



HOLIDAY 2006

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*"Lace works because she wants to help me, not because she has to — she is the cure for sadness, and loneliness."*

Kimberly Spiroff and Skilled Companion Lace

# The Courier

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

## The Many Gifts of CCI

Canine Companions for Independence is proud to provide highly trained assistance dogs to adults and children with disabilities. This holiday issue of The Courier includes a small sampling of the many gifts of CCI: Companionship, Independence, Excellence, and Purpose. We invite you to join us in celebrating these gifts this holiday season and throughout 2007.

## The Gift of Companionship

Canine Companions open doors, flip light switches, retrieve dropped or out of reach items, alert their owners to doorbells, phones, and alarms. The dogs also enhance lives with companionship.

Kimberly Spiroff and Skilled Companion Dog Lace graduated from the Northeast Regional Center in November 2005. Ten-year old Kimberly lives with chronic pain due to syringomyelia and chiari malformation. More than the physical pain, Kimberly sometimes felt isolated in a wheelchair at elementary school. Fortunately, Kimberly and her mom Karen found Canine Companions for Independence.

Kimberly and Lace were paired together after two weeks of Team Training. Since then Kimberly and Lace have become inseparable, and their companionship continues to grow.

"She has opened me up into the world even more, and gives me independence; it makes me wonder what the world would be like without dogs, particularly working dogs. Lace works because she wants to help me, not because she has to — she is the cure for sadness, and loneliness," says Kimberly.

Kimberly eloquently states a sentiment that many CCI graduates share. Their CCI dogs become more than assistants, they become partners and companions.



## 2005 Annual Report Now Available



The CCI annual report is now available. The report, celebrating our 30th year, highlights our successes

from 2005 with stories of our wonderful donors, volunteers, graduates and staff members. You can view the annual report at [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org).



## CCI Calendar

Canine Companions for Independence once again is proud to publish its annual calendar! The 2007 Calendar includes pictures of CCI assistance dogs working in partnership with people across the country. It is a great way to see how your support improves the quality of life and increases independence for adults and children with disabilities. Be sure to set some aside for family and friends in the coming months, and include them in your celebrations during the holidays!

## Changes for the Courier Ahead in 2007

The *Courier* national newsletter will be getting a new name, *Companion*, along with a fresh new look in 2007. Look for the new *Companion* to arrive in your mailbox next year, along with more great stories of exceptional dogs and exceptional people!

LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD PRESIDENT AND CEO

# The Gift of Independence

This time of year many of us reflect on gifts; those we receive, and those we give. In our work at Canine Companions for Independence, we are privileged to experience many gifts. Since our founding in 1975, we have placed over 2500 graduate teams. We are honored to give graduates this gift of a Canine Companion and increased independence.

We would not be able to do our work without the gifts we receive. Our volunteer breeder caretakers and puppy raisers selflessly open their homes and hearts to prepare the dogs for potential futures as Canine Companions. Our instructors devote themselves to a three-year process of learning in order to fully understand the science and art of training a Canine Companion. Our graduates complete a two week team training session to learn how to handle their new companions. Additionally, graduates keep us updated with reports of their team success in between follow up visits.

Your donations to Canine Companions for Independence makes our work possible. Without your gifts we would not be able to provide individuals with Service Dogs, Skilled Companions, Facility Dogs or Hearing Dogs.

You allow us to give the gift of independence and enhance the quality of life for adults and children with disabilities through the dedication and skill of a Canine Companion. As we reflect on this past year; puppies raised, teams placed and lives transformed, we would like to say thank you to all the volunteers, graduates, donors and staff who make our work possible.

Happy Holidays!



COREY HUDSON, CEO

TED ROGAHN  
National Board President



The breeding program at CCI has been recognized for its excellence and success in breeding exceptional puppies that will have the potential to become assistance dogs. Our volunteer breeder caretakers are an integral part to that excellence.

Nearly a decade ago, the CCI Breeder Caretaker Council was created to educate, support, and communicate with the breeder caretaker community. Emily Williams, volunteer breeder caretaker of 14 years and co-chair of the Council, knows firsthand the hard work that comes with the job. "This is a labor of love. And there's a reason why it's called labor," says Emily. "When we deal with birth and life so closely, we are, by nature, forced to deal with the flipside of the coin," explains Emily. "We may help someone with her first whelp, or comfort them through their first experience of having a stillborn pup." In order to make the process a little easier, the Council implemented a breeder buddy system, a breeder caretaker newsletter, and hosts breeder seminars and discussions.

