



Superintendent Gary Lawhead explains corrections at picnic.

POOCH 101 (Continued from Page 1) nia, Texas, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Louisiana.

Conference highlights included:

A tour led by Gary Lawhead, MacLaren superintendent, to give attendees an opportunity to see the different program areas and talk with the youths at their various work sites

A picnic at Champoeg State Park with time to get acquainted, and ask questions of Gary Lawhead and Adam Bergin, youth/kennel supervisor

A day with the youths at the kennels including lunch with the youths on their living units (this activity was rated "10")

A Powerpoint presentation by POOCH youth, Marcel, on what he has learned from working with dogs

A demonstration of temperament testing by Brie Caffey at the Humane Society of the Willamette Valley and choosing a dog for Project POOCH (Deano, aka Jester) followed by lunch at a Salem restaurant

A clicker training demonstration by Cinthia Mitchell of Doggone Fun! Doggy Daycare in Tualatin

A presentation of research data by Kate Davis, MSW, on the program's success rate as measured by whether the lessons learned transfer to other areas in the lives of incarcerated youths

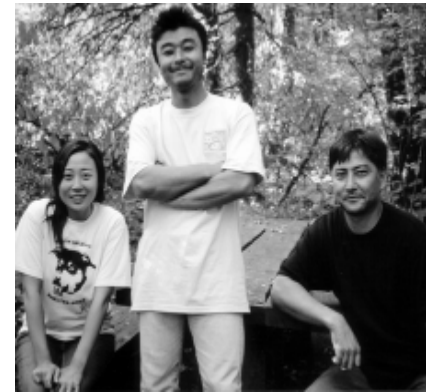
Thanks to Oregon Youth Authority for sponsoring breakfast for the attendees and to the following contributors for their generous support: Autzen Foundation, Bland Family Foundation, Karen M. Schroth Foundation, Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust, PETCO Foundation, and the Salem Foundation.

Thanks also to film producer Mia Nakagawa of Pro-Vision Inter-

national and her crew who have supplied the attendees with film documentary DVDs of the conference.

Feedback from attendees' conference evaluations was unanimously favorable. Wendy Gerboth, an attorney from California, summarized, "Thank you so much for the time, effort and quality that went into this presentation. I don't know which has been more important to me, the information or the inspiration and hope this week has provided."

Planning is now underway for a POOCH 102 to be held in 2006.



Filmmakers Mia, Yas and Gan made a documentary of POOCH 101.

More Bert and Ernie (Continued from Page 1)

Project POOCH volunteer, Brie Caffey, brought Bert and Ernie to Oregon along with Fawn, an Anatolian Shepherd, she will foster. Brie, who is board president of the Oregon Friends of Shelter Animals (OFOSA), was part of a convoy of volunteers from OFOSA and the Pet Adoption Network (PAN) that traveled to Louisiana after the hurricane to help the animal disaster survivors. Her group, who called themselves *Operation Waggin' Tails*, spent three weeks in Slidell, LA, on Lake Pontchartrain, assisting emergency veterinarians care for dehydrated and starving animals, and trying to reunite pets with their owners.

Bert and Ernie have survived their

ordeal unscathed. The pups have been enthusiastically welcomed by all of the Project POOCH youth and staff. Everybody loves a puppy, and the youths are happy to have



Professional trainer, Anne Ingersoll, gives youth tips for training the pups.

an opportunity to help ease the resettlement of these evacuees. Professional dog trainer Anne Ingersoll is working with the POOCH trainers who are house training the puppies and teaching them to walk on a leash. Just like their muppet namesakes, Ernie 'n Bert, they have contrasting personalities; Ernie is full of fun and ready for anything, while Bert's more cautious and a little timid. Anne says they are both very smart and she expects they will learn quickly.

There is more information about *Operation Waggin' Tails* on the OFOSA web site, www.ofosa.org. We also plan to post Brie's account of her experiences on our web site, www.pooch.org.

Banfield Trust contributes to POOCH vocational training program



Dr. Sal Jepson demonstrates a health exam as youth observe as part of the Canine Healthcare Program.

communities and families served by the Banfield Pet Hospital, and to help advance veterinary medicine. During its first six months, the non-profit organization received more than \$150,000 in donations from clients of Banfield pet hospitals to help needy families pay for preventive pet care. Its goal is to raise more than \$300,000 annually to sustain and expand its charitable giving programs.

THE BANFIELD CHARITABLE TRUST has awarded \$15,000 to Project POOCH for its *Canine Healthcare Program*, a new vocational program focused on canine health and veterinary practice. Dr. Sally Jepson, DVM, executive director of Portland Animal Welfare (PAW) which provides free veterinary care to the pets of homeless people in Portland, has volunteered to create a series of computer-based learning modules on canine healthcare and veterinary practices for educating the youths at POOCH. The stand-alone, self-study modules cover eight topics: vaccinations, common diseases, special needs of puppies and geriatric dogs, parasites, anatomy, nutrition, dental care, and careers in pet healthcare. Individual self-study is supplemented with eight discussion groups conducted by Dr. Jepson at two-week intervals.

In addition, youths who decide they want to pursue careers in canine healthcare upon their release from MacLaren are paired with volunteer mentors who assist them to find employment in a pet-related business, and encourage them to continue their pet related education.

The Banfield Charitable Trust was founded in 2003 to give back to the

About Dr. Jepson

DR. SAL JEPSON, who leads the Canine Healthcare training at POOCH, is also a member of the Veterinary Medical Assistance Team One, a New England-based team including veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across the country who aid animals during disasters like hurricanes Katrina and Rita. She has made two trips to Louisiana as an emergency rescuer since September.

Project POOCH
Helping Youth
One-Dog-at-a-Time

Congratulations to

RUBEN who passed the Pet Care Technician I Examination offered by the American Boarding Kennel Association (ABKA), and to **ANDREW** who passed the Pet Care Technician II Examination. When the POOCH youths make the extra effort to train for the certification as a Pet Care Technician and/or for the American Red Cross Canine CPR/First Aid certification, they significantly improve their opportunities for employment after release from MacLaren.

Writer volunteers to teach at Project POOCH

SUSAN DE LA VERGNE is a professional writer, motivational speaker, and instructor with 25 years of experience in business and project management. This fall she volunteered to teach a writing class at POOCH. In her class, Susan encourages creativity and self-expression in writing assignments, while also emphasizing the mechanics and structure of good writing. At the same time, the youths are improving their word processing computer skills.

Susan says she enjoys teaching at POOCH. She describes her student writers as "engaged, interested, energized."



Susan de la Vergne

Mission Statement

Project POOCH provides the opportunities for youth in corrections to develop the personal and vocational skills they need to become responsible, productive community members.

The program successfully accomplishes this by teaching youth to care for and train shelter dogs for adoption.