

# The Caring Canine Chronicle

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February 2001

## New Board of Directors for 2001

### President

Marlene Truesdell

### Vice President

Linda Solano

### Secretary

Michelle Cohen

### Treasurer

Burton Goldstein

### Board Members

Margo Bechtel

Mark Cohen

Mary Meyer

Holly Parker

Renee Stubbs

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## Changing the Face of NCTD

NCTD is going through many changes on many levels. We have new board members (listed on the left). Feel free to contact them at any time.

We have a new permanent mailing address. It is:

NCTD  
P.O. Box 234  
Highland, MD, 20777.

NCTD also recently launched a new website, <http://www.nctdinc.org>, under the expertise of our new webmaster, Mark

Cohen. Read more about this on page 2.

We will be updating our brochures and business cards to reflect the new contact information. New materials will be distributed when they are available. In the meantime, if you have any leftover materials, please correct them before giving them out.

We have two new facilities. Beltsville Community Center and



Roland Park Assisted Living. Check out page 3 for more details.

What's **not** changing is our focus on quality visits to our facilities. Thanks for all of your support. All of us wish you a safe, healthy, and happy 2001!

## Updated Volunteer Roster

Included with this newsletter, you will find a volunteer roster. Thanks to everyone submitting their volunteer team profile, we were able to compile this document.

Hopefully you will find it helpful to use for keeping in touch with other volunteers! Please take a moment and verify your information. If this information is not accurate,

please call Michelle Cohen at 301-776-4742 or email her at [therapybeagles@cablespeed.com](mailto:therapybeagles@cablespeed.com) so that it can be corrected in our files and in the next distribution of the roster.

## NCTD Launches New Website

NCTD has launched new website at <http://www.nctdinc.org>!! It has a new look and feel along with some new features you might find useful. Highlights include updated facility information, and expanded "Handlers Brag Book", and links to volunteer homepages.

Check it out and let our Webmaster, Mark Cohen, know what you think. You can reach him by

phone (301-776-4742) or email ([markcohen@cablespeed.com](mailto:markcohen@cablespeed.com)).

He is interested in your feedback to make our new site as beneficial as possible for everyone.

**Check the website often for updates and new features (especially the calendar!).**

*Screen Capture of the New NCTD Website*



## Master's Candidate Studies NCTD

As you may know, our student consultant, Nicole Lewis has taken NCTD on as a project for her Master's Thesis. Her degree will be in Organizational Development and Human Resources from John's Hopkins University.

She has observed several visits and meetings, and has inter-

viewed several volunteers. She will provide NCTD with 120 hours of consulting and provide a detailed report on the organizational status of NCTD.

Her report and recommendations will be presented at the next board meeting, **February 25 at 6:30pm** at Marlene Truesdell's

house. *All are welcome to attend.*

Contact Marlene Truesdell if interested in attending at 301-854-6231. Call Michelle Cohen at 301-776-4742 if you are interested in receiving a copy of Nicole's report.

## NCTD Teams in the News

Recently, three NCTD Teams were interviewed and photographed at John's Hopkins Children's House during a visit.

The article, "The Warmth of a Cold, Wet Nose", appeared in

the Winter 2001 issue of *Hopkins Medical News* and the January issue of *Dome*.

The featured teams were Margo Bechtel and Bailey, Mark Cohen and Daisy, and Michelle Cohen

and Annabelle.

To read the article and see the pictures, go to our new website, [www.nctdinc.org](http://www.nctdinc.org), click on "Handler's Brag Book" and then click on the link to "The Warmth of a Cold, Wet Nose".

## New NCTD Facilities

NCTD has adopted two new facilities-Beltsville Community Center and Roland Park Assisted Living.

Beltsville Community Center is run by the MD Parks and Planning Commission. We visit an after school program for special needs children. Lots of progress has already been made. These visits are twice monthly

For more information about Beltsville Community Center, please contact Michelle Cohen,

the facility coordinator, by phone at 301-776-4742 or by email at therapybeagles@cablespeed.com .

Roland Park Assisted Living is a warm, caring environment for Seniors who are working hard to remain self-sufficient. The animals who visit here help the residents to achieve goals to remain both physically and mentally healthy.

If you would like more information about Roland Park Assisted

Living, please contact Marlene Truesdell, the facility coordinator, by phone at 301-854-6231 or by email at marlenerdh@aol.com.