David and Diane Clegg, who have whelped four litters, said that they attend the Council meetings regularly and still have much to learn about the whelping and weaning process. David recounts one difficulty with Breeder Dog Pearlle, "Pearlie just had her first litter. She had six healthy pups and did a great job for about three weeks. Then she decided she had fed her pups enough. She would go into the pen for about two minutes and then jump out." With the aid of Dr. Ruth Daniels, CCI National Breeding Program Veterinarian, and fellow CCI breeder caretakers, the couple turned in six healthy pups to CCI several weeks later.

Many breeder caretakers confirmed that despite the stresses, the joys of the job are immense. "It's a chance of a lifetime," says breeder caretaker Pam Flanagan. "Being a breeder caretaker is just the best volunteer job on the planet! Helping to give these tiny miracles a start in life is such a privilege."

**About the CCI Breeding Program**  
 The objective of the CCI breeding program is to produce dogs that succeed in a variety of environments and training, with each generation becoming more physically sound and temperamentally suited to being an assistance dog. CCI's science and research activities have set a higher standard industry-wide for excellence in breeding programs that produce results.

## Meet Marlo!

Canine Companions for Independence and USAOPOLY® have teamed up to create a puzzle that provides hours of family fun while contributing to a worthwhile cause. Support CCI as you put together this adorable 550-piece puzzle packaged in a collectible tin that you can even use to store your pooch's treats. A portion of the proceeds from your purchase will benefit Canine Companions for Independence.

USAOPOLY, the creator of fun games and gifts, has designed this puzzle featuring Marlo, an adorable ten-week-old CCI puppy. This Labrador/Golden Retriever mix proudly sports her yellow CCI training cape, indicating her role as a CCI puppy.

Since this photograph was taken, Marlo is now a sixty-pound dog in training. As she progresses to the final stage of training, Marlo will master over fifty commands in approximately six months, and will join a human partner in Team Training. During an intense two-week training period, the human participant will learn dog handling skills and training techniques to help them forge a rewarding working relationship with their new assistance dog. The result is a life full of increased independence and loving companionship with dogs like Marlo.



**Above:** Marlo age 16-months  
**Left:** Marlo age 10-weeks



Katelyn Atwood with Skilled Companion Whalen  
Photo by Karyl Carmignani

## Gifts that Benefit You and CCI!

New tax laws make it easier to use your IRA to give to CCI. If you are 70 1/2 years old or will be in the next 14 months, a new law allows you to use your IRA distribution for a gift to Canine Companions for Independence without paying tax on the income.

Here are some of the guidelines:

- This is only available for 2006 and 2007
- You can give any amount, up to \$100,000
- A husband and wife can each give (must have separate IRA accounts)
- You must transfer by December 31
- Transfers are made directly to CCI by your IRA administrator — we have a sample letter you can use to provide instructions.

For more information about this program, contact Bob Henning at 707-577-1789 or your tax professional.

Also, please consider a charitable gift to CCI as you plan for your 2006 taxes. If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your gift to Canine Companions for Independence, remember to make your gift before the end of the 2006 calendar year. For your convenience, you can make a gift by:

- Check or Credit Card using the enclosed envelope
- Online at: [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org)
- Stock Transfers
- Estate Planning

Whatever form your gift takes, your support will help CCI provide extraordinary assistance dogs to children and adults with disabilities. Thank you!

**American Airlines**  
American Airlines logo  
**Thanks for the Gift of Travel!**

Thank you to American Airlines for the generous gift to Canine Companions for Independence of 20 round-trip airline tickets. The tickets will be used by CCI volunteers and staff in our work to provide exceptional dogs for exceptional people. Thanks American Airlines!

## Construction is Underway for New Northeast Regional Training Center

We are pleased to announce that construction has begun at the site of the new Northeast Regional Training Center, a 30,000-square-foot complex on 11 wooded acres in Medford, NY, about one hour due east of Manhattan.

The new Northeast Regional Center will include: **Canine Care Center** to house and care for future Canine Companions and puppies and allow us to expand and utilize state-of-the-art kennels; **Hagedorn Guest Center** which will provide dormitories as a warm and comfortable "home away from home" throughout the year for our students, caregivers and volunteers; **Training & Education Center** to conduct participant and canine training, and provide a venue for community outreach and disability awareness; and the **Administration & Development Center** will include offices and meeting space for professional staff, volunteers and graduates.

