



# North Central Companion

The Official Newsletter for the North Central Region of Canine Companions for Independence®



Winter/Spring 2009 issue: CCI Breeding Program, Behind the Scenes: Managing Applications, Puppy Raiser Notebook, Volunteer Spotlight: Roxanne Shull, Team Training Yearbook and more

## Exceptional Dogs come from Exceptional Parents

Over the last 34 years, Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) has developed a proven formula for breeding, raising and training assistance dogs and has been recognized for its excellence and success in breeding exceptional puppies.

CCI maintains a breeding colony of Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers and crosses of the two breeds. Through CCI's science and genetic research activities, it has been found that these breeds are best suited to the needs of CCI participants.

An important component of the breeding program is CCI's canine database in which each dog's family tree is documented, as well as medical and behavioral traits of its relatives. Paul Mundell, a genetics researcher and CCI's national director of canine programs, is responsible for selecting partners to breed from the breeding colony.

"We use a lot of genetic analysis," Mundell explained. "Assistance dogs

must be healthy and free of common genetic disorders." He said the objective of the 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.

With a few exceptions, each CCI breeder dog is born in CCI's renowned breeding program. They were raised by volunteer puppy raisers and were chosen to become breeders because, based on their temperament, trainability, health, physical attributes, littermate trends, and the production history of their dam and sire, they have the attributes of quality assistance dogs.

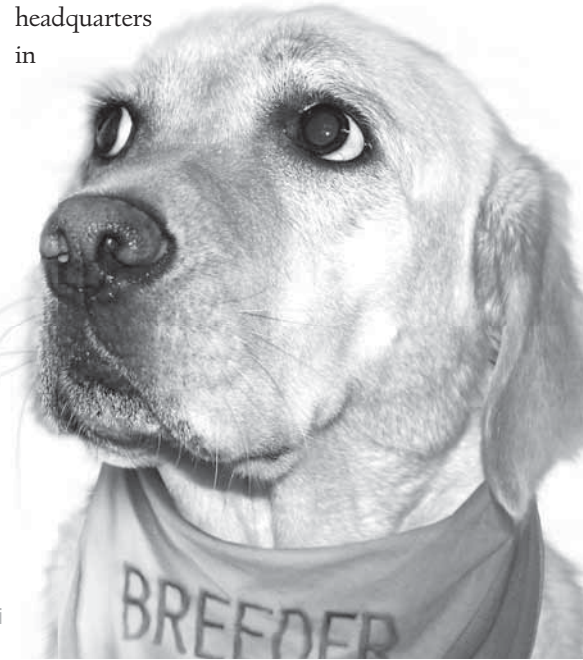
Meet Kashi, an exceptional breeder dog in Canine Companions' breeding program.

Kashi, was born May 18, 2005 to dam Meeko and sire Baumann. Kashi was then raised in the North Central Region by an inmate at Ross Correctional

Facility in Chillicothe, Ohio.

During Kashi's advanced training at the North Central Regional Training Center, she participated in an intensive evaluation process and was determined to be of the highest quality needed to be a breeder dog.

Once selected, breeder dogs are placed in permanent homes with volunteer breeder caretakers, who live within 90 miles of CCI's national headquarters in



CCI Breeder Dog Kashi

CAPTIONS (From Right to Left): 16-year old Megan Butler cares for Kashi's puppies; Kashi and her "12-pack"; Breeder Caretakers Leighann and Shanne Malilay, and their daughters Aislynn and Laurynn, with Meeko, Kashi and a CCI puppy; Breeder Caretaker Maureen Butler socializes with one of Kashi's puppies



“There’s nothing like seeing a tiny puppy who weighs less than a pound come squeaking to life in the palm of your hand.”

- LEIGHANN MALILAY, CCI Volunteer Breeder Caretaker

### Breeding Colony Facts:

- The CCI breeding colony consists of approximately 77 females and 38 males.
- CCI uses Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers and crosses of the two breeds.
- Purebred males and most females, purebred or crossed, are evaluated for inclusion in the breeding program after they are turned in for advanced training.
- CCI needs to produce approximately 650 puppies annually in order to operate the current program.
- Female breeders produce 4-5 litters then retire. Male breeders can be used more often.
- CCI Breeder dogs do not have public access.

Santa Rosa, California. These volunteers provide loving homes to breeder dogs for the lifetime of the dogs.

Kashi and her "12-pack" are cared for by CCI breeder caretakers Leighann and Shanne Malilay and their daughters Aislynn and Laurynn, who also serve as breeder caretakers for Kashi's mother, Meeko. The Malilay's assisted Kashi in her whelping and are helping nurture the puppies for the first eight weeks of their lives.

"Caring for Kashi and her puppies has been very special to us," said Leighann. "Kashi was born at our house and now we're caring for her puppies in the same house."

In addition to caring for the new mother, breeder caretakers have many responsibilities with the litters. They must weigh the puppies twice a day for the first week to make sure the pups are gaining weight, then four times a week

after that; ensure the whelping room is kept at a comfortable temperature and is quiet; maintain a clean area for the puppies to live; provide human contact and appropriate stimulation to help the puppies develop; keep up with trimming the puppies' nails; and take lots of photographs.

We recently visited Kashi and her pups while they were staying with breeder caretaker, Maureen Butler, her husband Doug and their daughter Megan, who were caring for the crew while the Malilay's were on vacation.

"We [breeder caretakers] are a tight bunch," said Maureen, "we all help each other out when we're needed."

All three members of the Butler family are CCI approved breeder caretakers. "It's a family commitment," says 16-year old Megan. "With caring for a new mom and up to 12 tiny puppies, we depend on each other a lot," explains Maureen.



Volunteer breeder caretakers are a diverse group of people ranging from stay-at-home moms to working professionals to retirees, all of whom receive extensive support from CCI staff, volunteers and the Breeder Caretaker Council.

