

## Pet Wellness Festival / November 1, 2008

### About the Contributors – Volunteers

**Cindy Fischer, M.Ed. – May 9, 1942 – September 30, 2008:** Founder of the Pet Wellness Festival in 2004. Cindy is a spiritual guide who continues to inspire us.

**Maureen Ross, MA, CPDT, NBCC, RYT:** Maureen is founder and Manager of Dog Talk & TheraPet, LLC and New England Pet Partners, Inc. She is devoted to her chosen path dedicated to bringing people and pets together to enhance well-being and education with positive family dog training, well-being and pet-assisted therapy. Author of Train Your Dog, Change Your Life and numerous publications on canine behavior and well-being, Moe enjoys raising awareness about the benefits of pets, playing and observing dogs and other species. She is an active pet-assisted therapist and volunteer with her dogs. Visit Moe and the Teams at [New England Pet Partners](http://NewEnglandPetPartners.com) or for training and behavior counseling [Dog Talk](http://DogTalk.com).

**Gary Ross, CPDT, LTE, LTI:** Co-Founder of Dog Talk, Licensed Team Evaluator & Instructor, and Treasurer for New England Pet Partners, Inc., and behavioral coach. Gary did not discover the joys of dog ownership until adulthood. He had cats growing up. Once a canine owned him, well... the rest is history. He is an Engineering Fellow at Raytheon. In addition to his other activities, he is the “techie” & “maintenance” man for the training sanctuary and good dog, cat & parrot dad.

**Kathleen DeLong, RN, PP, LTE, READ:** Kathy has been a registered nurse at Saints Memorial Hospital for 30 years. She is a dog behaviorist / trainer / presenter. Additionally, she is a registered pet partner, licensed evaluator and Executive Director, Volunteer Training for New England Pet Partners. In collaboration with a great bunch of nurses, Kathy opened the cancer unit for Registered Pet Partners at [Saints Memorial Hospital](http://SaintsMemorialHospital.com). Kathy and Jake are active volunteers at several facilities.

**Mary Budge, PP, READ:** Mary has worked for the government (IRS) for over 30 years. She is a registered pet partner with Sunnie, her Golden Retriever, Licensed Evaluator for Delta Society, and Secretary of New England Pet Partners, Inc. Mary and Sunnie are active volunteers at Long Meadow Place in Burlington, MA and Fairview Nursing Home in Hudson, NH. Mary and Sunnie have appeared in several segments on Pet-Assisted Therapy including Chronicle, WMUR and NEPP Presents at [Dog Mountain](http://DogMountain.com).

**Linda Browne, PP, LTE, LRI:** Linda is a Resolution Analyst for United Health Care for over 10-years. Her introduction to dogs came at a later age. Her first pet Bert was a "Heinz 57" dog given to her when she was a VISTA volunteer in Florida. Lucy, a Corgi, is her present pet partner. Linda is a Licensed Evaluator and R.E.A.D. Instructor. She visits with Lucy at the Memorial School in Bedford, NH. She is on the Board of Directors for New England Pet Partners, Inc and a R.E.A.D. Instructor. Linda and Lucy have appeared on Billerica Cable and WMUR on behalf of Pet Partners & R.E.A.D.

**Deb Silke:** Founder and Director, [Pet Wellness Resource Center](http://PetWellnessResourceCenter.com). *Does your pet have allergies, mysterious illnesses, recurring problems that never seem to go away? Do you find yourself giving prescriptions that alleviate a problem for awhile but your pet never seems to really get better? Have you ever made the statement “If I told you what I have spent at the Veterinarian’s...?”*

While there are some terrific veterinarians out there, veterinary care is most often about treating acute situations, the majority of which can be prevented through changes in *lifestyle without the need for medical intervention* ... just like with us humans!

Deb Silke founded *On The Bone and Off the Vine* in 1993, which continues to operate as the nutritional division of Pet Wellness Resource Center. For most of her adult life, Deb has made herself available to people to help their animals with their nutrition and lifestyle issues. “It is always very gratifying to have clients report to me the positive effects in their pet’s health and behavior after implementing even a few of the changes I suggest.” The majority of Deb’s own pets have required veterinary care only at the very beginning and the very end of their healthy, happy and active lives.

Would you like to understand your pet’s needs better? Would you like to have a place to ask your questions and express your concerns about your pet’s health and behavior without feeling rushed? Then

come and see [Deb Silke at the Pet Wellness Resource Center Table at the Pet Wellness Festival](#). Get these questions answered and be introduced to some very effective and easy common sense methods you can use to be sure your pet's health is right where it should be.

[Danielle MacKinnon](#): With a passionate connection to the animal kingdom, Danielle MacKinnon uses her intuitive abilities to help pets and their humans reach a deeper understanding of each other by helping them work through issues. As an animal communicator, animals trust her to help them communicate with their humans and humans trust her to help them get their message through with love and compassion. Danielle is certified in many healing modalities including Reiki, Soul Clearing, Angel and Fairy Readings, Medical Intuition and Animal Communication.

