

QUINCYAN OF THE WEEK!

by: Janice Vogel

I want to start with a few deep thoughts that I hope you might consider while getting to know our next Quincyan. (1) Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something. (2) The dough isn't always better than the cookie. And, (3) there is a reason that we don't always get what we wish for. Now, if I could tie these three ideas *neatly* to our next honoree - in this one page - I would be a really great writer. But, it probably won't happen. So without further ado I would like to introduce to you our next Quincyan of the Week, Carole Hackett (applause or smile).



Carole Christner Hackett was born right here in the Gem City and attended Highland Riverside grade school. She's a 1985 graduate of Quincy Senior High and she attended John Wood Community College and Quincy University.

And these days, Carole's best hours are spent at home with her two favorite people – husband Mark and 13 year old daughter Courtni. These three love playing outdoors (which includes drag racing) in the summertime, so it was a great opportunity when Carole accepted a position as a para-educator at Monroe School.

And while it's wonderful to feed off the good energy and excitement of young children, Carole is also encouraged by the non-profit organization she and dedicated friends founded back in 2009. [QUEST](#) (Quincy Equestrian Services and Therapy) provides therapeutic riding instruction for individuals with special needs. They also rescue abused and neglected horses (see deep thought 1 above).

Many of us, myself included, met Carole or know her from her past work with our local humane society. She has served on the Illinois Federation of Humane Societies as Secretary and Vice-President as well. Today, she keeps that mission close to her heart as she strives to support Paw Pals in Quincy.

Okay, so we know by the pictures that Carole loves being around horses so it's no surprise that in her free time she loves working in the barn. (Ah, the sweet smell of fresh barley, oats, and hay. And scooping poop is great exercise!) And Carole's friends and family won't be surprised when some weekend she leaves her Carhartts and the barn behind and heads to the big arena with the trailer in tow – because her goal is to show her horses again someday.



I asked Carole if she could have a room full of any *one thing*, what would it be and she quickly answered, "Chocolate Chip Cookies!" I giggled out loud (see deep thought 2). But she *would* share these cookies – oh yes she would – because the one piece of advice that Carole would like to give to the world is "stop being greedy" (see deep thought 3). Now I'm thinking, Carole, if I bring you some home-baked (not home-made) chocolate chip cookies can I ride one of your horses? Or, if I bring you a horse would you make *me* some chocolate chip cookies?