

June 2014

Dogs
On Call Inc.

Inside this issue:

Hospital News	2
Tips for Visiting	3
Sauk Prairie	4
Agrace	
Columbia County	5
Member Profiles	6/7
Associative learning	8
Friends 4 Friends	9
Working like a dog	10
Taking Photos	11
Mounds	12
Contact us	13

Letter From The President

I believe that summer has finally arrived! With the arrival of warm weather, DOC becomes busy with dog safety events, summer R.E.A.D. programs, Mounds Dog Fair, and many other events and presentations. If you are free, I encourage you to volunteer for any or all of these. I know that Kooper, Oliver, and I always feel better if we are volunteering and doing what we are registered to do.

Remember to keep your dog comfortable during summer outdoor events. If it is hot, keep your volunteer time under 2 hours. We don't want to work our Pet Partners too long in the heat.

DOC has started a pilot program at the Columbia County Correctional Institute, be sure to read the article on page 5 about this new facility.

In the near future DOC will be adding a "members only" page to our Dogs On Call Website. This will be a page for members to find information on ordering business cards, DOC clothing, the member handbook, and other important information. An email will be sent out when the page is up and ready to be used.

Thank you for everything you do,

Laura, Kooper and Oliver

Welcome New Members

Marie & Dora - Whippet

Lynn & Gypsy - Black Lab

Gina & Bella - Rough Collie

MJ & Harley - Golden Retriever

Lindsey & Monroe - Chesapeake Bay Retriever

Janet & Sadie - Shepherd Mix

Hospital News

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK CELEBRATED AT AREA HOSPITALS



Meriter

Meriter volunteers were treated to a delicious lunch and party favors at this year's celebration at the Sheraton Hotel in Madison on April 10th. The theme was "Hats" and volunteers were encouraged to wear a hat of some kind. Many volunteers told the story behind their headwear. There were bridal veils from many decades ago, hats from moms in the years where you didn't go anywhere without a hat, silly knit caps, and a gentleman wearing his original WWII sailor cap ("The government gave it to me.")

Here are some of the DOC attendees:

Back Row: Scott

Front Row: Karen, Jan, Laurie, Andrea

UW Hospital

The UW Hospital again provided an enormous selection of food for its volunteer appreciation brunch, held on April 5th and 12th at the hospital (attendees could pick which date was more convenient). The "Safari" theme was carried through the invitations, the clothing of the hospital staff hosting the event, table décor, and treat bags. Dogs On Call and Pet Pals (from the Children's Hospital program) volunteers and dogs are welcome at this event and it is great to see how well both the two- and four-legged attendees behaved.

Karen and Raider

THIS IS WHY WE DO THIS

Daisy and I were at Meriter in the cardiology unit. I knocked on the door of a room with a very nice lady who was thrilled we had stopped to see her. She loved dogs. The nurse was just finishing up taking vitals and the lady still had the clip on the finger that tracks the oxygen and also she still had the blood pressure cuff on. The digital numbers were displaying at the head of her bed. I actually watched her blood pressure drop the longer that she petted Daisy. We have all heard this happens. Yup it does!!!

Kay and Daisy

Hospital News—Continued

HOSPITAL PREVIEW TOURS

If you've been thinking about volunteering at Meriter or UW Hospital but not sure if it would be right for you or your dog, we have just the thing – a preview tour of the hospitals. No hospital volunteer application process is needed; just sign up through Dogs On Call and you can learn about:

- Basic layout of the hospital and areas DOC can visit
- How people gush when they see a therapy dog
- Volunteer procedures (parking validation, log-in/out, visit captains at UW Hospital, isolation signs, water and relief areas for dogs, etc.)
- How visits are conducted in hallways and waiting areas
- How visits are conducted in patient rooms (note: there will not be an actual patient visit for the tours due to hospital regulations)

You would come without your dog; the tour guide will have his or her Pet Partner along for demonstration.