"The benefits of the new center are compelling," says Corey Hudson, CCI's chief executive officer. "The creation of a warm and inviting 'home away from home' for visiting Northeast students, volunteers and others; the opening of our program to those who couldn't afford the expense of local lodging; ultimately, a dramatic increase in the number of annual Northeast placements; the ability to train hearing dogs; and perhaps most importantly, the guarantee of a permanent home for the Northeast Regional Center."

Construction is officially underway, but \$5.8 million in funds are still needed to complete the project. To help make the new training center a reality or learn more about the project, contact Ron Knell, Northeast Regional Executive Director, [rknell@cci.org](mailto:rknell@cci.org), or Audra Hoffman, Northeast Regional Development Director, [ahoffman@cci.org](mailto:ahoffman@cci.org), or call (631) 694-6938.

Northeast Graduate Buddy Hayes with Service Dog Ellie



# Gift of Purpose: Inmates Find Inspiration in CCI Puppy Raising

CCI puppies have a special purpose in life, growing up to provide independence to a person with a disability. The Canine Companions for Independence prison puppy raising program not only benefits the puppies, but the inmate program participants as well. Sharon Small, an inmate who served seven and a half years for robbery, was one of the select few chosen for this critical job. After an application, interview and rigorous selection process, she received a puppy who accompanied her during her daily work tasks as well as at dinner and recreation times. Prior to Sharon's release from prison, she helped create nurturing and enriching lives for four CCI puppies, including Roca, Caitlyn, Will and Anza. She fed sheltered, toileted, and provided love and attention to her CCI puppies.

While speaking at a CCI graduation ceremony after her release, Sharon said, "The puppies are our whole existence inside, and the focus 24/7, although we have jobs and other activities, our constant companions come first." She went on to explain how being a puppy raiser gave her purpose, and transformed her life. She shared, "I always had something to look forward to each and every day. Being a puppy raiser was a self-esteem builder for me and kept me from becoming hard hearted. I learned discipline, how to put something ahead of myself, and finally, I took responsibility for my actions."

The CCI prison puppy raising program has made great strides since its inception 11 years ago at the Coffee Creek Correctional Center in Wilsonville, Oregon. It has expanded to include 11 facilities throughout the United States, including Florida, Minnesota, Mississippi, Washington, Ohio, Colorado and California.

## Lions Members Visit Coffee Creek Correctional Center

By Lucille Hynes, LPCCI Administrator



Northwest Graduate Scott Mitchell with Successor Service Dog Titan II. Titan II was raised in part at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility.

In conjunction with a Lions Project for Canine Companions for Independence (LPCCI) Board of Directors meeting held in Wilsonville, Oregon this past summer, several board members, area directors and trustees toured the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility to view CCI's puppy raising program.

What a wonderful experience! To see the six inmates, so affectionately caring for four darling CCI puppies is a sight to behold. We were so fortunate to be able to listen to these ladies give their testimonies telling how this opportunity is changing their lives. One said she is not the same person as a result of this experience. They talked of their sense of responsibility and accomplishment and, in one case, the feeling of having something to care for the first time in her life. The exchange of a loving bond between human and animal is a first for many and is a tool to be used in learning to develop trusting human relationships. This is a win-win program — for the puppies and for the inmates.

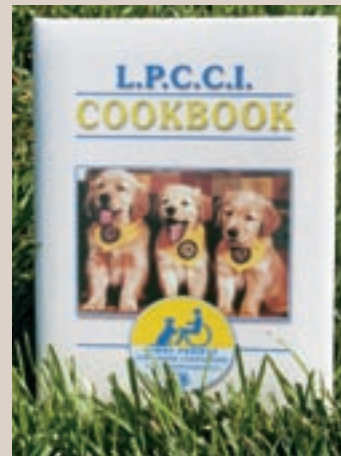
Unlike private prisons, this state prison does not finance the puppy raising program. Funding is a big need. Several veterinarians in the area provide animal care free of charge at an approximate cost of \$2,100 per puppy. Other needs are met through fundraising activities, some through prison fundraising programs. Also, the Lions Clubs in Oregon support this program, but there is still need for further funding.

