



Points of interest:

- Debbie and Merrill
- Light the Path of Darkness
- Wish List
- Congratulations Graduates
- What's Happening
- Dog Guide Sponsorship

September 2007

A NOTE FROM DEBBIE AND MERRILL



My name is Debbie MacDonald and I am a stay at home Mom living in the town of Antigonish, NS. I have been totally deaf for 15 years but until last year it really did not seem to make any difference in my lifestyle. My children, husband or dog would always clue me in. But then in January of 2006 my life became very different, my children had grown up and two had moved away from home. The third one at 18 was extremely busy with

school, work and of course the social scene. My husband was also extremely busy and then my wonderful dog died. All at once it seemed like I was totally alone and it became scary to face each day. Friends and neighbours were reluctant to come in because they did not feel comfortable searching my home for me. I did not like the idea of being alerted with buzzers or flashing lights. Someone suggested that I apply for a Hearing Ear Dog Guide so I took a deep breath and filled out the necessary paper work. Less then a year later I met my wonderful new companion. Love at first sight!
 Merrill is my new "baby ". She is a purebred black standard poodle. However at times the way she leaps around during playtime I am beginning to think she is part deer. She is beautiful,

smart, playful, friendly, shy, regal and best of all...mine! She turned two in May and alerts me to various different sounds. No more can I use the excuse of missing the timer when things get burned. My son is not able to sneak in anymore either. Friends are again popping in for a giggle and a coffee so life is good around here. I go to sleep every night as a very contented lady. The first week home was a little tense getting used to everything and each other but I can truthfully say now that we are all adjusted and it seems like Merrill has always been a part of our lives. Please know that from the bottom of my heart I appreciate the funding that made it possible for Merrill and I to become "one". I couldn't imagine life without her.

- Debbie and Merrill
 Antigonish, Nova Scotia

GET INVOLVED - "Light the Path of Darkness"

Join thousands of Lions coast-to-coast to support Lions Foundation of Canada through the re-sale of compact fluorescent energy efficient light bulbs. Two bulbs banded together with the label (as seen following) will be sold for \$9. An order form has been included in this mailing on a separate sheet. 100% club participation patches are available for those clubs that have all members sell a minimum of 5 packages of 2 bulbs. For more information please contact the Foundation.



"Light the Path of Darkness"



Thank You For Supporting
 Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides

www.dogguides.com



SYLVANIA

"The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue." -- Anonymous

Message from the Chair



Welcome to the new Lions Year!

I encourage all of you to start making plans now for a project in your Club to make this one of the best years ever for the Lions Foundation of Canada.

This is a milestone year for us as we celebrate 25 years of serving those whose lives have become much more independent thanks to the help of one of "our dogs".

As members of the Lions family, we can take great pride in what we have accomplished to date but there is a long list of clients who are still seeking our help. This year the Foundation will be asking for your support in some of our 25th Anniversary fundraising projects. I feel

confident that you will be there for us now as you have always been .

Working together we can accomplish much, and we have, the Lions Foundation of Canada . Like all good things in life we need to grow and expand to meet the demand and to do this we will always need you.

Thank You for the past 25 years of support, without you - it could not have happened.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ...

Fall Open House

Saturday, September 29th, 2007

The Fall Open House is from 10am-2pm at the Oakville training facility. Tours, demonstrations, and refreshments will be accompanied by a Silent Auction.

Annual General Meeting

Saturday, October 13th, 2007

The Annual General Meeting for Lions Foundation of Canada will be held at 3:30pm at 152 Wilson Street in Oakville, Ontario. All are welcome to attend the AGM.

V.I.P. Rally 2007

Sunday, October 14th, 2007

The Lions Club of Oakville will be hosting the 23rd Annual V.I.P. Car Rally (formerly the 'Blind' Car Rally) at Huttonville Community School, Embleton Road, Huttonville, ON. Join in and support Canine Vision Canada.

Great Way to Support Dog Guides

A great way to support Lions Foundation of Canada on our 25th anniversary is by hosting a Walk. Did you know...?

- All of our Board of Directors are Lions
- We help people right across Canada, possibly right in your community
- 100% of the proceeds go toward providing Dog Guides to qualified applicants at no cost to them
- Lions Foundation of Canada helps people who have visual, hearing or other medical or physical disabilities



All you need is three volunteers to organize your first Walk. You can even host one without a budget. The Foundation provides everything including donation forms, posters, TV and radio public service announcements, press releases, insurance and a step-by-step organizational guide. It is one of the most fun events your Club will ever do and you will benefit from major exposure in your community. Please join over 185 communities across Canada and host a Walk this year. Call Steven Cronk, Manager Walk for Dog Guides at 1.800.768.3030 Ext. 241 for more details.



We are members of the Association of Fundraising Professionals working to ensure your donations are used wisely. You give to charity. We give you accountability. To read the Donor Bill of Rights visit www.afptoronto.org



Still Looking For Ways To Get Involved In Lions Foundation of Canada's 25th Anniversary?

