



SPRING 2006

**CONTENTS:**

Hearing Dogs Captivate . . . . . Page 3

Breeding Success . . . . . Page 3

Regional Round-Up . . . . . Pages 4-5

New CCI Instructors . . . . . Page 6

Animal Hall of Fame . . . . . Page 6

Volunteer Service Award . . . . . Page 6

Heritage Society Profile . . . . . Page 7

Yearbook . . . . . Pages 8-11

CCI Miracle Makers . . . . . Back Cover

# The Courier

*the national newsletter of Canine Companions for Independence® — enhancing the lives of people with disabilities since 1975*

## ASSISTANCE DOGS INTERNATIONAL (ADI) 18th Annual Conference CCI Breeding Program Showcased

Assistance Dogs International is comprised of 106 organizations worldwide who train and place assistance dogs. CCI is proud to be a member of ADI. Our own CEO, Corey Hudson, serves in the leadership of this organization. “We have an obligation to everyone who could benefit from assistance dogs and are proud to share our expertise,” said Hudson.

CCI program staff played key roles in the conference, coordinating seminars and giving presentations on our highly successful breeding program and excellent hearing dog training techniques.

Paul Mundell, CCI’s National Director of Canine Programs, says breeding is such a fundamental part of what assistance dog groups do. “New organizations in particular struggle with developing their breeding programs. But we also geared

the seminar topics so more advanced organizations like CCI could benefit from the presentations and the cross-pollination of ideas.”

### 100% Conception Rate Sets Industry Standard

CCI’s veterinarian Dr. Ruth Daniels led off the presentations showcasing CCI’s breeding program.

For both 2004 and 2005 “Dr. Ruth,” as she is affectionately called at CCI, has achieved an unprecedented 100% success in conception rate.

“The difference between 90% to 95% and 100% might seem small,” says Dr. Daniels, “but for CCI, that translates into 35 to 66 fewer puppies each year. Or put another way, to meet our puppy goals, we would need four to eight more litters—and that would require pulling four to eight female breeders from our line

*(Continued on page 3)*



Alexa II cradles eight day old Melbourne from her first litter. Photo courtesy of Jill Quan.

## Changing Lives

Over the years in this column, I have talked about almost every CCI subject — our great and dedicated puppy raisers, breeding, advanced training, Team Training, graduate workshops, and graduate dog retirement.

As we prepare for our upcoming strategic planning sessions I've been reflecting on how CCI is always improving and rethinking how we fulfill our mission. Each year we focus on producing the highest quality assistance dogs (Service, Skilled Companion, Facility & Hearing). Each graduation brings stories that remind me of how our work changes lives. I'd like to share a few of these with you:

A mother of three adopted children related that she attributed her oldest daughter's success in college to the CCI Service dog she has at her side. She shared how the younger children soon became CCI puppy raisers and, in fact, they had a dog graduating that day. She believed all her children had grown and become better people because of their CCI dog's influence.

I was told of a young adolescent who was so shy she would hardly speak to anyone — usually just with a yes or no. After becoming a puppy raiser for CCI she is now an outgoing and gregarious young woman. I suggested all adolescents have challenges emerging into adulthood and it was probably just the natural maturation process. "No," protested her adult co-puppy raiser. She insisted it was the selfless act of raising a puppy for someone else and the expectation to talk with others of her good work at CCI that made the difference.

Then there was the young graduate with Down Syndrome who wanted to take her Skilled Companion to speech therapy because those around her noticed how much clearer her speech was when she commanded her CCI assistance dog. They don't teach this in the speech therapy masters program.

I am continually amazed at the life-changing effect our dogs have on graduates and their families. It's so much more than assisting in daily tasks. Their dog becomes a social bridge graduates use to connect in new ways to the people around them. In time, the cautious become confident, the timid become tenacious, and the shy become more social.

To continue to create such unique and loving stories of transformation, we will be engaging in a deliberate and thoughtful planning process to increase the number of graduate teams we place each year. Thank you for your support. Together we will continue to provide exceptional dogs for exceptional people.

Sincerely



Corey Hudson, CEO

## Looking Ahead

In 2005, Canine Companions for Independence placed more teams than ever before; our goal of 178 was exceeded for a total of 196 placements. Our breeder caretakers produced 658 puppies which were placed with puppy raisers. Our CCI instructors conducted 681 graduate follow-ups around the country.

To continue to create these wonderful partnerships we call graduate teams, the CCI national board and managers will meet in the coming months to plan our future growth. This planning process will include determining:

- Our team placement goal for maximum growth;
- Strategies for staffing and implementing a schedule allowing for more Team Trainings in each region;
- Timelines for completing the campus facilities needed to house and train more graduates and dogs;
- A plan to enable donors to use major gifts to help fund specific program needs like breeding, training, and graduate follow-ups;
- Forming strategic national multi-market partnerships with targeted media, corporations and organizations.

