

# CMF Newsletter

Winter 2014 Issue \* A semi-annual publication of  
**CARRIE MEHDI FOUNDATION**

[www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](http://www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org)

A non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization

**Board of Directors: Candy Culton, Mike Culton, Diane E. Jones, Zafar Mehdi, Qamar Zaidi**  
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## A Message from CMF President

Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary to the Carrie Mehdi Foundation. In the last two years, we have increased our donations to other non-profits thanks to all of our supporters.

This summer was a sad time for all of us as we lost Carrie and Zafar's son Greg (a Founding Director of CMF) in a tragic car accident in July. Over the last year, Greg passionately led the Carrie Mehdi Foundation Board to expand our supported charities to organizations that support marginalized individuals based in Pasadena and Los Angeles. Like his mother, Greg's passion for giving back and helping others will live on through our Foundation. We will miss Greg's enthusiasm and joie de vivre at our annual picnic and other events, but his legacy will live on as we raise money to donate in Greg and Carrie's names. In this issue, we have highlighted three donations made in Greg's memory, totaling \$3,000. Thank you to all who sent in donations to honor Greg. Your funds are already giving back to organizations he himself led us to.

I would also like to thank the donors who sent in donations in memory of my dog Francis this summer (Ch Schoolhouse Francis Rocks CGC THD). These donations resulted in a \$1,000 donation to the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, which funds research that helps dogs live longer and healthier lives. On September 14, 2014, some of us traveled to the Monterey/Carmel area to honor Greg and Carrie in Point Lobos State Nature Preserve. We were pleased to see that our donated picnic table has been well used. If you haven't been there, consider planning a trip in the future and take a picnic with you to enjoy on Carrie's table. On our website announcements page, you'll find a location map of our picnic table.

In October 2014, we lost another special being. The Mehdi's beloved dachshund Phineas (Ch Hildisvin Eclipse) joined his beloved owner Carrie, Greg and my dog Francis (who was his son). He is greatly missed by us all. A special tribute to this wonderful boy appears in this issue.

I'd like to announce the date for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Haute Dog Picnic in Costa Mesa. May 16, 2015. All are welcome. RSVP details are in this issue. Please follow the announcement page on our website [www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](http://www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org),

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CarrieMehdiFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/CarrieMehdiFoundation), or  
Twitter: [twitter.com/CarrieMehdiFoun](http://twitter.com/CarrieMehdiFoun) for updated information.

Please feel free to send your comments via mail to me to the address at the top of the page, or email me at [dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](mailto:dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org).

Thank you for your support.

Diane E. Jones  
President, Carrie Mehdi Foundation.



Above: Zafar and Greg together at our last year's Haute Dog Picnic in May 2014. Below: Carrie and Greg on a family trip in Boston, 2007.



**CMF donated a total of over \$6,000 in its 2nd year to the following organizations. Three donations of \$1,000 each were made to organizations that support the homeless in memory of Greg Mehdi. A donation of \$1,000 was made to AKC Canine Health Fund in memory of Diane's dog Francis who passed away last June. CMF Board pledged to continue supporting the organizations we have supported before and add some more this year.**

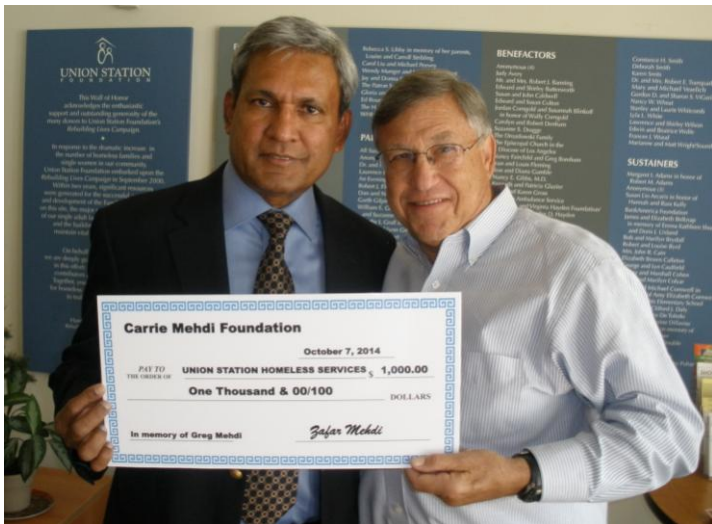
- Dachshund Club of California
- Knickerbocker Dachshund Club
- East Bay Dachshund Club
- DCA National Specialty Show
- Dachshund Club of America Health & Welfare Trust Fund
- Point Lobos Foundation
- California State Parks Foundation
- The Salvation Army
- Los Angeles Mission
- National Kidney Foundation
- Union Station Homeless Services
- Vietnam Veterans of America
- HB Care Packages for Military Dogs
- USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Homeless Health Care Los Angeles
- The Midnight Mission
- AKC Canine Health Fund



Above: Zafar Mehdi of CMF presenting a \$1,000 donation check to Larry Adamson, President & CEO of the Midnight Mission ([www.MidnightMission.org](http://www.MidnightMission.org)). Photo with staff of the Midnight Mission, from L to R: Ryan Navales - Manager of Government & Public Affairs, Zafar Mehdi, Larry Adamson, and Georgia Berkovich - Director of Public Affairs.



Above: Zafar Mehdi of CMF presenting a \$1,000 donation check to Mark Casanova, Executive Director, Homeless Health Care Los Angeles ([www.HHCLA.org](http://www.HHCLA.org)). Photo with staff of HHCLA, from L to R: Mike Mendoza, Sonia Martinez, Evans Clark, Ziba Dayanni, Zafar Mehdi, Mark Casanova, Nicole Riddle, and Teresa Rivera.