When Maureen decided to become a volunteer breeder caretaker, she knew very little about CCI and very little about dogs. Now, Maureen and her family have served as breeder caretakers for two exceptional breeder dogs- Imman, who whelped six litters of CCI dogs and Sophie, who whelped four litters.

Although breeder caretakers can suggest names for puppies, CCI staff has the final say regarding puppy names. Some names are given to honor someone special like a donor or volunteer. Names must be easy to pronounce and cannot sound similar to one of the

assistance dog commands.

CCI names all the puppies in a litter with the same letter of the alphabet. Kashi's 12 puppies all have names that begin with the letter E: Early II; Edita; Edwin; Ellen IV; Embee II; Emelia II; Emelyn; Emeril; Erwin II; Estelle III; Evalee; Evers II.

As you can imagine, keeping track of twelve puppies is not an easy task. So how do the Malilays tell which puppy is which? CCI has a system. Each puppy is assigned a color as soon as it is born and is given a yarn collar to serve as its identification. The color order is always the same so CCI can track the order in which the puppies were born. CCI also uses a bit of non-toxic paint in the assigned color to mark the puppies in case the yarn collar ever comes off.

"Being a breeder caretaker has transformed my family," explained Leighann. "I have become better at time management and my girls have learned the invaluable lesson of loving a puppy and giving it up for a higher purpose. We have all been given joy, laughter and unconditional love in return."

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *Since writing this story, Kashi's 12 puppies have been placed with volunteer puppy raisers around the country, including two in the North Central Region. Emelia II is being raised in Hilliard, Ohio by puppy raiser Liz Hager; and Erwin II is being raised in Jerseyville, Illinois by puppy raiser JoAnn Kuebrich.*

# MANAGING APPLICATIONS



Adrena Wilhelm, CCI applicant program manager processes nearly 1,000 application requests annually

**W**ith nearly 1,000 application requests each year, Adrena Wilhelm has her hands full... and her lap... and her voice mail. You get the picture.

As applicant program manager, Adrena manages the application and interview process for each and every person who requests information and/or applies for a CCI assistance dog in the North Central Region.

After the initial application request, those individuals who may qualify for an assistance dog receive an application. Of the nearly 1,000 application requests received, Adrena sends over 400 application packets.

After the application is completed, Adrena then holds phone interviews, about 100 per year, and personal face-to-face interviews with qualified candidates. CCI hosted 41 personal interviews in 2008.

The personal interview is done at the training center in Delaware, Ohio. It is a part of an applicant

interview day, which usually lasts a half day. Up to five individuals or families attend. It is done in a group format and consists of a short presentation; a demonstration of commands with a dog-in-training; and applicants working with dogs. The one-on-one interview includes more questions and a strength assessment.

The application process lasts 3-6 months, on average. Then, once an applicant is accepted into the CCI program, they are put on a waiting list that lasts between 1-2 years. In order to maintain a reasonable waiting period, CCI is not able to accept everyone who applies.

If accepted as a candidate, CCI trains the students how to effectively work an assistance dog in an intense two-week period, called Team Training. CCI instructors will only graduate a student with an assistance dog if they feel that person can safely and effectively handle and care for the dog on their own, or with the assistance of a facilitator or training assistant.

In addition to these extensive application duties, Adrena also provides advanced training for around seven CCI dogs per semester and helps teach recipients to work with the dogs during Team Trainings.

For more information on applying for an assistance dog, call (740) 548-4447 or visit [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org)

## Winter 2008 Wish List

- Nylabones (L or XL size)
- Galileo by Nylabones (L or XL size)
- Colored copy paper
- Three, four and six-foot thin leather leashes
- Paper plates, disposable cups and plastic utensils
- Paper napkins
- High-efficiency (HE) laundry detergent
- Plush dog toys
- Airline-approved Vari-Kennels (200 and 500 size)
- Liquid dishwasher detergent
- 2 cup plastic measuring cup with handle
- 1-in. three ring binders, blue
- Expo dry erase markers
- Recordable DVD's (DVD-R)
- Manual Wheelchair (call office for details)

### Supplies for New Graduates:

- Grooming combs
- Nylabones (XL size)
- Dental kits for dogs
- Dog shampoo (12 oz. or 1 gal. bottles)
- Miller Forge nail trimmers (large size)
- Slicker brushes
- Shedding blades
- 2 cup plastic measuring cups

## Thank You for Your Donation to Our Wishlist

Jackie, Kenny and April Blankenship (and Promise)  
Central Ohio Diamonds in the Ruff  
Elizabeth Hager  
Deitra Habich  
Jean Nakaerts  
Peace Lutheran Church of New Lenox, IL  
Hazel Tarr  
Fran Vlasses

## Staff News

Please join us in congratulating Kennel Technician, Michael King, for acceptance in the Instructor Assistance program. Michael has relocated to Santa Rosa, California for training to become an Instructor Assistant.

Welcome new Kennel Technician, Geoffrey Click, who joined the CCI staff in January.

Baby on the way! Congratulations Eric (CCI instructor) and Jacqui Fatka, and Josiah, who are expecting a baby in April.



## ROXANNE SHULL

In 1992, Roxanne Shull was looking for some way to give back to her community, particularly a way to volunteer with dogs. While surfing the internet for opportunities, she found Canine Companions for Independence. She's been an invaluable volunteer with CCI ever since.

"Volunteering for CCI is a good fit for me," Roxanne said. "I adore dogs and I have a tendency to fight for people who can't always fight for themselves."

For nearly 17 years, Roxanne has devoted countless hours and resources to help CCI fulfill its mission. Roxanne is a consistent favorite among our volunteer Team Training lunch providers, a successful fund raiser, a puppy raiser, a donor and a dedicated spokesperson for CCI.

Roxanne says she is passionate about raising awareness and educating the public about proper etiquette regarding assistance dogs. She provides demonstrations and presentations to schools, associations, churches, businesses and others to help educate as many people as she can.

