Gibbons
Jacqueline Grant ..... My mother Deloris
Sandy Haller ..... Dianne Hennes and Mike McCarthy
Kolleen Herr ..... "Maggie's" adoption
Margaret Hoffman ..... Al Peters
Kathy Kardell ..... Anna Laufer and her dog, Capri
Barry King ..... DJ, recipient of one of Can Do Canines' dogs
Sue Klaassen ..... Bear, Rusty, and Chaz
Natalie Lais ..... Kolleen Herr
Patricia Martin ... For the daily service of Can Do Canines
Erin McGee ..... For assisting the lives of people living with Parkinson's
Katrina Pierson ..... Dianne and Mike McCarthy
Mavis Rubsam ..... Colleen K. and Elsa
Vickie Radloff ..... Mark and Robyn Churchill
Michelle Schlehuber ..... Sofia Day
Juliann Scott ..... In thankfulness for Tom Sandness and "Frieda"
Lauri Svedberg ..... Jane Ballard, Zoe and Lewie
Paul Tanghe ..... Mary A Tanghe
Julie Tarshish ..... Oscar and Charlie's 4th birthday
Amanda Tempel ..... Terri Krake

In Honor Of Allie and Robbie Phillips
Susan Barbiaux, Kyle Brooks, Mary Estlick, Mackenzie Kelley, Linda Molitor, Jeanette Neumann, Mary O'Brien, Jim & Kathryn Ramstad, Anne Stotesbery, Wells Fargo Philanthropy Fund

Caring for Each Other

Eva Reed and Mobility Assist Dog Gypsy

by Pam Streiff

Eva Reed of Minneapolis, Minn., is your typical 'tween.' She loves to dance, swim, and watch TV. Spending time with her family—Cindy, Jan and brother Isaac—is important to her, as well as keeping busy in activities at both school and church. Described by those who know and love her as friendly and outgoing, she has enthusiasm galore and a big endearing smile.

However, living with Cerebral Palsy (CP) has presented challenges, which Eva manages with the help of her family. The spastic quadriplegia limits her fine motor skills and range of motion in her extremities. As Eva grows up, having the ability to be as independent as possible is important.

To that end, Eva's physical therapist recommended that she apply for an assistance dog from Can Do Canines to help her with daily life activities. Eva says, "I thought an assistance dog would be fun and helpful." Eva and her family hoped a well-trained dog could help her with many of the challenges she dealt with every day. They'll tell you now that the gift she received was so much more.

Eva was matched with a petite black Labrador Retriever named Gypsy. Growing up, Gypsy was raised by dedicated volunteer Puppy Raisers and then spent time working with the Faribault Prison inmates to refine her skills prior to placement with Eva. One Puppy Raiser wrote in her puppy report "Gypsy has a laid back and easy going demeanor, you can take her anywhere." Eva's family has found this to be true, and Gypsy accompanies them wherever they go. Eva reports, "Gypsy picks up things I drop, gets help, and brings me the phone." When asked what the most important item is that she retrieves, Eva smiles. "The TV remote!"

Eva and Gypsy

In talking with Eva and her Mom, Cindy, it is obvious they are very close, often talking in tandem. Both were very excited to share the adventures and triumphs during Gypsy's training. Cindy says, "The training was more thorough than I'd expected. It has been really amazing to work as a team with Eva training Gypsy."

At first, Eva didn't think about what her level of responsibility would be for Gypsy. She just thought it would be her dog to love and pet. She soon learned that she had a job as well. Eva is responsible for feeding Gypsy and doing as much of the dog care as she's able. It is an important life skill for Eva, since she has been so used to others taking care of her.

The process, says Eva, was "Educational and amazing to see our relationship grow. The hardest part was I had to have this commitment to taking care of her. But now she's my friend. I'm taking care of her and she is taking care of me." Cindy adds, "When Eva comes home from school, the first face she sees is Gypsy's."

Cindy says, "Gypsy is a comfort; she sleeps with Eva, staying with her at night." Eva adds, "I rub her chest!" "And you talk to her at night," continues Cindy. Cindy goes on to relate that she has overheard Eva talk about her day, telling Gypsy her secrets, like a best friend. Eva even tells Gypsy what she is sad about. When asked how Gypsy has changed her life, Eva says, "I have a friend and companion to walk beside me when I'm outside."

It's now easy to imagine the level of independence, comfort, and newfound confidence this young girl has as she heads into her future—with her Mobility Assistance Dog Gypsy, trained and provided though innumerable generous donations to Can Do Canines! Cindy says, "So many people donated money and time—it's a huge, huge, deal. They have been generous and I feel grateful. and that Eva has such a good friend and helper in Gypsy." ♥

Thank You

Dog Source: Can Do Canines
Puppy Raiser: the Barnes family
Special thanks: Jennifer Leary, the Lenneman family and The Inmate Handlers at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault

Gifts in Memory Of

Gifts given in memory and honor of have been received between September 1, 2013 to November 31, 2013

