



PARADE OF VETERANS 2017

Celebrating the lives and accomplishments of our older partners and friends!

2017 Parade

of Veterans

Speedy II "Speedy"

Border Collie - Age 9
Handled by: Lisa Schafer, Glenwood, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

The Speedman had a late start to his agility career; starting classes at age 3. My husband and I saw a Purina Agility Event on tv, looked up the closest agility training site, signed up for class, started the next evening and we were hooked!

Speedy's mother, Missy, is a Kinnic Kennel girl (we just lost her last April to cancer). Speedy's father, Imported Shep was a Kinnic Kennel, River Falls, WI - Herding Champion. His breeder is Dr. Barbara J. Johnson - owner/operator of Kinnic Kennels of River Falls, WI.

Speedy is a working border collie who leads and keeps order of our pack of six border collies. He loves children and thrives on the agility training & competition. Speedy lost his right eye in a herding accident in February of 2014. Following his recovery, Speedy has continued to compete in Nadac and CPE trials. Speedy is currently working on his 8th CPE C-ATCH and has his Elite Agility Certificate with NADAC!

Speedy is my first agility dog and we couldn't be prouder! He's been a great friend, competitor and we love him so much! A big thanks to Dr. Barbara Johnson for breeding these amazing border collies!

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

REO Speed Waggin' "REO"

Jack Russell Terrier - Age 9
Handled by: Laura Breckheimer, Minneapolis



Photo by Barbara O'Brien

It is a milestone year for REO and me! You see, there was a time we didn't think he'd live to see three! But here he is still surprising us! Still challenging us! Still kissing us!

"Keep On Rolling" By REO Speedwagon
"Oh you got to learn to roll with the changes
Got to, got to, got to, got to keep on rollin'
Keep on rollin', got to learn to, got to learn to,
Got to learn to roll
Keep on rollin', keep on rollin', oooh
Keep on rollin', keep on rollin', oooh
Keep on rollin', keep on rollin', oooh
Keep on rollin', keep on rollin', oooh, aah"

Breed Club

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Minnesota Mixed

2017 Parade

Booster

Mixed Breed - Age 9
Handled by: Phil Wala, Savage, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Booster, my first agility dog, came bounding into our lives seven years ago as a Wags & Whiskers rescue – a big goofball who never met a person he didn't love, or a barn swallow he didn't want to dismember. His favorite hobby is stretching out in total relaxation to wait for belly rubs – whether it's at home on the couch, in the vet's office, or at the start line of an agility course. And while he does occasionally switch his powerful muscles into racehorse mode for an agility run, certain pre-conditions must be met: cool temperatures (28° is ideal), no family members present, no circling birds, and nothing that requires running and thinking simultaneously, as such multi-tasking exceeds the capacity of his operating system.

Over the years, I've learned that Booster's more entertaining antics, such as the legendary "Booster Bonk" (coming to a dead stop in front of a jump and flipping the bar with his nose), have usually turned out to be his way of telling me that something was hurting. With TTA surgeries on both knees, Booster has spent two years of his six-year agility career in rehab. Despite these challenges, he has managed to earn 42 titles in ASCA, UKI, NADAC, and CPE, including three CPE championships.

Breed Club

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Minnesota Mixed

2017 Parade

Java

Mixed Breed - Age 9.5
Handled by: Lynda Vibert, Thunder Bay, ON



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

JAVA is my 1st Agility dog, my Companion and my Best Friend.

He loves to have fun and please me no matter what we do – Agility, Rally, Obedience, Nosework.

JAVA has returned to the sport he loves following TTA surgery.

Look forward to many more adventures as we continue our journey together.

LOVE this boy!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Bailey Benson Jacques “Bailey”

Bichon Frise - Age 10
Handled by: Wendi Holz, Mandan, ND



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Bailey is my second agility dog. Bailey certainly has his own agenda - at times he will run beautifully - other times he likes to trot around the agility course, and other times - he does both! But we have fun none the less and he always has a grin from ear to ear.