If you're interested (and I hope you are, because we need more teams!), please contact karenp@dogsoncall.org

Karen and Raider

Tips For Visiting

It's that time of year when our animals get thirsty more often, which means more water, which means more trips out to potty them. When giving your animal a potty break, please take them to a proper place. At facilities, we have usually been advised beforehand of the proper spot, but at events and presentations, we need to use our good judgment. Please do not let them go as soon as you walk out the door of the facility, instead try to look for a more out-of-the-way spot that is not a flower bed, or beautifully kept lawn. Most sites have an area that is a little rougher looking, perhaps across a driveway or at the edge of the parking lot.

I know this is not always easy. If you know Newfies, you know that they go out, squat and go, so I always need to give Sacajawea lots of extra guidance to get her to a proper spot. This tip would also apply if you are attending an outdoor event. And, of course, it goes without saying that we should clean up after our animals if necessary.

Artie, Sacajawea and Henry

**"Tips For Visiting" is a section we would like to include in future newsletters. If you have any tips, suggestions, or comments please forward them to Artie at artieb@dogsoncall.org or Laura at laurak@dogsoncall.org

Dogs On Call Now at Sauk-Prairie Hospital



Theresa D., Ryder and Jan at Sauk Prairie Health Care.

Theresa is the Volunteer Services Coordinator at the hospital.

In January of this year, DOC had their first team walk through the doors of Sauk-Prairie Hospital in Sauk City, WI. That was Ryder and me. I knew this hospital was going to be wonderful to visit as when I was getting all my health requirements met, the staff got so excited that a dog was going to be at Sauk Prairie. They even wanted his baseball cards before they met him. When we started our first visit everyone at the hospital was so delighted to see a therapy dog and was eager to pet Ryder and talk to me about Dogs On Call. On that first visit I passed out Ryder's baseball cards and at later visits I saw many of the cards pinned up on bulletin boards at the nursing stations. We made visits to Sauk-Prairie through January and then took a little break and returned in April. During that time Sauk-Prairie made a move into a new building and when we started our visits again I could not believe all the people who would be down one of the long halls and would tell everyone else "Ryder's here!" Of course, everyone knew and remembered Ryder's

name but not mine. I'm sure all DOC members have experienced this during their visits. Our dogs and animals are what cheers up patients and staff at medical facilities so that's the name people remember. The Sauk-Prairie Hospital is a smaller hospital but the new facility is beautiful and a great place to visit.

We could use some more members at the hospital. If you are interested contact Jan, at janh@dogsoncall.org

Jan and Ryder

Share Your Furry Friend with Hospice Patients Through Agrace

Agrace is looking for volunteers with registered therapy dogs to visit hospice patients in your community! Volunteer training is provided and schedules are flexible. If interested, please contact Lydia at Lydia@dogsoncall.org for more information.

Lydia & Daisy Mae

DOC Begins Visits at Prison in Portage

The now-former prison warden of Columbia Correctional Institution (CCI), a maximum-security prison, contacted Dogs On Call because he was interested in having our teams visit select inmates at the facility in Portage. The DOC facilities director and two DOC Board members toured the facility and discussed the goals of the program with one of the unit managers and the warden. They explained that they wanted something to offer to the inmates as a reward for good behavior and meeting goals, rather than taking away something as a punishment for bad behavior. The necessary paperwork was completed and visits have begun! We will be going there on a trial basis for a few visits; prison officials will decide if the program will be expanded to more teams and visits.

At the outset, visits will be with inmates in the Special Management Unit, which consist of people with cognitive impairment or mental illness. While that may sound a bit intimidating, the staff screens the inmates to ensure their personalities are appropriate for visiting with the dogs. There is high staff involvement during the visit, with the presence of at least three guards, a psychologist, and a social worker. (The staff-to-inmate ratio was a little higher than planned for this first visit. There were about a dozen extra guards in the room, just interested to see the dogs, too!)

The two teams on the first visit were JoAnn & Molly and Karen & Raider. We hoped the inmates liked Golden Retrievers, because they were getting two! The visit took place in the large visiting room of the prison and lasted 10 minutes each per inmate. The guards were very efficient in shuttling the inmates in and out and we saw a total of 16 inmates.