### Be a Puppy Raiser!



Photo by Jill Quan

Volunteers are needed nationwide to help raise a CCI puppy. A volunteer puppy raiser provides early socialization and basic training, both of which are essential in preparing a puppy for life as an assistance dog. Request a puppy raiser application today by calling 1-800-572-BARK.



### Just off the Press

The new LPCCI cookbook is full of easy to prepare recipes submitted by Lions and friends of Lions from various parts of the United States. This cookbook sells for only \$15.00 and makes a perfect gift for any occasion. Proceeds from sales benefit CCI. For further information please contact the LPCCI office at 707-577-1774 or e-mail [lpcci@cci.org](mailto:lpcci@cci.org).

# Regional Round-Up and Upcoming Events

## Northwest Region:



Teri Kovin enjoys some "fur time" between holes

### Northwest Region Chapter News

#### Cascade Chapter (Portland, OR area)

members assembled a late September "Paws for Tea" in a local classic downtown hotel/restaurant. The high tea event was their first fundraiser in many years. More than 100 people attended, and just over \$5,500 was raised.

Over 150 golfers gathered for the **Gold Rush Chapter (Sacramento, CA area)** Fifth Annual "Dawgs in the Ruff" Golf Tournament at the Granite Bay Country Club on October 2. The evening dinner hosted 225 people for a silent and live auction. This major outing has brought more than \$70,000 to CCI.

A first for the **Puget Sound Chapter (Seattle, WA area)** was an all-day Saturday Puppy Training at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds on October 14. More than 150 puppy raisers and friends gathered for the workshops. The hosts and organizers were the youthful 4-H Club who raised money for invitation mailing, and offset some expenses. It was the largest gathering of its kind and brought supporters from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and a couple from Alaska!

We appreciate Gold Rush and **South Bay Chapter (San Jose/Oakland, CA)**

members providing presentations to the numerous public employees for the Combined Federal Campaign. Results will come in 2007, but state employees and local government officials have shown their generosity for many years.

As the holiday season approaches, chapters and volunteers will be involved in Santa Paws, Gift for the Holidays, Giving Trees or similarly related Holiday spirit fundraisers.

## Southeast Region:



Graduates Bradley Mauger and Rosie with artist Luis Sotttil

### The PAWcasso Art Exhibit: A Legacy of Canine/Human Partnerships

On Saturday, June 10, four Canine Companions for Independence graduates and their assistance dogs representing the 2006 PAWcasso artistic teams—Sandra Stebbins & Raley, Bradley Mauger & Rosie, Kris Baker & VEGA and Sean Cornell & Curzon — gathered in what has been called "the place where miracles are made," the John K. Bastien Canine Training building at the Southeast Regional Center.

They gathered to create original paintings with artist Luis Sotttil. Each PAWcasso team created their masterpiece on an 18 x 18 inch canvas, under the guidance of Mr. Sotttil, who would then complete the pieces in his studio in Mexico. These works of art comprise this year's *PAWcasso Art Exhibit: A Legacy*

*of Canine/Human Partnerships*, and were unveiled at an exclusive reception at Neiman Marcus Orlando on Friday, October 15, 2006.

The *PAWcasso Art Exhibit* originated as a unique event to augment the Southeast Region's annual Tales & Tails Gala. Upon learning about the mission of CCI, Mr. Sotttil felt the desire to become involved and began donating a painting each year to the Tales & Tails Gala silent auction. As the relationship evolved, Mr. Sotttil wanted to deepen his involvement. In 2005, key volunteers, including Southeast Region Past President Fonda Cerenzio, her husband, Don, and Mr. Sotttil, suggested an artistic collaboration and The *PAWcasso Art Exhibit* was created.

The four paintings that comprise The *PAWcasso Art Exhibit: A Legacy of Canine/Human Partnerships* were offered at the *Tales & Tails Gala Live Auction* at SeaWorld Orlando's *Ports of Call* on November 11, 2006.

## Northeast Region:



Graduates Jaden Kushlefsky (Superman) and Joshua Taramantano (Batman)

### Canine Costume Parade was Fun for All

Man's Best Friend took center stage at Snoopy's® DogFest on Saturday, October 14. The one day festival, held at the State University of New York in Farmingdale, NY, raised more than \$45,000 benefiting Canine Companions for Independence. The Northeast

Regional event attracted approximately 2,500 attendees who participated in Snoopy's® Canine Costume Parade, the Great Pumpkin Scavenger Hunt, Trick-or-Treating and observed Working Dog Demonstrations. Participants also received goodies for both humans and pooches from local vendors.