She says having been raised in a very small farming community, she and her siblings lead sheltered lives when it came to people with special needs. Roxanne made a conscious decision to include her nieces and nephews in her volunteer efforts with CCI. "I wanted them to grow up knowing things I didn't know as a child," she explained. "Now as young adults they are much more comfortable than I was when I became involved with the human aspect of CCI."

In 2000, Roxanne became a volunteer puppy raiser for CCI puppy, Ezzy. She shared a funny memory of Ezzy picking full-grown tomatoes out of her garden, carrying them into the house and plopping them down on the floor. "The tomatoes didn't even have a mark on them," she recalled, "Ezzy had the biggest, sloppiest



Volunteer Puppy Raiser Roxanne Shull with Yaz ■ Photo by Creatively Captured Photography by Sheri Johnson

jowls ever and the only way we could tell he was up to something was the dopey look on his face."

Since Ezzy, Roxanne has raised six more CCI puppies including Jag, Kato, Dalton, Sagar, Pilot and her current puppy, Yaz.

Roxanne and a couple of members of a small group from All Saints Lutheran Church in Worthington, Ohio have spearheaded an ambitious campaign at the Church to raise \$10,000 to sponsor a team as a ministry project. With donations from Sunday School children, Vacation Bible School participants, the Church Council, Thrivent for Lutheran's, several special events and more, All Saints Lutheran Church recently met their goal in February. "The congregation has completely embraced the ministry project and we have not only raised funds, but

awareness as well," Roxanne said.

Roxanne, the biker? Yes, Roxanne is an avid motorcycle rider. She is a member of Chapter U2 of the Gold Wing Road Rider's Association, who sponsors an annual poker run. Each year the event raises money for a non-profit charity. This year, the group will donate the proceeds from the June poker run to CCI. Roxanne says the group is hoping to make this "fun day of riding and fellowship" even bigger and better through the partnership with CCI.

Recently, the Director of Children's and Middle School Ministries at her church told Roxanne she must have found one of her "gifts" in puppy raising. Roxanne says she believes that is truly the case, because "I'm pretty sure it's the best thing I've done in my life."



### *Cheryl Lesko Says Goodbye to CCI*

Cheryl Lesko recently resigned her position as Executive Director of the Canine Companions for Independence North Central Region. During Cheryl's 11 years at CCI, the North Central Region has grown tremendously.

The region has consistently met all of its goals, including its \$1 million fundraising goal. Cheryl developed relationships with Frontgate, a luxury home-furnishings retailer, and the National Auto Dealers Association (NADA) which not only benefited the North Central Region, but benefited CCI nationally.

In addition, Cheryl brought key leadership to the NCR Board of Directors and helped them raise valuable new funds through the region's Making Miracles Happen fundraising events.

Please join CCI in thanking Cheryl for her years of service to Canine Companions and in wishing her great success in her new ventures.



Butler's Kevin Vasquez bonds with CCI Service Dog Taro II

### *CCI Receives Substantial Gift from Butler Animal Health Supply*

Canine Companions for Independence recently received a \$35,000 donation from Butler Animal Health Supply, LLC (BAHS) the nation's largest distributor of companion animal health supplies to veterinarians.

The employees of BAHS were asked for their input in finding a charity the company could get behind and support. CCI was chosen for its positive impact on people's lives and its national reach.

Employees raised funds for CCI through activities and events including a 50/50 raffle, concert and sporting event ticket raffles, luncheons, personal donations, vendor donations and by hosting "Jeans Day."

With the company's matching gifts, the donation totaled \$35,000. BAHS Chairman, President, and CEO Kevin R. Vasquez presented the check to Judy Myers, CCI North Central Region

development director, at a company meeting in October.

In today's struggling economy, CCI relies more than ever on corporate and individual donations to continue to provide specially-bred, highly-trained assistance dogs to children and adults with disabilities. CCI wishes to thank BAHS for their generous support.

Butler Animal Health Supply is the nation's largest distributor of companion animal health supplies to veterinarians. The company, headquartered in Dublin, Ohio, operates across the US with 15 distribution centers and eight telecenters. Butler Animal Health Supply serves over 29,000 veterinary clinics in all 50 states and distributes over 15,000 products for more than 400 vendors.

For more information about Butler Animal Health Supply, visit <http://www.AccessButler.com>.

## CCI Grad Listed in National Best Doctors Survey

CCI graduate, Dr. Ellen Kaitz, was recently named a Central Ohio 2008 Best Doctor according to a national survey conducted by Best Doctors, Inc. The Boston-based company conducts surveys of physicians throughout the country and asks such questions as, "If you or a loved one needed a doctor in your specialty, to whom would you refer them?"

Dr. Kaitz is the director of the Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine Fellowship Program at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus and an assistant professor of clinical physical medicine and rehabilitation at The Ohio State University College of Medicine.

Dr. Kaitz and Service Dog Travis graduated from CCI in November 2001.

## New CCI Partner

Join CCI in welcoming our new marketing partner, Pete & Mac's Pet Resort. As the name indicates, Pete & Mac's is more than just a boarding facility; it is a full-service pet resort providing vacation lodging, daycare, professional grooming and training.

Pete & Mac's is kicking off a national community service campaign. When a client checks their pet into a Pete & Mac's Resort they will be asked to donate \$1 to a charity. All proceeds from the campaign during the first quarter of 2009 will be donated to CCI.

With eight locations nationwide, Pete and Mac's has three locations in the North Central Region, including Lee's Summit and Kansas City, Missouri and Lenexa, Kansas.

## Planned Giving with Dave Bonfilio

*"The comfort of knowing she will let me know when someone is here ringing the doorbell, telephone ringing or timers going off is indescribable. Also my right hearing aid broke on Sunday afternoon so you might as well say I'm deaf at this point. Before I would have been a wreck, but by having Janet here my outlook is entirely different. [THANKS CCI, for Janet]"*

– Kathy Taylor, Hearing Graduate

Have you considered including CCI in your estate plans to ensure more people like Kathy will benefit from a Janet? It is easy to do and can benefit your heirs by reducing your estate tax. Some estate plans even give you an immediate income tax deduction and a source of



income for the rest of your life. Check out <http://www.cci.org/plannedgiving> for a private estate planned illustration or contact Dave Bonfilio, National Planned Giving Officer, at 1-866-224-3647.



