

**LOAL Board** - Your Volunteer  
Board members serve with enthusiasm, strive to improve organization, and continue to expand our national presence.

Margaret Eggers - *President*  
Bonnie Biggs - *Vice-President*  
Susie Blake - *Secretary*  
Keith Edleman - *Membership*  
Janet Greber - *Treasurer*  
Sue Subkow  
Meredith Rose  
Julie Hernandez  
Rob Kelber  
Dolores Dowdle  
Katharine Harvester

## Inside this Issue...

### Regular Features:

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Taking Care of Biz..... | 2 |
| New in 2019.....        | 3 |
| Shop Online.....        | 4 |
| Spread the Word.....    | 4 |
| Pet Panel.....          | 5 |
| LOAL Book.....          | 5 |

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Trading Cards.....               | 6   |
| By the Numbers.....              | 7   |
| Newest Chapters.....             | 7   |
| Chapter Spotlight.....           | 8-9 |
| Advanced Therapy<br>Degrees..... | 13  |

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Rainbow Bridge.....            | 14,15 |
| In Memoriam.....               | 16    |
| Thank You LOAL.....            | 17    |
| <b>Pawsitive Stories from:</b> |       |
| California.....                | 10,11 |
| Indiana.....                   | 12    |
| Nebraska.....                  | 12    |



## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2019



## From the Board



**Dolores & Chevy**

*note the information on important elements of the updated Guidelines on page 3. We'll highlight various guidance in this and future newsletters.*

– Margaret Eggers, President, LOAL

**Happy Spring!** Hope you enjoy this next Newsletter. I would like to introduce you to two new members of your National Board. Dolores Dowdle and Katharine Harvester. We are delighted to welcome Dolores and her poodle Chevy, and Katharine and her Labrador Kuzco to the Board. I have been lucky to do visits with both of them, and value the energy and personal talents that they bring. Welcome Dolores and Katharine! The Board has also been hard at work, so please



**Katharine, Kuzco (left), and puppy Rider (working hard on following in his big brother's pawprints)**



# Taking Care of Business

## Join the Board!

We are a dynamic group of volunteers. If you would like to share in the rewarding experience of serving on our Board of Directors, please send an email with the subject "LOAL Board" to [info@loveonaleash.org](mailto:info@loveonaleash.org) or mail a letter to our PO BOX 4548, Oceanside, CA 92052, Attention LOAL President. Please include how long you've been a member, what kinds of visits you do, your chapter affiliation (if any), and a general description of your qualifications, interests and personal skill set. Strong organization and computer skills are very helpful. Familiarity or service on other non-profit Boards, similar organizations or professional dog training, is also greatly appreciated.

## Logo and Visit Requirements

- ✱ Our official color is medium blue (#00548F).
- ✱ Your **membership card must be visible** (worn as a badge, on a lanyard, in a neck wallet, or on a retractable badge holder) during **all** visits. Your pet's ID must be carried and presented upon request. It is an honor to be identified with Love on a Leash. It sets you and your pet apart from other therapy organizations.

## We Want to Hear From You!

We all have heart-warming stories from our visits. We are witness to them every day. Here at our news desk though, we believe it is more important for us to focus on support and advice that benefits, improves, and strengthens the Love on a Leash experience for all of us! Therefore, if you have ideas or lightbulb moments that you think will help all of us become better therapy ambassadors (e.g. unique facility visits or events, questions about our guidelines, merchandise suggestions, or pet panel questions), we encourage you to send those in.

Feel free to continue sending in heart-warming photos and stories, but please also be aware that those will only be included when space permits.

If you are pressed for time or not a writer, try our handy [Google Forms](#). You may also email [newsletter@loveonaleash.org](mailto:newsletter@loveonaleash.org) directly. Articles should be no more than 400 words, and may be gently edited due to space constraints. Please be sure to obtain appropriate [photo release forms](#) whenever necessary.

## Membership Updates

Conveniently log into your account online and keep your membership information up-to-date! If your pet has retired, or crossed the rainbow bridge, please let us know at [info@loveonaleash.org](mailto:info@loveonaleash.org). We do not inadvertently want to send you a renewal notice for a deceased pet. No internet? Please call us at (760) 740-2326 or snail mail us with your updates.

## Pet Panel

Do you, or your therapy pet, have a question for our Pet Panel? Have you experienced something while on a visit and were not sure how to handle it? Ask our Pet Panel. We will respect your privacy and address your query with trainer-approved responses, and an easy-to-understand approach. Please email your questions to [newsletter@loveonaleash.org](mailto:newsletter@loveonaleash.org) with "Pet Panel Question" in the Subject line.



