

***In Better Together, Celebrating Service Dog Teams, you will learn almost everything you ever wanted to know about service dogs.***

Meet ordinary yet remarkable people living extraordinary lives with their service (assistance) dogs. Learn almost everything you ever wanted to know about service dogs from the pros—the people who live with them and love them. In this book you will find a community of people who are as passionate about improving the lives of people with disabilities as they are about loving dogs.

Through their stories and photographs, meet the service dogs with life-saving skills such as detecting low blood sugar, anticipating seizures and guiding those with vision loss. As the dogs open up worlds for their human partners, the team develops uniquely close and trusting bonds as both humans and dogs learn to function outside their usual parameters.

**Truly they are better together - after all, lives depend on it!**

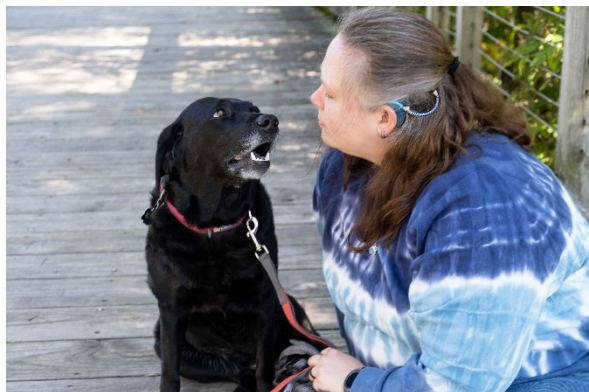


**AUTHOR**  
**SUSAN AUNE**

Susan Aune has been interested in photography and dogs since she was a child. However, her photography had time to bloom only since she retired as a public health nurse a few years ago. She is an avid gardener, inside and out, often growing her photography subjects. When she is not tending plants, she can be found horseback riding on a trail or training her two dogs an Italian Greyhound and a Cairn Terrier, in agility and nosework.

Professionally, Susan's background in psychology, public health nursing, and training people to work with their horses and dogs provided an ideal background for this book. Personally, Susan's parents provided a lifetime of inspiration through their interests in art and music.

Photos by Susan Aune



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**Celebrating Service Dog Teams**  
**Susan Aune**

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## EXCERPT FROM BETTER TOGETHER

BY SUSAN AUNE

*In Better Together, Celebrating Service Dog Teams, you will learn everything you ever wanted to know about service dogs.*

I spent almost thirty-five years working in the assistance dog industry, and it never ceases to amaze me how the lives of people with disabilities are improved by their assistance dogs. These individuals, whose lives are so powerfully impacted by one or more disabilities, are often uplifted and renewed when a talented and loving canine partner enters their life.

One of my favorite opportunities as executive director at Can Do Canines was to attend the live graduation ceremonies that occur a few times each year at our facility. Getting to spend a few minutes with each of the graduates, to hear about how their lives had been improved by their assistance dog, motivated me to train even more dogs for those who were still on our waiting list.

Susan's stories offer us a peek into the lives of people with a variety of disabilities, all at different points in their relationship with an assistance dog. This intimate, behind-the-scenes look at the impact of these special helpers provides a look into their lives that I was never able to see at those graduation events. In fact, reading these stories myself provided special and unexpected insights for me, even though I have known some of these people personally.

Most readers of this book have pets and truly love them. Reading this book helps us understand the contrast between a pet and an assistance dog and how intense these special, interdependent relationships are.

~Alan M. Peters

Can Do Canines Founder