



Journal and Activities of PFH Canine-Assisted Therapy Teams
Volunteering in Napa, Sonoma, Solano and Marin Counties

Volume Ten, Number 2 • March 2008

250 Guests Joined Paws for the 2008 Celebration Tea and “Canteen”



Volunteers and Veterans Home Members celebrated Paws for Healing’s 10th Anniversary on February 23, at the Veterans Hospital. Board member Brat Zinsmaster organized the event and all agree that it was a resounding success.

Turn to page 3 for more photos.

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The Calendar Girls are at it Again!

Please send in photos ASAP

Our first calendar has proven to be a wonderful affirmation of what volunteers teams do as well as a way to show others our special canine companions. We already have our sponsors for each month for 2009 and want to thank them for their support. Please go to our web site for updates on calendar news: www.pawsforhealing.org

Our volunteers and local businesses helped to sell nearly 2000 of the 2008 Loving Dogs Loving People Calendars! Thank you to you all for making this a very successful venture.

That's why we are doing a calendar for next year but are stepping up our schedule so they are available in September.

How to Get Your Canine In

Please send 1 to 4 digital photos of your therapy dog, and if possible please make sure the resolution is at least 300 dpi. If you have photographs, we can scan them, but please don't send photocopies or copies printed on plain paper.

We love variety: so your dog may be in costume, in uniform, or in any heartwarming or humorous pose you choose. Send along names and brief descriptions. If you have photos that are taken at a site and with residents

or patients, make sure to have a signed authorization to accompany your photos. (You may download the form from the website: Go to "Calendar" under new events and look for "Photo Authorization".) Make sure to

have the site's approval as well as the patient's or guardian's permission.

Special Shots

One of our golden owners encourages others to bring their goldens for a group shot at 10am on the 29th. We hope to have several people with cameras, in ad-

dition to professional photographers. If you want to make arrangements with others for special group shots, we'll put details on the web site for you.

Bottom Line

Final date for submission is April 1 (and that's no joke!) There is no charge unless you want to buy a specific date to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or other event. Call for details: 707-258-3486.

Mark your calendars for March 29 (Saturday) for a photo shoot of our dogs. We hope to gather on the green at the Veterans Home from 10am to Noon. Confirmation will be on the web site in the "New Events" section.

Thank you to our Volunteers who Helped Before, During and After the Event! You Did It!



Happy Dancers—Veterans joined PFH volunteers, and volunteers danced with canines to the music of Rock n' Relics. The “canteen” atmosphere was perfect for lots of smiles, some reminiscences and a chance to enjoy an afternoon of great music and good company.



John Zinsmaster with Baina (left) and Jennifer Vaughn with Petie and Timmy (right): Whippets, Golden Retrievers and Papillons (among many others) were also included in the celebration and all were on their best behavior for the event. Some even had a chance to smooze with Home members and patients.

Thank You to our Donors for Making our Celebration a Success

The success of our 10th Anniversary celebration was in large part due to the many businesses that contributed to the event. From balloons to table clothes and fabulous gifts for volunteers, delicious wraps, sandwiches and delectable sweets, Paws for Healing would like to thank:

- ❧ ALSCO
- ❧ Anita Boyce
- ❧ Fideaux
- ❧ Jennifer Golick
- ❧ Marilyn Horvitz
- ❧ Kinyon Culinary Services
- ❧ Main Street Books
- ❧ Mumm Napa Valley
- ❧ Loving Touch Animal Massage
- ❧ Napa Valley Coffee Roasting Company
- ❧ Party Rentals (Fairfield)
- ❧ Pizzeria Tra Vigne
- ❧ Rock n' Relics
- ❧ Scoobie Doo's
- ❧ Silverado Brewing Co.
- ❧ Tails of the City
- ❧ Whole Foods
- ❧ Zuzu's

The Board of Directors would also like to thank Rock n' Relics for the fabulous music from the fifties and sixties. The photo of our happy dancers attests to the band's talent. We were also treated to the special

appearance of the Blues Brothers. Their performance was stellar and had everyone rockin' out!

Jim Johnson, band leader and PFH volunteer was generous enough to arranged for the band to play as a donation to the celebration.

Finally, we want to thank the Veterans Home Members and staff for helping us host the event. The Board of Directors and all our volunteer teams thank Janette Eubank, her staff and the veterans who made the event so joyous.

Hospice Patients – Volunteer Opportunity from pg. 5 –

As Katz writes, a visit with terminally ill patients is a great and compassionate gift.

“Izzy and I have visited a number of patients by now, and the hospice people are right: It's sad to see somebody die. But it doesn't have to be depressing. Sometimes it can be beautiful, quite powerful, especially when the people are comfortable and cared for, and have a sense of control.”

And for many people, our canines offer that sense of comfort and control.