# NEW IN 2019

## Guidelines

The Love on a Leash Guidelines Committee undertook a major review of our guidelines in 2018, and the new and improved version became available to read and refer to on our website on January 1st, 2019. <http://www.loveonaleash.org/Forms-Guides/>.

Although the guidelines are long, the Committee encourages all our members to **take the time to read through them**. These Guidelines supersede all previous versions of LOAL Guidelines, and have been in effect since January 1st. Although there are no major changes, there are many small changes. For instance, there are some cases where "should" or "should not" have been changed to "must" or "must not".



The newsletter will endeavor to highlight one or two Guidelines in each issue, but please do not hesitate to reach out to us or your Chapter Leaders with any questions or clarifications.

First and foremost, the Table of Contents has been revised, so that it reflects a better flow of information, and a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section has been included at the end of the Guidelines, for questions not covered in the Guidelines, but that we hear often.

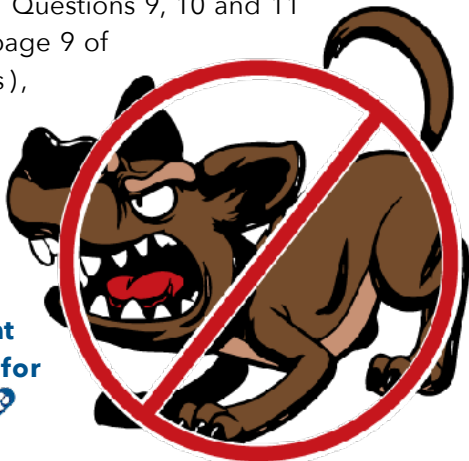
**It is important to note that any Love on a Leash member who fails to comply with Member and Chapter Guidelines is subject to revocation of membership.**💕

## Identifying Aggression

The Control Evaluation has separated a combined question into two questions, to better identify aggression. As with service animals, not all pets are cut out to be therapy pets for a variety of reasons. Excessive shyness and aggression are key areas to observe and note. Questions 9, 10 and 11 (at the bottom of page 9 of the Guidelines), cover these important areas.

No mouthing, biting, snarling, or growling.

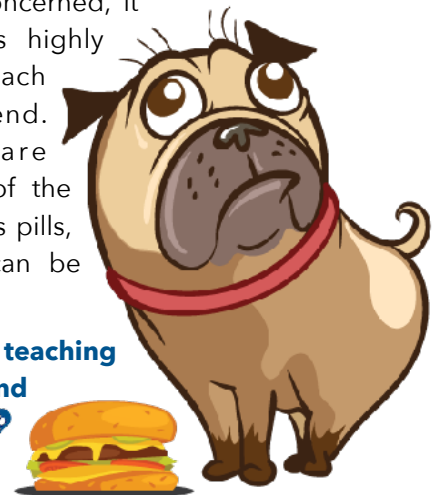
**Any aggression at all is grounds for disqualification.**💕



## Encourage "Leave It"

On the very first page of the Control Evaluation (page 7 of the Guidelines), we have added an important note about the "Leave It" or "Drop It" command. Although this is not a pass or fail command as far as the Control Evaluation is concerned, it is a command that is highly recommended you teach your four-legged friend. Many times there are objects on the floors of the facilities we visit, such as pills, tissues, or food that can be harmful to your pet.

**Keep your pet safe by teaching her the "Leave It" and "Drop It" commands.**💕



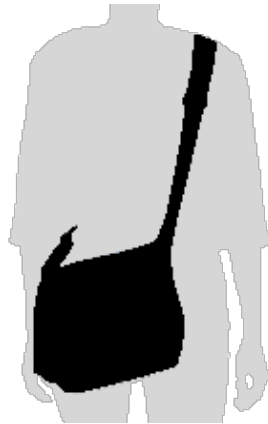


# Shop Online for LOAL Gear

Step out in style on your visits with LOAL embroidered apparel and accessories. Log into your account <http://www.loveonaleash.org/Members/login.aspx>, click on "Order Merchandise" in the left margin, and then click on the EmbroidMe Love on a Leash store link in the box. If you live in the San Diego area, store owner Anu, would love to welcome you personally! Drop us a line and let us know if you have any favorite items, or wish we carried something more.