We're excited about the financial strengths we enjoy

through annual and event support, a strong and growing bequest program, and a growing endowment. We're also encouraged by the financial opportunities that lie ahead:

- A new gift annuity program for donors who want interest income while allowing CCI to be the beneficiary of the principle;
- On-line giving is growing each month as more and more people go to our website and like what they see!
- Our wonderful Miracle Maker giving club continues to grow; these donors use automatic monthly donations to provide important steady revenue for our work;
- Each region has successful events bringing together our donors and volunteers around the country.

We have done such good work already; we know the next few years will call for us to meet more of the growing need for assistance dogs. Already, CCI provides 25% of the assistance dogs in the industry. Our dogs are so exceptional, they are in demand.

As we assess our strengths and needs for our long-term planning, we celebrate our good work and look forward to developing a plan for future growth.



Ted Rogahn  
President, National Board of Directors



To: Corey Hudson & Staff

From: Peter Gorbing, Dogs For The Disabled UK

Many thanks for all of your help when we set up our new children's (Skilled Companion) project!

Continued from page 1

each year, reducing the number of dogs we have available for Advanced Training.”

Dr. Daniels’ ADI presentation, entitled *Ovulation Timing to Maximize Conception Rate*, outlined the various monitoring techniques she’s perfected for determining the best time to breed female dogs. “CCI determines the ideal day to breed the female—‘ideal’ meaning the maximum number of eggs available,” explains Dr. Daniels. “This helps maximize both the conception rate and the number of puppies per litter.”

## Hearing Dog Panel Generates Enthusiastic Interest



Instructor Amy McPherson teaches Orca to alert her to the doorbell with a nudge.

Clark Pappas, Canine Companions for Independence’s National Participant Program Director, led a very popular panel discussion entitled *Hearing Dog Training and Placement*.

Pappas moderated the lively question-and-answer format, aided by panelists Robin Dickson of Dogs For The Deaf, Andy Cook of Hearing Dogs For Deaf People, and Sheila O’Brien of NEADS (Dogs For Deaf And Disabled Americans). Over 50 ADI members attended, including organizations looking for starting tips to begin their own programs and those with established programs wanting to further refine their techniques.

Pappas began the session by showing a 15-minute Hearing Dog Training Video he made for CCI’s instructors. The video chronicles the four-month progression of sound work training for a CCI Hearing Dog. The video prompted many questions about specific training techniques developed by CCI. Topics included how CCI instructors train Hearing Dogs to recognize when someone is calling their partner’s name, how to prepare dogs to react to unique sounds such as an oven timer, baby’s cry, etc. and the techniques for finding a sound.

Also discussed was the theory and practice of food reinforcement schedules to maximize learning and reliability. The audience was especially impressed by the video’s demonstration of how thoroughly CCI trains and tests the nudging response of its Hearing Dogs during the sound-alerting sequence.

Pappas says, “What was remarkable was the collegial spirit that quickly emerged and the open exchange of innovations, advancements, ideas and common issues.”

## ADI Breeding Symposium Summary

For the first time, ADI had an entire day devoted to a single topic — breeding. Paul Mundell, CCI National Director of Canine Programs, organized and moderated the seminar. Speakers included Robert Hutchison, DVM, of Animal Clinic Northview and the International Canine Semen Bank of Ohio. Dr. Hutchison’s talk was *Artificial Insemination Techniques and Their Use in a Breeding Program*. ADI members like CCI depend on both natural and artificial insemination (AI) for the breeding programs. The AI techniques described by Dr. Hutchison allow organizations to exchange genetic material with other organizations throughout the world. AI also permits organizations to use frozen semen from previous generations of male breeders, adding both flexibility and a degree of genetic insurance.

Dr. Dietrich Volkmann, BVSC of the Veterinary School, University of Pennsylvania, reported on his long-term research on birthing management. He found that whelping centers, which allow for the clinical monitoring of the birthing process, are effective in reducing incidents of maternal and puppy distress. Further, Volkmann described both the time intervals and the physiological markers that can determine when and how to intervene during whelping.

Paul Mundell presented research based on CCI data, focusing on the question: What is the optimal number of litters a female breeder should have? Analyzing 15 years of CCI litters, Mundell shows physical and behavioral effects can be linked to litter number — i.e. pups from litter number one are different than pups from litter number five. The implications are two-fold: One, that litter number must be included as a variable when doing genetic analysis of certain traits. Two, that additional research is needed into the effects of nutritional and environmental factors, particularly on later litters (e.g. litter number five and beyond).