## Honor Someone with a Gift to CCI

Honor your friends, loved ones, pets and partners or mark a special occasion by making a gift to Canine Companions for Independence. You can make a tribute or memorial donation in the following ways:

- Make your gift online at [www.cci.org/donate](http://www.cci.org/donate). With your online donation, you have the option to send an instant e-card or schedule an e-card to be delivered on a specific date. You may also choose to have CCI mail the honoree a card with your customized message.

- Make your gift by mail. Complete the donation envelope in this newsletter and mail with your donation to:

**Canine Companions for Independence  
North Central Regional Center  
4989 State Route 37 East  
Delaware, OH 43015**

- Make your gift by phone. Call us toll-free at 1-800-572-BARK (2275). CCI accepts VISA, MasterCard and American Express.

## Upcoming Graduation Dates

**May 16, 2009**

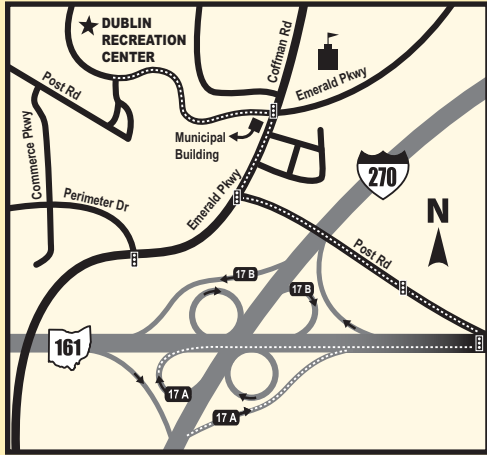
**August 15, 2009**

**November 14, 2009**

All graduation ceremonies begin at 11:00 a.m. and typically last one hour. Refreshments are served afterward. Graduations are free and open to the public. Anyone interested in attending is encouraged to do so.

### Location:

THE DUBLIN COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER  
Abbey Theater  
Dublin, Ohio



### Driving Directions:

1. From I-270 take exit 17A toward Dublin
2. Merge onto OH-161 East/ US-33 East
3. Turn left onto Post Road
4. Turn right at Emerald Pkwy
5. Turn left at street light (toward Municipal Building)
6. Continue past the tennis courts, skate park and pavilion, to the Recreation Center (on right)

### Graduation Ceremony Volunteer Opportunities:

- Hand out programs
- Bake cookies
- Serve refreshments
- Sell CCI merchandise

Contact Jean Henry, regional volunteer coordinator at (740) 548-4447 or [jhenry@cci.org](mailto:jhenry@cci.org) for more information.

## Did you know?

Canine Companions for Independence assistance dogs are provided free of charge to children and adults with disabilities. By supporting CCI, you help make this possible. Thank you.

## TEAM TRAINING YEARBOOK

### November 2008 Graduates



#### Michael Crist

Facilitator: Kathy Horvath  
Skilled Companion Dog Pilot V  
Highland, IN  
*Roxanne Shull*  
Grove City, OH



#### Mike Fredholm

Successor Service Dog Fancy II  
Kansas City, MO  
*Ross Correctional Institution*  
Chillicothe, OH



#### Laura Hall

Service Dog Taro II  
Lansing, MI  
*Allison & David Viemeister*  
Janesville, WI



#### Adam Moehlig

Facilitators: Charlene & Stephen Moelg  
Skilled Companion Dog Wilene  
Sterling Heights, MI  
*Christine Guth*  
Carol Stream, IL



#### Suzanne Peifer

Service Dog Frankie V  
Columbus, OH  
*Ross Correctional Institution*  
Chillicothe, OH



#### Jennifer Tomlianovich

Service Dog Rojo  
East Peoria, IL  
*Lesley Fisher*  
Columbus, OH

### December 2008 Graduates



#### Isaiah Carroll

Facilitator: Kathleen Carrol  
Skilled Companion Dog Farrell II  
Xenia, OH  
*Vanessa & Richard League*  
Peoria, IL



#### Jack Ford

Facilitator: Terri Devine  
Skilled Companion Dog Arlo  
Orland Park, IL  
*Dee Appelman*  
Stevensville, MI



#### Mary Joo

Service Dog Dog Zamba  
Schaumburg, IL  
*Kathy Gouker*  
Noblesville, IN

Note: *Italicized names indicate the puppy raiser of the graduating dog*

# TEAM TRAINING YEARBOOK

## February 2009 Graduates



### Zachary Arland

Facilitator: Denise Arland  
 Skilled Companion Dog Zeeman  
 Greenfield, IN  
*J.J. Coate*  
 South Vienna, OH



### Dallas Blaser

Facilitator: Nichole Blaser  
 Skilled Companion Dog Rocky VI  
 Leavenworth, KS  
*Marty & Dave Carvour*  
 London, OH



### Morgan Bornhofer

Facilitators: Ashley & Brian Bornhofer  
 Skilled Companion Dog Zico  
 Shawano, WI  
*Betsy Jones*  
 Delaware, OH



### Jackson Griffiths

Facilitator: Ed Griffiths  
 Skilled Companion Dog Tyanna  
 Westerville, OH  
*Deb & Madalyn Guy*  
 Winnetka, IL



### Rebecca Gutcher

Service Dog Brynda  
 Powell, OH  
*Elizabeth Hager*  
 Hilliard, OH



### Jesse Madison

Facilitator: Adelle Madison  
 Skilled Companion Dog Waylon  
 Canfield, OH  
*Charon Fisher*  
 Kansas City, MO



### Micah Nash

Facilitator: Heather Nash  
 Skilled Companion Dog Pippi IV  
 Seymour, MO  
*Dai-Wei & Wesley Lo*  
 Columbus, OH



