

C O U R I E R



A match made in Heaven: Tyler, age six, and his Canine Companion, Handy. Tyler, a first-grader in the university town of Greeley, Colorado, is the youngest recipient of a Canine Companion SERVICE dog. The pair graduated from CCI in February 1986.

Colorado Team Is Key in Membership Drive

More than a key to happiness, SERVICE dog Handy is the key to independence for his young master, Tyler. **At the heart of stories like this are people like you, whose membership dollars are the key to providing dogs like Handy for people like Tyler.**

Disabled since birth, Tyler has spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy. He cannot stand or walk and has trouble with fine motor coordination in his hands. Extremely bright and articulate for a six-year-old, he talks openly about his disability and is as adventuresome as other youngsters his age.

When applying to Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) for a dog, Tyler's parents wrote, "He is eager to get a Canine Companion for a friend, playmate and to help him." And help Handy does. While the bond between Tyler and Handy works magic, it didn't develop with a simple "abracadabra." It took hard work on the part of boy and dog to cement their partnership.

Boot Camp is grueling for the heartiest of participants. The long hours and rigorous testing were tough on Tyler: in typical Tyler fashion, he remained undaunted. He was determined to take Handy home to Colorado. But first, Tyler, like all Boot Campers, had to prove he could manage Handy, who weighs more than Tyler and his wheelchair combined, in any situation that might crop up, public or private.

In their final test — a solo — Tyler and Handy had to maneuver through a Santa Rosa shopping mall and make a purchase, while CCI "spies" observed. Tyler headed for a toy store and selected a toy airplane. Next, Handy placed the toy on the counter, which Tyler couldn't reach, turned back to Tyler to take the money in his mouth, gently "handed" it to the salesclerk and finally took the package from the clerk and placed

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Charles M. Schulz pictured with two special "warm puppies," future Canine Companions Geyser Peak (left) and Koquette.

CCI Documentary Produced by Creator of "Peanuts"

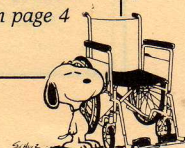
"Happiness is a warm puppy." This is just one of many famous expressions coined by "Peanuts" cartoonist, Charles M. Schulz. Now, the genius behind Charlie Brown, Lucy and Snoopy, along with his wife, Jean Schulz, is intent on seeing that the words "Canine Companions" become household words, as well. They are producers of a half-hour documentary about the coming together of Canine Companion dogs and their disabled masters. The film, *Canine Companions: Dogs and the Disabled? You'd Be Surprised!* will be released in early 1987. Schulz is also narrator.

Created by the award-winning film production team of David and Karen Crommie, the film follows Julia Mora, age 29, Vaughn Held, age 26, Irene Plummer, age 56, and Tyler Youngren, age six, through the joys and sorrows of Boot Camp and graduation, then picks up in their hometowns several months later.

In this unique film, Schulz has taken his affinity for dogs a step beyond his precocious beagle, Snoopy. Mrs. Schulz explained, "Clearly, we saw this film as a way to really help people see and understand the complexities that go into making Canine Companions such a wonderful program."

A quiet, unassuming man, Schulz has a keen understanding of human nature, akin to the insights of CCI's founder, Bonita Bergin. About the documentary, Mrs. Bergin commented, "We are so grateful to the Schulzes — and honored

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DIRECTOR'S CHAIR



Bonita M. Bergin,
Founder & Executive Director,
pictured with her German
shepherd, Gravity — a CCI
breeder.

Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) exists for only one purpose: to enhance the strengths and promote the independence of individuals with physical and developmental challenges. We are able to do our job because you care.

In 1986, over 1,900 people like you showed their concern, with donations and memberships. Small or large, each contribution was from the heart. For that, we thank you.

I see only good things ahead for CCI. We knew we had to grow. Further proof is the tremendous number of applications for dogs we've received as a result of the articles on CCI graduates in *Reader's Digest* and *Life*. More and more disabled individuals are becoming aware that a Canine Companion can help them in their quest for independence. In 1987, the Southwest Office will blossom into a full-fledged training center. Two Boot Camps will be held at the new site and 15 Canine

Companions placed. For disabled individuals living in the Southwest, this is a long-awaited opportunity.