**Summer is coming, and this visor welcomes it!**



**This stylish cross body bag can carry all your visit essentials, plus a little extra. 10 x 7.75-in with an adjustable shoulder strap, and back zipper for easy access.**



**Resists shrinking, wrinkling, pilling & fading, with a collar that resists curling.**



## Spread the Word

LOAL is proud to offer printed brochures, and educational cards illustrating the differences between therapy, service, and emotional support animals. We provide these at no cost to our members. If you would like some of these to provide to prospective members, the facilities you visit, or for an upcoming event, please email us at [assistant@loveonaleash.org](mailto:assistant@loveonaleash.org).

Please include the quantity you would like, and let us know whether you would like brochures, therapy comparison cards, or both! 🐾





## Ask Our Pet Panel



Dear Pet Panel,

I saw one of my friends wearing a chain collar today. I thought we weren't allowed to wear those on visits.

– Signed, Concerned for my Friend 🐾



Dear Caring Friend,

You are 100% correct! Because we are all trained and evaluated to be well-mannered and super-friendly to everyone, at all times, Love on a Leash believes those types of collars should not be needed. Per our Guidelines, the types of collars to be worn on our visits should be standard cloth and leather flat collars. **"Love on a Leash® prohibits using remote electronic collars, pinch (prong) collars, and choke/slip (chain) collars.** If you choose to use a martingale or halter-type collar, such as a Gentle Leader®, be prepared to answer questions from those you visit."



Have a question for our Pet Panel? There isn't a sticky situation they haven't addressed! Send your pet's questions to [newsletter@loveonaleash.org](mailto:newsletter@loveonaleash.org).



## A Must-Read for Anyone Getting Involved in Pet-Provided Therapy

Written by our founder, Liz Palika, and chock-full of fundamental advice for anyone considering pet therapy, currently in training, or newly certified. It's a great gift, too!

To learn more, and purchase, please visit

[www.LoveOnALeashBook.com](http://www.LoveOnALeashBook.com)



A Guide to Pet Therapy



Liz Palika







## Fun Giveaways Adored by All Ages

Did you know Love on a Leash partnered with Creative Instinct, Inc. to offer Therapy Pet Trading Cards to our members nationwide?

The order process is very easy, and the cards are a very popular item, especially with our younger folks. Order details, prices, and instructions can all be found at the web link below:

<http://www.custom-tradingcards.com/LoveOnALeash/>



## Camp Helping Hands

submitted by Mary Lou Miller - Agoura Hills (CA) chapter member since 2009

July, 2018

**Thousand Oaks, CA** – We were invited to Camp Helping Hands over the Summer!

Camp Helping Hands (CHH) began as a summer camp project and has become Southern California's premier service-learning summer camp for young children. 🐾



# By the Numbers

As of May 2019, we have grown to over **2,600** active members in **48** states who volunteer with their pets on a regular basis. In April, we welcomed a South Dakotan to our family, so now only DE and RI are our final member frontiers. Thank you for bringing comfort and joy to those in need!

We have **81** chapters now, but because our Southern New Jersey chapter closed recently, we only have chapters in **27** states.

**Happy tails tip:** Save time, paper, and a stamp. Renew your membership [online](#)!



## Welcome to our Newest Chapters!

- ◆ Northern Nevada, NV
- ◆ Eastern Kentucky, KY
- ◆ Central Illinois, IL
- ◆ Central Valley, CA



*Chapters are unique to Love on a Leash. A chapter provides support, motivation, and social interaction for you and your pet. More teams mean a greater variety of pets, talents, and interests. One established visit and two or more certified pets are needed to start a chapter, plus the chapter leader has to have been a member of LOAL for at least one year. Interested? Turn to page 19 of our [Guidelines](#) to find out more.*





## 👉 Chapter Spotlight: Wabash Valley 👉

**Terre Haute, IN** – We love getting to know our members around the country, and what they are up to. Recently, we asked one of our newer chapters to share their story. **Harley Jones Jr**, is Wabash Valley's Chapter Leader.

**You became a Love on a Leash member in late 2017. At what point did you know that you wanted to form a chapter and become a Chapter Leader in your area?**

*A small group of about 4 or 5 had taken a class geared toward general preparation for therapy work. Our trainer had mentioned Love on a Leash as a prominent therapy group, that had very strict standards for certification. After our initial group became certified, and so much interest in our teams, more people took the class, and as we grew we decided we should form a chapter. As a chapter, it is much easier to organize our teams with community activities, supervised visits, etc. I was pretty much appointed chapter leader by default. I am retired, and was one of the original members. I have lots of help though. Our Secretary, and IT Guru, Lauren Elyea, deserves a lot of credit for all she does to keep our FB page and email in order.*



