



# TAILS

FROM MINNESOTA  
for the friends of Can Do Canines



Winter 2010 Vol. 21 Issue 1

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.

## A New Year and New Beginnings

by Al Peters

As we move into 2010, our organization will transition to both a new name and a new home.

During the past 20 years, we changed our name three times. Each change was because our mission had changed as we increased our services to people with disabilities. This change is no different.

Over recent years, we added new services to our work, providing assistance dogs to children with autism, people with diabetes complicated by hypoglycemia unawareness and, most recently, returning

disabled veterans. Our old name has served us well since 1995, but it no longer reflects the organization we have become.

After a nine-month journey with the wonderful folks at Strategic Name Development, I am proud to announce that we have made a selection- Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota is becoming Can Do Canines! Same dedicated staff and volunteers, same forward-thinking mission, new name. Can Do Canines expresses the positive enthusiasm that we already feel for our

mission. We hope you like the new name as much as we do.

As shared previously, in June we purchased a 22,000 square foot building in New Hope, Minnesota, located on four acres of land. We have been busy transforming the space into offices, meeting and training rooms, and new kennels for the dogs- and it's almost done! We will move into our new home late in January and have a public open house planned for February 28, 2010. Please join us! ♥



Our Dogs Fetch Amazing Things

## A Fabulous Bit of Honey

Courtney Roberts and Honey

by Courtney Roberts

### Our 300<sup>th</sup> Team

*These words come straight from the heart of our 300<sup>th</sup> graduate, Courtney Roberts about her Hearing and Mobility Assist Dog, Honey. Courtney is deaf as a result of meningitis, suffers from fibromyalgia and other painful conditions.*



Courtney and Honey

The day begins with a small token of light from the beams of the golden sun. This day is yet to be formed. It is beautiful in its entirety and I realize that I will grow and experience this day as no other. My days now begin with a smile and a warm feeling of being loved and wanted. My new princess, Honey, loves the alarm clock and responds to it quickly and consistently. I awake to a canine thud on my bed and kisses on my face. As the alarm continues to ring, Honey becomes

more intense. She will stop and think about how she can wake me. Then the blankets start getting pulled off the bed and then the pillows one by one begin to disappear. Cold, and realizing that Honey has had to go to a great deal of maneuvers

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## From the Executive Director Al Peters

### Looking Back

In the Winter 2009 *Tails from Minnesota*, I looked back at our service to the community during our first 19 years of growth. I looked at our humble beginnings, reviewed our moves from one training facility to another, and noted the increasing number of assistance dogs trained each year. This year, it's time to focus on the future.

### Looking Forward

As we complete our 20th year of service, we celebrate new achievements for the organization. In 2009, we:

- Trained 30 new assistance dog teams, the largest number we have ever trained in one year.
- Certified our 300th assistance dog team
- Held our first-ever gala celebration; more than 350 people and 46 assistance dogs attended and more than \$70,000 was raised
- Purchased and began phase-one renovation of a permanent home for the organization
- Prepared for a move to the new facility in January 2010
- Adopted a wonderful new name for the organization—*Can Do Canines*

It was a productive year for the organization as we took steps to increase our capacity and provide more services. A new home and a new name signal positive change for the future, and we couldn't be more excited as we look toward the next 20 years of service. Thank you for supporting our work and making this organization the success that it is today.

### Capital Campaign

We will move to our new home by the end of January. In a way, however, this move is only the beginning.

Once there, we plan to complete phase two of the project during the next two years. Phase two will include finishing the second office wing, creating overnight quarters for clients and a caretaker, making the parking and driveway areas fully accessible for our clients, and completing a second bank of dog kennels.

We were able to complete phase one of the project because we carefully saved bequests and other special contributions, and because generous individuals made early contributions during the "silent" preparatory part of our capital campaign. Now we need your help.

At our gala celebration in November, I was proud to announce that Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota, now *Can Do Canines*, was formally announcing a capital campaign. The *Campaign for Independence* is a campaign to create a \$4.4 million building and endowment fund. I am proud to announce that 58 percent of the funds necessary to complete the campaign have already been raised or pledged!

Raising the final 42 percent is critical to our ability to complete the project. We need the help of many individual donors, foundations, and groups like the Lions Clubs to complete this project. I hope you will be one of the generous people who helps us complete the work, so we can focus all of our energies on training the dogs that bring freedom, independence and peace of mind to the lives of our clients and their families.

Thank you for your support of *Can Do Canines!* ♥



### An Award Winning Program

Puppy Coordinator Rob Carrick accepted the Presidents Award from the Minnesota Correctional Association for our collaborative puppy training program with the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault. Pictured are Rob Carrick and the staff of the Faribault Facility

Volume 21



Issue 1

### Tails From Minnesota

Published quarterly for friends and supporters of  
Can Do Canines

Editor/Layout/Design

Alan M. Peters Sue Schuster 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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## The Joy of Giving, A Donor Profile - Bill McNeely

by Jessi Hiemer

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

*Winston Churchill*

Bill McNeely of Eden Prairie, Minn. wouldn't call himself an extraordinary philanthropist. But to families like the Motzke's, who received their Autism Assist Dog, Monte in 2009, he is the living example of Churchill's words. Bill has long been an animal lover. His office at Acrylic Design Associates has a water dish next to the door and stuffed toys on the floor, while his Shelties Mindy, Jack, and Tino nap in the corner.

A few years ago, a friend of Bill's sponsored a guide dog team in Wisconsin and suggested to him that a similar organization may be a great match for his passion for helping animals and people in need. After reading an article about Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota and researching the organization, Bill decided to sponsor his first assistance dog team. The team consisted of Denver, a mobility assist dog and Jacob Finn who graduated in fall 2007.

Bill continues to support Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota because he sees results. “I get letters and pictures from the people I have helped, and that keeps

me going. I like knowing I am making a real impact- changing someone's life for the better- with a local group,” he says.

As a businessman, Bill understands the difficult decisions that must be made regarding charitable giving. He also knows that now, more than ever, non-profit organizations rely on generous individuals to serve people in need. He offers this advice: “Look at your own situation, and choose to make a difference. Even small gifts can make a big impact on people. By continuing to give generously, you are being a leader in the community and changing the lives of children and adults living with disabilities.”

Since 2007, Bill has sponsored three assistance dog teams. After seeing the success of Denver and Jacob, he agreed to sponsor two Autism Assist Dog teams- Traeh and Finn in 2008 and Monte and Austin in 2009. He is looking forward to sponsoring his fourth team in 2010, focusing on his passion for children with autism or wounded veterans.

Thank you, Bill, for changing the world through your dedication and financial commitment to Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota.

*Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota relies on the generosity of contributors like Bill McNeely. If you or your company would like to sponsor a team, contact Janet Cobus, Development Director, at 612-729-5986, Ext. 153. ♥*



*Bill McNeely with Mindy, Jack and Tino*

## Courtney Roberts and Honey

*(continued from page 1)*

to wake me up, I roll over in bed and respond with a “good morning” to the angel that God has sent to me.

If I do not start getting ready fast enough, Honey brings me a towel for my shower from the bathroom. She gathers my boots and our coats by the door so that we will not be late, even if we have no place to go. So now we are fed, watered, busy-ed and ready to go. Honey never forgets to run in and press the “reset” button on the LifeLine unit.

Oh, there are so many wonderful, fabulous things that Honey does to help me through my day and I am sure not many people even notice because she does things so natural and with elegance. You drop something and she is right there to bring it to you. Honey helps me take off my coat and pulls my shoestrings so I can take my boots off.

Honey is my second service dog Lucky being my first. He lived and serviced with dignity and loyalty for 15 years. Lucky became very ill and died in March, I felt a part of me died with him. It was so difficult to wait four and a half months for Honey's arrival. When I looked into her beautiful eyes I emerged back into life knowing that I was loved. My first word to her was fabulous which still rings true today. She is a Smooth Coat Collie, as beautiful as the brilliant rays of the sun.

Honey is elegant, fabulous, happy and playful. She is very friendly and caring about others. She does things for others without even thinking about it. She is thoughtful and loving, gentle and kind. She has a sparkle in her eye that lets you know she is ready and attentive to your needs. You know she is listening to you when she focuses her eyes on yours as to say “I am hearing your soul”. She desires

to work and if she can't find work she will create some for herself. She lays on her back with all fours up and dances Swan Lake like a ballerina. She keeps up on life by viewing the sights from her window seat. And if you are begging the answer, no, I never spoil her.

