



PARADE OF VETERANS 2009

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

Minnesota Mixed

Breed Club

2009 Parade

of Veterans

Sir Bailey Bo Francis "Bailey"

Chocolate Labrador Retriever - Age 9
Handled by: Stacy Medley, Bloomington, MN

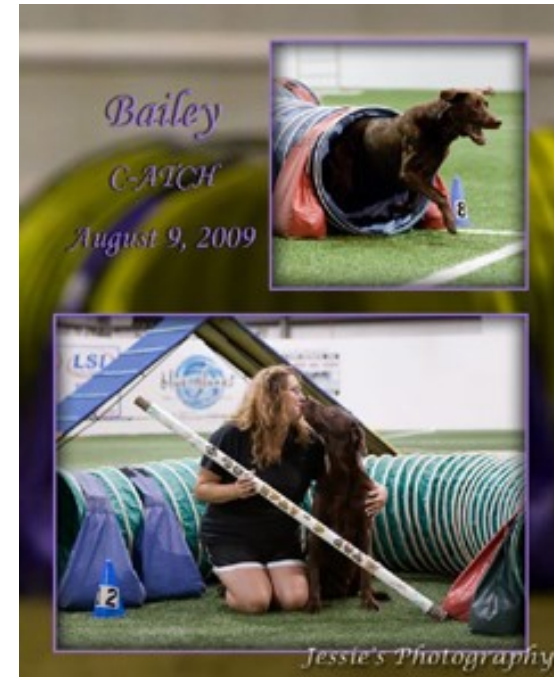


Photo by Bryan Jones (Jessie's Photography) © 2009

Bailey started Obedience classes 8 ½ years ago. After attending class at TCOTC, we were then introduced to Flyball. He loved his Flyball, and retired 3 ½ years ago as a Flyball Master Champion. Part of the reason for retiring from Flyball was because Bailey and Mom started Agility!

Bailey adjusted well to having Mom as a new handler. He has earned AKC, ASCA, CPE, NADAC and USDA titles, High in Trial awards at CPE Nationals in 2008, and just earned his C-ATCH in August!

2009 Parade

Stellar's Sounds of Silence “Lefty”

Bull Terrier - Age 9
Handled by: Deb Rodden, Minneapolis, MN



Photo by Mary Patterson (Crystal Image Photography)

Lefty was born bi-laterally deaf and got into agility to give him more overall confidence, I never planned on trialing with him. Now 7 years later he has 21 agility titles in three different venues.

He has been to the NADAC Championships three times and will again head to the champs in Tennessee in Sept. for one last time.

Lefty is also a registered therapy dog who especially enjoys visiting with the children in the hospitals and shelters. He is my best friend and my heart dog and has taught me a lot over the past 9 years.

Likes: Bananas, sleeping on mom's bed,
therapy and agility
Dislikes: Slippery floors

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Madam Bailey Angel “Bailey”

English Springer Spaniel - Age 9.5
Handled by: Megan Nelson, Dresser, WI



The Bailey Dog is a goofy one. An odd duck from the minute she came home but, well, she fit right in. She is my mud princess who wishes she didn't get all that hair from her daddy for me to play with.

My right hand gal on the funny farm, she always makes me laugh, and always wants to be a part of whatever ANYONE is doing. She doesn't stand by the "I can't do it" excuse, as she'll always find a way.

She does agility, obedience, rally, tracking, and hunting but her all time favorite activity is chasing bumpers in the water. She will retrieve for as long as you will throw and never loses any excitement for the game.

Bailey crept into my heart when I wasn't looking and it appears she's there to stay. She's my Novice A dog and we've come a long way baby.

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Cairndale's Dari-Lady Dancer "Dari"

Cairn Terrier - Age 9.5
Handled by: Jo Anne Bucholz, Lino Lakes, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Dari is my twelfth cairn, every inch a terrier bitch. An opinioned imp with a little bit of the devil in her eye, my puppy at age 9 1/2.

Agility has been a challenge, it took us forever to agree that EVERY mouse in the area does not have to be eliminated before we finish the run.