I LOVE YOU BABES!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Cannon's Cops N Robbers "Copper"

English Springer Spaniel - Age 10
Handled by: Sarah Cannon, Grand Forks, ND

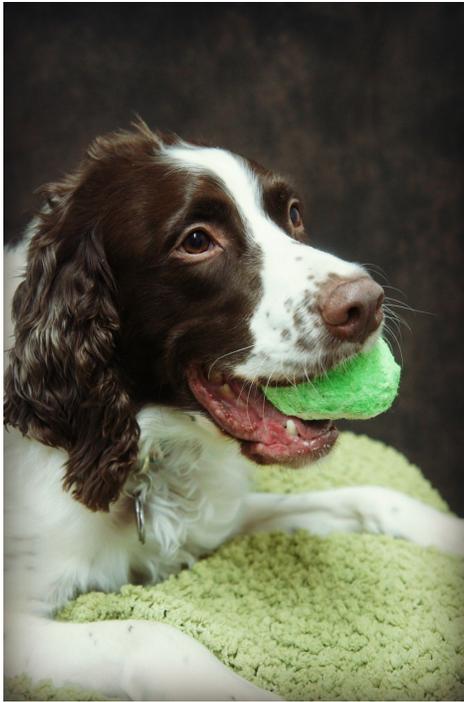


Photo by Kaydi Grunhvd (Off Leash Photos)

This goofy, sweet boy has not gotten the memo that he is ten years old!

He is such a joy to run with and watch him fly. He is a fun and fantastic teammate for me, and an awesome big brother for his human sisters and his little pup bro.

Breed Club

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Dex's Midnight Runner "Dexter"

Mixed Breed - Age 10.5
Handled by: Kristine Delago, New Richmond, WI



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Have you heard that Dodge truck commercial – the one about being “Dodge Ram tough”? That ad could have been written about Dexter. We recently celebrated the 6th anniversary of his Dodge Ram challenge!

The morning after emergency surgery to repair his diaphragm, he was standing eagerly in his veterinarian’s home waiting on his breakfast. Three weeks later, he had returned to his agility class.

Since that fateful evening, every moment with Dexter has been a gift. Each meal, walk, Chuck-It game, nose work session, and agility run is a testament to his toughness.

I am forever grateful to the family, friends, and veterinary partners that have supported us over the years.

Breed Club

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Minnesota Mixed

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Benji

Mixed Breed - Age 10.5
Handled by: Leo Fuerst, Freedom, WI



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Benji, a rescue, came to live with us in December of 2009. Benji connected with me immediately and we began training and trialing - agility became his game. Unfortunately a year after we adopted him, he tested positive for heartworm.

It was hard to watch him stay quiet, when all he wanted to do was play. But after his recuperation he came back better than ever. After a lot of playing, Benji retired two years ago when he earned his Versatility NATCH2.

We still have an occasional agility run, enjoying every second of it. Benji is a good boy and gives me great joy. He's one spunky little guy and I love sharing him with our friends.

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Hangtime Bandits Pal Cap'n Hook "Hooker"

Australian Shepherd - Age 11
Handled by: JoAnne Schwietz, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Fjellanger Photography

Hooker – the cutest dog on earth! What can be said about the dog that always has a smile on his face?

Hook loves the game of agility almost as much as he loves to chase flies. At age 11, he is still trying to figure out the art of jumping! He is the only dog I know that thinks his body stops at his shoulders... rear end, what rear end? No matter how many rear end exercises he has done, he can't be convinced that such a thing exists!

Hooker is a versatile dog who can pretty much do it all! Agility, Obedience, Rally, Conformation, Nose Work and even Herding is in his wheel house. He does things on his own terms which can be hard to show him at times, but the accomplishments that he has had are so much sweeter! He has been fortunate enough to be handled in both Conformation and Agility by PeeWee/Junior handler. He is a perfect dog for his kid and has taught him that showing is about having FUN and not necessarily qualifying.

Thank you Hooker for putting your own spin on this crazy journey! You can accomplish anything you put your mind to, even eating flies while heeling in obedience and herding sheep! Rock on Dude!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

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Princess Grace "Gracie"

Cocker Spaniel - Age 11
Handled by: Lou Ann Honek, Fargo, ND



Photo By Kelly Hilzendager

She came into my life shortly after the sudden death of my husband, when I needed lots of hugs, and she licked lost of tears. She has been a great companion and always there for me.

