



# The Tailwagger

July 2022

Fairbanks, Alaska

## What's Happening with Companions Inc.?

Companions Inc., like the rest of the world, is slowly emerging from inactivity during the past two years due to Covid. At present, all our former sites for visits are open, with the exception of FRA. We encourage our members to get back to their *minimum two visits per month*. In addition to visits, though, we have some fun events coming up this summer, so bring your dogs and join us!

**AUGUST 4 - PET SHOW AT THE FAIR!** Time and which stage to be determined. Eric is heading up this event but needs volunteers to help him! **Please leave a message at our NEW Companions Inc. phone (907) 687-4247 to help.** We need judges, set up and take down helpers, etc. Please help!

**AUGUST 20 - WALK/RUN WITH A FRIEND**  
We will meet at the Wilderness Pavilion at Pioneer Park from 11:00-2:00. Entry fee is \$5 for people over 5 years old and under 100. It is a 2.5K round trip walk to the dog park, but you can walk or run as far as you want. There will be freebies and prizes. Come with or without a dog, although we'd love to have as many of our Companions dogs there as possible. Wear your Companions gear, and be sure your dog is bibbed and on a leash all times. Bring friends! This and the raffle quilt are our two main fund raisers this year, so please join us!

**AUGUST 20 - VETERANS STAND DOWN-**  
Pioneer Park, all day, bring your dogs with bibs and on leash to walk and visit.



## Handling Skills for Safe Visits by Betsey Jacobs

Hi, Companions, Inc volunteers!  
We are offering a free virtual mini workshop Handling Skills for Safe Visits via Zoom on **Wednesday, July 13 from 6:00pm-7:30pm**. **This mini workshop is a requirement (one class) for visiting with your therapy animal at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital.**

This free virtual mini-workshop for current and prospective therapy animal handlers covers basic concepts and practical skills that will help you prepare for therapy animal visits!

To register:

- 1-create a login account at <https://petpartners.org/>
- 2-login to your account and click on the large brown "Courses and Events" button, then click "sign up"
- 3-search (by calendar) for July 13 "Alaska Online Learning" Handling Skills for Safe Visits mini workshop
- 4-register at the link!



**Pet Partners**  
Touching Lives. Improving Health.

## Handling Skills for Safe Visits Preparing for Therapy Animal Visits

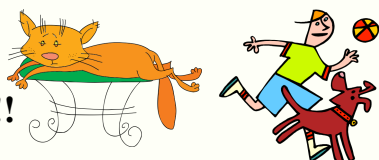
**FREE** virtual mini workshop for current and prospective therapy animal handlers  
via Zoom Wednesday, July 13  
6:00pm-7:30pm

Using a scenario-based approach, you'll explore core handling skills and practice effective responses to a variety of situations that will ensure safe visits for you, your animal and your clients.

To register or more information, visit:  
<https://petpartners.org/>



## You Snooze You Win!!



You may have heard about the wonderful **Best Friends Animal Sanctuary** in Kanab, Utah, but did you know they have a hotel where you can not only bring your own dog, you can also borrow one of their pets to sleep with? This hotel has a variety of room types, including two for people who are cats-only. Here is a list of the amenities:

*Personal pet welcomes*

*Self-serve pet washing facilities*

*Pet cleaning products (Complimentary, located in the service building)*

*Pet-walking services (please inquire at the front desk)*

*Fenced-in pet-park area with splash water feature (Roadhouse guests only)*

*Built-in cubbies and areas for snuggling in select guest rooms*

*Treats, beds and other pet items available in the Mercantile*

If you are traveling to Utah to see the red rock and all the amazing formations in the south, Kanab is a great town to base yourself. It is just north of the Arizona border, on the east side of Utah. Book a trip there, and if you don't want to fly your pet, borrow one from them. Contact info:

**30 N 300 W, Kanab, Utah, United States, 84741**

**1-435-644-3400. [www.bestfriendsroadhouse.org](http://www.bestfriendsroadhouse.org)**

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## Board Notes

by Pam Sprout, President



Hi fellow Companions and friends! Despite not having many visits allowed during the Covid time, our members have remained active, promoting Companions Inc.

throughout the community. We want to invite YOU to join if not a member, and to invite your friends to join us also. Right now we are working on rebuilding our website and Facebook page, but in the meantime, anyone who wants more information can call or text our NEW phone:

**(907) 687-4247**

## What Have Companions Inc. Teams Been Up To?



Patricia Murphy and Lucy and Maria DeBaun and Siri visited Immunization Clinics, and the dogs earned free Pup Cups!



Dave Stewart and Daisy visited with Sara Kline and Jack at UAF Finals Week. Bug said hi too!