SLATE: A Interesting Site for Ideas on Life, Animals & Whatever Comes to Mind

One of our volunteers, Chris Williams, sends us links to various on-line magazines that have dog- and animal-articles. One magazine he frequents is SLATE to see what Jon Katz, a regular contributor has written about his farm in New England, and in particular its animals.

Katz has also written several books about human beings' relationship with animals, one of which is *The New Work of Dogs* (2003). Some of his opinions have ruffled the feathers of his readers, often serious sheepherders that breed and train dogs for their sheep-herding skills.

While Katz is not an animal behaviorist, nor has credentials in the field, he does have some insightful ideas about the role animals play in our lives. In January, he posted "A Patient's Best Friend," a moving account of his experiences with Izzy (a rescued Border Collie) and people in Hospice care. In an excerpt from the article, Katz writes,

"I don't really know why Izzy brings peace and pleasure to people in their final days and hours. There is little research about this kind of interaction, and I prefer to keep it a mystery. Maybe the people are remembering the dogs they loved as children. Perhaps the gentle touch is what matters, what gets through.

"Whatever the reason, I see the same thing over and over. People startle, then smile, and the tension drains. They grow



Molly has been visiting Hospice patients for many years. When she senses a person is ready to die, she will get up on bed and lie with them, very softly and calmly to let them know she is there.

more peaceful, feel safer. There are some things experts and studies can't explain, even in our sound-bite-obsessed culture."

Several PFH teams volunteer for Napa Valley Hospice and it takes only few weeks for them to finish their requirements. The rewards are truly life-changing. Like Katz, our volunteers have their own moving stories about how their dogs eased patients toward their deaths.

Contact Mary Ellen Makowski at 707-258-9080 if you want to know more about volunteering. *(cont. page 4)*

Woofs and Wags to You!

Thank you for your ongoing support of our programs.

This summer, more children will have the opportunity to go to local libraries and read to dogs; more people in assisted-living will have visits from canine friends; and our volunteer teams will help to affirm the healing power of our pets and their importance in our lives.

This would not be possible without you. It's just that simple.

In Honor of Marilyn Horvitz
🐾 *Nancy & Lorette Baracosa*

In Honor and with Gratitude to
Marilyn Horvitz
🐾 *The Board of Directors of PFH*

In Honor of Melanie
🐾 *Cade Deverell*

In Honor of Judith and Kodi Bernat
🐾 *Nancy Jacobowitz*

In Memory of Lois Witkowski,
a dear person and animal lover.
🐾 *Lisa & Sid Scherer*

In Memory of Dorothy Magliocco
🐾 *Walter Spicer*

In Memory of Florence Stegman
🐾 *Sam & Marty Leach*

In Memory of Moo Kelso
🐾 *Nancy & Duncan Kelso*

In Memory of Bob-A-Loo
🐾 *Geraldine Anne Hansen*

In Memory of Bean
🐾 *Elaine Miller*

— Tail Waggers —
🐾 *Ruth Glennen*
🐾 *Karen Glover*
🐾 *Carol Weldin*

— Paws Up (25+) —
🐾 *Kristine Dyke*
🐾 *Chinook Stefanki*

— High Five (50+) —
🐾 *Gwen Chandler*
🐾 *Linda Kinoshita*
🐾 *Roger Umbdenstock*

— Best Friends (100+) —
Trent Vannieuwborg

— Pack Leader (250+) —
🐾 *Denver Foundation from the*
Jule Adams Fund and
in Memory of St. Coco

🐾 *Donald Niemann*



Your Support is Always Welcomed



If you would like to make a donation (no gift is too small), you may do so in honor or celebration of or in memory of a friend, relative or beloved pet. Or you may choose to sponsor a team by underwriting part of their expenses. Forms are provided below. Woofs and thanks!

Thank you for supporting our canines that bring comfort and joy to so many people in health care or in schools in the North Bay area. Those of you who would like to participate in our program, please consider a donation* that will help defray the costs of volunteering. Our dogs and humans are very grateful for your help at any level.

- I. Antiseptic Wipes & Water Bowl \$10.
- II. Safety Leash, ID & Collar 15.
- III. Therapy Vest or Bandana 25 .
- IV. Total Team Package 50.

You may sponsor one team at any level, two or more teams at any level, or sponsor a team package for one or more of our volunteers.

I can sponsor _____ team(s) at \$_____ per team to underwrite volunteer costs.
Enclosed is a check for _____ Please send my acknowledgement to:

If you care to make a contribution* to Paws for Healing to honor or in memory of a beloved friend, please provide us with the information that will enable us to acknowledge the person, family and companion animal. The enclosed envelope is for your convenience.

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.

Paws for Healing, Inc.
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Spring 2008 Events

Photos Due for Calendar April 1
Training Seminar May 3 & 10

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WANTED
PHOTOS OF OUR
-THERAPY DOGS-
FOR THE 2009
PAWS CALENDAR
DETAILS: PAGE 2