Her opinion of my handling and the course is always obvious. But the grin and wagging tail at the end of the run always makes our journey something special, even or maybe especially, the crashes or disaster runs we have.

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Taylor's Snow Canyon "Canyon"

Australian Shepherd - Age 10
Handled by: Barb Taylor, Minneapolis, MN



Photo by Tim Boyle

Canyon spent the first few days at our house whining and peeing. After 3 days, he fell into my lap and decided he would be my "momma's boy".

He is my heart dog who survived major heart surgery last Thanksgiving.

He acts younger every day since!

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Dakota's High Roller "Chip"

Golden Retriever - Age 10
Handled by: Emily Glatzel, Jasper, GA



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Chip's mother's nickname was "No, No, naughty dog"! Chip is definitely his mother's Son!

Counter surfer excellent, smart (too smart for his own good), a great swimmer, a great agility dog, and a lover of running! All around great companion.

At 10 years old this year, he hasn't slowed down at all. He's healthy and loves chasing tennis balls & going for walks everyday.

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Mushtown's Maggie Pollitt "Maggie"

Pembroke Welsh Corgi - Age 10
Handled by: Chris Mosley, Prior Lake, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

NATCH-2 CATCH-2 TACH Maggie

5 Random Things About Maggie

1. Maggie is a wizard
2. She makes me laugh every day & will make you laugh too!
3. She'll let me know if I botch my handling either by stopping to call attention to it or by barking
4. Quality instruction, persistence, and a sense of humor can overcome all obstacles
5. Maggie is running better then ever at the age of 10!

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Brady's Brother Max "Max"

Australian Shepherd - Age 10
Handled by: Niki Manning, South. St. Paul



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos) © 2006

Max first entered my life in July, 1999 at the age of 7 weeks. In 2001, our dog training club put on an agility demo. Max became so excited watching the dogs run agility, that I immediately signed him up for classes.

At 10 years young, Max is still as excited to run an agility course today as he was the very first time we watched that demo. I feel fortunate to be able to step to the line with such a wonderful and willing partner.

We've had a few bumps in the road along the way to his NATCH, but it's been an amazing journey.

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Karmic Link To Twin Tone "Mickey"

Australian Shepherd - Age 10
Handled by: Gwen Litz, Minneapolis, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Mickey and I have done a lot in the past 10 years.

Titles in ASCA: WTCH (Working trial Ch), RTDCs (Ranch Trial Dog Cattle/Sheep), CD, ATCH-CP (Agility Trial Ch-OP). She is 1 regular Q away from her SP & only 2 points away from her CH! She also has her FM in Flyball.

In NADAC, Mickey has her NATCH3 and Versatility NATCH2.

She is running cleaner and faster at age 10 than she has in years. Mickey is a truly awesome little black Aussie!

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Samuel Liberty Tip Dog "Sam"

Labrador Retriever Mix - Age 10
Handled by: Karen Magee, Rochester, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Sam is a rescue that came to our family as puppy, and started agility later than many at the age of 4. As my first agility dog, we were both new to agility and have learned all of it "together":

From me trying to teach him the A-Frame, to Sam teaching me everything about distance handling. Six years later, we've gone from "we'll never get out of Novice", to "WOW, NATCH 3!"

It's an amazing/fun ride, with Sam always there willing to do whatever- as long as his tennis ball is coming afterward of course. Sam has taught me more than I ever taught him, and I know exactly who rescued whom.

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Diamond Aire Aviator "Ace"

Australian Shepherd - Age 10.5
Handled by: Jo Anne Schweitz, Bloomington



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

NATCH-2, ATCH-OP, CATCH-2, Diamond Aire Aviator CD, CDX, PDII, AJD, aka Ace or Tootie. If one were to look at Ace, flashy doesn't come to mind. Ace's motto is 'Slow and steady wins the race'! At almost 11 years old he has accomplished many titles in many different venues.

We have learned to work as a team, though at times it may not look as if either of us knows what the other is doing. He does occasionally remind me, that HE did not fill out the entry forms! These are the days that you will hear me tell him to keep his flaps up and listen to me!