**So about 5 teams joined your chapter at the outset. How many teams does your Chapter have now?**

*Our number has grown to 17 certified teams and 3 more doing supervised visits!*

**Do your teams visit facilities together as one large group, smaller groups of 2~3, or are the visits more individual?**

*All of the above. Many have regular weekly visits on their own, and we have had as many as 10 teams visiting at once. It depends on the request, and who is available. We are a predominately young group, and many work days. If we know in advance, many have taken time off for visits, or juggled their schedule.*

**How do you schedule visits? Meetup? Email? Facebook? Group chat? Other?**

*Mostly through our group Facebook page, text, and monthly meetings.*

**What kind of facilities do you visit? Do you receive requests from facilities for visits, or do you actively solicit facilities?**

*Our visits are scheduled, by request, and community events. They range from Special Needs groups, the VA, Hospice, Hospitals, Schools, College final exams (de-stress), Nursing Homes, Community Events, Libraries, and Dept. of Child Services (Susie's Place, Children and family advocates).*

**Does your Chapter get-together socially outside of therapy visits? If so, what kind of get-togethers? How often?**

*Yes, after meetings we have pizza. Many of us bring our dogs to our monthly meeting, at a local business in their meeting room (Top Guns) and the restaurant, which is next door, allows us to bring our dogs. We also meet sometimes at a couple pubs/restaurants in Terre Haute who are pet friendly, usually spur of the moment.*





## 👉Chapter Spotlight ctd: Wabash Valley👉

**Does your Chapter, or do any of your teams, participate in local events where you are representing LOAL? (e.g. county fairs, health fairs, college de-stress events, etc)**

Yes. We have participated in National Night Out (law enforcement along with other community businesses and organizations), Family Learning Days at Vigo County Library, Dog Days of Summer at local 1st Friday event held first Friday of every month in Downtown Terre Haute, and Finals de-stress at Indiana State University.

**Do you have any Advanced Therapy Degree recipients in your Chapter yet?**

Yes, one. His name is Rascal. He was in the last LOAL newsletter!

**Do you have any unique teams in your chapter? (e.g. a team that always dresses up, a team that loves doing tricks, a team that does something unique when they're not volunteering, etc)**

We have one team whose handler is a groomer. Her Dog, Reina, is a 10 yr old White Standard Poodle. The handler, Martina Steele, uses dye to color Reinas' tufts; the kids love it. My dog, who is quite plain compared to most of our dogs, (she is a tan & white Mountain Feist Terrier) does quite a few tricks, she loves showing off, and puts on quite a show.

**Do you have any cats or rabbits in your Chapter?**

Not at this time.

**What's your favorite aspect about volunteering for Love on a Leash?**

I really enjoy our group. You can't beat a group of people who love dogs, but the most gratifying aspect of therapy work is knowing you put a smile on someone's face, or brought back a memory that wouldn't have happened otherwise.💙



National Night Out  
Mary Jo and Yukon along with Jacki and Angel



National Learning Day at the Vigo County Library  
Yukon with a Future Firefighter



# Sunlight Retreats: A Special Kind of Love

Submitted by Sue Subkow - San Diego Central (CA) member since 2009

September, 2018

**San Diego, CA** – Sunlight Retreats was designed for rape survivors by a rape survivor, and the goal is to jump-start a healing process that founder Brittany Catton Kirk knew from experience could be a long time coming. The first retreat was held in January, and Brittany reached out to the San Diego Central chapter about getting LOAL involved. Three teams visited with about 15 attendees for 1-1/2 hours during lunch at that first retreat. Our teams were there to offer comfort and an ear to listen if anyone wanted to talk about their trauma. Most simply enjoyed visiting, cuddling and talking about the dogs.

Thanks to feedback from the first retreat, there was an extra session with our therapy dogs at the following 3-day retreat, held in August. Eight teams attended – 4 on the first day, and 4 on the last day. Both sessions again lasted 1-1/2 hours each. Love on a Leash has already been invited to the next retreat.

Besides therapy dog visits, the retreats also include restorative yoga, acupuncture, and classes in cooking for PTSD, depression and anxiety, all provided by practitioners who are volunteering their time.

"These visits were very touching, and very much appreciated by all of the staff and attendees," writes Sue, "Many of the women in



**From L-R: Judy with Tippet, Meme with Murphy, Sue with Charlie (from the January Sunlight Retreat)**



**From L-R: Murphy, Riley, Kona and Fergus from the first session of the August Sunlight Retreat.**

attendance were missing their own dogs, and found comfort in our dogs. Opening up about their experiences seemed easier for some as they were distracted by petting and visiting with the pooches."