The inmates were very polite and so thrilled to see the dogs. One man told me that there were only fighting dogs in the neighborhood where he grew up. He had never interacted with dogs like ours. It was obvious other men had dogs at one time, just by the way they related to and petted our dogs. It was a long, long time since they had buried their hands in dog fur and it brought back many memories. JoAnn and Molly visited with one inmate who did not speak English, but that wasn't a problem because he smiled the whole time while petting Molly. We showed pictures of our dogs and handed out our dog's trading cards. The interactions couldn't have been better and the inmates and staff thanked us profusely. We are looking forward to our next monthly visit and I know the inmates and staff are, too.

If you would like more information on this program, please contact Karen at

karenp@dogsoncall.org

Karen & Raider

Member Profiles

Sue B. of Fitchburg owns Clark, a Poodle mix who is 7 or 8 years old. Clark was running at-large, with no identification. He was scooped up, fostered for a while, then Sue met him and took him home. They currently visit weekly at Agrace hospice facility and would like to start UW dorm visits. In her free time, Sue likes traveling, volunteering, kayaking, and biking.



Yvonne G. and Daisy, a five-year-old Yellow Lab mix, live in Madison. Daisy was a discovery on PetFinders.com and came from a shelter in Illinois. They visit at Wynwood Senior Living Facility and UW Hospital. Yvonne is very busy in her spare time with gardening, hiking, skiing, baking bread, water sports, and traveling.

John K. found his Border Collie mix at the Dane County Humane Society. Gypsy, now ten years old, was previously a stray in St. Louis. John picked that name for her because she had traveled so far to get to him. They visit at Oakwood West and UW Hospital. During the summertime, John volunteers with the Trails & Rails program of the National Park Service.



Jean K. rescued mixed breed Jimmy from Mississippi through TailWaggers 911. Jimmy was only nine months old when Jean found him and he had spent half of those nine months in a foster home. Now five years old, Jimmy shares the household with Max and Riley, both adopted cats. Jean and Jimmy are an active R.E.A.D. team at Monona, Pinney, and Lakeview Libraries; they've also tried a UW dorm visit. Besides her animals, Jean has many other interests: writing, reading, history, biking, canoeing, gardening, baking, photography, travel, and, of course, dog walking.

Sharon M. and her Pet Partner, Louise, visit regularly at Capitol Lakes Health Care Center and also do occasional UW dorm visits. Louise is a Löwchen (which is German for "little lion") and was a showgirl in her earlier life. Sharon says Louise didn't like show biz so much and is now "a happy expert on things grey, 4-legged, and furry"! Outdoor activities take up much of Sharon's free time, as she enjoys hiking, gardening, diving, paddling, and reading.

Member Profiles—Continued



Jill M. and her 7-year-old Smooth Collie, Havana, live in Middleton with Cousteau (a Labrador), Pixel (a Danish Swedish Farm Dog), Chai and Mully (cats), and Swim-Swim (a betta fish). Havana was somewhat the product of the Internet – Jill met Havana's breeder on an online message board. They met in person on a family vacation and the breeder agreed to let them have a puppy when the time came. While not visiting at the Central Wisconsin Center and UW dorms, Jill is busy with dog walking, dog training, reading, cooking, and crafting.

Bonnie A. is a one of those special, dedicated-to-the-cause members – a member without a dog. Over the years, she has helped on various DOC projects. Otherwise, she enjoys travel, reading, and horseback riding.

Beth P. met Boxer mix Roxi at the Original Pancake House. Roxi was a 10-week-old rescue at an ARVSS (Animal Rescue & Veterinary Support Services) adoption event at the restaurant. They went outside to play, but Roxi just wanted to cuddle in Beth's lap. Sold! Beth and Roxi (now six years old) are new members and trying different environments to find the best fit. They both enjoy doing agility training and outside activities, including spending time on Wisconsin lakes. Beth also enjoys sports (including tang soo do, a Korean martial art), reading, and spending time with her family.



