

The Pathway

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Fall Graduation Class
Phantom Ball Fundraiser
Facility Dog Partnership



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COMING EVENTS

Spring Graduation
April 1st 11:00 am at KSDS

Dog N' Jog
Kansas State University
April 2nd 12:00 noon-4:00

Pup's Days
April 22nd

Graduate Retreat
July 17-19

KS State Fair
Hutchinson, KS
Sept 7-18
Volunteers Needed

Husker Harvest Days
Sept 11-14

Fall Graduation
October 21st

CORPORATE SPONSORS



**Boehringer
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Veterinary Health Center
AT KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

THREE GENERATIONS OF KSDS CANINES



Sometimes the timing is just right! This past fall a three generation picture became available. Adelaide, a black Labrador female with impeccable genetics was at KSDS at the same time that her daughter, Kora, delivered her first litter of puppies. A frenzy of pictures of Adelaide, Kora and the "Sewing Litter" puppies ensued.

In 2003, Martina McBride from Sharon, KS sang "In My Daughter's Eyes" which reflects on the mother-daughter bond. As you can see in the enclosed pictures, there is a strong resemblance between these puppies. A dog's eyes speak volumes about love, loyalty and strength. These are the same qualities that we strive for in our canine and client partnerships.

SHARON MEYER REACHES MILESTONE



With extra scraps of material, Sharon Meyer from Linn, KS, began making puppy blankets. She soon ran out of material so she wrote a grant to the Thrivent Lutheran organization and received funding for making more puppy blankets.

Each puppy raiser receives a puppy blanket when they pick up their 8-week-old puppy. They rub the blanket on each puppy to have the litter smell on the blanket which helps the puppies adjust to being without their siblings the first few days in their new home. This special gesture has helped many puppies sleep through the night. Recently Sharon delivered more blankets and indicated that she had made over 500 blankets for KSDS—507 to be exact.

Sharon, thank you for sharing your gift of sewing with these special puppies and their new puppy raisers. You make a difference, and we are grateful that you are part of the KSDS family.

THE KSDS PHANTOM BALL A PHENOMENAL SUCCESS

Held every December for the past 24 years, KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. throws its annual Phantom Ball, which isn't really a ball at all; it's an event that doesn't take place.

While celebrating a successful year and wishing our KSDS family a wonderful holiday season, the Phantom Ball also serves as our major yearly fund raiser. "The more we raise the more lives we impact and improve," said CEO Glenda Keller. We have placed over 500 facility, service and guide dogs at no cost to individuals, schools, law enforcement and therapy institutions. Our Phantom Ball supports our efforts to build confidence and independence through a partnership with a professionally trained canine. Approximately \$40,000 was raised thanks to the help of each and every one of you who believes in our mission.

Your tax-deductible gift pays for the little things such as cleaning supplies and dog toys to larger costs including harnesses, health tests and travel expenses to fixed costs such as insurance, utilities, and licenses. As you can see, the funds both large and small that you provide make a difference to KSDS and to our clients. Thank you for all you do.



FUN TIMES AT KSDS



Ask ten people what they define as fun and you'll get ten different answers. At KSDS, one of the most exciting activities is placing an 8-week-old puppy in the loving arms of a puppy raiser. Before the puppy raisers arrive, the advisory board members give the puppies a bath, trim their nails, and clean their ears. Generally, a dry shirt is needed after puppy baths...what fun it is to dry and cuddle a wet puppy!

Under the direction of Puppy Raiser Manager, Deb Tegethoff, the Advisory Board helps conduct puppy class. This training encompasses how to teach manners, commands and socialization tips. Then there are health care recommendations, traveling issues and disability etiquette to cover. The puppy raisers receive a manual, a bag of supplies, a bag of Science Diet food and a special puppy blanket that is rubbed on all the littermates to help with transition to their new home. Puppy raisers are encouraged to call Deb or a member of the advisory board if they have questions.

Kora, an ABC breeder, had 7 puppies including 5 girls and 2 boys. KSDS was allotted 3 puppies, and they went to the following puppy raisers: Thimble to Shawn Dunavant, Lake Tapawingo, Missouri; Bobbin to Jacob Davenport, Kansas City, Kansas and Stitches to Sawyer Boldman, Kirbyville, Missouri. Kora's other 4 puppies went to other ABC Schools.

A black Labrador puppy from Susquehanna Service Dogs named Luther from the Coal Country litter went to Lisa Hamilton from Cimarron, KS. Blinker, a black Labrador from the Auto Parts litter went to Jane Walta from Gore, OK. Boulder, a beautiful yellow Labrador puppy from Staten and Stone, became an Okie too and will be raised by Susan Jones from Gore, OK.