### Hannah Papenfuss

Facilitator: Dawn Papenfuss  
 Skilled Companion Dog Britta III  
 Moorhead, MN  
*Brian & Jennifer King*  
 Lewis Center, OH



### Trevor Robinett

Facilitators: Shelly & Tim Robinett  
 Skilled Companion Dog Anderson III  
 Reynoldsburg, OH  
*Stacy Combs*  
 Lincoln, NE



### Abby Stricherz

Service Dog Zaida  
 Ramona, SD  
*Karen Lynn Steele*  
 Indianapolis, IN



### Taylor Walls

Facilitator: Kenda Walls  
 Skilled Companion Dog Jagger III  
 Franklin, IN  
*Nathan Kinney*  
 Fishers, IN



### Madeline Walsh

Facilitators: Kelly & Michael Walsh  
 Skilled Companion Dog Jurgen  
 Wyandotte, MI  
*Cathy Clark*  
 Yorkville, OH

## Team Training Lunch Providers

### November 2008

Pam and Dennis Collins  
 and Family  
 Jacqui Fatka  
 Mary Freund  
 Ellen Kaitz  
 Kansas City Volunteer  
 Chapter  
 Krista Kiehl  
 Marty Marlatt  
 Sue and Pete LeRoy  
 Ruth and Don Snider  
 Roxanne Shull  
 Nancy Young

### December 2008

Sue and Pete LeRoy  
 Minnesota Volunteer  
 Chapter  
 The Peifer Family

### February 2009

Dee and Tim Appelman  
 Tammy Burchett  
 Kansas City Volunteer  
 Chapter  
 Krista Kiehl  
 Minnesota Volunteer  
 Chapter  
 Nicole Paloney  
 The Peifer Family  
 Lori Porrello  
 Roxanne Shull  
 Southwest Michigan  
 Puppy Raisers  
 Skip Walzak

## Veterinary & Professional Support

### Best Friends Animal Clinic

Rex Riggs, D.V.M.

### Green Meadows Veterinary Hospital

Robert Cape, D.V.M.  
 Jo Ann Buehner, D.V.M.  
 Matt Frost, D.V.M.  
 Alison Skala, D.V.M.  
 Danielle Badamine, D.V.M.

### MedVet

Milton Wyman, D.V.M.

Note: *Italicized names indicate the puppy raiser of the graduating dog*

# Puppy Raiser Notebook



Maxwell II



Beckham



Winslow II



Gaius



Vico

## *A Puppy Raiser Prayer*

Use these, your feet, to find the way,  
To walk the path, of your life today.

Use these, your eyes, to find a friend,  
To enjoy every moment, through the day's end.

Use these, your ears, to listen and obey,  
And trust your humans, in whatever they say.

Use this, your mouth, to show that smile,  
That brightens each day, and eases each trial.

Use this, your nose, to scent those sent,  
To help you discover the life you are meant.


Use this, your tail, to bring more joy,  
To old and young, girl and boy.

Use what you've been given, in the way they should be,  
That's all I ask you'd do for me.

That you would find your place, on this great big earth,  
And fulfill every reason for your birth.

I'll love you forever, as long as I live,  
Now will you take all this love, and freely...give?

Mary Beth Kopechek, CCI Puppy Raiser

 CCI would like to thank the puppy raisers who recently turned-in puppies for advanced training:

The following puppy raisers were inadvertently left off the **August 2008** listing in our Summer/Fall 2008 issue. We sincerely apologize for this error.

**ANDERSON**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Stacy Combs**, Lincoln, NE  
**BRYNDA**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Elizabeth Hager**, Hilliard, OH  
**DESIREE II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Mary and David Schultz**, Oshkosh, WI  
**JURGEN**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Cathy Clark**, Yorkville, OH  
**OCEANA II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Christina and Morgan Riley**, Glen Ellyn, IL  
**REGAL III**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Melissa and Randy Roberts**, Heath, OH  
**RICHTER**; New Puppy Raiser **Sally Moore**, Columbus, OH  
**TUCKER III**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Stephanie and Elaine Book**, Belvidere, IL  
**WAYLON**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Charon Fisher**, Kansas City, MO  
**WYATTA**; New Puppy Raiser **Jenny Ringo**, Sunbury, OH  
**ZAIDA**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Karen Lynn Steele and Caren Geppert**, Indianapolis, IN  
**ZICO**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Betsy Jones**, Delaware, OH


**November 2008:**

**BARTLETT**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Fran and Peter Vlasses**, Glen Ellyn, IL  
**BRIGIT**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Mickie Lesko**, Columbus, OH  
**CHIOS**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Nancy and Martin Smolensky**, Buffalo, MN  
**CLIFF**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Marty and Dave Carvour**, London, OH  
**DAVIDA II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Ross Correctional Institution**, Chillicothe, OH  
**DAVIELLE II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Jill Goldman**, Winnebago, IL  
**DUNE**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Ross Correctional Institution**, Chillicothe, OH  
**DUSTIN III**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Kim and Samantha Mccrary**, Waldron, IN  
**FALA II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Tracy and Seth Peach**, Delaware, OH  
**FARICA**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Pat Long Sims**, Plainview, IL  
**JAMILA**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Susan and Peter Leroy**, Prior Lake, MN  
**JARA**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Sue Newman**, Eagan, MN  
**JENGO**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Mary Beth Kopechek**, Blacklick, OH  
**JOSH IV**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Elizabeth Hague**, Indianapolis, IN  
**LARCH**; New Puppy Raiser **Martha Berg**, Whitefish Bay, WI  
**LENO II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Beth and Randy Schroeder**, Kalamazoo, MI  
**LEXIS**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Nancy and Marilyn Butler**, Monroe, OH  
**OCALA**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Linda and Jeff Saunders**, Indianapolis, IN