All these attributes sum up to being a fabulous service dog named “Honey Angel Fabulous Roberts”. I am so proud of her and I love her so very much. I thank all of you that helped to bring Honey and I together. You are the rainbow that captures our love and brings beauty to our souls. ♥

### THOSE WHO MADE THIS PLACEMENT POSSIBLE

- **Dog Source**  
Amy Ross
- **Puppy Raiser**  
Meg Brundey
- **Field Trainer**  
Elizabeth Reberk

## So Much More Zack Majkowski and Jazz

by Jessi Hiemer

When meeting Zack Majkowski, most people see a typical 10-year-old boy — sweet, loving, and energetic. He plays with his younger brother and sister, mugs for the camera, and likes his school in Maple Grove, Minn. He likes to throw a ball in the backyard for his dog, Jazz. What people don't see is Zack's autism.

Zack was diagnosed with autism at age 3. From that time on, his parents, Christine and Rocky, explored every avenue they could for him. They worried because Zack would run away from uncomfortable situations and had trouble adjusting to new surroundings. He also couldn't bridge the gap between himself and other children. The Majkowskis wanted their son to be safe and happy.

Two years ago, the Majkowskis saw Sam and Reno, an Autism Assistance team, profiled on the local news. Hearing Sam's story gave Christine hope for Zack. "Once we applied, and realized this amazing tool could be ours without cost, the hardest part was waiting for the right dog," says Christine. When Jazz, a 2-year old white Labradoodle, was ready for training, they knew Zack had found his match.



Zack and Jazz

Although Jazz was placed to help Zack, Christine says he really helps the whole family. "Jazz is a calming influence in our house and a source of comfort and joy for all three children," she says. With Jazz by his side, she adds, Zack is learning there is a world outside his family and school. Christine says she loves allowing people

to pet Jazz because they first ask Zack for permission. When he can talk to them and look them in the eye, they are allowed to pet Jazz. "Having Jazz is helping our family bridge a gap we never thought we could cross," she says.

Christine adds that her family will forever be grateful to the donors who support Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota. "It's nice to have people give something without expecting anything in return," she explains. "You are giving Zack something that we couldn't give him ourselves. Jazz is so more than just a dog." ♥

### THOSE WHO MADE THIS PLACEMENT POSSIBLE

- **Dog Source**  
Lorna Behrns
- **Vet Services**  
Globe University - Woodbury
- **Foster Home**  
Jodi LeBaron and the Turner Family
- **Puppy Raiser**  
The Heffernan Family

## I Love Eli Christy Kierstead and Eli

by Leslie Flowers

Christy Kierstead of Eden Prairie, Minn., is an outgoing, self-proclaimed shop-a-holic. Having Cerebral Palsy means her mall outings often include her dad, Bruce. "When you're 20 years old, going to the mall with your dad isn't all that much fun," Christy admits. Now because of Eli, a tall, easygoing Labrador Retriever, Christy hopes that will change.

"I got a Mobility Assist Dog mainly to help me be more independent — so I can go shopping with my girlfriends, not my dad or my mother," explains Christy. But Eli is much more than a shopping partner. He is quick to retrieve anything Christy drops. He helps get her walking crutches and maintain her balance while she is walking. Eli also has been trained to get an emergency phone at home, helping Christy's parents feel more secure about leaving her home alone.



Christy and Eli

Christy's mother, Bev, learned about Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota and encouraged her daughter to check into getting an assistance dog. "After

Jackie, our previous dog, died, all I'd been doing was coming home, watching television and kind of zoning out," says Christy. Now Christy incorporates Eli's care into her daily routine, thus helping her increase her independence skills. She is in charge of feeding, brushing and exercising Eli. Her dad helps with exercise in the cold weather by throwing Eli's favorite tennis ball in the backyard.

When asked what advice she would give to someone thinking about getting an assistance dog, Christy exclaimed, "Just try it! I love Eli!" ♥

### THOSE WHO MADE THIS PLACEMENT POSSIBLE

- **Dog Source**  
Stephanie Leddon
- **Veterinary Services**  
Life Care Animal Hospital
- **Puppy Raisers**  
The Alexander Family



### The Legacy Club - A Final Act of Kindness

Remembering Can Do Canines, home of Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota, in a will or trust is an act of thoughtful generosity while living, and assures one of the last acts of kindness that can be achieved before death. The Legacy Club is our way to honor those individuals who, while living, inform us of their intentions to include us in their will or other planned giving device. We also recognize the generous donors who have passed on and already made bequests to further our work at Can Do Canines. Deceased members are followed by the designation (D).

Members of the Legacy Club at the end of 2009 are as follows:

**Anonymous (8)**  
**Anonymous (D)**  
**Marci Bergdahl**  
**Eunice Bren (D)**  
**Neil Bright**  
**Melinda Cress**  
**Judy Cowden**  
**Bill & Janet Dubats**  
**Eleanor S. Fenton (D)**  
**Kathleen Galiger**  
**Esther Graney**  
**Mary Jane Hanke (D)**  
**Ann Harhai (D)**  
**Kathy Heinkel**

**Cindy & Francis Herman**  
**Janet Holcomb**  
**Dorothy Holden**  
**Lion Dean Julifs (D)**  
**Kathleen Kaiser**  
**Steven Kleinmen Estate Trust (D)**  
**Joanne Krueger**  
**Ruth & Gruff Larson**  
**Mary Longley**  
**Lee Laurisch**  
**Sandy Lenarz**  
**Mary Longley**  
**Liz Lucast**  
**Lavonne Ludke**

**Brian & Ann Marie McCann**  
**Osborn Lang Trust (D)**  
**Mary & Guy Roemhildt**  
**Scott Sandison**  
**Sandra Simonson**  
**Mark & Amy Sperry**  
**Margaret Syring (D)**  
**Kjirsten Vanderbilt**  
**Sandra Wasserman**  
**Claralouise Wheeler**  
**John & Susan Williams**  
**Kathy and Roger Wright**  
**Alice Zittel**

Please consider joining these special individuals. Contact Alan Peters at 612-729-05986 ext.116 for more information. Can Do Canines will list the members of The Legacy Club in each Winter issue of *Tails From Minnesota*. We are very grateful for your generosity and your faith in Can Do Canines. ♥

### Volunteer Spotlight

by Laurie Carlson

In 2008 Stephanie and Seth Scott decided they wanted to give back to their community and boy, have they! Stephanie discovered Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota on the internet when the couple became interested in volunteer puppy raising and the rest is history.

Soon a very cute Labrador Retriever puppy named Delta entered their home and their hearts. The couple then jumped right into all types of volunteer opportunities with us. They have staffed our booth at many different events, secured donations for fundraising events, helped with the phone a thon and Heel and Wheel dog walk. This last summer, they helped in the initial demolition project at the new building in New Hope.

As part of the 20th Anniversary Committee last spring, Stephanie stepped up and took over the silent auction for *A Fetching Ball*. She requested, procured, stored and packaged the wonderful auction items we all enjoyed. Seth gave up a large portion of his house to store all of it (and I'm sure provided a strong shoulder or two) and both were instrumental in leading the volunteers to a very successful event.

While puppy raising Delta, they have even taken in other young dogs to foster short term, and this fall became a breeder host family for a promising young Labrador named Marnie.

As the new year begins, they haven't slowed down! Seth is helping to plan a puppy raiser outing at a girl's hockey game at the University of Minnesota in February. Stephanie is organizing a fundraising event for us at the Brave New Workshop.

We are so fortunate to have Stephanie and Seth as volunteers and truly appreciate all of their hard work on our behalf. Thank you Stephanie and Seth! ♥



Seth & Stephanie Scott with Delta & Marnie

#### What about you?

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

- Puppy raiser (14 to 16 months)
- Short-term dog foster home (2 to 4 weeks)
- Special Events Fundraising Committee – assist with a variety of events!
- Heel and Wheel Dog Walk committee member – assist in planning one of our largest fundraisers.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Laurie Carlson, for more details in volunteer opportunities at [lcarlson@hsdm.org](mailto:lcarlson@hsdm.org) or 612-729-5986 ext. 113.

# CONTRIBUTORS

Can Do Canines, home of Hearing and Service Dogs, is supported by many agencies, companies, and individuals. A very special thanks to you all! The following contributions were received in our office by December 31, 2009.

