

## Would you like to honor or remember a special friend?

If you would like to make a donation\* to Paws for Healing in honor of or in the memory of a beloved relative, friend or companion animal, please fill out the form so that we can acknowledge the appropriate person. The enclosed envelope is pre-addressed for your convenience. We appreciate your support!

**Please circle:** In Honor of **OR** in Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgement to \_\_\_\_\_

Message \_\_\_\_\_

\*All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law, PFH is a 501(3)(c) non-profit corporation. All donors will be acknowledged with a letter as well as those families or individuals who are honored or remembered.

Tristan



Kelly

*Paws for Healing is a 501(c)(3) and its mission is to mend hearts, minds and bodies with gentle paws and healing hands. In the past 12 years our teams have donated well over 76,000 hours and we continue to grow in the North Bay counties.*



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# Therapy Dog Chronicles

**A Publication of Paws for Healing, Inc.**

*Mending Hearts with Gentle Paws and Guiding Hands*



2013

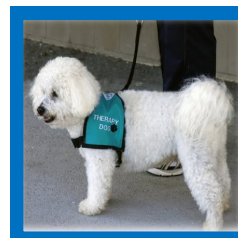
## TRUDEE AND TRISTAN--WHAT A PAIR!

Trudee Lewis and her adorable Bichon, Tristan, are retiring from Paws for Healing this fall. Trudee and Tristan have been an incredible volunteer team for nine years and it is with much sadness that we say farewell to them. She said that Tristan was such a hyperactive dog that she needed to wait until he was five years old and kind of "mellowed out" before she could get him to



settle down

and be a good volunteer. Trudee started at the Veteran's Home in Yountville after their initial training in September, 2004, "because that is where they needed volunteers" and she has been there every since, serving as a volunteer at the hospital and then as well as a mentor for all new volunteers who come there. ....continued



*..Trudee and Tristan continued..*

In addition to that, Trudee has helped out PFH numerous times and in many ways, always saying "yes" when extra volunteers were needed--for training sessions, for events, for any PFH-sponsored activity.



And if that was not enough, Trudee has donated more than \$1000 to Paws for Healing through the sale of her series of books written about Tristan. She wrote six books ( for sale at Amazon--six books in English, and six in Spanish) telling the story of Tristan--at the vet, at Paws for Healing training, as a therapy dog, and at the groomer--all beautifully photographed and written to help educate people on dogs and the value they bring to our lives. Trudee has donated her books to various elementary schools and preschools in Napa Valley, and with Tristan by her side has conducted little seminars with the children at these schools. In addition she has donated a series of her books to the Napa Valley libraries as well as Vallejo library!

Trudee was raised in Ashland, Oregon, and attended the University of Oregon for her undergraduate degree, then attended Western Michigan University for her graduate studies where she specialized in and became a speech and language therapist. She moved around a bit in her early career, finally settling in

Napa and worked in the Vallejo School system for 31 years. During this time she had various animals--horses, dogs, and cats--and has always been an animal lover. When Tristan came into her life, as mentioned earlier, he was very hyper, but she began bringing him to school with her on occasion and saw how helpful he was at calming the children down. This made her think that he might be a good therapy dog, and the rest of the story is history.

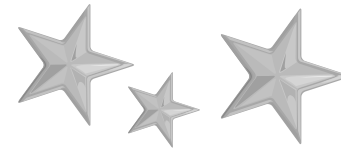
They joined PFH and never looked back, and we are so grateful for that. Trudee said she would truly miss some of the patients at the Hospital. Because many of them are chronically ill, the patients are there for a long time and so it was easy to get attached to them.



