

*GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.*



*Suzanne Byrd Poynor, President 2012-2014*

*September 20, 2012*

Dear Federation Friends,

A New Club Year brings New Club Opportunities! I have had the pleasure to visit several of our Clubs as they have begun this new journey of opportunities. The excitement and energy of GFWC-MFWC is contagious! Our members and the programs and projects planned for 2013 are outstanding!

At one meeting, I was reminded of the Home Life Partnership, Canine Companions for Independence and one of its programs, Wounded Veterans Initiative. Stacy Cook, one of our Mississippi Clubwomen is the facilitator for Ayla, a graduate of the Southeast Region of Canine Companions for Independence. Stacy is a Member of the Philadelphia Woman's Club and Ayla is an Honorary Member. Reading with Ayla (At Risk Students) and Painting Therapy with Ayla (Alzheimer's Nursing Home Patients) are only two ways that Stacy and Ayla make a difference in the Community.

After the meeting, I researched Canine Companions for Independence, Wounded Veterans Initiative. I read the stories of how assistance dogs like Ayla are making a difference in the lives of injured men and women who are returning from war. I felt that I wanted CCI's Wounded Veteran Initiative to be an additional emphasis in the President's Special Project, so I am asking our Mississippi Clubs Statewide to lend support in some way as a PSP Special Veteran's Emphasis in October/November. Wounded Veterans Initiative through Canine Companions for Independence will continue to be an ongoing part of PSP Military/Veterans for 2012-2014. I hope that our Clubs will be as excited about lending support to CCI's Wounded Veteran Initiative as I am! From VA Nursing Homes to USO to Sew Much Comfort to Honor Flight to Military Families in our Communities and now CCI's Wounded Veterans Initiative and MANY more programs and projects which lend support to our Veterans/Military, there IS some way for each of us to be a part of PSP 2012-2014.

Stacy Cook is our PSP Committee contact person for Canine Companions for Independence, Wounded Veterans Initiative. You can reach Stacy at [stacy@neshoba-hospital.com](mailto:stacy@neshoba-hospital.com).

Two ways to lend support are by sending a box filled with items from Wish List (attached) or by sending a donation. Just a few items from the wish list or a small donation when multiplied by our 65 GFWC-MFWC can help prepare the way for a Veteran and Assistance Dog to be connected. More directions, addresses, information are on the following pages.

May we always have "FREEDOM to Volunteer"!

*Suzanne*



## **CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE®**

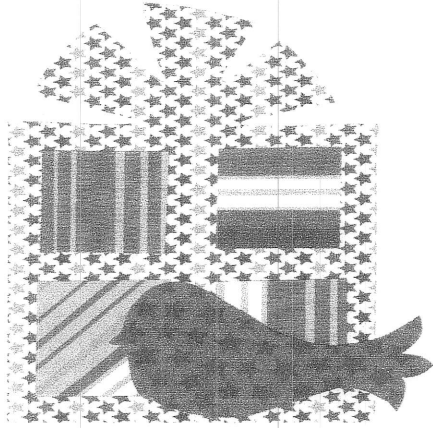
### **Wounded Veteran's Initiative**

GFWC is working with Canine Companions for Independence on its Wounded Veteran's Initiative. CCI has provided many assistance dogs to injured service men and women who are returning from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. For a veteran making a new start putting his or her life back together from an injury, an assistance dog can provide the help they need to regain independence.

### **Wounded Veteran Initiative**

Canine Companions for Independence has provided many assistance dogs to US war veterans across the country. With the increase in wounded veterans who could benefit from an assistance dog, we want to do more. For a veteran making a new start putting their life back together from an injury, an assistance dog can provide the help they need to regain independence.

Canine Companions was the first assistance dog organization to be ADI Accredited, and have provided assistance dogs to over 3000 people.



**Honoring Past Gifts While  
Celebrating the Present  
... Freedom to Volunteer!**

**President's Special Project  
October-November Emphasis  
Canine Companions for  
Independence  
WOUNDED VETERANS  
INITIATIVE**