## \$5,000 or more

Casey Albert T O'Neil Foundation  
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Dean  
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Polglaze PA  
Mary Jane Lenox  
J.B. Loebel  
Loffler  
Lowry Lions  
Wallace Lund  
Nancy & Donald  
Lynch  
Richard & Margaret  
Maki  
Allan & Jewell  
Malerich  
Eraine, Richard,  
Paul Mally  
Michelle & John  
Margaff  
Market Velocity  
Rachel Mathre  
Mary Matthies  
Leslie Matton-Flynn  
Mark Matzke  
Mike McCarthy  
Katie McCormick  
Anna McDonagh  
Douglas & Paula  
McNair  
Walter/Nancy  
Meadley, Jr.  
Kimberly & Thomas  
Medin  
Metropolitan  
Veterinary Referral  
Services Ltd.  
Sandra & Richard  
Meuwissen  
Leslie & Jacque  
Meyers  
Carole Miller  
Minnesota Bolt  
& Nut  
Ray and Linda  
Johnson Mirshekari  
Audrey Moe  
Genelle & David  
Mogck  
Deb Molin - Personal  
Touch Pet  
Grooming  
Beth Moorehead  
Marina & Jefferson  
Morris  
Patricia Moudry  
New Hope Women  
of Today  
New York Mills  
Lions  
Michael E. Nielsen  
Karol Nielson  
Debra Noll  
North Metro Leos  
Club  
Chuck & Carolyn  
Novotny

Bruce & Rose  
Ogrodnik  
Marjorie & Kadin  
Okerstrom  
Jim & Carol Olson  
Orr Lions Club  
Osage Lions  
Ottertail Lions  
MargaretOtto  
Amy & Sergey  
Pakhomov  
Paradigm Reporting  
Park Rapids Lions  
Perham Lakes Lions  
Al Peters  
Jean Peterson  
Sandra & Gary  
Pietig  
James & Kimberly  
Post  
Cathy Quady  
Mary & Randy Quist  
Karen Rae Anderson  
David & Amy  
Rasmussen  
Kate Rauchman  
Patti & Les Reid  
Rice Lions Club  
Rite Away Auto  
Barry Riven  
Robbinsdale Lions  
Rochester Women of  
Today  
Connie Roehrich  
Rogers Lions  
Robert Rosenbrook  
Rust Consulting, Inc  
R. Scott Sandison  
Jane Schamber  
Marcia Scheele  
Joanne Schentzel  
Kevin Scherbert  
Thomas Schroeder  
Lois, Lynn & Lee  
Scott  
Scotttrade  
Judy & Chris  
Sharken & Simon  
Kathryn Shaw  
Lori A. Shinnick  
Jann Skelton  
Lynn Slifer  
Robert Slifer  
Barbara Solberg  
Southfork Animal  
Hospital  
Joan Speers &  
Robert Webb  
Spicer Sunrise Lions  
St. Croix Valley  
Community  
Foundation

James & Christie  
Steckelberg  
Wayne & Missy  
Steege  
Roger Stenerson  
Jacque and David  
Strobel  
Tara & Patrick  
Sullivan  
Missy Susag  
Margaret Susag  
Diane Svoboda  
Wendy Swanson  
The Lazarus Project  
Ellen & Douglas  
Thibodo  
Gretchen Tiede  
Adele Toore &  
Spencer Kubo  
Patrick Troska  
Truist - Deloitte &  
Touche  
JoAnna K. Trumbull  
Tom Turner  
Twin Cities Airport  
Lions  
UA 455 Pipe Fund  
(Pipefitters and  
Steamfitters  
Union)  
UnitedHealth Group  
Diana Valentine  
Vergas Lions  
Julie & Jerome  
Vergin  
Vesta Lions  
Carlos Villalpando  
Leslie Vissage  
Charlene Wades  
Wadena Lions  
Len & Nanette  
Washko  
Barbara & Keith  
Watschke  
Hope Wedge  
Doug Wendler  
Whitefish Area  
Crosslake-Ideal  
Lions  
Michelle Wilson  
Elizabeth Wilson  
Jean Wilson  
Karin Winegar &  
Peter Moore  
Robert Wohlberg &  
Nicole Roberts  
Dr. Wolf  
Wolf Lake Lions  
James Wolzson  
Suzanne & Matthew  
-Woods  
Deborah Wunderlich  
David Zwickey

## Puppy Raisers

The Abrahamson family.....Capri  
Diana Adamson & Paul Oberhaus .....Barclay  
Jayson & Kathryn Alexander.....Quincy  
Bill Beddie & Kathy Grant.....Midas  
Erin & Rob Bunting.....Gabby  
Jean & Don Burdeski.....Vi  
Julie & Darel Carlblom.....Kashi  
Sue Crono.....Cyrus  
Jan & John Day.....Louie  
Beth & Donald Detloff.....Lilly  
The Ehlert family.....Dinah  
Mike Ferber & Betty Otto.....Teddy & Murray  
Leslie Flowers & Scott McClure.....Clyde  
The Grabau family.....Drake  
The Grouat family.....Xander  
Stephen & Becky Hallan.....Hazel

The Heffernan family.....Tagg  
The Herberg family.....Keetah  
The Hiemer family.....Joy  
The Holicky family.....Dixie  
The Hollerud family.....Bruno  
Marla Johnson.....Penny  
Kim Kriesel.....Daisy & Violet  
Julianne Larsen.....Ian  
The MacKay family.....Hattie  
Aumori Matter.....Xena  
Michele & Shawn McLane.....Reese  
The Merkel family.....Reena  
Angela Mulcahy.....Java  
Mary Nelson.....Munroe  
Michelle & Shay Nelson.....Savi

Cathy & Jim Newville.....Lucy  
Kyle Pavlik.....Henry  
Shirley Russo.....Juno  
Melanie & Barry Rutman.....Lena  
Jake & Jenny Schneider.....Hoover  
Dora Schroeder.....Hamel  
The Scott family.....Yukon  
Stephanie & Seth Scott.....Delta & Marnie  
The Sears family.....Wiggs  
Dave & Marge Skeie.....Moxie  
Melissa Sorenson.....Jasper  
Patty Van Landschoot.....Hildie  
The Van Skike family.....Nikka  
Sandy & Kevin Vance.....Nigel  
The Young family.....Lars

## In Kind

Parker Anderson  
Arden Shoreview  
Animal Hospital  
Dianne Astry  
Balloons Galore and  
More  
Benessere: Body  
in Balance  
Sarah Bober  
Nancy Carlson  
Laurie Carlson  
Chaska Valley  
Veterinary Clinic  
JoAnn Christensen  
Cities Limousine  
Classics by David  
Mary Connolly  
Coon Rapids Lions

Dale Studios  
Jason DeRusha -  
WCCO TV  
Diageo Total Beverage  
Mark Falstad  
Flying Cloud  
Animal Hospital  
Dr. Foley - Excelsior  
Animal Hospital  
Fox Sports  
Bob Fun Services  
Dr. Golden - Shady  
Oak Vet Clinic  
Mel Goldenbogen  
Sarah Granger  
Graphic Resources  
Sharolyn B. Hagen,  
Photographer

ChariHall - History  
Theater  
Rebecca Hansen  
Pat & DeeDee  
Heffernan  
HHH Ranch  
John Holden  
Mary Holten  
Honeywell  
Inver Grove Heights  
Animal Hospital  
J.K. Interiors  
JW Marriott Star Pass  
Resort and Spa  
Katie's Bumpers  
Mary Kelley  
Mark Kenyon  
John Kirk - Warrior  
Hockey

Barbara & David  
Koch  
MarySue Krueger  
Life Care Animal  
Hospital  
Lifetouch Portrait  
Studios, Inc.  
Lucky Dog Boarding  
& Training Center  
Patricia Ludens -  
Travelers Company  
LVI Productions  
Nancy & Don Lynch  
Julie Mach  
Kathy Marr  
Maryland Avenue  
Pet Hospital  
Medica  
Kim Medin

Melberg Marketing  
Minneapolis Marriott  
Southwest  
Minnesota Vikings  
National MS Society  
- MN Chapter  
Dr. Olivero  
Paula Preston  
Photography  
Lee Perish  
Sandy Pidde  
Bob Powers  
Pro-MoHS Pet Products  
Tim and Julie Rainey  
Renaissance Chicago  
Hotel  
Residence Inn by  
Marriott, Edina

Sarah Beth  
Photography  
Bob & Jackie Singer  
Smith Veterinary  
Hospital  
Melanie Snead  
Greg and Cat Stevens  
Stevie Ray's Improv  
Company  
Cindy Sundet  
Thomson Reuters  
Tennant  
US Airways  
Valspar  
Krista Waitz  
Claralouise Wheeler  
Terri Zeh Jacobson  
- Resources for  
Small Business