With the solidification of our role in the Southwest, we are targeting our services for the Northeast next. Following a strategy similar to that developed in Los Angeles, CCI will open, in 1987, a New York office as a base for establishing a Northeast Training Center. This is another important step. For the first time in history, Canine Companions will be available to those living in the East, without their incurring the cost of traveling to California to attend Boot Camp.

A year from now, we will have even more success stories like Tyler's to tell. The youngest person ever to receive a Canine Companion SERVICE dog, Tyler means a lot to us. Because of his courage, because of his determination, Tyler was chosen to represent CCI in our 1987 membership campaign.

Which brings me to this special issue of the *Courier*. We need your help to make 1987 the best ever for individuals with disabilities. We need your help to place, in the next year, over 70 Canine Companions nationwide (a CCI record).

As a CCI member, you can be the key to a better life for adults, teens and children like Tyler. This year we are counting more than ever on members to help keep CCI moving forward.

Bonita M. Bergin



NORTHWEST REGIONAL NEWS

Kerrill Knaus Named Southwest Regional Director

Under the direction of Kerrill Knaus, the Northwest Region has made great strides since its official opening in July 1985: new fundraising events have been developed; local United Way funding was again secured; and training methods have been refined.

With the impending purchase of a kennel/training center in southern California, CCI's Southwest Region is moving into full swing. And Kerrill has taken her know-how south, to direct the new center and model it after the training center in Santa Rosa.

In parting, Kerrill commented, "Since moving into our beautiful, clean training center, it's hard to remember the leaks and rats encountered as we struggled to train dogs in the primitive chicken coop that was for so long our office. Wearing nice clothes seems normal now, and our dogs are healthier, happier and learning quicker than ever before. Still, there is a far greater demand for Canine Companions than this one center can handle. The Southwest Center will allow us to double the number of dogs available annually. It is with some sorrow I leave Northwest, but with a sense of great challenge. Thanks to all of you who made it possible to be where we are today."

1987 GRADUATION DATES

February 21 • May 23 • August 22 • November 21

PUBLIC IS WELCOME



SOUTHWEST REGIONAL NEWS

Patricia Murphy To Open CCI's New York Office

Southwest Regional Coordinator, Patricia A. Murphy, has spent the past year laying the foundation for opening a fully operational Southwest Regional Training Center. In addition to conducting dozens of demonstrations to introduce Canine Companions to the Los Angeles area, Patricia was responsible for developing the local Puppy Program. Her tireless efforts have paid off: 49 puppies are growing up in southern California foster homes. When they come of age, these same pups will return to the Southwest Training Center for their advanced training.

By the end of 1987, 15 to 25 Canine Companions are expected to graduate from this new facility. The following year, the Southwest Center will be up to full capacity, graduating a full 50 to 60 dogs.

Meanwhile, Patricia has gone east to open CCI's Northeast Regional Office in New York. Following the same successful pattern developed in the Southwest, she is busy laying groundwork for the training center that will follow. By this time next year, 50 puppies will be growing up with families living on the northeastern seaboard.

Patricia, a northern California native, views her new assignment with the sense of trail blazing synonymous with CCI, itself. Upon departing she said, "It's a great opportunity to go somewhere I've never been. I've learned a lot working in L.A. It's exciting to be taking all that to New York!"

VET'S CORNER

Illustration by Patty Bratsberg, AHT



Take the bite out of winter flea infestations.

Set Fleas Fleeing by Roseland Vet Clinic

An old wives' tale has it that flea season ends when winter begins. However, with warmth and moisture being the key ingredients for maximum flea production, warm fires and rainy season humidity can turn households into virtual flea incubators.

To combat this problem, flea control on pets is advised, along with regular treatment of both indoor and outdoor environs. Fleas spend only 10 percent of their time on pets themselves; ninety percent of the time they are busy seeding carpets, floors, and bedding with new generations of fleas. Thus, treatment of these areas is essential, as well.

New flea treatment and prevention products enter the market each year, often leaving pet owners mystified as to what to use. Many well-advertised products provide little or no effective flea control, while others can prove toxic if used in combination with additional over-the-counter flea products. And, skin allergies and irritations may be further aggravated by ingredients in certain topical flea preparations.