Mary S. and her Chinook, Buck, were destined to be together. Mary's family had been looking for a Chinook (a sled dog and the official state dog of New Hampshire!) and got on the waiting list with the only breeder in the Midwest (at that time). They expected to be waiting a while, but there was a litter due on Mary's birthday and none of the dogs had been placed in the region. The breeder thought that wasn't a coincidence and matched Mary and her family with Buck. That was

nine years ago and Mary says, "We have been very lucky to get such a wonderful friend and companion." Mary and Buck are currently visiting at the Ronald McDonald House and UW dorms. Other activities include reading, gardening, knitting, and walking and playing with Buck and five-year-old Kata, another Chinook.



Jennifer T. wanted a larger breed dog, but had allergies to consider. She got Ella, a Portuguese Water Dog (PWD), as an eight-week-old puppy from a breeder. Now Ella's two years old and the Pet Partners are currently visiting at the Ronald McDonald House and UW dorms. Ella seems to like the college students, so Jennifer plans to stay with dorm visits for a while. Jennifer enjoys running, biking, and learning animal communication. She is also busy with a new addition – a second PWD puppy.

Associative Learning

As a certified dog trainer, I understand that dogs learn by association, but since we do not speak the same language I am left to my observation of dogs to decipher what the heck they are thinking and feeling. Here is a good example.

For years I have listened to Josh Groban's music while weightlifting and my favorite song is "Cinema Paradiso (SE)". I consider it Buddha's theme song. Buddha is my Velcro dog and so he joins me in the basement and settles onto his bed just a few feet away while I exercise. As the music CD plays and his song begins, I am overcome with emotion and stop what I am doing to give affection to Buddha. This usually means that I get down on the floor and massage him, which evolves into a full-blown belly rub. It is a time of bonding and I stay with Buddha until the song ends. When the music stops, I return to my exercise.



This is classical conditioning at work. Whenever I hear that song, I think of Buddha and feel an enormous amount of love and affection. No doubt there is a gush of oxytocin in my bloodstream. Today it dawned on me the same thing is happening to Buddha.

I realized this when the song started and Buddha got up, walked from his bed and began rolling with joy on his back beside me. His feet kicked in the air as he squirmed and rocked back and forth with a great happy grin on his face, and with sparkling eyes that gazed steadily upon me as his tongue lolled from his mouth. I was drawn to him and we spent a few minutes engaged in a ritual that brings great pleasure to us both. Each time I replayed the song, Buddha initiated the same joyful sequence. It seems that Buddha and I have been conditioned to respond to a song. We enjoy a mutually loving relationship that goes beyond simple pet "ownership" and is more like the relationship between a parent and child.

In fact, this has been demonstrated in research. Dogs bond more closely with their humans than they do with members of their own species. They learn to recognize our faces and our scents, and interacting with us releases various "feel good" hormones in their blood...as it does in ours. Yes, our dogs love us just as we love them. But only if we treat them kindly. Dogs learn by association and I remember that whenever I listen to "Cinema Paradiso (S E)" and or look into Buddha's eyes. If you want a closer relationship with your dog, make the effort and your dog will gladly meet you half-way.

By Daniel , CPDT-KA & Buddah

Sources:

1. Lisa Horn, Ludwig Huber, Friederike Range. **The Importance of the Secure Base Effect for Domestic Dogs – Evidence from a Manipulative Problem-Solving Task.** *PLoS ONE*, 2013; 8 (5): e65296 DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0065296](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0065296)
2. Gregory S. Berns, Andrew M. Brooks, Mark Spivak. **Scent of the familiar: An fMRI study of canine brain responses to familiar and unfamiliar human and dog odors.** *Behavioural Processes*, 2014; DOI: 10.1016/j.beproc.2014.02.011
3. Sanni Somppi, Heini Törnqvist, Laura Hänninen, Christina M. Krause, Outi Vainio. **How dogs scan familiar and inverted faces: an eye movement study.** *Animal Cognition*, 2013; DOI: 10.1007/s10071-013-0713-0
4. Gregory S. Berns, Andrew Brooks, Mark Spivak. **Replicability and Heterogeneity of Awake Unrestrained Canine fMRI Responses.** *PLoS ONE*, 2013; 8 (12): e81698 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0081698