**OSKAR**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Nancy and John Draper**, Columbus, OH  
**ROSTEN**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Becca Borrell**, Fairlawn, OH  
**RUBY VIII**; New Puppy Raiser **Maureen Stubbs and Chloe Minton**, Westerville, OH  
**TALA II**; New Puppy Raiser **Angela Rospert**, Columbus, OH  
**TOMO**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Yolanda Gonzales**, Owensboro, KY  
**VALLIS**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Nancy Chu**, Macomb, IL  
**VINSON**; New Puppy Raiser **Joyce and Jim Braddock**, Kansas City, MO  
**WARNER**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Amber and Carol Kasnick**, Lombard, IL  
**WESSEX II**; New Puppy Raiser **Fred Duy**, Columbus, OH

**February 2009:**

**BART IV**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Joan Lester**, Schiller Park, IL  
**BECKHAM**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Lisa, Grace, and Adam Hardy**, Indianapolis, IN  
**BEIJING**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Susan Miller and Tatty Hodge**, Richland, MI  
**BRIGHTON II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Jennifer and Charles Trojan**, West Chicago, IL  
**DENNISON**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Diane and Randy Jones**, Jones, MI  
**DOROTHY IV**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Jodie and Floyd Hanson**, Saint Cloud, MN  
**ERNST II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Chris and Mike Ness**, Colfax, WI  
**GAIUS**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Alison and David Viemeister**, Janesville, WI  
**IKE IV**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Deborah Dengler**, Woodbury, MN  
**KEEFE**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Becky and Peter Qualy**, New Palestine, IN  
**MAXWELL II**; Puppy Raisers **Krista and Morgan Kiehl**, Delaware, OH  
**MILES II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Chris Iams**, Westerville, OH  
**PAULETTE IV**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Amy and Jeremy Stern**, Adams, MN  
**PHILIP**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Karen and Marty Jensen**, Rochester, MN  
**SHARONA**; New Puppy Raiser **Skip Walzak**, Sunbury, OH  
**SOBIE**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Pam Chelf**, Indianapolis, IN  
**TESSIE II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Vanessa and Richard League**, Peoria, IL  
**TOLAN II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Dee Appelman**, Stevensville, MI  
**VICO**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Jeanette and Tera Jurrens**, Marysville, OH  
**WALLABY III**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Jerri and Jerry Amos**, Clayton, OH  
**WINSLOW II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Esther and Bud Brown**, Vandalia, OH  
**YOLA II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Debbie, Tim, Liane and Stephanie Joki**, Carmel, IN  
**YUKI**; New Puppy Raiser **Linda Thurston**, Elida, OH  
**ZYDECO**; Puppy Raisers **Kim and Brian Beveridge**, Ballwin, MO

 Recent Puppy Placements:

**ABE II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Julia Havey**, Downers Grove, IL  
**ADMIRAL II**; New Puppy Raisers **Stephanie and Andrew Moore**, Neosho, WI  
**BARNABY II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Christina and Morgan Riley**, Glen Ellyn, IL  
**BOURNE**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Amy Riscoe**, Overland Park, KS  
**CHARLICE**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Lisa, Grace, and Adam Hardy**, Indianapolis, IN  
**CRAWFORD II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Daniel and Donna Violet**, Sunbury, OH  
**DAX**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Dai-Wei and Wilson Lo**, Columbus, OH  
**DORIAN**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Nancy and Martin Smolensky**, Buffalo, MN  
**ELJAY**; New Puppy Raisers **Mandi and Marce Selvey**, Waconia, MN  
**ERNA**; New Puppy Raiser **Melissa Ritchie**, Shakopee, MN  
**ESSIE II**; New Puppy Raisers **Michelle Davin and Randy Ackman**, Cedar Rapids, IA  
**ETTA IV**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Tracy and Seth Peach**, Delaware, OH  
**EVONA**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Lois Bauer**, Plymouth, MN  
**GABE II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **John Russell**, Sunbury, OH  
**GASTON II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Nancy and Marilyn Butler**, Monroe, OH  
**GIDGET III**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Nancy and John Draper**, Columbus, OH  
**GILLY II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Dee Appelman**, Stevensville, MI  
**GRAHAM II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Beth and Randy Schroeder**, Kalamazoo, MI  
**GRANGER II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Becky and Peter Qualy**, New Palestine, IN  
**HAROLD II**; New Puppy Raiser **Ginn Radue**, Wausau, WI  
**HELIXE**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Alison and David Viemeister**, Janesville, WI  
**HUMPHREY II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Nancy Chu**, Macomb, IL  
**HUTCH II**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Karen and Kelsey Tyler**, Overland Park, KS  
**HYANNE**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Sharon Dunning and Jack Bernard**, Cincinnati, OH  
**ILENE**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Leslie Young**, Westerville, OH  
**INGA IV**; New Puppy Raiser **Donna Sword**, Clayton, OH

**IRINA II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Jean Nakaerts**, Marseilles, IL  
**KALANI II**; New Puppy Raiser **Mary Huels**, Steward, IL  
**KANIKA**; New Puppy Raiser **John Connolly**, Chicago, IL  
**KINGA**; New Puppy Raisers **Kelly and Richard Osbaldiston**, Richmond, KY  
**KYOTO**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Pat Long Sims**, Plainview, IL  
**MAMBO**; New Puppy Raiser **Herbert James Litchfield**, Lake Forest, IL  
**MASON V**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Rick Cornelius**, Hamilton, OH  
**MAVIS**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Suzanne and Steve Treudt**, West Chicago, IL  
**MELISSA II**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Kathy Gouker**, Noblesville, IN  
**MICKEY III**; New Puppy Raiser **Janet Stephenson**, Fort Wayne, IN  
**MOLLY VIII**; New Puppy Raisers **Joan and Rick McCarren**, Wilmington, OH  
**NANETTE IV**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Melissa and Randy Roberts**, Heath, OH  
**NEVADA IV**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Ginny and Bob Harper**, Upper Arlington, OH  
**REDFORD**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Marty and Dave Carvour**, London, OH  
**RELDON**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Fred Duy**, Columbus, OH  
**ROSEMARY III**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Diane and Randy Jones**, Jones, MI  
**SAFFRON III**; New Puppy Raiser **Lorraine McKay**, Palatine, IL  
**SALVADOR**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Ruby Donovan**, Elroy, WI  
**SANTIAGO**; New Puppy Raiser **Debbie Sloan**, Kansas City, MO  
**SEATTLE II**; New Puppy Raiser **Dean Nordin**, Woodstock, IL  
**SHAWN**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Ross Correctional Institution**, Chillicothe, OH  
**SOPHIE IV**; Repeat Puppy Raisers **Debbie, Tim, Liane and Stephanie Joki**, Carmel, IN  
**YANG**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Pam Chelf**, Indianapolis, IN  
**YAZ**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Roxanne Shull**, Grove City, OH  
**YOLI**; Repeat Puppy Raiser **Jacqueline Hendricks**, Overland Park, KS  
**YORICK II**; New Puppy Raisers **Janet and Stevie Julian**, Claysville, PA