"These were also very popular visits with our teams (only female teams were allowed to RSVP per the Sunlight Retreat rules, which were understandable considering the circumstances.)"

Sue firmly believes people want to help one another, and our teams found it very rewarding to be able to offer comfort and the unconditional love our dogs bring. 💙





# San Diego Court Dog program helps vulnerable victims testify

By Shannon Handy, Reporter - San Diego CBS News 8 (CA), reprinted with permission

November, 2018

**San Diego, CA** – If you have been in any one of San Diego County's courthouses, you may have seen dogs roaming the hallways. They are part of a special program designed to help some of the most vulnerable victims. You don't see them inside every courtroom, but often – hidden from the jury or the judge – there is a dog sitting at the victim's feet. Officials with the DA's office say in many cases, they make all the difference in the world.

"We're just anonymous," said Janet Kinnon. "We're like angels. We come in, we volunteer and we go again." Janet's 10-year-old named Wellington isn't your typical dog. "When I put his jacket on and he knows he's going to work, he perks up," said Janet. The English lab is a familiar face inside San Diego courtrooms where he's helped dozens of crime victims over the past three years.

"I think if I was in that child's situation or the victim's situation, and something bad happened to me, then I would want a dog to give me the courage to have my voice heard and to seek closure and to get justice to close that chapter," said Janet. Janet is also Wellington's court handler – roles they trained an entire year for. "Anything that I can do as part of this program to make it easier for them - that makes me very proud," said Janet.

Launched in 2009, the court dog program is made up of 10 teams of dogs and handlers – all of whom volunteer their time to be with victims when they testify. Some of those victims are seniors, but the majority are children; some as young as four years old.

"These children have endured the worst time of their life - through abuse - be it physical or sexual abuse - and the court dogs help relieve the actual physical anxiety that they feel coming into a courtroom," said Ramona McCarthy of the San Diego District Attorney's Office, which was one of the first in the nation to use therapy dogs in this way. Hidden from plain site, the dogs sit underneath the witness stand where victims can pet them or, at the very least, feel their presence. "They feel much more relaxed and much more empowered to face their abuser and talk about what's happened," said Ramona.

But the interaction goes far beyond the courtroom; since most cases take time the dogs are there every step of the way. "We follow the same victim through the process so they meet with the DA and we come so they can meet Wellington and we always try to keep the same dog with the victim," said Janet. Doing so creates a special bond – a form of trust. "They build lots of rapport by having victims feed Wellington, play with Wellington," said Ramona.

Janet recalls letters she's received months after a case is closed.

"Saying 'without you, we couldn't have done it,'" she said.

Looking ahead, the DA's office hopes the program will continue to grow, encouraging others to volunteer. More than anything, they hope to serve as a role model.

"I hope other counties pick up the program as well," said Ramona.

As for Wellington? "He's happy," said Janet. "He's happy to have a purpose." 🐾

**Editor's Note:** Janet has been an LOAL member since 2011, and Wellington also graces the cover of our LOAL brochure!

**Click below to watch the news segment.**



# TV Spot Broadens Community Outreach

Submitted by Karen Naber, North Central Indiana Chapter Leader, and member since 2012

December, 2018

**Indianapolis, IN** – Just before Christmas last year, 6-year Love on a Leash veteran Karen Naber, along with her Pointer Mix, Howdy, and 4-year member Sandy Pearson accompanied by her Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Macey, and Susan Hobbs of Pet Pals TV (who also happens to be a 6-year Love on a Leash veteran) were invited to chat about the good cheer therapy pets bring to their local communities with local TV station personality, Joe Melillo, of Channel 8 WISHTV. 🐾



## Church Invitation

Submitted by Allison Hunter-Frederick, no chapter affiliation; member since 2018

January, 2019

**Lincoln, NE** – Rainy and Allison were invited by the Christ United Methodist Church (CUMC) to attend the church's 3rd annual Blessing of the Animals "to remember and celebrate all of God's creations, which includes animals," said Jessica Estes, co-chair of Hospitality. "We see [these] groups as an important ministry of caring for animals and so we want to promote their work," Estes added. The prospect of talking to strangers at a crowded event terrified Allison, but she was also excited by the opportunity to educate the public about pet therapy. Over the past year, she had learned that only 50% of assisted-living patients receive visitors, and she has "grown to appreciate the comfort that a therapy pet can provide." After the initial nerves subsided, both Allison & Rainy were good to go. The first hour of the blessing was reserved for cats, and the second hour was for dogs. Allison worried that Rainy would not be able to handle the abundance of dogs. She even called her husband to pick them up, but he reminded her that one requirement for a therapy cat is to remain calm around dogs, and so they decided to let Rainy stay. As it turned out, Rainy wasn't

fazed at all by all the dogs. She sat calmly on the table and watched the action with interest. Allison and Rainy's commitment, courage, and subsequent promotional efforts, have generated a good amount of local inquiries into pet therapy. "Rainy and I are proud to be ambassadors of pet therapy for LOAL, and we look forward to attending future promotional events." 🐾





