

Dogs On Call Inc.

DECEMBER 2013

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

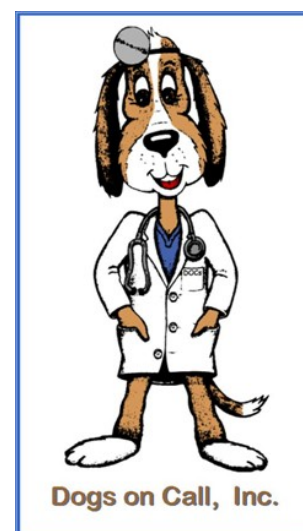
The snow is falling outside as Kooper, our 3 cats and I are curled up by the fire enjoying its warmth. It is times like these that I can truly understand how the people we visit feel when they are petting our therapy animals. They are so unconditionally loving, and ready to give that snuggle when it is needed.

Dogs On Call, Inc. has been very busy during the past year. All of our Pet Partner classes have been full, and we have added two additional classes to the schedule to 2014. It is always fun to get together with other DOC members and teach others about the work that we do. We have had many events throughout the year and it has kept our members busy. The R.E.A.D. program is growing in popularity—if you ever thought you might want to become involved in R.E.A.D., maybe 2014 is the time to do it!

Dogs On Call members continue to amaze me every year with the amount of time they volunteer at various facilities. Keep up the great work in 2014.

I wish everyone a happy holiday season and I look forward to seeing you in 2014.

Laura, Kooper and Oliver



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SAUK PRARIE HOSPITAL OPEN TO DOC

The Sauk Prairie Hospital has opened its doors to Dogs On Call teams. If you are interested in visiting in Sauk or have questions on the program, please contact Laura at laurak@dogsoncall.org for more information

In Memory



ANDREA 1964 – 2013

Dogs On Call lost a delightful member last month when Andrea passed away suddenly from a massive hemorrhage. Andrea had volunteered for many years at Agrace Hospice with her Havanese, Shayna, and the two spread joy throughout the facility. Everyone who knew her was drawn to her positive attitude and her kindness. Andrea and Shayna also regularly volunteered for Dogs On Call events such as BKC Dog Fair and the Well Expo, and visitors to the DOC booth always wanted to speak with Andrea and pet her little dog. When DOC had two-day classes, she and Shayna assisted with demonstrations and, because of her background, she was able to offer many helpful suggestions to potential members who attended the classes. Andrea was our 'go-to' person when we needed information about hospice care as her experience in the field gave her great insight to the needs of residents and families. She was always willing to share her knowledge to all of us who had questions about visiting at hospice care and other types of facilities. Her loss leaves a large empty place in our membership and an even larger one in the hearts of those of us who knew her personally.

Andrea grew up near Chicago and graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in Psychology and received masters from Washington University in St. Louis and Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles. She met her husband, Jim, while working as a medical social worker at the University of Chicago Medical Center. She leaves two children, Hannah and Jacob, and her two Havanese dogs, Shayna and Tyra.

Jan and Ryder

Thank You—

The Dogs On Call Board of Directors would like to thank Karen S. for her past two years on the board as a director-at-large. Karen is a very active member of DOC, visiting at the UW Hospital, VA Hospital and Meriter. Karen also helps at many events and dorm visits as well as participating in the R.E.A.D. program.

Among all these activities for DOC, Karen is also a Pet Partner instructor and she and Zombie help at many DOC evaluations. Besides Zombie her Dutch Shepard, Karen has another therapy dog, Shaka, who is an Akita mix. Also waiting to become a therapy dog is her third pup, VooDoo. Outside of Dogs On Call, Karen is very involved in flyball and travels to participate in flyball events. Zombie is a national flyball champion and Karen's team has had many awards in the sport. Many thanks to Karen for participating on the DOC board.

MERITER AND UW HOSPITAL NEWS

Welcome To New Teams!

At Meriter:

Todd and Izzie (Black Labrador Retriever)

Barb & Ron and Ginger (Yellow Labrador Retriever)

At UW Hospital:

Briana and Gerry (“Couch Hound”)

Required Paperwork for Hospital Teams

The Joint Commission, which periodically inspects hospitals nationwide, has recently focused on therapy dog teams. They want to see documentation at the hospital that proves the dogs are registered and up-to-date on health requirements.