**MFWC PSP/GFWC HOME LIFE PSHP**

**Caring, Sharing, Service!**

**"HELP is a Four-LEGGED Word!"**

**In HONOR and MEMORY of our VETERANS  
Send a Box of or Make a Donation for**

**Wish List Items for**

**Southeast Region of CCI Serving Mississippi's Veterans.**

**Although this is a PSP November Emphasis, CCI is an ONGOING  
Project for MFWC PSP 2012-2014. (Veterans/Military)**

**You may send Wish List Boxes or Donations at ANY time.**

**Send Items Collected :  
Southeast Region of Canine  
Companions**

**8150 Clarcona Road  
Orlando, FL 32818**

**PLEASE include a note in Wish List Boxes  
with Club Information and Identify Club as  
a GFWC-MISSISSIPPI Club.**

**Suzanne would like to know about Wish List  
Boxes sent. (suzpoynor@aol.com)**

**Send Donation Checks:**

**Diane Rouse, GFWC-MFWC  
Treasurer**

**2323 Tiffany Circle  
Florence, MS 39073**

**Memo Line: CCI/SE Wish List**

## **Major David Rozelle and CCI Service Dog Domi**

"I gave my last command as a cavalry officer, I thought, to secure the area and evacuate the casualties. Unfortunately, I was the casualty," Major David Rozelle, US Army says.

This wasn't his last command. Just 18 months post injury, he became the first US soldier with an amputation to return to the same battlefield since the Civil War.

"I wanted to prove to myself I could do it. What I've learned is that it means a lot to my men to see me -- missing my leg-- and still commanding," shares Maj. Rozelle.



Now, Maj. Rozelle is an inspiration to cadets, but he's not up there alone. Canine Companions Service dog Domi is by his side.

"The first time Domi joined me for a formal address and ceremony, she fell right into formation. She kept perfect parade rest during my address and when I gave her the command, she marched off the field with me in perfect time," says Maj. Rozelle. "I was so proud, I got down on my knees and loved on her."

"Sometimes, I have to show weakness and rest my leg on crutches. On those days, Domi's help is absolutely critical." Maj. Rozelle continues.

Domi's there all the time----bringing him his leg from across the room or making his three boys laugh as she tries to shake the kitten off her back. Domi has changed Maj. Rozelle's life.

"I've spent ten years at war. I've served three tours of duty. And I've lost my leg. I've had some pretty bad days," Maj. Rozelle continues, "but I haven't had a bad day since Domi came into my life. From the moment she bounces out of her crate wagging her tale every morning to when my boys tell her goodnight--I've never been so happy before," Major Rozelle shares.



## Southeast Regional Center Wish List

### **Maintenance**

Generator – 5000 Watt  
Emergency Lights for kennels and  
bathrooms  
Defibrillator  
Power Polesaw  
Gas Hedge Trimmers (long)

### **Dormitory**

#### *Bedrooms*

Sheets/450 minimum thread count  
14 Double sets Hypo-allergenic/  
Neutral Color  
14 Twin XL sets Hypo-  
allergenic/Neutral Color  
Towels - Commercial Grade,  
Neutral Color  
28 Hand Towels/Neutral Color  
28 Wash Cloths/Neutral Color  
28 Bath Towels/Neutral Color  
28 Dish Towels/Neutral Color  
14 Mirrors - 18" w x 60"  
14 Alarm Clocks with radio  
Bed Pillows, Standard Size,  
Hypoallergenic  
13 Flat Screen 26" TV's with  
remote

#### *Kitchen*

Hand Mixer

#### *Living Room Area*

DVD player  
Children and Family Movies  
(DVD's)  
Children and Family Wii  
Games

### **Kennel**

#### *Toys*

Kong in Classic Red Size  
Large and Extra Large  
Kong in Black Size Large and  
Extra Large  
Fleece Squeaky Toys

#### *Feeding*

2 Quart (32 oz) Stainless  
Steel Pet Bowls  
1 Quart (16 oz) Stainless  
Steel Pet Bowls

#### *Grooming*

Fresh and Clean Shampoo 16  
oz bottle in Original Scent  
Fresh and Clean Tearless  
Puppy Shampoo in Original  
Scent  
Fresh and Clean Cologne  
Spray in Fresh Floral Scent  
Dog Zoom Groom made by  
the Kong Company in pink or  
blue  
Medium Ergonomic Comb by  
Master Grooming tools  
Medium Ergonomic slicker  
Brush by Master Grooming  
tools  
Large Orange handled Miller  
Forge nail clippers

**Other**

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2 Flexrake doggie clean up scoop  
sets in large size (11"w x 9"d)

Dog pill pockets made by Greenies  
in Chicken or Beef Flavor

Vari Dog Kennels/Crates 500 size  
(19-5/8" x 16-1/2")

AllerG-3 Omega 3 fatty acids made  
by VetSolutions for large or  
giant breed size

Fish Oil -1000mg reg. strength -350  
softgels -Member's Mark  
brand (Sam's Club)

Q-Tips

Cotton Rounds

**Miscellaneous**

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Commercial Grade Paper Shedder  
Conference Chairs – 12-15 New or  
Slightly Used

Banquet Chairs – New or Slightly  
Used

DVD/CD Duplicator