# Recent Advanced Therapy Degree Recipients

Advanced Therapy Degrees (ThD) from Love on a Leash are available to teams that have passed the initial control and visit evaluations for membership and certification. There are a variety of specialty fields to choose from depending on where your team enjoys volunteering. Advanced Degrees require teamwork; this is a joint effort between you and your pet. If you are interested in learning more about this certification, please visit the [Love on a Leash website](http://www.loveonaleash.org), click on "Forms/Guides" and then select "Member Forms."



## Children: Reading Programs



**Maggie** (IN) - Dec '18



**Chou Chou** (CA) - Mar '19



**Stormy** (AR) - Mar '19

## Dual Degree



**Jack** (IN) - Mar '19

- Hospice Care Visits
- Elderly: Social Visits

## Quad Degree



**Winnie** (WA) - Jan & Mar '19

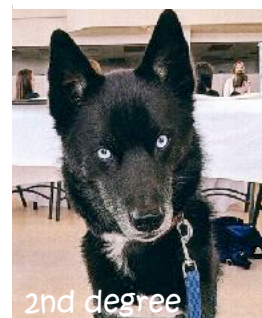
- Hospital Therapy
- Children: Reading
- Hospice Care Visits
- Elderly: Social Visits

## Elderly: Alzheimer's



**Bode** (CA) - Dec '18

## Social Therapy



2nd degree

**Thor** (NY) - Jan '19

## Hospital Therapy



**Riley** (NY) - Mar '19



**Milo** (IA) - May '19

## Elderly Social Visits



2nd degree

**Zuni** (CA) - Mar '19



**Chase** (WA) - Feb '19



*Congratulations!*

# Till We Meet Again...

Just as we welcome new members into the Love on a Leash family almost daily, we must also say "goodbye" to some of our most cherished friends. We mourn your loss, celebrate your life, and thank you for not only filling our lives with joy, but also sharing that love with others. **Years indicate service with LOAL.**

- 
- 
-  **Adams James** (Labrador Retriever Mix) 2017~2018 - owner Beth Weber (IN)
  -  **Austin** (American Eskimo) 2016~2019 - owner Carol Wrigley (CA)
  -  **Bella** (Golden Retriever) 2013~2018 - owner Lynn Hargiss (MO)
  -  **Bentley** (Dalmatian) 2014~2017 - owner Betsy Tarkowski (WI)
  -  **Bernie** (Bernese Mountain Dog) 2013~2018 - owner A.J. Heightman (CA)
  -  **Bolt** (Bull Mastiff) 2015~2019 - owner Gina Rayburn (IN)
  -  **Brody** (Golden Retriever) 2017~2019 - owners Vicki Nienhuis & Bonnie Rauls (MO)
  -  **Buddy** (Boxer) 2012~2017 - owner Virginia & James Sukenik (TX)
  -  **Butler** (Labradoodle) 2014~2018 - owner Andrea St. George-Jones (ME)
  -  **Cabo** (Labrador Retriever) 2011~2018 - owner Pat Salzarulo (CA)
  -  **Caden** (Papillon) 2012~2019 - owner Susan Strange (CA)
  -  **Cali** (Standard Poodle) 2001~2019 - owner Pamela Duke (CA)
  -  **Casper** (Golden Retriever) 2017~2018 - owner Anngel Benoun (CA)
  -  **Charlie** (Golden Retriever) 2009~2019 - owner Tricia Goldman (MS)
  -  **Charlie Sparkles** (English Bulldog) 2016~2018 - owner Maren Scott (UT)
  -  **Chief** (Golden Retriever) 2014~2018 - owner Erin McIntosh (IN)
  -  **Cloud** (Border Collie) 2016~2018 - owner Joy Gochman (NC)
  -  **Clyde** (Golden Retriever) 2008~2019 - owner Ellen Karpf (WY)
  -  **Cole** (Labrador Retriever) 2013~2019 - owner Jill Maniakas (IN)
  -  **Doejah** (German Shepherd) 2015~2018 - owner Rita Barfell (CA)
  -  **Duke** (Labrador Retriever) 2009~2019 - owner Helen Rahe (CA)
  -  **Dusty** (Siberian Husky) 2014~2018 - owners Marlys, Andrew & William Thomson (CA)
  -  **Elkie** (Greyhound) 2011~2017 - owner Beverly Owen (IN)
  -  **Fara** (Golden Retriever) 2015~2019 - owner Sharron Bowker (FL)
  -  **Frankie** (Siberian Husky) 2014~2017 - owners Jodi & Bruce Ekberg (NY)
  -  **Gi Gi** (German Shepherd) 2015~2018 - owner Denise West (IL)
  -  **Grace O'Malley** (Golden Retriever) 2012~2018 - owner Annette MacNair (ME)
  -  **Jade** (Labrador Retriever) 2008~2018 - owner Roger Smith (CA)
  -  **Jaxon** (Poodle Mix) 2011~2018 - owner Bonny Lawson (MO)
  -  **Junior** (Cavalier King Charles Spaniel) 2013~2018 - owner Willis Rutledge (AR)
  -  **KC** (Greyhound) 2018~2018 - owner Beverly Owen (IN)
  -  **Kelsey** (Lab/Hound Mix) 2016~2019 - owner Melissa Childs (IA)
  -  **Kingston** (Leonberger) 2018~2018 - owner Robin Salyer Fleischer (KY)