Both UW Hospital and Meriter teams will now be required to have the following documentation on file at the hospital:

- Your Pet Partners registration papers with expiration dates
- Current Rabies documentation with dates
- Current fecal exam documentation with dates

As you get updated vet certificates and your Pet Partners registration certificate, please send a copy to the volunteer office at the hospital(s) where you visit. Also, please carry your dog’s current vaccination certificate with you when you visit at the hospital. You should have it with you if someone asks to see it – and it has happened!

Are You Committed?

If you’re thinking of doing something new with your dog after the first of the year, consider visits at Meriter or UW Hospital. There is flexibility and options of when and where you can visit. The rewards are great – lots of smiles (and a few tears), from many appreciative patients, family members, and staff.

BUT ... If you are interested in hospital visits, please realize there’s a commitment involved. The hospitals invest time and resources to process DOC members as volunteers. They are right to expect a commitment from their volunteers to participate. Either hospital expects at least one visit per month and a commitment of at least six months.

I think once you get started with a hospital program, you and your dog will enjoy it. Every visit is different and your dog gets lots of constant petting and attention – what’s not to like!

If you have questions on the program at either hospital, please contact Karen at karenp@dogsoncall.org

Karen and Raider

GILDA'S CLUB!



Gilda's Club always has a special place in our hearts and in November a group of DOC members visited with attendees of a caregivers seminar. Caregivers are sometimes forgotten, but they are such an essential and important part in the patients' fight against cancer. DOC was so happy to be a part of the stress relief during breaks at the seminar. Members attending were: Deb and Jinks, Mary and Sully, JoAnn and Molly, Barb and Zora and Jan.

At another Gilda's event, DOC members greeted children and adults and all the dogs got as many pets as they wanted. It was a special night, with a range of ages from very small kids to adults. Many thanks to Barb and Ron with Ginger, Kelly and Torie, Faye and Gandhi, Katie and Sophie, and Jan.

Jan and Ryder

KATIE AND SOPHIE



After eight years of involvement, Katie and Sophie would like to say goodbye to the many volunteers they have met through DOC. Sophie visited St. Mary's Hospital for four years, Meriter CAPH for almost eight years, and many elementary schools and libraries participating in dog safety events and R.E.A.D. As the Madison area R.E.A.D. Coordinator for DOC, Katie started R.E.A.D. in the Madison area libraries in 2007 and is very grateful to all the R.E.A.D. teams that have contributed to happy children, parents, and librarians. It's been very joyful to see the children years later who tell all the details about how they met Sophie. Sophie is still very healthy and has a very busy mom. We wish all the volunteers at DOC the best and know that you will experience the positive impact of the human-animal bond on your visits.

Katie and Sophie



DOG FAIR

You always meet interesting people at the Badger Kennel Club Dog Fair and you meet lots of them. There was quite a crowd at the fair this year and I think almost every person there came by the Dogs On Call booth. Many, many people were interested in therapy animals and our teams told them all about DOC. One of our members, Karen and Zombie, bounced back and forth between putting on a fly ball demonstration and helping out with the DOC booth. We had other members who couldn't help at the booth because they were displaying their dogs in the breed area – Michelle and her Schipperkes and Cindy with her Irish Wolfhound.

Many, many thanks to the wonderful volunteers at the Dog Fair: Vicki and Riley, Faye and Gandhi, Lynn and Tahoe, Kelly and Torie, Pat and Wallace, Barb and Zora, Dana and Ozzie, Liz and Charlotte, Sue and Murphy, Pat and Wilson, Karen S. and Zombie, Laurie I., and Jan.

See all the pictures of our teams in action.

Jan and Ryder



BADGER KENNEL CLUB DOG FAIR

SAMMY

02/02/02 – 10/28/2013



It's never easy to lose your beloved pet, but I have never had quite a bond with a dog as I did with Sammy. She was a first for just about everything with me – pet therapy, crisis response training and hearing alert dog. I was volunteering for the Dubuque Humane Society when I became interested in Pet Therapy so Sammy and I started visiting some of the nursing homes for them. Needless to say I had no training, but Sammy just came by it naturally knowing who to visit and who we would walk by. The very first visit she kept leading me back over to an Alzheimer's patient who had no interest in us at all in us, so I thought. But then she finally smiled and the nurse was shocked. It was the first reaction they have ever gotten out of the patient. We drove down to Kentucky and trained for National Animal Assisted Crisis Response, who suggested we get tested with Delta Pet Therapy. That's how we became involved with DOC.