### A Success Dipped in Chocolate

The New Jersey Chapter of CCI shared a wonderful fall afternoon with more than 150 supporters during its second annual "An Afternoon of Wine & Noses" on Sunday, October 22 at the Basking Ridge Country Club in New Jersey. This cocktail party style wine and chocolate tasting featured Master of Wine, Christopher Cree of 56 Degree Wine, in Bernardsville, NJ and Chocolatier, Tad Van Leer, of J. Emanuel Chocolatier, in Chester, NJ. Music was provided by Composer and Pianist, Joseph Turrin.

J. Emanuel Chocolatier will donate 20% of orders from CCI supporters through December 31, 2006. Visit them at [www.jemanuel.com](http://www.jemanuel.com) and be sure to put "CCI" in the coupon code, so they can keep track of the order. So far, the event has raised more than \$35,000.

### Southwest Region:



Graduate Team Kimberly Otters and Lissa with cycling celebrity Alejandro Albor

### Wheels of Wonder WOW'd the Crowd!

CCI Southwest was in high gear for its **Wheels of Wonder** weekend in La Jolla, CA in October. Staged at the lovely Estancia La Jolla Hotel & Spa, the gala on Saturday night included a private Sponsor's Reception with our cycling celebrities: Floyd Landis, Axel Merckx, Robbie Ventura, Alejandro Albor,

Greg Demgen, Sarah Hammer, Jimena Florit, Steve Hegg, and Pete & Joanne Penseyres with ambient music by Peter Sprague.

Guests then perused the silent auction items and enjoyed a delicious dinner. CCI Graduates Tom Hollenstein & Hiley and LaVonne Gudmundsson & Raymond took the stage and shared their inspiring stories. Not a dry eye in the house! Auctioneer Chuck Dreyer brought the live auction bidding to life, as Canine Companions snoozed contentedly under their tables.

Sunday morning, there was a Wheels of Wonder 20-mile Fun Bike Ride fundraiser (as well as an abbreviated 4-mile route) with cycling celebrities. The top fundraisers for this event were: Darrin Zimmer, John Otters and Bruce Ross. Thanks gentlemen, for being on a ROLL for CCI!

Bike Riders left the staging area in "pods" of 10 riders, each with a cycling celeb in the pack. The 20-mile route cruised along the Pacific coast under perfect sunny southern California skies. Lunch was served back at the Estancia where participants could mix and mingle with the cycling celebrities. It was a special day for everyone, and we would like to extend a glowing, heartfelt **thank you to all those cycling celebrities** who took time out of their busy training schedules to support CCI. Ride on!

### Journey to Independence in Vail

On August 28, 2006, CCI National Board Member Anne Roberts and her outstanding committee once again hosted a successful fundraising event to benefit CCI. This year's event, entitled "Journey to Independence", was held at the Donovan Pavilion in Vail, CO and featured a scrumptious buffet as well as live and silent auctions. A very special thank you to Anne Roberts and her committee: Barbara & Jack Benson, Grace & Steve Gamble, Janet & Steve Jones, Pixie & Bob Messey, Elise & Vic Micati, Bart Peaslee, Mart & John Pieper, Anne & John Rainey, and Joan & Bob Solon. To date this event has raised over \$100,000!

### North Central Region:



The combination of kids and dogs in costumes was a hit

### Snoopy Dog Fests

The North Central region held three Snoopy® DogFests during the month of October. Event attendees dressed their dogs and themselves in costumes and collected pledges to raise funds for CCI.

### Making Miracles Happen

The North Central board members held a Making Miracles Happen fundraising breakfast November 8, 2006 underwritten by Huntington Banks. Many of the guests were introduced to the CCI mission for the first time. The graduate team of Susan and Courage Russell shared how their Successor Skilled Companion Dog, Toorak, has made a difference in Courage's life.

Activities abound during the holiday season throughout the North Central region. Volunteers will be wrapping customer's purchases in exchange for donations during the months of November and December at local bookstores. For volunteer opportunities in your area, contact Kim Boedicker (740) 548-4447.

