



# Southeast Companion

Exceptional Dogs for Exceptional People®



**Spring 2010 issue:** A special tribute to the Southeast Region's 10th anniversary, Tales and Tails Gala, Southeast Directions, Golden Leash Award, Regional News, Graduate Yearbook

## TEN YEARS OF CARING, SHARING & SERVICE

Three little words that have a big impact. Caring, sharing and service have meant so much to the Southeast Region of Canine Companions for Independence. Since opening in 2000, hundreds of volunteer puppy raisers have spent time **caring** for a CCI puppy to prepare it for a lifetime of great work; staff and volunteers were reaching out and **sharing** our mission; and more than 300 teams have been a recipient of our **services**.

The Southeast Region Anheuser Busch/SeaWorld campus opened on July 4, 2000 and consists of 4 buildings with a total of 32,000 square feet. It was built through the love and generosity of many individuals and has become a place where training, education and caring have come together for the past 10 years. What a difference having a state-of-the-art training center has made in the ability to carry out the mission of Canine Companions.



Margaret Ager, Jenna Feci and her assistance dog Rica, Chuck Green and his assistance dog Hammill, and Bill White cut the ribbon on July 4, 2000

A look back:

The first puppy adoption placement session was held on the campus on August 12, 2000 and puppy classes began on September 9<sup>th</sup>. In 2000 there were approximately 100 puppy raisers. Today we have close to 300 puppy raisers.

The first Graduate Workshop was held on October 19-20, 2000 with 18 graduate teams.

The first Team Training was held in November, 2000 with 6 teams. In November, 2009 our Team Training class graduated 11 teams.

In 2000 there were 98 active teams in our region. Today, there are 241 active teams. In 2009 the Southeast Region had a record setting year - graduating 40 teams.

You can read how this dream became a reality on pages 5, 6, 7 and 8 and learn how you can be a part of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration!

# Southeast Directions

Margaret S. Ager, Executive Director



**I**t was a crisp, sunny October morning in 1999. The 100 or so people that had gathered together were all excited about what was about to take place. It was an emotional and historic day for Canine Companions for Independence. Beginning with the founders of the Southeast Region 10 years before, it had been the dream of many to have a full service training center in the Southeast. That

day the dream changed to reality as we broke ground for the building of our beautiful campus. Nine months later on July 4th 2000, we held our dedication ceremony and opened the doors at our beautiful Anheuser-Busch/SeaWorld campus. What a wonderful way to celebrate Independence Day!

Our goal in building our center was to have a facility where training, education and caring come together to form the "Circle of Love" and a place where we could better serve our mission of enhancing the lives of people with disabilities by providing them with a highly trained assistance dog and the follow-up care needed to maintain quality partnerships.

This year we celebrate the 10th anniversary of our center and the 35th Birthday of Canine Companions for Independence. For this issue of our Southeast Companion, we are proud that many of you have taken time to contribute your favorite memories and your wishes for our future.

There are many special moments that I remember over this time. On that October morning as we formed that circle, we all took several steps back to make room in our circle for those that would join us in our journey for independence. Thank you to all of you that have taken your place and helped us grow. My wish for our future is that we will continue to grow and expand and bring more independence to many more people and enhance their lives through quality partnerships.

*Margaret*

# Meet Frank Santos

**F**or Rosen Hotels & Resorts Chief Financial Officer, Frank Santos, enhancing the lives of others has always been a lifelong goal, both professionally and personally. Frank was recently recognized for his 13 years of dedicated service to the Southeast Region of Canine Companions for Independence by being awarded its Golden Leash Award at the 2009 Tales and Tails Gala.

"The Golden Leash Award is not presented on an annual basis, but is given to those individuals whose service to Canine Companions has made a significant impact on its mission," said Margaret Ager.

Frank was a guest at the first Tales and Tails Gala in 1996, and when he saw first hand how lives were transformed by the organization,

he decided to become more involved. Since that time he has held several leadership roles for the event, including co-chairman, and chairman of the sponsorship committee, helping



Frank Santos receives the Golden Leash Award from Nancy Baumann, board president, and Margaret Ager

to make it one of Canine Companions most successful fundraising events. He has also taken on many other leadership roles and has served as a member of the Board of Directors since 2003.

"I'm thankful for this award, but even more, I am truly grateful for the opportunity to contribute to such an incredible, life-changing organization and to use my skills and business knowledge to educate others about their valuable mission," said Frank upon being presented with the award.

Are you a fan of Canine Companions?