INTRODUCING GIBBS AND MCGEE

Recently two cats joined our KSDS family. We requested suggestions of names for the boys with Gibbs and McGee receiving the nod. Gibbs is a smoky gray cat and McGee is white with black markings. Both are ornery and provide continuous entertainment.

They are more than just pets for us; they have important jobs to fulfill. There are guests to greet when Sara is giving tours. Then there are interesting items on Kristi and Letha's desks to rearrange. Their most important task is to be a distraction for our dogs in training. Many times a KSDS dog will be placed with a partner who owns other animals. The dog needs to respect other animals in and out of the home. The KSDS dog must stay focused on its partner not the squirrel or cat scampering up the tree.

We are confident that Gibbs and McGee are in control of the CHU and perform their jobs well. They have the dogs under control and the humans, too. To watch their antics KSDS, Inc on Facebook.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. is to provide professionally trained guide, service and facility dogs for people in need of a canine partner to enhance their independence, to fully function in society and/or to enrich their professional career responsibilities with the ongoing support of our trainers to ensure proficient working partnerships.



KSDS ASSISTANCE DOGS, INC.

CONTRIBUTES TO A
WORLD WHERE ALL
PEOPLE WHO WOULD
BENEFIT FROM A
PROFESSIONALLY-TRAINED
CANINE WILL BE MATCHED
WITH THE PERFECT
PARTNER.



WE WEREN'T IN KANSAS ANYMORE!

My friends think I am just a country dog in ol' Healy, Kansas. But my mom drags me around everywhere she goes. A few weeks ago, she told me we were heading to Las Vegas, which meant ROAD TRIP! I've been to basketball games, concerts, musicals, and hospitals, but she sounded really excited when she said "Las Vegas," so I thought maybe Las Vegas would have a big dog park!

As Mom was packing, I reminded her to bring my best looking scarf, the blue cape she makes me wear in public, and my favorite toys. I hoped she wouldn't forget anything! "Bilger, jump in," she told me and we were off to Las Vegas.

After over 1,000 miles in the car, we finally arrived. I was looking out the window and noticed Las Vegas looked nothing like Healy. There were big buildings, lights, and people everywhere! Where were the dirt roads and the grass? We were not in Kansas anymore!

Mom and I started to walk out onto the strip in Las Vegas. I passed many strange people such as street performers juggling, dancers, and robots. I was kind of afraid of them, but I held my head high and posed beside them for a picture. Man, I looked like a stud! We continued on, and Mom had to remind me to "heel" because I was so excited to explore the new place.

We rode the escalators up and down. I had to act like a big dog and be brave in front of my mom and the pretty girls on the street. But I was not afraid of the scary moving stairs anymore. Finally, Mom took me to the bathroom outside, but I could not find any grass. She seriously expected me to potty in the rocks. But when you get to go, you got to go!

I was learning that Las Vegas was a lot different from home. I had to walk by people and not talk to them, hold my head high, even though the honking cars were very loud, and walk past the street performers singing and throwing balls in the air. I really wanted to chase one of those balls, but Mom reminded me with a sharp "Bilger" that I had to be good in cape.

Then, I finally saw a tree that reminded me of home. I headed over to hike on it, but Mom quickly told me to show some manners. Oops! Doesn't she realize I am a man and need to mark my territory? But I listened to my mom!

The week quickly flew by while we were in Las Vegas. Walking the noisy strip of Las Vegas was at times frightening, but my mom reminded me that I need these experiences to be the best helper for my future human partner. Then, she noticed my broken ID badge on our last day in Las Vegas. She doesn't need to know I broke it while gambling late one night. What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas, Mom!

My volunteer mom never fails to give me lots of experience for my future partner. In just one week, Mom made me ride way too many escalators, use the bathroom in the rocks, stand beside many pretty girls, ignore the sounds of the city, and pose for hundreds of pictures. I may be coming home with a broken ID badge to remind me of the casinos, but I am now used to the rush and constant noise of the city. Man, I am sure glad to be back in Kansas!



Socialization is critical training for the KSDS puppies. The Las Vegas trip account was written by Kiara Sharp, Fort Hays State University writing intern for spring 2017.

KSDS PUPPY ADVISORY BOARD



We wish to extend a special thank you to Jeanne Meyer for serving for three years on the Puppy Advisory Board. She has agreed to continue to organize the dinner for graduations. Thank you Jeanne.