Gunnhild Accola ..... My mom, Margareth Solem
Elizabeth Aird ..... Jeanne V. Aird
Animal Wellness Center ..... "Bailey" Anderson, "Theo" Anderson, "Prescious" Bellin,"Chewy" Begin, "Sprinkle" Bigelow, "Mokie" Brekke, "Minnie" Brooks, "Bailey" Brown, "Sonny" Campbell, "Tinkerbelle" Carter, "Cleo" Clair, "Bug" Dykoski, "Dallas" Epley, "Max" Fass, "Blue" Fox, "Turbo" Froid, "Cookie" Gelschus, "Punky" Gillig, "Storm" Gravatt, "Baxter" Gustafson, "Muggi" Hamack, "Maggie" Hanna, "Copper" Hansmann, "Bobbi" Hieb, "Frisky" Horejsh, "Elroy" Hughes, "Petunia Rose" Hughes, "Madison" Johnson, "Mobi" Johnson, "Oreo" Johnson, "Lucy" Keeney, "Gato" Kessler, "Mudge" Kessler, "Ernie" Kjos, "Sequoya" Kolness, "Princess" Kons, "Coco" Krill, "Maverick" Kuhn, "Kirra" Kunkel, "Zara" Lacombe, "Olive" Lavery, "Niki" Maupin, "Bella" McNeil, "Peso" Moren, "Kirby" Moyer, "Bartholomew" Musselman, "Savannah" O'Sullivan, "Eli" Overom, "Madison" Peek, "Elliot" Piazza, "Teddy" Reilly, "Chloe" Ridgley, "Zoe" Ridgley, "Freeway" Rindahl, "Ulrich" Ritter, "Katinka" Robeck, "Malibu" Robeck, "Jasper" Ryan, "Sophie" Sanders, "Marley" Sankar, "Baron" Selby-Hele, "Ava" Seligman, "Rocki" Stamas, "Bubba" Stoffel, "Emmy" Sweeney, "Cayla Rae" Stepp, "Snick" Striegel, "Scooter" Tigner, "Tanner" Tischbirek, "Sam" Vorotinov, "Mollie" Wallace, "Snowball" Weddig, "Lilah" Wheatley, "Pepper" Zinter
Denise Bellmer ..... Camille
Marge Bertelson ... Mike Vail and his beloved dog "Bailey"
Karen Burghard ..... "Oakley Niklaus"
Lynn Davey ..... Karen Byron's father
Sandy Davidson ..... Roy Derickson
Rita Eckert ..... "Sunny" and "Scout"
Connie Erickson ..... Gidget
Focus Financial ..... Mae Olsen
Kathleen Galiger ..... My dad, H.H. Albrecht MD
Bonnie Genin ..... Ambie Doll
Bonnie Genin ..... John Pietila
Bonnie Genin ..... Roland Leaf
Bonnie Genin ..... Lila Masters
Lorraine Hanson ..... Roy Derickson
Mark Hanson ..... Roy Derickson
Joanne Hofstad ..... Barb Strum
Kelly Jackson ..... my beloved Java and all of the gifts he has given
Patricia Janssen ..... Our Buddy "Callaway"
Katherine Johnson ..... Bruce Johnson
Vivian Johnson ..... Spencer, Carl and Beau Beau
Lake Park Lions Club ..... John Pietila, Lake Park Lions
Kaye Lebaron ..... Bailey Sansone
Mazeppa Lions Club ..... Blanche Bartz
Pat Nimmerfroh . "Duke", Herb Girtz's wonderful golden
James Osiol ..... Andrew Osiol
Robert Pederson ..... Don Anderson
Barry Riven ..... Beloved Mother and Grandmother Toba Rae Klugman
Martha Rohrbacher ..... our beloved Chesapeake "Duke"
Mary Sandness ..... Bernice Sandness
Lorna Schmeling ..... Jessica Thul
Collin Shaughnessy ..... Josephine Zimmar
Craig Steinmetz ..... Wini Shanabrook
Nancy Savstrom ..... Sofi, Shelby, Katy and Kodi
Sue Taylor ..... Maggie Mae
Marian Veaasen ..... Lion Richard "Stuffy" Stauffeneker
Barb Verhage ..... Earle Kaercher
Sylvia Wilhelmi ..... Kathryn Wilhelmi Shinosky

"A Diamond in the Ruff"

Krista Mohs and Seizure Assist Dog Erma

by Laurie Carlson

Diagnosed seven years ago with epilepsy, Krista Mohs had to stop working due to her seizures and ensuing complications. She says, "I used to live in the country with my mom. One day I went out to the mailbox and had a seizure. I collapsed by the side of the road. Someone driving by found me. That experience really frightened me."

In 2010, Krista adopted a young dog. She soon found out "Dexter" could be quite a handful. Being a young terrier, Dexter had not learned manners in his previous home. Krista says, "I had moments when I felt I just couldn't keep him any longer."

Krista persevered because Dexter had key talents in his favor. When Krista has a seizure, the aftermath can leave her very confused and fearful. She cannot recognize people around her and at times does not even recognize Dexter. Dexter was sensitive to her needs, cuddling with her after a seizure. Then he began to alert her to oncoming seizures, something he learned on his own.

Krista decided that she wanted to take the time and effort to train Dexter to be an assistance dog. She attended training classes at her local Petco, and enlisted the help of a trainer for private sessions to work on public exposure. Dexter proved to be quite talented, loved his training and having a job to do.

This type of team is unique because both the applicant and the dog have to apply and pass specific criteria. Krista says, "Training with your own dog can be very expensive with training costs—it can be stressful and frustrating to do the training yourself. I feel for us it was worth it in the end, but I would also suggest having Can Do Canines provide the dog for those not able to train a dog themselves."

Staff trainer Dora Schroeder describes what needed to be done for the duo to work more smoothly. "Dexter's initial alert to a seizure was an actual nip on Krista's leg. We worked on changing that to a touch, which was a behavior he didn't know. We also worked on the snuggle command to calm her after having a seizure." Also, Krista would set her cell phone alarm to wake her to take medications, but often the alarm wouldn't wake her up. Dexter was trained to wake her to the sound of the alarm.

Newly married, Krista now lives with her husband Joe in Cologne, Minn. She has been able to renew her driver's license and is working part time as a nanny. She smiles, "Dexter makes me feel safe, I can function, and gives me reason to get up and do things. He's changed my life—physically and mentally." ♥

Krista and Dexter

What is a Seizure Assist Dog?

