



# PARADE OF VETERANS 2021

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

## 2021 Parade

of Veterans

### Boogie

Mini Australian Shepherd - Age 9  
Handled by: Deb Rickard, Jordan, MN



Photo by Prairie Skye

Boogie - the Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Boogaloo, Crazy Dog and Dufus is amazingly now 9. How did that happen!?

Sadly, we haven't been running agility much over the last few years. He is really smart and would probably do well, if he had a handler who could keep up with him.

Boogie really loves people and will often lay back for a belly rub. He will also give me hugs when I ask for one. I've never had a dog that loves cuddling and petting like he does.

Boogie recently had CCL surgery, and I recently had 2 knee replacements. Hopefully we can both succeed at rehab and you will see more of us!

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

## 2021 Parade

### Calypso Ella Fitzgerald "Ella"

Shetland Sheepdog - Age 9.5  
Handled by: Steve Lein, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Due to knee injuries, Ella has retired from agility to concentrate on her other career: Controlling the monsters that live in her neighborhood storm drains and under the docks at her marina.

One of my favorite agility moments together was when Ella stopped in the middle of a run at CHAMPS to scream at me that the off course was my fault and not hers!

Before retirement, we earned some very special Achievements: NATCH 5, V-NATCH2, and All Around NATCH 1. She also earned her 5000 Lifetime Points Award and in 2017, she was the #10 Chances Shetland Sheepdog in the nation!

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## 2021 Parade

### Powell's Allie "Allie"

Mixed Breed - Age 9.5  
Handled by: Susan Powell, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Laurie Erickson

Allie had a rough beginning coming into rescue all skin and bones, but was always an honest dog that turned into a very intelligent, spunky drama queen!

She thoroughly enjoyed her first agility trial in a barn getting the zoomies and doing laps around the ring climbing hay bails and ignoring me! By the end of the day, we nearly had a Q in tunnels, but we just had to do that first tunnel twice!

If it weren't for all those great dog people at NADAC, who knows where we would be today? Allie did go on to do well in CPE earning 3 Championships and will have her retirement run in two more weeks.

She was diagnosed with a back condition and a few other medical issues that will end her career earlier than I wanted, but she still continues to bark loudly and not hold a very good start line the second her collar is off! Never a dull moment with her!

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# 2021 Parade

## Wish

Border Collie - Age 9.5  
Handled by: Jessica Thell, New Richmond, WI



Photo by Jessica Thell

I met Wishy's mum, Annie, at a trial. I got talking to her person as Annie looked very much like Bella but seemed to have the complete opposite personality. Annie was relaxed and sunbathing waiting for her turn, while Bella was hyped up, spinning and barking!

Annie's human, Tashia, and I stayed in touch so when she let me know that she had breed Annie I was very interested. It took a little while for Wishy to come to us, although Tashia said that she already had Wishy picked out for us. She kept him safe for us for a year before the time was right. I was worried that Bella would not except another dog but when they met, they got on right away. Wishy was the perfect companion for Bella and took her eccentricities in his stride!

Wishy has that illusive Border Collie "off switch" when lounging around the house and cuddling with his people but he does everything else at 110%! He is silly and goofy, playful and loveable, and we absolutely adore him and cannot imagine life without him!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