Above: Zafar Mehdi of CMF (left) presenting a \$1,000 donation check to Marvin Gross, President & CEO of Union Station Homeless Services, Pasadena ([www.UnionStationFoundation.org](http://www.UnionStationFoundation.org)). This donation was a part of \$3,000 donations made to organizations that support homeless services, in memory of Greg Mehdi.

Right: Diane Jones with her dog Francis. CMF donated \$1,000 in memory of Francis to the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, which funds research that helps dogs live longer and healthier lives. Sadly, Francis, Ch Schoolhouse Francis Rocks CGC THD passed away in June 2014.



**A huge big "Thank You" to our contributors who continued supporting us and made our 2nd year a tremendous success.**

CMF fiscal year 2013-14 ended on October 31, 2013. Following is the list of contributors who donated to CMF. We continue to look forward to donations from our generous donors for next year. We will keep updating this list in future issues of the CMF Newsletter as additional contributions are received:

**List of Contributors:**

Zafar Mehdi  
Gregory Mehdi  
Elizabeth James  
Diane E. Jones  
Mike Culton & Candy Culton  
Denise Siemssen  
Jane Watkins  
Qamar Zaidi & Simin Zaidi  
Fouzia Niamat & Ashmead Niamat  
Saara Niamat  
Sharon & Michael Warzocha  
KNICKERBOCKER DACHSHUND CLUB  
Evelyn Bickar & Richard Cortes  
Gwen Lutge & Sebastian Weidel  
KENNEL CLUB OF BEVERLY HILLS  
Linda Castenada  
Shareena Yee  
Jill Beniak  
Ed & Wendy Hirschman  
Donn & Anna Bialik  
Alison Breidenstein & Gustavo Hueramo  
Michele Huntoon  
Polly Fleming  
Kathy Jones  
Bill & Beth Jones  
Doug Jones  
Rebecca Barocas  
Frank & Monica Canestrini  
Joyce & Dennis Warren  
Rod & Charlene Eden  
Joy Kroeger Beckner  
Warren & Michele Brewer  
Rob & Candy Holman  
Ginny & David Jones  
William Douglas Jones & John McGuinness  
Christie Harrington  
Thomas & Anita Winfrey  
Sarah Winfrey  
Greg Sanders  
Philip & Elaine Chipman  
Mark & Nora Imfeld  
Marie Jones-Rembert & Alexander Rembert  
Janet Georgeanne  
Clay Tedeschi  
Bob & Jean Burnett  
Laura Kalman  
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Kathryn A. Jones  
Gary & Gloria Walker  
Gayle & Ed Bell  
Donald Nellor  
Pat Patterson  
Connie Christian

James & Sophia Angelos  
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Joseph Hermann  
Hillary Amster  
Dave & Christine and Emily Hoyler  
DACHSHUND CLUB OF CALIFORNIA  
Stephen Kim  
Qudsia Zaidi  
Joe R. Stewart & Helen M. Hawekotte  
Vicki & Jeffery Bouchillon  
Kathy & Creig Dolge

**CH HILDISVIN ECLIPSE "PHINEAS"  
March 3, 2000 - October 16, 2014**

It is with a heavy heart that we share the loss of Carrie, Zafar and Greg's beloved dog Phineas. Phineas was bred by Denise Seimssen, and Carrie brought him home as a puppy. He was Carrie's pride and joy. Carrie loved Phineas and they travelled together to shows all over the country. Phineas' many memorable wins include receiving an Award of Merit at Westminster and Best Opposite Sex to Best of Variety at Knickerbocker Dachshund Club and being ranked in the Dachshund Club of America's Top 10. After Carrie's passing Phineas was Zafar's loving companion. Phineas crossed the rainbow bridge to meet up with Carrie who loved him immensely. A tribute to Phineas is scheduled to appear in the Spring issue of Dachshund Club of America Newsletter.



Phineas and Carrie with Judge Ann Gordon.



A memorable photo of Carrie with Phineas.



Phineas and Zafar, Christmas 2013

**Please check out our website**  
[www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.com](http://www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.com) for all our news and announcements. You may also like us on [Facebook.com/CarrieMehdiFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/CarrieMehdiFoundation) and follow us on [Twitter.com/CarrieMehdiFoun](https://twitter.com/CarrieMehdiFoun)



Above: Phineas and Carrie with Judge Jane Watkins

**To All our Friends:  
 We would love to see you soon at our**

**3rd Annual  
 HAUTE DOG PICNIC!  
 Saturday May 16, 2015  
 11:30am - 3pm. Lunch at Noon**

**Fun for people of all ages and canines.**

**Gourmet franks with delicious toppings, side dishes, drinks, desserts and vegetarian options.**

**Location:  
 TeWinkle Park (Area 2)  
 970 Arlington Drive  
 Costa Mesa, CA 92628**

**Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children. Please make reservation by sending email to [Dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](mailto:Dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org) and pay at the picnic; or you may make reservation and pre-pay simultaneously using credit card or Paypal on our website, [www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](http://www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org) or by mailing a check to the Foundation at the address on the front page.**

**To Friends of CMF: Your ongoing support and donations to CMF are very much appreciated. CMF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable tax-exempt organization. All contributions, gifts and bequests donated to CMF are tax deductible under Federal and California State income tax guidelines. Please mail your donations to the address on the front page. A certified receipt to serve as a proof of your donation for tax deduction purposes will be mailed to you. You may also donate using credit card or Paypal on our website. Please email any questions or comments to [dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](mailto:dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org)**

**A memorial service celebrating the life of Greg Mehdi was held at Langham Hotel in Pasadena on Sunday, September 7, 2014. Please check out the Announcement tab of our website in early April for a digital supplement to this newsletter covering that memorial service.**