Two puppy raisers have joined the Puppy Advisory Board. Welcome Lea VanderVelde from Lawrence, KS and Jacob Davenport from Kansas City, KS. They will be joining Kristi Harlan, Shelia Johnson, Lisa Hamilton and Susan Jones on the board. Besides helping with puppy class, this group helps organize and work the annual Pups Days training event. Two board members rotate off and two rotate on to the board each year. This is a three year commitment so your willingness to serve is greatly appreciated.

Thank you!



KSDS SOUP & CHILI SUPPER SUPPORTS UPDATE OF TRANSPORTATION FLEET

A delicious event sponsored by KSDS was held on February 21st to raise funds to update our aging transportation fleet. This Dining 4 Dogs fund raiser included Randy Teske's special competitive chili recipe, thick chicken and noodles, yummy cinnamon rolls and desserts along with Gourmet Hot Dogs inspired by our very own dogs...Silver, Bing, Clifford and more! Staff, board members and spouses helped with all the preparations. Our local FBLA volunteers assisted diners and their children. Deb Withers from Pratt made a "puppy themed" lap quilt for us to raffle which will occur at graduation on April 1st. There will still be time at graduation to purchase raffle tickets.

Have you ever wondered where KSDS staff travel? KSDS trainers go many places, but two of the most important trips are to the Kansas City Airport to pick up clients for class and to travel to large cities such as Topeka and Manhattan for the clients to practice their new skills with their canine partners. In most cases, a handicap-accessible van is needed.

Debbie Tegethoff is often on the road to do presentations at Lions Club meetings and to provide a program for various organizations. In fact, just about everyone on the staff presented programs all over the state of Kansas and in several out-of-state locations. Getting the word out about KSDS is critical! For the past two years, we have traveled to Hutchinson to participate in the Kansas State Fair. Last year, we also traveled north to Husker Harvest Days in Grand Island, NE.

Then there are the trips that Annette, Sara, Letha and Deb take to pick up or deliver dogs to the Topeka Correctional Facility's Pooches and Pals program. We have puppies to deliver to the airport to fly out to other assistance dog schools or to fly to an out-of-state puppy raiser. Breeder dogs must be brought back to the KSDS facilities and then returned to their puppy raiser family after they have whelped and raised their puppies to the age of 8-weeks. Letha Nelson is kept busy traveling to area schools, nursing homes and other institutions to train the facility dogs.



A vital trip for our staff and dogs is the journey to Manhattan and the KSU College of Veterinary Medicine. This is where our dogs receive their health tests on their hips, eyes, elbows and heart. We also travel to Manhattan and other cities to participate in community fairs, the KSU Dog-n-Jog Fundraiser and other fundraisers.

Continuing education keeps our skills sharp and on the cutting-edge of training techniques, breeding information, disability awareness and networking with other assistance dog schools and personnel. These conferences may be held in numerous locations such as Colorado, Florida or Pennsylvania.

We travel to many other places, so it's understandable that our staff, clients and dogs need safe and reliable transportation. With high mileage on our vans and the need for accessible vehicles, KSDS has launched a drive to update our transportation fleet. An anonymous donor got us started with a puppy challenge that required us to match the \$10,000 donation. So from early September until the fall graduation on October 15th, the excitement was building as we inched closer and closer to our goal. **KSDS met the challenge!** Since we have a fund started, we decided to dedicate the soup supper funds to this project also. Additional events are planned to assist with raising these transportation funds.

How can you help? Your support is welcome and necessary to meet this need. Donations may be sent to KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc., 120 West 7th, Washington, KS 66968 and designate the money for "transportation." If you have questions, call 785-325-2256 and ask for the CEO. We thank you in advance for your help and for the help of all of those who assisted with the Dining 4 Dogs Soup/Chili Supper.



THE PAWSIBILITIES WERE ENDLESS!

The Canine Housing Unit (CHU) staff was beginning to see some wear and tear on the paws of a few of the dogs in training. Their investigation led them to believe that the rocks in the play area were too sharp. Sara Gustin, then CHU coordinator, researched some possible alternatives and costs. Some options had equally harmful side effects and others were cost prohibitive.

The best solution for KSDS appeared to be changing the larger rocks to a smaller size called pea gravel which was rounder and not sharp. A large section of the play area was selected to test this theory. To keep this new pea gravel separate from the larger rocks, more fencing was put up so there would be divided play areas. This new gravel appears to be working well, but we continue to watch the condition of the paws. The divided play areas have worked well for keeping stud dogs and mother dogs separate or to split a large number of dogs into two or three play groups.

Our thanks to all the work that Gene Martin, Maintenance, did to bring this project to completion. He had the help of Sara and our present CHU Coordinator, Kristi Myers. There may have been a few dogs trying to help out as well. The only down side was the weather..it was cold.. really cold. Thanks to all of you for making the play area safer for our dogs.