Though many would have given up on Ace a long time ago, with determination we have become one of the top Aussies in our area. Thank you Ace for coming to the line every time I ask you!

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Sir Anselot "Ansel"

All American - Age 10.5
Handled by: Kate An Hunter, St. Paul, MN



Ansel is a 10 and a half year old Pit Bull, Whippet mix who is a very busy dog.

He works as a demo dog training veterinary students. He appears regularly on Minnesota Public Radio.

He has earned a CDX in obedience, has a Canine Good Citizen Certificate and numerous Agility achievements.

He started Rally this year and loved it and performs a routine in musical freestyle.

Although he has slowed a bit, he continues to love to run agility and still misses most of his contacts!

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Princess Jasmine "Jazz"

Shetland Sheepdog - Age 10.5
Handled by: Denise Mathiowetz, Bloomington



Jazz was born 10+ years ago in Florida where shelties need long legs to outrun the gators. At one year old Jazz moved to Chicago with her first owner and was placed in a kennel. After a year in the kennel Jazz's owner could not pay the bill relinquished her.

I heard Jazz's story through Wisconsin Sheltie Rescue adopted her, sight unseen. Jazz hitched a ride to Hudson WI. When we met I thought she was the most beautiful blonde dog ever. Jazz has always lived up to her original name of Princess Jasmine. She has the class in the family. She accepts all the other dogs I bring home but can always keep up with them.

Over the years we've done agility, herding, obedience, rally and she's earned her share of titles. She still competes a little and best of all still has a great time doing it. She has made up many times over for that year she had to sit in a kennel.

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Maya

All American - Age 10.5
Handled by: Leo Fuerst, Appleton, WI



Photo by Ken Gee (Ken Gee Photography)

Maya was adopted from the Bay Area Humane Society in Green Bay, WI at five months old. Maya is one of those once in a lifetime agility dogs that one can only dream about.

She enjoyed agility from day one and has gone on to achieve 13 NATCH's, 10 Versatility NATCH's, 3 Platinum Speed Stars, 2 Versatility Platinum Speed Stars and earned her 10,000 NADAC point last year. Maya still loves the sport which is evident with her barking at the start line before she runs.

She was a gem to work with - always exceeding my expectations. Our journey has been a special one. Seeing agility on TV right after Maya came home was the best thing ever!

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Ch Beacon's Dash of Nut-Meg "Meg"

Flat-Coated Retriever - Age 10.5
Handled by: Linda Conrad, Prior Lake, MN



They say a Flat-Coated Retriever never grows up, but Meg grew up and has grown old very gracefully. Meg has played many roles in her life: the playful puppy, the "I don't really like this, but I'll do it FOR YOU" show dog, the eager (and FAST) agility dog with the beautiful flowing black coat, the tolerant "aunt" to Snicker's two litters of puppies, the cheerful "sure, let's try it!" life-long learner, and now she's the gracious lady who is handling hemangiosarcoma with amazing grace.

Her cleverness, wisdom & love will remain with us always. We wouldn't be the people we are today if she hadn't come into our lives. What a breathtaking ride we've been on for 10 ½ years, with hopefully more to come!

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Sir Buzz Domino “Buzz”

English Springer Spaniel - Age 11
Handled by: Megan Nelson, Dresser, WI



Buzz is now eleven years old and his days are spent sleeping with feet sticking straight in the air. Despite his lack of activity during the day, he still comes alive when we show.

I am so happy to be able to work with him, to feel good every time we come out of a ring, that was my only goal way back when. We are still learning new things together while continuing to play old games. He continues to love agility (at 12"), obedience, rally, and tracking. His favorite thing to do is curl up with me on the couch in front of a fire, as close to me as he can be.

My heart dog who taught me about good training and how it can build a working relationship from nothing. Thanks for everything old man, you stuck it out with me and look at where we are.

