



Airmen relieving some stress with Toby at David Grant Medical Center



A library visit with Nikki Pacheco and Mariah



Chelsea doing her job



Helping the Hospital Staff

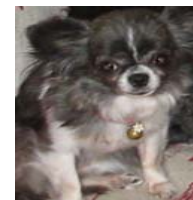
Paws for Healing is a 501(c)(3) and its mission is to mend hearts, minds and bodies with gentle paws and healing hands.

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Therapy Dog Chronicles

A Publication of Paws for Healing, Inc.



August 2012

Message from the Board

We hope you have had a fun and safe summer! I know you have continued to make your paws volunteer visits and we are so grateful for your continuing to bring smiles to people throughout northern California! Good job!

Your board has had a busy summer! Starting on May 17th we had a booth at Chef's Market on Thursday evenings in Napa—lots of people stopped by to say hello and find out about the good work that all of you do. Then we all had a great time at our volunteer appreciation picnic at Kennedy Park on June 23rd!

After much deliberation we decided to change and make improvements on our training process and have rewritten the training manual. Our training will now be conducted over three Saturdays instead of two, allowing us to make better use of the time and making sure that the training that is conducted is thorough and complete. We have listened to suggestions from you who have taken our class and we hope that we will better

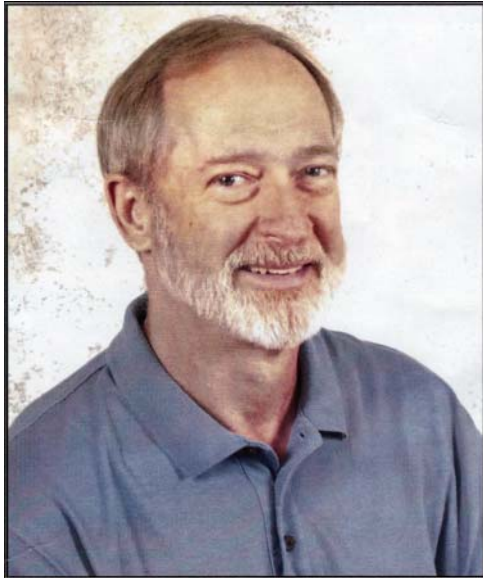
serve our new volunteers. And speaking to that, if any of you ever would like to re-take the classroom part of the training, you are more than welcome to do so, at no charge to you, assuming that you are a volunteer in good standing. This is always a good review and your input in the class as an experienced volunteer would also be valuable! This new training process will begin with our September class. The first day of training will be classroom instruction with emphasis on Paws for Healing introduction and what is expected at the dog evaluation. The next Saturday will be dog evaluation by appointment. And the last Saturday will again be classroom instruction with emphasis on how to be a volunteer and selecting facilities. So, we are looking forward to the new look to our training!

More good news: to alleviate travel time for our volunteers, we will be offering a one-time session for our 8-year-old and over evaluations at the home of volunteers Jim and Pat Lang in Petaluma.

Continued on Page 3

In Loving Memory

We are sad to announce that our long time Advisory Board member, Gene Windham, died unexpectedly while participating in a cycling event in May of this year. Gene was an attorney and he generously and



selflessly offered legal advice and counseling to us on many occasions. He was also a CPA and was the accountant for Paws for Healing. Under his direction his firm continues to keep our books and prepares our tax returns and all government filings required of non-profit organizations.

Gene had a love of dogs. His Labrador retriever was often seen in his office. When one of us came to see him he would always insist on coming outside to visit with our dogs. When he became

aware of two Havanese puppies who were not treated well, he adopted them himself so they would receive the medical attention, food and grooming that they sorely needed.

His offices and residence were in Vacaville where he was active in many charitable causes. He left a wife and three children and seven grandchildren. His obituary stated that he “will be affectionately remembered by many for his friendship and generosity...Gene was a mentor and friend to many.” We are pleased and thankful that he not only provided valued service to us but donated his legal advice to us and we will remember him with grateful hearts.

Would you like to honor or remember a special friend?

If you wish 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 this 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.

Thank you to Nova Group for the Matching Donation!

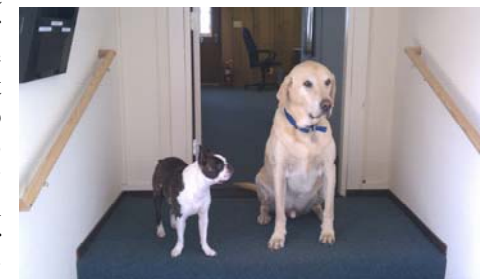
By Sheryl Sindt

I work for Nova Group Inc., a construction company in Napa. We are a federal government contractor working mainly with the Navy on fueling systems and pier work in Bremerton WA, Point Loma CA and Pearl Harbor Hawaii. For the second year now my company has sponsored a NovaThon. We have a walking trail at work and the concept is that the employees pick a charity to walk for. We work to get sponsors for our walking and Nova as part of its community and industry program matches any donations that we receive.