## up to \$100

<p>Gloria &amp; Mark Aanenson Jennifer Alexander Mary and Jon Alexander Linda Altergott Kate &amp; Gary Andersen Anoka Women of Today Donna Applebaum Frank Arellono Nathan &amp; Jennifer Augustine Cheryl Avelsgard William &amp; JoEllen Axness Matthew Bachman Marian Bagley Joan Balcer Joan Banashek Kim Barnett Dean Barr William &amp; Alexandra Bartolic III Mark &amp; Katie Bastiansen Douglas Baum Deanna Belden M. Belford Emily &amp; Ruthann Benson Megan Benson Benson Women of Today Eric Berg Sabdra Berger Deanna Berrier Julia Beuge Freeman Antay Bilgutay Tom Boak Hilery and Richard Bobnick Janice &amp; Daniel Boe Joseph &amp; Suzanne Bogenberger Jason Borah Mary Louise &amp; Perry Bowen Dean Braatz Marie Brierly Rose Mary &amp; Alex Brietkrietz Autumn Brodhecker Stewart &amp; Vicki Brofenkamp Harriet Broin Brooklyn Park Lions Annalee Brown Richard &amp; Patricia Brown Rachel &amp; Jim Brown Seurer James &amp; Margaret Brudney Sandra Brust Erin &amp; Rob Bunting Jean &amp; Don Burdeski Mavis Burdick Timothy Burke Sheryl &amp; Randy Burrows Judy and Wayne Busse Doris Butler Joshua &amp; Melinda Buttler Barbara &amp; Timothy Callister Shelley Calvert Mary &amp; Manny Camilon Kay Carlson Kelly Carlson Jean &amp; Marc Carrier Karen Casanova Cass Lake Lions</p>	<p>James Cassidy Macrina E. Cassidy Eileen &amp; David Chanan J Evelyn &amp; Henry Clark Mario Coapango Carole Cohen Robert &amp; Karen Colin Comfrey Lions Club Community Shares of Minnesota Tom &amp; Candace Conniff Beverly Conny Dan &amp; Mary Corcoran Sandra &amp; Al Cournoyer Mary Crea John &amp; Amber Crosland Lois Crunstedt Danube Lions DBA Forest Lake Dairy Queen Warren &amp; Ruth Decker Deerwood Lakes Lions Jason DeRusha Katherine Devine Ronald &amp; Gretchen Diegnau Kathleen &amp; Matthew Dixon Jordan Dockendorf Gordon Donnell Wendy &amp; Kent Dorholt Marie Dougan Kathleen &amp; Steven Dougherty Linda &amp; Joe Douglas Kelsey Dowd Dunn Bros Coffee Jan &amp; Dennis Dvorak Marie Ehrenberg Susan Engel Jill &amp; Jerry England Gerald Engstrom Chad &amp; Kayla Epsen Sally Erickson Julie Espeseth John Evertz Fair Haven Lions Fairfax Lioness Faith United Methodist Church Milo &amp; Louise Falk &amp; Hayden Falk Jean Falkavage Patricia Faustgen David Felher Linda &amp; Tom Ferber Shanna Ferber Cheryl &amp; Bruce Ficks Martha Field Linda &amp; Leslie Fieldman Sharyl &amp; James Fischer John Fisher Debbie Fisher Jane Flanders Donna Flint Flom Area Lions Victor &amp; Donna Flores Barb Flynn - Women of Today Vadnais Heights Joan &amp; John Frank Franklin Lions Club M. Angela Frerichs Lynda &amp; Paul Friedman Marcia Fritzheimer Diane Furness Katie Galloway</p>	<p>David Gannon Garrison Lions Sue-Ann &amp; Gary Garvis Jordan, Tammy &amp; Aaron Gatzke Bonnie Genin Vivian Gens Casey Gersch Justin Gibbens Dawn Gillick Glencoe Study Club Jackie Gohdes Burton Goldstein Jill and Steven Gottlieb Rudolph Grahek Esther Graney Richard Greene Jay Griep Dawn and Gary Gustafson Bill &amp; Marcia Guthrie Guthrie-Nary Lions Nicole/Mazen Halabi Anthony (Tony) &amp; Louise R. Halek Colleen &amp; Daniel Hamilton Annie Handford Steve Handlos Lynnette Hansen Jerry Hanson Harold &amp; Alta Hanson Libby Hargrove Thomas &amp; Tamara Hart Sherrrie &amp; Greg Hartmann Virginia Hartquist Patricia Harvey Hayfield Lions Dana Henderson Robin &amp; James Henrichsen Dave Henry Kenneth &amp; Eileen Langner Shelly &amp; Al Hiemer Jessi Hiemer Kimberly Hodges Gary &amp; Harriet Hodne Fran &amp; Duane Hoffman Brittmarie Hogan Dorothy Holden Julie Holman Nancy &amp; Michael Hopp Karen &amp; Stephen Hovanes Pat Hughes Carole &amp; John Humphrey Mindy Hynes Pauline Iverson Mary E. Jackson Gwendolyn &amp; Melvin Jacobson Cheryl Jahnke Susan Januschak Aimee Jaroseck Jennifer Jasicki Roger Jensen Christine Jernander Jerry's Frame Richard &amp; Corinne Johnson Karen &amp; Derek Johnson Bruce &amp; Shari Johnson Vivian Johnson David Johnson Shari &amp; Bruce Johnson Sharon &amp; Ronald Johnson</p>	<p>Donna Johnson Glenn &amp; Meredith Jolly Thomas &amp; Suzanne Jones Don and Barb Julian Coralyn Kabes Donald Kalal Ruth Katz Rachel Kaul Marnie Kelly Annette &amp; Chuck Kendall Diana &amp; Marvin Kiffmeyer Kimball Lions Club Tamara King William Kirchgessner Paige &amp; Jason Kite Barbara Klein Donna Klicke Sylvia Knazan Chuck &amp; Mary Knollenberg Florence &amp; Stanley Knopick Nels &amp; Paula Knutzen Amy Koch Sandy Koch Marilyn Koepfen Keith Kolle Connie &amp; Michael Kopietz Beverly Krause James and Coralee Krueger James &amp; Mary Krummel Nancy &amp; Sagar Krupa Jolene &amp; Jeffrey Kubal Virginia Kukkula James &amp; Margery Kupiecki Victoria, Wallace &amp; Timothy LaBerge Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 6208 Kenneth &amp; Eileen Langner LaPorte Benedict Lions Bernice Larson Joanne Larson Lee Laurisch Vicki &amp; Thomas Lauruhn &amp; Hagar Christopher Lavalley Shirley &amp; Allen Lavanger Kaye &amp; Mike Lebaron Jodi LeBaron Greg Lee David Lee Scott Legro Sandra Lenarz Helen &amp; Diane Leqve &amp; Engelstad Walther Liebenow Barbara Liedman Becky &amp; Walter Linder Mary &amp; Walter Linder Diane Lindgren Lino Lakes Lioness Club Lions District 5M7 Dennis Litfin John Loehr &amp; Suzanne Richereck Barbara Logue Frank &amp; Judy Loken Del Lovas Liz Lucast Patricia Ludens Jacqueline Lundemo Julie Lyons</p>	<p>Anne &amp; Dale Mackereth Cynthia Madsen - Women of Today Kirk Mahle Stephanie &amp; Bryan Malone Susan Maraval Penny Marsala Mary Matthys Eunice McBroom Elizabeth McCambridge Norm &amp; Dawn McCarthy Elizabeth &amp; James McCormick Susan &amp; John McKendry Michelle &amp; Shawn McLane Gwen McMahon Cecilia Meier Gordon Meier Judy &amp; Peter Melander Rosemarie Merrigan Marthanne &amp; Amanda Merton MetaVante Corp. Suzanne &amp; Jeffery Miedema Dale &amp; Karla Miller Celeste &amp; Gerald Miller Lt. Col. William Miller Lisa A. Miller Romaine &amp; Joyce Miller Minneapolis Lyn - Lake Lions Gage Miske Carisa Moe G.J. &amp; K.A. Monskey Morris Area Women of Today Beverly Morrison Keith &amp; Ann Mortimore Susan &amp; John Murakami James &amp; Janet Murphy Tricia Murphy Kavitha Narayana Katie Nelson Cathy &amp; Jim Newville Karen Nikolai Nimrod Area Lions Gregory Niska Leslie Nordgren Gretajo Northrop Edward Notebaart Karen Obegi Kathryn Oberg Jerome &amp; Theresa O'Connell Jody Olson Ronald &amp; Lorraine Olson Cheryl A. Osborne Elizabeth Palaima Elisabeth Area Lions Kendall Palmer Jacquie &amp; John Parzych Marc Pascoe Marilyn Pash Leanne Patche Vivian Pavlik Jill Payne Robert &amp; Carol Pederson Pelican Rapids Lions Verdell &amp; Steven Pelvit Jilene Perreten Catherine Perron Glen Pestka Mavis Peterson</p>	<p>Leslie Peterson Sandy &amp; Jon Pidde Frank and Patricia Piller Bernadette Piotroski Dorothy Podalunchuk Stephanie &amp; Jason Pommier Alex Porter Matt Porter Diane Potts Virginia Power Maureen &amp; Paul Pranghoffer Paula Preston Bonnie and Donald Quigley Chad &amp; Shannon Quigley REI Colleen Reichert Dental Arts Diane Reid Sandra Reitsma Ellen &amp; Christopher Rieck Audrey Ringdal Mary &amp; Wayne Rixmann Brian &amp; Tegwin Rome Sharon Russell Shirley &amp; Santo Russo Sacred Heart Lions Berit Schiess Jean Schmitz Jennifer &amp; Jacob Schneider Alice Schreifels Dora &amp; Howie Schroeder Kevin Schultz Robin Schulke James &amp; Constance Schweiger Emily Schwenker Linda Scott Mary Sears Barbara Selden Richard &amp; Mary Setzler Celia &amp; James Shapland Collin Shaughnessy Anne Shaw Dave Shefland Christy Sibley Gayle Sievert Sandra K. Simonson Robert &amp; Jackie Singer Sharon Singleton Janet &amp; Terry Singasas Vickie and Gerard Skala Kathleen Skeie Marie &amp; Darroll Skilling Chris &amp; Amanda Sladec Steven &amp; Sherry Sladec Susan Smedberg Ellen Smilanich Allen Smith Michael &amp; Dixie Smith Laura &amp; Bruce Smith Marylyss Somers Melissa Sonnenberg Susan Spence Amy &amp; Mark Sperry Sharon &amp; Mark Spilman Yvonne Splady St. Michael - Albertville Women of Today Melissa Stam Joseph Stark J.J. &amp; R.M. Steenberg</p>	<p>Erin Steinbrink Ken &amp; Judy Stenzel Pamela &amp; Merle Stewart Blythe Stillwell Anita Stockton Lucille Sukalo Lucille Sullivan Lucille Sunderman Sunrise Lions KaydellSunsten Lynn &amp; Jean Supan Martha Swain Nan Swift Robert Swiller Carol Taylor Debra Tegels Melanie Thielke Stephanie Thompson Jill Thompson Bruce Thorson Mark &amp; Michelle Thorson Bruce &amp; Perky Tobin Penelope &amp; Scott Tower Susan &amp; Stephen Traxler Michael &amp; Claudia Traynor Dianne &amp; Michael Trdan Mary &amp; Marshall Trees James &amp; Alice Turner Naomi Vagts Lynette Davis Vagts Renee Valois Verdale Lioness Wanda Viellieux David &amp; Jeri Vogel Joyce Voxland Janet &amp; James Vroman James A. Walters MaryLee Warnock Dorothy Weese Sara Weiner Cathy Welna Karon Wendt Joann Wetzell Dena Wiblishauser Melissa &amp; Chris Wiezorek Connie &amp; Richard Wikman David Wilhelm Sylvia Wilhelmi Duane Wilken David &amp; Vicki Willcock John &amp; Susan Williams Kathy Wilmes Gary Wisner Howard Wittels Shannah &amp; Scott Wojciak Bethany &amp; David Woldt Phyllis &amp; Marvin Wolfe Ronald D. &amp; Barbara A. Wolff Terrile Woodhull Roger &amp; Kathleen Wright Hope &amp; Benjamin Wynalda Alfred &amp; Rita Yamashiro Mary Yeast Polly &amp; Allan Zabel Dianne &amp; Kenneth Zylla</p>
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## Volunteers