Then you need to connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube groups to stay in touch with the incredible community of CCI graduates, volunteers and supporters.

# TALES AND TAILS GALA A HUGE SUCCESS

On November 21, 2009 more than 520 people gathered at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, Florida to raise money and to support the mission of Canine Companions for Independence. From the moment of arrival, guests were greeted by hundreds of silent auction items, all generously donated by companies and individuals. They had the opportunity to bid on trips, gifts for the home, jewelry and animal products, knowing that 100 percent of the proceeds would go towards providing assistance dogs free of charge to adults and children with disabilities.



The highlight of the evening was the address delivered by Canine Companions graduate Christian Frost. He was joined on stage with his Skilled Companion dog, Rodie, and his mother Stacey. Christian spoke to the audience about how Rodie has transformed his life and how Rodie has inspired Christian to give back to others.



Always gracious, animal behaviorist and television personality Jack Hanna signed autographs and mingled with the guests during the evening. Jack, who has

been involved with the gala from the start, was joined this year on stage with his long time friend, and well respected animal trainer, Joel Slaven, who performed with his release dog Journey.

## TALES AND TAILS VIP PARTY WAS ONE WILD EVENT

Joel Slaven, one of the country's most respected animal trainers, opened up his private home and animal sanctuary for the Tales and Tails Gala VIP Party. The Tales and Tails VIP Party has become known as the kick off event for the gala's top sponsors and this year offered an evening that everyone will remember for a long time. Joel's magnificent home is located on Lake Gentry and is surrounded by lush foliage. Away from the lights of Orlando, his place is also home to many of his animal stars and guests had the opportunity to wander the grounds and see all of the different and unique animals. Joel had many surprises still in store for the VIP guests. Airboat rides at sunset, delicious food and drinks and the chance to touch and interact with animals as his trainers mingled around the home provided the perfect start for a very successful Tales and Tails Gala.



One of Joel's trainers poses with a baby kangaroo

## WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN 2010

The Tales and Tails Gala began as a small dream by a few volunteers in 1996. In its first year a little over 100 people attended the event and it raised \$30,000. Today it is the Southeast Region's premier fundraising event and, in 2009, the event raised \$308,000 and is helping Canine Companions keep its dream alive to provide highly trained assistance dogs free of charge to adults and children with disabilities.

## Save The Date For the Event You PAWSitively Don't Want to Miss!

The 2010 event is scheduled for November 20 and will return to the beautiful Rosen Shingle Creek. Robin Sanchez and Cathy Fischer will be the event co-chairs and are already working on planning another fantastic evening of dining, live and silent auctions, and fun!



Guests enjoyed bidding on beautiful jewelry during the 2009 event

# Regional News

## Canine Companion Dogs are Really Cool

Dogs in training in the hot Florida sun at Canine Companions Southeast Regional Center in Orlando need a convenient place for cool water. Now, thanks to hard work from Shawn Majzlik for his Eagle Scout project, the dogs have a watering station. Majzlik's interest in Canine Companions began when a family friend started raising a puppy and he said it made him think about how a dog could help people be more independent. When he learned that the outdoor agility course was in need of improvements he stepped into action laying 60 feet of piping and pouring a concrete pad for the water station. He and his scout troop also washed the agility course equipment and build an overhang to provide shade and shelter from the unpredictable Florida weather.

## Canine Companions Skilled Companion Dog Wins Louisiana Service Animal of the Year

A Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) Skilled Companion dog from St. Francisville, Louisiana was awarded the 2009 Louisiana Service Animal of the Year by the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs (GODA).

Picasso, along with his Skilled Companion team of Catherine and Billy Calhoun, received the award during the Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disabilities Awards Ceremony held at the Old State Capitol Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

In his nomination, Catherine explained how Picasso has improved the quality of life for her son Billy, who suffers from McCune-Albright syndrome. "It is especially hard to see a young child suffer and know that the suffering is likely to last a lifetime. Picasso offers hope for the future and if you want to see Billy's face light up, simply ask him about Picasso. Picasso is simply the best assistance dog ever" wrote Catherine in the nomination. The Calhoun's were matched with Picasso in May of 2009 during Team Training at CCI's Southeast Regional Center.



Picasso takes his award in stride

## A Big Thank You to our Charlotte, North Carolina Puppy Raisers

This past November, puppy matriculation was like an early Christmas at the Southeast Region's kennels. The Charlotte area puppy raisers gathered for a "bon-voyage" party for the six area puppies being turned in. But instead of exchanging gifts between themselves, they decided to provide gifts of items from CCI's "wish list." They donated bags of bones, toys, towels and treats that will be used by our dogs in Advanced Training. The staff and dogs truly appreciate these donations. View some items on our current wish list on the next page or visit our Web site to see the complete list.