Russ Kelly of The Iams Corporation, presented: *Nutritional Considerations for Optimal Gestation, Lactation & Neonatal Development*. Kelly cited new research showing diets must include not only traditionally known nutrients but also a careful balance of essential fatty acids.

Dolores Holle, VMD of The Seeing Eye, presented *Environmental Consideration for Whelping and Early Puppy Development*. The Seeing Eye has a state-of-the-art birthing and neonatal center that is carefully designed to create a stimulating environment for newborn puppies. Dr. Holle detailed how the center facilitates improved birthing success and a more controlled environment for puppy development.

All expenses for the breeding seminar were underwritten by The Iams Corporation.



You can now support CCI online!  
[www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org)

# Regional Round-Ups and Upcoming Events

## Northwest

### All New Celebrity Chef

Celebrity Chef 2006 honored Bobby, the CCI sire of more than 650 puppies, whose breeder/caretakers are **Bill and ML Reinking**, Saturday, April 29 at the Hyatt Vineyard Creek Hotel & Spa in Santa Rosa, CA. Celebrity Chef 2006 is a two-tiered event. The first event included 20 scrumptious appetizer tables, 20 sensational wine tables and a silent auction. The second event was a gala with an elegant three-course dinner prepared by renowned chefs from the Bay Area, combined with a fantastic live auction. The Master of Ceremonies was comedian **Mark Pitta**, a national headliner who has appeared on *The Tonight Show*, *Comedy Central*, numerous area comedy clubs, and clips from *Mornings On Two* (Channel 2 in San Francisco).

### The Human Race 2006

Canine Companions for Independence would like to invite all volunteers,

puppy raisers, breeder caretakers and CCI supporters to participate in this year's Sonoma County Human Race. This huge, nationwide event is a major fundraiser for CCI. You can run, walk, or roll—or you can collect contributions if you are unable to join the race. For the first time you can donate to CCI online at: [www.volunteernow.org](http://www.volunteernow.org). This year, Sonoma County supporters hope to top \$20,000. Join the fun on Saturday, May 13th at 7:45 am in front of the CCI booth at Herbert Slater Middle School, 3500 Sonoma Ave., Santa Rosa.

## Southwest

### Volunteer Appreciation Party

The Southwest staff threw its annual Volunteer Appreciation Party on February 4. For 20 years, volunteers have been giving their heart and soul to the SWR, so the '80's-themed bash, *The Rolling Bones*, was a big Thank You luncheon that included Name that Tune (with dog-themed songs of course), Dog Rock Star costume contest, and Doggie Musical Down (a canine variation on Musical Chairs). *Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame 2005 Superstars* were: **Bonnie Mueller** (Outreach Volunteer); **Marlin Petraglia** (Office Volunteer); **Helen Alexander** (Kennel Volunteer); **Patty Higbee** (Puppy Program Volunteer) and **Kimberly Otters & Lissa** (Graduate Ambassador). Our deepest gratitude goes out to every one of our devoted volunteers. Because of you, the light shines bright inside every CCI Graduate Team!

### Errors, Omissions, Corrections

The 2006 CCI Calendar features two adorable pups on its inside front cover but, unfortunately, no photo caption. The missing caption should have been: "CCI pups Blaze (raised by Rachel Sutton) and Belika (raised by **Brenda Voght**). Photo by **Andrew Walker**."

## The Many Faces of CCI

The SWR is embarking on an enrichment project called *The Many Faces of CCI*, which will feature Graduate Team guest speakers who will share their insights and experiences with their disabilities. These riveting talks will be held three times a year, beginning on March 24 when the topic will be spinal cord injuries presented by **Tim Daynes**, **Glen Gregos** and **Kara Paulson**. *The Many Faces of CCI* is sure to be a valuable reminder of the importance of CCI's Mission.


## Paws To Remember

The Southwest Region is revving up for a Homecoming Weekend to celebrate its 20th Birthday with *Paws to Remember* festivities and activities taking place throughout the Fall Graduation weekend of November 17-19, 2006. Friday night will include an elegant Sponsor's Reception and art auction, Saturday a Graduation Ceremony with an Alumni Parade to Campus for a community open house and picnic lunch, and Sunday will wrap up with an exciting bike ride commemorating the establishment of the Dean and Gerda Koontz Southwest Regional Center in Oceanside. This *Paws to Remember* weekend will ponder the past, explore the future and of course, savor the present. Priceless sponsorship opportunities are available by calling 760-901-4300.

## North Central

### Supporters Sell Themselves

The **Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity** at Ohio Wesleyan University had another successful auction for Canine Companions for Independence, drawing an impressive bidding crowd and raising thousands of dollars. Winners of the 2005 Jack Warnock Volunteer Service Award, Alpha Sigma Phi members annually auction themselves off to the highest bidder to perform household chores, tutoring, a night out, or other tasks chosen by the winning bidder. As its national philanthropic project, CCI has benefited from years of fundraising by Alpha Sigma Phi.