# *Till We Meet Again...*

- 
- 
- Kira** (Keeshond) 2017~2019 - owner Mary Lynch (NY)  
**Kishi** (Shih Tzu) 2007~2019 - owner Dorothy Marron (CA)  
**Kismet** (Labrador Retriever Mix) 2013~2019 - owner Marion Wells (CO)  
**London** (Alaskan Malamute) 2012~2018 - owner Sandy Sampson (CA)  
**Luke** (Golden Shepherd) 2016~2019 - owner John Montgomery (NC)  
**Mac** (Domestic Shorthair Cat) 2015~2018 - owner Elizabeth Albrecht (FL)  
**Maggie** (Labrador Retriever) 2012~2019 - owner Sharon Temple (CO)  
**Malibu** (Greyhound) 2017~2018 - owner Amanda Bennett (OH)  
**Maynard** (Wheaton Scottish Terrier Mix) 2010~2018 - owner Christy Corcovelos (CA)  
**Mele** (Siberian Husky Mix) 2017~2018 - owner Julia Morris (CA)  
**Mick** (Pembroke Welsh Corgi) 2018~2019 - owner Lois Evans (NC)  
**Misty** (German Shepherd) 2011~2018 - owner Elicia Ashton (CA)  
**Molly** (Labrador Retriever) 2015~2018 - owner Debbie Carlson (NE)  
**Nora** (All American) 2013~2019 - owner Dan Taylor (ND)  
**Penelope** (Bearded Collie) 2013~2019 - owner Rhonda Hardy (CA)  
**Posey** (Bernese Mountain Dog) 2017~2019 - owner Joanne Sorge (NY)  
**Princess Boo** (Mi-Ki) 2012~2019 - owner Shirley Johnson (CA)  
**Raegan** (Pit Bull Terrier) 2012~2018 - owner Aslyn Estill (MN)  
**Red** (Goldador) 2018~2019 - owner Wendy Bram (CA)  
**Reece** (Labrador Retriever) 2015~2018 - owners Chris Walstrom (NE)  
**Remy** (American Pit Bull Terrier) 2010~2018 - owner Samantha & Matthew Walker (IA)  
**Riley** (Collie) 2018~2018 - owner Stephen Abram (CA)  
**Rosie** (Boston Terrier) 2011~2018 - owner Theresa & Greg DeLano (NC)  
**Sam Sam** (Poodle) 2013~2019 - owner Sue Ladd (AZ)  
**Shadow** (Golden Retriever) 2014~2018 - owner Carrie Brown Lancon (CA)  
**Sidney** (Pembroke Welsh Corgi) 2010~2018 - owner Geri Sterling (CA)  
**Sigi** (Golden Retriever) 2016~2019 - owner Judy Firtel (CA)  
**Skylar** (Golden Retriever) 2018~2019 - owner William Woodward (CA)  
**Summer** (Shih Tzu) 2011~2019 - owner Donnie Schuler (CA)  
**Sunny** (Labrador Retriever) 2014~2019 - owner Krista Duncan (NC)  
**Tanner** (Pembroke Welsh Corgi) 2013~2019 - owner Dolores Schmidt (MO)  
**Thor** (Golden Retriever) 2017~2018 - owner Donna Williams (NC)  
**Tucker** (Maltipoo) 2019~2019 - owner Irene Edgerton (NV)  
**Wilson** (Boxer) 2012~2017 - owner Virginia & James Sukenik (TX)  
**Zoe Baxter** (Boxer Mix) 2012~2018 - owner Carol Herrington (CA)