One patient she and Tristan especially loved was Graham. She told the story that one day Graham acquired a new power wheelchair and when she and Tristan went to visit him, Graham insisted that Trudee put Tristan on his lap so they could take a ride. She did so, and holding onto Tristan's leash, they stood there and visited for a few minutes and then the next thing she

## ❧Special Project❧

Novathon  
Pension Dynamic Corporation  
Woodruff Sawyer Co.  
Galina LLP  
Ounty Lines Construction  
Carole Bionda  
Joan Constantine  
Dorothy Curry  
Margaret Fuller  
Meir and Marilyn Horvitz  
Valerie James  
Anne Jung  
Carolyn McCain  
Jill Miller  
Betty Ryan  
Ruth Shogren  
Julie Shogren-Ryan  
Sheryl Sindt  
Randy and Lea Stegman  
Tracy Tighe  
Barbara Tonelli  
Joanne Van Der Bruggen  
Jeanne Wilson  
McGraw Hill Publishing  
Jody McKenzie



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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

*Your contributions are used to continue Paws For Healing's mission of providing canine therapy to people in health care and educational settings. Your tax deductible donations help pay for our programs, materials, and classes, as well as insuring all our teams. Thank you for caring!*

## ❧In Loving Memory❧

Bro Herrod ▪ Kim Herrod  
Dina Mitchell ▪ Martha Bothwell  
Izzy ▪ Margery Smith  
Suede Stegman ▪ Clare LeBrun  
Suede Stegman ▪ Trudee Lewis  
Turbo ▪ Elaine Fohr

## ❧In Honor of❧

Jenette Fish and Rascal ▪ Lucille Sharke  
Randy Stegman ▪ Trudee Lewis  
Ruby Girlfriend ▪ Marlene Kniveton Rosenberg



knew, Tristan put his paw on the power lever and off they went....Graham and Tristan in the wheelchair with Tristan pushing on the power, and Trudee running alongside, with leash still in hand! They only stopped when they almost ran into a wall! After that, Graham always introduced Tristan to the nurses and staff as the dog that could drive his wheelchair!

Trudee plans to travel more and she has joined the Napa Writer's Club and there may be more books in store! She and Tristan, who is now 14, walk about 3 miles every day so he is staying healthy and active in his 'retirement'.

Trudee and Tristan: a huge thank you to you for your many hours of service for PFH and to the Napa community at large! Happy retirement! Woof, woof, from all of us at PFH.



## Hello from your board!

We hope you have had a great summer and we know that you are continuing to do your visits and make people smile all over Northern California and we thank you for that.

Your board has been busy this summer and have met regularly to keep things going. We welcomed back to the board Sharon DaSilva and Nikki Pacheco, two long term volunteers who will add much to our organization!

We have been busy revising some paper forms that we use: the Mentor guidelines, the Mentor checklist, frequent reader cards, the identification badges, and the order forms used in the store. We are also working on the website and planning to put some of our store items on the website so that you can order online. That is coming soon!

Now that fall is here we welcome our new volunteers coming aboard in our September classes. We hope you will feel free to call on us anytime you have a concern or question or suggestion--we need your input! This newsletter shares several stories of how some of your fellow volunteers have shared their experiences as volunteers. We love it! PFH is your organization and we value each of you and all you do for Paws.

*Woof, woof and love from your board:  
Judith Bernat, Joyce Bristow, Sharon DaSilva, Marilyn Horvitz, Nikki Pacheco, Pauline Seago, Sara DeCrevel*

Meir Horvitz receiving Novathon check from  
Sheryl Sindt & Julie Shogren-Ryan



### **SHERYL HAS DONE IT AGAIN!**

Paws for healing volunteer, Sheryl Sindt, and her friends and co-workers at Novathon have done it again with their walking fundraiser. With donations, contributions from individuals, and matching funds from Novathon, Sheryl was able to present us with an incredible donation check of **\$7000**. We are so grateful for these efforts!

Sheryl is pictured here with her Paws dogs, Gizmo and Lizzy, and her fellow walker, Julie Shogren-Ryan. Thank you to Sheryl, Julie and everyone that helped make this possible! Woof woof woof (*that is thank you in PFH language!*)





# Featured Breed

## Rescue Dogs

Brandy--ShihTzu-Llisa Apso mix-- was adopted at age 5 in 2008. His owner had died and his neighbor took him in but unfortunately her two large dogs attacked him viciously and both of his eyes had to be removed, rendering him totally blind. He was being fostered when I rescued him and something about this little guy won my heart. He soon became a therapy dog and patients love him so much because they can relate to his disability.