CCI grad Buddy Hayes, 2005 recipient of *MS Leaders of Hope Award*. See Northeast "CCI Grad a Leader of Hope".

## Upcoming NCR Events

The **Chicago Satellite Office** has secured dates for several upcoming events. The Alpha Sigma Phi Bike-A-Thon will be May 5, 2006, the *Woof & Wheels* Car and Dog Wash will be June 17, 2006 and Day at the Races will be August 5, 2006.

For additional upcoming events visit the North Central part of [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org).

## Northeast

### CCI Grad A Leader Of Hope

Congratulations to CCI graduate Buddy Hayes for being the 2005 recipient of the *MS Leaders Of Hope Award*. In 2003, Buddy was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Three weeks after she began using a wheelchair, she signed up for her first wheelchair race. She has since competed in the Rock-N-Roll Half Marathon and the Walt Disney World Marathon, winning the latter in 2005. Living alone and having long been a supporter of Canine Companions for Independence, Buddy realized she could benefit from having a CCI dog. "Ellie (aka Helice) is a godsend," says Buddy. "She's right here by my side ready to help whenever I need it."

### Pro-Am Tennis Tournament

The **Suburban Club of Baltimore County**, Maryland held a Pro-Am tennis tournament that raised over \$2,000 for Canine Companions for Independence. CCI is grateful to all involved and we hope this becomes an annual event.

### A Graduate Remembered

*Editor's Note: The following letter was recently sent to CCI from Lorraine Ambrosio, mother of CCI NER graduate Louis, who passed away in 1995.*

I am thinking about you and wish all of you at CCI a Happy and Healthy New Year. November 17th would have been Louis' 30th birthday. It is significant to me that CCI was founded the same year Louis was born—1975. Louis had so much spirit and he overcame so many obstacles. He loved (Skilled Companion) Quelle very much. They were truly a special team. I fondly remember how Louis learned all the required commands. With patience, practice and determination Louis was able to get



One of the original participants in The New York State Games for the Physically Challenged, Louis Ambrosio was thrilled his Skilled Companion Quelle could accompany him to the event.

Quelle to carry out the commands, even "Speak" and "Pull"—we all had a sigh of relief when Quelle responded properly. They graduated from high school together and completed two years at Hofstra University just before Louis died at the age of 19 1/2. Louis and Quelle accomplished so much in life. They were a perfect match and an inspiration to all who met them. I hope when you receive this note it will bring back some memories of Louis and Quelle, and that you can share them with others who never met them. Perhaps it will encourage them also not to give up.

With love,  
Lorraine Ambrosio

## Southeast

### Tales & Tails Gala



Miss America 2004 sings a song from her new country album at the Tales & Tails Gala with artist Rock DeMarco's 'Rock Art Live' image in the background.

The stars came out for the 9th Annual Tales & Tails Gala held at event sponsor **SeaWorld Orlando's Ports of Call** on November 12, 2005. Joining the ever-popular **Jack Hanna** of *Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures* on the talk show

style set of 'Tales & Tails Live' were the following dignitaries: **Ericka Dunlap**, Miss America 2004; **Wendy Chioji**, Lance Armstrong Tour of Hope rider and WESH TV2 NBC's news anchor; and **Dick Batchelor**, political analyst and former member of the Florida House of Representatives. The event broke all past records with a sold-out crowd of over 600 guests and raised over \$250,000 to benefit the Southeast Region.

**Frank Santos**, CFO of Rosen Hotels & Resorts and Southeast Regional Board Treasurer, and **Nancy Baumann**, Community Advocate and Southeast Regional Board member, served as co-chairs for the signature event. Major sponsors included **Florida Hospital**, **Orlando Utilities Commission**, **ABC Fine Wine & Spirits, Inc.**, **Jones, Hurley and Hand, PA.**, **Post Integrations, Inc.**, and **Summit Consulting, Inc.** The event showcased renowned artist **Luis Sottill's** collaboration with Canine Companions for Independence graduate teams in presenting '*PAWcasso: Creating A Legacy of Canine/Human Partnerships*' (see Autumn 2005 issue of *The Courier*).



Jack Hanna gets a big 'thank you' as CCI Graduate Team Charlie Carducci and Tyrone enjoy the Tales and Tails gala. Photos by Brion Price Photography.