<p>Sue &amp; Chelsey Abrahamson Diana Adamson Ilene Ahrens Chris Alexander Jayson &amp; Kathryn Alexander Jennifer Alexander Mary &amp; John Alexander Kristin &amp; Eric Alman Annmarie Anderson Lynn Anfinson Dianne Astry The Bailey family Lisa Barrett Kim &amp; Kalli Bennett Emily Benson Mary Bente Natalie Boike Bob &amp; Mary Branham Sara Braziller Julia Buege Freeman Erin &amp; Rob Bunting</p>	<p>Deb Burke &amp; "Pepsi" Deb Burt Jennifer Burt Bruce Burton Barbara Burwell Shelley Calvert Manny Camilon Dick &amp; Nancy Carlson Mark Carlson Janet Chambers Krueger Gary Cobus Julie &amp; Susan Cowsert Sue Cronce Jan &amp; John Day Bev DeChon Jason DeRusha Elizabeth Eagle Alex Egan Laurie &amp; Ron Ehlert Megan Ehlert Steve Ekdahl The Essen family Jean Euteneuer &amp; "Lexie" Mark Falstad</p>	<p>Mike Ferber Stacey Ferguson Jen Fieldman Kevin Florence Leslie Flowers Lynn Ford Rebecca Forman Alana Friedman Marcia Fritzheimer &amp; "Jack" Kathy Galiger Stephanie Giese Jackie Gohdes Mel Goldenbogen Katy Goodwin Esther Graney Becky Groseth YouthCARE group Sharolyn Hagen Nancy Haley Steve Hamilton Ronnie Hartman Jason Hastings The Heffernan family Shelah Heien Shelly &amp; Al Hiemer Jessi Hiemer Peter Hilger Rochelle Hillstrom</p>	<p>Ingrid Hoffman &amp; "Bright" Peter Hollingshead Sharon Huikko Mary Kelley Lisa Knazan Ben Krueger Mary Sue Krueger Kristina Kulp Karen Lampi Scott Larson Tami Larson David Lee Chris Lickteig Frank Loken Liz Lucast Anne &amp; Dale Mackereth Marlee MacLeod Lynn Maker Kuechle Lil Mandile Jean Martell Scott McClure Michele &amp; Shawn McLane Kim &amp; Tom Medin Lindsay Merkel Tony Mikols Mike Mohlzahn</p>	<p>Jane Mylrea Deb Nelson Cathy &amp; Jim Newville Nancy Ninteman Deb Norsten Paul Oberhaus Betty Otto Janice Parrow Lee Perish Sandy Pfister Jon &amp; Sandy Pidde Linda &amp; Nick Pollock &amp; "Fisher" Maureen Pranghofer &amp; "Ally" Mary &amp; Randy Quist Mary Rhatigan Barb &amp; Terry Rodocker Sharon Russell Dora Schroeder Fiona Schumacher Carolyn Schurr Sue Schuster Seth &amp; Stephanie Scott Darryl Scott The Sears family Laura Shirley</p>	<p>Dave &amp; Marge Skeie The Sorenson family Terry Spence Sharon Steinbrecher Ken &amp; Judy Stenzel &amp; "Calvin" Cat &amp; Greg Stevens Julie &amp; Lex Stolis Patrick Sullivan Joel Swenson Rebekah Teague Erin Trader Dawn &amp; Brian Turner Shannon Tyree Stephen Usery Carlos Villalpando Leslie Vissage Jay Wagner Len Washko Scott Waychoff The Wedul family Gail Weeks Teri &amp; Cianna Willms &amp; "Zoe" Patty Wirtz YouthCARE CS Stars group Dan Zenk Lorraine Ziemer</p>
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## Workplace Giving

<p>Sara Aaserud Charles Anderson Lisa Andres Craig Ashby Joyce Bengston Karen Blackstone Lisa Boomgaarden Amanda Burrows Randy Burrows Laura Campbell Fletcher Chambers Sarah Cuthill Jennifer Estes Christopher Goraliski Esther Graney Joanne Kardell Tracy Landowski Lelland Nancy Laufer Sandra Lee Vance</p>	<p>Laura Madsen Jean Martell Nora McGreevy Judith Messner Roxanne Morrell Elizabeth Otto Carol Pawlicki Susan Quint Mary Quist Ellen Rieck John Stockman Dawn Strubel Michael Sweeney Steve Szurek Janet Tetzner Timothy Thull Patricia Wirz Anonymous</p>
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# DEVELOPMENT NEWS

by Janet Cobus

## 2010 Name-A-Puppy – Puppies are coming and they need names!

UBS Financial Services raised more than \$3,200 in



2009 to name their puppy "Barclay". This is their third time and their staff members love

this project! **Your group can participate as well in 2010.** We expect an influx of adorable puppies beginning in February and you can have the honor of naming one of them. If you are a school group, you can pick a name by raising \$1,500 or more; if you are a corporation or service organization, your group can choose a name by raising \$2,500 or more. Each group receives an educational presentation with a live demonstration by one of our wonderful assistance dogs. Contact Janet Cobus for more information!

