

Naperville Dog Magazine – November 2012

29 dogs
19 handlers

One
magical experience



When members of the PAWSitive Therapy Troupe originally took their group of dancing therapy dogs to the Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital at Loyola in December of 2000, their goal was simple: spread some holiday cheer to those who needed it most.

Now, over a decade later, their performance of "A Canine Version of 'The Nutcracker'" has become so successful and wildly popular that shows can sell out in a matter of hours.

A full rendition of the beloved holiday classic, complete with beautiful costumes and memorable routines, "A Canine Version of 'The Nutcracker'" is a holiday tradition as you've never seen it before!

The Troupe's latest performance of "A Canine Version of 'The Nutcracker'" took place on November 17th and 18th at Herrick Middle School in Downers Grove. DVDs of past performances are available on the group's website at www.pawsitivetherapy.com.

The PAWSitive Therapy Troupe is an Animal-Assisted Activities and Therapy program designed to share registered therapy dogs with patients and students in a variety of health care and educational settings. All proceeds from their performance of "A Canine Version of 'The Nutcracker'" supports the group's programs at area hospitals, schools and long-term care facilities.



Photo, opposite page: Shetland Sheepdog Gracie as the Sugarplum Fairy with her handler Penny Brcich. Photos, this page, courtesy of Diane Smutney and DMS Photography, clockwise from top: Shetland Sheepdogs Gracie, Lizzy and Jamie as Mice; Shih Tzu Bailey as the Nutcracker Prince and black lab Tex as the Mouse King; Pug Lily as Clara; Shetland Sheepdog Bonnie as the Sugarplum Fairy's Sister.