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Fabian Forte “Fabian”

Golden Retriever - Age 11
Handled by: Laura Breckheimer, Minneapolis



Photo by Michelle Leisz (Michelle Leisz Photography) © 2005

Fabian is now 11 years strong! He continues to enjoy racing through the tunnels, going on hikes, and getting Zak into trouble!

Fabian joined me at 3 years old and while the first few years were rough, agility, flyball, rally, and the friends we made at those activities turned his fears into nothing more than opportunities to eat cheese! Oh, the power of cheese!!

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The Good Shepherd's Bad Habit "Ginger"

Border Collie - Age 11
Handled by: Gina Pizzo, Maplewood, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos) © 2006

Ginger is an 11 year old rescued Border Collie. Ginger's first home was living with elderly, cloistered nuns. This was NOT a match made in Heaven!

Ginger has been the most difficult dog I've ever trained and definitely has her own agenda. Despite this she has managed to earn her Novice and Open Triple Superiors and is currently working at the Elite level.

Anyone got any Regular legs they want to trade?

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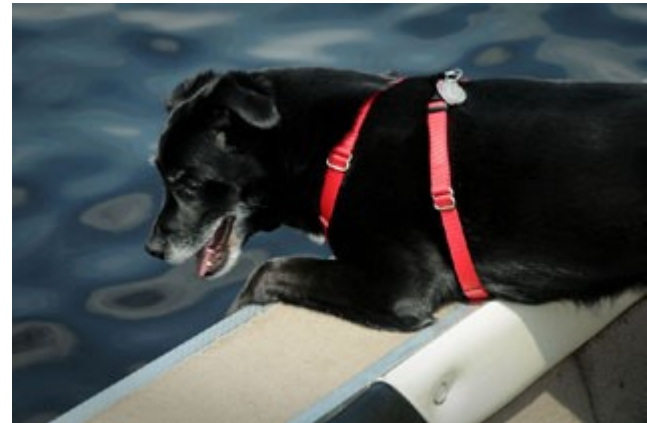
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Kona

Labrador Retriever Mix - Age 11
Handled by: Les Conrad, Prior Lake, MN



Kona enjoyed agility class with Linda from the beginning, but after a while, it became apparent that Les may be a better partner for Kona, and so he and Linda switched dogs.

Kona had many opinions when younger, listening to a handler was not fun. Running around was fun. Teeters were torture! But, Les and Kona continued to have fun.

After Deb Ricard came to the rescue with liver brownies and helped get Kona on the teeter, Kona's agility career took a new path. He seemed to realize that if he listened more, and ran around less, he could have a lot more fun!

Although Kona continues to love agility, stiffness in his front right shoulder limits the number of trials he competes in. But I'm sure you will see him smiling as we run a couple of runs this weekend.

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Murphy

Shetland Sheepdog - Age 11
Handled by: Deb Rickard, Jordan, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Murphy is a rescue dog that I adopted when he was about a year old. He was afraid of everything, so I put him in agility classes to help that.

It was 2 years before he would do contact obstacles without a leash. At about 4 years old, he got epilepsy and has since developed some arthritis.

He still loves to run jumpers at 8" and tunnelers - it's obvious as he barks his way around the course.

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Peachy Keen's Splatter Paint "Tobie"

Border Collie - Age 11
Handled by: Annelise Allen, Stacy, MN



Tobie came to me at a year and half old with very little training. High point in his agility life for me was winning the NADAC Championship Pre-Elite Division and making the Steeplechase finals at USDAA Nationals. He taught me a lot about reactive dogs and aggression and he taught me a lot about the importance of training self-control from very early on in high drive dogs.

He missed a lot of training during his critical learning period and I believe it haunted us throughout his career. He taught me a lot about how to handle a fast dog. He was a lot of fun when we were on as a team. However he was addicted to the adrenaline rush and would become an agility junkie at trials and not much fun to be with at those times!

So he is enjoying life now as a retired dog where he can hang out all day long and supervise the younger dogs. He doesn't seem to miss agility. He likes to play tug and retrieve toys and he is enjoying life with no more demands.

