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June 29th 2010: Special Skills Dogs and Family Caregiving

Jerry Ford has Lilo, his special skills dog guide. Rhonda Workman is Head Trainer for Hearing Ear Dogs and Special Skills Dogs of Canada, Lions Foundation of Canada. Jerry describes his experience with his disability and what led him to get Lilo. He explains how Lilo helps him and those around him with his challenges, and the things that Lilo does that make the sun shine for him. Rhonda describes her work with Dog Guides Canada in training special skills dogs. She explains the types of challenges that the special skills dogs are trained to help with. She discusses the typical questions that sh

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Jerry Ford

Jerry Ford grew up in a small city in Southwestern Ontario which, he says, "in the 60s was very special. Small enough that you could participate in almost anything that was going on but large enough to have a university with all the stimulation that provides to a community. Especially in the 60s. At age 28 my storybook life was severely affected by the onset of multiple sclerosis. I had no time for this, busy as I was with my career and young family. I refused to buy into the prognosis I was given and 36 years later continue the daily fight to maintain my quality of life. And what a life it has been so far, the tension caused by sharing my body with a monster means I celebrate ever sacred mo

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Rhonda Workman

Rhonda Workman is Head Trainer for Hearing Ear Dogs and Special Skills Dogs of Canada, Lions Foundation of Canada. She graduated from the University of Guelph with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

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