Some general guidelines for flea control are:

- Vacuum frequently, removing vacuum cleaner bag and contents.
- Treat outside areas regularly with professionally recommended sprays.
- Read and follow all package instructions.
- DO NOT exceed recommended dosage or use product more frequently than recommended.
- Check with your veterinarian before trying any new products, even those claiming to be non-toxic.

To establish safe, effective flea control, consult your veterinarian. Perseverance and consistent treatment **will** bring results. Don't give up!



CANINE COMPANIONS IN THE NEWS / AROUND THE GLOBE



The November 1986 issue of *Life* magazine carried an article about CCI graduate, David Pearson, of Modesto, Calif. and his SERVICE dog, Cameo. David, 14, has Duchenne's disease, a form of muscular dystrophy. He and Cameo graduated in CCI's November 1985 class.

Life assistant editor, Jan Mason, and Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist, Brian Lanker, spent nearly a week with Cameo, David and the Pearson family. While Ms. Mason was learning nearly everything there was to know about bright, quick-witted David, Lanker documented Cameo's attentive, helpful ways. A black Labrador retriever, she pulls David in his wheelchair, picks up articles David drops, and is literally his constant companion. (Cameo has even become a member of the Beyer High School marching band, right alongside saxophone-playing David!)

Lanker also captured the special bond between boy and dog — that extra-enthusiastic tailwag Cameo reserves only for her David; Cameo's soulful eyes as she lies with David at night; Cameo's ever-happy disposition — the family's best weapon against the depression that can go hand-in-hand with a degenerative illness.

Ms. Mason authored the original 1964 *Life* article about Jill Kinnmont, the great American skier who became a quadriplegic in a 1955 skiing accident. Her article led to a book, *A Long Way Up*, on which she collaborated with E.G. Valens. The book in turn led to the 1974 motion picture, *The Other Side of the Mountain*. Lanker, widely regarded as one of America's top photographers, works under contract for both *Life* and *Sports Illustrated* magazines.

Service Dogs Visit Landmarks

1986 saw the Statue of Liberty become wheelchair-accessible for the first time. And so, while vacationing in New York, Kerrill Knaus and her SERVICE dog, Abdul, visited Lady Liberty. Kerrill, a quadriplegic since birth, is a Calif. resident.

Meanwhile, on Pacific shores, a SERVICE dog named Coca-Cola pulled his master, Vaughn Held, of Santa Rosa, Calif. across the Golden Gate Bridge. Vaughn, a November 1985 CCI graduate, became a quadriplegic as the result of a 1979 spinal cord injury.

Stories like these are reminders of how much the world opens up for disabled individuals with Canine Companions at their sides. Thanks to the hard work of sympathetic legislators and CCI's out-of-state graduates, five more states passed SERVICE dog access laws in 1986. Canine Companion SERVICE dogs now have the same public access rights as guide dogs in at least a dozen states.

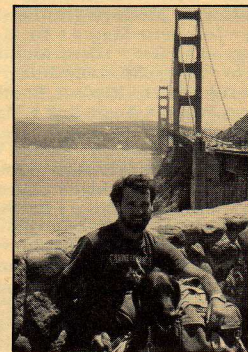
PHOTO BY MARIA GLEMMANN. USED WITH PERMISSION.



Kerrill Knaus and Abdul visit Lady Liberty.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VAUGHN HELD. USED WITH PERMISSION.



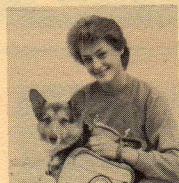
Vaughn Held and Coca-Cola together cross Golden Gate Bridge.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DR. HENRY MALE FAMILY. USED WITH PERMISSION.

Yet another anniversary was reached with August graduation: it was August 1981 when the first official CCI graduation ceremony was conducted. Canine Companions' Summer 1986 Boot Camp and commencement ceremony were covered by *CBS Evening News* and the segment aired coast-to-coast. This class included students from as far away as Pennsylvania and Alaska. Laser (pictured below) is the first Canine Companion placement made in Alaska!

August 1986 Class

★ A star denotes who raised puppy.



