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Get Your Fair On! The Kansas State Fair is tradition at its best. Hot dogs, cotton candy, balloons, and building after building of farm animals to pet and admire. Programs that remind you of street performers in the large cities provide a continuous offering of entertainment and knowledge. Companies far and wide display their wares and enjoy the comradery of other business folk. The evenings are capped off with spectacles ranging from music to racing. And then there are the people…oodles and gobs of people! What fun it is to meet in Hutchinson, Kansas and celebrate everything Kansas!

What brings KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. to the Kansas State Fair are the people. We place professionally trained guide, service and facility dogs for people in need of a canine partner. We bring the dogs…the fair brings the people. And a connection is forged!

● KSDS is a non-profit organization so funding is necessary because we place our canines with their companions FREE.
● We also need puppy raisers to help train and socialize the puppies from 8 weeks of age to 18 months of age.
● People who need our dogs or want to raise a puppy, stop by to collect applications, pamphlets and other resources.
● Then there are the volunteers who work our booth and provide valuable first-hand knowledge.

Funding + puppy raisers + resources + volunteers = A winning combination!

Mark your calendar for September 8 through the 17th & meet us at the fair!

KSDS will need volunteers to help staff the booth at the Kansas State Fair. Puppy Raisers, Graduates and Board Members...if you can help us work our Kansas State Fair booth any day or for part of a day, please call Glenda Keller, Co-CEO, at KSDS to sign up on our schedule. Call 785-325-2256 and ask for Glenda. Thank you in advance for your assistance.
Bill Dain of Overbrook, KS wears a welcoming smile as Debbie and Sandy arrive to visit with him about his life with and without his KSDS guide dogs. Growing up as a young man, hard work was just a way of life for Bill. He was raised on a farm along with nine other siblings and learned the value of working hard and how to cook from his mother. You can imagine the depth of depression that surrounded Bill when he lost his vision and his sense of value, independence and freedom. Bill previously worked as a mechanical mill wright including manipulating precision tools. Visual abilities were critical skills for successfully manipulating tools and dangerous locations. Bill lamented, “I lost my life, my way of life, when I lost my vision. I had a long rough go of it.” Where was that ready smile that normally adorns Bill’s face? “I asked God why me, and He said why not you. God got me through the depression” shared Bill.

Bill began taking a class from the School of the Blind to learn how to do ordinary things in a different way including how to measure, cook food, use a white cane, and other important living skills. Then in July of 1996, Bill and KSDS began a journey together that has extended over 20 years and included three guide dogs... Lego, Bronco and now Kirkcaldy. These KSDS canine partners have made a world of difference in his life.

When Lego entered the picture, Bill remarked, “I got my life back!” Training with Lego was work, hard work. “If you want the partnership to work, you have to work hard and keep up the obedience.” Lego helped Bill attend Topeka Tech in order to earn his Associate Degree in Business. Bill then started his vending and cafeteria services business as owner and manager first at the WestStar Building and later at the Landon Building in Topeka, Kansas.

When Lego retired, Bronco was trained by Debbie Tegelhoff at KSDS to be Bill’s second dog. A wonderful relationship developed between Bill and Bronco. Bill shared that when he shopped at stores for his business supplies, Bronco could take him straight to the enchilada sauce or the bananas. It was amazing how he could learn the routes and the vocabulary. Debbie conducted some of the training in Topeka so that Bill and Bronco could practice the actual routes. Bronco also figured out that when Bill leaned over that pens and other items would fall out of his pocket, and Bronco would pick them up and give them back to Bill. Bill didn’t even realize that he had dropped anything. Bill commented quietly, “I really miss him.” Bronco developed a spinal disorder and passed away leading to emergency training of a dog for Bill.

There was precious little time to grieve for Bronco. Bill depended on a guide dog to stay in business. Bundling into his life was a beautiful golden retriever named Kirkcaldy from the Scottish litter theme. Caldy, as Bill calls him, was also trained by Debbie but in the dead of winter. Bill reminisced that Caldy would walk in the snow and let Bill have the clean pavement. Caldy prevented Bill from stepping into the slush or puddles left by snow plows. Unlike Lego and Bronco, Caldy’s preference was to stand in front of Bill to prevent him from moving forward into traffic or other dangerous paths. “It just blew me away! I can’t describe how awesome our bond is. He enjoys working and I enjoy working with him,” exclaimed Bill.