## Tails of Independence Fundraising Luncheon – April 2010

A planning committee is being formed to organize the 6th Annual Luncheon and we could use your help! Our goal is to have 250 people attend this inspiring event to help raise funds and awareness for our organization. If you are interested in joining the planning committee or serving as a Table Captain by filling a table of 8 at the luncheon, please contact Janet Cobus.

## 2nd Annual Applebee's Pancake Breakfast Saturday, February 6 – 8am-10am Tickets: \$6.00

St. Anthony Applebee's, 2800 39th Avenue NE, Minneapolis, 55421  
Come and volunteer as a server of pancakes or just to enjoy the food! All proceeds will benefit our programs and you will leave with a full stomach and warm heart. When was the last time you enjoyed pancakes with a bunch of dogs in the room? *Order tickets online at [www.can-do-canines.org](http://www.can-do-canines.org) or contact Jessica at [jnadeau@hdsdm.org](mailto:jnadeau@hdsdm.org) or 612-729-5986, Ext. 152*

**Brave New Workshop is prepared to bare it all with *How to Make Love Like a Minnesotan III: The Full Montevideo*** March 4, 2010, 8:00 pm performance  
Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online with code "Dog" or over the phone at 612-332-6620.

Returning lovers and workshop virgins alike will thaw their winter hearts for a steamy ride down the love canal. Up to 15% of tickets sold for the performance be donated to us. Come share the love and have a great time!

## For the first time ever, bring Man's Best Friend to the Xcel Energy Center Saturday, April 17, 2010

Experience TWO of the best kept secrets in the Twin Cities – *Can Do Canines* and the *Minnesota Swarm*. The entire 2nd Level of the Excel Energy Center will consist of Dog Owners and their Dogs (including pet dogs). \$10 of your ticket price will be donated back to Can Do Canines—Home of the Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota. From 5:00 until 6:30, you and your dog can join us at the Excel Energy Center and walk the 2nd Level prior to the Minnesota Swarm game. This will be an excellent way to spend quality time with your best friend as well as get exercise for both of you! Then at 7:00 take a seat to join the fun of the lacrosse game with lots of fans. There will be shout outs to Can Do Canines and lots of excitement. Don't miss it! For more information, watch our website or call Shelly at 612-729-5986 ext. 115.

## Special Events Fundraising Committee Welcome Meeting- April 5- 6:00 pm

The committee would like to invite everyone to visit our new home in New Hope and attend a meeting with the current committee to hear about our plans for 2010. Please contact Janet Cobus with questions or to RSVP. ♥

## Memorials

Donated by.....	In Memory Of	Karen & Stephen Hovanos.....	Craig Bindert	Metropolitan Veterinary Referral Services Ltd.....	"Leon", ...
5M7.....	Al Roberge	Pat Hughes.....	Craig Bindert	"Quinn", "Bailey", "Smithers", "Maxi", "Teddy", "Emmett", .....	"Max"
Gloria & Mark Aanenson.....	Craig Bindert	Mindy Hynes.....	Craig Bindert	"Mikey", "Raleigh", "Caeser", "Flann", "Emmett", "Molly", .....	"Emmett", "Molly",
Anonymous.....	Shiloh	Gwendolyn & Melvin Jacobson.....	"Rose" and "Ransome"	.....	"Joey"
Marian Bagley.....	"Sylvestre"	Jerry's Frame.....	Craig Bindert	Dale & Karla Miller.....	Jim Lauruhn
Timothy Burke.....	"Angel"	Kevin Johnson.....	Kenneth Schmitz	G.J. & K.A. Monskey.....	Craig Bindert
Judy and Wayne Busse.....	Henry Magelky	Dick Kalow.....	Craig Bindert	Andriette & Keith Mortimore.....	"Babe" & "Dusty"
Doris Butler.....	Inzez Stevens	Wm. V. Kirchgessner.....	Craig Bindert	Keith & Ann Mortimore.....	"Babe" and "Dusty"
Vicki Chouinard.....	Chris Granum	William Kirchgessner.....	Craig Bindert	Marc Pascoe.....	Ennet Dowdall
Judith Christensen.....		Chuck & Mary Knollenberg.....	Craig Bindert	Leanne Patche.....	"Zach" the beloved yellow lab
.....	"Chico" the beloved black lab, "Maggie" the beloved shepherd	Marilyn Koepfen.....	Craig Bindert	Verdell & Steven Pelvit.....	Craig Bindert
Beverly Connelly.....	Inzez Stevens	David and Sarah Kostek.....	"Bernie"	Glen Pestka.....	Jim Lauruhn
Dan & Mary Corcoran.....	Jim Lauruhn	Carol & Roy Kraft.....	Craig Bindert	Dorothy Podalunchuk.....	Henry Magelky
John & Amber Crosland.....	Craig Bindert	Beverly Krause.....	"Rusty" the 9 year old cat	Diane Reid.....	Hariette Langsten
MaryBeth Crowley.....	Taco & Bridget	Nancy & Sagar Krupa.....	"Mugsie"	Barry Riven.....	Alexander
Lois Crunstedt.....	James Latta	Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 6208.....	Inzez Stevens	Mary and Wayne Rixmann.....	Inzez Stevens
Jan & Jon Day.....	"Dharma"	Bernice Larson.....	Leroy F Larson and "Jake"	Alice Schreifels.....	Wayne Schreifels
Phillip & Donna Dean.....	Craig Bindert & "Belle"	Lee Laurisch.....	"Salsa"	Robyn Schulke.....	Grand-Dogs: Rodney, Reyna, Abby, & Guss
Warren & Ruth Decker.....	Craig Bindert	Vicki & Thomas Lauruhn & Hagar.....	.....	James & Constance Schweigert.....	Craig Bindert
Ronald & Gretchen Diegnau.....	Gary Deiters	.....	Jim Lauruhn On behalf of Glen Pestka & Norm Janssen	Robert & Jacquie Singer.....	"Rex"
Kathleen & Matthew Dixon.....	Craig Bindert	Shirley & Allen Lavanger.....	Craig Bindert	Janet & Terry Singaas.....	Craig Bindert
Sally Erickson.....	Sylvia Kromroy Goll	Kaye & Mike Lebaron.....	Cossetta	Lynn Slifer.....	Judith Slifer
Julie Espeseth.....	Jim Ripp	Sandra Lenarz.....	"Meg" and "Radar"	Susan Spence.....	"Bitty"
Jamie & Gabriel Finn.....	"Scooter", "Smokey", "Tipper", "KD" and "X"	J.B. Loebel.....	"Buddy"	Missy Susag.....	"Dharma"
.....	Craig Bindert	Barbara Logue.....	"Ivy" and "Sienna"	Carol Taylor.....	Rachel
Sharyl & James Fischer.....	"Teko"	Susan Maraval.....	Jim Lauruhn	Bruce Thorson.....	"L.A."
M. Angela Frerichs.....	David Andrews	Eunice McBroom.....	Craig Bindert	Bruce & Perky Tobin.....	"Malachi"
Marcia Fritzscheier.....	Nancy Fulton	Katie McCormick.....	"Noah"	Penelope & Scott/T over.....	Jim Lauruhn
Nancy Fulton.....	"Indie"	Elizabeth & James McCormick.....	Craig Bindert	Mary & Marshall Trees.....	Craig Bindert
Bonnie Genin.....	Marge Knight	Judy & Peter Melander.....	Inzez Stevens	MaryLee Warnock.....	"Shiloh"
Burton Goldstein.....	"Teko"	Metropolitan Veterinary Referral Services Ltd.....	.....	Doug Wendler.....	Mary Wendler
Lynnette Hansen.....	"Abby" and "Max"	"Gizmo", "Troy", "Scout", "Sadie", "Poupee", "Wally", "Izzy", .....	Craig Bindert	Bethany & David Woltdt.....	Craig Bindert
Jerry Hanson.....	"Max"	"Greta", "Smokey", "Benji", "Tiki", "Vandy", "Shaq", "Jessi", .....	Craig Bindert	Alfred & Rita Yamashiro.....	Craig Bindert
Pat & DeeDee Heffernan.....	Patty and Fred DeMarco	"Sundae", "Angel", "Gracie", "TweetTweet", "Teddy"			



## Building the Bonds of Love

Owen O'Neill and Elmer

by Natalie Boike

Owen O'Neill, age 7, is happy, energetic, animated and creative. He is also a young boy with autism. He does not understand dangerous situations and has difficulty calming himself when upset. When his parents, Kristen and Joe, heard about how an Autism Assist Dog had helped another family in their support group, they reached out to Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota.

Elmer, a laid-back black Labrador Retriever, has helped Owen cope with over-stimulating situations and has allowed the family to leave their Champlin, Minn. home without worrying about Owen having a "meltdown."