CARLA & QUESTER
Fresno, CA
★ Patricia Pollock



MARGARET & MAJOR
Bonny Doon, CA
★ CCI



KAY & LOIS
Carson, CA
★ CCI



KIM & GENESIS
State College, PA
★ Chris Lomanto



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Santa Rosa, CA
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CHRISTIANNE & LEE
San Jacinto, CA
★ CCI



SANDY & LANDMARK
Canoga Park, CA
★ CCI



GLENN & MERLIN
Oxnard, CA
★ Carol Grice



ALICE & JANE
Santa Rosa, CA
★ Cathy Pitts



STACEY & JET
Stanford, CA
★ Pat Stewart



ROBERTA & LASER
Anchorage, AK
★ Leona McIlvain



MAILBAG

Dear Canine Companions:

I hope I can put into words in this letter what a wonderful dog Dobbins is, and how well he is working out. He is not only a big help to me in controlling Christopher, but he has turned out to be an outstanding SOCIAL dog for my son. He has had a positive effect on Christopher and he can now sit for quite a while with Dobbins watching over him. Now at least I do not have to either constantly hold or chase Christopher and he doesn't have to be isolated in his room in order for me to get anything done. Dobbins is especially helpful when we are visiting friends.

Dobbins loves to play ball and tug with a rag. This is something that is appropriate and fun for Christopher to do socially.

I presently intend to use Dobbins every time I go somewhere with Christopher. A real social advantage for Christopher is that other children approach him (when he has Dobbins along) rather than avoid him. I think that, and the fact that Dobbins makes Christopher laugh, are the two most important things Dobbins does for Christopher, himself.

Please accept our sincere gratitude for your wonderful program. We hope to have Dobbins for many years.

Editor's note:

The above excerpts were taken from a letter written by the mother of 11-year-old Christopher, a November 1985 CCI graduate. Born with Down's syndrome, Christopher is also autistic.



PHOTO BY CLARK'S PHOTO ART STUDIO. USED WITH PERMISSION.

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CCI members are at the heart of scenes like these. Membership donations are the key to providing Canine Companions nationwide.

it in Tyler's lap. Tyler then secured his prize in Handy's backpack. With a proud smile, Tyler grabbed the handle on the pack and firmly told Handy to "pull" him back out into the mall. There they stopped to exchange hugs, while the spies, still hidden, silently applauded boy and dog.

And so, Tyler passed, becoming the youngest out-of-state CCI graduate. The night of graduation, Tyler cried noticeably when Handy was temporarily taken from his side to be presented on stage by his puppy raiser, Nadine Campbell. Since then, Tyler and Handy have continued to prove they are kindred spirits.

CCI presently has some 200 people, much like Tyler, waiting to receive a Canine Companion of their own. **You are the key to helping us say "yes" to these scores of disabled individuals. Members' dollars have an even greater direct impact as CCI's expansion plans become reality.** Additional training centers mean the ability to train and place more dogs sooner than is possible with present space limitations.

Your dollars will turn the key in the lock, behind which waits independence for more deserving "Tyler's."



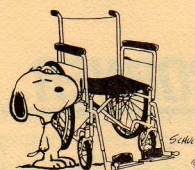
LIONS PROJECT FOR CCI NEWS

Excitement is brewing in the Lions Project for CCI, much of it thanks to the new foundation president, Neal Isaacson, PDG. A district developmental plan has been implemented, adding 12 VIP trustees acting as our representatives throughout California, Nevada, and in Oklahoma. This structured expansion promises more Member Clubs, Life and Associate Memberships, and full Sponsorships. Most rewarding, this broadening geographical base is leading to an increase in puppy homes: the Puppy Placement Program is the heart of the LPCCI's commitment to CCI.

Special thanks and recognition goes to Margaret Warren, Clifford Wong and the late Neil Jeffrey, all new Life Members. **A hearty welcome** to the following new Member Clubs: • San Jose East Valley Lions • Round Valley Lioness • Coddington Lions • Little Rock Lions • Northwest Glendale Lions • Woodland Hills Lions • Lake Mendocino Lions • Tri-Club Lioness • Nashville West Lioness • Millbrae Lions • Senator Lions, home club of Lions Clubs International Director, Kay Fukushima. **Grateful acknowledgement** to these generous contributors: • Ross Valley Lions • Alhambra Lions • Las Vegas Host Lions • Santa Rosa Host Lions.

The Lions Project for Canine Companions for CCI (LPCCI) is a special Lions foundation serving CCI through funding and administration of the National Puppy Placement Program.