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Minnesota Mixed

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Fourwinds In Sync With Me "Sinco"

Australian Shepherd - Age 11
Handled by: Annelise Allan, Stacy, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Sinco has done many things in her life. She has done obedience, rally, herding, agility, served as a service dog, and had puppies. She loves to travel. She barks for joy when she runs.

When she was six weeks old she picked me. I was not planning on any puppies from this litter but her litter was staying at my house. She climbed out of her ex pen and found me out teaching agility.

She screamed when I put her back in the pen and she climbed out again and found me. She would scream any time I left her with the other puppies. She did not scream any other times and she did not escape except to find me.

We have been together ever since.

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Uproar For Cody's Boot Scooter "Spur"

Australian Shepherd - Age 11
Handled by: Jan Poole, Bloomington, MN



Photo By Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Spur! Spur! Spur! I wonder how many times I have said that over Spur's agility career as he is heading for an off course obstacle? Spur has only two speeds...FAST and FASTER! He doesn't really care that I am even in the ring with him as long as there is a line of obstacles to follow. It may not be the correct line, but it is HIS line!

I have never seen a dog that is ready to work, whether it be Agility, Conformation, Obedience, Rally or Nose Work more than Spur. He stands a little taller and looks a little brighter when he enters a ring and whether he is right or wrong, everyone knows that he is having a BLAST! He has proven this over the years, taking top honors at shows around the country and Canada. One thing that can be said is that he loves to show and loves to show off!

From the NO start line stay to the jumping in my arms at the end of a run, I wouldn't trade him for anything! I will consider myself very lucky if we can continue on this journey for many more years.

Thank you Spur for the fun and WILD ride!

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Minnesota Mixed

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Cooper

Mixed Breed - Age 11
Handled by: Leo Fuerst, Freedom, WI



Photo by Vicki Sowa

Cooper is our sweet lap dog. She had a rough beginning to life – first as a stray and then living in shelters between multiple adoptions

We met "Gypsy" an hour after she arrived on the transport with a dozen other dogs. She was scared, timid, unsure of her circumstances and hated car rides (unlike the present where she can't wait to get in the car). We knew with a little patience she would become the dog she has become today.

Cooper's agility career was rather short – agility is just not her thing. The stress of the ring was just too much for her – so we decided to let her just be a dog. She is more than content to just come along for the "ride" to watch her dad, sister and brother play agility. Cooper did however achieve her Novice Jumpers and Tunnelers titles before she made the career change to becoming our best "Go to Ground" dog. She is the master of sniffing out critters. Her other favorite pastime is lying in the sun – no matter how hot it is.

of Veterans

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Loki Joe Henry "Loki"

Bichon Frise - Age 11.5
Handled by: Wendi Holz, Mandan, ND



Photo By Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Loki is my first agility dog and my heart dog. Every walk to the line is a special gift with Loki.

At 11.5 we are starting to slow down and do whatever Loki wants to do. But the journey will always be ours together.

I LOVE YOU LOKI!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

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La Brise Triple Espresso "Feisty"

Pyrenean Shepherd - Age 11.5
Handled by: Annelise Allan, Stacy, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Feisty is a character with a strong personality. When she did not want to run agility she would stop and stand still. If the crowd laughed she may continue for a bit.

She is terrified of cameras because she has associated the flash (one time) with lightning so now is very sure every camera click will be followed by thunder and lightning.

Extreme Games in NADAC was her favorite form of agility.

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Minnesota Mixed

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KayCee

Old World German Shepherd - Age 12
Handled by: Terri Lewis, Oronoco, MN



Photo By Terri Lewis

KayCee is such a great pup! Even though she is now 12 years old, when I look at her I see that cute little pup Karen and I drove to Nebraska to get. She started on contacts and tunnels when she was 4 months old. She loved it!

Her first trial she was so excited! She did the course correct right up to when she saw my husband. She took off to greet him but she came back when I called her. We were over time but it didn't matter because she was so Happy.