Seizure Assist Dogs are trained to respond in the event of a seizure in specific ways that are helpful to their client. They can include:

- **Retrieving an emergency phone**
- **Getting help from someone in the home**
- **Retrieving medicine**
- **Staying with the client during the seizure and performing set behaviors to aid in recovery, such as licking the face or hands and lying next to or on the person**

The dog wears a specially designed cape that identifies them as an assistance dog and can carry medication, identification, and emergency instructions.

Until one has loved an animal a part of one's soul remains unawakened.

Anatole France

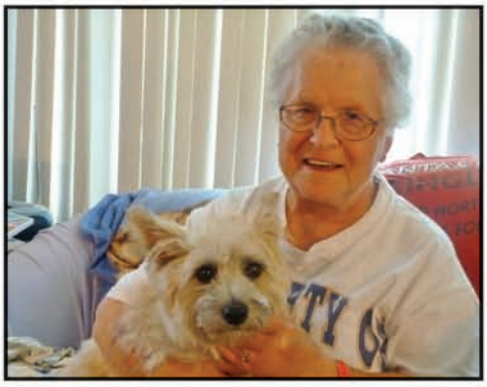
"The Legacy"

Verda Grabinski and Hearing Assist Dog Khloe

Verda Grabinski of LaCrosse, Wisc. is profoundly hard of hearing, and has been so since birth. But that hasn't diminished her determination to lead a normal lifestyle and to learn ways to get around her deafness. Verda found she needed more of a sense of security for her well being and help for sounds she was missing.

In 1999 she received her first Hearing Assist Dog, Buddy, from Can Do Canines. A handsome German Shepherd mix adopted from a shelter, Buddy and Verda learned how to work as a team. They had a wonderful relationship for 14 years. Sadly, Buddy passed away in the winter of 2012.

Verda knew she needed another assistance dog, not only to alert her to the sounds she was now missing but also for companionship. She tried to stay active with friends, hobbies and walks but "Right now it seems very lonely at home without Buddy" she wrote in her application for a successor dog.



Verda and Khloe

Life had become frightening as well. Verda recalls, "After Buddy died someone tried to break in. The police said it was a good thing

(Continued on page 7

A Perfect Match

Karen Glander and Mobility Assist dog Erma

by Staff Writer

Karen Glander of Burnsville, Minn. enjoys staying busy! She kept active with drawing and painting cards, hosting dinner parties, and she's been in a church club with friends since 1975. Karen also likes to cook and still decorates her kids' birthday cakes. In fact, she used to work as a cake decorator.

Karen doesn't let her disabilities rein her in much, but as she's gotten older, she discovered she needed help to stay independent and active. Diagnosed with Polio at one year old, she has little use of her right arm and hand. She then developed Post-Polio Syndrome in her left leg, which affected her balance and ability to walk.

Karen and Erma

While Karen is able to walk, it's with the assistance of a leg brace and cane for short distances only. When out and about, she uses an electric wheelchair to get around easier and more quickly. Over the years, her stronger limbs have been affected from over compensating for her affected ones, and it's easy for her to overdo it if she's not careful. Picking up dropped items is a lot of work and a big frustration.

Karen heard about Can Do Canines from her physician who suggested that a Mobility Assist Dog could help her. A dog would also help her to feel more secure when she is home alone.

One day she read an article in the newspaper about Can Do Canines, and after that met a woman with an assistance dog at the Sister Kenny Institute. She decided this might be the answer for her to stay independent.

Karen applied and was quickly accepted. So quickly in fact, that a problem arose. "We didn't realize I would be matched so quickly with a dog, and my husband Jim got a puppy for bird hunting!" She explains. This added to the training challenge, but the training staff felt that Erma would be a perfect match for Karen and decided it was worth the extra work to make this happen.

Erma, a sweet, easy going three-year-old yellow Labrador Retriever was raised by the inmates at Waseca Federal women's prison and finished in the home of Steve and Becky Hallan. Erma got along wonderfully with the entire family, including the puppy, and was eager to start working with Karen.

Karen says the hardest parts of training with Erma were learning to work as a team and developing her dog handling skills, like unloading Erma from the car. She says, "It's still a work in progress." Karen must always remember to sit straighter in her chair to better handle the unloading process.

When asked about the more beneficial parts of having an assistance dog, she smiles. "Erma opens the refrigerator. Before, I had to swing my right arm out as forcefully as I could—it has a very tight seal. Now Erma does it easily for me and enjoys it!" She adds, "I also drop things a lot. Every day I drop my cane frequently and she picks it up every time. I also had 'reachers' in every room. Erma is my 'reacher' now!"

Karen glows about what a wonderful experience it has been training with Erma. She admires Erma's work ethic. "Erma gets the phone in an emergency—and when she just needs something to do—so I get lots of exercise putting the phone back!"

Karen often carries a basket around that has items she needs to use. She's been teased about that, being called 'Little Red Riding Hood'. Staff trainer Julianne Larsen reminded her that, with Erma's abilities, she can carry the basket for Karen. Karen laughs, "Now that's Erma's title!"

Karen feels more comfortable being able to leave the house now that she has Erma. She says, "I find it just fantastic what the dogs can do for all the different types of health situations, to help people live as close to a normal life as possible."

When asked about others thinking about applying for a dog, she replies, "My hope is that others needing an assistance dog will get an Erma of their own!" ♥

Thank You

Dog Source: ***Can Do Canines***
Puppy Raiser: ***Inmates at Federal Correction Institution at Waseca, the Hallan Family***
Special Thanks: ***The Solberg Family and The Inmate Handlers at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault***

Verda Grabinski and Hearing Assist Dog Khloe *(Continued from page 6)*

they couldn't get over the items I had placed by the window. I woke up and there were twigs on my blanket. I didn't know why until a neighbor came with the screen he said was from my window. It was in his yard."

Verda was matched with Khloe, a lively Cairn/Bichon mix donated to Can Do Canines. Training started and the team began to grow close.