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to be the subject of this film. Just as Snoopy refuses to be an ordinary dog, so do ours. Charles Schulz believed in Canine Companions before many others would."

The Crommies have dozens of productions to their credit, including several NBC specials. They produced the first-ever commissioned films for Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon. The AA film was a San Francisco International Film Festival winner.

Reflecting on the shooting sessions, Ms. Crommie said, "We had never worked with disabled people; we didn't know how to relate to them at first. We wanted to do everything for them; the dogs helped us learn. It was fascinating to see how the dogs instinctively knew that when we were present, the camera — instead of their masters — was suddenly in command. We saw the dynamics change right before our eyes and came to understand how hard these people must work at learning to master their dogs — in all situations. It was the most rewarding experience we've ever had."

Every one of the 217 working Canine Companions, the 50 dogs in training and the 160 puppies waiting in the wings, is proud to be rubbing elbows with Snoopy, said to be the most famous dog in the world.

TO OUR 1986 DONORS — A SINCERE THANK YOU!

Your generosity helped create the scenes and stories portrayed in these pages. To all of you, CCI graduates like Tyler, David, Christopher, Kerrill, Vaughn — their friends and families, and everyone at CCI extend heartfelt gratitude.

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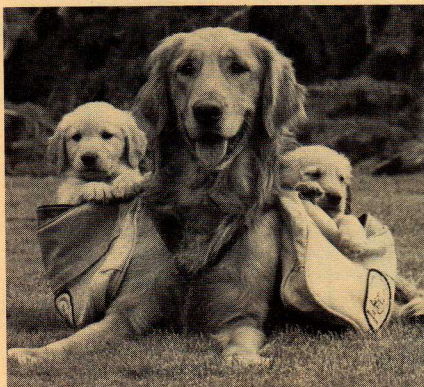
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VOLUNTEER & PUPPY NEWS



CCI now has a record 160 puppy raisers! These puppies will fuel the future Southwest and Northeast Training Centers, as well as the existing Northwest Training Center.

In order to keep up with the increased capacity these new CCI training centers will provide, new litters of pups, like those pictured, come up for adoption biweekly. Join the wonderful and dedicated force of puppy raisers and help propel CCI and its disabled students onward to a bright future.

The following excerpts were taken from news clippings and puppy raisers' letters. These words provide a glimpse of the genuine joy experienced in raising a Canine Companion puppy.

Rosie Law is raising Treasure, a Labrador retriever: "I've learned a lot of patience and I've also learned a lot about trust. I trust her and she trusts me," Rosie says."

Paul & Tara Lengyel are raising Gizmo, a golden retriever: "I am personally raising a puppy: correction, Tara, my daughter, is raising a puppy! As many of you know, Tara is autistic and has severe hyperactivity (among many other things). My friends thought I had really flipped when I brought Gizmo home. An interesting thing has happened [since then]. I insist that Tara share in the puppy duties. She goes to classes with Gizmo and cries for him at the veterinarian's. (She begged the vet not to give Gizmo shots.) Although we have always had at least one dog, this one is different. Tara knows Gizmo will go to another boy or girl one day, and although I can see sorrow behind her stares, Tara does seem to understand. Someday, we may even get a trained dog for Tara. Canine Companions for **Independence** is working independence in a very different way for us!"

Carol Grubler is raising Yarborough, a golden retriever: "It's exciting to know you're a part of something like this, but it is also upsetting that we are going to lose him," Carol admits. "It's like raising a child. If you attend a graduation, meet the people who are getting the dogs and see what it means to them," she says. "I guarantee you wouldn't hesitate to take a dog and raise it for this cause."

CCI PERSONNEL

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CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE (CCI) is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization founded in 1975. CCI trains specially bred dogs to assist people with disabilities other than blindness to live independent lives. **SERVICE** dogs aid people with orthopedic challenges; **SIGNAL** dogs alert the hearing-impaired and deaf to crucial sounds; **SOCIAL** dogs are placed with individuals or in institutions as part of Pet Facilitated Therapy; and **SPECIALTY** dogs are trained for seniors or individuals with multiple disabilities. CCI's founder, Bonita M. Bergin, conceived and pioneered the **SERVICE** dog concept.

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