Looking ahead to 2007, the third annual CCI Retreat for Women fundraiser will return February 24, 2007 at the Conference Center at Northpointe in Lewis Center, OH. Mark your calendar and contact Maria Kuzel at (740) 548-4447 for additional information.

## Northwest Region — July Graduates



**Sierra Brooks**  
Skilled Companion **Hansen II**  
Oliver & Jan Brooks  
Covington, WA  
Brenda Steinbach  
Meridian, ID



**Denise Denn**  
Hearing Dog **Shammie**  
Carlsbad, CA  
Kathi and Jerry Reilly  
Redmond, WA



**Tracy Hall**  
Skilled Companion **Geneva III**  
Daniel & Lisa Hall  
Napa, CA  
Ann and Julia Brokaw  
Sammamish, WA



**Claire Jenkinson**  
Skilled Companion **Rennick**  
Mike & Patty Jenkinson  
Sacramento, CA  
Sandy and Colin Garrett  
& Mary Richards  
Laramie, WY



**Anmei Liu**  
Skilled Companion **Kylyn**  
Pingrong Xue  
San Jose, CA  
Becky & Amy Haggland, Buriem, WA  
Stephanie Sheridan-Draper,  
Normandy Park, WA

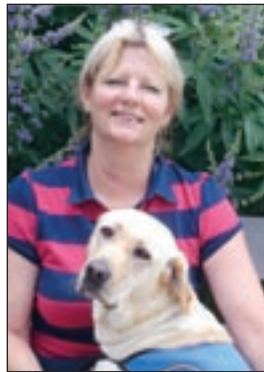
## Northwest Region — July Graduates



**Scott Mitchell**  
Successor Service Dog **Titan II**  
Clark Pleasanton, CA  
Coffee Creek Correctional  
Facility, Wilsonville, OR  
Frances Cansler, Longview, WA



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



**Margaret Saborin**  
Hearing Dog **Nolina**  
Santa Rosa, CA  
Leslie and Alison Hennessy  
Colorado Springs, CO



**Diane Sakurai**  
Successor Facility Dog **Daisy IV**  
San Rafael, CA  
Bruce and Diane Johnson,  
Sacramento, CA  
Lorelle Banzett & Miriam  
Hoffman, Truckee, CA



**Barbara Tanner**  
Hearing Dog **Hassie**  
Lacey, WA  
Leslie Gallagher, Oceanside, CA  
Chris Harrell, Vista, CA

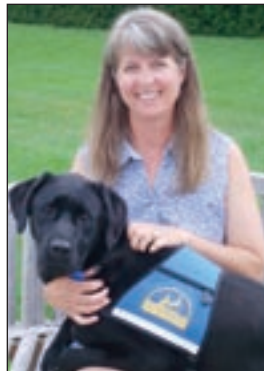
## Northwest Region — July Graduates



**Outi Talvala**  
Facility Dog **Nyak II**  
Menlo Park, CA  
Kathy and Jeff Zastrow  
El Dorado Hills, CA



**Judith Wagner**  
Hearing Dog **Rhani**  
Healdsburg, CA  
Bill and Susan Kittleson  
Bothell, WA



**Virginia Wilbur**  
Facility Dog **Tobias III**  
Placerville, CA  
The Summers Family  
Auburn, CA



**Stephen Yaciuk**  
Hearing Dog **Elise II**  
Tully, NY  
Alice and Ken Green  
Calistoga, CA



**Jonathan Farmer**  
Hearing Dog **Lucille II**  
Humble, TX  
Jennifer and Chris Halstead  
Los Angeles, CA

## Northwest — October

## Northwest Region — October Graduates



**Toni Gibson**  
Hearing Dog **Romy II**  
Ft. Huachuca, AZ  
*Brenda Love*  
Longview, WA



**Marian Morgan**  
Hearing Dog **Pekoe**  
Santa Rosa, CA  
*Judy Schrumpt*  
Bridgeport, TX

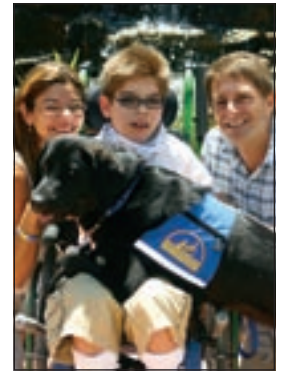
## Southwest Region — August Graduates



**Becki Bushnell**  
Successor Service Dog **Emile II**  
Highlands Ranch, CO  
*Russell & Annabelle Kaufmann*  
Westminster, CA



