



# THE HYDRANT

July—August 2010

THE ALMOST-MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR INTERMOUNTAIN THERAPY ANIMALS' VOLUNTEERS

PAGE 1 OF 12

VOL. XVI / NO. 3

## ITA Growing in Idaho Falls



Our Idaho Falls, Idaho chapter is growing ever bigger, stronger and more fun! Pictured are (LEFT to RIGHT): Sue Block & Albert, Sally Chambers & Roxie, Wendy Baldwin & Mindy, and Judy Grof & Max.

ITA's Idaho Falls contingent set up a booth to generate interest in our organization at a big fundraiser for the Snake River Animal Shelter, which is hoping to build a new state-of-the-art facility. Judy Grof (at right in the photo above) reported that they all had a great time, especially Sally Chambers & Roxie (2nd from left above), who won two trophies—one for the dog-owner look-alike contest and one for Roxie being the smallest dog in attendance. The trophies were sponsored by Parkwood estates (a retirement center), who brought some of their residents outside to enjoy all the goings ons.

Their next planned outing is in August, at the local museum, where they will be manning another booth.

Thanks to Connie Sharkey, ITA's Idaho State Coordinator, for all she has done to help these folks grow into a pawisitive force to be reckoned with!

## And in Twin Falls ...



ITA's Idaho State Coordinator Connie Sharkey, along with her two partners, Chase and Buddy, were featured in an article in the *Magic Valley Times-News* on Sunday, July 11th, highlighting our program at the Snake River Juvenile Detention Center in Twin Falls.

Connie has been doing animal-assisted interactions longer than any of us, as she first became a Delta Pet Partner in 1992, four years before ITA was formed. We're proud to have her among our ITA ranks, and grateful for all she does for us as a master evaluator, workshop instructor, moral supporter and tireless volunteer!

## Two Board Members' Businesses Receive Accolades:

### Best of the Beehive

The Dog Lodge and The Dog's Meow, owned by ITA board members Christine Peterson and Alexis Butler, respectively, have both received recognition from *Salt Lake Magazine* as 2010 Best of the Beehive! Watch for them in the upcoming August issue!

Congratulations to both Christine and Alexis, and if you haven't discovered either or both establishments already,

(Continued on page 9)



# THE HYDRANT

THE PERIODIC BULLETIN FOR  
ITA VOLUNTEERS

INTERMOUNTAIN THERAPY ANIMALS

4050 SOUTH 2700 EAST, SLC, UT 84124

(OR) PO BOX 17201, SLC, UT 84117

801-272-3439 • FAX 801-272-3470

WWW.THERAPYANIMALS.ORG

### ITA Staff & Contact Info

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National R.E.A.D. Coordinator : Trisha Clifford (C) 801-557-2088

R.E.A.D. "Martha" Coordinator : Ashley Mott (O) 801-272-3439

Volunteer & Facility Programs Coordinator : Colleen Baum (H) 801-808-9009

Administrative Assistance : Melissa Byrd (C) 801-860-8203 and

Lesley Pulsipher (C) 801-867-5487

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Webmaster & Computers : Trisha Clifford / Charles Christopher

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Cache Valley : Diana Toth (H) 435-752-2541

Idaho : Connie Sharkey (H) 208-733-2733

Montana : Nancy Rosen (H) 406-522-7220

Nevada : Polly Sarsfield (H) 775-832-0796

Jean Glaser

Animal Portraits



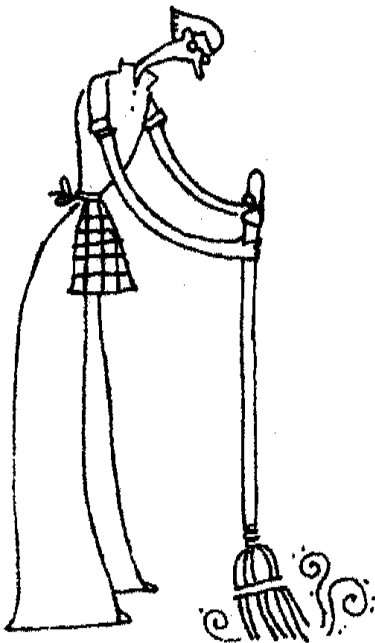
*Art for the Heart*

*For more info and pricing please see my website  
[www.craigandjean.com/jeanglaseranimalportraits/](http://www.craigandjean.com/jeanglaseranimalportraits/)*

435-602-9158

[jean@craigandjean.com](mailto:jean@craigandjean.com)