Brandy DeCrevel



Luke Byrum

Border collie/lab mix from Berkeley animal shelter

I was a volunteer at the Berkeley Animal shelter, where Luke had been placed in an overnight drop box for abandoned animals. I got to know him, and of course, took him home. He has been deaf from birth, a condition known as "lethal white," a genetic anomaly that often happens with primarily white animals, and often causes blindness, deafness, or sometimes both. Perhaps because of his own disability, Luke has his own special "6th sense"- perceptive empathy; we have been together for six of his seven years, and we recently completed the Paws for Healing certification. We attend the PACE program in Benicia weekly, whereby an exchange of mutual respect and "doggie love" takes place with the disabled adults there.

Jody and Molly



## RAGS TO RICHES: SHELTER DOG AND VOLUNTEER DONATE MONEY TO PAWS FOR HEALING

Molly, Jody McKenzie's mixed breed dog, could have been pictured in our Rescue Dog section this issue, but instead she is being featured as part of the team that helped to secure, once again, a grant from Jody's employer, McGraw Hill Publishing! Molly was rescued in 2007 from the Berkeley Humane Society and they joined Paws for Healing a year later and have been regular volunteers at the American Canyon library.

Jody and McGraw Hill Publishing again this year contributed \$500 to Paws for Healing. This is an employer-sponsored grant for non-profit organizations where their employees volunteer. The company encourages their employees to volunteer in their communities, and organizations then benefit by this generous addition! So, thank you Jody and your canine, Molly, for volunteering and for your help in securing these funds!!! Woof, woof, woof!!!

## PFH Fall Calendar

**September 14** --9-12-- 8- year and older dog re-evaluations and new volunteer training

**September 21**-- 9-12--new volunteer canine evaluations

**September 28**--9-12 new volunteer classroom

**October 5**--11:30AM --PFH Mentor meeting at Filippi's restaurant in Napa (more on this later)



Just a reminder that the PFH store is open on September 14 and September 21 in case you need a new shirt or leash or any supplies. We also love for you just to stop by and say "hey"--we love to see our volunteers! We are still doing the training at the CEC building, 1360 Menlo Ave, Napa.

## What Our Dogs Do For Us

- ◆ Keep a night alone from being truly lonely.
- ◆ Get us outside on beautiful fall days, rainy days, and wintry days.
- ◆ Listen to our singing.
- ◆ Treat us like celebrities when we come home.
- ◆ Warm up our beds on cold nights.
- ◆ Make our hearts more vigorous.
- ◆ Alert us on the arrival of the mail.
- ◆ Help us live a little longer.
- ◆ Make us smile.
- ◆ Agree with everything we say.
- ◆ Warm our knees with their chins.
- ◆ Provide a use for old tennis balls.
- ◆ Pull sleds.
- ◆ Help lower our blood pressure.
- ◆ Test how fast we can run.
- ◆ Keep the squirrels from overtaking our yards.
- ◆ *Teach us the meaning of unconditional love.*

# Featured Breed

## Rescue Dogs

Ruby Girlfriend was rescued from Whiskers-Tails and Feral. she is a Jack Russell-Dachshund mix and just turned 3 years old. She travels back and forth to the east coast with her owner , loves to run and leap and she sings I Love You...she loves to cuddles and currently charms patients and staff at the Queen of the Valley.



**Ruby Girlfriend Scarcelli**



**Poco Horvitz**

Poco was adopted from Small Dog Rescue in June 2002 when he was 2 years old. He volunteered for 10 years at North Bay Hospital before his recent retirement. He has a tendency to be overweight and when I introduced him as a "chubby Chihuahua" people would ask me if that was a new breed!

Reginald James Markle, aka Regie, is a Chihuahua- terrier mix and was rescued in 2009 from the Solano County Animal Care. Regie and Marlon were featured in Purina Mighty Dog's 2012 Big Guy Small Dog calendar and has been certified as a Canine Good Citizen and with an award for Canine Excellence as a nominee for the 2012 AKC Humane Fund for Canine Excellence in the category of Therapy Dog. He has his own Facebook page and coloring pages!



