



The CCC News
A Newsletter Courtesy of
Comfort Caring Canines Therapy Dogs, Inc.
"Reaching out with Hand and Paw"
Introductory Edition – December 2021

Welcome to our Introductory Edition of "The CCC News." It is intended to be a light and informative newsletter to be enjoyed by the Comfort Caring Canines Board and Membership. It will be a document that encourages your participation and feedback. We are a large organization full of caring people that have some very special things in common. We love people, we love our dogs and we understand the magic putting those two together may bring. We also understand that each and every visit is different and a huge individual responsibility. It is hoped The CCC News will:

- ✚ Open communication and provide tips and exchanges that will help us grow our skills in order to insure every visit is safe, positive, rewarding and memorable.
- ✚ Provide a vehicle to share our most special stories/experiences. Sharing will help us grow our skills as teams and as an organization. (Always respect HIPAA regulations when submitting your stories.)
- ✚ Publish training tips and videos whenever available.

We hope you enjoy this introduction to "The CCC News" and look forward to future issues. The next issue (targeted for January/February) will provide the central email address that will facilitate all future communication with The CCC News.

The Start of Something Special

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW CCC GOT STARTED? Back in the early 1980's it was the shared vision of canine professionals Kathy Manser and Rodney Beckstead. To insure a solid foundation they added a veterinarian and obedience instructor to their team and began building the organization we know today. And what to name their fledgling organization? During the discussion Rod matter-of-factly noted; "Comfort and care, that's what dogs give." And with that, "Comfort Caring Canines Therapy Dogs" was born. Incorporated in the early 1990's, Comfort Caring Canines Therapy Dogs, Inc. has grown from two to well over 200 members.

OUR FOCUS then and still today:

Colleges-Relieving students' stress at exam time.

Courtrooms-Making children feel safe while testifying.

Hospitals-

- ✚ Distracting a very sick child long enough for them to feel playful and happy.

- ✚ Encouraging someone in rehab to sit up and stretch out their arms to greet a furry friend.

- ✚ Easing the loneliness of those confined to a hospital bed.

Libraries-Giving a child confidence to read aloud to warm, non-judgmental eyes.

Long-term Care Facilities-Creating a happy memory for the elderly and an opportunity to pet, talk to and love a warm, patient and gentle soul.

Families- showing family members of all of those we touch that others care enough to share their time and their canine companions in an effort to make their love one's day just a little brighter through the Power of the Paw.

In Memoriam

*It is with great sadness we report the passing of
Rodney Beckstead (November 17, 2021.)*

*Please join us in sharing with his family our gratitude for Rodney's
life-long efforts to enrich the lives of so many through his deep and
passionate love and understanding of dogs and
the people who love them.*

WANTED

MENTORS

Want to help new members learn the ropes (or leash as the case may be)?

You may choose to do in-person shadow visits, or just be available by phone or email to answer questions or give moral support to our new members.

Our next issue will provide an email address where you may express your interest.

We value your experience and look forward to hearing from you.

REWARD

Making new friends and sharing the joy of being a therapy dog team.

www.clearandcrafta.com

COVID-19 IMPACT



As we know all too well, COVID-19 has impacted most every aspect of our lives and therapy dog visits have not been spared. Many hospitals and nursing/long term care facilities and even libraries and schools are not yet allowing therapy dog visits. In short, after 21 months, in many cases we are still not able to get out there and share our dogs when people truly need us the most.

Fortunately there are a few facilities that are allowing visits. There are also some facilities that are looking for visits but are having difficulty letting us know.

At this point it appears we need 'boots & paws on the ground.' The Galaxy system is available but not up-to-date so we need your help. If you are visiting and can use some help in the form of additional CCC member teams, please reach out to The CCC News. If you know of a facility looking for visits please reach out with that info as well. The next issue due January/February will supply the email address to contact The CCC News. Please email us and use "VISIT REQUESTS" as the first words in the Subject line. Let us know who, where and when and we will work to coordinate. We believe there are CCC members who want to be out there but don't know where to go at this time.

If you are not yet visiting or perhaps have concerns about visiting, please let us know if we may help get you started again.

We know our dogs missed visiting during the complete COVID shutdown. They are used to seeing new people and sharing their love. People need us and we need them.

Let's work together to get back out there!

THANK YOU NEEKO



We recently learned that nine year old Golden Retriever Neeko is retiring from CCC due to health issues. Neeko and his "Mom" Nancie are eight year veterans of CCC and have donated hundreds of hours in visits to libraries, retirement facilities, hospitals, colleges and parties.

In addition to bringing smiles and happy tears during his visits, Neeko also served as the premier test dog at CCC Evaluations and was even an early poster pup for the CCC.

Neeko is and has always been an exceptional boy. We wanted to take this opportunity to thank Neeko and Nancie for all of the love and service they so freely gave to CCC and all they visited.

The CCC BOARD

The Comfort Caring Canines organization is skillfully run by a 12-member Board of Directors. These individuals are members of the community that bring with them personal and professional skills that enable CCC to function as a growing 501c3 non-profit organization. As seasoned dog therapy teams themselves, they understand first-hand the passion we share with our pets and the important role of therapy dogs in our society.

In the Plan for 2022 is the creation of committees to support CCC activities. Each committee will be chaired by a member of the Board and will encourage participation from interested members. More information about the committees will follow in the next issue.

DID YOU KNOW?

--- PANDEMIC PETS ---

According to The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, roughly 1 in 5 Americans adopted or bought a pet between March 2020 and May 2021.

As people return to work and school those pets are still bringing companionship and love to their new owners. Did you bring a Pandemic Pet into your life? The next issue of The CCC News will supply the email address where you may submit your story. Please use PANDEMIC PETS as the first words in the Subject line.

We want to thank you for making time to read this Introductory Issue of "The CCC News." We hope you enjoyed it.



Please take care, stay safe and know that you and your canine companion(s) are respected and appreciated for all you do for others.

WISHING YOU AND YOURS HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A SAFE, HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!