DOC Receives Grant from Meriter Friends 4 Friends Program

The Meriter Hospital Friends 4 Friends program recently granted funding to Dogs On Call for instructor materials and supplies. Friends 4 Friends is a unique Meriter program that supports employees, volunteers, physicians and Friends of Meriter members in their volunteer activities outside of Meriter Health Services. Friends 4 Friends provides financial gifts to non-profit organizations and projects that improve the health and well-being of the community. If someone is a volunteer at Meriter and is a member of a non-profit organization outside of Meriter, the Meriter volunteer can apply for a grant benefiting the non-profit. There is a maximum of \$400 per year granted by the hospital.

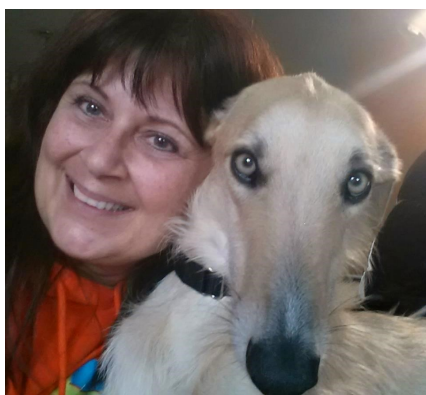
As Dogs On Call has increased its class schedule, the demonstration supplies used at the classes weren't always available for our use. (The supplies belong to Lynn Malayter who teaches instructors and evaluators throughout the U.S. and sometimes the class schedules conflicted with each other.) With the grant from Meriter Friends 4 Friends, DOC was able to purchase their own demonstration stuffed dogs in three sizes; appropriate and inappropriate leashes, collars and harnesses; animal vests; a banner; and numerous other supplies needed for the classes.

Dogs On Call is very grateful to Friends 4 Friends and their prompt response to our grant application and their very kind words about our organization. If you are a volunteer at Meriter and would like to know more about the program, look up Meriter Hospital, Friends 4 Friends.

Jan and Ryder



Working Like A Dog – A Therapy Dog, That Is



I adore dogs, particularly sighthounds. A parade of Greyhounds, Italian Greyhounds and Ibizan Hounds from various rescue organizations has passed through our doors. Some we adopted, others were foster dogs we helped move one step closer to their own forever homes.

We were asked to foster a six month old American Staghound. Now I'm pretty dog savvy, but I'd never heard of this breed. Turns out it's an old working breed that's been in the country since colonial times, a cross of Scottish Deerhound and

Greyhound. A quick search uncovered that George Washington had a Staghound named Sweet Lips. And General George Custer had a large pack – there are letters by his wife speaking about their sweet hounds and photographs of them in the encampments. Of course we said yes, and he became part of our family, soon followed by his brother Duncan.

At a local dog event in 2011, I'd picked up information from Dogs On Call, Inc. (DOC). In June of 2012 we were at a dog fair with Wallace and Duncan where DOC had a booth. We talked more in depth to some DOC therapy teams. I thought Wallace just might have the makings of a therapy dog and was encouraged to take the training class.

So Wallace & I started our journey to become a registered therapy team. In March of 2013, I attended the Pet Partners class, then we practiced for our team evaluation. May 5, 2013 - evaluation day! Wallace is young for a therapy dog, so we didn't expect to pass the first time – most teams don't. We wanted to learn where we needed to improve. At the end, our evaluator asked if Wallace could have an extra treat...because he passed! I was so proud of him.



Wallace at the American Family DreamBank



Wallace and Duncan

Working Like A Dog – A Therapy Dog, That Is—Continued

We then worked with DOC to decide what type of visiting we wanted to do, and were assigned a mentor. We decided on a local assisted living facility as it would offer a quiet, lower activity environment for us first timers. We completed the mentoring process, in which we received helpful feedback and advice. Now we were ready to visit solo, with the support and help of all our new DOC friends.

We've been visiting since August 2013 at the assisted living facility, and also enjoy doing educational events that allow us to promote the benefits of pet therapy and interacting safely with animals. This winter we participated in an event at the American Family DreamBank, and recently at Safety Night at the Madison Children's Museum.