**Regie Markle**

# Featured Breed

## Rescue Dogs



**Cabo Forst**

Cabo was found wandering the streets of Cabo San Lucas with his brother in September 2011. They were flea infested and eating out of trash cans and had apparently been dumped. We were able to adopt him through NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue in November, 2011. He was not even potty trained but after many hours of training he has completed his Basic Obedience, Advanced Obedience, Canine Good Citizen Award, is used as a classroom demonstration dog, is a therapy dog with PFH and is training to become a service dog (for hearing). Quite a journey for a three year old throw away!

Jack, now 6, was adopted in January, 2010. He was living in a foster home in Vacaville with 4 other small dogs, several cats, and a large family, and before that had endured a very rough life. We were looking for a gentle cocker spaniel puppy but when we met Jack he won our hearts. We picked him up the next day after we met him and he has changed our lives with the unconditional love he shows daily. He is now our forever dog and we often ask, "Who rescued whom?"



**Jack McCain**



Lily Suchland reading 'Green Eggs & Ham' to Honey

### **CAROL DELACRUZ AND HONEY FEATURED IN THE VALLEJO TIMES-HERALD**

Our own Paws for Healing volunteer, Carol Delacruz, and her canine Honey, were the topic of a great article in the Vallejo paper June 25. Following is an excerpt from the article:

For Carol Delacruz and her therapy dog, Honey, helping children practice reading comes as naturally as a game of fetch. The two visit the Benicia Public Library once a week, where kids can sign up to read to Honey, a friendly 8-year -old terrier mix, for 5-10 minutes. Then they give her a treat. ....

"Kids worry about making mistakes when they read," Delacruz said. "When they read to Honey, one of the things I tell them is she's hard of hearing...so they speak up for her. It encourages them to read...and they become more and more confident in their reading."...

"It's a really neat program," said Allison Angell, head of youth services at the Benicia library. "It's fun for kids who practice reading without really realizing it. "

"It's a wonderful program," Benicia mom Melinda Suchland said after bringing her twin 5-year old daughters Lily and Gigi to the library. ... "Anytime they can be inspired to read. whether it be by a dog or anyone else, it's a good thing."

Congratulations to Carol and Honey and thanks for a job well done!



Shelby and Tyler Walker reading to Amber

## Feeling Like Puff the Magic Dragon

by Bruce Gross

Amber and I have been going to the Cordelia Library now for about six years. Amber lays quietly on her blanket while children of all ages read books to her.

*Puff, the magic dragon lives by the sea, and frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Hannah Lee...*

The children have read her books about facts, fiction and fairy tales. Dr. Seuss books, "Pop on Top", "Horton Hears a Who", "Six Apples on Top", and her favorite, "Are You My Mother?" Books about pirates, princesses, and astronauts. Sports, dinosaurs, bears and lions were all read about, with pictures and paragraphs. Stories about local hometowns, and far away places were all topics....

*Together they would travel on a boat with billowed sails, Jackie kept a*

*perch on Puff's gigantic tail. Noble Kings and Princes would bow whenever they came, pirate ships would lower their sails when Puff roared out his name....*

Over the six years of coming to the library, we have watched the readers grow up. We have had readers say "I can't read yet". I told them "It's OK, just show her the pictures and tell Amber what is happening". Seeing the excitement in their eyes when they realized they could do this. Some were very good story tellers. Then as they got older, and started using the beginner books, stumbling on THE, CAT, DOG. Then progressing to the next level of books.

*A dragon lives forever, but not so little boys, painted wings and giant rings make way for other toys.....*



Before long, the books that are being read contain less and less pictures, and more words. Words that are no longer single syllable, but more difficult to pronounce. Pretty soon books that contain no pictures, all words.

*One grey night it happened, Jackie Paper came no more, and Puff that magic dragon, ceased his fearless roar.....*

Then the day comes, as we sit there, the kids we watched start reading and progress to third and fourth grades, now feel they are too old to sit and read to Amber. They come and say "Hi". But...well... reading to a dog is not cool. Now there is homework, computers, scouts and little league practice to go to. Soon, they stop coming altogether.



A sad ending? Not hardly. There are new beginner readers arriving all the time, excited about reading to Amber. She is excited to see them all, and sits or lays patiently, listening to all their stories, looking at all the pictures and loving all the hugs, scratches and petting.

Amber shares her "duties" with her brother Roger, and grandson Chief.