At 7 she tore her cruciate coming down the A frame. Before I could stop her she did the next obstacle. After surgery and 12 weeks of rehab she was back in the game and running like a pup! Her tongue hanging out the side of her mouth as she ran. At 9 she tore the other knee. She was recovering from it but she also had arthritis in her spine that was spreading. She did not compete again and has accepted her retirement.

I would be lying if I said I did not miss running agility with her. Those days were some of the greatest days ever!

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Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

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Wistwin Micro Whirlwind "Windy"

Shetland Sheepdog - Age 12
Handled by: Pam Vermeer, Stacy, MN



Photo by Geoff Nieder

Windy came to me wanting to play agility!

She was fast and demanding and expected me to be keep up with her. Sometimes that worked out better than other times! I liked to go for walks with the dogs, but Windy would look over her shoulder back at the agility yard the whole time we walked away from home, and would pull on the leash the whole way back, wanting to be done with the stupid walk.

She loves playing ball and she loves playing tug, but agility has always been her number one love. Oh, except maybe treats -- that may be her true number one love. Hmmm, agility, treats toys? Treats, agility, toys? Well, as long as it's one of those three, she's a pretty happy girl!

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Minnesota Mixed

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Sam

Mixed Breed - Age 12.5
Handled by: Kelly Dittmar, Maple Grove, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Like most dogs, Sam is changing as he ages. He's busy writing his own version of the 'old dog' rules. Having fully embraced selective deafness; he can still hear a treat drop a mile away, however he can no longer hear me call him when it's time to come into the house. Last week he dug up part of my hosta garden and enjoyed rolling in the cool dirt. Tonight, I turned my back on my dinner for a second and he was up licking my plate! Sure hope that was the first time!

Another area of change is his love of people. As a youngster, he never cared for touching. He'd always take your treats - but would go out of his way to avoid your touch. Today, he seeks out his favorite people for good pet and even a kiss. But perhaps only because they are trained to share cookies.

As we close in on our last agility goals, we have developed two new guidelines based on his preferences: we don't weave if we can't qualify and once we fault we visit every off-course tunnel possible! The judges must love these guidelines too as we are constantly awarded with favorite score of E (for excellent of course)!

I am forever the luckiest person to have this perfect partner.

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Lakewood's Frozen Dilly Bar "Dilly"

Mini Australian Shepherd - Age 12.5
Handled by: Deb Rickard, Jordan, MN



Photo by Barbara O'Brien

Dilly - aka Pipsqueak, Silly Dilly, Dilly Bar, Dilly Dally, Dilly Pickle

I got Dilly as a mini aussie, but he stopped growing. It was quite interesting going to running a dog that small, and I would lose him constantly on course because I wasn't used to looking that far down.

Dilly doesn't like weave poles, and heaven forbid I should make him run in the rain! During one rainy run, he stopped about half-way through, faced me, and stood there glaring at me. Once I stopped laughing, I convinced him to finish the course.

He is always excited to go to trials and enjoys running (once the weave poles are over). Somehow we finally managed to get both at N-ATCH and a C-ATCH.

He is my pal that stays with me when I'm sick and I love him lots.

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

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Painted Bandit Jack “Jack”

Australian Shepherd - Age 12.5
Handled by: Joanne Petro, Isanti, MN



Photo by Joanne Petro

Jack, A wonderful friend. Oct 6, 2004 - Aug 8, 2017

Jack is my first agility dog. In fact I didn't even know what agility was when I first started him. Then I fell in love with agility but unfortunately Jack didn't. He would rather chase squirrels at the park! Jack was a good sport about it and we have gotten 2 championship titles and participated in CPE Nationals in which he earned a few high in trial awards.

Jack was diagnosed with Chronic Lyme's as a 3 year old and after a year of rest he was able to come back to the sport jumping 12" in CPE. Running with the Shelties, he looked like Clifford The Big Red Dog. He retired from agility a few years ago but still comes along to get some petting and treats. I couldn't have asked for a better partner to start agility with.

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Kentucky's Weasel My Way Into Your Heart “Tucky”

Border Collie - Age 13
Handled by: Candice Christensen, White Bear Lake



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Who knew a little unwanted dog from Kentucky would come to Minnesota to live all those years ago?