## North Central Regional Chapters

### Central Indiana Chapter

Dan O'Brien  
6650 Yellowstone Parkway  
Indianapolis, IN 46217  
(317) 251-8813  
www.cci-indy.org

### Kansas City Chapter

Karen Tyler  
kcchapter@puppyraisers.us

## North Central Regional Groups

### Central Ohio Volunteer Group

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### Cleveland Volunteer Group

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### Michigan Volunteer Group

Fay Johnson  
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lilly3212002@yahoo.com

### Minneapolis/St. Paul Volunteer Group

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Dayton, MN 55327  
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### Penn-Ohio Volunteer Group

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### Rock River Valley Volunteer Group

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(815) 997-3118  
dcberg1@verizon.net

### Wisconsin Volunteer Group

Dawn Vollbrecht  
(920) 779-0425  
wisconsincci-dogs@yahoo.com



Twins Matt and Mark MacLaren, with their CCI Skilled Companion Dogs Pace and Damon participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Easter Seals Autism Resource Center in Indianapolis. They are joined by CCI facility dog facilitator, Scott Fogo.

## CCI Graduates Speak Out About Autism

It wasn't until they were eight years old that twins, Matt and Mark MacLaren, could effectively communicate. Now they are speaking in front of large audiences, sharing their story about living with autism and about their CCI Skilled Companions Dogs, Pace and Damon.

The MacLaren's, along with their parents, Ann and Dave, recently spoke at the Easter Seals' Living with Autism Study Community Forum about the challenges, fears and dreams of their family and the

importance of providing effective resources and support mechanisms for families living with autism.

The boys, along with Scott Fogo, facilitator to CCI Facility Dog Breta and director of autism services for Easter Seals Crossroads, participated in the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremonies for the new Easter Seals Autism Resource Center in Indianapolis. The new resource center will offer families affected by autism a place to find support and information.

## Chicago Day at the Races tickets on sale May 1<sup>st</sup>

The 20th Annual CCI Day at the Races will be held Saturday, August 1, 2009 at Arlington Park Racecourse. This popular CCI event features live horse racing, food and beverages, track and event programs, opportunity drawings, silent auction and a CCI demonstration.

Tickets go on sale May 1 at 9:00 a.m. This event sells out quickly so make your reservation early! For more information about this event, tickets or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Deb Dudzienski at (815) 334-8236.



## Thank You HollyFest Volunteers

CCI volunteers from Central Ohio, once again, participated in HollyFest, a community holiday craft and gift expo sponsored by the Hilliard Chamber of Commerce, Saturday December 6.

For months prior to the event, volunteers worked countless hours assembling pet-related crafts and gift bags and baskets to sell during HollyFest, then, despite the inclement weather, showed up to staff the event.

In addition to selling merchandise, CCI raised more donations by staffing the coat check, providing photos with Santa and by hosting a raffle.



Santa "Paws" at HollyFest

A heartfelt thanks goes out to Santa and everyone who assembled crafts and gifts, helped transport the merchandise to the event, staffed the event, purchased merchandise and helped CCI raise \$2,069 at HollyFest 2008.

## Holiday Gift Wrapping Raises \$11,694 for CCI

CCI volunteers, with puppies in tow, braved the winter weather and holiday crowds to wrap gifts and raise money for CCI at Barnes & Noble and Borders Bookstores throughout the North Central Region.

Every holiday season, CCI volunteers have this opportunity to wrap holiday gifts in exchange for donations. Although the economy was struggling, shoppers opened their pockets and their hearts to help CCI place more assistance dogs with more people with disabilities. A total of \$11,694 was raised during the holiday season.

CCI would like to thank everyone who took time out of their busy holiday



CCI graduate Rochelle Byrd with Service Dog Deon helped Chicago volunteers raise over \$7,000 wrapping gifts at area bookstores.

schedule to help out with CCI holiday gift wrapping in Chicago, Illinois; Columbus, Cleveland and Dayton, Ohio; Southwest Michigan; Kansas City, Missouri; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Minneapolis-St. Paul, Missouri; and Indianapolis, Indiana.

## New President for Kansas City Chapter

The Kansas City Volunteer Chapter of CCI welcomes their new chapter president, Karen Tyler, who was elected unanimously in late 2008. During the chapter's December meeting, the volunteers welcomed Karen and presented a special plaque to Charon Fisher, who has served

as their president over the past two years. The chapter would like to thank Charon for her hard work, dedication and support of CCI and the Kansas City Volunteer Chapter. Charon will remain active with the chapter, but will now concentrate on raising her sixth CCI puppy, Morgan IV.

## Mark Your Calendar

2009

MAY  
16

**Graduate/Puppy Raiser Workshop and Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**

Location TBD

MAY  
16

**May 2009 Team Training Graduation**

Dublin Community Recreation Center

11:00 a.m.