Once again, Verda has that sense of security back. She knows that Khloe will alert her to sounds she'd otherwise miss and most importantly, alert her to life saving sounds like the smoke alarm. Verda says, "I feel safer in my house. I can leave windows open and get fresh air in my house. I don't feel cooped up." She also has a walking partner again—the pair are seen frequently walking around the neighborhood.

Verda reports Khloe has already alerted her to danger. "We've had 18 attempted break-ins in the neighborhood. One night Khloe woke me when someone was trying to break in. I called the police but they didn't catch the man." She assured concerned neighbors, "Khloe will protect me, so I'm not afraid."

Khloe is providing her with safety, peace of mind and a new friendship that hopefully will carry on the legacy that Buddy had started so many years ago. ♥

Thank You

Dog Source: ***Tammy Bongard***
Puppy Raiser: ***Alicia Holicky***
Special Thanks: ***Laurie Carlson***

Assistance — and Excitement!

Andrea Vavra and Diabetes Assist Dog Gideon

By Bill Johnson

At Can Do Canines, we take special care to make sure our assistance dogs are a great match with our clients — and not just in terms of meeting practical needs, but also in the melding of personalities. A prime case in point: Andrea (Annie) Vavra and Diabetes Assist Dog Gideon.

Andrea and Gideon

The handsome two-year-old Labrador Retriever does an outstanding job of alerting Annie, 24, when her blood sugar is low. Gideon provides this potentially life-saving service around the clock, whether it's at home in Maple Grove, Minn., on the job at the Gap store and Lifetime Fitness, out shopping, or keeping up with Andrea's active outdoor lifestyle.

"He's totally full of energy and definitely brings excitement to my life!" she exclaims.

Clearly, however, it's Gideon's special talents as a Diabetes Assist Dog that Annie values most. Diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at age four, she arrived at adulthood with the growing realization she could use some extra help managing her low blood sugars.

"I graduated from college and had moved out of my parents' house. The problem was, I experienced hypoglycemic (low blood sugar) episodes, and didn't realize it was happening. Afterward, I couldn't even remember that it had occurred."

Annie didn't want her diabetes to get in the way of her independent, active lifestyle, so she applied to Can Do Canines after learning about the organization from her mother, a teacher in the Isanti, Minn., school district. A fellow teacher, Kris Vaske, had previously received a Diabetes Assist Dog from Can Do Canines.

In late 2012, Annie was accepted into the program and began training with Gideon in August 2013. Less than two days after Gideon went home with Annie, he alerted her to low blood sugar, using his super-sensitive nose to detect chemical changes in her body. Since then, he's alerted her countless times at home and away. Gideon is also trained to get her a juice box on command.

Annie has noticed that Gideon alerts in different ways, depending on what's happening with her blood sugar. "He uses a nudge when my blood sugar is low, but when he detects rapidly dropping blood sugar, he goes more toward excessive licking," she explains.

Gideon's accuracy rate is really high, Annie says, giving her tremendous peace of mind. "He provides a real sense of comfort to me in living alone. He also eases the worries of my mom, who always used to take care of me."

Annie is truly grateful to everyone who was responsible for Gideon's journey into her life. To everyone who was personally involved with Gideon, from Puppy Raisers to trainers, she says, "Thank you…I'm so happy that he is the way he is; I just love his personality." To those who helped financially, she expresses equally deep appreciation. "Not having a full-time job, I never would have been able to afford him on my own. It's amazing what you've helped accomplish."

Thank You

Dog Source: Can Do Canines
Puppy Raiser: The Accola Family
Special Thanks: Lou Burg,
Jennifer Leary,
The Inmate Handlers at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault

Celebrating the Success of The Fetching Ball

On Saturday evening, November 9th, Can Do Canines hosted more than 350 attendees at The Fetching Ball at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on the riverfront in St. Paul. The evening was action packed with both silent and live auctions, fundraising games and a fantastically funny performance by comedian, Josh Blue. The auctions provided something for everyone from a VIP package to a Timberwolves game to a seven night stay in Maui. Creative Black Tie was the attire and we are glad some of you took that "creative" to heart!

Al Peters reflected on the evening, saying, "The Fetching Ball was a great success, with fabulous attendance, exciting auction items and great entertainment! Community support for Can Do Canines continues to grow. All of the funds raised will go to help us meet the strategic goals of the organization and to help place more assistance dogs next year than we ever have before."

Over the course of the evening, the event raised over $130,000, which exceeded all expectations. "We wish to thank all of our event sponsors, volunteers, and staff that made the Fetching Ball such a huge success," said Shelly Hiemer, Event Coordinator.

The event was proudly presented by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Graphic Resources. Other sponsors included Fridley Children and Teenagers Medical Center, Interactive Circle, Sidewalk Dog.com, Petco Foundation, Metro Dogs Daycare and Boarding and Carver-Hennepin Chapter of Thrivent Financial.

Go to http://tinyurl.com/mxh83zg to see what a great time we had!

Special thanks to our Fetching Ball Partners

Proudly Presented by:

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

graphic Resources

INTERACTIVE CIRCLE

metro dogs daycare & boarding

SIDEWALK DOG

PETCO FOUNDATION

John Hollerud
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans - Carver-Hennepin County Chapter

Fuzzy Security Blanket

Stephanie Ruotsinoja & Diabetes Assist Dog Stella

by Laurie Carlson

Living with Diabetes can be a challenge, but until a few years ago, Stephanie Ruotsinoja of Apple Valley, Minn. felt that she was keeping her condition in good control. Diagnosed at age 11, she was used to checking her glucose levels, eating right and exercising. She works in the health care industry and leads a full and busy life with her husband, Brad.