## CCI Dog Honored with AKC Humane Fund Award for Canine Excellence

For the second year in a row, the "Award for Canine Excellence," presented by the American Kennel Club (AKC), in the Service Dog category went to a Canine Companions Service Dog.

The recipient was Benton and his human partner Margo Dietrich. Margo lives with Post Polio Syndrome and relies on Benton to assist her with retrieving dropped items, dressing and transferring to and from her wheelchair. The award was presented at the AKC-Eukanuba National Championship in Long Beach, California.

The team lives in Georgia and Benton is a successor dog. "What's important to me is that Benton is always there. This dog knows everything about me," said Margo.



Margo and Benton are honored with their award

## Wish List

### Canine Health & Well Being

Kong in Classic Red or Black – Size Large and Extra Large  
Fresh and Clean Tearless Puppy Shampoo in Original Scent  
Fleece Squeaky Toys  
Vari Dog Kennels/Cares 500 size  
2 Quart (32 oz) Stainless Steel Pet Bowls  
Medium Shedding Blade by Master Grooming Tools

### Dormitory

Sheets 450 minimum thread count  
Hand Mixer  
Kitchen Blender  
Towels commercial grade

### Miscellaneous

New or slightly used conference chairs  
New or slightly used wheelchairs (manual or motorized)  
DVD duplicator machine

## Thinking about being a puppy raiser?

Please call Ed Burger at 407-522-3304 or send an e-mail to [eburger@cci.org](mailto:eburger@cci.org) to get more information.

# The Story Begins

It seems like only yesterday that the Southeast Region of Canine Companions for Independence moved out of a warehouse and built its eight-acre campus on a rural piece of land in West Orange County, Florida. Today, there are few reminders of that rural past. Take a walk with us down memory lane as we highlight how the campus started as a dream by a few and became the reality of an army of people with courage, determination and spirit.

## A Telephone Call

The story of the Southeast Region of Canine Companions really began in 1997 when Executive Director Margaret Ager answered her phone one afternoon. On the line was Fonda Ryan, the Community Relations Director for SeaWorld Orlando. "I just received a call from someone who said they are raising a Canine Companions puppy. They want to bring the puppy with them into our park tomorrow. Is this ok?"



Fonda is pictured with Margaret Ager and CCI National CEO Corey Hudson

asked Fonda. This idea of someone raising a puppy, only to give him or her to someone with a disability, tugged at Fonda's heart. Fonda met further with Margaret and liked the way things were run and how the little money that they had at the time was being spent. This was just the beginning of a partnership that has lasted more than 10 years.



The SER campus was named in honor of a \$1 million dollar gift from the Anheuser-Busch/SeaWorld Orlando organizations.

# The Power of One Starts the Capital Campaign

Jo Ann Guise and her husband John first discovered Canine Companions for Independence during an impromptu tour of the North Central campus in Ohio during the mid 1990s. Soon after that visit, Jo Ann, a resident of both Florida and North Carolina, became more involved with the Southeast Region, which served the residents of her two home states. This was a critical time in the development of the Southeast Region. Operating out of a warehouse space, it served mainly as an administrative center for applicants and regional puppy raisers. All Advanced Training and placement of the dogs happened in California, Ohio or New York. Discussions were underway to build a new campus and Jo Ann noticed on the organization's "wish list," property to build a regional campus. During a phone conversation with Margaret Ager, Jo Ann realized that helping build this campus would be the perfect opportunity to honor her late husband, generous and caring man with a passion for dogs. "How much would it cost to put a name on a building" she asked? Jo Ann's initial gift helped secure the eight acre site where the campus is now located, and two buildings - the training center and kennel - bear the name of her husband, John K. Bastien. Jo Ann's second personal gift was also a challenge for others to give generously to the organization she had come to love.



*Jo Ann loves animals*

A Phone Call From SeaWorld

Cody is Accepted into the  
Puppy Raising Program

The Power of One Starts  
the Capital Campaign

## The Planning Begins & the Community Gives



*Bill White speaks during the campus dedication on  
July 4, 2000*

The best fundraising strategies in the world cannot compete with the belief in a mission and the power of a dedicated volunteer. Bill White, the SER's board president during the capital campaign, exemplified all of these characteristics, and through his leadership he helped transform the dreams of building a full service training facility in the Southeast into a reality.