This has been my and Gizmo's first year volunteering with Paws for Healing; we volunteer at the Veterans' home in Yountville and at the Library in Vallejo. Nova also gives me time during the work day to volunteer as part of the community and industry program. So I decided that Gizmo and I would walk for PAWS. I walked (Gizmo mostly joined me) 40 miles over a two week

period. We raised \$720 (thank you to all of you that sponsored us!!) and Nova matched that \$720 so in total we sent in **\$1440**. PAW's really has a great program to get you started volunteering and teach you what you need to know.

Gizmo and I train at the Vallejo Dog Training Club so I have to thank fellow PFH volunteer, Joan Constantine, for introducing us to PAWS. We are hoping to have many more years volunteering and hopefully walking in the NovaThon to raise money for PAWS. At Nova we also have a pet friendly policy so we can all bring our dogs to work each day. Here is a picture of part of Nova's internal Therapy Crew: Gizmo and Yoyo.



Gizmo and YoYo

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. As you know your donation is tax deductible so, we all benefit. Donations help pay for our programs, materials, and classes, as well as insuring all our teams. Thank you for caring. Listed below are our generous donors.

❧In Loving Memory❧

Angel♥ Kaye Gordon

Charlotte Gaspari
♥

Maxine Bardessono

Chinook ♥ Elaine Fohr

William ♥ Bruce Nothmann



❧In Honor of❧

Karin Umbdenstock and Kelly



Roger Umbdenstock

❧Special❧

Nova Group

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ICS

Lynne Baker

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Marie Henderson

Human Race Volunteer Center

Trudee Lewis

Diane Moore

Yvonne Morones

Natalie (Candy) Peters

Sheryl Sindt

James Stofan

Susan Stofan

Carole Westrup

Message from the Board (cont.)

They generously offered their home and grounds for this evaluation –which will be conducted on Saturday October 13th—and if you live in Sonoma or Marin county this will be much more convenient rather than driving “over the hill” to Napa. As you know, all dogs 8 years old and over have a hands-on, brief but required, evaluation yearly, and the evaluators conduct an interview with the handlers to make sure the dogs are appropriate to continue as a Paws for Healing team.

So, offering this brief session in Sonoma County is a great opportunity for the locals there. If it is successful, which we anticipate it will be, we will plan to conduct it in Sonoma County twice yearly. The one in October though is the only one scheduled so far—we want to see how it works! Thanks again to the Langs!

And more good news: again, we have listened to your suggestions and are happy to announce that we are planning an open meeting and workshop for you on Tuesday, October 23rd, at 6PM in the Main Conference Room at the Queen of the Valley Hospital in Napa. We will have a brief business meeting and plan to have a lecture and demonstration on Canine First Aid and Help in Canine Visits with Patients with Dementia. There will be more on this via email announcements but we wanted to let you know so you can mark your calendars.

So that's our news for this issue! Come see us...our Paws for Healing store will be open on September 15th if you need to purchase any items or just

want to stop by and see us at the CEC building, 1360 Menlo Ave in Napa. Thanks as usual for your awesome volunteering. Keep up the good work!

Woof woof and thank you from your Paws for Healing Board –Joyce, Marilyn, Pauline, and Sara

Paws for Healing, Inc.
1370 Trancas Street, PMB 127
Napa, CA 94558
www.pawsforhealing.org



We provide comfort to all ages.



We support our Military

l to r Marilyn Horvitz, Brat Zinsmaster, LTC Petnicki, Tracey Wingerter and Bunny Morales Presenting David Grant with the all services quilt that hangs over the Missing Man Table in the cafeteria

NorthBay Golf and Tennis Tournament Ambassadors

By Joyce Bristow

The NorthBay Golf and Tennis Tournament has been one of the major fundraisers for the NorthBay Hospital Guild for 29 years. Both the golf and tennis positions are sold out every year and the participants look forward to this event which is currently held at the Green Valley Country Club. The funds raised by this event always benefit a particular project. This year the funds will be used for the trauma program which includes both VacaValley Hospital in Vacaville and the NorthBay Medical Center in Fairfield.