*10% discount for ITA Members*



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**Healthy stuff for Canines & Felines™**

**Draper:** 12215 South 900 East 801-501-0818

**Salt Lake City:** 2045 East 3300 South 801-468-0700



INTERMOUNTAIN THERAPY ANIMALS

PETS HELPING PEOPLE



**Join us on the Yellow Brick Road at  
ITA's biggest party of the year - the**

# *Wizard of Paws*

**October 2, 2010 - Gardner Village**

• **Want to help? Next committee meeting is on Wednesday,  
July 21st, 6:30 at the ITA offices**

• **Want to come? Call if you'd like an invitation for  
yourself and/or friends**

• **Sponsor a brick on the Yellow Brick Road  
in the name of your partner—**

**Just \$25!**

**Call the office (801-272-3439)!**

# Always Learning More

## Dog-Safe Gardening

**Garden organically**, for the sake of both the planet and your dogs.

**Raised beds** protect plantings from scampering paws and swinging tails.

**Digging pits**, preferably in shaded locations, give dogs places to practice their excavation skills without disrupting your garden beds.

**Leave** a plant-free “patrolling” area around the perimeter of your yard; dogs instinctively (and repeatedly) cruise boundaries and fence lines.

**Construct** a barrier around plants of the nightshade family, including eggplant, tomato and potato; their foliage and stems contain dangerous alkaloids that can kill a dog.

**Avoid** cocoa bean mulches; their chocolaty smell makes them pup catnip, but they contain theobromine, which is toxic for dogs.

**Cross** almond or walnut trees off your list for areas used by dogs; tannin is a canine toxin, and almond and walnut hulls contain it; moldy walnuts are also a problem.

**Do not use** snail bait containing metaldehyde, which is highly poisonous to dogs and cats. Copper barrier tape is a good alternative; slugs and snails are deterred from crossing it by the tape’s tiny positive electric charge.

For more gardening tips:

**Moplants.com**

**ASPCA.org/toxicplants**

## Dogs on Grass

Dogs love grass—eating it, rolling in it, playing on it and, unfortunately, “fertilizing” it, too. Urine can cause a nitrogen overload on most grasses, and females, because their squatting produces a steady, concentrated stream, are more likely to create the brown ring pattern on lawns, which some horticulturists call “female dog spot disease.”

So if you’re planting or replanting a lawn, choose your grass type with that in mind. Fescue and perennial ryegrass have been found to be the most urine tolerant, while bluegrass and bermudagrass seem to be the most sensitive. Better still, consider a lawn substitute like white clover or O’Connor’s strawberry clover, both of which are easy to maintain. Another plus: they require less water and, being nitrogen-fixing themselves, require less (if any) fertilization.

## More to Watch Out For (Who Knew?)

- **Uncooked yeast dough**, which can actually rise in a dog’s stomach, resulting in blockages, among other things.
- **Macadamia nuts** are toxic to dogs—best to keep them all to yourself.



# Fun Canine Facts

## Superior Sense of SMELL:

A dog’s nose is a wondrous instrument: When a dog sniffs a scent article, air

rushes through the nasal cavity and chemical vapors—or odors—lodge in the mucus and bombard the dog’s scent receptors. Chemical signals are then sent to the olfactory bulb, the part of the brain that analyzes smells, and an “odor image” is created. For the dog, this image is far more detailed than a photograph is for a human.



One of those famous Beagle noses belongs to Shilo, ITA partner of Arvella Crawford of Murray, Utah.

## Tops in the Class ...

- A dog’s sense of smell has been tested at 10,000 to 100,000 times stronger than a human’s, an order of magnitude equivalent to one second in 317 centuries!
- Human noses have about 6 million sensory receptor sites; Beagle noses have more than 300 million.
- A dog can detect a teaspoon of sugar diluted in a million gallons of water, or as much water as it takes to fill two Olympic-sized pools.
- A dog can detect a human scent on a glass slide that has been lightly fingerprinted and left outside for two weeks.

## What’s in a Nose?

Dogs have a vomeronasal organ (VNO) located in the roof of the mouth, and used to detect pheromones (vital to maternal care and sexual behavior). Dogs work the VNO by flicking their tongue in and out, almost as if drinking.

A dog’s nose is normally cool and moist, but a warm, dry nose does not necessarily mean a dog has a fever. While many older dogs will lose some vision and hearing, the sense of smell normally stays with them for a lifetime.

In hot weather, when a dog pants heavily, the ability to get a clear picture of smells is reduced.