Bill embarked on a personal internal sales effort to convince everyone that this dream was possible. He laid out a plan and looked for resources and truly laid the "foundation of confidence" that was required to make everything happen. He built the case for the long-term impact that an assistance dog provides to gather corporate support and told stories to get the message out to other people willing to help fund the capital campaign.

In addition, when Bill's employer, Darden Restaurants, learned of Jo Ann's challenge gift, he helped to convince them to make a financial commitment to the campaign by fully matching her gift. Darden was also instrumental in securing the partnership with Anheuser Busch to make the largest gift to the capital campaign.

The dormitory on the campus is named in honor of Darden Restaurant's generosity and belief in making a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities. "At the campus dedication, I was humbled by the outpouring of stories I heard as to how individual lives had been touched by Canine Companions and their incredible hope for the future," said Bill.

# The Support Expands

Meanwhile, in South Carolina, Ron and Paula Silverman decided to support Canine Companions after seeing the emotions of love and caring that occurred between puppies, puppy raiser, assistance dogs and their partners after attending a Team Training Graduation Ceremony.

Paula, a member of the SER's Board of Directors, suggested to her husband that they sponsor the administrative building at the new center during the capital campaign. "After I caught my breath, I call that Paula's greatest moment," said Ron. The Silverman's, puppy raisers themselves, said they felt a great deal of pride and satisfaction when they saw the Administration Building at the dedication of the new campus in 2000. They knew that they were a part of something bigger and were sure that this campus would have a significant impact on the lives of so many people.



*The Silverman's attend the VIP Party during dedication ceremonies in 2000*

Planning Begins & the Community Gives

As Support Expands the Construction Begins

The Dream Becomes a Reality

## Construction Begins & the Dream Becomes a Reality

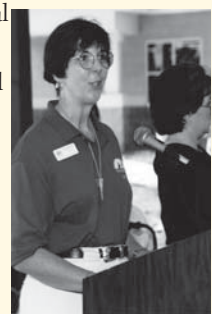
Real estate developer Michael Gaich has been involved with Canine Companions for more than 15 years and is deeply committed to its mission and to supporting the organization personally and by engaging his corporate contacts.

"My involvement has been very personal from the start," he says. "I heard about the organization through puppy raisers and I was very taken by their dedication and commitment. I contacted the SER and they accepted my dog Cody into the program and he was placed with a puppy raiser. Unfortunately, he was released from Advanced Training, but this gave me the opportunity to become more knowledgeable about the work of Canine Companions and to become more involved and do even more." Learning of the capital campaign to build a training facility, Michael convinced several of his key real estate colleagues to help with the construction and architecture design. Lonnie Peterson of the architectural company of Cuhaci & Peterson and builder Ed Evans provided their services at cost and used their own time to travel and visit other regional centers.

Michael feels that the Canine Companions mission has never been more important – providing exceptional dogs to exceptional people. "Canine Companions has a powerful message and as volunteers we are also powerful advocates," he said. "As volunteers, I believe we are charged with shaping organizations that will help move them to provide services into the next century. I was proud to be a part of the capital campaign and to help the Canine Companions dream become a reality."



*Construction begins in early 2000*

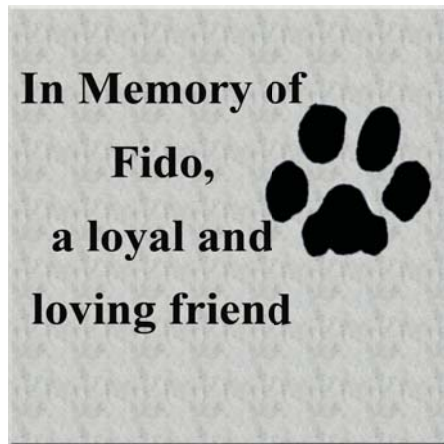


*Margaret Ager proudly wears the keys to the building during opening ceremonies*

## Caring, Sharing and Service...Be Part of the Celebration

In celebration of our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, you have the opportunity to honor a friend or family member or pay tribute to a cherished canine. Construction is underway at our campus for a beautiful recognition area to serve as a testament to our past and to our exciting future. Located in front of our training room, where so many lives were transformed, the area will feature a wall incorporating beautiful plaques that can be purchased and engraved with a special message. The plaques are 5" by 5" and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis for \$500.00. Payment plans are available.