# 2021 Parade

## Mystic Cavalry to the Rescue "Scout"

Border Collie - Age 10.5  
Handled by: Shelly Russ, Hugo, MN

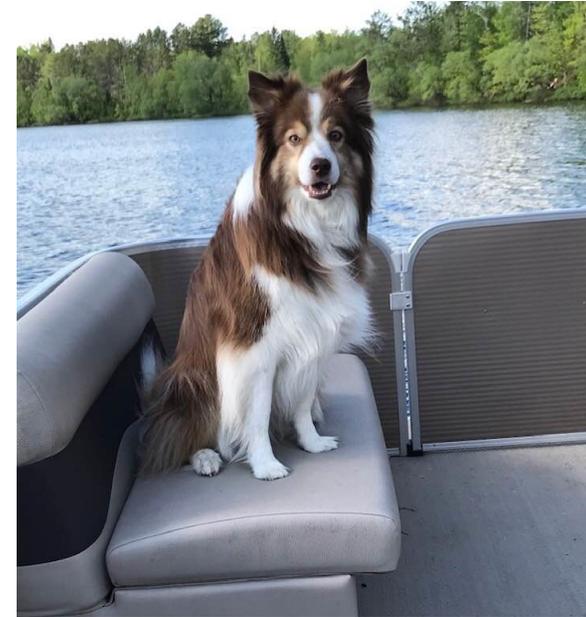


Photo by Shelly Russ

Scout still participates in agility and hopes to try out Nose work this fall.

Scout loves to play ball and is usually seen walking around with a ball in her mouth.

Her best friend is Lily who may be taking over her handling duties!

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# 2021 Parade

## Lily Tomlin "Tommie"

Mixed Breed - Age 11  
Handled by: Laura Breckheimer, Minneapolis

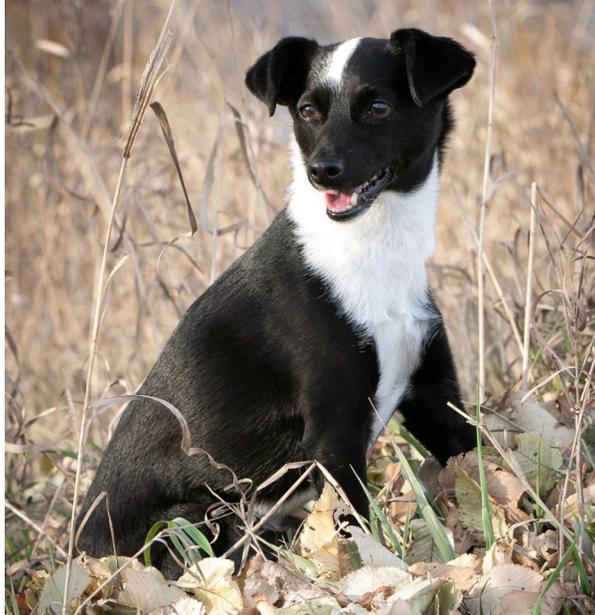


Photo by Laurie Erickson

Lily Tomlin aka Tommie, T-Bird, Skunk, Skunk the Punk is eleven YEARS old. I triple checked!

We are a perpetual work in progress and I think that suits both of us just fine. Though she's got this "new kid" and um...if you'd like him at your house please see Tommie and bypass the human!

In the past year Tommie has taken on lure coursing and it is a close 2nd to her beloved agility. More uses for her lightning feet!

"And though she be but little, she is fierce." -Shakespeare

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## Cibola Double Dare Ewe "DDare"

Pembroke Welsh Corgi - Age 11  
Handled by: Chris Mosley, Prior Lake, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

"DDare: One of the Ds is silent. And that is the only silent thing about him." -Tracie Karsjens

All of you have heard his insistent voice near the start line. He is the Universal Marker Dog, whether you are ahead or behind him in line. He's actually not as loud on course, although he's been known to "trill in the weaves (his favorite obstacle) or turn to holler "Come ON, old lady!" at the second to last jump (why we stopped doing AKC) But he is also willing to curl up on the couch and watch television with me and relax for a massage (mostly).

He has taught me a lot during his career. We've won stuff and traveled all over the country.

I am thankful that he is still running with joy and treasure every run.

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### Duchess of the Silent World “Duchess”

Dalmatian - Age 11  
Handled by: Karen Magee, Rochester, MN



Photo by Karen Magee

Duchess came to us because once you have one Dalmatian, everyone thinks you need 100 more! :-)

Deaf from birth, she fit into our lives and dog family easily. Since we do agility in our house, she got to try it and did wonderfully. I learned more about handling from her than any class or trainer has taught me. A back injury has shortened her career, and I miss our silent dance most of all.

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

## 2021 Parade

### Black Pearl Spider Monkey “Pearl”

Mixed Breed - Age 11.5  
Handled by: Karen Magee, Rochester, MN



Photo by Karen Magee

Pearl, AKA “Monkey Puppy”!!! is the only dog we’ve had that actually likes weave poles!

Pearl came to us as a puppy with a leg injury. We were not sure it would allow her to do something as strenuous as agility, but she quickly healed and has gone on to be our most prolific agility family member! She has 20 NADAC Championship titles, 8 UKC Championship titles - and countless other individual titles. She ran with joy and loved to hear “turn and burn” toward the end of run (which means just take the line you’re on and run with it to the end). While cancer has shortened her career, she’ll always be the MONKEY PUPPY!

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# 2021 Parade

## Breeze

Mixed Breed - Age 11.5  
Handled by: Autumn Fenmar, Rosemount, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Breeze joined our family back in 2010, shortly after I caught the agility bug. Throughout the years, she proved to be a talented agility dog and loved racing me through a course. While she had a lot of drive and heart, she was less fond of the competitive environment. She went on to accomplish an agility championship and many titles, but she was my teacher in learning how to handle a dog with stress. She taught me the importance of having fun in the ring and changed my perspective.

At 11.5 years, she's taken a few years off from agility competition to focus on nose work, which has turned out to be her absolute favorite job. Nose work took our relationship to a new level and many aspects of our teamwork in agility carried over. This past year, she earned her nose work championship in NACSW. After being diagnosed with a slow progressing cancer in 2019, any additional accomplishments and memories are a bonus.

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## Noah's New Beginning "Abbey"

Border Collie - Age 11.5  
Handled by: Gina Pizzo, Maplewood, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Abbey is an 11 ½ year old rescued Border Collie. I can't believe she'll be 12 years old in a couple of months! Time always moves too fast when it comes to our dogs.

Abbey came into my life when she was 7 months old. She has been a great companion and is always ready to play any game and always does it Abbey-style!

2020 brought her a torn CCL and TPLO surgery. It was a long rehab and several months of incarceration in an x-pen but she made her return to agility competition in April of 2021. She is unhappy with her limited number of runs and is making me pay for it by refusing to stay at the start line! I'm just happy to be running her again.

Enjoy every run with your dog because you never know when it might be your last!

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# 2021 Parade

## Jake

Australian Shepherd - Age 12  
Handled by: Kelly Dittmar, Maple Grove, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

There is nothing like stepping to the line with Jake. Nothing like the joy in seeing him run and nothing like the rush of connecting with him. I wished and dreamed and pushed us both forward past a series of stepping stone goals to the ultimate one: running agility again. We made it. I take that gratitude with me every single day. I carry it on every single run. I will be forever grateful to Jake's care team at TC Rehab for the gift of helping me get my old Jake back. We did it!!

Jake's had so many wonderful teachers in his career, we would never had turned into the team we are without them. It all started with Sam, who not only tolerated me while I learned to handle but also taught Jake to weave. Never underestimate dogs learning from watching other dogs!

I'll always be grateful to our amazing instructors who always welcomed Jake in class. Thank you for always finding room for us. Thank you for helping us grow as a team and supporting us in the full circle journey from "you're late" to "you're early". The journey matters so much more than the outcome, make the choice to enjoy every moment you can.

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# 2021 Parade

## High Plains Drifter "Trek"

Border Collie - Age 12  
Handled by: Jim Nally, Maplewood, MN



Photo by Jim Nally

As a precocious 1-year old, this now 12-year old Border Collie was found roaming the plains of North Dakota. Saddled with the very un-Border Collie-like name of 'Herbie' by his rescuers, upon adoption his meandering ways earned him both his registered name ('High Plains Drifter') and his call name ('Trek').

Trek has been active in agility and flyball, and he even tried herding (which didn't go all that well, though no animals were injured!). Other favorite activities include riding in the car (any destination is fine), swimming ("Water! Oh boy, oh boy, oh boy!"), chasing tennis balls (though giving them back is an entirely different matter), visiting Dr. Julia ("She's the best!"), and playing with squeaky toys ("Let's rrrrrrip the stuffing out and kill that squeaker!").

Trek has continued the wandering ways of his wayward youth, having visited 18 US States and one Canadian Province (Hello, Ontario!). He has also participated in the NADAC Championships once (which went about as well as the herding experiment). Trek probably would have qualified for more Champs if it hadn't been for his infamous, multi-year "I can't weave in public" phase, so we've largely settled on just having a whole lot of fun, which has pretty much been the story of his life.

So, thank you, somebody up in NoDak. Your loss has definitely been our gain.

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### Koster's Shootin' For The Stars "Gunner"

Border Collie - Age 12.5  
Handled by: Denise Koster, Rochester, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Gunner is enjoying his retirement. He stays active by running in the backyard, playing a little disc when I play with Ozzie and keeping Jade in line.

I sure miss running my steady boy but I cherish the memories of his start line roll and our trip to Gillette, WI for our one and only invitation to NADAC Champs to compete in pre-trial. That was such a fun trip!

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## 2021 Parade

### Avatar's Ryder on the Storm Bayshore "Ryder"

Border Collie - Age 13  
Handled by: Shirley Wallace, Wrenshall, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

This is Ryder at the 2019 NADAC Championships in Springfield, OH. Ryder is one of the best teammates a person could ask for. He truly wants to do exactly what I ask of him all the time. That's not something I taught him. It's who he is. If he does something wrong, it's because I did something wrong.

We have traveled many miles together, out to Moab, UT, Red Lodge, MT multiple times, Springfield, IL, Springfield, OH, Gillette, WY, Columbus, OH and Thunder Bay, ONT as well as all over Minnesota. We hope to travel many more together, though not so far away. Today is Ryder's 13th birthday. Happy Birthday, Mr. Ryder!!!

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### Acie's Silent Dancer "Savannah"

Bull Terrier - Age 13

Handled by: Deb Rodden, Minneapolis, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Savannah is my heart girl, what an adventure we've had! Early on it was apparent that she was smart, fearless, and was up for anything; so we started training in agility! Her early agility career was filled with lots of zoomies, but that was just her, she did things her way and kept me on my toes.

We started NADAC in 2011 where she earned most of her Novice titles and then branched to CPE. She was my first dog to earn a Championship title when she earned her first CT-ATCH in 2014. By the time she retired in 2018 she had earned CT-ATCH 3 and CS-ATCH 2. We ran in 5 CPE Nationals and placed 5th in High in Trial Games in 2015 Nationals in Jacksonville, Florida! We crossed off a bucket list item there by dipping our feet/paws in the Atlantic Ocean!

In 2015 when the AKC allowed deaf dogs to play agility, we decided to try it and she earned her OJP and OAP. She also passed her therapy dog evaluation that fall and started doing therapy dog work in hospitals, nursing homes and became an Animal Ambassador at the MSP Airport in 2019.

She's been an incredible companion all these years, doing many fun things, and always with a little of her own sass! Love you to the moon and back girl!!

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## 2021 Parade

### REO Speed Waggin' "REO"

Jack Russell Terrier - Age 13

Handled by: Laura Breckheimer, Minneapolis



Photo by Laurie Erickson

REO Speed Waggin aka Stilts, Roo, Mr Special has made it to 13! Time flies when you share your life with a tree climbing, critter hunting, walk ALL the miles, wear ALL the dirt, do ALL the things kind of guy!

We're found more ways to appreciate each other. We "welcomed" a youngster in the house (and REO even taught him to tug and wrestle). This boy never ceases to surprise me with his heart and level of "TRY". Here's to another year my Roo!

"When it's too hard to look back and you're too afraid to look ahead, Look right beside you & I'll be there." -Author unknown

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## Zoe

Mixed Breed - Age 13.5  
Handled by: Autumn Fenmar, Rosemount, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Zoe is the one who introduced me to dog sports and agility back in 2009. Since then she has had a long agility career that included championship titles, personal victories, trips to national events, and countless memories. Her retirement from competition leaves me with no regrets. She was the perfect agility partner for me and I will be forever grateful to have called her my teammate.

At 13.5 years, we call Zoe our "Free-Spirited Black Dog" and she enjoys her walks, laying on the couch, and doing nose work.

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# 2021 Parade

## Bailey Benson Jacques "Bailey"

Bichon Frise - Age 14  
Handled by: Wendi Holz, Mandan, ND

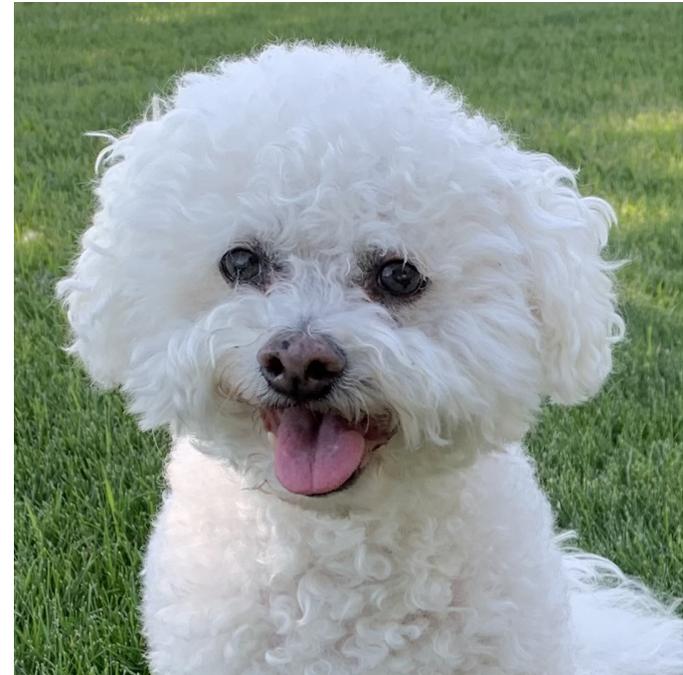


Photo by Wendi Holz

Running agility with you made me a better handler and taught me to go with the flow.

We continue to enjoy playing in the backyard. I still love to see your bursts of excitement when you do it your "Bailey way".

Love you Babes!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

## 2021 Parade

### Mystic Bravo Three's A Charm "Bravo"

Border Collie - Age 14.5  
Handled by: Shelly Russ, Hugo, MN



Photo by Shelly Russ

Bravo is enjoying retirement!

She spends her days looking for treats, barking at the UPS truck, and napping.

Her favorite thing to do is watching over her grand babies!

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## 2021 Parade

### Hangtime Bandits Pal Cap'n Hook "Hooker"

Australian Shepherd - Age 15  
Handled by: JoAnne Schwietz, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Nina Sage (Nina's Photography)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BUBBA! Yep, my boy turned 15 yesterday on September 3rd! 15 years ago, I was at this exact same trial when I got a call that you had been born. Though at the time I didn't know which boy puppy I was going to get (I actually wanted your brother) I believe that it was in the cards that we would be together.

Our agility journey has taken us around the country and making bar setters remember you... oh how you liked to make them work!!! Obedience/Rally weren't your thing but you were a trooper and played along. Nosework was fun and how you loved to smash containers. Herding supplied you with flys which you loved to chase & sheep and goats.

This past year, we added Trick titles after your name... it passed the time and you are good at doing stuff as long as the treats keep flowing. Hooker, thank you for allowing me to join you on your journey which we call life!

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## 2021 Parade

### Fourwinds Magic Breeze “Breeze”

Australian Shepherd - Age 15  
Handled by: Linda Heaton, Cambridge, MN



Photo by Linda Heaton

Breeze has been the best agility partner ever. She reads my mind!

But at 15 years old, 11 months out from a liver lobectomy to remove a cancerous tumor, we are enjoying our special connection. We run an occasional 4" jumpers run and she especially enjoys intro tunnelers. We go to nosework class to continue working together. Breeze wants to do all the traveling with me and holds a grudge if she doesn't come with us.

We enjoy every day and hope to attend the Parade of Veterans for a long time to come!

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## 2021 Parade

### Uproar For Cody's Boot Scooter “Spur”

Australian Shepherd - Age 15  
Handled by: Jan Poole, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Nina Sage (Nina's Photography)

Spur, my blue eyed, blue merle boy that I “ordered” from a breeder in Canada (she asked me what I was looking for – this is what I told her) turned 15 this year.

15 what an accomplishment for my boy who threw himself hard into all that he did! His high energy approach to Agility, Herding, and Obedience resulted in many injuries over the years, but he always bounced back stronger and with more attitude than before. He hasn't slowed down in his zest for life even after being diagnosed with Hemangiosarcoma in April of this year.

He still does Nosework and Tricks with a bit of Rally thrown in and continues to make me smile every day. I cherish all of the awesome memories that we made together for the past 15 years... and still counting.

Thank you Spur for bringing so much joy to my life!

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# 2021 Parade

## Bella

Border Collie - Age 15.5  
Handled by: Jessica Thell, New Richmond, WI



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

My Bella

Loyal, sensitive, beautiful, thoughtful, smart

Perfect

My Heart

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

# 2021 Parade

## Loki Joe Henry "Loki"

Bichon Frise - Age 15.5  
Handled by: Wendi Holz, Mandan, ND



Photo by Shawn Holz

You were my first agility dog and we have had so much fun and have learned so much from each other.

Even though life is slower now and you are retired from agility, your name continues to suit you. Loki - "Nordic God of Mischief". Continue living up to your name and being my happy little boy!

Love you so much Loki!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

## 2021 Parade

### Sam

Mixed Breed - Age 16.5  
Handled by: Kelly Dittmar, Maple Grove, MN



Photo by Kelly Dittmar

I'm so thankful that my bestest Sam-Dog is doing great!

Sam's taken on a new job in his 16th year - he's working on training a new little brother! I had hoped that Sam would adjust well to Kevin, but I had no idea how much they would enjoy each other. They play endless games of bitey-face and occasionally Sam enjoys chasing after Kevin in the yard. To my shock, Sam's even played a bit of agility recently - enjoying some hoops, a tunnel, and some cheese reward too!

We continue to enjoy camping together. While we don't hike too far anymore, Sam still enjoys a good walk thru the campground and is great at holding down the fort!

Sam's working on delegating his role as my supervisor in order to enjoy longer and deeper naps. Assuming he hears me get up, he will still follow me throughout the lower two levels of my house. Secretly, I think he just hopes that he'll get something special from the kitchen. He rarely bothers to follow me upstairs though, almost like he knows that I can't escape the house from there! I am so lucky to have him as my shadow!

of Veterans

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

## 2021 Parade

### Lakewood's Frozen Dilly Bar "Dilly"

Mini Australian Shepherd - Age 16.5  
Handled by: Deb Rickard, Jordan, MN



Photo by Barbara O'Brien

Dilly - aka Pipsqueak, Silly Dilly, Dilly Bar, Dilly Dally, Dilly Pickle is now 16 ¾ years old! Although he can't see or hear very well, he still loves to run! And (with no prejudice) he is still the cutest dog around.

Dilly and I had our challenges over the years. I kept losing him on the course because I wasn't used to such a small dog. He never liked weave poles, and often figured he could design the course much better than the judge or I.