It’s not all about work though. It’s about the bond. Bill shared that he is responsible for Caldy. He brushes Caldy daily, and there is quiet time and nightly belly rubs. “They are not robots” according to Bill. He continually trains Caldy. “They need to be loved, picked up after and provided ongoing training,” continued Bill.

Giving back is important to Bill. He and Caldy go to the Topeka Correctional Facility and talk to the ladies who are in the Pooches and Pals Program. “They need to see the finished product and what Caldy does for me,” remarked Bill. Bill wants the ladies in prison to know that there is hope at the end of the tunnel when they get out. Bill has even hired a few of them to work in his cafeterias.

For over 20 years, three special KSDS dogs have shared their love and gift with Bill. “I got my life back!” Training with Lego was work, hard work. “If you want the partnership to work, you have to work hard and keep up the obedience.” Lego helped Bill attend Topeka Tech in order to earn his Associate Degree in Business. Bill then started his vending and cafeteria services business as owner and manager first at the WestStar Building and later at the Landon Building in Topeka, Kansas.

Kirkcaldy was raised by puppy raisers LaFonda and Dan Sharp from Healy, KS.
DONNA BERTRAM AND SILVER - GUIDE

Donna Bertram traveled from her hometown of Hayden, CO to meet her new guide dog partner, Silver, a beautiful black Labrador retriever. Donna indicated that transportation is her biggest problem, and that Silver will facilitate her traveling by herself. Going to the public library, calling on “The Haven”, an assisted living center for the elderly, strolling through the park and attending NWCCI board meetings are places that Donna and Silver will be visiting independently. As a charter member of the “Totally Kids” organization, Donna and Silver will be volunteering with this critical afterschool and summer program for children under the age of 18. KSDS thinks the kids are going to love Silver!

“The whole training process has been an amazing learning experience. Debbie and the other staff have untold patience and understanding with their students,” noted Donna. “Working with the other students teaches humility. I have no words! The whole feeling of the experience at KSDS has changed my life,” commented Donna.

Silver's puppy raisers were Paul and Glenda Keller, Washington, KS.

WENDY COOK AND GOOGLE - FACILITY

Wendy Cook traveled to KSDS to meet Google, a black Labrador from the Internet Litter. Wendy learned about KSDS through Marilyn McGown, a former facility dog graduate. She was convinced that having a facility dog with her at work would be of great benefit in her job as a counselor. Wendy says having a facility dog builds instant rapport when counseling students. Wendy is a K-5 elementary school counselor in Basehor, KS.

Google will assist Wendy as she works with children in individual and group counseling. Together they will participate in counseling lessons on characteristics such as caring, respect and fairness. She will also serve in “reward sessions” for children who display positive character traits.

Wendy explains, “Students who are in crisis are able to calm themselves quicker with a dog. Google will be the bridge when counseling students. My family and I will also benefit by receiving the gift of a dog's love.” Wendy knows that Google will impact thousands of children's lives and help to make their educational experience a positive one. She says, “I am well prepared to begin my journey with Google. KSDS staff treated me like family, and I feel I have made lifelong friends. Google is a life changing gift that keeps on giving.”

Google's puppy raiser was Jacob Davenport from Kansas City, Kansas.

OLIVIA DAVIS AND ARWEN - SERVICE

Olivia Davis, 16, from Lincoln, NE met her first service dog, Arwen, a yellow Labrador retriever when she arrived at KSDS. Arwen and Olivia adored each other at first sight. Olivia stated, “We get along really well and don't like to be separated from each other.” Since Olivia rides in a wheelchair, Arwen is able to pick up items that are dropped. Arwen also helps Olivia to transfer from the wheelchair giving Olivia greater independence. Although Olivia is still in high school, she is already setting her sights on college and a career as a clinical psychologist. Arwen will be there to help her accomplish her dreams. Olivia mentioned, “I feel like Arwen will make me more approachable to talk to—people may talk to me to ask about my dog.”

“My experience at KSDS has been very educational and tailored to my specific needs and desires. My time at KSDS has been wonderful. I feel the staff was very professional and caring. It was obvious the staff cared about the success of me and Arwen and as a team,” stated Olivia.