Visitors to our campus will be able to view the names of those who have helped us provide exceptional dogs for exceptional people. An unveiling of the wall will take place this summer during an event to commemorate the Southeast Region's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



If you are interested in learning how you can purchase a plaque please visit [www.cci.org/donorwall](http://www.cci.org/donorwall) or call us at 407 522-3300.

### 10th Anniversary Memories and Best Wishes

#### **Moody McCall, DVM, SER Board Member**

My first memory of the Southeast Region is four years ago when we walked in and picked up Madine, our first CCI pup. We left with so much excitement and worry. Would we be able to train her to do the 30 commands in just 12 to 14 months? Would she flunk out because we did something wrong? Would she make someone's life better? How on earth would we be able to give her up? I am always proud to be part of CCI and inspired to go home and work harder so that I can raise another miracle, one puppy at a time. My wish for the future is that we will be able to place many more dogs. I would like for more people to be able to receive assistance dogs.

#### **Renee Baker, former staff member, volunteer and puppy raiser**

On the evening of the VIP reception for the opening of the Southeast Regional Center, I had just started back into the Administration Building followed by the 10-year-old grandson of our builder. He had been on the campus many times during the building phase. Just as I opened the door he grabbed my hand and said 'wait Renee, I want to show you something.' As we stood together he said in a hushed voice 'after all of the hard work, just look at it...isn't it beautiful.' The outdoor lighting of the new campus had come alive with the dusk of sunset creating a luminescent glow over the grounds. In that moment I realized that this would indeed be a place of many miracles to come.

#### **Barb McSherry, Graduate**

The memory that stands out for me is when I received my first service dog, Rockefeller, in November of 1994. There was a Christmas party at CCI's office. It was a tiny place that everyone worked out of. Probably not much bigger than the dorm rooms that are on the campus now. I never would have believed back then that we would have the beautiful center that we have today. My wish for the future is easy. It is that they continue to have the wonderful people who donate, puppy raisers and volunteers so that people can know the blessings that having a service dog provides for people like me.

*You can read more memories and wishes at [www.cci.org/southeast](http://www.cci.org/southeast)*

## 2009-2010 TEAM TRAINING YEARBOOK

### October Graduates 2009



**William**  
 Skilled Companion,  
 Whitley  
 Darcy \* Florida  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Andrea Batchelor  
 Orlando, FL



**Leslie**  
 Skilled Companion, Davy  
 Alison \* Tennessee  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Jack, Nancy &  
 Jacqueline Portello  
 Orlando, FL



**James**  
 Successor Service Dog,  
 Theodore \* Florida  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Gadsden Correctional  
 Facility



**Colt**  
 Skilled Companion,  
 Toma II  
 Paul & Stephanie \* TN  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Gadsden Correctional  
 Facility



**Dominick**  
 Skilled Companion, Saji  
 Nick & Kim \* NC  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Gadsden Correctional  
 Facility

### November Graduates 2009



**Andy**  
 Skilled Companion,  
 Seagar  
 Roy & Gloria \* NC  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Montgomery Federal  
 Prison Camp



**Stacy**  
 Facility Dog, Ayla II  
 Mississippi  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Mike Kassmeier & Kay  
 Simodynes  
 Roswell, GA



**Henry**  
 Skilled Companion,  
 Denzel  
 Lauri \* Florida  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Doris & Rush Thompson  
 Orlando, FL



**Medhat**  
 Service Dog, Delpha  
 Florida  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Gadsden Correctional  
 Facility



**Shaina**  
 Skilled Companion,  
 Lakim  
 Samantha \* Florida  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Kathie & Tom Zastrow  
 Oviedo, FL

### February Graduates 2010



**Alexis**  
 Skilled Companion,  
 Slater II  
 Theresa \* Florida  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Montgomery Federal  
 Prison Camp



**Dale**  
 Skilled Companion, Rya  
 Melvin & Heather \* TN  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Tina Gonzalez  
 Titusville, FL



**Deborah**  
 Facility Dog, Guise II  
 Florida  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Monica & Greg Grimes  
 Buford GA



**Grace**  
 Skilled Companion,  
 Garth III  
 Caroline \* NC  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Delta Correctional  
 Facility



