



DID YOU KNOW that the Therapy Dog Program is celebrating its 10th anniversary ?

THE THERAPY DOG PROGRAM has come a long way since its inception in Peterborough, Ontario, in 1992. The program has grown from a group of 6 dogs to approximately 2,500.

With the help of Sun Life Insurance Company we can begin celebrating with the long awaited distribution of the Therapy Dog Manual. Thanks to the Donner Foundation's generous gift, plans are underway to develop an Instructor's Guide this year.

HOW DO YOU PLAN TO CELEBRATE?

One of Yvonne Coveney-Boyd's suggestions is a "Dog-A-Thon" (similar to a walk-a-thon) perhaps scheduled for St. John Day, or during your annual meeting or investiture. Here are some suggestions to ensure a successful Dog-A-Thon:

- ⇒ Seek sponsors from local organizations, i.e. the Humane Society, Lions Club, Legion.
- ⇒ Find a suitable enclosed space where dogs are welcome. Possibly a local park, shopping mall, or school playing fields.
- ⇒ Keep dog size in mind when planning walking distances.
- ⇒ Collect pledges to fund future work of the organizing Therapy Dog Division.
- ⇒ Ask local Community Service First Aiders and a local vet to be present.
- ⇒ Arrange for "food" and "poop-and-scoop" stations with planned waste disposal.
- ⇒ All dogs should be welcome ensuring they have had their vaccinations. This can provide an opportunity for recruitment. Be sure to have handouts, videos, etc. before the start of the event.
- ⇒ Arrange for media coverage. Get a local personality, if available, to start off the walk.
- ⇒ Make sure you have prizes available for fun categories as well as an overall prize for the dog that walks the furthest.

Whichever way you plan to celebrate, let us know so that we share your ideas across the country. **CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE FOR 10 YEARS OF EXCELLENT SERVICE.**

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE AND WORLD YOUTH DAY 2002

In celebration of Pope John Paul II's visit to Canada this July, the Host city, Toronto, will welcome the world to celebrate World Youth Day 2002 between 18-28 July. This momentous event will culminate in an open air Mass at Downsview Lands for an expected 1.2 million "Pilgrims" from 169 nations.

As an official World Youth Day Partner, St. John Ambulance will deploy 1,000 Patient Care Providers. To fulfill our commitment, we are reaching out to St. John Ambulance Community Service (Brigade) volunteers across the nation to participate in the largest gathering of "youth" ever to take place in Canada.

For more information please see ST. JOHN AMBULANCE AND WORLD YOUTH DAY 2002 on the intranet or contact Ric Rangel-Bron, WYD Co-ordinator, Toronto emergency Medical Services, by telephone at 416/392-2121; facsimile: 416/392-2115; email: rrrangel@city.toronto.on.ca.

National Brigade Patient Care Competitions to be held in British Columbia in 2004. Watch for updates in future DID YOU KNOWS

DID YOU KNOW?

AN INFORMATION SHEET FOR ST. JOHN AMBULANCE MEMBERS