Tucky is my heart dog. Nearly fully retired except for the occasional Hoopers or Tunnelers she is still a princess.

The life lessons she has taught me will be with me forever. She is a pretty darn good therapist, too! She is always up for a good game of “squeaky” and, lately, a good long nap. Old dogs rule and know how to rock a nap! (lesson #1)

Okay, Tucky now let's go play SQUEAKY!!!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

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Cisco Pots and Bugs "Cisco"

Dalmatian - Age 13
Handled by: Karen Magee, Rochester, MN



Photo by Karen Magee

13 and actually officially retired! He still actively enjoys field walks and hanging out with the agility gang at home.

While his vision and hearing have slipped a bit, he misses coming to trials and entertaining all with his signature "AirLeak/DonkeyHonk". He really enjoyed people wondering "Who's dog is that?!"

He wants all to know he's still strutting to his theme song .. "I'm Sexy and I know It"

Breed Club

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Minnesota Mixed

2017 Parade

Mini Cooper - Shown Actual Size "Mini Cooper"

Rat Terrier - Age 13
Handled by: Wendy Henes, St. Paul, MN



Photo by Rhonda Noetzelman

Mini Cooper turned 13 in May. I adopted him at age 3 when he was surrendered by his family for being a growly Gus. SCORE for me!

Cooper fit into my life perfectly. He helped me learn how to run a small dog in agility. Also, by being a Flyball height dog, he helped his doggie friends compete for many years.

Mini Cooper will always be my cherished little buddy.

Breed Club

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Minnesota Mixed

2017 Parade

Gidget

Chinese Crested - Age 13
Handled by: Danny Reinders, Rosemount, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Gidget is 13, and is officially retiring from agility today. She has amassed 3500 career points, Natch 2, and Versatility Natch 2.

It has been an honor to be her handler for all these years! She's a very special girl. Now on to running in the yard, and cuddling in the recliner.

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Herd Of Us Kruzin' Around The Canyon "Kruzer"

Australian Shepherd - Age 13
Handled by: Bernie Doyle, Joliet, IL



Photo by Lisa Schmidt

On April 10, 2004 a fabulous blue boy was born. He would win me over with his antics and come to me in a dream, just to make sure that I knew HE would be MINE!

Over the past 13 years, Kruzer has taken me on so many fun filled adventures and has been my constant companion and confidante both on and off the agility field. We have shared NATCH & Versatility NATCH runs, shared many a "NQ" run together, and most importantly, we have shared an undeniable love for each other.

Although this wonderful blue boy is enjoying retired life, he still loves agility and playing in the back yard. He will be playing in Intro & Novice agility classes in mid September and we will both cherish our walks to the line, together.

Kruzer is my comfy pair of slippers that feel & fit just right. Having in by my side and having his help in raising his 3 "younger siblings" has been a true blessing.

Kruzer, I love you to the moon and back buddy!! Thanks for being mine!!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Busy B's Legacy of Summer "Piper"

Pembroke Welsh Corgi - Age 13.5
Handled by: Patty Fulton, Blaine, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

If Piper were human, she would be that friend you wanted to keep close just to hear what snarky comment fell out of her mouth next. A truly obnoxious puppy, we knew she needed a job, or more accurately lots of jobs, to keep her occupied and out of trouble.

Now retired, she displayed a great deal of flair to earn championships and upper level titles in agility, obedience, and tracking - finishing her tracking championship last November with great drama over a doughnut at the very last corner of her track. This earned her a very rare Versatile Companion Dog 4 title.

While she is a little slower and a lot more stubborn, she is a most excellent supervisor, makes us laugh every day, even when she tries to maim me on the stairs, and will gladly help you with any spare cookies you may have laying around.