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Albee Creating Havoc “Zoom”

Shetland Sheepdog - Age 11
Handled by: Randy Albrecht, Becker, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Zoom has been in agility since he was 3. He went to the NADAC nationals in St. Louis in '05 where he was the fastest dog out of 30 in his class of Tunnelers!

He once completed a tunnelers course in 13.9 seconds. Zoom has been known at times around the ring to be very vocal. Zoom enjoys and loves to compete, together we love the sport of Agility.

Thanks MMBC for recognizing Zoom!

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Skeeter Jo Johnson “Skeeter Jo”

All American - Age 11.5
Handled by: Joyce Johnson, Monticello, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Skeeter Jo was in the parade of veterans last year and was still competing at that time. We didn't know then that her agility career would be over after only one more trial. She suffered a neck injury that suddenly forced her into retirement. I think she misses agility. She loved meeting everyone - people, not dogs - and loved being in the show ring. I miss the sideways glance and smile she would give me just before flying clear over the contact zone of the dogwalk... not every time, just now and again to remind me that she was really in charge. I miss my old partner.

If only Skeeter Jo could be a puppy again!

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Golac's Never Tuckered Out "Tucker"

Golden Retriever - Age 12
Handled by: Jaci Carufel, Oak Grove, MN



Tucker is 12 years old and still attends agility training every week and agility trials. He has multiple agility and obedience titles.

But the most amazing thing about Tucker is that he has been a therapy dog for over 11 years. He visits: nursing homes, hospitals, battered women's shelters, and group homes bringing joy and comfort to everyone he meets.

His most important job is working with children at Ken-ny Kids, a pediatric rehabilitation center. He works with children that have autism, chronic illnesses, and other health and behavior issues. He provides one on one therapy to help these kids with their problems.

Tucker is a very special boy!

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Kallie's Chocolate Delight "Kallie"

Labrador Retriever - Age 12.5
Handled by: Jolynn Wedekind, Eden Prairie



Photo by Mary Patterson (Crystal Image Photography) © 2008

It was about this time 8 years ago that Kallie earned her first agility Q. As she was nearly 5 years old, I thought her agility career would be short-lived. Several injuries along the way and surgery for laryngeal paralysis have been but a pause as she continues to compete at a level that suits her.

It's been a fabulous journey, Kallie. Thank you for being my partner in this silly game we play.

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Nikki

All American - Age 12.5
Handled by: Becky Hart, Prior Lake, MN



Photo by Nicole Wiebusch (Golden Paws Photography)

Nikki, who is 12 ½ years old, continues to compete actively in both NADAC and CPE. We think she is a mix of German Shepherd and Lab.

Nikki continues to smile when she steps to the line, and earned her NATCH with a great chances run on August 22, 2009 in Thunder Bay Ontario. We are so proud of her!

She loves being outside and playing fetch and Frisbee (her favorite!). She's never without a toy in her mouth at home.

She's also so well behaved we sometimes suspect she isn't really a dog! Nikki loves bread, spaghetti, and cheese. She hates hot weather. This is Nikki's first year in the Parade of Veterans!

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Zerlahn Cody's Wild Hunter "Hunter"

Australian Shepherd - Age 13
Handled by: Jan Poole, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

NATCH-2, ATCH-OP, CATCH-3 Zerlahn Cody's Wild Hunter CD, CDX, PDIII, better known as Hunter Boo, Hunter Elizabeth, or just plain old Hunt. He has been my best friend and companion for 13 years and he is truly my heart dog!

Hunter has taught me not to take life too seriously, and that the fun is in the teamwork, no matter what the final outcome is. With this attitude, he has achieved more than I could ever imagine in both agility and obedience.

He is still competing in agility and loving every minute of it! He always has a smile on his face and a gleam in his eye whether showing or just having fun playing.

Thanks, Hunt, for the wild ride - I've treasured every moment!

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Rising Sun Leysha “Leysha”

Border Collie - Age 13
Handled by: Annelise Allen, Stacy, MN



I picked Leysha out as a puppy and little did I know then that 5 years later I would move in next door to where she was born. She loves herding most of all and looks forward to a chance to do chores with the sheep and ducks. She did agility for me but we had fun together doing it. I retired her on the high note after the Veterans Grand Prix because she ran her best for me in that run and that is how I wanted to remember our agility life together. I did herding for her.