Then, things changed. Stephanie explains, "I began having severe lows that had become more prevalent—some requiring 911 calls for help by my husband. Luckily I didn't have to go to the hospital and recovered at home." Stephanie began to worry about having lows in the night and began setting her alarm clock to go off every two hours so she could check her blood sugar levels. She says, "A friend recommended that I consider a Diabetic Assist Dog. Although I was familiar with other types of assistance dogs, I was not aware of such a service for diabetics. Through some research, I chose to contact Can Do Canines."

She continues, "After submitting my application with support from my doctor and co-workers, going through the interview process and then final approval, I waited – sometimes impatiently, for that special call. I had a 'funny feeling' that something was going to happen on the week I was contacted about Stella. I could not help but cry over the fact such a significant being was coming into my life."

Stephanie was matched with Stella, a bright and energetic Australian Labradoodle. She admits it was an adjustment to have a dog in her home; she hadn't had a pet dog since childhood. "The most difficult part was actually based on my fear of never having anything or anyone so dependent on me," she says. "I was uncertain of my ability to manage the process even though it was what I wanted. How would I communicate with her? Would she and I work well together?"

Stephanie and Stella

The first steps in training involved Stephanie bonding with Stella, understanding normal dog behavior and then learning to recognize an alert for low blood sugar (Stella already knew how). Stephanie explains, "There is practice involved in learning to work together." She adds, "We understand each other much better now," and marvels, "while we were in training, one of the skills is for Stella to get a juice box for me. She seemed to actually understand the difference between practice and a real life situation!"

Stella has alerted Stephanie at work, home, out at a restaurant and at a relative's home. Stella's accuracy in alerting to lows has been significant, and Stephanie reports she is also now starting to alert to blood sugar highs as well, which she does by a slightly different alert. "The most wonderful part of my relationship with Stella," says Stephanie, "is that she is so in-tune with what is going on with me. Our communication is becoming easier, partly because I am more connected with her messages."

Stephanie says the easiest part of the training was bonding with Stella and working together. "She's very loveable, and we have a routine 'calm time' at the end of the day, which is important to us both." Stella also LOVES her walks and they do several a day.

In public settings, Stella is very professional. The team has been to grocery and retail stores, and has even visited a china store! They've taken a trip to Winnipeg, Canada and Stephanie proudly reports that Stella behaved perfectly the entire time.

Both Stephanie and Brad say she has brought much joy into their home. Brad says, "She is a security blanket for us both. Having Stella there gives me huge security in knowing if I'm not home, I don't have to worry for Stephanie's safety. She's part of the family." Stephanie agrees, "We love her dearly and feel more secure with her presence in our lives." ♥

Thank You

Dog Source: Patty Barnes
Puppy Raiser: The Heffernan Family
Name a Puppy donor: Eden Prairie Lions and Lionesses

Wish List

Dog Supplies
- ✓ Gift cards to pet supply stores
- ✓ I.Click Training Clickers
- ✓ **Car Seat Belt Harnesses – M & L**
- ✓ **Halti Head Collars sizes 2 & 3**
- ✓ 6' Leashes Puppy amd Adult
- ✓ **18' Martingale collars**
- ✓ Medium Gentle Leaders
- ✓ **Soft Treats (BilJac, Zukes)**
- ✓ Small and medium biscuit style treats
- ✓ **Giant Nylabones and Large Kongs**
- ✓ **L or XL Vari-Kennels, new or gently used**
- ✓ 42" Wire Dog Kennels
- ✓ Frontline Flea and Tick Preventative
- ✓ Nature's Miracle Cleaner
- ✓ Easy Walk, Freedom or Halti Harnesses
- ✓ **Stuffing free, Chuck-It or JW dog toys**
- ✓ Donated veterinary services
- ✓ Purebred puppies
- ✓ Poop bags

Electronics
- ✓ **Laptops & Computers, Windows 7 and/or Mac 10.7 or newer**
- ✓ **Adobe InDesign CS4 or newer**
- ✓ Speakerphone

Automotive
- ✓ Gasoline cards
- ✓ Minivan
- ✓ Auto repair/maintenance
- ✓ Small station wagon

Miscellaneous
- ✓ **Coffee Maker 100 cup**
- ✓ No-Iron Black Tablecloth/Draping for 6' tables
- ✓ Silverware set and sharp kitchen knives
- ✓ General hand tools
- ✓ 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

Building Materials
- ✓ 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.

A special thanks to all of you who previously supplied us with wish list items! You made our wishes come true! ♥

Development News

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

Your generosity made the 2013 Give to the Max Day a resounding success!

A total of 267 donors opened their hearts to contribute an amazing $24,857 to support Can Do Canines mission.

We want to thank The Harmon Foundation and an anonymous family foundation for supporting our matching gift program with donations of $10,000 each! Including the $20,000 in matching funds, we raised $44,857!

Give to the Max day was a huge success, with more than 52,000 people donating $17,145,280 to more than 4,400 Minnesota nonprofits and schools.

Thank you so much for supporting this year's Give to the Max Day—and Can Do Canines!

Name A Puppy – not just for kids any more

It was a banner year for the Name A Puppy program with 13 individuals and groups raising money to Name A Puppy. Although schools are the most likely youth groups to raise $1,500 to name a puppy, the program is getting more popular with individuals and adult groups who are happy to raise $3,000 for the honor of naming a puppy. If you would like a Name A Puppy brochure and fundraising kit, please contact me for more information. jcobus@can-do-canines.org.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2014

There are a number of ways Can Do Canines can partner with area businesses and individuals to ensure that 100% of the income received from 2014 events goes into our programs. Corporate partnerships provide funding to underwrite the costs of the event in return for branding opportunities for the partner. If you are interested in learning more, please contact me at jcobus@can-do-canines.org.