Noses have a pattern of ridges and dimples that, along with the outline of nostril openings, make up a nose print as individual as a human’s fingerprints.

— in the *Bark* (April/May 2010)

**Retiring**

**Darrel Choate & Noodles**, after many years of dedicated volunteering. Also retiring at the end of June are Darrel's wife **Robin Choate & Bailey**, half-sister to Noodles. Robin & Bailey have been ITA volunteers since 2001, when our Montana group was first fledged.

**Goodbye**

It has been another season of painful losses among our ITA colleagues and we have lost many wonderful canine partners. Our hearts go out to all these members and their families.

**Boomer**, Border Collie mix partner of Darryl Armstrong, died in April. He was almost 15 years old. Boomer was a rescue whose life took a huge turn for the better when Darryl and family adopted him in 2002, and he spent many years as an ITA therapy dog until his recent retirement.



**Hagen**, 15-year-old Lab/Pit partner of Charles Christopher of SLC, died on May 17th of bone cancer and other age-related challenges. Hagen and Charles volunteered for ITA for more than 10 years.



**Molly**, sweet and gentle Chocolate Lab partner of Graham Walker of SLC, died on May 18th of causes incident to very advanced age.

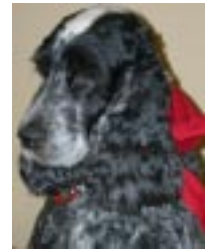


**Goodbye (cont.)**

**Lucky**, Lab mix partner of Teri Larsen (now Kassens) of Belgrade, Montana, died on May 20th, just after celebrating his 11th birthday. He was a big, goofy, sweet boy and will be missed. Teri & Lucky were ITA volunteers from 2002 until 2007.



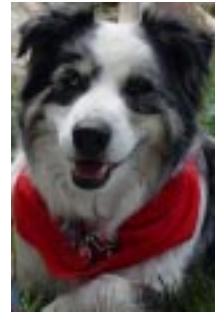
**Dyna** (short for Dynamite), English Cocker partner of Jose Woodhead of Salt Lake, on June 18th, of a tumor in her nasal passages that began to cause regular seizures, even after surgery to remove it. Dyna was Jose's third ITA partner, volunteering with her since March of 2005, and she was also one of the stars in our rehab training production. She was a sweet and gentle girl.



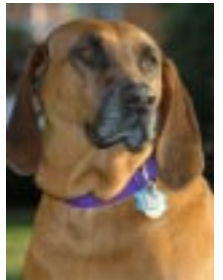
**Callie**, Portuguese Water Dog partner of Judi & David Harris of Park City. Sweet Callie was 12 and a half, and had just re-tested in June and was ready for another two years, when she became ill very suddenly and died of what the Harrises think was hemangiosarcoma, the blood cancer that attacks the spleen, heart and liver.



**Bob Gulliver**, Aussie partner of Jean Glaser of Park City, was 11 and another sudden victim of mehangiosarcoma, passing away within a few days of its diagnosis. Bob G. and Jean have been a totally committed ITA team for more than six years (since February of 2004), and were legendary in the various settings where they worked, especially UNI and Primary Children's. It was Bob and Jean who discovered the way to make kids eat in the hospital—start by asking them to share Cheerios with Bob!



**Annie Mae** Coonhound partner of Jan Nemcik of Park City, after battling kidney disease for her whole life and finally succumbing to renal failure on July 12th, at just over 5 years old. The Nemciks lost their other ITA partner, Daisy Duke, in March, and both were way too young.



*Forever you're a part of me  
Forever, in the heart of me*  
- Skip Ewing

# Bunches of Great New ITA Teams!

## · Utah



**Judy Barnard & Zoey (Lab/  
Border X)**  
Park City, UT  
435-658-5182  
[barnardz604@comcast.net](mailto:barnardz604@comcast.net)



**Laura Bird & Daisy  
(golden)**  
Clinton, UT  
801-525-1901  
[citylickersagain@comcast.net](mailto:citylickersagain@comcast.net)



**Annette Cottle &  
Len Len (Japanese Spitz)**  
Centerville, UT  
801-643-6603  
[cottlebv@msn.com](mailto:cottlebv@msn.com)



**Michele Nekota &  
Len Len (Japanese Spitz)**  
Centerville, UT  
801-201-2636  
[mnekota@slco.org](mailto:mnekota@slco.org)