High points in her agility life for me was winning the NADAC Open Championship in Boston 1998 and winning 2nd in the USDAA Veterans Grand Prix Finals in 2003.

She loves hanging out and raising the youngsters and keeping them in line. She loved to do tricks and she loved to learn new things and loves to do anything that is with the two of us together.

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Ramsey’s Boomerang Aussie “Shep”

Aussie Mix - Age 13
Handled by: Jim Nally, Maplewood, MN



Shep is a 13 year old Aussie mix. Shep was another failed foster that we decided to keep. Believe it or not this easy going guy had two homes before ours.

Shep has never taken agility, or anything else, all that seriously. Over the years, he’s managed to collect legions of fans thru his in the ring antics of rolling on the ground at the start line and freezing in mid course.

He is definitely the clown of our household, but has managed to focus long enough to earn 3 NATCH’s.

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Brady

Australian Shepherd - Age 13.5
Handled by: Deb Rickard, Jordan, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos) © 2003

Brady is my first agility dog. He's also my sensitive soul dog.

Brady is well known for making his own decisions on what the course should be. Many of you know this, and I get a lot of smiles, shaking of the head, and saying "That's Brady".

Despite all that, we've had those super runs that keep us coming back. We've qualified for NADAC Championships for the last 6 years, and he's earned his ATCH and 2 NATCHs.

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Gina's Thousand Dollar Rescue "Kip"

Border Collie - Age 13.5
Handled by: Jim Nally, Maplewood, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos) © 2006

Kip is a 13 ½ year old rescued Border Collie.

Kip came to us via Gina's volunteering at a local shelter, and eventually became Jim's dog.

Kip and Jim have had a very successful agility career earning 10 NATCH's and 3 Versatility NATCH's.

Kip is now semi-retired, running only Hoopers and Tunnelers.

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Riley Roo

Pembroke Welsh Corgi - Age 13.5
Handled by: Becky Hart, Prior Lake, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Riley Roo is an eight year veteran of NADAC agility, having earned his NATCH in October of 2005. He lost a front leg to cancer in October of 2007 but continued to compete enthusiastically in Tunnelers and Hoopers until his retirement in 2008.

He is now fighting a progressive neurological disease with his characteristic feisty attitude. He prefers to be seen as the two-year-old he thinks he truly is. He loves attention and is glad to be part of this year's Parade of Veterans. He probably thinks this is all for him! Riley loves all food, but especially strawberries. He hates baths and anything with an electric motor in it.

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Dakota's Lager & Lime "Wally"

Golden Retriever - Age 15
Handled by: Bruce Glatzel, Jasper, GA



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

"Wild Wally Wakely"

My "once in a lifetime" companion and partner.

He has put his heart into everything I've ever asked of him, never once letting me down or quitting!

What more can you say!

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Miss Maggie May (or May Not) “Maggie”

All American - Age 15.5
Handled by: Gina Pizzo, Maplewood, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos) © 2003

Maggie is a 15 ½ year old rescued All American. Maggie has been a great teacher and an awesome agility dog. In the early years Q'ing was not something we did very often, but running was fun anyway, because Maggie was always ready to play agility.

Over the years we managed to become a pretty good team. Mags earned her first NATCH at the age of 10, so never ever give up. From there she managed to earn 5 more NATCH's and 4 Versatility NATCH's, before she retired to only running tunnelers.

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Thank You!

Thank you to all for being a part of the Minnesota Mixed Breed Club's 2009 Parade of Veterans.

We are very glad to sponsor this event to honor the dogs who have touched our hearts and our lives for all of these years.

When you see these dogs and their handlers today, let them know how wonderful it was to see them out in the ring again. Give those dogs a pat, scratch, or a hug.

For today is a day to celebrate.

But, if you shed a tear or two, it only means that you understand that the your time in the ring with your canine companion is limited. Make sure you take advantage of every moment!

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