Save the Date - Tails of Independence Ninth Annual Fundraising Luncheon

Golden Valley Country Club
Tuesday, May 6, 2014 11:30am – 12:30pm

In order to train and place 46 assistance dog teams in 2014, we need to make this a very successful fundraising campaign. The success of this luncheon depends on our volunteer Table Hosts who invite new people to learn about Can Do Canines by attending one of our monthly Tails to Tell tours and then invite them to the inspiring spring luncheon. If you can help by serving as a Table Host, filling a table of 8 people, please contact me jcobus@can-do-canines.org for more information or to sign up.

Save the Date – 2014 Woofaroo and Fetching Ball Gala

We are planning two big fundraisers for 2014 and we would love your help. Committees are forming now and will begin meeting once a month starting in January. Contact Shelly Hiemer shiemer@can-do-canines.org 763-331-3000, Ext. 115 for more information and to sign up!

Volunteer Spotlight – Dianne Walsh Astry

In 2007, Dianne Walsh Astry was searching the website, VolunteerMatch, looking for a way to donate her time and talent. Dianne's sister was raising an assistance dog puppy for an organization located in Michigan and she decided she would like to raise and train a puppy for a good cause as well. She learned about Can Do Canines and contacted us.

Soon Redford, a Golden Retriever, was placed with Dianne and her husband Doug, and the adventure began! To date, they have raised four dogs for our organization.

But it doesn't end there. Dianne has helped us in many other ways by staffing booths, speaking to groups and becoming an Ambassador on our behalf. She has been on many fund raising and planning committees, including special events like the Fetching Ball gala. She was a Table Captain for several Tails of Independence luncheon fundraisers. Dianne has also volunteered by writing articles, writing and compiling information for our annual reports, and currently is co-chairing the 25th Anniversary celebration scheduled for 2014.

Most notably, Dianne has served as a board member for Can Do Canines since April of 2009 and serves as Chair of our $4.4 million capital campaign, The Campaign For Independence.

Can Do Canines deeply appreciates all the talent and commitment Dianne has shared with us over the years. Thank you Dianne! ♥

What about you?

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

- Event Planning committees
- Puppy Raisers (14-16 months commitment)
- Foster families (1-2 weeks)
- Receptionist
- Marketing

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

Dianne Walsh Astry and Layla

ROLL OVER FOR CAN DO CANINES

The IRA Charitable Rollover has been extended until December 31, 2013.

If you're 70 1/2 or older, you can rollover up to $100,000 from your IRA directly to Can Do Canines and exclude it from your gross taxable income. Contact your financial advisor or Can Do Canines for more information.

World's Finest Chocolate – the perfect holiday gift!

Consider selling or buying a variety box with Chocolate Almond, Dark Chocolate Almond, Caramel, Milk Chocolate and Krispy—YUM! There are 60 bars in a box and each bar sells for $1.00 to benefit Can Do Canines. Contact Kathy Broten to request a box. kbroten@can-do-canines.org or 763-331-3000, ext 152.

Fast and the Furry

Can Do Canines was chosen as one of five charities to benefit from the 3rd annual Fast and Furry event. It is the Twin Cities' premier outdoor pet-friendly event! Runners, walkers and their pups will participate in a 5K9 run/walk or an 8K competitive timed run on May 31, 2014. More than just an athletic event, Fast and the Furry will showcase many festivities for the entire family!

Please choose Can Do Canines when you register and we will receive $10.00 of the registration fee. You can sign up as a fundraiser for us and win great prizes! Register to run or walk in the 8K or 5K9 on May 31: www.fastandthefurry.com.

Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend: and inside a dog, it's too dark to read. **Groucho Marx**

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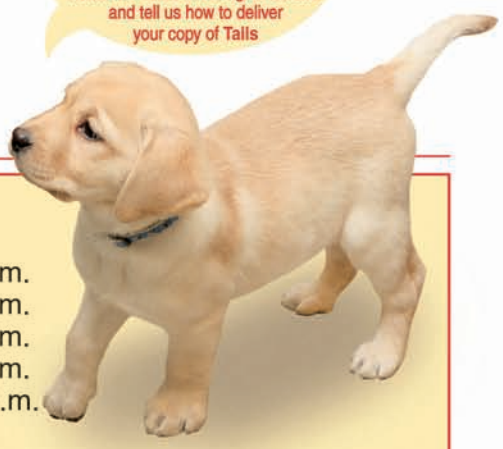


Stay Connected With Us

Here are a few ways you can stay connected with us on a daily, weekly or monthly basis

- Join us on Facebook by searching "Can Do Canines" and select under Places
- Follow us on Twitter http://twitter.com/CanDoCanines
- Sign up at can-do-canines.org to receive The Howler and Tails from Minnesota
- Donate online 24/7 at can-do-canines.org and click on the Donate button

Learn more about Canines Do Canines by scanning the QR code with your smart phone

Subscribe to our monthly eNews, *The Howler*, to read real Can Do Canines stories about our graduates, volunteers and latest events. You'll get all the latest Can Do Canines news delivered straight to your inbox!

Sign up at can-do-canines.org

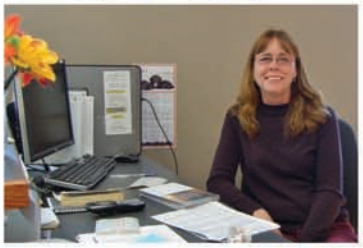
Upcoming Events

January 7	Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
February 8	Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
March 8	Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
April 8	Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
May 17	Spring Graduation 1:00 p.m.

*** All *Tails to Tell* tours take place at our facility, located at 9440 Science 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!

We love our volunteers!



The Campaign For Independence

Can Do Canines began the Campaign For Independence in 2009 with a goal of raising $4,400,000 to be used to secure a permanent home for the organization and to provide the needed infrastructure to increase the number of assistance dogs available to people with disabilities.

The campaign has received gifts and pledges totaling just over $4,000,000 with $338,593 remaining to be raised. The campaign ends on December 31, 2013.