**Gunter**  
 Skilled Companion,  
 Kendall II  
 Cindy \* Alabama  
*Puppy Raiser -*  
 Montgomery Federal  
 Camp

## 2009-2010 TEAM TRAINING YEARBOOK

### February Graduates 2010 Continued



**Hannah**  
Skilled Companion,  
Lexi II  
Leah \* Florida  
Puppy Raiser -  
Cathy Sullivan & Family  
Oviedo, FL



**Jessica**  
Service Dog, Gracie V  
Florida  
Puppy Raiser -  
Eugenia & Moody  
McCall  
Atlantic Beach, FL



**Julie**  
Service Dog, Tosia  
Training Assistant:  
Garrett \* North Carolina  
Puppy Raiser -  
Bay Correctional Facility



**Luke**  
Skilled Companion,  
Kai III  
Cindy \* Florida  
Puppy Raiser -  
Montgomery Federal  
Prison Camp



**Raylee**  
Skilled Companion,  
Alec III  
Carissa \* Alabama  
Puppy Raiser -  
Kay Stout  
Palm Harbor, FL

### February Graduates 2010 Continued



**Traci**  
Facility Dog Murray II  
Florida  
Puppy Raiser -  
Leanne Pickering,  
Pensacola, FL & Mary

Do you know someone like these graduates?

Do you know someone that might benefit from being matched with a Canine Companions for Independence assistance dog?

Call Melinda Sowers at 407-522-3313 or send an e-mail to [msowers@cci.org](mailto:msowers@cci.org), for more information.

### Mark your calendars:

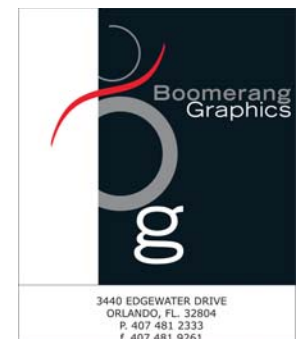
Please join us as we honor our  
Team Training Graduating Classes  
in 2010 :

May 15; August 14; November 13

All ceremonies begin at 11 a.m.

Visit [www.cci.org/sergraduation](http://www.cci.org/sergraduation) for  
more details

Special thanks to  
Boomerang Graphics for  
making this issue of the  
Southeast Companion  
possible



## IN HONOR OF

All CCI Pups  
by Brenda & Gerry Wood and  
Brett II

Andrew & Kathy Smith  
by Sue & Scott Landa

Barringer  
by Elsie Miller

Bill Hollingsworth, Hollingsworth  
& Company  
by David M. Castelli

Bob Newman  
by Sue & Scott Landa

Briggie  
by Ms. Jean Smith

Carol & Wallace Clay  
by Melanie R. Courtney

Cecilia Kurland & Abby Whitlock  
by Sue & Scott Landa

Charles & Linda Hawthorne  
by Marie B. Kline & Elizabeth  
Harris

Charlotte, NC CCI Puppy Raisers  
by Marcia Ingram

Chuck & Linda Green  
by Sue & Scott Landa

Col. & Mrs. Steve Shelton  
by Carol Shelton

Debbie Wheeler  
by Dorothy Hellard

Dmitry Levin, Levitron, Inc  
by David M. Castelli

Donna Kelley  
by Nancey Hardman

Doris & Rush Thompson and Clonts  
by 3rd Grade Class at Ben Hill Griffin  
Elementary