AUG  
1

**Chicago Day at the Races**

Arlington Park Racecourse

Tickets on sale May 1

AUG  
15

**August 2009 Team Training Graduation**

Dublin Community Recreation Center

11:00 a.m.

For additional information about these and other upcoming events in our region, please visit our website: [www.cci.org/northcentral/](http://www.cci.org/northcentral/)



Participants head down the trail at the Central Ohio Snoopy® DogFest

## It Was a Big Success, Charlie Brown!

Canine Companions for Independence held Snoopy® DogFest events in three states in the North Central Region last fall—Ohio, Illinois and Michigan. These three events, combined, raised nearly \$40,000 for Canine Companions.

Each Snoopy® DogFest featured a pet-friendly walkathon, costume party and community celebration and was designed to increase awareness and raise funds for CCI.

The Chicago Snoopy® DogFest was presented Saturday, September 27, by Hollister, Inc. and included a two-mile pledged walk through the Hollister Headquarters campus in Libertyville, Illinois, demonstrations, refreshments, vendor booths and a live auction.

The top Chicago pledge earner was Kristine Balandi who raised \$1,260, earning her the opportunity to name a CCI puppy.

The 2008 Snoopy® DogFest events included and rewarded, for the first time, corporate and community teams. The top

pledge earning team for the Chicago event was The Furfaced Enforcers who raised \$1,215. Loran Marketing and PetsNPatients followed close behind the top pledge-earning team.

American Electric Power (AEP) presented the Ohio Snoopy® DogFest, Sunday, October 12, at Coffman Park Pavilion in Dublin, Ohio. Over 100 walkers, many with their dogs, raised pledges for CCI and walked the two-mile route through a scenic Dublin neighborhood collecting trick-or-treat items along the way. In addition, participants enjoyed a costume contest, refreshments from White Castle, entertainment by Mix 97.1 and a dog agility course provided by volunteer puppy raisers, Bob and Connie Runk.

It was a record breaking year for the Ohio Snoopy® DogFest, raising 50% more money than the previous DogFest and doubling the number of walkers.

CCI graduate, Dr. Ellen Kaitz, was the top pledge earner raising \$3,828 for Canine Companions. Ellen's prize packet included the opportunity to name a CCI

puppy. Lisa Marn, another CCI grad, came in second place earning \$2,675 for CCI. The third, fourth and fifth place pledge earners were Dana Page, Esther Brown and Michelle Miller, respectively.

The top pledge earning team was Cardinal Health, with Carney's Companions for Independence and D.J.s team coming in a close second and third.

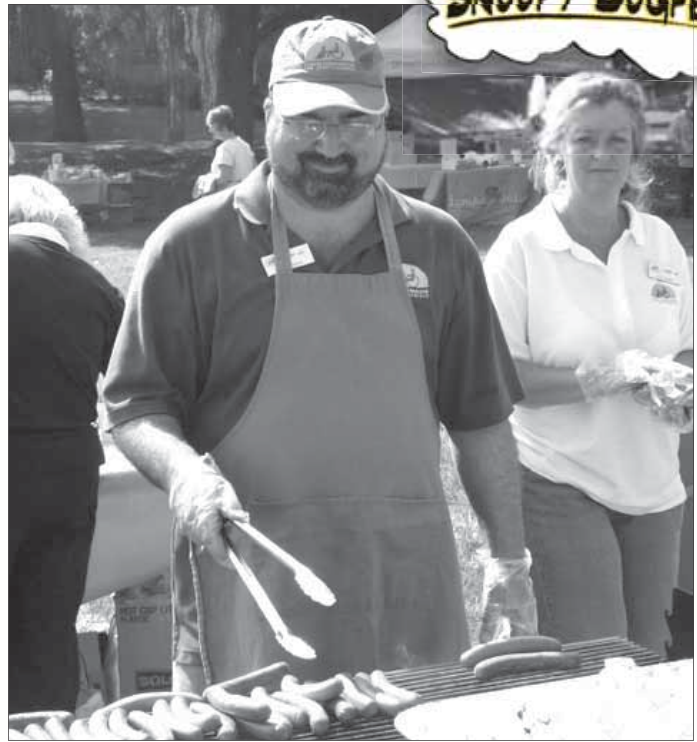
The Michigan Snoopy® DogFest was also held Sunday, October 12 at Maybury State Park in Northville, Michigan and was sponsored by Novi Bowl. The event included a two-mile pledged walkathon through the scenic state park, a raffle and a costume contest.

The top pledge earner was Fay Johnson; second place, Ann Pawlak; third place was a tie between Dr. Thomas Parmentar and Jerry Lyons.

CCI would like to thank all of the walkers, volunteers, sponsors and donors who made the 2008 Snoopy® DogFest so successful.



Snoopy makes an appearance at the Chicago Snoopy® DogFest



A Chicago Area Volunteer grills bratwurst for hungry event participants

*Special Thanks to the 2008 Snoopy® DogFest Sponsors and Prize Donors:*

**Presenting Sponsors:**



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 Shell Vacations Club  
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 Star Auto Authority  
 The Dogfather  
 White Castle  
 Worthington Industries

**Other Special Thanks:**

All Tails 'R' Waggin'  
 Ann Farrell  
 Arena Grand Theater  
 As Good As Gold  
 Bagels by the Book  
 Best Friends Pet Resort  
 Betsy Jones  
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 Charlee Bear  
 Chicago White Sox  
 Chicagoland Bully Bread  
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FOR INDEPENDENCE®**

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## Connect with CCI Online

If you have a Facebook, MySpace or YouTube account, you can join official CCI groups to connect with the incredible community of CCI graduates, volunteers and supporters. You can participate in discussions, take quizzes, watch CCI videos and much more at these valuable social networking sites.

Are you celebrating a birthday and

have all the gifts you need? This year you can use Facebook Causes to raise money for CCI. Here's how:

- Add the "Causes" application to your Facebook page and select "Canine Companions for Independence" as your cause. Visit the "Birthday Cause" page and follow the steps listed.