

The Paws for Healing Chair

By Nanci Caron, August 2010

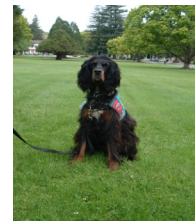
Recently, in our Occupational Therapy Clinic at Napa State Hospital, a simple crafts project became an inspirational experience. When my client, Mr. A. decided he would decorate a small chair using old *Paws for Healing* calendar photos, he did not immediately know he was working on more than just another “project.” As the collage of photos grew, many conversations developed around the benefits of contributing to the well-being of others...first, through the use of our PFH dogs, then in a more global way. Mr. A.’s thinking was evolving – demonstrating the power of healing through creative endeavors, and the power of



healing through caring. He became interested in contributing to others in any way he could, spreading positive messages in small, but meaningful ways.

The chair won a ribbon at the 2010 Napa Town and Country Fair. Mr. A kept the ribbon as a symbolic reminder, but donated the chair to *Paws for Healing*. He turned down several offers to sell the chair, preferring to donate his labor of love to the organization that helped to inspire his desire to contribute to others. He is now working on another woodworking project in the OT Shop, which will be donated to a local animal welfare organization.

This is the kind of inspiration—where one person contributes whatever he/she can at any particular time—that is inherent in all of us, waiting to be expressed. Our volunteers have this opportunity, and we never know when or how our contributions will influence others to do what *they* can, too!



Therapy Dog Chronicles

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Mending Hearts with Gentle Paws and Guiding Hands

January 2011



Happy New Year to All Our Volunteers

We all feel so lucky to be associated with such a wonderful group of volunteers—human and canine! So, as we approach the new year, we want to take this opportunity to thank you each and every one for your time, your support and your care in making Paws for Healing the great organization that it is.



We have been through a very interesting transitional year but with our goal centered around our mission, that of providing canine-assisted therapy to children and adults, Paws for Healing is and will continue to be a wonderful service organization with awesome volunteers.

May peace, joy, hope and happiness be yours during this holiday season and we hope the new year is paws-ively perfect!

Your Paws for Healing Board of Directors

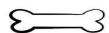


Fun at Santa Paws 2010



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American Red Cross Real Heroes Award Presented to Paws for Healing

On September 22, 2010, Paws for Healing was presented with a very special award for their service to the community. At a breakfast held at the Silverado Country Club in Napa, PFH board members were presented with a plaque and certificate honoring all the volunteers and their canines who visit facilities in the area.

There are different categories of Real Heroes who are selected for these awards each year, and our award was, of course, in the animal category. Other categories included environment, public safety, education, good Samaritan and military. Organizations or people were nominated for each category by members of the Napa community. Recipients were those who had provided a significant service in their specific area.

So, congratulations to all Paws for Healing volunteers and their canines for a job well done and for being recognized as an American Red Cross Real Hero for 2010! Check out the video related to the presentation at the American Red Cross website: www.napacountyredcross.org and click on Real Heroes.

Help Wanted with Committees and Board of Directors

As you are aware there has been quite a transition in the last year within Paws for Healing and we want all of our volunteers to be kept up-to-date. Our Board of Directors are:

President	Sara DeCrevel
Vice President	Pauline Seago
Treasurer	Meir Horvitz
Secretary	Cindy Jacque
Member at Large	Nadene Hinkle
Member at Large	Brat Zinsmaster

Our Board makes all policy and procedural decisions, however, PFH would like to begin utilizing Committees made up of our volunteers that would make day-to-day decisions and provide their input to the Board.

The committees are:

Store
Volunteer Application
Hospitality & Event Planning
Mentoring
Newsletter
Reading Program
Training Class
Board Applications

We are inviting any volunteer that wishes to be actively involved on a Committee to please send your indication of interest to our web site email: info@pawsforhealing.org.

If you would like to serve on the Board of Directors and provide your input to our Policies and Procedures please request an application through our web site email also.

Some Thoughts From our Volunteers

"...our dogs' behavior changes almost immediately when their uniforms are on. They become very excited. From a mom: "I have never seen my son sit so still and remain so focused. He loves to read with your dog."

Laura and Tom S.

"Lili loves people more than I thought and she makes people happy. This is a wonderful program and brings happiness to many people. Truly Paws for Healing."

Marlene R.

"We went to visit a lady patient that had club hands. She advised me that she could not pet my dog. I asked if I could hold her hand and help her pet him, she said ok. Her face just was amazing, she had this great smile and Max made her very happy. I will never forget the look on her face. I love to tell this story."

Grace K.

"My experience has been so positive. The veterans are not allowed to have dogs so it is a comfort to them to be able to visit Pierre."

Thelma T.

"I have enjoyed so much my partnership with Schweitzer.... He and the work have brought me and others great joy. Thank you for the opportunity to serve."

Sally W.

"Patients laugh and are so happy to see KT in her stroller. They think that it's hilarious and marvel that she doesn't jump out. She is also a favorite with the physical therapists because she helps them ...encourage their patients by letting them brush her and play ball with her."

Marie W.



Remember the Staff

Santa Paws 2010

Santa Paws—pictures with Santa—took place on November 20, 2010 at Pet Food Express in Napa and was a wonderful success. Santa (Matt Stegman) did a great job, despite being licked and slobbered on by all the happy canines! Pet Food Express donated the space, and we were able to borrow scenery because of the generosity of neighboring stores; World Market and Orchard Supply.