Arwen’s puppy raiser was Cindy Sears from Lawrence, Kansas.
LYNN KALEMKIARIAN AND SOOKY - FACILITY

Lynn Kalemkiarian, from Lincoln, NE, heard about KSDS due to their tour business that featured a “Puppies and Pie” location right here in Washington, KS. Now Lynn along with Sooky, her new facility dog, will be working in a school as a Reading Recovery teacher and interventionist at the elementary level. Sooky, a gorgeous black lab, “will be a big benefit to me in my workplace,” states Lynn. Lynn works with struggling readers in the lower grades. Lynn shared, “Sooky will make reading fun. She will not judge whether or not their reading is perfect, and will love them unconditionally amidst their struggles. Sooky will be proof to them that hard work pays off.”

Sooky and Lynn will greet students as they come into school each day. Lynn commented, “Sooky will make everyone she comes in contact with feel like they are the most special person on the planet. I look forward to her working with me to make reading lessons fun.” When talking about KSDS, Lynn shared “I feel so honored to have this privilege of being a recipient of a KSDS dog. Knowing she was born and raised with this goal in mind makes me proud to be her handler. It’s a memory I’ll hold close to my heart forever.”

Lynn concluded that “I am blown away by the caliber of the training, the professionalism and the generosity shown to your new handlers. I could never say thank you enough times to show or say how grateful I am to be given this opportunity to work with Sooky.”

Sooky’s puppy raisers are Jeanne Meyer and Keith Chrostrowski, Parkville, MO

DONNA KASTL AND SIMON - SERVICE

Donna Kastl, Olathe, KS, has come full circle as she travelled back to Washington and KSDS to meet her first service dog, Simon. Washington was Donna’s home town, and she volunteered at KSDS for several years never thinking that she would need the assistance of a canine partner. Life sometimes throws challenges at us and Donna shared that those challenges prevented her from going out and participating in the Kansas City Metro area alone. That situation is about to change thanks to Simon.

As Donna said, “Simon, a black Labrador Retriever from the “S” litter, is tall, dark and handsome. What woman wouldn't want such a ‘man’ in her life? Simon is extremely willing to work and wants to please. He is excited about new things which will help me become more active. Who knows, maybe I’ll take some college classes and do some volunteering.”

“The trainers and staff have been excellent. So much patience!!! Amazing! Having a room suitable for a paraplegic has made the training session so much more pleasant as well as easier. People are always surprised such a place exists in this tiny town. But these are the exact reasons KSDS excels. There is warmth that surrounds the facility. Students are stressed enough with all the learning; the warm friendly atmosphere of KSDS reduces the tension. The same non-stressful atmosphere has eased my fears of having a service dog. It will be so wonderful to have help with my disability.”

Simon’s puppy raiser was Susan Jones, Gore, OK.

JOSH LEWIS AND BING - SERVICE

Josh Lewis from Birmingham, MO arrived at KSDS in order to meet his first service dog, Bing from the Internet litter. A beautiful yellow Labrador retriever, Bing helps Josh with his mobility, avoiding obstacles, bracing and picking up items. Josh is especially pleased that Bing is helping him to walk more and with more stability and energy.

By attending the Ability Fair hosted by the Rehabilitation Institute in Kansas City, Josh learned about KSDS and decided to apply for a service dog. Josh’s goals with the assistance of Bing are to walk more, increase his stamina and to get more exercise therefore, improving his overall health.

While training at KSDS, Josh commented that “we had an amazing experience. Annette and Sara were great! They gave me a lot of one-on-one training because they want my dog and I to be a successful team. I can think of no other organization that treats clients as well as KSDS. They have supplied housing and food at no cost to us. The trainers worked with me on an individual basis to make sure I learned the commands; they really want their teams to be successful. The classes were pretty intense. But at the same time a lot of fun. I enjoyed meeting everyone in my class. My dog, Bing, is the canine version of myself. We are both very calm and laid back!”

Bing’s puppy raiser was Dr. Pat Payne from Manhattan, KS.
ERIN PLEMMONS AND DUNDEE - FACILITY

Erin Plemmons from Wilton, Iowa teaches in Muscatine, IA, a small rural town which boasts the “oldest ice cream parlor/soda fountain in the USA.” When considering a facility dog, Erin did her research and realized that “KSDS was the best-of-the-best!” On April 1st, Erin and her partner, Dundee, a gorgeous black Labrador retriever from the Australian slang litter, graduated and became a certified facility team. As a special education teacher of students with moderate to severe disabilities, Erin shared, “I am so excited to bring Dundee to my school. My intent is to use Dundee as a source of calm, peace and love in my classroom. Sometimes my students will need to get a big hug from Dundee or pet him. They may want to lay with him in our reading corner or practice their fluency or speech with him. I also see Dundee acting as a bridge to foster more relationships between my students and their same-aged peers.”