As a guild member, I have been volunteering at this event for many years. I was always assigned to hole #7 -a lovely par 3. At this hole there is an "in the circle" contest which nets the winner a bottle of wine and a "closest to the pin contest" which nets the winner a nice prize. About six years ago I suggested that Paws for Healing sponsor the hole. The idea was that we could provide the prizes and have a few dogs at the tee where we would have information about Paws for Healing and our role at the various NorthBay facilities. We did this and the response was more enthusiastic than I expected. People LOVED seeing the dogs and talking to us about pet therapy.

Since that time Amber and Bella have become fixtures at the #7 tee. If people don't see them right away, they ask for them. This year it was quite cool and

the dogs were FULL of energy. They greeted all the golf carts as they came to the hole and were doing a wonderful job as our ambassadors. Gradually they started slowing down and laying in the shade between foursomes. By late afternoon they were really crashed out but when called, they came to visit whoever wanted to see them. Sharon DaSilva and I were always there to supervise but were clearly not the stars of the hole. This year the volunteer's shirts were yellow, so Amber and Bella wore yellow Polo shirts as well. Of course theirs were from Ralph Lauren and ours were generic but then they WERE the stars of the hole!

This tournament is a win/win situation. NorthBay is pleased with our being able to tout one of the programs they offer to patients and Paws for Healing gets the benefit of increasing our name recognition in the community. We all enjoyed the day and look forward to next year!



Sharon DaSilva with Amber and Bella at the NorthBay Golf & Tennis Tournament

Another way to volunteer for Paws for Healing: Mentoring

By Joan Douma

I was privileged to volunteer in response to a request from Laura Proffitt, a Napa High teacher and PFH member, to mentor a high school senior, Andrea "Andie" Garcia, who had chosen Paws for her senior project. This was one of the finest experiences



Senior Student Andrea Garcia, her dog Roscoe, Santa, and Joan Douma at Santa Paws, November.

my dogs and I had in 2011/12, and I felt it was very rewarding for Andie as she learned, and experienced, Paws for Healing, and all we do in and for the community on an on-going basis.

At the time Andie started last year my long term soul-mate, Jorgee, was still living, and we were doing the READ program at the library. I had to take a cab to the library each week because Jorgee, at almost 16 years old, was slowly, but surely, reaching the final stages of her life. Andie accompanied us each week to the library. She then attended the Santa Paws event at Pet Food Express in Bel Aire where she volunteered for over two hours, and contacted Paws volunteers to gain more hours needed by accompanying several generous volunteers who eagerly invited her to join them in visits to the hos-

pital to see patients with their PFH dogs in their routine visits.

On December 9, my Jorgee left our world which was very sad for all of us, including Andie. After a few months, when my young dog, Luna Rae, an Italian Greyhound, reached three years, I filled out the paperwork and Luna Rae, Andie and I went to the Paws for Healing evaluations, where Luna Rae successfully passed her test-- with flying colors I might add-- to be a Paws dog, and so then Luna and I began continuing Jorgee's job at the library with the children, which is very rewarding. Andie accompanied us each week on Mondays, completed her senior project, did her presentation, and graduated from high school in June.

Luna continues to improve as a READ dog, following in the footsteps of my Jorgee. My experience mentoring Andie turned



Joan Douma with Luna Rae, Jorgee and Santa

out to be a learning experience for me and showed me the dedication, again, of our young people striving to learn and be the best they can be in our world as they move on through life. Andie has a dog of her own..... maybe one day she will be a Paws volunteer with her Roscoe? I hope so, as she demonstrated all the qualities to make a wonderful volunteer in our organization.

Therapy Visit Stories

Has this Happened to You Yet?

The following letter was sent to a CAT volunteer on Sept. 5, 1996:

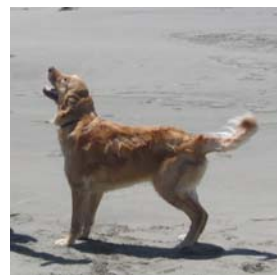
Yesterday we visited the rehab hospital and in the Physical Therapy room there was a very large young man who indicated, with his gestures not voice, that he wanted Beaucoup to come over to him. He was in a wheelchair and his right foot was in a cast. He loved petting Bouks, and when I asked if he'd like to give her a treat he indicated yes. He didn't talk at all, but somehow I knew what he wanted and Beaucoup was quite taken by him. Later in our visit, when we were on the upper floors doing our room visits, we encountered him again in his wheelchair near the nursing station. By this time we were joined by the recreation director, Pam, who has an incredible way of using these dog visits for her own interactions with the patients. She began to ask him questions, like "Have you ever seen such a big dog?" "Do you like her?" "What do you think of..." and he was verbally answering her. It all seemed quite normal to me. Then afterwards, she said to me privately that this was the first time since he'd been admitted that he had said *anything* to her. He is schizophrenic, hears voices, had tried to jump out of a window and broken his foot. Often you don't even know just how gigantic an interaction may be in terms of bringing a patient to a new level