THEN & NOW: BEDFORD SMOOTHS OUT A “RUFF” DAY AT SCHOOL

THEN: SUMMER 2015

Rebecca (Becky) Trapp-Marquez from Lawrence, KS attended facility dog class at KSDS late summer 2015 and received Bedford, a beautiful golden retriever.

Becky is a school social worker at Avondale West Elementary School in Topeka, KS. Becky feels that Bedford will have a calming effect on the children, and will be a positive role model including helping the children with daily living skills. Besides calming children, Bedford will assist children dealing with a crisis. He will be a furry friend for them to love on.

Becky chose KSDS because it is a fully accredited member of Assistance Dogs International, and she likes the community of Washington.

Becky speaks of her experience at KSDS: “When you are awarded a KSDS dog, you are awarded a family. KSDS staff, especially Letha, have been beyond amazing! You know you will be taken care of and will get help right away if you need it.”

Becky says, “I know Bedford and I will work very hard together. We were made for each other. Bedford is the kindest, friendliest, warmest dog I have ever met. His face, alone, melts your heart.”

Bedford’s puppy raisers are LaFonda and Dan Sharp, of Healy, Kansas.

NOW: FEBRUARY 2017

Upon entering the building, Sandy & Letha were warned that it would take a little time for Becky and Bedford to arrive as all the kids and staff walking by can’t resist petting him as he saunters down the hall. Sure enough, Bedford came around the corner with his leash in his mouth, followed by his admirers. The children call him “Bear” because it’s easier for them to pronounce—and it just sounds cuddlier. After a warm greeting, he was ready to show us his school. The secretary said, “Everyone loves Bear, he’s always smiling.”

Becky explained, Bear does much more than add a little sunshine to a troubled day. Bear is part of the school’s S.O.A.R. program (Self-control, Organization, Attitude and Respect). The children earn SOAR dollars when they are observed by a staff member exhibiting one of these attributes. Students save up SOAR dollars to do special things, buy snacks, etc. Bear is one of those “special things!” Students may brush Bear, refill his water bowl, read to him or earn the privilege to have breakfast with him. But, hugs are always free. Becky remarked that the school feels calmer when Bear is here.



There are “ruff” days also. Bear is available to listen, to cry in his fur, and to help them remain calm when they are upset or acting out. Bear also makes a difference for children who are shy or when the world is just too much for them. He is persistent yet gentle in nudging them to make eye contact and gain self-confidence.

These are not always easy assignments for Bear, and Becky senses at times that Bear needs to come back to her room for some time to rest. Becky and Letha discussed how Bear is like a sponge absorbing the feelings that children and staff are carrying in their hearts.

Becky graduated from KSU with a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work and from KU with a Master’s Degree in Social Welfare. She started a Therapy Club that meets twice a month. Elementary students have an opportunity to work on the S.O.A.R. traits as well as talk about issues that may be troubling them. Bear attends too, offering his unconditional love and acceptance. Bear is an excellent listener!

The bell rings, and the classes change. A 4th grade student arrives to show us how he takes his turn caring for Bear. Walking side by side, Bear carries an empty water bottle in his mouth for the student to fill up at the water fountain, demonstrating teamwork. Children reach out and touch Bear as he walks by. On his way back to the room, he stops for a couple of “selfies” with two girls in the hallway. The student has gained self-confidence by showing other students how to care for Bear. They fill his water bowl, brush Bear’s fur, and give him a toy. He uses a firm voice and a gentle hand. The student is proud of his abilities. Bear trusts him, and the student is learning life skills.

Becky shared a few examples of children who needed Bear...one who fell asleep with Bear after a difficult episode, and another that he helped gain confidence to go into the classroom. Some students bring toys for Bear. He also receives thank you, miss you, and love notes even when it’s not Valentine’s Day. His ears perk up when he hears “you have a letter.” Bear writes back to the children and signs his letters with a paw print.

When asked to list the five best qualities of Bear, Becky responded, “His smile, his calmness, his loyalty, his love, and he is hard working.” She then added, “Bear is happy to be here each and every day. Bear gives the deepest love to everyone he touches.”





ROBY LITTLE AND PIPPIN - SERVICE

Roby Little, from Lee's Summit, MO came to KSDS for the fall class and graduation to receive her successor dog, Pippin, a yellow Labrador from the "Lord of the Rings" litter. Roby's first dog, Black Cat, came from KSDS. She was impressed with the program and the quality of training. "I like that [KSDS] is fully accredited and that makes a difference to me. Roby learned about KSDS through Cathy McClanahan. I do like the people of Washington.