“Where to begin? This program is so impressive. I was amazed before I got here, but now I am in awe as I am educated. Everything is coordinated and done deliberately with the future always in mind. These dogs are amazing—pure and simple. This is due to purposeful breeding and training and partnerships with various organizations, volunteers, schools and even a correctional facility. KSDS is the best of the best!”

Dundee’s puppy raiser was Ed Wierman from Chicago, IL.

KAREN PROBST AND LEGOLAS - SERVICE

Karen Probst from Blue Springs, MO was paired with Legolas, a sweet yellow Labrador retriever from the Lord of the Rings litter. Lego helps Karen by providing stability when walking, retrieving things that are dropped, and improving her energy level by being more active. Karen enjoys visiting the Kansas City VA hospital, state conventions, the library and Order of the Eastern Star activities. With Legos help, Karen will be able to make more of these visits.

While shopping in a furniture store, Karen asked a person with a service dog “what can your dog do for you?” Karen was amazed at what he did and knew that a dog could help her too. Karen learned about KSDS from a member of her health support group and a demonstration that was provided. As graduation neared, Karen shared that she “never thought that having a working partner could make such a difference in my daily life. My goal is to live life to the fullest and going and doing what I want with my new partner.” According to Karen, “At KSDS the dogs are #1. The staff is exceptional. With the community’s help, KSDS will excel for many years to come. The staff is dedicated to their work and always there to help. I have had a great time!”

Legolas’s puppy raiser was Jerrilynn Bayless from Terre Haute, IN.

MASON PYNE AND STELLA - SERVICE

Mason Pyne, an 8th grader from Pocatello, Idaho, tires easily from wheeling his wheelchair and can’t reach some light switches and doors. That’s where Stella comes in! Mason was paired with a beautiful black Labrador retriever named Stella from the “S” litter. Now Mason has assistance with transferring, opening doors, pulling his chair uphill and straight so that he can go by himself. With Stella’s help Mason hopes to go to more public places and events such as visiting friends and concerts. Stella can even help with laundry, and of course, Stella is a great friend. Mason indicated that “it was fun to bond with Stella, my new partner. We work good together for retrieving items. We are the ‘pulling team,’” he said.

Mason noted that “Stella means Star.” Although Mason isn’t sure how Stella will affect his social life at school, he hopes that more people will talk to him. This is a concern of many people who use a wheelchair. Other people are not always comfortable talking to someone who has a disability—what do I say? Stella and other dogs like her make conversations more natural. We are sure Stella will be a star for Mason to follow to greater independence and exciting new friendships.

Stella’s puppy raiser was Susie Metcalf from Juniata, NE.
DeSoto, Kansas is where Angie Russell works as a middle school counselor. She learned about KSDS from another counselor in her school district. Angie was so impressed by Kim and Sassy's working relationship, she knew that she had to apply to KSDS for a facility dog. From the Internet litter, yellow Labrador retriever Skype was paired with Angie. Angie shared that “I can’t help but smile when I look into Skype’s face. My heart fills with joy when I think of all the lives she will impact.” According to Angie, “going to see the counselor carries a stigma. Going to see Skype will make many more students feel comfortable initiating a visit. Skype will love all the students. She won’t care who wears expensive clothes, who is athletic, who struggles socially or academically; she will be a friend to all. Sometimes just sitting and petting a dog helps relieve stress and who doesn’t love a wagging tail?”

“I am touched and impressed by the expertise and caring trainers and other staff I’ve met. I know they’ve put in years of training time, fundraising, breeding programs, finding puppy raisers and countless other tasks, all of which have made it possible for me to have Skype. I’m thankful to Letha for patiently answering all my questions and especially for giving me feedback and suggestions on how to work with Skype. I’m humbled and honored to be given this privilege. Skype is amazing! Skype and I are two peas in a pod. I think we both have big hearts and truly want to help others. Skype will be a blessing to all and I am so thankful to have the opportunity to work with her.” “Let the adventure begin!”