Switcheroo on the Board
We are happy and pleased to welcome Marilyn Horvitz back onto the Board for Paws for Healing. Meir, Marilyn's husband, resigned from the board but will still remain active performing multiple tasks for us. Meir and Marilyn

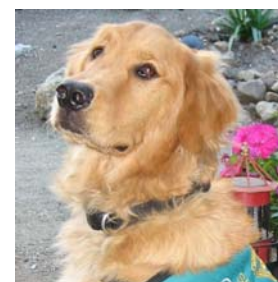
have been active members of Paws for Healing for many years and have done countless volunteer tasks for us and we are so grateful for their love and support of this organization. As we have mentioned before, although none of us are paid, we are a working board and all of us wear many "hats" in order to keep PFH active. None of us work harder than this powerful pair—thank you to Meir and Marilyn, and welcome aboard, Marilyn!



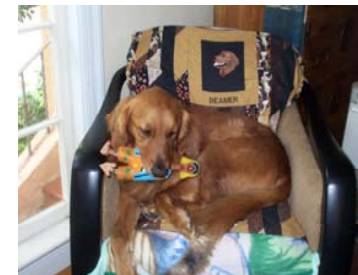
Joan Constantine and Gaines at the Library



Cabo Forst



Suede Stegman



Beamer Davidian



Wolfgang and River Jilka



Mac Holmberg and Gared



Lucas Howell

This Issue's Featured Dog Breed: Golden Retriever

Goldens were developed in the mid-1800s by a man named Tweedmouth. They were brought to the United States in the early 1900s and recognized by the AKC in the 1920s. They are great loveable, well-mannered intelligent dogs with special charm and make good family dogs. They are patient and gentle with children. The Golden Retriever is one of the most popular breeds in the US, not only as a family companion but for obedience competitions, as bird dogs on land or water, for narcotics detection, as service dogs for the disabled, as guide dogs for the blind and as therapy dogs.

They were historically developed as gundogs to retrieve shot waterfowl such as ducks and upland game birds during hunting and shooting parties. They were named retriever because of their ability to retrieve game undamaged. Thank you to all our Goldens!



Jim Lang and Penny



Leslie Meyer and Winnie



Shelby Crowder

Scholastic Book Clubs Partners with Paws

Scholastic Book Clubs, one of the leaders in connecting children and books for more than 60 years, is launching a major new program designed to promote, not just reading, but helping kids in need through Paws for Healing and other key partners. For the use of our licensed name "Paws For Reading", Scholastic will be supplying books for our frequent reader program and donating funds to support our organization. We are delighted to share our name in support of our mutual goal - that of encouraging children to read.

This fall Scholastic's new **Paws for Reading**

program will invite kids to sign up to read for the Cats team or the Dogs team, with the goal of generating donations to charity. For every 20 reading minutes logged, Scholastic Book Clubs will donate a book to a child in need through their literacy partners including Paws for Healing.



PFH Upcoming Events:

October 13—8 and over evals in Sonoma County

October 23- open meeting and workshop

November 17—Santa Paws



Can Dog's really read?



Maybe!



Paws for Reading Dogs must be able to remain calm in all situations

PFH Appreciation Picnic

Our annual appreciation picnic was held this summer at Kennedy Park on June 23rd! We DO appreciate all that everyone does, representing Paws for Healing at your various facilities! Marilyn Horvitz chaired the event and everyone there had a great time....good food—hamburgers and hot dogs cooked by chef extraordinaire Chuck Glover, salads, drinks, cookies, and of course doggy treats. We had a scent demonstration by vol-

unteers Janeann Erickson with Dylan and Dottie Gilardi with Ellie, participation in the doggy obstacle course set up by Norm Stangler and Nanci Caron, and raffle drawings for super raffle prizes. The grand prize was a beautiful dog and cat quilt created and donated by Marilyn Horvitz and it was won by Marsha Maxcy, pictured below. Everyone received a thank you bag--- a small symbol of the great big thank you that we want to express to each of you!



Marilyn Horvitz presents Marsha Maxcy with the Grand Prize



From l to r. Chuck Constantine with Crusader; Curt Sindt; Sheryl Sindt with Gizmo; Joan Constantine with Gaines at the Appreciation Picnic