**Andrea Denton & Abby  
(Golden Retriever)**  
SLC, UT  
801-856-0375  
[andidenton@gmail.com](mailto:andidenton@gmail.com)



**Dee Anne Evans  
& Dakota (Terrier mix)**  
Bountiful, UT  
801-298-7819  
[deeanneevans@comcast.net](mailto:deeanneevans@comcast.net)



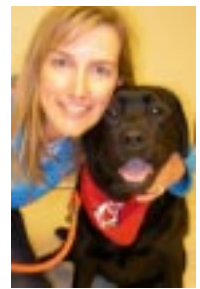
**Kaylin Davis & Bella  
(Siamese mix)**  
Roy, UT  
801-779-4255  
[scott\\_terri@q.com](mailto:scott_terri@q.com)



**Jackie Freitas  
& Phantom (Doberman)**  
Layton, UT  
801-513-5124  
[jackief4g@comcast.net](mailto:jackief4g@comcast.net)



**Kimberley Gettinger  
& Merlin (left) & Skittles (right) (Black Labs)**  
Park City, UT  
212-203-5688  
[kimberleyq7@yahoo.com](mailto:kimberleyq7@yahoo.com)



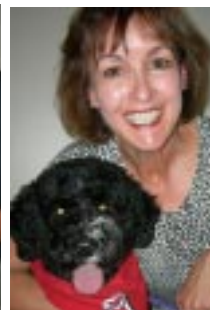
**Donna Griffith & Phoebe  
(Mini Schnauzer)**  
South Jordan, UT  
801-824-5114  
[dgriffith@stampinup.com](mailto:dgriffith@stampinup.com)



**Virginia Harris & Bridget  
(Chocolate Lab)**  
Draper, UT  
801-572-5525  
[bvhtx@comcast.net](mailto:bvhtx@comcast.net)



**Lynn & Mary Ann Holladay & Fancy (PWD)**  
SLC, UT  
801-942-4357  
[holladayma@aol.com](mailto:holladayma@aol.com)



**Karin Jentzsch & Kimber  
(Golden Retriever)**  
Heber, UT  
435-654-2448  
[jentzsch@msn.com](mailto:jentzsch@msn.com)

# Bunches of Great New ITA Teams!

## • Utah (cont.)



**Bee Lufkin & Astra**  
(Golden)  
SLC, UT  
801-583-8249  
beelufkin@gmail.com



**Gloria Olsen & Thor**  
(Brussels Griffon)  
SLC, UT  
801-272-7431  
gloriaoodolsen@me.com



**Shelley Pierce & Scooter**  
(Aussie)  
Park City, UT  
435-901-3484  
piercetetonmoose@yahoo.com



**Ray Smith & Bandit**  
(Shih Tzu)  
Ogden, UT  
801-394-2097  
rsmith243@yahoo.com



**Allison Strong & Jack**  
(Yellow Lab)  
Draper, UT  
425-513-2423 (cell)  
allison@summitpacific.com



**Sherry Underwood & Kea**  
(Yellow Lab)  
Logan, UT  
801-787-4490  
sherry.flyfisher@comcast.net

[No photo yet]

**Sarah Wilfahrt & Hugo**  
(Lab/Border Collie X)  
Park City, UT  
435-962-0745  
backcountry4@hotmail.com



**Sarah Wilfahrt & Marley**  
(Great Pyrenees X)  
Park City, UT  
435-962-0745  
backcountry4@hotmail.com

## • Utah Veterans Adding New Partners



**Terri Davis & Bella**  
(Siamese Mix)  
Roy, UT  
801-779-4255  
scott\_terri@q.com



**Norma Diz & Max (PWD)**  
West Point, UT  
801-779-1996  
zpwd@qtcinternet.com



**Hilary Jacobs & Tuva**  
(Malamute Mix)  
SLC, UT  
801-521-6411  
hilary.jacobs@comcast.net



**Lisa Towner & Tango**  
(PWD)  
801-328-8321  
l.towner@comcast.net

# Bunches of Great New ITA Teams!

## • Montana



**Jehnet Carlson & Lace**  
**(German wirehair)**  
**Belgrade, MT**  
*djbar@littleappletech.com*  
**406-388-7463**



**Glee Greenwood & Ready**  
**(Terrier/Border Collie X)**  
**Livingston, MT**  
*glee@thegreenwoodcompany.com*  
**406-222-7565**