For 27 years Roby served as a middle school teacher. The following 14 years she was the Director of Lee's Summit CARES program. Now retired, Roby volunteers on several local projects and would like to travel. Roby mentioned, "Having Pippin as a partner allows me to walk on uneven ground, to feel more confident and to stay active in my community. I love the independence and support a service dog gives me. KSDS is a life-changer."

Roby shared, "The experience at KSDS was extremely positive. I especially enjoyed the comfort of the duplex. Annette and Sara have fun and helpful personalities that make the experience enjoyable even when I was exhausted. Roby indicated that she and Pippin can be characters. "We will be two real characters on the loose!"

Brittney Triner of Twin Falls, ID was Pippin's puppy raiser.



JUDY BECK AND STRONG - GUIDE

Judy Beck of Kearney, NE received her first guide dog during the KSDS fall 2016 graduation. Judy found that she had a tendency to limit herself because she was afraid of running into things and falling.

There is much to do in Kearney, a progressive college town, such as museums, arts, shopping, activities at the fairgrounds, restaurants, public transportation and handicap accessible buildings and sidewalks. With her black Labrador guide dog, Strong, Judy plans to go to the Senior Center, the Hike and Bike Trail, concerts, theatre, and more. Judy commented, "I won't have to rely on someone else to get me places, and I will be more confident."

Judy heard about KSDS at a program given in her community and put in her application. "Training was intense and involved lots of distraction work," Judy remarked. "Deb offered many positive suggestions to make our team work. The staff members were friendly, provided good meals, and the apartments were very efficient. Strong, from the KU litter, was so well behaved and wonderfully trained. He is a good dog, he listens, is laid back and easy going and so am I." Sounds like a perfect fit.

Roger Post (deceased) and Coleena Post of Udall, KS were Strong's puppy raisers.



JEROME HAWCO AND ARWEN - SERVICE

Jerome Hawco, from Granger, IA received his first service dog, Arwen, at the fall 2016 graduation. Arwen is another member of the "Lord of the Rings" litter. Jerome works in accounts receivable and is a salesman. Jerome expects Arwen to help him be more independent and to rely less on others.

Granger is a small town with no public transportation and limited accessibility. Arwen may not be able to change that, but she will be able to help with opening doors, picking up items and collecting items that are difficult to reach.

Jerome stated, "This is my first service dog, and I am excited to see what our partnership will accomplish." Jerome commended, "The trainers at KSDS are very professional, and I am truly honored to be their student. The training is hard mentally and physically. There were days that were more challenging than others, but the staff made sure to keep my spirits up and me safe. Being here for 12 days has been a great experience."

Arwen's puppy raiser was Cindy Sears from Lawrence, KS.

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Mary Ann Wittman
Lorelei Woerner - Eisner
Amber and Arthur Wolf
Tali and Max Woodbury
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Lewis Young
Gary "Mitch" Zabokrtsky
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American Endowment
Foundation
American Legion 104 Jeff Long
Post
Arkansas City Early Bird Lions
Club
Ash Grove Charitable
Foundation
Augusta Senior Center, Inc.
Azura Credit Union
Barkley Construction
Barry and Paula Downing
Foundation
Belleville Lions Club
Best Choice Save-A-Label
Betty Wiche Trust
Big Brutus Good Sams
Foundation
Brown Memorial Foundation
Bunker Hill Lions Club
Busy B 4-H Club
Caplinger, Jim
Carson Charitable Trust
Chapman Lions Club
Chapman Valley Manor
Charles Heights Association
Citizens National Bank
Clyde Lions Club
CoBank
Dague Computers & Engraving
Deines, Liz
Derby Noon Lions Club
Dillons Stores
DST Systems, Inc.
Earl Bane Foundation
Elk State Bank
Ellinwood Lions Club
First Bank of Nebraska
Fran Jabara Family Foundation
Fraternal Order of Eagles #2468
Gardner Lions Club
Girard Lions Club
Goodshop
Great Bend Evening Lions Club
Great Bend Noon Lions Club
Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc.
Holton Lions Club
Hutchinson Breakfast Lions
Club
Hutchinson Recreation
Kansas Gas Service
Kastl-Powell Agency, Inc.
Kathryn S. Asche, CPA, PC
Konza Kamper Sams
KSU CVM Class of 2017
Law Office of Elizabeth
Baskerville Hiltgen
Leawood Lions Foundation
Lette, Christopher
Manhattan Sunflower Lions
Club
Marshall County Abstract
Maurice & Gladys Olson-
McDonald Foundation
Mayor Oz, Inc.
McPherson Lions Club
Melton, Gary
Moore Farms
Moostash Joe Tours
Morganville Lions Club
National Christian Foundation
Pairs & Spares SS Class
Pilot Club of Pratt, KS

