

WALK to CURE ARTHRITISSM



Connor
2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis
Canine Hero Honoree
Omaha, NE

Connor is a six-year-old German Shorthaired Pointer owned by Sandy McDonald. Sandy has been Connor's human since he boarded a plane with her and flew from North Carolina to his new home in Omaha.

Connor took his first puppy socialization class at just eight weeks old, and continued to excel in strength and agility. At eight months old, he had a terrible encounter with a truck that resulted in a shattered pelvis, three painful surgeries, and months of rest and relaxation. Despite the suffering caused by the accident, Connor never lost his sense of humor and zest for life. His recovery period provided wonderful bonding time with Sandy, and he continued to amaze with his intelligence.

When Connor was just shy of two years old he started his obedience competition career and has garnered numerous obedience, rally and hunting titles. He has competed in trials against other German Shorthaired Pointers from all over the country, and has achieved the rank of Highest Scoring Dog in Trial.

Connor's accident has left him with moderate arthritis pain in his spine and joints. This is managed with daily stretching exercises and special attention to stretching and warming his muscles before entering the competition ring. Important to his comfort are regularly scheduled sessions of acupuncture, chiropractic adjustment and laser therapy.

When asked what Connor means to her Sandy replied, "Connor is my hero! He is my hero because of his willingness to play my game. He is my heart dog because of his devotion to me, his sense of humor, and down-right wonderfulness."

Connor is our hero, too! We are thrilled to recognize him as the 2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis Canine Hero Honoree.

About the Arthritis Foundation

The Arthritis Foundation (www.arthritis.org) is committed to raising awareness and reducing the unacceptable impact of arthritis, which strikes one in every five adults and 300,000 children, and is the nation's leading cause of disability. To conquer this painful, debilitating disease, we support education, research, advocacy and other vital programs and services.