Select a Club representative and fill out the form in the 25th anniversary brochure available online or at the back of this newsletter and return it to the Foundation via mail, fax, or e-mail it to 25years@dogguides.com. In return, a kit full of ideas will be mailed to you to help get you started.

🐾 Congratulations GRADUATES 🐾

CANINE VISION CANADA SPONSORS

June 2007

Vicky and Felix, Kingston, ON
 Peter and Amigo, Georgetown, ON
 Ronald and Edgar, Oshawa, ON
 Hannah and Calvin, Victoria, BC
 Karoline and Jock, Kingston, ON
 Joe and Trudeau, Seaforth, ON

Frankford Lions, ON; Ryan and Hailey English, BC
 Burlington Nelson Lions, ON; Ian and Ellen Wong, BC
 Oshawa West Lions, ON; Jeffrey Hum, ON
 Burnaby Lougheed Lions, BC; Todd English, BC
 Al and Bernice Fox, SK; Wesley Mar, ON
 Don and Julia McGowan, ON; Jennifer Isobe, BC;
 Screen Printers, ON



~ Printer Cartridge Recycling

Reminder - only inkjet cartridges are now being accepted. You can use the mailing label, or for your convenience, you can use the new mailing envelopes available from RWorld.

Call 905.936.9346 or 1.800.307.3719 and RWorld will send them to you. For more information and mailing labels, please visit our website at www.dogguides.com and go to the **Help Make it Happen** section. When you send in your used inkjet cartridges, RWorld Inc. pays the Lions Foundation for each cartridge they receive. Monies generated support the Foundation's three Dog Guide programs.

LOOKING FOR A NEW IDEA FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON?



Why not host "Pet Pics with St. Nick"? Several stores and vets hold a special day in November or December to take pictures with Santa for their pets. The proceeds from the event are then donated to Dog Guides. It's a terrific way to create awareness for the Foundation and it's fun for everyone!

Dog Guide Wish List

The Dog Guide Wish List is a unique way to make a contribution to the Foundation. These gifts assist us greatly and we really appreciate your support. If you wish to contribute items, please contact us at 905.842.2891 or 1.800.768.3030.



Heavy duty washing machine and dryer	\$1,500
Leashes-for new Dog Guide teams	\$2,100
Sponsorship of one issue of newsletter to Lions Clubs (printing and mailing)	\$2,000
Oakville grounds maintenance	\$3,000
Routine vet costs for puppies first year	\$ 500 per dog
Mini cargo van	\$20,000
Tickets for sporting events for fundraising	priceless
AirMiles or funds to fly clients for training	priceless
Nylon bones and Kong dog toys	priceless

Thank you to those who have contributed to our Wish List items recently. Dog toys have been dropped off by many people. Special thanks to the Lions Club of Stratford who held a golf tournament with Dundee Investments and contributed to a few items...the folding machine for mailing newsletters, an innovet processor and a radiograph processor for the Oakville vet clinic.



Lions Foundation of Canada is committed to providing mobility, safety and independence to Canadians with disabilities.

Mailing Address:

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Dog Guides
152 Wilson Street
P.O. Box 907
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L6J 5E8

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1.800.768.3030

TTY: 905.842.1585

Fax: 905.842.3373

Email: info@dogguides.com



Lions Foundation of Canada is an accredited member of the International Federation of Guide Dogs and full member of Assistance Dogs International

Lions Foundation of Canada

Newsletter
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A Word From Our Executive Director



Sandy Turney, Executive Director

The 2007-08 fiscal year marks the 25th Anniversary of Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides. We are thrilled to be here 25 years later serving

Canadians with medically and physically limiting disabilities through what is now a wide range of specialized Dog Guide programs. Lions and Lioness Clubs continue to be a great base of support for us. We are confident and believe we can continue to aggressively expand our services due to increasing funding from bequeaths, corporations, foundations and so many generous individuals. Each gift touches the heart of one of the many Dog Guide recipients – all of whom receive their Dog

Guides at no cost. We are very excited about the Lions national project *Light the Path of Darkness* now underway under the leadership of PID Bruce Murray. Through the sale of energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs we are counting on great funds being raised nationally to kick off our 25th fundraising campaign.

The year will have lots of other exciting opportunities and events and we are looking forward to it with you!

Dog Guide Sponsorship

The sponsorship program continues to grow as more clubs, businesses and individuals recognize the need to sponsor each graduating Dog Guide team. With the long term support of Canine Vision, there are two sponsors for each graduating team but unfortunately, there are not always sponsors for our Special Skills and Hearing Ear teams. The Special Skills program continues to grow, and with the addition of classes for Seizure Response Dog Guides we hope to have more sponsors in this area.



25TH ANNIVERSARY REPRESENTATIVE FORM

Please fill out and detach form and mail to the Foundation.

Name _____

Club Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Need to Reach Us? Call 1.800.768.3030 or 905.842.2891

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