Expert photographer, Travis Pacheco, assisted by his wife Nikki, were able to take over 70 photos of animals and all who received a photo were very happy with the results.

Our raffle and silent auction were a nice addition to the day and it proved to be a successful and fun afternoon for everyone!

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped us out and also thank you to all of you who brought your animals in and joined in the fun that day! Next year, Santa Paws will again be at Pet Food Express on November 19, 2011.....So mark your calendars now!!

Mary's Pizza Fundraiser February 9, 2011

We are very happy to announce that we will be hosting a “dine and donate” fundraiser at **Mary's Pizza in Napa—3085 Jefferson—on Wednesday, February 9, 2011.** If people who eat there that day present a flyer from Paws for Healing (we will provide the flyer) when they pay the bill, Paws for Healing receives 20% of the bill from Mary's Pizza. It is a win-win situation. Mary's has great pizza and pasta so you get to eat a great meal and Paws for Healing gets a donation! Please invite your friends, neighbors and family to go to Mary's that evening: **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2011,** and join in the fun and help us out! Thanks in advance.

Training And Evaluation Dates for 2011

Mark your calendar for the training and re-evaluation dates for 2011. They will be held at the CEC building on Menlo Ave. in Napa. This year we are planning to combine the training dates for new volunteers in conjunction with re-evaluation dates for experienced volunteers or second dogs. Volunteers are notified if they need to bring their dog in for a re-eval.

In addition, a new change is that on the second day of the training, the READ program orientation will be added at the end of the day so that volunteers who are interested in that program do not have to come back for an extra day of training.

Dates for 2011 are as follows:

January 22/29
March 12/19
May 14/21
September 17/24
November 5/12

We frequently need extra help on those days so if you are available, please let us know: 707-258-3486 or info@pawsforhealing.org.

There is an additional charge of \$20 for the READ program; this pays for membership in the national organization I.T.A. should you want that distinction.

With these changes we think we will be able to provide more efficient and complete training for each of our volunteers.



Norm Stangler observes the Evaluation process

PFH Store New Merchandise!

If you have not been to the PFH "store" lately then we suggest you stop by and check out the new merchandise on hand. New items now available are PFH travel bags and treat bags: Cost: \$12.00/travel bag and \$8.00/treat bag. The travel bag is a great tool to carry all the various items you may need for you and your furry friend when you set out to volunteer together as a PFH CAT team.

As a reminder the PFH store is open on the second day of every training class. 2011 store dates are as follows: Jan 29, Mar 19, May 21, Sept 24, and Nov 12.

For any questions regarding PFH store merchandise please contact Nadene Hinkle at: shurepetslady@att.net

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. Thank you.

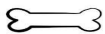
Please circle:

In Honor of OR In Memory of _____

Send Acknowledgement _____

Message _____

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



Thank you for your Generous Support! (July-December 2010)

How does Paws for Healing use the donations you give to us? Each training class we have is generally filled to capacity and new teams are signing up months in advance. Supplies and mailing costs have grown almost exponentially since the Reading Program's Frequent Reader Bonus Book program was started. As we have always stated, we have an extremely dedicated group of volunteers and volunteer Board of Directors and we are continuously growing. Because of this growth, PFH is in constant need of more funds to meet its growing responsibilities to the communities we serve. We cannot thank you enough.

~In Honor~

of Majbritt Murdock for her recent hospitality ♥Gail Silvestri

of Linda and Steve Goldfarb ♥Pamela Williams

of Brandy, Bootsie and Bart ♥Sara DeCrevel

of Bella & Wullie ♥Sandra Soules

of Bella ♥ Barbara Leverette

of Dixie's Birthday & Christmas Gifts ♥Hollis Dannen

of Nanci Caron ♥ Julia Scannell

~In Loving Memory~

of Heidi Doran ♥ Deanne Berryhill

of Casey Bias ♥Marlene Kniveton-Rosenberg

of My dear lifetime friend Fred L. Rogers, He would have been 90 August 30, 2010 ♥ Adeline Irene Quiroli

of Bubba Yost McCoy

Bye Bubba, Mack is really going to miss you. ♥Nancy & Duncan Kelso

of Bailey Williams-Porembski.

She will always live in your hearts. ♥Linda Goldfarb (PFR)

of Art Finkelstein ♥Gwen Chandler

of Our Beloved Mimi

♥Marilyn and Meir Horvitz

of Annie, Hugs & Kisses

♥Cheri Dehnert

of Vasco, our beloved companion, for his many years of service for Paws.

♥Barbara & Donald Niemann

“Good dogs can see and respond to our own deep heart's core of love and devotion because it is from this center of our own being that we embrace and celebrate theirs. We should help others of our own kind feel and know that in the deep heart's core of all good dogs and wild wolves lies the source of abiding affection that we, in moments of grace and communion, may share.” The Wolf in Your Dog by Michael W. Fox, DVM & The Bark Magazine

~Donors~

Donald & Lynne Baker

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Foundation: Optimista Fund

St. Helena Rotary Foundation, Inc.

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~Santa Paws Sponsors & Donors~

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Pure Beauty

Kathleen Tebb

Trader Joe's

Western Railway Museum

Whole Foods

Wilsons Feed and Supplies

World Market

Franciscan Estates

Venge Vineyards

(Other donors listed in previous newsletter)

(PFR=Paws for Reading)

The Wisdom of a 6 Year Old

“People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?”

The Six-year-old continued, “Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long.”