Planet Green
Prairie Band Potawatomi
Nation
Pratt Area Association 8 Retired
Personnel
Randolph Lions Club
Razoo Foundation
Ricky's Cafe
Sagin LLC
Salina Sunflower Lions Club
Sam Price Family Foundation
Second Chance Sams
Serendipity Sams
Sharp Bros Seed Co.
Sharp Family Foundation
Special People in Need
St Francis Lions Club
State Bank of Axtell
Sunflower Electric Power
Corporation
Sunflower Lions Club of Topeka
Sunflower Sams - Topeka
TB Baker Foundation of Kansas
The Dragastin Insurance
Agency
The Leva and Frank Duclos
Foundation
Topeka Correctional Facility
United Bank & Trust
United Methodist Church
Women
Ward Funeral Home
Washington HealthMart
Washington Lions Club
Washington Rotary
Watters, Melvin
Wellington Noon Lions Club
Wheatbelt Sams
Wichita Northwest Lions Club
Yaffee Iron & Metal Co., Inc.
Yates Center Lions Club

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Jamie J McDaniel
Aydin Mikael Shaw
Kathy Meyer Mann
Blizzard
Keith Campbell
Cynthia L Campbell
Brenda & Randy Thompson,
Brandon & Jerica Ramos &
girls, Mikaila Ramos, Shea
Summer Thompson
Galen Bernasek,
Rosalie Bernasek
Brent & Marcia Boring
Sharon R. Boring
Phillip Boring
Brian Scott Shaw
Kathy Meyer Mann
Clemmie, Muffy, and Scooter
Mary Ann Wittman
Coleena Post and Gina
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Carol D. Barnett
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Beverly J Sims
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David Holien
Spencer Peck
Vicky L Joyce
Tom Retro
Ann Sandler



Thank you for helping KSDS continue its work in placing quality assistance dogs. The Donor List is inclusive of July 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017. Omission of any name is not intentional and will be published in the next newsletter upon notification.



TO REMEMBER

Abby Murray
Ward Nippert
Pat Nippert

Anthony (Tony) Bartkoski
Glenda Keller
Paul Keller

Asta
Allen D McCune

Beth Knedlik
Mickey Walter
Michele Walter

Betty Eaton
Darrell Sweet
Leslie Sweet

Bill Kerns
Mary Kerns

Buddy
Russell Soupene

Chip
DeWayne Metz
Joan Metz

Cindy K. Atkinson-Gillespie
Kay Wilkins
Ernie Wilkins

Cueball
Gelene Savage

Delbert Finlayson
Mary C. Finlayson

Domino
Hans J. Neidhardt
Shari Neidhardt

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Michael W Morley
Lorina L Morley

Dona-Rose Hackerott
Fredrick W Hackerott

Frank Linenberger
Mark Linenberger
Jana Linenberger
Regina M. Linenberger

Heidi-my last KSDS pup
Jolene A. Dutton

Helen Pannbacker
Mickey Walter
Michele Walter

Howard States
Juanita States

Iggy
Laurie Schmeckpeper

Jack Larson
Jennifer Rein

Jack Schneider
Betty Schneider

Jeanniene Graves Graff
Joyce L Shutts

Joe Kongs
Mickey Walter
Michele Walter

John P. Ayers
Shirley Frager
Gerry Frager
Shirley A. Walter
Charles L. Walter

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Bob Byrnes

Judy Schreiber
Kimberly Borger
Mitch Borger
Mardi Carter
H. Lee Carter
Charles Heights Association
Rosalie Coombs
Russell Coombs
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Candy Dewey
Richard A. Dewey
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Kaye Harris
Gail Harris
Kathryn S. Asche, CPA, PC
Kathryn S. Asche
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Charles Luetters
Janis Luetters
Irene S. Matthews
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Michelle R. Schmidt
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Wayne Schuckman
Cindy Schuckman
Charles L. Toedman
Virginia Toedman
Michael L. Walker
Susan M. Walker
Sarah Wencel
JoAnn Wesson
William Wesson

June O'Hara
Steve Vaughn
Linda Vaughn

Karen Price
Gary "Mitch" Zabokrtsky

Laynee
Mandi Holsten

LeRoy A. Bollig
O. J. Bollig
Nadine Dugan
John Dugan
Leah Hill
Steven C. Hill
Norma Lambert
Dale Lambert
Denise R. Lang
Verlyn D. Lang
Patricia Neeley
Kevin Neeley
Glenna Smith
Donna Stueve
Andrew T. Zink
Nancy Thurmond
John W. Thurmond
Ellen L. Williams
Michael A. Williams

