

Indianapolis, IN
www.cci-indy.org

Fall 2006

President's Article

Many of you have contacted me regarding concerns related to public access issues that you face as puppy raisers. I have included a summary below of just a small portion of the CCI Access Policy/Public Etiquette. If you have any questions regarding this policy please contact Suzanne Slicen, Puppy Program Manager at the North Central Regional Office.

Public Access Policy
for Puppy Raisers

As part of the puppy raiser's commitment to prepare the puppy

for Advanced Training, puppy raisers are asked to "socialize" the puppy to various environments and stimuli. These often include public accommodations such as restaurants, stores, parks, and other establishments that typically would not allow a pet dog to enter with its handler.

In most states, only three groups of people are legally allowed to take trained dogs into public places that do not otherwise allow pet dogs such access:

a) people with disabilities partnered with

assistance dogs
b) professional trainers of assistance dogs for people with disabilities
c) civil service providers on the job, such as police, fire, and customs inspectors.

Regardless of the wording or interpretation of some state laws, CCI does not consider the puppy a "service dog in training" or the puppy raiser a "trainer of a service dog". Puppies become dogs in training once they enter Advanced Training and are evaluated by professional trainers for their potential as assistance dogs. It

is during this period of Advanced Training that the trainers ensure the dog is appropriately socialized in places of public accommodation and may transport the dog for placement with a client.

CCI does not support or condone puppy raisers' attempts to use the legal system in order to gain access into the public domain. We rely solely on the goodwill of the merchants and business owners rather than the legal system for granting public access to volunteer puppy raisers.

CCI encourages puppy raisers to use tact, education, and diplomacy when refused access to a public accommodation.

CCI has an obligation to support and advocate for access as it pertains to our

graduates. Although the evolution of public access for individuals with disabilities has improved tremendously over the years due to state and federal laws, graduates are still faced with challenging access problems. By educating the public about the CCI program, we can do our part to advocate for the rights of people with disabilities wherever we go.

Remember that no dog has access rights - only people have access rights.

Scott Fogo

August Graduation

On Saturday, August 19 another inspiring and moving CCI

graduation occurred at the Dublin Recreational Center in Dublin, OH.

Graduation is always a moving experience and this time was no exception. First on the agenda was the introduction of the matriculating puppies and their puppy raisers. Each puppy raiser and their CCI puppy came forward and stood on the stage to receive a much deserved recognition. This was followed by the video slide show of pictures of the puppies taken during their months with the puppy raisers.

After the puppy raiser video, the August graduation class was introduced by Gwen Daugstrup, Program Manager/Instructor. Included in the graduation class of twelve teams, were five Facility Dog teams that graduated on August 12th in a private ceremony.

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The other seven teams included 4 Skilled Companion teams w/1 Successor and 3 Service Dog teams w/1 Successor.

Congratulations Deb and Robert Saks, members of the Central Indiana Chapter. Together they raised Koufax II who graduated as a Facility Service Dog. Koufax will be working at The Pediatric Place in Crystal Lake, IL.

The next CCI graduation will be held at the Dublin Recreational Center November 18th at 11:00AM.

Facility Dog at Smokey Row Elementary

CCI Facility Dog Christa II graduated in August with facilitator Anne Grubbs. Christa and Anne will be working at Smokey Row Elementary School in Carmel, Indiana.

August Matriculating Dogs

The Central Indiana Chapter had three dogs begin Advanced Training in August. The list includes: Colt II - raised by Julie and Chris Williams.

**Makala - raised by Lisa and Adam Hardy.
Ruiz - raised by Elizabeth Hague.**

Our best wishes to these dogs as they begin Advanced Training and the next phase of their journey to determine their future.

New Chapter Puppies

The Central Indiana Chapter is happy to welcome two new puppies in training.. The Jokl family is raising Roden, a yellow male LGX. Sisters Brittany and Liane, who are first time puppy raisers, are in charge of Roden's puppy raising. The Hague family welcomed Ruthie, a

yellow female LGX. Ruthie will be raised by Elizabeth.