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

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Caamora First Flight "Will"

Pembroke Welsh Corgi - Age 13.5
Handled by: Bonnie Boudreau, Rosemount, MN

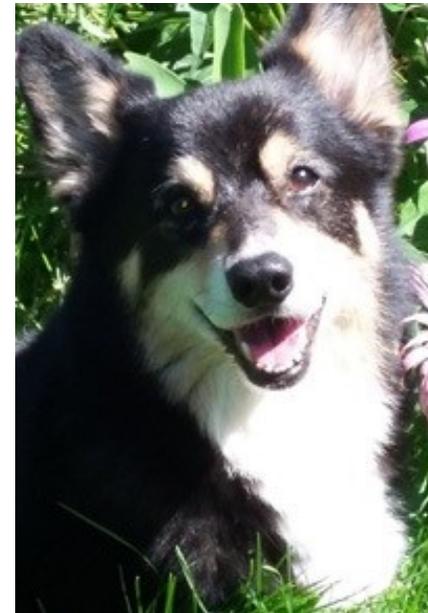


Photo by Bonnie Boudreau

Will is named First Flight for the Wright brothers' historic flight at Kitty Hawk a century before his birth. "Will", of course, for Wilbur Wright,

He is the sweetest little black dog I've ever met. He's been the best partner in all that we've done together.

Performance aside, he is a great companion, an 'easy keeper' and loves everyone he meets.

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Mitsu Beeshe Turbo “Beeshe”

Shetland Sheepdog - Age 14
Handled by: Stacy Reinolt, Nowthen, MN



Photo by Herreid Photography

Beeshe celebrated her 14th Birthday this past week. She earned her CS-ATCH 2 this year in CPE. Beeshe is still competing in agility but is slowing down do to not having the best vision. You can tell she still wants to run and play, but has issues with jumping.

Everyday Beeshe amazes us. She has been battling lung cancer for 16 months now and it hasn't slowed her down. She has been thru several chemo treatments, Dr Appts., blood tests, and X-rays and she is still the feisty, sweet lovable little girl she always has been. She is not letting cancer stop her from having fun.

Beeshe still loves to chase her Frisbee. Anytime you walk by her Frisbee, she gets all excited and starts barking and thinks it time to play.

We are so happy to have Beeshe still with us and we cherish everyday we spend with her. Beeshe you are our “Rock Star” and we love you so much.

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Aldebaran Tisla “Viva”

Icelandic Sheepdog - Age 14
Handled by: Kathryn Ananda-Owens, Northfield, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Longtime MMBC members may remember Viva's Novice Tunnelers run at the 2005 fall trial in Savage, when she successfully completed the first two tunnels only to barrel out of the ring to roll with great enthusiasm on a rabbit carcass. She's logged a lot of agility miles in the twelve years since then, always with the same exuberance and, as anyone within earshot can attest, at the same decibel level.

Viva has now been eligible for as many Parades of Veterans as she was eligible for AKC Agility Invitationals, where she represented the Icelandic Sheepdog breed. As much as it's been an amazing ride to compete with such a wonderful first dog, I know I am luckier still to wake up each day to her fourteen-year-old smile, and to be harassed every evening until she has gotten to do some backyard agility. Thank you, Viva, for being a dream come true, and thank you, MMBC, for giving us so many opportunities to have fun together. Among Viva's greatest gifts to me are the agility friendships, both dog and human, that we've made over the years.

As best we can tell, my greatest gifts to her are peanut butter, dried fish skin, Greenies, and not having to stop at the bottom of contact obstacles anymore.

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Josephine Jezebel Marie Lowry "Josie"

Mixed Breed - Age 14.5
Handled by: Pam Lowry, Princeton, MN



Photo by Pam Lowry

At 14-1/2 the only real running Josie does is in her dreams (little yips and moving her paws while sleeping). Josie has been Pam's rehab buddy after her back surgery this past spring. Josie is the only one who could be trusted to not make any sudden jerks on the leash, so they walk together. Josie enjoys sniffing pretty much as long as she likes at different points during their walks.

Even in her senior years, Josie occasionally surprises us by pouncing at the boy dogs to play, or suddenly charging the deck when she sees a deer or other critter that doesn't belong. She still rules the roost over the boys (Ole and Ian), and she will remind them if they forget.

Pam misses the days of traveling and trials, but feels blessed to have her sweet "Snoodle-poodle, JoJo Coco puff" in her life everyday for over 14 years.

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Dawson's Up A Creek "Dawson"

Mixed Breed - Age 15
Handled by: Wendy Henes, St. Paul, MN



Photo by Wendy Henes

Dawson turned 15 on July 1st. Over the years, he has earned his CGC and done a little agility and a little flyball.