Heaven forbid I should make him run in the rain a few times. 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 was always excited to go to trials and enjoyed running (once the weave poles were over!). Somehow we finally managed to get both a N-ATCH and a C-ATCH.

He is still my pipsqueak, and still runs around like the Silly Dilly I love.

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# 2021 Parade

## Siren

Mixed Breed - Age 16.5

Handled by: Kelly McFaul-Solem, Duluth, MN



Photo by Kelly McFaul-Solem

What can I say about the most perfect dog ever?

Graceful, affectionate, athletic and compassionate - all wrapped into one fluffy-tailed, beautiful dog! Siren has woven her way into every part of our lives and into my heart forever. I truly cannot imagine life without my beautiful girl...so I don't.

She has taught me that sometimes dogs have bad days, while showing me how to age gracefully and change course as needed. It has been a gift to be part of her life for nearly 17 years - I can only hope that I have brought as much to her life as she has brought to mine!

Breed Club

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# 2021 Parade

## Mini Cooper - Shown Actual Size "Mini Cooper"

Rat Terrier - Age 17

Handled by: Wendy Henes, St. Paul, MN

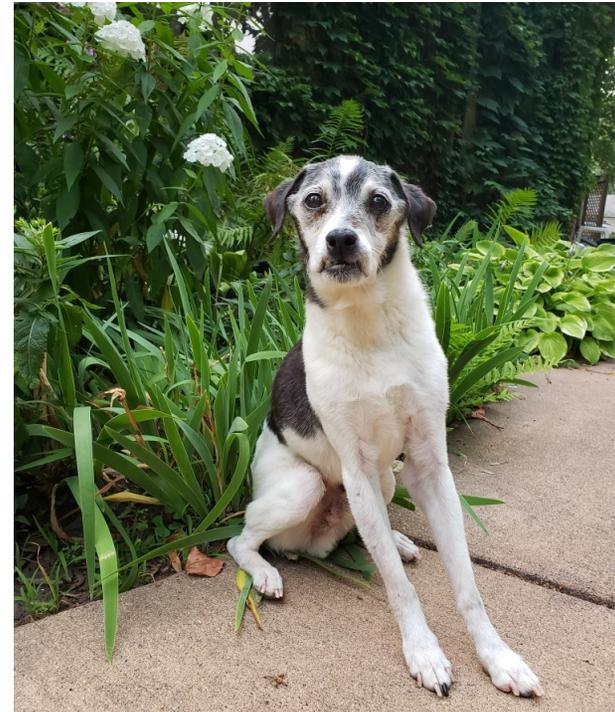


Photo by Wendy Henes

Due to his age and health status, this will be Mini Cooper's last Veteran's Parade. It's been one heck of a run for this mommas boy and I can't believe how much adopting this little dude has meant to me.

He's competed in agility and flyball but his most important role in life was to be mom's heart dog.

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## Thank You!

Welcome back to in-person parades!

I'm not sure about you, but these past years have been a journey for me. Never before has the idea of a community meant quite so much. I'm so thankful that we can be here together in person to celebrate each other and our wonderful partners!

An extra special thanks once again for our POV sponsors! From the beginning, the MMBC wanted to have a low entry fee - we never wanted cost to be a barrier to participation. In order to support that goal, we've tried to keep the Parade Perks to a minimum. Please do thank Gina and Jim who have donated their time and resources for the past 14 years to bake all of our dogs extra special cookies. Sam and Jake send eternal gratitude from the bottom of their stomachs to the tippy tops!

This year, when we ran short of ribbons, we had no less than 7 people leap forward to help us bring POV Ribbons back. I say leap because the checks came rolling in before I even knew how much help we'd need! Many of those helpers donated to us this year in honor of dogs who are waiting at the Bridge. We hope you hang these ribbons proudly and remember the incredible journey that you took with the partner.

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