Skype’s puppy raisers include Kirstie Petesch from Meriden, KS and the “Pooches and Pals” ladies from Topeka Correctional Facility, Topeka, KS.

Jerilyn Smith comes from the small rural town of Hoyt, KS, and she applied to KSDS because they are accredited by Assistance Dogs International (ADI). She stated, “It made me trust their training.” Upon arriving at KSDS, Jerilyn met her new partner, a black Labrador retriever named Yahoo from the Internet litter. Jerilyn found that Yahoo had “just the right amount of ‘girlie’ and was strong enough to carry a load.” Yahoo will allow Jerilyn to be more mobile and more involved with her family, her community and hopefully to return to college and earn a degree.

“She is my new best bud, and I can’t wait to experience life beyond my limitations with Yahoo beside me,” shared Jerilyn. She continued, “Being at KSDS has been an experience beyond any other. KSDS is an amazing blessing. My physical and emotional limits have been pushed to the extreme. Coming toward the end of the program, I can see why it has to be hard; to make sure the commitment is real.” Jerilyn noted, “Thank you to all who help with this program, from puppy raisers, donors, helpers, the facility, those who provided meals, and so many others. Thank you to the trainers for being on us and pushing us to rise above the challenge. There is no greater reward than going home with a KSDS assistance dog. I couldn’t have asked for a better partner than Yahoo.”

Yahoo’s puppy raiser was Randy Paxson from Wichita, KS.

Dustin Strelsky resides in Rockdale, TX and traveled to KSDS to meet his service dog, Santo from the “S” litter. Santo is a large and loveable black Labrador retriever. Dustin commented, “I believe that having a service dog will make my community more aware of how much an assistance dog can help if someone has a disability. I do believe that I will have more of an opportunity because of my dog, Santo, to become more active in my community.” Dustin feels his independence will increase and that he will have more energy because Santo will help pull his wheelchair. When Dustin transfers to his truck, Santo can help hand the folded wheelchair to Dustin so he can put it in the truck. As a full-time college student, Dustin is studying political science with the goal of becoming a lawyer in the future. Dustin sees Santo as a plus when he continues in the world of work. “Santo and I are best friends. We have a strong bond,” shared Dustin.

“KSDS is amazing. The training at KSDS was great. Sara and Annette did a great job of training me. When I go home, I will know exactly what to do.” Dustin continued, “The KSDS facility was more than I expected. The people providing meals to us were amazing. The whole community was so welcoming. Thank you so much. You have changed my life!”

Santo’s puppy raiser was Lisa Hamilton from Cimarron, KS.
TRIBUTES

MEMORIAL

The Dragstrip Insurance Agency
Topeka Community Foundation
Troup 59 Boy Scouts of America
Union Pacific Employees Club

#28

Libby Eaton
Matt (dog)

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, Nobby 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 X 10, 8 1/2 X 12, 10 1/2 X 16)
• Mailing envelopes (4 X 6)
• First class forever postage stamps

Thank you for helping KSDS continue its work in placing quality assistance dogs. The Donor List is inclusive of February 1, 2017 through May 31, 2017. Omission of any name is not intentional and will be published in the next newsletter upon notification.
A cold and soggy April day turned out to be one of the most successful events for KSDS thanks to the hard work of the KSU College of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2018 who hosted this family fundraiser that benefits KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. The weather improved and there was a large crowd who participated in the 10K, 5K and 1 1/2K run/walk events. The silent auction items were a popular draw and a few people and their dogs were all dressed up for the occasion. KSDS was well represented and flyers, pencils, newsletters and other items were distributed. A brief demonstration of our KSDS dogs in action was provided by trainers and puppy raisers.

The vet school and KSDS have an extraordinary relationship. The KSU Vet College performs the testing for our assistance dogs in training. These tests include hips, elbows, eyes, heart and other needed exams, and are provided free or at a reduced rate. Remember KSDS is a non-profit corporation, so every penny saved counts. Thank you KSU!

Rain or shine this event is always fun and well-organized. KSDS appreciates all the effort that the KSU 2nd year veterinary students did to make this event so successful. A check presentation will be held at a later date to celebrate this $5500 donation.

