

# Canine Helpers for the Handicapped, Inc.

5699 Ridge Road (Rt. 104) Lockport, New York 14094  
716-433-4035 (Voice or TDD) 439-0822 (FAX)  
Beverly D. Underwood, Executive Director



**CUSTOM-TRAINED ASSISTANCE DOGS**  
**HEARING ~ SERVICE ~ MOBILITY (MULTI-SERVICE)**  
**~ SEIZURE ALERT ~ THERAPY ~**

Building Independence Since 1983

e-mail us at: [CHHDogs@aol.com](mailto:CHHDogs@aol.com) - or - visit us online at <http://CanineHelpers.NetFirms.com>

NEWSLETTER 55

February 2008

*Published and edited by Doreen and Bev*

## 25 Years & Luck of the Irish!



Our little Trixie

Top o' the morning to you! Happy St. Patrick's Day and Happy Valentine's Day as well!

I'd like to begin by thanking everyone who has contributed to the success of Canine Helpers' during our past 25 years. Unlike many other training centers who have come and sadly gone over the years, Canine Helpers is fortunate to have had the support of so many wonderful clients, donors, sponsors, staff, volunteers, board of directors, and canines. By working together we have been able to conquer many obstacles and remain dedicated to our mission of love!

This past quarter, Canine Helpers received so many generous donations of raffle baskets and wish list items! So, rather than spending precious hours soliciting prizes, we were able to use the extra time working with our dogs and clients. Your donations became double gifts to us ... Thank you, thank you!

One dream I had for our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year was that our clients would not have to work so hard trying to get their dogs sponsored. Although some clients are very successful in their fundraising, others find it very difficult due to their disabilities, location or personal situations. We continue to work with our clients until the cost is covered.

In an effort to raise money for more team sponsorships, we will be trying a variety of fundraisers this year, as well as an actual membership drive. We're hoping to reach new

*continued on page 5*



*Mmmm!*

## Canine Helpers for the Handicapped

*invites you to our delicious*

# Chiavetta Chicken BBQ

*Drive Through Dinner*



**Saturday April 12, 2008**

**1:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

To be held in the parking lot  
of our Training Center  
5699 Ridge Road ~ Lockport, NY

**Tickets: \$8.50**

& may be purchased from our office, staff,  
board members, & volunteers.

**Just drive through our parking lot  
& we'll do the rest!**

*Come rain or shine!*



Route 104: 2.4 miles west of Wrights Corners (Rt. 78)  
Or 1.9 miles east on Rt. 93 (Campbell Blvd.)



## Wish List

Cash Donations  
Basket Raffle Prizes  
Washing Machine  
Bleach  
"Free" Detergent  
Paper Towels  
C fold Paper Towels  
Toilet Paper & Tissue  
Tall Kitchen Trash  
Bags  
24 oz Mop Heads  
Clay Kitty Litter  
Dog Toys  
& Nylabones  
Fans:  
(box, table, stand)  
Business Card Paper  
Legal Envelopes  
Mail Labels  
1" x 2-5/8"  
HP Ink 45, 78, 88,  
95, 96, 97  
Gift Cards  
Digital Camera  
Big TV  
for showing our  
video & slide show  
Folding or  
Stacking Chairs  
Folding Tables  
Fire Extinguishers  
Dog Exercise Pens  
Stockade Fencing

**Thank You  
so very  
much!**

Would you like to help us? We could use a few volunteers on BBQ afternoon.  
It will be a fun time for everyone while we raise money for Canine Helpers!

**Teresa Rhodes and Casey**  
**Multi-Service Dog – Golden Retriever**  
**Gloversville, NY**



Hello to Everyone at Canine Helpers! Casey and I are doing very well. We had quite a time three weeks before Christmas. We went to Wal-mart to do some shopping. I stopped in the house ware aisle to look at some dishes, when suddenly it became so crowded I couldn't move. Needless to say I was headed for a panic attack. I started to freeze up as I

often do when they come on. I don't know how long I stood there; not too long I am sure. Casey pushed my hand with his nose and got my attention. We were then able to walk out of the aisle and go on shopping. I don't know how he knew what to do, but it worked!

On December 8<sup>th</sup> Johnstown had its annual colonial walk. I go every year with my youngest son. This year his girlfriend went with us. They were able to go off alone, something he would have never done before. But this time it was just fine with me. Casey and I visited all the shops and walked through the park. We took our time looking at the lights and watching all the children play in the snow. We also watched the horses taking people on rides.

Later I stepped out of my comfort zone. We were ready for dinner and stopped at a restaurant I had never been to before. We were happy to find they were big time dog lovers, and they asked us to hurry back. I truly feel I have my life back!

So once again I want to thank you for coming out to test and certify Casey. Hopefully we will make it to an open house soon. God Bless you all and the good work you do. Best Wishes!

*Teresa & Casey*



We are currently taking orders for our "25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" commemorative stones to add to our Garden & Pathway. If you would like to add your wishes to our celebration, please call our office or use the order form located on page 8.

~ In Honor of Loved Ones ~

**Konna Karas**

By: Nardin Montesson Friends  
Kristin Whitlock  
Bridget Humann  
Gary & Diane Gray

**Our Troops**

By: Joan Mc Lean

**Kay Lane & "Cohen"**

By: John & Linda Welsch

**Maura Pirrone**

By: Nancy Failingler

**Benjamin & Andrew Shelton**

By: Sonja & Wayne Shelton

**David Sprout**

By: Wendy Sprout

**David & Denise Sprout**

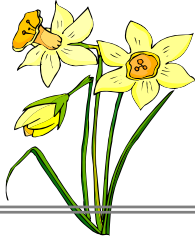
By: Wendy Sprout

**Dale & Monique Summers**

By: Wendy Sprout

**Cheryl Palisano**

By: Linda Covell



Thank you for thinking of Canine Helpers. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

~ In Memory of Loved Ones ~

**Reva S. Goldstein**

By: Judy Goldstein

**Roy Richardson**

By: Shirley Richardson

**Elwood Atwater**

By: Bonita Tarajos

**Norma, a Dog Lover**

By: Lynne & Jim Daniels

**Stephania Mroz**

By: Margaret Kwilos

**Haley Heer**

By: Mary Bucciarelli

**Deborah Lyn Wrobel**

By: Barbara Wrobel

**Sandra Lee Hill**

By: Barbara Wrobel

**Donna L. Group**

By: John E. Group

**Sharon Saunderson**

By: Arlene Moore

**Alisa McFarland**

By: John & Jacqueline  
Murphy

**Mr. & Mrs. Joachim Heer**

By: Frank & Corinne Heer

**Cindy Brumbaugh**

By: Jack & Sharon Karstens

**Horace Chrymko**

By: Elizabeth Chrymko

**Albert LaVanche**

By: Mr. & Mrs. T.F. LaVanche

**Lucia La Porte**

By: Richard & Ann Jasinski

**Jock Kilmer**

By: Sue Carlin

**Sharon Saunderson**

By: Canine Helpers  
- for the Handicapped, Inc.  
Hyde Park Babe Ruth League  
- Board of Directors

**Jan Marie Grayson**

By: Philip Grayson

**Lillian Pingitore**

By: Joseph Pingitore

**Jack & Cely Martinez**

By: Susan Martinez



## Lois Maiman and Rally Hearing Dog – Golden Retriever Bethesda, MD



Another distinguished Golden Retriever, Rally has taken on the commitment of being a devoted Hearing Dog for Lois Maiman. He is Lois' fourth Hearing Dog trained by Canine Helpers. Lois is very partial to this particular line of Goldens, so she gets her own dogs and Canine Helpers trains them for her.

Rally tested as a very positive, intelligent, determined puppy, and he has held true to that as he has grown into a handsome young man. Rally presented a more challenging experience for Lois, as it was the first time she had bought a puppy rather than an adult dog. She did an excellent job of raising him with lots of love and the proper balance of guidance, socialization and training.

While in training at Canine Helpers, Rally definitely kept us on our toes. He was a little head

strong at times, trying to out-think us in order to get his own way. But his desire to please won out, and he trained up into a very eager Hearing Dog.

Thank you, Lois for allowing us to train Rally for you. He was a real pleasure to work with!

~~~~~



### Warning!

Grapes and raisins are toxic to dogs and can actually cause renal failure and death.



*continued from page 1*

people who may not already know about Canine Helpers. Please pass the word on to your friends, relatives, neighbors and co-workers, and ask them to visit our website (our newsletters are also posted on it). Maybe, with everyone's help, our dream to ease the financial burden on our clients can still come true!

Please be sure to mark your calendars for June 7<sup>th</sup> for our very special **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House**. We look forward to celebrating with all of our wonderful friends.

Thank you again. As always, we appreciate every bit of help you give.

*God Bless,  
Beverly*



Remember  
we'll take your

### "Empties 4 Cash"

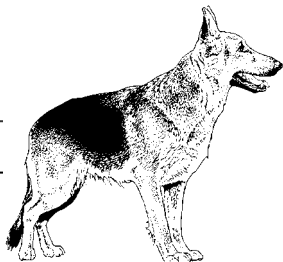
Please save your empty ink cartridges for CHH !

~ In Honor of Pets ~



**Daisie**

By: Faith & Alan Rogers



**Peanut**

By: Thomas Krowka

**Gypsy**

By: Sue Carlin

**Lexi**

By: Doris Smith

~ In Memory of Pets ~

**Daisie & Goliath**

By: Faith & Alan Rogers

**Beeker**

By: Lynn Filbert

**Jeff & BJ**

By: Dale Milsom

**Matey**

By: Ruth Frey

**Dooley**

By: Dorothy Cuddahee

**Morgan & Murdock**

By: Virginia Carr

**Misty, #1 Guide Dog**

By: Donald Fleischman

**Lucy**

By: Gary & Janet Conner

**Ani**

By: Jill Conzales

**Shanna**

By: Sally Gilson

**Miss Kitty**

By: Thomas Krowka

**Taffy & Misty**

By: Edward Grus

**Fred**

By: Doris Anderson

**Killian**

By: Christine Hoffman

**Lucy**

By: Rosemary Van Auker

**Casey**

By: M. J. Carlo

**Ollie**

By: Paul Palumbo

**Teddy**

By: Beverly Underwood

**Toby**

By: Dr. & Mrs. Richard Davis

**Fergus**

By: David Roth

**Kneesaa**

By: Patricia & Douglas Kreinheder

**Maggie**

By: Chuck & Betsy Oliphant

**Christy, KC, Toby & Ducat**

By: Alice Shimer

**Pumpkin, Marigold  
Fennel & Birch**

By: Diane Calabrese

**Sam**

By: Michael & Susan Jaques

**Trooper**

By: Mrs. Carol DiFrancesco



**PLANNED GIVING**

**DID YOU KNOW** that you can give the gift of hope, independence and security to someone in need through the use of a custom-trained Assistance Dog, even beyond this lifetime? If you would like to leave a **Living Legacy** by donating to the future work of Canine Helpers for the Handicapped, Inc., it is very easy to do so. Just ask your attorney to help you provide for this in your Will. Your thoughtful gift will help make future dreams come true.

# Happy 25th Birthday Canine Helpers!

A message from Lynne and "Gretchen Merryheart" Gentry



## To My Beloved Canine Helpers ~

Beverly and I go back a long ways. My darlings Amber Gibson and Stoney Vincent have "gone home" to wait for me. My precious little girl of almost 12 years is with me now and doing well, a beautiful Black Lab, "Multi Service, Hearing, Mobility and Seizure Alert Dog". Her name is Gretchen- Merryheart Gentry. I cannot tell you where she stops and I begin. I have several challenges. Gretchen- Merryheart has saved my life several times, just as my other two "babies" did.

Years ago when I came to Bev, I told her I had been refused by a school because I had "too many disabilities (you have to bear in mind there were only a small handful of schools like Canine Helpers for the Handicapped). Canine Helpers was and is the capstone by which all others are measured. Beverly simply said, "We'll give it our best shot". Oh my! What great aim; right on target for me three wonderful times!

God broke the mold when he created the Underwood family and Marion and Bev. Canine Helpers is unique and, I believe, the finest school in America. To my knowledge, no other school has a *Retirement Home* for the precious friends who have given their all in service years, to come home and be loved, pampered and receive excellent health care.

There are so many stories about Canine Helpers and the early years. Bev, I believe, is the most dedicated and caring person I have ever known. Her strength and dedication to her dream have never faltered. Canine Helpers views their recipients and their dog partners as members of the family and they are always willing to help.

The reason Canine Helpers is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, is that through all the storms and problems encountered, it has never waived; faith, belief in God, and integrity sustains. It is all these things that have drawn so many wonderful people over the years, whose concern, caring and love, help them volunteer their time and talents and give on-going financial support ... schools, communities, retailers, churches, civic, social and fraternal clubs ... so many who do this because they believe in what Canine Helpers stands for. They ask, "what do you need? How can we help? We'll give it our best shot!"

Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Canine Helpers! Blow out all the candles when you make your wish, and don't forget the one to grow on!



Love & God Keep  
Lynne R. and Gretchen-Merryheart Gentry



## Canine Helpers' Pathway to the Future and Renewing Gardens

If you would like to purchase an engraved brick or granite stone for Canine Helpers' Pathway and Gardens, or if you would like us to send you additional information, please fill out the form below:

Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to purchase an engraved brick (\$75) \_\_\_\_\_ or granite stone (\$150) \_\_\_\_\_

Engraved (up to 3 lines, 12 characters) as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like more information on the gardens \_\_\_\_\_



## Members and Contributors

October 2007



Joseph & Ilsa Schultheis  
St. Luke Lutheran Church  
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Grand Island Lions Club  
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November 2007

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Arlene Moore  
Barbara Wrobel  
Julie Campbell  
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Marian Carpenter  
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Sally Klumpp



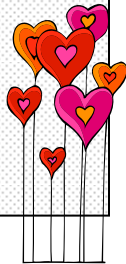
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## Outstanding Support!

Estate of Catherine Riesz  
NRG Energy, Inc. – Global Giving  
Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo  
- Margaret Bierl Herr Memorial Fund  
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Ted & Patty Richards  
Wendy Sprout  
Town of Niagara Lions  
W. J. Cox Associates, Inc.  
Anonymous Friends

### Puppy Sponsorships

Linda Covell  
John & Jacqueline Murphy



### Engraved Granite Garden Stones

In Loving Memory – Frank & Rose - Murphy  
In Loving Memory – Gladys & Tony – Lagoda

By: John & Jacqueline Murphy

## Thank You NRG!

Canine Helpers was very pleased to be the recipient of \$13,200 from **NRG Energy, Inc. - Global Giving**. This grant will fully sponsor the training of one very special Assistance Dog Team! Our special thanks to NRG Huntley's Bill Kish and Joe Schmitt, as well as Dunkirk's Bart Sobczyk for their personal help in the process!



NRG Huntley's Bill Kish presenting Beverly Underwood with \$13,200 from NRG Global Giving.

**Reminder...** if you ever shop at **Dash Markets**, or buy **GROCERIES OR GAS** at **Tops**, you could be helping to raise money to support Canine Helpers training program!

If you shop at **DASH MARKETS**, would you please save you cash register receipts for us? Canine Helpers receives \$5 for every \$100 worth of receipts we turn in!

Or, if you shop or buy gas at **TOPS**, please consider purchasing Tops gift cards from our office. Canine Helpers receives 5% of our gift card sales!

It is just that easy! Thank you for your help!





# Members and Contributors

December 2007

NRG Energy, Inc. - Global Giving  
 Jack & Sharon Karstens  
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 Debbie Hengst  
 Anonymous Friends

Thanks to everyone who donates through the United Way, SEFA and CFC Donor Choice Program

## Are You Interested in a Group Project?

We have plenty of projects just waiting for someone to help us out, including:

1. replacing some of our dog yard fences
2. pouring concrete floor in the garage
3. insulating our building and making it more energy efficient
4. gardening and landscaping
5. repairing our roof

If you or your group is interested, please give us a call.



## Beware of Antifreeze!

**It tastes sweet and even small amounts can be deadly to your pet. All kinds of chemicals and compounds are used to melt ice in the winter. Be sure to wipe your pets' feet and any part of them that has come in contact with it.**