About the time we took the AACR training, I came to realize how bad my hearing had become and I bought a couple books wondering if I could train Sammy. I felt like I was throwing a lot at her in a short time. But it was more like Sammy trained me! The other dogs never worried about telling me anything as Sammy took charge. She even told me when to let the dogs out and when to let the dogs back in. Sammy would get so frustrated with me some days because I just didn't get it. Like the day she kept calling me to the utility room where their treats were stored and I kept telling her she did not need another treat. Finally I realized the dryer buzzer was going off and the second I opened the dryer she looked at me like "what took you so long?" and got up and walked in the other room. Sammy brought a lot of joy to my life and I hope I did right by her too. We miss you, Sammy! You have left a smile on so many faces and in so many hearts.

Sue



To quote my 4 year old granddaughter, "She will be happy to play with Chase and Jesus!"

MEMBER PROFILES



Colleen of DeForest found Teddy Bear Cooper at Animart when he was four months old. Now, at age three, Cooper entertains patients at St. Mary's Hospital and students at the UW dorms. Colleen enjoys fitness activities and camping.

Staci adopted Disney, a Bichon/Shih Tzu mix, from a rescue group. Now, Staci and six-year-old Disney are regular visitors at Meriter Hospital and the Waunakee Public Library. Staci is also involved with her daughter's cheerleading events and competitions, riding and showing horses, and spending time with friends and family.



Lorelei wanted a dog that would not trigger her allergies. She found that match with Goldendoodle Logan from Stone Fence Farm. Logan is now three years old and visits with Lorelei at UW Hospital. Lorelei enjoys "anything active outdoors," including hiking, biking, canoeing, and gardening. She is a lifelong learner and is usually taking one or more classes of some sort.

Sharon and four-year-old Ty, a Cockapoo, are frequent visitors at Meriter Hospital. Ty belonged to Sharon's co-worker for only two weeks when the co-worker's mother was diagnosed with cancer. It was too much to handle a sick mother and a new dog. Sharon promised to give Ty a good home and the transfer was made. Sharon is a Sunday school teacher, likes to cook and sew, and also caters to Daisy, a three-year-old Teddy Bear.

JoAnn is a long-time DOC member, with ten-year-old Lexi. She's a Bichon who came from a breeder/friend. You'll often see JoAnn with yarn and needles, as she's an avid knitter. JoAnn is a longtime DOC member and an evaluator.



Andrea and her family visited with several breeders to find another Golden Retriever to fill the void when they lost their previous Golden. (They also had a Sheltie one time; Andrea says she misses having a Sheltie.) They met Samantha and her mother – the mom's disposition clinched the deal. Three-year-old Samantha is a several-times-a-month visitor at Meriter and does occasional UW dorm visits. Andrea's creative outlet is taking pictures, scrapbooking, and creating picture books online. She also enjoys reading and the outdoors, especially boating and gardening.

MEMBER PROFILES—CONTINUED



Deborah, from Loganville, is a Pet Partner with “foster failure” Mickey, a five-year-old German Shepherd cross. Mickey came from a shelter in Kentucky via German Shepherd Rescue Association of Wisconsin to be fostered at Deborah’s house. His calm maturity, even at just nine months old, made Deborah think he would be a fine therapy dog. Mickey had a “leaking” problem that made him less attractive to adopt, but Deborah adopted him. His leaking turned out to be caused by a congenital deformity that has been completely controlled by medication. Mickey shares Deborah with llamas, horses, chickens, three more dogs, four cats, and cage birds.

Pet Partner visits are to a large nursing home and a small assisted living facility in Reedsburg. Deborah and Mickey also help people deal with anxiety regarding medical appointments, as well as working with people who are afraid of dogs.