### Opportunity Calls

Win a trip from Anywhere to Anywhere (\$2,500 value) or \$2,000 cash. The Lions are raising money for CCI through their annual Opportunity Drawing in September 2006. Tickets are \$5 each or a book of 25 for \$100. Tickets may be purchased through the Lions Project for Canine Companions for Independence by calling 707-577-1774 or by e-mailing [lpcci@cci.org](mailto:lpcci@cci.org).

### Three Newly-Certified CCI Instructors

Canine Companions for Independence is happy to announce that the following Apprentice Instructors recently passed their ADI Instructor Certification tests and are now full CCI Instructors:



**Simi Balter** grew up in upstate New York. After college, she first worked for a behavioral health agency with youth at risk, helping teens build resiliency skills. She then became a professional recruiter, followed by four years as a pharmaceutical sales representative. Motivated to combine her passion for people and dogs, Simi discovered Canine Companions for Independence. After passing her recent ADI Instructor

Certification, Simi accepted the position of full-time Graduate Coordinator for the Southwest Region.

**Melissa Boak** graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas with a Bachelors of Science in Animal Science and a Minor in Biology. "I love working for CCI," says Melissa, "because the dogs we provide change the lives of our clients. I find the work immensely rewarding." Melissa is recently engaged and planning for her 2007 wedding. She has been with CCI since 2001 and with the Southeast Region since 2002.



**Stephanie Sherwood** grew up in Marin County, California and earned a Bachelors degree in Social Work at Chico State University. Stephanie then moved to Ashland, Oregon to work at Dogs for the Deaf for a year, followed by five years at Guide Dogs for the Blind's Portland facility and three years in New Zealand. A CCI employee since 2004, Stephanie instructs at the Northwest Region campus.



### CCI Dog Inducted Into Hall Of Fame



Dawn Ramsey watches Nero III be inducted into the Oklahoma Animal Hall of Fame.

as a Hearing Dog, Nero is now also Dawn's Service Dog: CCI instructors helped Nero get used to Dawn's transitions from walking cane, to scooter, to wheelchair. "Nero's focus on my well-being is quite amazing," says Dawn. "He's always looking out for me. I feel more secure when I'm with him. I'm much more aware of what's happening around me." Congratulations, Nero and Dawn!

The Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) inducted Nero III into its Oklahoma Animal Hall of Fame during its recent annual conference. "Without him, I wouldn't have be able to work," says CCI grad Dawn Ramsey of Shawnee, OK.

"Now he's helping me in my retirement." Originally trained



### Linda Cortez Receives Jack Warnock Volunteer Service Award

Linda Cortez with retired Service Dog Rio and **Phil Mitchell**, father of CCI graduate **Scott Mitchell**, participate at IBM's Silicon Valley Lab's Charitable Pledge Drive last October. Photo courtesy of Robert Wilson of IBM.

As announced by Anne Gittinger in their February meeting, the National Board selected long-time CCI volunteer **Linda Cortez** as the recipient of the prestigious Jack Warnock Volunteer Service Award for the year 2005. The Award, established in 2000 by National Board Member Jack Warnock, honors volunteers for their exceptional dedication to CCI and its mission. Linda has tirelessly supported Canine Companions for Independence for the last 13 years, attending virtually every Santa Rosa campus activity and major event. She is also the primary "mover-and-shaker" in the San Jose area, recruiting volunteers for presentations, demonstrations, information booths, fundraisers and other CCI events. In addition to her full-time job as Administrative Assistant at Evergreen Elementary School in San Jose, Linda currently serves as both the president of the South Bay Chapter and as president of the CCI's Northwest Regional Board. For her depth of service, commitment and loyalty, CCI is proud to bestow the 2005 Jack Warnock Award to Linda Cortez.

# Hesitant First-Time Puppy Raisers Now On Fourth Dog

Sondra Thiederman and Tom Sandler wanted to be Puppy Raisers after watching their first graduation in 1991. But they were worried about Tom’s allergies and being able to “give up the pup.”

Finally, in 2000, after a long talk with a CCI volunteer, they bought an air purifier for their bedroom, applied for a puppy, and said to themselves, “We’ll figure out how to handle the puppy turn-in when the time comes.” And they did. They’re now on their fourth CCI pup, Betsy V. Their first pup, Jassie (nicknamed Jazz), became a release dog and their much-beloved pet.

“We had never been involved with a nonprofit before,” says Sondra. “We weren’t ‘joiners.’ What we found out with CCI is that whatever you give—time, money, puppy raising—you get so much more back...it’s unbelievable.”

“CCI provides a tool to allow people to live fuller, more productive lives,” continues Sondra. “CCI helps people so they can, in turn, give back—to their families, their communities, their workplaces.”

“We love the tangible benefits,” says Tom. “When you hand a dog over to a graduate, you see immediate results. The benefits are so concrete.”