**Marie Habener & Daisy**  
**(Golden Retriever)**  
**Dillon, MT**  
*anatnommarie@yahoo.com*  
**406-683-1252**



**Heidi Jakob & Adam**  
**(Lab)**  
**Bozeman, MT**  
**406-539-1508**  
*hksjakob@gmail.com*



**Linda Platts & Silas**  
**(Newfoundland)**  
**Bozeman, MT**  
*linda@perc.org*  
**406-585-3775**



**Freya Ross & Zeus**  
**(Black Lab)**  
**Bozeman, MT**  
*freymike.ross@gmail.com*  
**406-586-3755**



**Molly Wainwright & Dease**  
**(Yellow Lab)**  
**Belgrade, MT**  
*buckyb68@hotmail.com*  
**503-803-1640**



**Jackie Woods, Blue (left) & Levi (right) (Rough Collies)**  
**Butte, MT**  
*cfuspec@bigskyhsd.com*  
**406-498-1580**



## • Montana Veterans Adding New Partners



**Jan Deal & Boomer**  
**(Keeshond)**  
**Bozeman, MT**  
**406-539-1073**  
*jcdeal@bresnan.net*



**Meghan Duenke & Cadence (Lab)**  
**Bozeman, MT**  
**406-624-6835**  
*meghanduenke@mac.com*



**Dot Gallagher & Scooter**  
**(Heeler Mix)**



**Dot Gallagher & Godzilla**  
**(Cat)**

*gallager@dishmail.net*  
**406-322-5875**



## Bunches of Great New ITA Teams!

### • Nevada

[No Photo Available Yet]

Teresa Jarrett & Robin  
(Dutch Rabbit)  
Dayton, NV  
775-315-2085  
dinaroar@gmail.com

### • Idaho — Veteran Adding New Partners



Christine Nelson & Coupe & Chilly (Basenjis)  
Idaho Falls, ID  
208-528-6548 cell  
rndrylines@yahoo.com

## A Warm Welcome to All of You!!



## ITA Annual Picnic and Outstanding Service Awards

Every summer at our ITA annual picnic, as all you veterans know, we present Outstanding Service Awards to those whose efforts have been even more glittering than usual.

Don't miss our annual Salt Lake area summer picnic (delicious, relaxing, and fun), coming up on **Saturday, September 11th**—a chance to get to know some of your colleagues better,

to celebrate one another's service, and to share it all with your families and canine companions. All family members, friends and pets are welcome!

NEW LOCATION THIS YEAR: Union Park in Midvale (address on page 10).

As for our annual awards, we count on YOU to make them meaningful! Who have you observed? What were they doing? As a member who gets to watch things happen "on the job," we would like you to nominate persons within the organization whom you feel merit recognition and distinction, since you are out there in the field and the rest of us are stuck in the office.

See the forms included on the back pages (11-12) of this *Hydrant*.

We hope to be overwhelmed with nominations so sharpen your pencils, pens or typing fingers!

## Dog Lodge & Dog's Meow

(cont. from page 1)

you are missing out on great resources and wonderful customer service for your canine companions.

See Christine's ad at right, and The Dog's Meow ad on page 2.



Professional Daycare, Lodging and Grooming

The Dog Lodge takes a different approach to dog care. We know how important your dog is to you, so we've created a home-style atmosphere that is fun, safe and comfortable. While you're away, your dog will meet and play with new friends or just sit and relax while snuggling-up with our attentive staff. Because we take a limited number of dogs, your dog will receive the personal attention you can't give him while you're away.

7101 South 400 West • Midvale, UT 84047 • 801-566-1225

# 2010 Upcoming Events – ITA Calendar

<i>What</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Where</i>
<b>July</b>		
Board of Directors Meeting .....	Saturday, July 10, 9 am	ITA Offices
Community Shares Annual Stuffing Party .....	Saturday, July 17, 9:30 am	Horizonte Training Center
Bozeman Annual Dinner Out with the Dogs .....	Wednesday, July 21st, 5:30 pm	Montana Ale Works, (rail car)
<b>August</b>		
[NO BOARD MEETINGS]		
Regional R.E.A.D. Rendezvous .....	August 13-14-15	Minneapolis, MN
<b>September</b>		
Board of Directors Meeting .....	Saturday, September 11th, 9 am	ITA Offices
ITA Annual Summer Picnic & Outstanding Service Awards .....	Saturday, September 11th, 4-7 pm	Union Park, 7360 S. 700 East in Midvale
<b>October</b>		
ITA's annual gala, "The Wizard of Paws" .....	Saturday, October 2nd, 5:30 pm	Gardner Village
Board of Directors Meeting .....	Saturday, October 9th, 9 am	ITA Offices