**Muffy Davis**  
Service Dog **Leibe**  
Salt Lake City, UT  
*John Brunton*  
Newport Beach, CA



**Mason Dye**  
Skilled Companion **Shalin**  
*Matt & Laura Adler*  
Studio City, CA  
*Susan & Jeff Hamar*  
Fullerton, CA

## Southwest Region — August Graduates



**Dillon Elder**  
Skilled Companion **Torin**  
*Nicole Elder*  
Trabuco Canyon, CA  
*Melody Brandel and*  
*Leann & Kevin Buchanan*  
San Diego, CA



**Jeremy Miller**  
Skilled Companion **Rudy VI**  
Centennial, CA  
*Katie, Tiffani & Ed Brown*  
Santee, CA



**Timothy O'Bar**  
Skilled Companion **Robson II**  
*Stephanie Morris*  
Irvine, CA  
*David Mullin*  
Colorado Springs, CO



**Cory Lynn Saldana**  
Skilled Companion **Ricky**  
*Cheryl Saldana*  
Colorado Springs, CO  
*Margaret Griffin*  
McKinney, TX



**Chelsea Schultz**  
Skilled Companion **Sissy**  
*Lori Schultz*  
Camarillo, CA  
*Michele & Hillary Kingman*  
Colorado Springs, CO

## Southwest — August



**Chris Smith**  
Skilled Companion **Damien**  
*Robin & Dennis Smith*  
Glendale, AZ  
*Suzanne & Nina Suzuki*  
Liberty Lake, WA

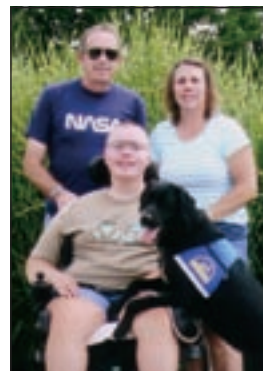


**Jeremy Berg**  
Skilled Companion **Sinder**  
*Sharon Berg*  
Palos Hills, IL  
*Amy Sennings &*  
*Thomas Duggan*  
Rohnert Park, CA

## North Central Region — August Graduates



**Jacob Brettman**  
Successor Skilled Companion **Dewey**  
*Nancy and Tony Brettman*  
Evergreen Park, IL  
*Connie & Bob Runk, Gambier, OH*  
*Amber Frash, Newton Falls, OH*



**Jeffrey Burt**  
Skilled Companion **Lars III**  
*Shari & Brad Burt*  
Roscoe, IL  
*Jan and Dave Gurtner*  
Woodstock, VA



**Tammy Davis**  
Facility Dog **Alex IV**  
*Madisonville, KY*  
*Beth and Randy Schroeder*  
Kalamazoo, MI

## North Central Region — August Graduates



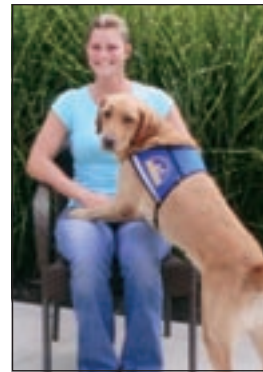
**Anne Grubbs**  
Facility Dog **Christa II**  
Carmel, IN  
*Jill Rose*  
*Clifton, NJ*



**Sharon Heyer**  
Successor Service Dog **Keaton**  
Rochester, MN  
*Marty Marlatt*  
*Columbus, OH*



**Kevin Leonard**  
Service Dog **Harley IV**  
Dayton, OH  
*Jeff Greene*  
*Englewood, OH*



**Jessie Richardson, Bob Tarrant**  
Facility Dog **Daniel II**  
Owensboro, KY  
*Cindy and Allan Lepine*  
*Dayton, OH*



**Kimberly Robb**  
Service Dog **Caitlin**  
Palos Heights, IL  
*Beverly Bouse*  
*Chersterfield, VA*  
*Elizabeth Scott*  
*Midlothian, VA*

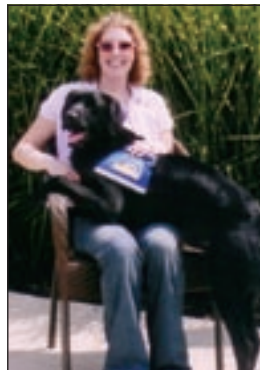
## North Central Region — August Graduates