“Another appeal for us is that CCI has the highest standards in the industry,” says Sondra. “The breeding, the diets, the training, the training of the trainers...All of that is approached in a methodical way that gives us faith in the organization.”

*Canine Companions is pleased to have Sondra Thiederman and Tom Sandler as members of its Heritage Society, which honors those who have included CCI in their estate plan. For information on Heritage Society membership, call Bob Henning, National Charitable Gift Planning Officer, at 707-577-1789 or email Bob at bhenning@cci.org.*



Sondra Thiederman, Ph.D. and Tom Sandler, CCI Heritage Society Members, pose with Betsy V.

Sondra is a board member of the San Diego Champions, their local CCI volunteer chapter, and also helps with the orientations for new Puppy Raisers at the Southwest campus. Tom and Sondra both help out with “booth sitting” at various events, explaining CCI to the public. Tom, who owns a picture-framing business, prominently features photos of their current CCI pup. He also donates framed pictures to CCI’s silent auctions and regularly volunteers during Team Training.

A professional speaker and author specializing in workplace diversity issues, Sondra begins each talk with a slide of their current CCI puppy.

She then connects the CCI mission to corporate diversity goals.

“We’re even ‘indoctrinating’ our grandchildren, Aiden and Eva, to be Puppy Raisers,” jokes Sondra. “Aiden spends time with puppies raised in a local prison so they can be socialized with young children. We want Aiden and Eva both to learn that giving is fun!”

“This so-called “giving” that we do for CCI doesn’t feel like giving at all. Sure, we give our time and energy and money and emotion, but we get so much more back. And the Heritage Society — well that’s just a neat way for us to contribute to CCI’s mission even after we are long gone. Usually we’re intimidated by anything that has to do with laws and wills, but CCI made it super easy.”

Canine Companions is pleased to have Sondra Thiederman and Tom Sandler as members of its Heritage Society, which honors those who have included CCI in their estate plan.

*For information on Heritage Society membership, call Bob Henning, National Charitable Gift Planning Officer, at 707-577-1789 or email Bob at rhenning@cci.org.*



Please send information on the following:

- Estate planning
- Sample wording to include CCI in a will or trust
- Stock transfers
- We have already included Canine Companions in our estate plans; please send us information about the Heritage Society
- Please call us regarding CCI’s Charitable Gift Annuities

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please call us regarding the above. Our phone number is: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the enclosed, pre-addressed envelope, or mail to:  
**Canine Companions for Independence, P.O. Box 446, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.**  
Questions? Call us toll-free at 866-224-3647 and ask for Bob Henning.  
Or visit [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org) and click “How you can help.”

## Northwest Region — November Graduates



**Nicole Brown-Booker**  
Successor Service Dog **Kiva**  
Oakland, CA  
*Steve and Karen Marts*  
*Billings, MT*



**Olivia Ellis**  
Successor Skilled Companion  
**Kya**  
Lisa Ellis and Kris Maretski  
Windsor, CA  
*Natalie Edgar & Marianne Tate*  
*Antioch, CA*



**Gary Goerner**  
Service Dog **Kenton**  
Sacramento, CA  
*Tara and Dane Jasper*  
*Santa Rosa, CA*



**Julie Hackenbruck**  
Service Dog **Teanne**  
TA: Linda Hackenbruck and  
Jennifer Nance  
Bend, OR  
*Cindy Lawton*  
*Meadow Vista, CA*



**Richard Hagan**  
Service Dog **Kovin**  
Palo Alto, CA  
*Lynda and Rebecca Gates*  
*St. Helena, CA*

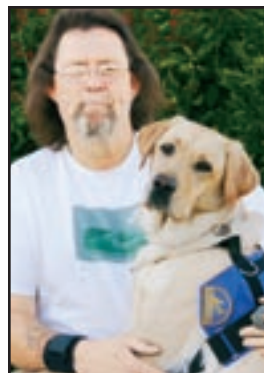
## Northwest Region — November Graduates



**Rita Lieneke**  
Successor Service Dog **Hylan**  
Citrus Heights, CA  
*Mack Konigsfeld and*  
*Sara and Sue Carichio*  
*Puyallup, WA*