Our official "Martha Speaks" partnership image, as created by designers at WGBH-Boston:

*Anyone willing to reconsider receiving your Hydrant bu e-*





INTERMOUNTAIN THERAPY ANIMALS

## OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS 2010 — *Nominations* —

Each summer, we present our ITA Outstanding Service Awards in several categories. As a member who gets to watch things happen “on the job,” we would like YOU to nominate persons within the organization whom you feel merit recognition and distinction. You may nominate in one, or more, or all categories, but please, only one person in *each* category. To save paper, we are not requiring an official form. Look at the list of categories below and then use any method (handwriting, typing, mail, fax, e-mail, whatever) to name your nominees and tell us why you want them to have an award. There is also no word limit on your nominating prose!

To be considered, your nominations must reach the ITA office ***no later than Friday, September 3rd***. Members of the Board Executive Committee will tally the nominations, read and consider your reasons, and make the final decisions. If you have any questions about this process, please call Kathy Klotz at 801-272-3439 or 277-8271. ***YOU give these awards meaning! Thanks for your help!***

Here are the categories:

- ☉ **The Outstanding Veteran Handler Award**
- ☉ **The Outstanding New Handler Award**
- ☉ **The “Behind the Scenes” Award** (a member who has worked with great dedication but without fanfare)
- ☉ **The Program Coordinator/Mentor of the Year**
- ☉ **Hall of Fame Award** ( Someone who has made significant contributions over a long time and whose efforts have been pivotal to the success of ITA. NOTE: One must be a member of ITA for at least four years before being eligible for the Hall of Fame.)
- ☉ **Therapy Animal of the Year Award**
- ☉ **Facility of the Year Award**
- ☉ **Another Subject?** ( Someone who has made significant contributions that aren’t covered by the previous categories?)

Your name (you may remain anonymous if you prefer): \_\_\_\_\_

### ☉ **The GINJER and SHADOW Awards**

To be eligible for these two special awards (see the next page), your animal must have a minimum of one year’s pet partner service with ITA. You or any other ITA member may nominate your animal. An animal may win the award only once, but applicants who do not win may resubmit applications forever! Applications may be submitted to the ITA office at any time, but **MUST** be submitted, for 2010, no later than Friday, September 3rd, 2010.

*More . . .*

☉ **The “Ginjer” AAT Award**

The *Ginjer* award, initiated in 2005, has been funded by ITA member Jose Woodhead in honor of her first therapy companion, Ginjer the Yellow Lab, who had a long and illustrious career as one of ITA’s first pioneers. The Ginjer Award is focused on ITA pets who work in AAT programs. Previous winners have been Colonel Daynes, Betty Bracey, Dunk Towner, Mugsy Barton, and Lucky Olsen.

You may apply with examples of your animal’s service in one or more facilities.

For each facility in which your animal is being nominated, please submit:

- Animal’s Name      • Handler’s name/address/etc.
- Name of Facility      • Description of AAT program that goes on there
- Short essay about animal’s contributions to the programs, including any stories.
- Statement by a therapist who works with the animal in that setting.

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ because:

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☉ **The “Shadow” Award**

The *Shadow* award, also initiated in 2005, has been funded by ITA member Joan Reid in honor of her puppy, Shadow, who first got her thinking about doing AAA/AAT with her pets, and who tragically did not live to be able to fulfill his loving potential. Last time we surveyed ITA members, we found that 56% of our pet partners had come from a rescue situation. We are pleased to be able to demonstrate to the world at large that rescued pets find happy endings and go on to bless many other lives. **Any ITA pet partner who was rescued or adopted from a shelter is eligible for the Shadow award.** Previous winners have been Trapper Farnsworth, Tippy Baker, Gidgette Graber, and Bob Gulliver Glaser.

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ because:

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☉ **The John Rettie Supporting Member Award**

In 2008 the Board of Directors established a new Outstanding Service Award in honor of our board member John Rettie, who passed away unexpectedly in July of that year. This special award seeks to honor someone very much like John, who didn’t have a pet partner, but served ITA in every other possible way, through board service, event sponsorship, cash contributions, and being a regular at team screenings. So, think about someone who works tirelessly to support our mission in every way BUT team volunteering!

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ because:

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**Finished? Send ASAP to ITA by any method! • FAX: 801.272.3470**  
**• E-MAIL: karen@therapyanimals.org • SNAIL: PO Box 17201, SLC, UT 84117**

*Thank you!*