Difficult situations arise in schools just as it does in all walks of life. A student at Line Creek School in Kansas City, MO who had epilepsy and was partnered with a service dog passed away in February. To help the children and staff of this school, a “lighthouse” group and their sponsors chose to pour their grief into a fundraiser that would help another person receive an assistance dog. The children sold hearts during Valentine’s Day and elected to send the donation to KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. We were humbled and honored to receive that phone call. The students of Line Creek and the staff wore hats and helmets in honor of their friend because she had to wear a helmet to school to protect her in case she fell. A few pictures of staff and a couple pictures of our dogs wearing helmets and hats were taken and sent to the students at Line Creek so that they would know that we stand with them in solidarity in honoring their friend. KSDS is even more committed now to placing quality assistance dogs with people with disabilities. “Line Creek Strong!”

One of the largest graduating classes received their certification at spring graduation on Saturday, April 1, 2017 on the KSDS campus. Over 125 people gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of twelve new partnerships. For the first time, the graduation was “live-streamed” on Facebook which appeared to be a smashing success. Following a welcome from the KSDS Board President, Ed Maynard, and introductions from CEO, Glenda Keller, each puppy raiser introduced the new team (client and canine).

An inspiring litany of comments was shared by each graduate as they individually spoke about meeting their dog for the first time and the changes they experienced as they bonded with their new assistance dog. Many graduates noted the difficult and challenging sessions that ensued. They were touched by how their trainers proved to be professional, dedicated and determined to see each and every one of the graduates succeed. Time and again, the graduates thanked their puppy raisers, the volunteers who provided food and other assistance and the donors who helped to make their graduation a reality.

It takes the whole KSDS staff and board of directors to culminate in a graduation, but the trainers working the closest with the dogs and clients are Deb Tegethoff (Guide), Annette Metz and Sara Gustin, (Service), Letha Nelson, (Facility) and Kristi Myers, (Apprentice Trainer). When the phrase “It takes a village to raise a child” was coined it also applied to the KSDS mission. Each dog that is paired with a client has a value of $25,000. On Saturday, April 1st, $300,000 worth of assistance dogs sauntered out the door with their new forever partners. As a nonprofit, that free gift depends on donations. Each and every one of you who donated to KSDS is part of this KSDS family who makes a difference in the lives of our graduates. We extend our thanks to you for helping us graduate 12 teams this spring. That was so exciting...let’s do it again this fall!
**PUP DAYS**

Great things happen when dedicated puppy raisers get together!

New friendships are forged and past ones are renewed. You see, these selfless people have much in common. They have taken an 8-week-old puppy and have fallen in love with this pup. Oh, they didn’t mean to get too close or fall so deeply, but once the puppies snuggled up in their arms—-it was all over! Thank goodness because more than anything, KSDS wants their puppies to feel loved. There are commands to learn, potty training to conquer and sights and sounds to experience, but most important to their future is the confidence that they are loved. Have no fear; puppy raisers take this task and others seriously.

On April 21st and 22nd, Pup Days provided an opportunity for KSDS trainers to review information, explain techniques and to answer questions. Thanks to Deb Tegethoff, Puppy Raiser Manager, and her advisory committee, an abundance of program offerings were provided such as distraction, meet and greet and obedience practice. Teaching commands were reviewed by each advisory board member. Kerstin Ramus listed ways to fundraise as a puppy raiser. Then two graduates returned and shared their stories and answered questions. When a puppy raiser is preparing to turn in their now 18-month-old dog for advanced training, a graduate describing how their dog partner has changed their life makes the turning in process much easier—not easy—just more insightful.

Pup Days wouldn’t be the same without FOOD. The Kansas Flippers provided pancakes, fruit and other goodies for breakfast. The advisory board members made sure that snacks were available all day and lunch was provided by KSDS. On Friday night, those arriving early were treated to pizza, a scavenger hunt (won by the 4 men and their dogs), and other ice breakers.

Puppy raisers from as far away as New Jersey, Georgia, Iowa, Missouri, Oklahoma and Nebraska joined the Kansas members for a wonderful Pup Days event. We extend our thanks to the advisory board and Deb for planning a relaxing and informative “Tricks of the Trade” program. The board consists of Susan Jones (OK), Lisa Hamilton (KS), Kristi Harland (MN), Jacob Davenport (KS), Shelia Johnson (MO) and Lea VanderVendt (KS).
PUPPY RAISERS
are needed this summer and early autumn. 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.