# Farewell to Beautiful Souls

*In the last few months, we have had to say goodbye to a few members that have had a huge impact in our local communities. Their untimely loss has been felt deeply, and they will be greatly missed. "Goodbyes are not forever, Goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I'll miss you, Until we meet again."*

† Dec 2018

**Lois Adams** loved her new found passion of doing therapy work with her two dogs in Applegate, Michigan. She & Sasha were certified on November 1st, 2018, and she was working on her 10 visits with Sadie when a freak accident took her life on December 15th. Her husband, Chuck, shared her love for the dogs and therapy work. He has now begun the process of getting both dogs certified in his name!

Chuck & Lois had an obvious love for one another and they had an infectious love of people and animals. She will be greatly missed. – Barb Rekker



† February 2019



**Linda Hosaka** was an active member of the San Diego North County Coastal Chapter since 2002, was a member of the Pet Therapy program at Tri-City Medical Center, and a Visit Captain at both McAuliffe and Garrison Elementary schools. Linda also served as Chapter Secretary for 4 years. She lost her beloved Golden Retriever, Kai, 7 months ago and was training her new labradoodle puppy, Suki, to become a LOAL therapy dog. Suki will be taken care of by one of Linda's close friends. Linda will be greatly missed.

"Good friends are hard to find, harder to leave, and impossible to forget." Linda was one of our best friends and she will be sorely missed but not forgotten. I will hear her in my ear keeping us in line. – Mary Gleisburg

**Michael Colombo** and his tri-color rescue beagle, Shiloh, started their Love on a Leash Pet therapy career with the San Diego Central Chapter, in December of 2013. From their first visit, it was easy to see that they were both naturals – they were both warm, and kind, and shared a true enjoyment in helping people. They flew through their training visits and were soon off on their own spreading love and kindness. Michael spent countless hours doing solo visits with Shiloh at Sharp Memorial Hospital in San Diego, and Sharp Grossmont Hospital, among other places. For most therapy teams, a visit will last an hour, maybe two. This was not the case for Michael and Shiloh. They would often spend up to 4 or 5 hours a day visiting a hospital, making sure that every single patient and employee that wanted a little furry TLC from Shiloh, got it.

After spending several years on their pet therapy journey in San Diego, Michael decided to move to Payson, Arizona, and start his own chapter of Love on a Leash – the Central Arizona Chapter. He was very active in the Payson community, encouraging other Payson residents to join our Love on a Leash family. Michael and Shiloh were regular pet therapy volunteers at Banner Payson Medical Center, Compassus Hospice & Palliative Care, and Rim Country Health, to name a few.

In the short time Michael and Shiloh were part of the Payson community they made a huge, positive impact. Michael will be missed greatly by all those he touched with his caring heart, and warm, loving personality. – Sue Subkow

† March 2019





# In Gratitude

## Kennebec Valley Chapter

**Augusta, ME** – Our Love on a Leash Kennebec Valley Chapter was awarded the Friends of the Center Award given to us by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors for the Children's Centers of Maine (preschools with predominantly special needs kids). Kate and Caroline [pictured right], together with Rita and Abigail [pictured left] attended the annual celebration dinner and awards ceremony at the Calumet Club in Augusta on December 16th to accept the award on behalf of the Kennebec Valley LOAL Chapter. Caroline and Abigail both showed exemplary behavior throughout the entire dinner and presentations. It was truly an honor to have our wonderful organization recognized. We look forward to continuing such an important and rewarding partnership. – Kate Ward, Kennebec Valley Chapter Leader and member since 2013 



Dear Love on a Leash,

Thanks so much for bringing your dogs and reading with my class! They loved it and still talk about the dogs.

Janis Ireland, 1st grade,  
Ira Harbison Elementary  
National City, CA



Every now and then we receive a heartwarming reminder of how much our organization matters. Have you or your chapter received Recognition or Thank You's from grateful folks. Share the LOVE! Send to [newsletter@loveonaleash.org](mailto:newsletter@loveonaleash.org). 