Leslie Rae Turley-Teglia
Jennifer Long
Tim Long

Lily (Brent & Marcia Boring's beloved pet)
Kim Hamlin

Lizzie and Lily
Janett Eidman

Maggie and Mac
Judy Montei

Marilyn Thaler
Ida R. Shreiber

Marilyn Thaler and Belle
Becky Dolin

Matt Nieman
Gary Marske
Joni Marske

Matthew Grenier
Mike Ackerman
Oakley Blair
Casey Bridgers
Michael DeMarco
Shelley Dunham
Kathleen Faws
Machele Gantt
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Eddie Joe
Amanda Miller Johnson
Eileen Jurgutis
John Jurgutis
Melvyn Kay
Laurie W. Kenny
James Kenny
Jonathan Koenig
Onika Maturine
Molly Neel
Samuel Quintanilla
Megan Rogers
Eric Stebbings
US Customs & Border
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Benjamin Washburn
Evan Wheeler

Maxine Dorsey
Mickey Walter
Michele Walter

Merlin D. Wright
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Jim Wesch
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Don Catron
Wanda Catron

Nina
Glenda Keller
Paul Keller

Nye
Jacque M. Welch
Brien Welch

Pat Young
Lewis Young

Peppermint Patty
Coleena Post

Phyllis Shilling
Sue Nible

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Mickey Walter
Michele Walter

Ray and Mildred Cozine
Janet J. Elliott

Rhea Wilgers
Mickey Walter
Michele Walter

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Brad A. Higgs
M. K. Higgs

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Alvin Musser
Priscilla I Musser

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Jim Willcox
Bobbie Willcox
Amber Wolf
Arthur Wolf

Roger Post
George C. Avila, Jr
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Coleena Post

Roosevelt Nash
Dolores Nash

Roy Bretthorst
Rod Powell

Shakespeare
Shelly Brandt
Roger Brandt

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Lynn Schense
Donald L Schense

Silas from the "S" Litter
Robert J. Brown

Silk
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Natalie Jane Byrnes
Bob Byrnes

Sunny - beloved dog
Lorraine Walterscheid

Todd Harrison
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David Henig

Tom Hyland
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Monica and Barry J. Bowers
Judy and Bob Funke
Bill and Lou Kern

Tory and Nala
Janice Anita Guetzow
Karl Guetzow

Tsuni
Anna Byrnes
Natalie Jane Byrnes
Bob Byrnes

Tyler Burt
Terry N. Taylor
Jan Taylor

Vi Menzies
Barbara Farber
Jim Farber

KSDS WISH LIST

GIFT CARDS

- Wal-Mart or Sam's
- Dollar General
- Target
- Home Depot
- Pet Supply Stores

HOUSEKEEPING

- Paper towels; toilet paper, facial tissues;
- Disinfectant wipes
- Gallon containers of bleach
- OdoBan disinfectant
- Glade plug-in refills
- Bottled water
- Dish soap
- Trash bags
- Heavy paper plates
- Plastic utensils (especially forks)
- Solo drinking cups

FOR THE DOGS

- Large dog toys (Black Kongs, Galileo Bones, Big Chew Bones, Jolly Balls)
- Puppy dog toys (Tuff stuffed animals; Zanies hard rubber toys; Nobbly Wobbly II)
- Dog enrichment toys (food puzzles, treat dispenser toys)

OFFICE SUPPLIES

- Letter size copy paper
- Photo paper (gloss or semi-gloss)
- Bubble plastic mailing envelopes (6 X10, 8 1/2 X 12, 10 1/2 X 16)
- Mailing envelopes (4 X 6)
- First class forever postage stamps

"We are not defined by our limitations, but rather by our willingness to rise above them."

-Deborah Stevenson



WHERE DO YOUR DONATIONS GO?

KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. began as a 4-H project and after 26 years has placed over 500 canine assistance teams in over 30 states at no cost to the client. KSDS relies on the contributions from individuals, corporations, service clubs, wills and bequests to meet our mission.

Our vision is to promote the independence and inclusion of people with disabilities as fully participating and contributing members of their communities and society. This is accomplished through a unique resource; a highly trained canine, selectively matched with a human partner, forming a team. KSDS assistance dogs are valued at \$25,000 each, but placements occur at no charge to the person receiving the dog.

Because we are an incorporated 501 © 3 non-profit organization, your donation is tax-deductible. But your gift means even more because when you make KSDS part of your estate planning, your donation is a lasting LEGACY in your memory. Your gift is transformed into very real opportunities for people with disabilities for years to come.

