



NATIONAL CAPITAL THERAPY DOGS, INC.

P.O. Box 234 · Highland, MD 20777 · 301-585-NCTD · www.nctdinc.org

# THE CARING CANINE CHRONICLE

Volume 3 Issue 1

February 2003

## 2003 Board of Directors

President  
Mark Cohen

Vice President,  
Director of Delta Relations  
Julie Rosenthal

Secretary  
Margo Bechtel

Treasurer  
Burton Goldstein

Director of Facilities  
Harvey Eisen

Director of Public Relations  
Rosemary Bennett

Director of Training  
Linda Solano

Director of Volunteer  
Services  
Michelle Cohen

Immediate Past President  
Marlene Truesdell

## What's New in 2003

*By Mark Cohen*

### **NCTD Becomes a Delta Society® Pet Partners® Affiliate Organization**

It's official! National Capital Therapy Dogs, Inc. is now an affiliate of Delta Society®.

After filing the necessary paperwork, NCTD and Delta Society have a more formal relationship.

NCTD is listed on the Delta Society web site, www.deltasociety.org, under affiliates.

This helps NCTD become more visible. If a volunteer or a facility is looking for a group of Pet Partners® in Maryland, they will find us.

Being an affiliate of Delta Society also allows us to use the Delta Society® Pet Partner® name and logo on our web site, and in brochures, etc.



### **2003 Board of Directors**

Our 2003 Board of Directors is ready for a great year! Find out who's who in page 2.

### **Therapy Dog Training Class**

We are continuing to offer our Therapy Dog Training Class for new and aspiring Pet Partners®. This has been highly successful and lots of fun!

### **Canine-Assisted Reading Education (CARE) SM**

Another new NCTD program. Read all about it on page 2!

### **What's NOT New**

NCTD is always focused on safe, effective, high-quality visiting.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Open Floor: "Back to Basics"	2
Canine-Assisted Reading Education (CARE)	2
2003 Board of Directors	2
2003 Delta Society Conference	3
NCTD Generates New Brochure	3
NCTD Holiday Party	3
Important Info	4

## Season of Snow, Snow, and More Snow!

This is just a reminder of NCTD's snow policies.

NCTD puts the safety of its volunteers and their animals at the highest priority.

If it is the day of a visit and there is inclement weather, please be aware that your

visit may be cancelled.

Be sure to check your e-mail or call your facility coordinator if you are not sure. Better safe than sorry.

Then, stay home and stay warm!



## Open Floor: "Back to Basics"

The next open floor will be held on **March 29, 2003** at the Ellicott Senior Center at 9401 Frederick Rd., Ellicott City, MD 21042. This session will begin at 8:30am-2:00pm for new volunteer teams and 10:00am- 2:00pm for experienced volunteers.

Topics for the day:

Grooming Procedures—along with some hints and tips. This topic will be presented by Michelle Cohen.

Incident Reports-what are they, when do we use them. All from the Delta Society Pet Partners® perspective. This subject will be presented by Marlene Truesdell.

Lunch will be served. There will also be games, prizes, and lots of fun!

We will be creating new NCTD Photo Identification. This will be instead of having your Pet Partner® ID and "Please Touch" attached to you or your animal. You must still keep it with you or in your bag .

Come prepared with your current Pet Partner® ID so your ID# and expiration date can be included on your new tag. Also, we will be taking pictures, so prepare accordingly. These will be renewed every two years.



Whenever your Delta Tags are due, your NCTD tag will need to be renewed as well. In the interim, you still need to attend one Open Floor per year and will still receive an updated sticker for your NCTD ID.

If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Training, Linda Solano at linda@nctdinc.org or 410-547-8035.

## Canine-Assisted Reading Education (CARE)<sup>SM</sup>

Canine-Assisted Reading Education (CARE)<sup>SM</sup> provides a unique opportunity for children to improve their reading skills.

CARE is modeled after the Inter-mountain Therapy Animals Reading Education Assistance Dogs (READ) program and other nationally recognized reading programs.

These programs have proven to be

highly successful when properly implemented.

CARE aims to improve children's reading levels by having children read aloud to specially trained dogs.

Dogs don't laugh at or correct children and therefore create a safe, non-threatening environment for reading. As a result, children gain confidence in their reading ability

and improve their skills.



National Capital Therapy Dogs, Inc. is currently working to establish CARE programs at schools and libraries in the area.

If you are interested in volunteering in one of these programs, please contact Margo Bechtel at (410) 377-8948 or margo@nctdinc.org.

## 2003 Board of Directors

The 2003 NCTD Board of Directors is as follows:

**President:** Mark Cohen

**Vice President and Director of Delta Relations:** Julie Rosenthal

**Secretary:** Margo Bechtel

**Treasurer:** Burton Goldstein

**Director of Facilities:** Harvey Eisen

**Director of Public Relations:** Rosemary Bennett

**Director of Training:** Linda Solano

**Director of Volunteer Services:** Michelle Cohen

**Immediate Past President:** Marlene Truesdell

You have probably noticed that some board members shifted positions on the board, but we also have a new member, Rosemary Bennett.