Mickey’s off-hours are spent keeping wild animals away from the farm, running around squeaking stuffed animal toys, and napping. Deborah grows fruits and vegetables for local farmers markets, spins llama yarn, and provides nursing and psychotherapy services for people with PTSD and related problems.



When **Kay’s** Golden Retriever Daisy retired from the dog show life, she came all the way from a breeder in Canada to settle in Stoughton. Five-year-old Daisy shares Kay’s attention with Flair, a four-year-old Golden who is also a retired show dog, though a “domestic” model. Daisy is a busy girl, joining Kay on visits to Meriter, UW, and the VA hospitals, UW dorms, and various community events. Kay also shares her time with grandchildren, golfing, camping, and exploring places to go with her dogs.

Laurie D. is a relatively new DOC member with her five-year-old yellow Labrador, Sundance. Lucky Sundance was adopted from a shelter in Siren (in the northwest corner of Wisconsin) when she was nine months old. Another yellow Labrador, two-year-old Willow, completes the animal household. Currently, Laurie takes Sundance to her work, but plans to start facility visits soon. Aside from dog duties, Laurie enjoys travel and photography.

Patricia owns a few of the more unusual breeds in DOC. Wallace, her Pet Partner, is a two-year-old American Staghound. He is a “foster failure” from Illinois Doberman Rescue Plus. Also in that deal, Wallace’s brother Duncan came along. Otto and Scarlet are both Ibizan Hounds, also adopted through rescue groups. Pat and Wallace will first gain some experience at Hyland Park Assisted Living in Sun Prairie and then hope to work with veterans. In her spare time, Pat likes to ride her motorcycle, join her husband in activities with the local Corvair car club, and help rescue groups with home checks and transportation.



MEMBER PROFILES—CONTINUED



Sue Ellen recently lost her eleven-year-old Pet Partner, Sammy, an Australian Shepherd. Sammy was retired this past summer from visiting duty, but still helped at evaluations. They had been visiting in southwestern Wisconsin for quite a while. Sammy was a familiar face at Epione Pavilion (formerly Cuba City Nursing Home) and Finley Hospital in Dubuque, Iowa. Now, Sue's three-year-old Labrador, Murphy, is filling in the gap.

Many years ago, Sue suddenly decided that she wanted an Aussie. A short time later, her son-in-law found a \$25 puppy (Sammy) that was easily trained as a hearing alert dog and, as Sue describes, "the almost perfect Pet Partner." Murphy joined the family after a search for a quiet, English-bred Labrador that might be able to follow in Sammy's footsteps. Nikki, an Aussie puppy, appeared on the scene as of June. The rest of the animal family includes two horses – Hank and Hickory.

Twice a year, Sue and her husband go to a ranch in Montana for branding and weaning. The dogs come along, but not when the humans are riding horses. Other than that, Sue says, "My dogs are my hobby."



Amy's family adopted Toy Poodle Benji, age 10, when both Amy's in-laws ended up in a nursing home. Benji now comforts residents at Prairie Gardens Assisted Living in Sun Prairie as an Agrace Hospice volunteer. When she's not volunteering or walking Benji, Amy likes to read, watch DVDs, and work on stained glass projects. Although Benji retired this year, Amy still remains active in Dogs On Call.

Karen and Raider

WOMEN'S EXPO 2013

There was a huge crowd attending Women's Expo at the Alliant Center this year and most of them stopped at the Dogs On Call booth. DOC members and their dogs took shifts throughout both days and attracted thousands of people. This is the second year we have had a booth at the Women's Expo. As the Saturday before Thanksgiving is always the beginning of hunting season, *Brava Magazine* puts on the Women's Expo to coordinate with that same weekend and it draws in thousands of women to the exhibits and demonstrations. Many visitors kept coming back to our booth to see the new dogs after a shift change. Also, thanks to Meriter Hospital who underwrote a portion of the cost of the booth. Without their contribution DOC would not have been able to attend the Expo.

Many thanks to our DOC volunteers at Women's Expo:

Donna and Izzy, Sue and Murphy, Michelle and Melody, Kay and Daisy, Andrea and Samantha, Todd and Izzy, Karen and Raider, Barb and Murray, Pat and Wallace, Faye and Gandhi, Sue and Clark, Nancy and Luna, Pat and Colleen, Helen and Daisey, Jan and Ryder.