Being a pet therapy team has taught us patience and how important little things are. We may spark a brief memory of a long ago pet. Or see interest in petting Wallace from someone who seldom interacts. It might be a few minutes of happiness for someone suffering the confusion and sadness of dementia. Or a child who now knows to ask if they can pet before approaching dogs, and is safer.

Being a therapy dog team is a wonderful way to share our love of dogs and make a difference. Wallace says all the petting is pretty nice too!

Pat and Wallace

DOC Members and Photos

Dogs On Call talks frequently about taking photos during our visits. If someone is visiting with our Pet Partner and would like to take a photo of themselves with our Pet Partner, that is fine. We did not take the photo, nor do we have a copy of it.

If we are the one taking a photo of a client with our Pet Partner, there HAS to be a signed photo release for you to use the photo. This includes you using a photo of a fellow DOC member for articles that are not-DOC related.

DO NOT put a photo that you took while on a visit on any type of social media without written consent. You never know who can see these photos.

If you have any questions about taking photos, please contact a Board member.

Laura, Kooper & Oliver

Mounds Fest

It was a beautiful day at Mounds Fest 2014; the weather was perfect, although a little cool in the morning, but the afternoon was warm with cool breezes. As volunteers at the DOC booth, we had a wonderful view of all the different colors, breeds and combinations of dogs as people and their pets walked passed our booth. The booth attracted many visitors who were eager to learn about therapy dogs and what it takes to be a Dogs On Call team. Many thanks to the members who volunteered at the booth: Jeff W. and Bella, Karen S. and Zombie, Sue R. and Murphy, Julie M. and Moses, Pat S. and Wilson, Emma C. and Sophie, Lisa and Ryan H. and Sasha, and Sharon G. and Ty. Everyone loved and petted all the DOC dogs throughout the day. What a fun event!

Jan and Ryder



2014 Board of Directors President: Laura K laurak@dogsoncall.org Vice President: Jan H janh@dogsoncall.org Treasurer/Membership: Artie B artieb@dogsoncall.org Secretary: Karen P karenp@dogsoncall.org Board Members At Large JoAnn H jholston@frontier.com Liz M lizm@dogsoncall.org Lydia Z lydiaz@dogsoncall.org Laurie I Lauriei@dogsoncall.org	2014 Committee Coordinators Training & Education: Artie B artieb@dogsoncall.org Historian: Sheldon S schall59@charter.net R.E.A.D. Director Laura K laurak@dogsoncall.org Special Events Coordinator Jan H janh@dogsoncall.org Visiting Facilities Coordinator Lydia Z lydiaz@dogsoncall.org Newsletter Editor Laura K laurak@dogsoncall.org Assistant Editor Jan H janh@dogsoncall.org	DOC Web site www.dogsoncall.org DOC Newsletter The contents of the DOC Newsletter represent the views and opinions of the authors, and not necessarily those of the authors, and not necessarily those of the DOC organization or its members, nor does publication constitute any endorsement. Subscriptions The DOC Newsletter is published quarterly and is available by E-mail to DOC members and representatives of organizations associated with DOC activities. Submission Deadlines: News and Articles are as follows: <table><tr><td><u>February 15</u></td><td>Done</td></tr><tr><td><u>May 15</u></td><td>Done</td></tr><tr><td><u>August 15</u></td><td>September 2014</td></tr><tr><td><u>November 15</u></td><td>December 2014</td></tr></table> Articles written by members of DOC on any topic/subject that may be of interest to DOC members are welcome. Non copyrighted articles or those that can be reprinted with permission are welcome as well. Any article that is submitted may be edited for proper grammar or clarity. Send all to: Laura Kuchta laurak@dogsoncall.org	<u>February 15</u>	Done	<u>May 15</u>	Done	<u>August 15</u>	September 2014	<u>November 15</u>	December 2014
<u>February 15</u>	Done									
<u>May 15</u>	Done									
<u>August 15</u>	September 2014									
<u>November 15</u>	December 2014									