**Welcome Rosemary!**



## Delta Society® 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference



Delta Society is holding its 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference. Here are the details:

This year's theme is "New Frontiers - The Next 25 Years".

The conference begins Saturday, May 17 - Sunday, May 18, 2003. Pre-conference courses are on Friday, May 16, 2003. Post-conference courses will be held on Monday, May 19, 2003.

The conference will be held at the **Hilton Seattle Airport and Conference Center**. The hotel has completed an extensive renovation and expansion, making it the only facility in the area that is accredited by

the International Association of Conference Centers (IACC).

The keynote speaker this year will be Gail Melson, PhD, author of *Why the Wild Things Are: Animals in the Lives of Children*. They have many informative classes for Pet Partners, health care professionals, and service dog trainers/owners. You network with other people in the AAA/AAT field, eat a lot, and not to mention sight-see. For a more detailed description of the exact courses and registration process/fees, please visit the Delta Society web site, [www.deltasociety.org](http://www.deltasociety.org).

National Capital Therapy Dogs offers financial assistance to volunteers who wish to attend the Delta Society Con-

ference. If you are interested in attending the conference and would like to ask for NCTD's financial assistance, please submit your request in writing through email ([michelle@nctdinc.org](mailto:michelle@nctdinc.org)) or regular mail to the NCTD address no later than April 1, 2003.

You will be notified in writing of the status of your request and the applicable amount of aid, which is a maximum of \$500 towards travel and lodging.

For more information NCTD financial assistance, please contact Mark Cohen at [mark@nctdinc.org](mailto:mark@nctdinc.org).

## NCTD Generates New Brochure

NCTD has a newly redesigned brochure. You will have to see it to believe it! The new brochure is full color and is on glossy paper.

We are continuing the brochure campaign started by Harvey Eisen last year. If you are not familiar with the brochure campaign, here are the details.

We give out plastic brochure hold-

ers to volunteers. They place them in public places such as veterinarian offices, pet stores, health care facilities, or even grocery stores.

The volunteer who places the brochure holder is responsible to make sure the holder stays full with NCTD brochures.

The brochure campaign gives NCTD more visibility in the community and

brings us more facilities, volunteers, and donations. They keep NCTD growing.

If you are interested in participating in the brochure campaign and/or need more brochures, contact our director of public relations, Rosemary Bennett, at [rosemary@nctdinc.org](mailto:rosemary@nctdinc.org) or 301-946-2277.



## NCTD Holiday Party

NCTD's Annual Holiday Party was held on January 11, 2003 at the Ellicott City Senior Center.



It was a time to honor volunteers and all the hard work that volunteers do through the year. There was lots of food, fun, and prizes.

**Thanks for everything!**





**National Capital Therapy Dogs, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 234  
Highland, MD 20777  
Web site: [www.nctdinc.org](http://www.nctdinc.org)  
E-Mail: [info@nctdinc.org](mailto:info@nctdinc.org)  
Phone: 301-585-NCTD (6283)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ✓ **Roland Park, Chevy Chase House, and Holy Cross need more volunteers.** Please contact the respective facility coordinator if you can help.
- ✓ NCTD Gear is available to volunteers at cost. Items include denim shirts, polos, tees, and sweats. Order online at [www.nctdinc.org](http://www.nctdinc.org).
- ✓ If you and your animal need to be **retested**, please call Marlene Truesdell at 301-854-6231 or e-mail [marlene@nctdinc.org](mailto:marlene@nctdinc.org)
- ✓ Remember to check your information in the roster! Contact Michelle Cohen at 301-776-4742 or [michelle@nctdinc.org](mailto:michelle@nctdinc.org) for corrections/updates.
- ✓ Check the website [www.nctdinc.org](http://www.nctdinc.org) regularly for updated schedule information. Click on the Current Volunteer Information button today.
- ✓ **Have you hugged your Pet Partner today?**

### *Did You Know...?*

- Current volunteers have a special section of the website devoted to providing the most current information
- You can get financial aid to attend the 22nd Annual Delta Conference
- NCTD has a new reading program called CARE
- NCTD is completing its second offering of the Therapy Dog Training Class

## **Tribute to CH. Warburton's Song Sung Blue—"Willow"**

We have lost a very special team member. Willow Solano, with her gentle spirit and kind compassion, is gone. After enduring three surgeries in the last year, she just didn't have the strength to rally this last time. Many of us remember her and the impact she had on us and our group....she was always there, our neutral dog, our dependable demonstrator.

She was the epitome of a Delta Pet Partner...reliable, controllable, always dependable and very suited to her task of sharing herself with others. She was a constant; available to curl up in any patient's lap, give a gentle kiss to soothe those who needed their fears calmed.

For all of us at NCTD, all the patients she cared for, and for the staff of so many facilities she visited, she will be truly missed but never forgotten. Willow was a very special dog that will remain in our hearts forever.

*To Linda, Jessie, and Graffiti we send our loving thoughts and the knowledge that Willow had fulfilled her mission in this life.*

Written by Marlene Truesdell.