A complete list of our facilities and their respective coordinators is available by selecting the "Facilities" link on our website, <http://www.nctdinc.org>. There are also links to the facilities home pages (when available).

## Wanted: A Few Good Volunteers

NCTD needs help at volunteer testing and volunteer training events. Assistants are needed to: greet people when they arrive and check them in, answer general questions, help set up the testing/training room, and assist with "crowd" tests/demo's. The next training date is March 10,

and the next testing date is March 17th. If you can help, please call Michelle Cohen at 301-776-4742 or email her at therapybeagles@cablespeed.com.

We are also looking for someone to help with updating our bro-

chures and business cards. If you know someone in the printing business, or are a creative person who would enjoy working on the text and/or design, please contact Marlene Truesdell (301-854-6231) or email marlenerdh@aol.com for more details and information related to this project.

## Volunteer Appreciation Night

Volunteer Appreciation Night will be held on March 26th at 7:45pm. It will take place at National Institutes of Health.

Please come for a fun-filled evening. We will introduce the new board members. Awards

will be presented to recognize those teams which have 1 year or more of service. There will also be plenty of refreshments.

It is a great opportunity to meet and socialize with other volunteers in the organization . An

invitation will be mailed out with all the details as well as directions. Dogs in uniform are welcome.

We hope you can make it! If you have any questions, call Michelle Cohen 301-776-4742.

## Do you have...

- Tips?
- Hints?
- Questions?
- An editorial?
- A Story or experience to share?

Please submit material for the next newsletter to Michelle Cohen, (phone 301-776-4742 or email [therapybeagles@cablespeed.com](mailto:therapybeagles@cablespeed.com)) no later than **June 1, 2001**.



*We're on the Web!*  
[www.nctdinc.org](http://www.nctdinc.org)

## Notes:

- ✓ NCTD sells lots of NCTD Gear at cost. Items include denim shirts, polos, tees, and sweats. Contact Michelle Cohen at by phone at 301-776-4742 or email her at [therapybeagles@cablespeed.com](mailto:therapybeagles@cablespeed.com) for details.
- ✓ **We need volunteer help** at the March 10 Team Training and the March 17 Team Evals. If you can help, please call Michelle Cohen at 301-776-4742.
- ✓ If you need to be **recertified**, please call Shari Sternberger at 301-854-0403 by February 28, 2001.
- ✓ Remember to check your information in the roster!
- ✓ Mark your calendar for Volunteer Appreciation Night on March 26 at NIH for a fun filled evening! More details will follow.
- ✓ If you have not attended an Open Floor, please mark your calendar for the next session on April 21st at Florence Bain Senior Center. Please contact Linda Solano for more information at 410-547-8035. *(One open floor session per year is mandatory to visit NCTD facilities).*
- ✓ **Have you hugged your dog today?**

## Schedule Changes

Several changes have been made to the calendar since it was mailed out. Here are the modifications. These are also available on the website.

The calendar scheduled a board meeting on the Feb. 24th. It has been rescheduled for the **Feb. 25 at 6:30pm**. Contact Marlene Truesdell (301-854-6231) for more information.

There will be a visit at Beltsville Community Center **March 1st at 5:00pm**. Contact Michelle Cohen (301-776-4742) for more information.

The Open Floor scheduled for

May 12 has been rescheduled for **April 21st at 9:00am** at Florence Bain Senior Center. Please contact Linda Solano (410-547-8035) for more information.

There will be a Pet Partner training class **May 19 at 9:00am** at Florence Bain Senior Center. Please contact Shari Sternberger (301-854-0403) for more information.

There will be a Team Evaluation on **June 9 starting at 9:00am** at Florence Bain Senior Center. Please contact Shari Sternberger (301-854-0403) for more information.

An OFF LEAD evaluation will be held **June 16 at 9:00am** at Florence Bain Senior Center. Team requirements are 6 months experience, a minimum of 12 visits, and an intermediate rating as Pet Partners. Please contact Linda Solano (410-547-8035) to sign up if interested.

An Open Floor session will be held **June 30th at 9:00am** at Florence Bain Senior Center. Please contact Linda Solano (410-547-8035) for more information. If you have not attended one, please note that one open floor session per year is mandatory to visit NCTD facilities.