Currently, he has a blast attending a special agility class on Saturday mornings with several other oldsters. Due to his eyesight, we set his bar height at 4 inches but he still gleefully flies high over them like the reindeer Rudolph!

I love this boy!

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Zachary Scott "Zak"

Jack Russell Terrier - Age 15
Handled by: Laura Breckheimer, Minneapolis



Photo by Skye Priesz

I keep scratching my head trying to figure HOW he can possibly be FIFTEEN! Lord knows he doesn't act it (and gives his care team a run for their money!) His full name is Zachary Scott Anthony Marcus James Frederick Taylor and if you aren't "in the know" about this ridiculously long name - in his younger and naughtier days Ellyce Thompson and Chris Mosley tacked on names depending on HOW naughty he was being at trials. Yes, he could be a real handful!

The Ones That Like Me - Brantley Gilbert
"Speak my mind, don't mind who's listenin'
I'll ask forgiveness, 'fore I ask permission
Least with me you know what you're gettin'
You may not get a thing about me, but

The ones that need me got me
The ones that doubt me can't stop me
Even the ones that said forget him
You can bet they ain't forgot me
Either wanna hit me or hold me
Those that hate me don't know me
And the ones that don't trust anybody trust me
Yeah, the ones that like me love me"

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Turbo Charged Mitsu "Mitsu"

Shetland Sheepdog - Age 15.5
Handled by: Stacy Reinolt, Nowthen, MN



Photo by Herreid Photography

Back in February, Mitsu retired from agility competitions at age 15. She earned her CPE Champion Enthusiast Jumpers title on her very last agility run. Mitsu competed in agility for 12 years. During Mitsu's agility career, she has earned a total of 5 C-ATCH's and 2 CT-ATCH's. Her first C-ATCH was at age 10. She also earned several other CPE titles which include: 5000 point title in Level 5 and all the Champion Titles in Regular and Enthusiast classes. Mitsu competed in NADAC earlier in her career and earned the 1000 Point NADAC Title and several other titles.

Since retirement, Mitsu has been taking it easy and enjoys sleeping in on trial days when her sisters have to get up early. Mitsu loves to still go for walks. She can't walk as far as she use to do to a hip injury, but don't tell her that. She doesn't care how far we go, she just loves to explore.

I am so proud of what she has accomplished. Thank you Mitsu for being my first agility partner. Enjoy retirement, you have earned it. Love you Mitsu.

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Golac's River of Joy "River"

Golden Retriever - Age 15.5
Handled by: Jaci Carufel, Anoka, MN



Photo by Gretchen Olson

River is one in a million. It is so hard to believe the time has passed so quickly. River will be 16 years old in October.

River is still an active therapy dog at the Anoka Treatment Facility. She has been a therapy dog for almost 15 years. She is also taking a Senior Enrichment class and loves it.

River has many agility titles in AKC, CPE, and NADAC. She also has Nose work, and Obedience titles. Just recently River just earned two new Tricks titles.

What an amazing girl River is. Every day is a wonderful gift!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2017 Parade

Thank You!

Wow! I cannot believe this is the 10th anniversary of the Parade of Veterans! Who would have thought that after all these years we'd still be enjoying this event every September?

We've come thru 10 years of creating new family and friends. Of celebrating puppies and rescues. 10 years of smiles and cheers and hugs and tears. We've suffered and grown as a community. Each year, we celebrate what makes us, well, us. Here's to 10 more years of making memories.

This year, I want to thank 2 very special people who sponsored our beautiful ribbons. These two ladies inspire me every time I see them. They make me happy whenever I think of them. They both embody something I believe is core to so many of us - and that is they always put the dog first. They embrace the idiosyncrasies in their partners and bring out their best with patience and kindness. They always have a smile and an attitude of gratitude. Thank you for being you!

Kathryn Ananda-Owens, who sponsored In honor of all dogs, young and old, who inspire us to be our best and most joyous selves, day after day.

Karen Magee, who sponsored from her heart and in her typical fashion has nothing else to add.

See you all next year! Until then - make it great!

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