In a few short days, the family began to see an increase in Owens' verbalization; his sleep patterns improved and he has even begun socializing with other children. Additionally, "the tantrums stopped right when Elmer arrived," Joe said. "I've also seen him bond with Elmer, and we've never seen Owen build an emotional attachment before."



Owen and Elmer

When in public, Elmer and Owen are attached to one another – Owen wears a special tether belt which hooks to Elmer's vest and also has a special handhold on Elmer's assist-dog vest. Even when upset, Owen won't leave Elmer's side while Elmer remains calm and obedient until

Owen calms down. Joe said what would have been a meltdown before Elmer, is now just a manageable temper tantrum.

"Most people don't realize that just being able to go to a restaurant is huge for us," Kristen said. "We even go to Wal-Mart now, which wasn't an option before. Anywhere with toys used to be off-limits for family excursions." Joe adds, "We hadn't done any of that for three years. It's been a while since we've been out in public."

Elmer not only helps Owen but he is a positive, calming influence on the whole family. Kristen and Joe have found comfort in Elmer's presence as well. For the O'Neill family, building new bonds will mean more freedom and peace of mind. ♥

### THOSE WHO MADE THIS PLACEMENT POSSIBLE

- **Dog Source**  
Stephanie Leddon
- **Puppy Raiser**  
The Sears Family and  
The Scott Family

## One Smart Girl

Collin Shaunesy and Cher

by Shelly Hiemer

Collin Shaunesy of Shoreview, Minn., is always looking for the bright side of any situation. Her sunny outlook keeps her positive when doctors don't quite know what to make of her medical situation or how to offer help. Collin has had diabetes for 37 years, and she has difficulty controlling her blood sugar levels. Complications from her diabetes and fibromyalgia forced Collin to retire in 2003. She now uses a cane and scooter.

When Collin met Shelly Hiemer, a graduate of Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota at an insulin pump support group, she found hope again. Shelly's Diabetes and Mobility Assist Dog, Grace, was exactly what Collin was looking for. She was excited to learn that an organization could train a dog to help with the diabetes and mobility issues she struggled with daily. Collin researched Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota and realized the organization could be an answer to her prayers.

When Collin was ready, she applied and was matched with Cher, a lovable, eager



Collin and Cher

black Labrador. Cher learned to detect low blood sugar levels, pick up dropped items, and drag a laundry basket through the house. She can find juice for Collin or get more help when needed. She also helps Collin get dressed by bringing her brace and shoes to her. Cher is even

learning to alert Collin to high blood sugars, which is a different scent than the one used to detect low blood sugars.

Today, Collin and her husband, Bob, are obviously proud of their girl. Bob says, "I've never seen a dog as smart as this one." Both are constantly surprised by the amazing things Cher can do. Collin feels more comfortable and safer with Cher around, and she says she is grateful for Cher's loving, lighthearted presence. Collin says, "Being independent is important to me, and Cher has brought that back for me. She is everything to me." ♥

### THOSE WHO MADE THIS PLACEMENT POSSIBLE

- **Dog Source**  
Animal Humane Society - Golden Valley
- **Veterinary Services**  
Life Care Animal Hospital
- **Foster Home**  
Kathryn & Jason Alexander and  
Inmates at the Minnesota  
Correctional Facility at Faribault

## The Will to Keep Going

Bob Powers and Will

by Shelly Hiemer

Bob Powers of Stillwater, Minn. has always led an active life. His quick smile and easy laugh make him a fast friend to everyone he meets. For most of his life, Bob served others as a family physician. After retirement there was no slowing down as he and his wife, Laura, traveled and volunteered in Guatemala.

When deteriorating health brought them home, Bob and Laura, thought it was finally time to settle down and possibly add the dog to their home that they had talked about for so long. Always thorough, Bob researched his favorite breeds and contacted a local trainer. He told her he wanted to train a dog to assist him with his mobility needs caused by peripheral neuropathy, a disease that affects the nerves of the body. As his legs grew weaker, Bob was forced to use a cane or a walker. He was no longer able to pick up dropped items from the floor as his balance has also been affected. With Laura working, Bob's safety was a concern when he was alone. After much discussion, the trainer recommended he contact Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota. Realizing the time and work involved in raising a puppy and training



Bob Powers and Will

them to be an assistance dog, Bob decided to apply. Will, a yellow Labrador Retriever, was a perfect match for this vibrant man.

Bob and Will took their training very seriously. Together they quickly learned how to be a team. Now Will retrieves items Bob has dropped, open and closes doors, and can retrieve a cordless phone in case of emergency.

Bob is proud of what the team has done "It feels good to be done with training because of what Will and I have accomplished. It's been wonderful. I will miss the good training! In addition to being interesting and educational, it's been a lot of fun. Training added a lot to my life."

One of Bob and Will's favorite places is spending time at the lake. They ride together in the golf cart or, for exercise, Will trots alongside as Bob drives. Will's favorite game at the lake is chasing the waves as they come into shore. The two spend many hours in this beautiful setting.

Now Bob and Will go everywhere together. "He is a great, great companion," Bob says, "He is so meaningful to me and my wife. He has added a tremendous amount to my life." ♥

### THOSE WHO MADE THIS PLACEMENT POSSIBLE

- **Dog Source**  
Ken & Linda Weikert
- **Puppy Raiser**  
Allie Thompson
- **Veterinary Services**  
Life Care Animal Hospital

## Good Girl Winnie

Matthew Thomas and Winnie

by David Lee and Shelly Hiemer

Matthew Thomas is a typical 16 year old from Prior Lake, Minn. He lives with his parents, Bruce and Deb, and two sisters, Briana and Erica. He loves hunting, fishing, swimming and computer games. Like many boys his age, he also wanted a dog. But for Matthew, a dog took on a whole new meaning. You see, since birth, Matthew has had Cerebral Palsy, a brain disorder that makes muscle control a problem. But even being in a wheelchair has not slowed him down. He continues to enjoy choir, sled hockey, and baseball. His dad says, "Matthew is an awesome young man and is full of life. He is very active and is always willing to participate in any activity."

When a friend suggested applying to Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota for an assistance dog, it sounded like a wonderful way to gain independence and get a best friend.



Matthew and Winnie

When Matthew, along with his parents, applied for a dog from Hearing and Service Dog of Minn. they wrote, "Matthew would benefit from a Mobility Assist Dog in several ways. It would help Matthew feel more independent."

Enter Winnie, a young enthusiastic black Labrador Retriever who really enjoys helping Matthew. They have developed a very special friendship that has bonded them together.

Winnie is trained to pick up things like a camera case, water bottle, or keys. She tugs open doors as well as places clothes in the laundry basket. If Matthew falls, Winnie is trained to touch an emergency button to summon help. Winnie also responds if Matthew is having a seizure by licking his face, alerting family members and staying with him until he recovers.

Although, having an assistance dog is a commitment, Matthew enjoyed the challenge and says it was fun to train Winnie. He encourages her by saying, "good girl." Matthew says that getting to know Winnie was the best part of training.

(continued on page 9)



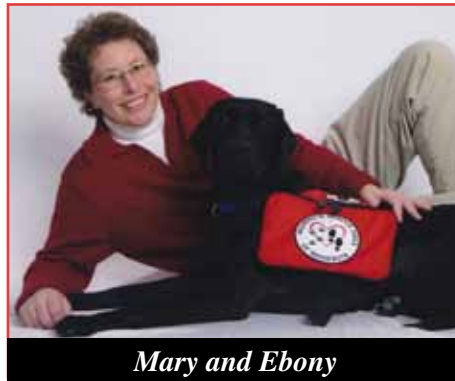
## Unconditional Love Mary Rhatigan and Ebony

by Laurie Carlson

Mary Rhatigan of Excelsior, Minn., was a typical, busy, single mom until the winter of 2007. That February, she became a Type 1 diabetic after having her pancreas removed and an unsuccessful Auto-Islet Cell Transplant. She soon realized she could not tell when her blood sugar would drop to dangerously low levels. One summer evening, she began 'crashing' with low blood sugar levels in the middle of the night. Her insulin pump sensor went off for a full two hours before she became aware of the situation. When her internist told her she was lucky to have awakened at all, Mary began to fear falling asleep.

Mary had read in American Diabetes magazine about Diabetic Assist Dogs, which can smell from someone's breath when blood sugar is low and alert the person or a caregiver. The magazine mentioned an organization in California, but Mary was told that she did not qualify. She mentioned that to a member of her church choir, MarySue Krueger, who is a board member of Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota. MarySue told her, "Oh! We train those types of dogs. You should apply with us." Mary applied and was soon matched with Ebony, a 1 1/2-year-old black Labrador.

