



*Tiger, Editor-in-Chief*

# Boulder Community Bark



*Dusty, Willing Apprentice*

## TRAINING CLASSES EXPAND, Part II



Our most recent graduates proudly pose for their graduation class photo! What's different about this class is that the new teams will be working at three different hospitals: Boulder Community, Avista Adventist, and Longmont United.

What's exciting about this is that we filled this class from a combined "county-wide" wait list. And, the class beginning on June 18 for Avista and Exempla and Longmont United has been filled in the same way. Over time, this means wait times for interested teams to enter all our programs will be reduced.

How does this happen? We're expanding our pet therapy programs at Exempla/Good Samaritan Medical Center and Avista Adventist Hospital. Many teams who signed up ages ago to work at BCH or LUH, still patiently waiting, live in areas closer to these facilities. We called them and asked if they would be interested in working at Avista or Exempla. Many said "yes!". At long last, our two-year wait for potential BCH teams is moving toward being shorter.

We are thrilled and so are they.

For another stories about this Boulder County-wide focus, check out Tilda's Blog and more information about what our website means on the following pages.

### Calendar

#### Upcoming Events (that we know about now)

#### **JUNE 18, 2011**

Exempla/Good Sam - Avista Adventist Hospital pet therapy class begins

#### **JUNE 25, 2011 - Saturday**

We need role players for this Exempla-Avista class. Exempla-Good Sam conference facilities, 2:30- 4:00 for role players.

#### **SEPTEMBER 18, 2011 - Sunday**

Mark your calendar for the 8th Annual Canine Corps Cookout

#### **SEPTEMBER 2011**

Calendar photos are due by the end of September! We put the calendar together in October.

### Who's Dusty?

Dusty is Tiger's new little brother. He joined our family in April and is now 4 months old.

He's an Australian Shepherd with beautiful blue eyes.

We think he may be a therapy dog before Tiger is.



## 8th Annual Canine Corps Cookout

Sunday, September 18  
3:00 pm

The lake at Lake Valley, north of Boulder, off Niwot Road.

More information to come in our next issue.

SAVE THE DATE.

### *Farewell, Andy ...*

In early May, Cynthia Olsen reported the loss of her beloved Andy, who was killed by a fox in his backyard.



Andy was a cheerful, eager visitor at Broadway. Our happiest memories of Andy occurred as we chuckled at his enthusiastic play at the Canine Corps Cookout last year.

We'll miss him!



### *ONCE IN A BLUE MOON*

*by Tilda Holle*

I have the week off from visiting this week as I had a small bump removed from the top of my head and am working at healing it up so I can get back to visiting my friends. Meanwhile, I told dad he needed to get busy and write about a recent event that happened for both of us which was put together by some very nice people.

Have you ever heard of the "ONCE IN A BLUE MOON" Award? Wait until you read this one! You will be amazed at what happened to dad and me this last Friday, June 3rd. I even had my picture taken for the affair. Read all about it on the following page on my website:

<http://www.tildadog.com/blog>

Here's a happy tail wag and lots of love for you,

Tilda

Congratulations,  
Raggerty and Rob Lathrop!

BCH Outstanding Volunteers, 2011





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

This is OUR website.

Our new website, introduced earlier this year, represents the strides we've made in working together among the four therapy dog programs at the four Boulder County hospitals.

- The Canine Corps at Boulder Community Hospital (Program Coordinator - Jan Fincher)
- Avista Animal Helpers at Avista Adventist Hospital (Program Coordinator - Margaret Hornacek)
- Caring Canines at Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center (Program Coordinator - Daryl Holle)
- Therapy Animals In Loving Service at Longmont United Hospital Program Coordinator - Linda Vahrenkamp)

How have we worked together? What difference does this make?

- One advantage is combined classes and shorter wait lists.
- Another is that community members interested in joining one of our programs can go to one place (our website), learn about the pet therapy program at each hospital, and apply on line.
- Still another is that now, finally, all our programs have common protocols. While there may be some minor differences at each hospital, the important things are the same. The same screening processes, the same behavioral standards, and a common knowledge base.
- And finally, now teams, like you and your dog, are able to volunteer at more than one hospital, if you wish, with less hassle.

Our next step is to begin using the website as an information center for all programs. An example is Tilda's Blog, where you can read about wonderful things that can happen when we visit. We'll begin posting photos of graduates and new teams. You can write about your adventures and we'll add your story to a common blog. You can check the Canine Corps master schedule and see when various teams are working and where.

Your passkey for Member Programs: "BCH", the "godog". Start checking it out.

### Tamarack Moves to California!

Tamarack Lichty, one of our 2011 Calendar Cover dogs, has retired to sunny California. Amy reports that he flew there first class, aboard a special doggie airline.



Tamarack and Amy volunteered for several years at Broadway. He is known for his sweet disposition. May he enjoy a long and happy retirement!

### 2012 Canine Corps Calendar

Our calendars are very popular! What's makes them so special is that they feature our dogs being dogs. And they feature photographs by you.

We'll be accepting photos through the summer. Email your favorites to [jfincher6@comcast.net](mailto:jfincher6@comcast.net). If you need help, just let us know. We have excellent photographers on our team who would be happy to help.