We are most grateful to the following individuals, foundations, organizations and businesses that have contributed to the campaign as of December 13, 2013.

Visionary - $1 Million or more
Barbara and David Koch

Benefactor - $250,000-$999,999
Flaherty Family Foundation
Richard Garon and Robbie Perl
Greycoach Foundation
Master Eye Foundation

Leader - $100,000-$249,999
Lion Dean Julifs Estate
Mary Weisel

Investor - $50,000-$99,999
Barbara Burwell and
The R. Burwell Family Foundation
Frances Virginia Flattum Estate
Lions Clubs International Foundation
Jay and Rose Phillips Foundation
Stephen and Jayne Usery

Builder - $25,000-$49,999
PETCO Foundation
Carl and Eloise Pohlad Family Foundation
Patty and Dennis Solberg
Spring Lake Park Lions
Greg and Cat Stevens

Partner - $10,000-$24,999
Rich and Karen Cress
Kevin Johnson
Steven Kittay
Mary and Randy Quist
Sharon Thaler
Doreen and Jeff West

Supporter - $5,000-$9,999
Tim and Alicia Blank
Sara Braziller
MarySue and Mark Krueger

Associate - $1,000-$4,999
Dianne Walsh Astry and
Douglas Astry
Bloomington Lions
Mike and Lynn Branch
Brooklyn Center Lions
Warren and Virginia Caldwell
Laurie Carlson and William Voedisch
Cloudy Town Sams
Janet and Gary Cobus
Coon Rapids Lions
Cormorant Lions
Crosslake Ideal Lions
Ely Lions
Karen Feller
James Frush
Goodridge Lions
Don and Carol Knutson
Ernie Lapp
Casey Albert O'Neil Foundation
Kathryn Patton
Alan Peters and
Penelope Marsala
Plymouth Lions
John F. Rooney
Charitable Foundation
Rosemount Lions
Sandstone Lions
Adrianna and Mark Shannon
Kathryn Sherwood
St. Cloud Lions
St. Joseph Y2K Lions
Charlene Wade
Robert S. White