A special thanks to Michelle for coordinating the booth on Sunday. Look at all the team pictures to see how much fun we had at the Expo.

Jan and Ryder



**THANK YOU
WOMEN'S EXPO
VOLUNTEERS**

TODD AND IZZIE



My name is Todd and my pet partner is our four-year-old black Labrador Retriever, Izzie. My wife, Barb, is a nurse and sonographer at Meriter Hospital and often shares her observations of DOC teams at the hospital. After talking to some of the teams both at the hospital and at the Badger Kennel Club Dog Fair DOC booth, I realized that combining my love of dogs and helping others could help fill my upcoming retirement days with new purpose.

The search began for a breeder and we connected with Candlewood Kennels in Portage. I retired on June 1st and Izzie arrived on June 7, 2009. Although her parents were champion hunters, Izzie soon learned that her new family had a different vision that she would help to fulfill. Our new journeys began together.

Training and “taming” a Lab kept us busy, but we passed our evaluation and have been members of DOC for over one year now. After some early struggles with containing her exuberance and some very patient mentoring, I am now proud to say that Izzie and I are a very happy and active DOC therapy team. We visit at Meriter (and get to see “mom” and her co-workers, too), the Ronald McDonald House, the U.W. dorms, summer Safety Town and Dane County Humane Society Dog Bite Prevention programs, and any event where Izzie can catch a welcomed belly rub.

Before retiring, I taught high school English for 35 years. During that time, I helped to develop a reading program for underachieving high school readers who had “fallen through the cracks” over the years. Learning of the opportunity to redefine my expertise with Izzie has urged me to pursue our recent registration as a R.E.A.D. team. Once we become established, it is my goal to launch a R.E.A.D. program in the Brooklyn/Oregon area where we reside.

In addition to visits, Izzie enjoys going to the dog park with Sophie, our 10-year-old yellow Lab, for a good game of fetch-the-ball, or hanging out with their dog buddies - anything that will tire two eager Labs. A treat of popcorn or lounging on our bed with visions of romps in the fresh Wisconsin snow provide some well deserved down-time after visiting. We know Izzie has found the right family as she ignores wild birds and backyard critters but leaps for joy when grandchildren or visitors arrive, or when I get her leash and vest ready for us “to go to work”.

Izzie and I thoroughly enjoy our visits and look forward to becoming more involved in DOC. We enjoy connecting with many caring and devoted teams and appreciate their encouragement in making our therapy goals a reality.

Todd and Izzie

2014 CLASS AND EVALUATION DATES

Pet Partner Classes

February 16
 April 12
 June 21
 July 19
 October 18
 November 15

+

Evaluations

February 22
 March 16
 April 13
 May 18
 July 27
 August 17
 September 14
 October 26
 November 23

R.E.A.D. Workshops

May 4
 August 9

There are many teams who need to renew with Pet Partners this year; please be sure to schedule your evaluation in advance. We may not be able to get you scheduled on short notice.

Pet Partners is inviting prospective teams to apply for a Team Scholarship that is generously funded through the Frank M and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation. If you know of someone interested in this scholarship please go to www.petpartners.org for more information on how to apply.



A BITE OF HISTORY ON DOG FOOD—PART 1

Wolves, the ancestors of our dogs, were not fortunate to have a human place a bowl of dog food in front of them once or twice a day. Wolves had to rely on their canine hunting instinct and their physical ability to capture prey or scavenge the remains of a kill from another predator. Hunt instinct and capture was learned from mentoring by wolf parents and adults. For the wolf, obtaining a meal is a lot of work and typically a pack activity. Wolf experts estimate that in the wild a wolf requires eleven pounds of meat per day; for a pack of ten that requires they hunt down a deer each day.



It is speculated that the wolf became domesticated as the wolf found an easy food source around the camps of early man, scavenged from waste food or scraps intentionally left for the wolf. Early man may have captured wolf pups and that set the evolutionary path for “man’s best friend.”