The initial training was something new for the organization. Rather than



Mary and Ebony

holding one-on-one sessions with client and trainer, Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota held group classes. Mary, Ebony, another client, Greg Lee, and his dog, A.J., were ready to begin formal training at the same time. "This was a great experience," Mary says. "Greg and I had each other to lean on. We learned a lot from asking questions, and it was very helpful." Even now they keep in touch, usually once a week, to talk about dogs or life in general. Trainer Ramona Elder remarks, "Having a dog to assist with diabetes is a unique situation. There are not many Diabetic Assist Dogs out there, so it is important to have support."

It didn't take long for Ebony to begin alerting Mary. "Ebony is an amazing dog," Mary says. "She senses rapid drops in my blood sugar. She is a very intuitive and sensitive animal." Ebony is trained not

only to alert Mary to drops in her blood sugar, but also to retrieve a juice bottle or cordless phone on command. Ebony continues to learn. She is now getting help from another person when needed.

Now that they're certified, Mary says, "The most significant thing Ebony does for me is that she gives me the security of knowing she will catch my low blood sugar. I sleep better knowing that she is next to me." Mary encourages others to get an assistance dog. "Do it!" she says. "It's life-changing — not just in the mobility and security you gain, but in the unconditional love you receive."

Mary would also like to thank supporters. "By supporting Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota," she says, "you are not only giving people a chance to rejoin life, but perhaps to regain independence." ♥

### THOSE WHO MADE THIS PLACEMENT POSSIBLE

- **Dog Source**  
Stephanie Leddon
- **Veterinary Services**  
Maryland Avenue Pet Hospital
- **Puppy Raiser**  
The McCloskey-Henry Family

Watch for Greg and A.J.'s article in the next issue of Tails from Minnesota!

## Matthew Thomas and Winnie

(continued from page 10)

Matthew says, "I want to thank my field trainer, Peggy, a million." Said Matthew, "Without her and Hearing and Service Dogs, I would not be where I am today. You are such a wonderful blessing." As for the future, Matthew says, "I plan to go to college after high school and move into my own apartment, with Winnie." ♥

### THOSE WHO MADE THIS PLACEMENT POSSIBLE

- **Dog Source**  
Georgine Abramson and Rosalee Rogers
- **Veterinary Services**  
Maryland Avenue Pet Hospital
- **Puppy Raiser**  
Sue Crone
- **Field Trainer**  
Peggy Ferdinand

## Honorariums

Donated By	In Honor Of
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Brown & Carlson, P.A.	Percy's Birthday
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Butterfield Lions	"Champ"
Kay Carlson	Mike Appel
Dawn & Gary Carlson	"Ebony"
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Priscilla Deke	"Miky" and "Sam"
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Jacqueline A. Gohdes	Paul and Mika Gens
Sara Grachek	"Fanny"
Dave Henry	"Brinks"
Jennifer & John Howe	Paul and Linda Henry
	"Lady", "Max", "Sam", "Sabra", "Oliver", "Zeke", "Jake"
Carole & John Humphrey	John Humphrey -
	Christmas - In honor of all dogs
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Kathleen Kaiser	Centennial Elementary School
Nancy & Tim Kelly	Stephanie and Jeff Magelky
Annette & Chuck Kendall	Emma Weisner's Bat Mitzvah

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Walther Liebenow	A Veteran's Dog
Dennis Litfin	"Chubby"
Del Lovas	Bob, Laura and "Will" Powers
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Susan & John McKendry	Bill & Jan Dubats
Kimberly & Thomas Medin	
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	Josh, Evan and Amalie
James & Janet Murphy	Carol Reith & "Tucker"
Karol Nielson	Ortwin-Kuenzel Family
Debra Noll	"Sadie"
Leslie Peterson	Jan Horner and "Ted"
Frank and Patricia Piller	Christy Kierstead
Matt Porter	Mike Ferber
Alex Porter	Mike Ferber
Robert Powers	"Will"
Laura Powers	Zig & Margaret Bartkowski,
	The Lynch Family, Del Lovas,
	The Bartkowski/Kisting Family, Bob and "Will" Powers
Kate Rauchman	The Rauchman Family
Kerry Sarnoski	Dora
Berit Schiess	Sue Tuthill Schiess
Thomas Schroeder	Evangeline Schroeder
Christy Sibley	Jocelyn and MerryBelle Sibley
Gayle Sievert	"Knight" & "Windsor"
Sandra K. Simonson	Rod and Julie - Merry Christmas!
Vickie and Gerard Skala	Janice Parrow
Daniel Skogin & Emily Duke	Jonathan H. Sogin's Bar Mitzvah
Marlyss Somers	Carter Schaal
Martha Swain	Mary Rhatigan and "Ebony"
Naomi Vagts	Joanna Vagts
Renee Valois	Katie Galloway
Charlene Wade	"Enya"
Dorothy Weese	Christy Kierstead
Mary Yeast	Christy Kierstead



**Can Do Canines**

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 New Hope, MN 55428

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**GO GREEN!**

Would you rather receive Tails from Minnesota by e-mail? If so, contact Tom at trehbein@hsdm.org with a request and you will hear from us electronically next time instead. You decide!

**Wish List**

**Dog Supplies**

- ✓ Chuck-its (for clients to toss tennis balls)
- ✓ Medium size metal dog bowls
- ✓ Healthy Dog treats!!
- ✓ Frontline Flea and Tick Preventative
- ✓ Kongs, Nylabones (giant)
- ✓ Dog leashes, 6' narrow width cotton
- ✓ Donated veterinary services
- ✓ Gentle Leaders & Haltis, sizes M & L
- ✓ Purebred puppies
- ✓ 5/8" adjustable 10"-16" collars
- ✓ Gift cards to pet supply stores
- ✓ Fish oil capsules
- ✓ Large and extra-large Vari-kennels
- ✓ Dog grooming services

**Electronics**

- ✓ Mac G4 (or newer) *laptops*
- ✓ Mac G5 or newer *desktop* computers
- ✓ LCD computer monitors, 17" or larger
- ✓ LCD or Plasma TV, 24" or larger
- ✓ Home Theater system for meeting room
- ✓ LCD projector
- ✓ Camcorder, Digital
- ✓ Adobe InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, Dreamweaver and Acrobat Pro CS4 for Mac

**Automotive**

- ✓ Small wagon/hatch-back for delivering dogs
- ✓ Full size utility van
- ✓ Mini Van
- ✓ Automotive GPS devices
- ✓ Gasoline cards
- ✓ Auto repair/maintenance

**Miscellaneous**

- ✓ 8-1/2 x 11 copy paper
- ✓ 1st-class stamps
- ✓ Bleach, Formula 409 cleaner, laundry detergent
- ✓ Gift cards to office supply stores
- ✓ Portable stage
- ✓ Office cubicles
- ✓ Riding Lawn Mower or donated lawn/snow removal services
- ✓ Gas powered power washer

**Building Materials**

- ✓ Kitchen cabinets
- ✓ Sliding patio door
- ✓ Stainless steel prep table
- ✓ Food storage racks - i.e. - Streeter
- ✓ Gift certificates home improvement stores

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

**Upcoming Events**

- February 6** 2nd Annual Applebee's Breakfast ~ 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
2800 39th Avenue NE, St. Anthony, 55421
- February 28** Open House ~ 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, 55428
- March 4** Brave New Workshop ~ 8:00 p.m.
- March 27** Tails To Tell Tour ~ 10:00 a.m.
- April 5** Special Events Committee Open House ~ 6:00 p.m.  
9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, 55428
- April 17** Dog Days at the Hive ~ 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- April 22** Tails To Tell Tour ~ 7:00 p.m.
- April 29** Tails of Independence Luncheon ~ 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 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 612-729-5986 to reserve a spot.

**The Fetching Ball ~ 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

Thank you to everyone that assisted in making the Fetching Ball a tremendous success. More than 350 people and 46 dogs attended and raised more than \$70,000 for our programs. It was a very special night celebrating our organization's past accomplishments and learning about our future plans. The event committee did an outstanding job organizing this fabulous event and we appreciate their time and talent. Thank you to our honorary chairperson, Barbara Burwell, our master of ceremonies, Jason DeRusha, our event sponsors and table sponsors. It was a BALL!-We hope to see you all next time. ♥



L to R: Graduate, Nicole Roberts and "Hope", Master of Ceremonies Jason Derusha, Executive Director Al Peters, honorary chairperson Barbara Burwell, and graduate Deb Burke and "Pepsi".

**A Fetching Success!**