Friend -$999 and Under
5M2 Lions
5M3 Lions
5M7 Lions
5M11 Lions
Veronica Ahern
Aitkin Riverboat Lions
Albert Lea Clover Leaf Lions
Alden Lions
Amboy Lions
Bonnie Anderson
Martha Anderson
Andover Lions
Animal Wellness Center
Anoka Lioness
Anoka Lions
Craig Ashby
Atwater Lions
Austin Morning Lions
Babbitt Lions
Backus Lions
Balaton Lionsr
Barnesville Lions
Battle Lake Lions
Baxter Lions
Bay Lake Area Lions
Bob Bayard
Bemidji First City Lions
Bemidji Lions
Big Falls Lions
Bird Island Lions
The Bittner Family
Blackduck Lions
Martha Bloom
Blooming Prairie Lions
Bluffton Lions
Bernadette Braegelmann
Brainerd Lakes Lions
Karen Brekke
Brooklyn Center Lioness
Brooklyn Center Lions
Brooklyn Park Lions
Bill Brust
Buffalo Lions
Bob Bunger
Burnsville Lions
Butterfield Lions
Byron Lions
Caledonia Lions
Michelle Calvert
Cambridge Lions
Camden Lions
Campbell Lions
Cannon Falls Lions
Carlos Lions
Laurie Carlson
Carlton Area Lions
Regina Carolan
Susan Carter
Cass Lake Lions
Cedar East Bethel Lions
Chanhassen Lions
Chaska Leos
Gail and Ivan Chavez
Beth Cherryholmes
Chisago Lakes Lions
Circle Pines Lexington Lions
Clarissa Lions
Clarkfield Lions
Clear Lake Lions
Clearwater Lions
Cokato Lions
Cold Spring Lions
Cologne Leos
Cologne Lions
Columbia Heights Lions
Comfrey Lions
Cook Lions
Coon Rapids Lioness
Coon Rapids Northstar Lions
Elizabeth Cowie
Cuyuna Range Lions
Martha Daniels
Danube Lions
Rebecca Davison
Dawson Lions
Dayton Lions
Donna Dean
Mary Decheine-Rhatigan
Deer River Ave of Pines Lions
Deer River Lions
Deerwood Lakes Lions
Dent Lions
Detroit Lakes Lions
Dilworth Lions
Ruth Donner
Downtown St Paul Lions
Dryden Trillim Lions
Duelm Area Lions
Duluth Lions
Duluth Spirit Valley Lions
Eagan Lioness
Eagle Bend Lions
Ear Falls Lions
Eitzen Lions
Galen and Gloria Engholm
Muriel Erickson
Esko Area Lions
Eveleth Lions
Lindsey Fabian
Fairfax Lioness
Faribault Lions
Delores Filip
Duane Finger
Floodwood Area Lions
Leslie Flowers and
Scott McClure
Foley Lions
Sue Forsberg
Fort Frances Voyageur Lions
Fort Snelling Lions
Frazee Lions
Fridley Lions
Garrison Lions
Gary Garvis
Gateway Menagha Lions
Bonnie Genin
Gibbon Lions
Jeanette Gillman
Jim and Marcia Gilman
Glencoe Lions
Glenwood Lions
Golden Brothers Lions
Grand Marais Lions
Granite Falls Lions
Greenway Lions
Chris and Chuck Grui
Hackensack Lions
Hadley Lioness
Hadley Lions
Peggy Halvorson
Hamburg Lions
Jeff and Jeanne Hanson
Harmony Lions
Shawn Hartzel
Hayfield Lions
Hector Lions
Hewitt Lioness
Hewitt Lions
Hibbing Lions
Al and Shelly Hiemer
Peter Hilger
Hinckley Lions
Gary Hodne
Hokah Lions
Holdingford Lioness
Holdingford Lions
Hopkins Noontime Lions
Hutchinson Lions
Gary and Susan Hutchinson
International Falls Lions
Inver Grove Heights Lions
Isle Lions
Nora Ivory
Robin Jacobson
Jasper Quarry Lions
Jeffers Lions
William Johnson
Tracy, Nancy and
Marvin Karth
Kasson Mantorville Lions
Dennis Kelly
Nancy Kidd
Lisa Knazan
Sandra Koch
Kensington Lions
Kerkhoven Lions
Kimball Lions
Kingston Lioness
Klump Family
Stephen Kodluboy
Elizabeth Krietzman
James Krueger
Leroy Kuta
Kathy Labat
LaFayette Area Lions
Lake Country Lions
Lakefield Lions
Lakers Lions
Lakeville Lakeside Lions
Julianne Larsen
Scott Lastine
David Laube
Le Center Lions
Leader Lions
Marilyn Leean
William G. Leonard
Little Falls Lindbergh Lions
Mark and Molly Loder
Judy and Frank Loken
Paul Loken
Kim Lowman
Lucan Lions
Jacqueline Lundemo
Jeanette Ludwig
Luverne Lions
Luxemburg Lions
Lyle Lioness
Nancy Lynch
Mabel Lions
Mankato Key City Lions
Maplewood North Lions
Laurence J. Margolis
Revocable Trust
Mayer Watertown Dandy Lions
MD5M Lions
Dianne and Mike McCarthy
Ann Mackereth
Diane McClellan
Betty McIntosh
Gwen McMahon
Melrose Lions
Theodore Meyers
Midway Lions
Mike Molenda
Milan Lions
Gary M. and Joyce C. Miller
Milroy Lions
Minneapolis Lyn Lake Lions
Minneapolis Riverview Lions
Minneapolis Southwest Lions
Minnesota Lions
Minnesota Lake Lions
Minnetonka South Lions
Montrose Lioness
Morgan Lions
Morris Lions
Morton Lions
Motley Lions
Mounds View Lions
Mountain Iron Lions
Tricia Murphy
James Nepp
Nevis Lions
New Brighton Lions
New Ulm Lions
Kolloh Nimley
Nimrod Area Lions
Nisswa Lions
North Branch Lioness
North Branch Lions
North Hills
Veterinary Hospital
North Maplewood Lions
North Suburban Evening Lions
Northland Lions
Norwood
Young America Lions
Nowthen Lions
Onamia Lions
Orr Lions
Osage Lions
James Osiol
Merril Overturf
Owatonna Lions
Palisade Area Lions
Park Rapids Lions
Parkers Prairie Lions
Pennock Lions
Perham Lakes Lions
Lee Perish
Katrina Pierson
Pierz Lions
Pine Island Lions
Pines Lions
Plymouth Lions
Maureen and Paul Pranghofer
Princeton Lions
Ramsey Lions
Randall Cushing Area Lions
Raymond Lions
Janis Reinschmidt
Rice Lions
Sue Rich
Richmond Lions
Kirby Richter
Rochester 76 Lions
Rockford Lions
Rockville Lions
Rogers Lions
Robert Rosen
Robert and Dolores Rosenbrook
Rushford Lions
Sabin Lions
Saint Francis Lioness
Sandstone Quarry Lions
Santiago Lions
Sartell Lions
Scandia Marine Lions
Allison Schildknecht
Cedric and Janet Schrankler
Patricia Schreiber
Robin Schulke
Sebeka Lions
Joan Sedlacek
Adrianna Shannon
Jeff Shellberg
Sherburn Lions
Jean Silkey
Sharon Singleton
Charles and Judith Skarie
Sleepy Eye Lions
Robert Slifer
Mary and Daniel Snobl
Sobieski Lions
Southwest Lioness
Joan Speers
Sharon Spernick
Spicer Sunrise Lions
Springfield Lions
Carmaline Spurrier
St Bonifacius Lions
St Cloud Lions
St Cloud Southsiders Lions
St James Church
St James Lions
St John's Lutheran Church
St Joseph Lions
St Joseph Y2K Lions
St Louis Park Lions
St Michael Lions
St Paul East Park Lions
St Paul Park Newport Lions
St Peter Lions
St Stephens Lions
Staples Lions
Star of the North Lions
James Steckelberg
Stewartville Lions
Stephanie Streeter
Wayne Swanson
Taylors Falls Lions
Ross Thorfinnson
Brian and Joanne Toews
Tracy Lions
Trinity Lutheran Church
Dawn Tuveson
Twin Valley Lions
Two Harbors Lions
Tyler Lions
Underwood Area Lions
Underwood Lioness
Urbank Lions
Peter and Margaret Van Erp
Patty Van Landschoot
Vergas Lions
Verndale Lioness
Verndale Lions
Veseli Area Lions
Viking Electronics
Carlos Villalpando
Virginia Lions
Wabasso Lions
Waite Park 97 Lions
Ann Walerius
Walker Lions
Walnut Grove Lions
Len Washko
Watkins Lions
Waverly Lions
Westbrook Lions
White Bear Lake Lions
Whitefish Area Crosslake
Ideal Lions
Wildwood Lions
Lynne Willeke
Windom Lions
Winona Rivertown Lions
Winthrop Lions
Howard B. Wittels
Wolf Lake Lions
Worthington Lions

Building Team - In-Kind Contributions
A. Peter Hilger of Rylaur
Consulting LLC
Honeywell
Jackie K. Wulf of
J K Interiors, Inc.
Tennant
The Toro Company
The Valspar Foundation

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Upcoming Events

January 7	Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
February 8	Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
March 8	Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
April 8	Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
May 17	Spring Graduation 1:00 p.m.

*** All *Tails to Tell* tours take place at our facility, located at 9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, MN 55428**

Please call our office at 763-331-3000 or email tours@can-do-canines.org to reserve your spot!

We love our volunteers!