Including Roden and Ruthie, there are currently 15 puppies in training in our chapter family.

For a complete list of the chapter puppies, please visit www.cci-indy.org and look under puppy raisers.

Sam's Club

THANK YOU to Sam's Club! Once again, the Central Indiana Chapter received generous donations through the Matching Grant Program at Sam's Clubs in the Indianapolis area. In June, we collected \$1,000 at the northeast Sam's. In July, we raised approximately \$450.00 at the Greenwood store and \$261 at the northwest Sam's Club (the decrease was due to only having volunteers for three of the

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five possible shifts and low "shopper volume"). All of the money collected was matched by Sam's Club.

I want to thank ALL the wonderful volunteers who gave of their time, energy and heart to make these events successful. It is a great opportunity to educate the public about CCI and makes fundraising FUN!

Mary Klee

**"THAT SOMETHING
SPECIAL" ARTS AND
CRAFTS FAIR**

Each year, on the Saturday following Thanksgiving, the Central Indiana Chapter of CCI is invited to have a booth at the Arts and Crafts Fair held at Southport High School. The event is hosted by Delta Theta Tau Sorority. The sorority donates a percentage of the entrance fees to several organizations including

Canine Companions for Independence.

The job is easy. Bring your knowledge of CCI, the CCI puppy or Assistance Dog, and represent CCI at the booth for a period of time on Saturday, November 25th. You'll love the attention CCI and the dogs get. There is even time for you to shop for high quality holiday items and gifts!

Please tell Ginny or Dan O'Brien which time slot will be most convenient for you to attend: 8:00-10:00, 10:00-noon, noon to 2:00, or 1:30-3:00. The last shift is shorter so you can help take down the display! Southport High School is on Banta Road just east of Highway 31 on the south side.

Email Ginny at danginnyo@sbcglobal.net with your name, time you will be there, and phone number where

you can be reached on that day, or call 317-783-4727.

**Dan and Ginny
O'Brien**

We Aren't House- Proud
We aren't house-proud. If we were we wouldn't abide the scratches on the door frame, the holes in the screen the darkened shine or worn spots on the chair. We would wince at the mottled carpet and fret at the hair clinging to our clothes.

We don't. If anything, we lovers of dogs are a tolerant lot, finding greater value in the unabashed affection of our friends than in immaculate sofas. Shoes can be replaced, but heroic retrievers are timeless.

Without dogs, our houses are cold receptacles for things. Dogs make a fire warmer with their curled presence. They wake us, greet us,

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protect us, and ultimately carve a place in our hearts and our history. On reflection, our lives are often referenced in parts defined by the all-too-short lives of our dogs.

~Paul Fersen~

Dog Sayings

Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea. -Robert A. Heinlein

Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like never washed a dog. -Franklin P. Jones

You can say any foolish thing to a dog, and the dog will give you a look that says, 'Wow, you're right! I never would've thought of that!' - Dave Barry

If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then giving Fido only two of them. -Phil Pastoret

The best one is last....

My goal in life is to be a person as good as my dog already thinks I am. -Unknown

What is CCI?

Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) is a non-profit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly trained assistance dogs and ongoing support to ensure the partnership.

Who are Chapter Volunteers?

Chapter volunteers support CCI with their time, talent, energy, and dedication. Volunteer chapters exist across the U.S and work together to develop ideas and projects that support their CCI Regional Training Center. Chapter members include Puppy Raisers, CCI graduates, breeders/caretakers and all other individuals willing to give their

time, talent and energy to this great mission.

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**Materials for the next
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DATES TO REMEMBER: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

November 18th

CCI Graduation

Dublin Rec. Center, 5600 Post Road, Dublin, OH

November 25th

Delta Theta Tau Craft Fair

8:00am until 3:00pm

Southport High School

December 17th

Annual CCI Chapter Christmas Party

2:00pm – 5:00pm

Home of Scott and Jennifer Fogo