## BIG THANKS TO OUR HELPERS!

Companions Inc. had to relocate our storage space not once but twice this past year. We want to thank local LDS missionaries Elders Cazier, Boyle, and Winch and Sisters Cook and Henry for their help in hauling and carrying many many boxes and bins. Our items are now safe and DRY in the nice UHaul unit inside the old Sears building.





## Raffle Tickets for 2022 Quilt on Sale Now!



### “Hounds in Hats” quilt designed by Pam Sprout and made by the Quilty Pleasures.

Each year, Companions Inc. raffles off a hand made quilt . This year our members are selling tickets every Saturday from 11:00-3:00 at Cold Spot Feeds. You can sign up to work a shift at Sign Up. This is one of the activities we ask you to volunteer for in addition to your twice monthly visits. All the proceeds go to our education program, from which we donate to pet-therapy supportive programs locally. Drawing at our Annual Meeting October 25.

**Tickets are 1 for \$3, 2 for \$5 or 5 for \$10.**

**Please sign up to help sell, and buy some yourself!**



Maria and Jamie promote Companions Inc. at Cold Spot



Bobbi loves to sell tickets and get her doggy fix!



Hank celebrated his 14th Birthday and Retirement Bash at the Behavioral Health Unit at FMH.



Miles and Siri visit together with their moms. They both love to cuddle.

### A Huge Thank You to Cold Spot Feeds!

Tim Erickson and all his staff have welcomed our Companions members and dogs to set up a table and raffle our quilts every year. This gives us a chance to reach the people who might want to join our group and/or might want more information about pet therapy. Please support Cold Spot!

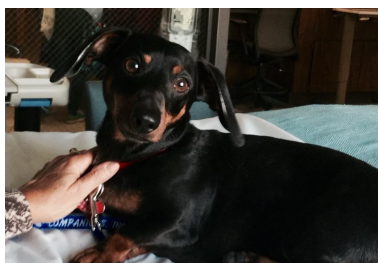




## Friends who have crossed The Rainbow Bridge

Jamie Marschner's dog Dancer was a long time visitor at FMH and the Denali Center. He always had a smile on his face.

Linc loved "going to work"! He missed his Denali Center and ICU visits with Nancy Spencer very much!



Guila, Kate Lamal's sweet Golden also passed recently. (not pictured)

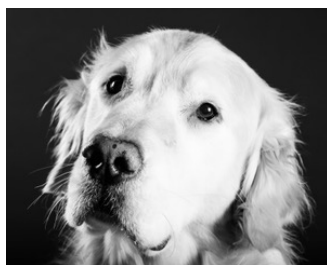


Photo Credit: Whitney McLaren

Betsey Jacobs' Eric crossed over the Rainbow Bridge on April Fool's Day, 2020 after living a life full of love and laughter. He loved everything orange, especially carrots and the chuck-it ball. He was a member of Companions, Inc. for 7 years.

## Board Members

### President

Pam Sprout [pampace@mac.com](mailto:pampace@mac.com)

**Vice President** position vacant

### Recording Secretary

Betsey Jacobs

### Treasurer

Shirley Winther

### Other Board Members

Maria DeBaun

Jamie Marschner

Bobbi Ross

Eric Stevens

Kate Lamal

Daisy Huang

**Companions, Inc.**

**PO Box 73601**

**Fairbanks, Alaska 99707**

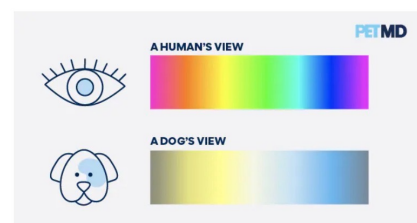
**(907) 687-4247 call or text**



## Which Colors Can Dogs See?

Dogs and humans see and experience color differently. Being dichromatic means that a dog's perception of color will be limited when compared to humans.

Research leads us to believe that dogs see the world through a unique color spectrum. Yellow and blue are dominant colors in dog color vision. Blue, blue-green, and violet look like varying shades of blue. Shades of red and green probably look more like browns and grayscale to a dog.



Examples:



The Board of Companions Inc. and other members are working on rebuilding our Companions Inc. website and Facebook pages so YOU can not only find information there but also share your photos and stories about your pet in Companions Inc. In the meantime, please send photos and stories (or any inquiries) to us at [pampace@mac.com](mailto:pampace@mac.com) for use in future Tailwaggers or on the website. We feel that our members, both human and four-legged (we welcome dogs and bunnies too!) are our very best advertising.

Please share this newsletter with friends and family. Show it at your vet's office, your church, anywhere you are a member, and promote Companions. Just think how many more places we could visit if we had more members. It only costs \$20 per year and it's fun to show off your wonderful pet. *Join us please!*