Physically, the canine’s short gastrointestinal tract is better suited for meat than non-meat items. As civilization developed along with the evolution of the canine, the food source evolved as well. In the early phases of western civilization through the mid-19th century, most dogs still relied on hunting for a significant portion of their food, the other portion primarily from discarded garbage and scraps. Some researchers believe the dog transitioned from strictly a carnivore to an omnivore (a diet of meat and plant).

The French word “patee” is believed to be the early modern word for pet food found in a 1756 dictionary; described as little pieces of meat mixed with bread crumbs fed to pets. In England, the *Sportsman’s Dictionary* in 1785 described the best diet for a sporting dog’s health as: always have fresh water, food should be a mixture of barley meal and a dross of wheat flour mixed with broth or skim’d milk. For a change a small quantity of greaves (the sediment of melted tallow) mixed with flour; or baked or boiled sheep’s feet. A popular home-made dog food during the 1800s was also a twice boiled sheep’s head stew.

The British had been baking dog treats since the late -1700s; however, it was an American credited for the “invention” of dog biscuits as the first dog food. In 1860, James Spratt, an electrician and salesman from Ohio, sailed to the UK to market lightning rods. He observed dogs coming to the harbor when ships were docking, waiting for biscuits that the ship’s kitchen crew was throwing over-board. As a measure to prevent scurvy, sailors were provided with biscuits supplemented with fats, vegetables, oatmeal, and meat. Food preservatives had not yet been invented and limited refrigeration aboard ship resulted in a very short shelf-life and the biscuits being discarded before they became rancid. Spratt was a dog lover and this observation motivated him to create a dog biscuit consisting of a blend of wheat meal, vegetables, beetroot, and some meat. James Spratt is credited with the invention because he had the foresight to patent his biscuit in 1861. He also came up with the idea of constructing colorful billboards

around London promoting his “Meat Fibrine” dog food, also a first. His primary market was the English gentlemen with sporting dogs.

Spratt started manufacturing dog biscuits in the U.S. in the late 1860s under the company name Spratt’s Patent Limited. While production at the first facility could not keep up with sales, Spratt’s dog cakes did not develop the popularity in the U.S. as they did in the UK. Spratt’s Dog Cakes were available in at least two shapes and two flavors.

Spratt’s success in the UK and Europe has a lot to do with the marketing savvy of a British jewelry sales man named Charles Crufts. While Crufts never owned a dog, his showmanship skills were unsurpassed. A group of French dog breeders hired Crufts to organize a canine section at the 1878 World’s Fair in Paris. The success of this event lead to Crufts being asked to organize the 1886 Allied Terrier Club Show in Westminster, England. Crufts’ organization of the Westminster Show lead to the Crufts Dog Show in 1891, which is promoted as the largest dog show of its kind in the world today. It is located in Birmingham, England. Crufts post their show schedules, going back to 1886, on the Internet:

<http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/item/3158>



A BITE OF HISTORY ON DOG FOOD—PART 1

Another UK business is the originator of a dog food that is known more as a dog treat. In the late 1890s, a London butcher tried to expand his business by producing a biscuit to compliment his meats. The biscuits tasted bad to humans, but dogs loved them, so he continued to produce them as a dog treat. As with Spratt, an American took the idea and ran with it. In 1907, F.H. Bennett was visiting the UK, became interested in the butcher's dog biscuit idea and struck up a deal for the recipe. Bennett brought the recipe back to the U.S. and the F.H. Biscuit Company was created, producing biscuits and cakes for human consumption and producing the dog food under the name Maltoids. Bennett had his share of problems, as the manufacturing equipment was old and not efficient, the oven caved in, and the fire put him out of production for almost a year. Then, as he was getting production up, he lost all his delivery horses to an epidemic. The dog biscuit portion of the business was not doing well and the company was in financial stress. Bennett began experimenting with the concept of a nourishing biscuit including ingredients such as meat, cereals, milk, wheat germ, liver oil, and vitamins. With savvy marketing, the biscuits were cut in the shape of a bone and the name changed to Milk-Bone. Milk bone was produced in three sizes, packaged in small boxes to help preserve the freshness, and promoted with the idea that the extra gnawing and chewing was healthy for the dog.



In 1931, the F.H. Bennett Company was purchased by the National Biscuit Company, now Nabisco. Nabisco dominated the dog treat industry until the 1970s, when others realized the potential and began producing and marketing dog food and treats.