Douglas Radeke  
by Ms. Claudia Radeke

Dr. & Mrs. Ron Moon Taylor,  
Carly & Micah Moon  
by Ben & Deedie Padgett

Dr. and Mrs. Barry Miskin  
by Linda Hawthorne

Dr. William Wooden & Family  
by Mr. James Wooden

Drs. Matt & Cecily Thompson  
by Ben & Deedie Padgett

Erick Jensen, IESCO Marketing  
by David M. Castelli

Erin & Bill Robbins  
by Alan Boyd

George Jaye, Northeast Metro Sales  
LLC  
by David M. Castelli

George Wood  
by Catholic Daughters of the  
Americas

Gerald Horne; Gerald Horne  
Associates, Inc.  
by David M. Castelli

Gerald Warner, Warner Sales  
Associates, Inc.  
by David M. Castelli

Isaiah  
by Mary Wooden

Jeff Haigler, Encore Consultants,  
LLC  
by David M. Castelli

Jessica McClellan  
by Joe & Betty Paez

Jill Benson Peth  
by Martha & Jack Calaway

Jim & Denise Fitzgerald  
by Gerry Graf

Jim Richey  
by Beth Richey

Jo Fleming  
by Jo Ann Guise

Joe Pabst, JBP  
by David M. Castelli

Kay Stout  
by Paul Denke

Kim & Steve Ledford  
by George & Carolyn Ledford

Leigh & John Harlan  
by Dawn Parker & Kris Nagy

Linda Dale  
by Phillys Scruggs

Lionel Heller  
by Carol Bowes

Lybbi Kienzle  
by Carlene, Mike &  
Matthew Le Compte

Maggie  
by Marilyn Gladden

Mary Blanc  
by Marsha Greenhut

Michael Iacono & George Leon  
by Delene Iacono

Michele & Kent Hipp  
by Solomon Schick

Monica & Greg Grimes  
by Jo Ann Guise

Mr. & Mrs. Don Devine  
by Tom & Sandra Player

Mr. & Mrs. James E. Reynolds  
by Ben & Deedie Padgett

Mr. & Mrs. Jon Wright  
by Dorothy, Linda & Bogie Wright

Mr. & Mrs. L. Milbourn, Jr.  
by Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Milbourn

Mr. & Mrs. Ron Majors  
by Tom & Sandra Player

Mr. & Mrs. Tuck Williams  
by Tom & Sandra Player

Mr. & Mrs. Worth Stuart, Alli & Bo  
Stuart  
by Ben & Deedie Padgett

Mrs. Marjorie Havey  
by Bud & Jan Lawrence

Patti Francis & Reebee  
by Tennessee State Society Children of  
the American Revolution

Sandra & Tom Player  
by Nancy & Reece Williams

Sharon & Bob Kidd  
by Carline, Mike & Matthew  
CeCompte

Terri & Marc Presnell  
by Pamela Colvin

Tony Lipari, Lipari Sales Enterprises  
by David M. Castelli

Vivian Robinson  
by Tom & Pat Tadlock

Zachary & Kyra  
by Patrick and Meaghan

Lori, Summer, Holly & Mari  
by February 2010  
Team Training Class

## IN MEMORY OF

All the Beloved Deceased Pets  
by Camelot Animal Hospital

All the Beloved Deceased Pets  
by Jackson Animal Clinic

All the Beloved Deceased Pets  
by Medina Animal Clinic

All the Beloved Deceased Pets  
by North Madison Animal  
Hospital

Bear  
by Anne Marshall & Renee  
Baker

Beau  
by Ruthmary Williams

Blue  
by Susan & Fred Delenne

Brett  
by Sue & Scott Landa

Carol Brodt  
by JoAnn Guise

Casper  
by Helen Prince

Charlie  
by Robin & Paul Sanchez

Claire Newman  
by Dixie Dancing Dogs

Clay  
by Andrew Pomeroy

Cowl & Cassidy  
by Sue & Scott Landa

Dakota  
by The Leckie Family

Daniel Dean  
by The Team at Benchmark  
Wealth Management

Doris Satcher  
by Dean & Janice Padgett

Dorothy Moorer Leonard  
by Steve & Jan Leonard

Duchess  
by Meg Moskovitz

Ever  
by Mary Taylor

Freck  
by Elizabeth Josephs

Gary Kerns  
by Frank Santos  
by Jane Brand  
by Rosen Family

Grace Denson  
by Lea & Richard Gabel

Hammill  
by Sue & Scott Landa

Harriet "Ruth" Johnson  
by Carolyn B. Lister

Harry Nelson  
by Penny Carducci

Jade Safa Richter  
by Barbara N. Croft, MD  
by Charles H. Curl  
by Dr. & Mrs. Purcell  
by Michael & Marsha Lyles  
by Michael L. Smith  
by Robert J. Albin, MD &  
Family  
by Sid Moore, MD  
by Stephen & Beverly Noller

Job  
by Joyce Picuch

Jerry Kestenberg  
by Annie Kestenberg

Joe Gawrys  
by Jeff & Angela King

John Brewer  
by Sandy Ingram

Joseph R. Kinsey  
by Sally & Zach Kauffman

Jubal III  
by Carol Bowes

Kim Norton  
by Jeanne Brooks

Kitty Williamson  
by Dorothy, Linda & Bogie Wright

"Laddie" Thomas John Curtin & 'PJ'  
Patrick John Curtin  
by Palm Bay Agility Club

Lady  
by Patricia Lewis

Ledder  
by Carol Weldin

Mariah  
by Perry Martin

Mojo  
by Jeff King & Family

Mr. Blochl  
by Erin Wiggins Shaver  
by Laura Hamilton Baughn  
by Melanie Branson  
by Sarah Macak Pratt