**Melissa Lucia**  
Successor Service Dog **Yukon II**  
San Jose, CA  
*Kimberly and Jim Tuckwell*  
*Kirkland, WA*



**Kurt Parker**  
Service Dog **Anika II**  
Sacramento, CA  
*Taylor and Juliet Herrera*  
*and family*  
*Davis, CA*



**Nancy Sawhney**  
Successor Service Dog  
**Becky IV**  
Sacramento, CA  
*Leslie Blakley*  
*Woodinville, WA*



**Dianne Simao**  
Successor Service Dog **Reenan**  
Concord, CA  
*Kathy Hall*  
*Placerville, CA*

## Northwest Region — November Graduates



**Karin Stohn**  
Facility Dog **Lida**  
Santa Cruz, CA  
*Bill and Louee Newton*  
*Santa Rosa, CA*



**Joyce Wagner**  
Successor Facility Dog **Tareth**  
Hayfork, CA  
*Christine Evans*  
*Seattle, WA*



**Susan Woodman**  
Service Dog **Reisig**  
Sacramento, CA  
*Kathy and Jeff Zastrow*  
*El Dorado Hills, CA*



**Olin Fortney**  
Hearing Dog **Mailey**  
Rickreall, OR  
*Christine Eddy*  
*and Katherine Doesburg*  
*Des Moines, WA*



**Silvia Lemmo**  
Hearing Dog **Mailey**  
Rickreall, OR  
*Christine Eddy*  
*and Katherine Doesburg*  
*Des Moines, WA*

## Northwest Region — December Graduates



**Patricia Padgette**  
Successor Hearing Dog **Navarre**  
Oceanside, CA  
*Niki, Faith and Paul Roney*  
Beavercreek, OR



**Patricia Parker**  
Hearing Dog **Wyman II**  
TA: Louis Parker  
Hanford, CA  
*Paul and Averell Duché*  
West Palm Beach, FL



**Ellen Theilman**  
Successor Hearing Dog **Cassey**  
Sacramento, CA  
*Leigh and John Harlan*  
Salisbury, NC



**Cindy Widmaier**  
Hearing Dog **Lynette II**  
Aston, PA  
*Christina and Rose Rivera*  
Santa Rosa, CA



**Jennifer Corral**  
Successor Service Dog **Ryba**  
Stockton, CA  
*Carol Toomey and*  
*Tom Durham*  
Carmichael, CA

## Northwest Region — January Graduates



**Abigail Guthrie**  
Skilled Companion **Chris III**  
Tom and Megan Guthrie  
Foster City, CA  
*Hanna O'Donnell*  
Carnation, WA



**Janlyn Heath**  
Service Dog **Rolie**  
Sebastopol, CA  
*Pam Kitani*  
Folsom, CA



**Benjamin Lindelien**  
Skilled Companion **April IV**  
David and Keli Lindelien  
Dexter, OR  
*Curt Quantz and*  
*Savannah and Maya McNichol*  
Santa Rosa, CA



**Michaela Norton**  
Skilled Companion **Leia**  
Trishia Norton  
Pacific Grove, CA  
*Traci Storm*  
Seattle, WA



**Ashley Roehm**  
Service Dog **Pierce II**  
TA: Leslie Roehm  
Redwood City, CA  
*Irene King*  
Issaquah, WA

## Southwest Region — November Graduates



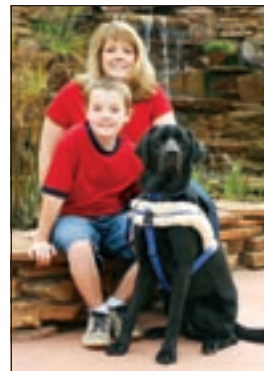
**Jorge Alvarado**  
Skilled Companion **Jesper**  
Laura Alvarado  
Imperial Beach, CA  
*Jackie Jelen*  
Irvine, TX



**Tim Daynes**  
Service Dog **Sakai**  
Salt Lake City, UT  
*Patty and Savannah Moore and*  
*Family*  
Elbert, CO



**Glenn Gregos**  
Service Dog **Beulah II**  
Woodland Hills, CA  
*Midge Sprenger*  
Corrales, NM



**Sawyer Hamilton**  
Skilled Companion **Hal**  
Kandace Hamilton  
Spanish Fork, UT  
*Pamela Quirk and Gary Alder*  
San Diego, CA



**Nancy Mansfield**  
Facility Dog **Shara**  
La Canada, CA  
*Catherine Miller*  
Cedar Park, TX

## Southwest Region — November Graduates



**Frances "Randi" Price**  
Service Dog **Lucky IV**  
Denver, CO  
*Adrienne and Beau Beamesderfer*  
Colorado Springs, CO



**Bobbie Roth**  
Service Dog **Glory**  
Gilbert, AZ  
*Maeve Cooney*  
Austin, TX



**Tammy Stevens**  
Service Dog **Rubin II**  
Bakersfield, CA  
*Laurie Dunne*  
Oceanside, CA



**Amber Barnes**  
Service Dog **Amara**  
Mount Eden, KY  
*Hope and Steve Davis*  
Athens, OH



**Mick Coons**  
Service Dog **Raymer**  
Economy, IN  
*Karen Sorenson*  
Kenosha, WI

## North Central Region — November Graduates



**Eric Haines**  
Successor Skilled Companion **Chasen**  
Jan Haines  
Desoto, MO  
*The Fogo family*  
Carmel, IN



**Rich McIntosh**  
Successor Service Dog **Rison**  
Council Bluffs, IA  
*Tony Sprout and Diane Burns*  
Laurelville, OH