[Shirley Holdman](#), [Giggles](#), [Paws in Action](#) and [Anne Doherty \(Canine Capers\)](#): Shirley Holdman is a long-time mentor and supporter of the Pet Wellness Festival, New England Pet Partners, Inc. and now, Delta Society® and R.E.A.D. ®. She and Giggles are avid contributors to our Board Meetings. She is the one you see toting around the video cam on a pole. Among many events that Shirley contributes too, she has opened a R.E.A.D. program in the Billerica Library. Shirley is a go-getter. Her favorite saying: "Just do it for cryin out loud." Shirley has several children's books in the works. Stay tuned ...

[Karen Lachapelle, LMT](#): *Rub My Belly Small Animal Massage & Reiki*, (978) 452-4919, [rbmybilly@yahoo.com](mailto:rbmybilly@yahoo.com) Karen is a 2006 graduate of Bancroft School of Small Animal Massage Therapy. She has completed Reiki I, II and Advanced from Reiki Master Teachers Pam and Roger. Her love of animals and interest in all types of healing modalities has led her to take acupressure classes from [Tallgrass](#), cranio-sacral therapy from the [Upledger Institute](#) and the Art of Aromatherapy and Flower Essences. Karen is a member of [IAAMB](#) (International Association of Animal Massage and Body Work).

[Mary McIntosh](#): Mary McIntosh, Reiki Master, *Reiki Pathways*, 617-567-3545, [mary.mcintosh@bingham.com](mailto:mary.mcintosh@bingham.com). Mary McIntosh is a Reiki Master in the Usui Shiki Ryoho system of natural healing. Mary has been involved with Reiki since 1993, becoming a Reiki Master in 2001. She is a member of the Reiki Alliance. Along with her Reiki partner, Linda Heilig, Mary has taught classes at Gentle Currents in Greenland, NH, and a Reiki I class at Tufts Veterinary School for the students in their Holistic club. Mary and Linda are also available for lectures and will travel. She has two sons and three grandchildren and lives in Boston with her Pembroke Welsh Corgi "Tassi" and her Maine Coon Cat "Hanna". She and Tassi are Registered Pet Partners. Mary has a passion for animals, especially dogs. It is a joy for her to combine Reiki with pets!

[Joan Whitebook](#): Hi, my name is Joan. I am a Buyer, Broker Agent for Buyers Option Realty, and a Board Advisor for New England Pet Partners, Inc. I have been involved with classical ballet, a psychology major, an attorney/mediator, exclusive buyer's agent, wife and a pet owner (my shepherd mix FOXY and most recently a calico cat named CARLY). I have allergies. Although I longed to have a pet for years, I went without a furry companion. I wandered into the pet store and saw a beautiful calico cat that had been abandoned with her kittens at Exit 4 in Nashua. Everyone was adopting the darling kittens, but no one wanted the calico. So, I loaded up on allergy pills and took CARLEY home "for a few days." It has now been 8 years. When my husband moved to Italy on business for 3-years, I truly don't know how I would have survived without CARLEY. She has a great sense of humor, likes to show off, and hunts for (and shares) mice, chipmunks and frogs. She makes sure I am up at 7:00am every day for work. As far as the allergies go, it is worth every aaaachew!

[Dianne Thomes, Thorough Pets](#): Dianne Thomes is the founder of Thorough Pet. She and her miniature horses are active Registered Pet Partners visiting many nursing facilities and events. Dianne is a Board of Director for New England Pet Partners, Inc. and soon to be Licensed Team Evaluator. You can e-mail Dianne at [miniwhinnies@gmail.net](mailto:miniwhinnies@gmail.net) or call FMI 978-686-3375, 978-621-6252 c.

[Tom Wilkins](#): Tom doesn't offer a bio or say much about himself, but I can offer that when Cindy Fischer became ill with cancer, she was determined to have TTouch remain a part of the Pet Wellness Festival. She asked Tom and he appeared. This year, Tom is joining us again and Tom, if you would like to add a bio, please let me know. We are thrilled you are joining us. You can reach Tom at: 603-938-6019

**Terry Kelley CVT, CPDT, CAP1:** Owner of [Pet Tech and Transport Services, LLC](#). Pet Tech provides specialized pet sitting, dog walking, in-home health care for senior, ill or disabled pets and canine training and behavioral counseling. Terry is a New Hampshire Certified Veterinary Technician, Certified Pet Dog Trainer and Clicker Trainer. She and her husband have 6 dogs and several indoor cats. In their spare time, they compete in dog agility, and work with Keeshond and Samoyed Rescue.

**Dr. Dan's Integrative Pet Hospital:** Dr. Dan Cirmigliano, DVM and Dr. Robin Cirmigliano, Ph.D. will join us to raise awareness about complementary and Alternative Medicine.

**Michelle Ladd:** Market America – OPI Pet Health – 603-889-2598 – [www.marketamerica.com/mladd](http://www.marketamerica.com/mladd)

### **Pet Wellness Festival Volunteers and the Task Committee – A Heart-Centered Thank You!**

We are grateful for our many dedicated volunteers and the PWF Task Committee. Know that you are respected, honored and appreciated.