**Jordan Sealock**  
Skilled Companion **Curt III**  
Brandi Newman  
Washburn, IA  
*Sue and Pete LeRoy*  
*Burnsville, MN*



**Mark Sell**  
Facility Dog **Toby (Turner)**  
Brainerd, MN  
*Marty and Dave Carvour*  
*London, OH*  
*Suzanne Sliden, Worthington, OH*



**Elizabeth Tabacko**  
Facility Dog **Koufax II**  
Crystal Lake, IL  
*Deb & Robert Saks*  
*West Lafayette, IN*



**Dayna Braun**  
Skilled Companion **Orienne**  
Dawn Braun  
Hollywood, FL  
*Tanya & Jason Carter*  
*Tacoma, WA*



**Andrew Busto**  
Skilled Companion **Allie II**  
Dick Busto & Pam Minelli  
Jupiter, FL  
*Don Ford*  
*Seattle, WA*

## Southeast Region — August Graduates



**Emily Cushman**  
Skilled Companion **Bindy**  
Andrea Cushman  
Lake Mary, FL  
*Heather Ohmart*  
*Portland, OR*



**Cindy Frongello**  
Facility Dog **Harv**  
Orlando, FL  
*Suzi & Dave Metz*  
*Lakeland, FL*



**Anthony Heleno**  
Skilled Companion **Loper**  
Terry and Carol Riley  
Melbourne, FL  
*Jeanne & Ron Boucher*  
*Palm Harbor, FL*



**Jonathan Merritt**  
Skilled Companion **Lyle III**  
Travis Merritt  
Stuart, FL  
*Warren & Maureen Smathers*  
*Charlotte, NC*



**William Toel**  
Skilled Companion **Douglas**  
Donna Toel  
Duluth, GA  
*Bay Correctional Facility*  
*Panama City, FL*



**Left:** Pups enjoy playtime in Remak Puppy Park  
**Below:** Breeder Caretaker Cath Phillips and Joyce Remak with Pup Remak



HERITAGE SOCIETY UPDATE

# A Legacy of Giving

After years of volunteering, Joyce and Bill Remak decided to join the Heritage Society at Canine Companions for Independence. CCI formed the Heritage Society to recognize individuals who choose to remember CCI in their estate planning. Bill and Joyce Remak's story illustrates some of the vast contributions that Heritage Society members make to CCI.

During the capital campaign for the construction of the Schulz Campus in Santa Rosa, CA, the Remaks chose to sponsor the Puppy Park. "I was first drawn to CCI because of my love of dogs," explains Joyce. "For years, Bill and I had two German Short Haired Pointers, Tessie and Yash. We love dogs because of their unconditional love for us." Today, all CCI pups experience the Remak's "love of dogs" as they visit the Remak Puppy Park during their turn-in from the breeder caretakers. "We are honored to have our name on the Puppy Park," states Joyce.

Bill and Joyce also sponsored two CCI graduate teams. "We are so happy to have CCI pups Yash and Remak named on our behalf," says Joyce.

In October 2005 CCI announced the naming of Pup Remak II to honor Bill and Joyce Remak's generosity and their legacy of giving as members of the Heritage Society.

*Canine Companions is pleased to have Bill and Joyce Remak 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](mailto:bhenning@cci.org).*



Please send more information on the following:

- Tax-free IRA gifts
- Charitable gift annuities
- Estate planning
- Stock transfers
- We have included Canine Companions in our estate plans please send information about the Heritage Society

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 1-866-224-3647 and ask for Bob Henning.  
 Or visit [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org) and click "How you can help."

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CCI pup Zodie enjoys the snow! Now a Skilled Companion teamed with Jordan Mueller, Zodie was raised by volunteer Beth Schroeder.

## Become a Miracle Maker!

Canine Companions for Independence Miracle Makers provide consistent funding by making monthly contributions to CCI. Your monthly gift of \$25, \$35, or more will make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities!

Three easy ways to help make miracles happen:

- Visit the CCI website at [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org). Click on the "Become a Miracle Maker" link and follow the easy steps.
- Call 1-866-224-3647.
- Email [info@cci.org](mailto:info@cci.org).