**Rene' Montesino**  
Skilled Companion **Ashton II**  
Layne Montesino  
Chesterfield Township, MI  
*Bob and Amy Kernan*  
Sandy, UT



**Jennifer Paris**  
Service Dog **Neilson**  
Tell City, IN  
*Charon Fisher*  
Kansas City, MO



**Chad Seeholzer**  
Skilled Companion **Parnell**  
Nancy Patterson  
Orrville, OH  
*Jane and Dan Barber*  
Libertyville, IL

## November Graduates

## Northeast Region — November Graduates



**Joe Weinheimer**  
Skilled Companion **Darby III**  
Pat Weinheimer  
Harrison, OH  
*Patty Marsh*  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH



**Kylie Evans**  
Skilled Companion **Watson**  
Sarah Luneau  
Rochester, VA  
*Ellen Gaffney and Bill Odette*  
Chestnut Hill, MA



**Rochelle Johnson**  
Service Dog **Ryker II**  
Alexandria, VA  
*Vicki Davis*  
Avon, IL



**Jack Kelly**  
Skilled Companion **Glider**  
Julie Kelly  
Dumfries, VA  
*Joan and Sandy Baer*  
Morris Township, NJ



**Jeff Naljotov**  
Skilled Companion **Eldon III**  
Daria and Oleg Naljotov  
Brooklyn, NY  
*Carol and Robert Cain*  
Cumberland Foreside, ME

## Northeast Region — November Graduates



**Elias Rosen**  
Skilled Companion **Bob III**  
Jill Spector  
Ambler, VA  
*Douglas Wiggan*  
Huntington Station, NY



**Drake Szczepanski**  
Skilled Companion **Yael**  
Tracy Szczepanski  
Laurys Station, VA  
*Harriet and Alan Cabelly*  
West Hempstead, NY



**Kimberly Spiroff**  
Skilled Companion **Lace**  
Karen and Steven Spiroff  
Richmond, VA  
*Noreen Spuhler*  
Midlothian, VA



**Kate Turnrose**  
Service Dog **Eric IV**  
Richmond, VA  
*Mary Wallace*  
Pt. Pleasant, NJ

### Notes:

With our highest appreciation of their hard work and generosity, the names and hometowns of the volunteer puppy raisers are printed in italics throughout the Team Training Yearbook.

TA = Training Assistant

## Southeast Region — November Graduates



**Chessa Birrell**  
Skilled Companion **Shriner**  
Rob Birrell and Cheryl Marko  
Acworth, GA  
*Marietta Birdsell*  
Crestview, FL



**Lee Blalock**  
Service Dog **Jacer**  
TA: Carmen Blalock  
Winter Springs, FL  
*Sue Zupko*  
Huntsville, AL



**Kurt Bougor**  
Facility Dog **Yurok II**  
Health South Rehabilitation  
Hospital  
Fort Mill, SC  
*Darlene and Katie Coyne*  
Roswell, GA



**William Gibbs**  
Skilled Companion **Hadrian**  
Susan Meach  
Tullahoma, TN  
*Jane Cain*  
Lake Wales, FL



**Taylor Heatherly**  
Skilled Companion **Jackson V**  
Cindy Heatherly  
Williamston, SC  
*Diesta Gundacker*  
Winter Park, FL

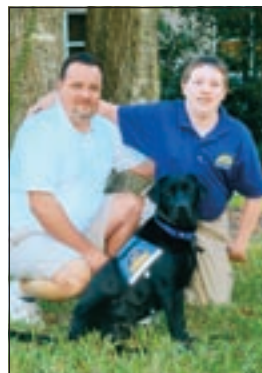
## Southeast Region — November Graduates



**Adam Manis**  
Skilled Companion **Linum**  
Linda Manis and Joe Leggio  
Boca Raton, FL  
*Jeanne McGowan-Boucher*  
and *Ron Boucher*  
Palm Harbor, FL



**Gina McRae**  
Facility Dog **Lanny**  
Methodist Rehabilitation Center  
Jackson, MS  
*Cindy and Art Patterson*  
Melbourne, FL



**Michael "Cody" Romine**  
Skilled Companion **Rubia**  
Brad Romine  
Madison, AL  
*Don and Bettie Simpson*  
Raleigh, NC



**Samara Zieper**  
Skilled Companion **Warren III**  
Polly Zieper  
Weston, FL  
*Connie and Lee Spees*  
Perry, FL

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