Up to the mid-1920s, Spratts and Milk-bone were the leaders, but all dog foods and treats had a limited shelf-life. The meat, fat, and oil ingredients with no preservatives resulted in dog owners often opening the package to find the contents rancid or moldy. The end of World War I contributed to a new concept in dog food as the military horses were being disposed of. P.M. Chappell and his three sons operated a slaughter house – meat packing plant in Rockford, IL at which they canned dog food under the Ken-L-Ration brand. Canning the dog food eliminated the spoilage problems encountered with the dry foods. The brand's name was a play on the military era K-ration. The label on the can was a picture of dogs playing poker. The wet meat type dog food became popular because it mimicked the canines natural diet and because it didn't have the rancid and mold problems. Chappell's dog food became very popular in the UK as well, where a large portion of their production was shipped.



As the contents of canned dog food became known, there were strong public forces against the use of horse meat in dog food. Congress was slow to authorize the transportation of dog food containing horse meat across state lines as a result of the strong outcry against the slaughter of horses for dog food. The Chappell brother's venture, raising 20,000 mares on the western plains, didn't fare well and the company was facing financial collapse. The Chappell's downward slide reversed in the 1930s when they began manufacturing dry food and began marketing the concept of mixing canned wet dog food with dry dog food as the ideal combination for the dog. However, horse meat was still the meat of choice for wet food processors. A *New York Times* story in 1952 revealed that half-a-million horses were being killed a year for dog food and some horse meat was finding its way into the consumer market as beef. Congressional legislation in 1971 prohibited the capture and slaughter of wild horses and subsequently forced the pet food industry to cease using horse meat in its pet food products.

Ken-L Ration was purchased by Quaker Oats, but was later sold to H. J. Heinz Co. in 1995. Since that period, the brand has faded into obscurity. The brand is most notable for a popular advertising jingle from the 1960s. The jingle was based on the song "My Dog's Bigger Than Your Dog" written by Tom Paxton.

Pet foods were initially classified as "feeds" and subject to the regulations that governed cattle and horse feed under the trade organization American Feed Manufacturer's Association. In 1909, the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) was established primarily to standardize labeling on livestock food packaging, which continues in place today.

Gilbert Gruber, a label salesman, formed the first commercial pet food organization in 1935, called the Society of Pet Food Industry (SPFI), for the purpose of representing and developing a rapport between the pet food producers and distributors and the state and federal regulatory community. The SPFI and AAFCO joined forces to develop labeling, packaging, and manufacturing standards that have been very beneficial to the pet owner in maintaining labeling uniformity, expressing product ingredients, and guarantees.

Sheldon

DOGS ON CALL PICNIC...2013

The annual Dogs on Call picnic was held on Sunday, September 29th at Don Machnik's home in Wisconsin Dells. Once again, Don opened his wonderful home and yard to all DOC members, their families and their dogs. Since it was a beautiful day, we were able to sit outside in Don's great yard and watch the dogs run around and play with each other. Being therapy/visiting dogs, they don't have a chance to do this when they see each other at DOC events during the year.

This year our picnic "basket" included brats and hamburgers donated by Don as well as varied dishes brought by DOC members and their families. After eating, tasting and sampling the new and old recipes displayed on the tables, we turned our attention to the annual DOC members' meeting. Laura Kuchta, the DOC president, along with the rest of the DOC board members conducted a short session in which new members were introduced and welcomed to DOC. All members were informed of the health of the organization. The Treasurer's report was read for the group and new and old business was discussed. After the annual meeting was adjourned, DOC members got to pick from a table full of donated prizes. No one went home empty handed that day...or hungry.

Once again the annual Dogs on Call picnic was well-attended and a lot of fun. The dogs ran around the yard, played with each other or simply watched the action from the safety of their owner's lap. The food was delicious and everyone was well-behaved...including the people.

Now that the picnic and play time is over, it's time for the DOC teams to go back to doing what they do best... sharing their dogs' unconditional love and acceptance with anyone in need of a visit from a furry critter. So much love...so little time.

Liz and Charlotte



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February 15 **Done**

May 15 **Done**

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November 15 **Done**

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