Myrtle Baker  
by Alice Williams & Debbie Zutter  
by Nancy & Jeff Baumann

Nettie  
by Marilyn Gladden

Olive  
by The Team at Benchmark Wealth  
Management

Patrick Curtin  
by Betsy Reiney  
by Dale & Judy Smeltzer  
by Robin & Dennis Scott

Phil Herring  
by Beverly Kramer

Phil Wah  
by Millicent Carducci

Pretty  
by Jill Miesch

René Wilson Lutz  
by Kristen Lowrance

Rose Beach  
by Barbara Chasse

Ruffles Read  
by The Read Family

Sam Schnur  
by Gordon & Lynne Olver  
by Joe & Debbie Coletta  
by Pamela Swanson  
by Paul & Nancy Springman  
by Suzanna Dulin  
by David & Peggy Orloff  
by Denise Scott  
by Edyce & Morris Ellis  
by Eric Rahn  
by Frank & Gaye Berglas  
by Lisa Saks & Lary Lynn  
by Nancy & Jeff Baumann  
by Odyssey America Reinsurance  
Corp  
by Tony & Diane Ristorcelli  
by Van & Glenda Bogan

Sassie  
by HT & Michele Everett

Sgt. Mickey Hutchens  
by Pam Lowery

Sunshine  
by Ruthmary Williams

The Krupansky Family #158  
by Rose Himmenger

Thelma Clonts  
by David & Fran Stanford

Tomkins  
by Adam & Crystal Bashakes

Wahoo

## Southeast Regional Board of Directors

### Officers

**Dave Gordon**  
*President*  
Excel Transportation  
**Christine O'Neal**  
*Vice President*  
Sea World Orlando  
**Vince LaRuffa**  
*Vice President*  
Universal Orlando Resort  
**Duane Comprosky**  
*Treasurer*  
GE Capital Solutions  
**Rev. Chuck Green**  
*Secretary*  
Pastor Emeritus,  
Orangewood  
Presbyterian Church  
**Nancy Baumann**  
*Immediate Past President*  
Powerful Pathways  
**William White**  
*National Board*  
Darden Restaurants

### Advisory Council

**Wendy Chioji**  
*Community Advocate*  
**Pam Crotty**  
*Rome Construction Group*  
**Jo Ann Guise**  
*J.K. Bastien Foundation*  
**Jack Hanna**  
*Columbus Zoo & Aquarium*  
*Director Emeritus*  
**Scott Joseph**  
*Orlando Restaurant Guide*  
**Joseph Ianno**  
*Carlton Fields, P.A.*  
**Tico Perez**  
*Tico Perez Solutions*  
**Dan Priehs**  
*Affiliated Vet Specialists*  
**Luis Sottit**  
*Luis Sottit Studios*  
**Ellen Titen**  
*E. Titen Consultants*  
**Alice Williams**  
*Walt Disney World*

### Offices

**National Headquarters**  
**Northwest Regional Center**  
2965 Dutton Avenue, PO Box 446  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402-9446  
(707) 577-1700 Voice (707) 577-1756 TTY  
**Northeast Regional Center**  
PO Box 205, Farmingdale, NY 11735-0205  
(631) 694-6938 Voice/TTY  
**Southeast Regional Center**  
PO Box 680388, Orlando, FL 32868-0388  
(407) 522-3300 Voice  
**North Central Regional Center**  
4989 State Route 37 East, Delaware, OH 43015-9682  
(740) 548-4447 Voice/TTY  
**Chicago Satellite Office**  
PO Box 41, Woodstock, IL 60098  
(847) 816-7360 Voice  
**Southwest Regional Center**  
PO Box 4568, Oceanside, CA 92052-4568  
(760) 901-4300 Voice (760) 901-4326 TTY  
**Colorado Satellite Office**  
1045-P Garden of the Gods Rd,  
Colorado Springs, CO  
80907  
(719) 260-6151 Voice

### Credits

The Southeast Companion is published twice a year for distribution to CCI supporters, volunteers and graduates. ©2010 Canine Companions for Independence, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in USA. Canine Companions for Independence,\* its logo, and Exceptional Dogs for Exceptional People® are trademarks of Canine Companions for Independence, Inc.  
www.cci.org



**Southeast Regional Center**  
P.O. Box 680388  
Orlando, FL 32868-0388

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Orlando, FL  
Permit No. 3392

## Mission Statement:

Canine Companions for Independence is a non-profit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly trained assistance dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships.

## Did you know?

Canine Companions for Independence dogs are free to deserving applicants. By supporting Canine Companions for Independence, you can make a dramatic difference in the lives of children and adults with disabilities.