Many of you understand the loneliness that can accompany a disability. You know how it feels to have no one talking to you or making eye contact with you just because they don't know what to say or do. Yet, you also know that a dog changes the equation. Dogs draw people in and create a common ground for discussion. Dogs help build confidence and provide companionship and unconditional love.

Take a moment to consider a planned gift which may include a bequest in a will or trust, a distribution from your IRA or a designation in a life insurance policy. Legacy gifts may take a little more planning, so we welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you have about KSDS. This is a powerful opportunity for you to help KSDS continue its mission of ensuring proficient working partnerships for many years to come. For more information call 785-325-2256, Ext. 104 and ask for Marcia Funke.

DR. PHIL BENTZ JOINS THE KSDS BOARD



Dr. Phil Bentz, owner of The Animal Health Center in Washington, KS joined the KSDS Board of Directors August 2016. Assisting our breeding technician, Canine Housing Unit (CHU) coordinator and canine training staff means that Dr. Phil is a familiar face on our campus. We value his assistance and the help of his staff.

Dr. Phil graduated from Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine in Manhattan, KS and moved to Washington after purchasing the local veterinary clinic. Because of Dr. Phil's previous experience showing dogs and horses in 4-H, he also provided obedience and other training classes for a few years. He presently serves on the Kansas Board of Veterinarian Examiners and on the rodeo board.

As a youngster, Dr. Phil spent time on his grandparent's farm working with cattle and horses. This meaningful experience led to a career in veterinary science. Because his grandfather had a lifelong involvement in the Longford Rodeo, Dr. Phil learned to appreciate the live lessons that rodeo imparts. Although Dr. Phil did not jump into the rodeo scene until his college years, his children have been competing since they were three years old. Dr. Phil and his wife, Lainie, have three children, Makinna, Wyatt and Joree. Participating on the rodeo circuit allows them to do something together as a family. They may compete in barrel racing, team roping, goat tying, flags, ribbon roping, bull riding and the list goes on and on. The most important thing is the sense of family that exists among the rodeo participants. Besides rodeo, the family enjoys 4-H, school activities and their own farm and ranch animals.

With such a demanding schedule, why add the KSDS Board to his load. Dr. Phil didn't hesitate to recall his years in 4-H training dogs and his fascination with the training structure that is necessary to take a puppy all the way through the advanced training. Yet it just "blows my mind that these KSDS trainers can move these dogs to a higher level where they can meet the needs of a person who has a disability. I watch Randy Teske and his guide dog, Marco, and I am amazed. There is such a need; who wouldn't want to be on this board?" We know what you mean, Dr. Phil, and we welcome you to the KSDS Board.

FBLA & KSDS MAKE A GREAT COMBINATION

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) club helps students develop leadership skills which includes community service. It's about making a difference in your community and world. Fortunately, KSDS has benefitted by these students stepping up and helping us with puppy socialization, bulk-rate mailings and most recently with our Dining 4 Dogs Soup Supper.

Our puppies need to be exposed to a variety of sounds, smells, sights and textures. A positive experience with a variety of people is critical as well. Socialization starts early with the staff using a specific program that they conduct under sterile and controlled conditions. When the puppies reach four weeks of age, students and adults begin coming to KSDS to hold, play with and start beginning training with individual puppies. The focus begins with touching the puppy's paws, teeth and ears. The puppies are walked on a leash and learn simple commands such as "sit" and "kennel." The visitors also talk to the puppies so that they are exposed to children's voices, lower male voices, adult voices, and silly giggles and squeals. The puppies also have jungle gyms in the kennel area to enjoy. When the puppies return to their mother and whelping box they are ready for food and a long nap.



KSDS thanks all the volunteers who help the puppies get a good start in life. And, we're looking forward to our next project with FBLA. We appreciate the cooperation of Washington County Schools for allowing us to bring our dogs-in-training to the school and school events.



KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc.
 120 W. 7th St.
 Washington, KS 66968-2222

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Like us on Facebook at KSDS, Inc for thousands of cute puppy pictures!

In the Next Issue

Spring Graduation Class

Pup Days

Service Dogs: Opening New Doors

Guide Dogs Make a World of Difference



PUPPY RAISERS

are needed this spring and early summer. This is a great time to take on a new puppy with warmer weather and lots of summer activities for you and the puppy to enjoy.

Call Deb Tegethoff at 785-325-2256 ext. 106 if you have questions or print off an application from the KSDS website at www.ksds.org and mail it to the address listed above.

Mark Your Calendar



HUSKER HARVEST DAYS 2017

**September 12-14, 2017
 GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA**