



Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound

NEWS

January 2017

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February Meeting

In February our meeting will focus on the latest airline regulations and training tips to better prepare our service dogs for travelling with their partner.

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The Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound is a 501 (c) (3) organization. Our tax ID# is 91-2080563.

WA Secretary of State Charities Program Registration Number is 24995

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Website

<http://www.assistedogclub.org>

E-Mail Address

assist_dog_club@hotmail.com

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Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound Board of Directors

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Editor's Corner

by Jack Pearce-Droge

The Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound is busy planning for our events, activities and discussions for the year. I invite you to welcome other family members and/or friends to join you and other members of the club at some of our activities.



Our first meeting of the year was possibly the most relaxing and comfortable experience with ADC that I've had in a very long time. We welcomed Lisa Ferrari, Animal Massage Therapist and owner of Zephyr Touch Animal Massage. She spoke to the group about how massage can help our SDs relax.

We speak often of the levels of stress that our dogs face as they move with us through the day. It was wonderful to watch them as they began to respond to Lisa's touch. Lisa lives in Tacoma and if you are interested in learning more about this form of massage you can get in touch with her and arrange a time to get together. Her contact information is on page 5.

We have not finished creating our yearly calendar yet so if you know of a specific speaker you'd like to invite or place you'd like to visit, please let us know. We are working on some of the ideas that were suggested at the October meeting so count on some interesting days ahead.

ADC has had a private, member Yahoo discussion site for many years. Over time we've held several discussions and shared thoughts with one another about potential legislation, SD training books, equipment and more. We have some legislation regarding different SD issues and rights and I encourage members to go to our Yahoo site and ask some questions. I am still hoping that we might be able to generate some conversation about the many issues surrounding being partnered with an assistance dog if we decide to give it a try again.

Jeanne was fortunate enough to take some vacation time and visit her twin grandsons in Hawaii so keep an eye out for her Training Tips next month.

Activities and meetings will be held at TACID unless otherwise noted.

TACID's address is:

6315 S 19th St, Tacoma, Washington 98466

Mission Statement

The mission of the Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound is to provide a safe, supportive, and educational environment that will enhance the partnership of persons with disabilities and their assistance dogs.

Diabetic Alert Dog Conferences
Sponsored by Sara Keck Biesold of Riverdog Canine Coaching

'Sweet Snoopers' - for Training Your Own Dog to be a Diabetic Alert Dog

This workshop is designed for people who want to learn how to train their own dog to help manage their diabetes. There are no special requirements to enroll in this easy to understand program and it is open to people of all skill levels and experience. You will learn the science and steps for this highly successful program, how to collect and use the samples for training, going from sample training to live alerts on people as well as night alert training. Workshop includes the book and DVD for the online 'Sweet Snoopers' course, as well as a chance to practice the Canine Good Citizen and Public Access test. Please bring your friendly dogs to this event! Contact Sarah for any questions. She can be reached by phone at 425.427.5958 or email her at info@riverdogk9.com.

Sat, Jun 17, 2017, 8:00 AM - Sun, Jun 18, 2017, 5:00 PM

'Diabetic Alert Dog' Training Seminar - for Professional Dog Trainers

Our second conference, designed for the professional dog trainer, will be held on June 24 - 25, 2017. This two day event will include speakers Debby Kay, Morgance Ellis of 'K9 Wings', lawyer Jill Kessler Miller, and others! Participants will learn about the ADA laws for Service Dogs, how to put together contracts for new clients, what questions to ask when interviewing new clients, as well as what types of dogs are best for this type of work. CEUs are pending at this time.

Sat, Jun 24, 2017, 8:00 AM - Sun, Jun 25, 2017, 5:00 PM

Hilton Garden Inn Seattle/Issaquah
1800 Northwest Gilman Boulevard
Issaquah, WA 98027

For more information about tickets, reservations and/or contact with the organizers, use this link:
<http://www.riverdogk9.com/diabetic-alert-dog>

Future Meetings and Events
Mark Your Calendar
2017

This is our calendar of meeting dates for the 2017 year. The Board has begun to organize meetings and activities that were discussed at our annual meeting. Please understand that we normally meet on the 4th Saturday of the month. There could be additions or changes depending on the schedules of our speakers or the availability of a venue.

February 25, 2017 - Airline Regs & Training
March 25, 2017 - To Be Confirmed
April 22, 2017 - Guide Dogs
May 20, 2017 - Freight House/Light Rail
June 24, 2017 - To Be Confirmed
July 22, 2017 - Annual ADC Picnic

August 26, 2017 - No Meeting (Summer Break)
September 23, 2017 - To Be Confirmed
October 28, 2017 - Annual Membership Meeting
November 25, 2017 - Off! Happy Thanksgiving!!
December 9, 2017 - Holiday Celebration

The Hot/Cold Game: A Clicker Game for Rainy Days

By Sarah (Keck) Biesold, C.P.D.T.

I am always looking for a fun new way to tire my German Shepherd mix, Misha out during the days that I just don't want to go for a long walk outside. While attending a dog training seminar last month, I found a great game that the speaker uses with her Border Collies before guests come over. It is played like the 'Hot/Cold' game we all played as children and efficiently takes the edge off energetic dogs. Follow the steps below to have fun with this clicker based game.



Step One: Put out one small, plastic traffic cone. (You can also use a group of similar cups or lids as a target) Click-n-treat each time your dog touches the cone. It can be with their nose, paw... whatever they choose! Play for a few minutes until you know she gets it!

Step Two: Put out two cones. Continue clicking each time your dog touches either cone. Make it fun by throwing the treats a few feet away so she has to come running back. Continue for a few more minutes until she really understands the game. Add more cones until you have about 5 or 6 total and your dog is comfortable touching all of them.



Step Three: Once your dog understands that the game is touching the cones – make only one cone the 'hot' cone. Each time your puppy touches the one 'hot' cone, they will get a click--treat. Anytime they touch a different, or 'cold' cone... no treat.

Step Four: Vary which cone is 'hot' each time you play so that your puppy doesn't pick up on a pattern. This is a great game for high energy breeds as well as a game to be played during spring's showers!

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Sara (Keck) Biesold, C.P.D.T. is the Assistant Manager at Training C.A.M.P., and Trainer and Canine Coach and she is known as one accomplished overachiever. A regular on the 4-H circuit, Sarah showed her cocker spaniel "Patrick" to a Companion Dog Title and High in Trial, and worked with her L.A.P.D. German Shepherd, "Mac", as a mold detection dog. She recently trained her first Diabetic Alert Dog for a 7 year old girl. She is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer, and lives presently with "Misha", a shepherd rescue, and "Bo Jackson", a freakishly athletic cat. Sara is also the Vice President for the Assistant Dog Club of Puget Sound.

Welcome Home
by Veronica Sanchez
Northern Virginia Dog Trainer



Veronica and Sulu

Woohoo! You are so excited and happy. You just adopted a new dog! Time to celebrate, throw a party, take your dog out on the town to meet all of your friends, right? Wait—not so fast. Getting a new dog is so exciting and your friends and family are sure to want to meet him. However, the period of transition to a new environment is really hard for the dog. Even if your dog is coming from a “bad” situation into a wonderful new home with you – he doesn’t speak English. Your dog has no idea what’s going on and just knows his living situation has changed dramatically. Take it slow! You will find that your dog’s behavior changes quite a bit over the first few months after adopting him/her. Here are a few quick tips for those first weeks with your new pet:

1. Don’t assume anything about your new dog. Yep, nothing. You are still getting to know your dog and he’s still getting to know you. Even if your dog came from a foster home where they told you that he loved all the other dogs and was house trained this does not mean that these behaviors will automatically transfer over to your home. I get calls all the time when new adopters tell us, “why does this dog growl at other dogs when he loved dogs in foster care?” There are many reasons why this might happen but the simple reality is that takes time for a dog to show it’s true temperament and personality. Most rescue organizations do not have the resources to have dog’s temperament tested by a qualified and experienced behavior professional. Even if the dog has been temperament tested, no one can guarantee that the temperament observed in the challenging shelter environment will hold up over time.
2. Keep things low stress and low key. Complex environments and situations (i.e. lots of people, traffic, animals) are stressful for most dogs. For the first few days in your home keep routines simple. For instance, try a walk in a quiet park or play in a fenced in backyard, just one or two visitors. Take safety precautions, we receive many phone calls when the new dog slips out the yard or front door the first day or week after being adopted.
3. Incorporate strategies that help dogs relax. Soft classical music, the scent of lavender, long lasting chews or dog toys that can be filled with dog food (i.e. KONG) may help some animals relax.
4. Supervise. Take your dog outdoors to relieve himself/herself very frequently. Do not assume your dog knows not to chew up furniture or not to house soil. Prevent problems rather than react to them. Your dog is under stress from the transition to a new environment and is still learning to trust. Yelling and getting angry are never good training strategies but can certainly do lasting damage to a relationship with a dog that is still getting to know you.

Welcome Home!...(Continued on Page 5)

Welcome Home!...(Continued from Page 4)

5. Create a warm, supportive and relaxed home environment. Yes, dogs do pick up on the emotions of people around them.

Many times adopters call me and share with me their plans for their new dog. They want it to become a therapy dog, an agility dog or visit the local dog park. It's great to be excited about your future with your new dog, but keep in mind that your dog may have different ideas for what he/she enjoys. Not all dogs enjoy interacting with lots of unfamiliar people, running up and down obstacles or playing with unfamiliar dogs. It's much better to view your first weeks with your new dog as an exciting opportunity to learn about what your dog would really enjoy doing. Respecting your dog's needs is a surefire way to start building a terrific relationship with your new dog.

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Veronica Sanchez M.Ed. CPDT-KA, CABC is a professional dog trainer in Northern Virginia. She helps people train pets, service and therapy dogs. She also is a person with a disability and her smooth collie, Sulu, assists her as a service dog. Veronica started training dogs professionally in the 1990's. She has degrees in education, psychology as well as dog trainer certifications. Her experience ranges from training pets, competition, service and therapy dogs to speaking to explosive detection dog trainers. Veronica is guided by her love for helping dogs and people learn together.

Lisa Ferrari, Owner
Zephyr Touch Animal Massage



Zephyr Touch Animal Massage
gentle care for your best friend

Lisa Ferrari
Animal Massage Therapist
WA License # AS60583822
253-221-8653
www.zephyrtouch.com

lisa@zephyrtouch.com



Lisa Ferrari visited ADC members at the January meeting. You will find photos of Lisa demonstrating touch massage techniques to members on page 8. She has offered to provide 2 free massages to an assistance dog owned by an ADC member. You may contact her to schedule an appointment by using the information on the card above.

Mentor Dog or Dementor Dog ***by Martha Hoffman***

Mentor Dogs are calm older “bombproof” dogs that can influence a fearful dog into copying confident behavior, instead of descending into ever-increasing phobias. Service Dog programs and trainers often recommend “Mentor Dogs” for pups that have entered a fear period or had a traumatic experience. They can help anxious dogs to adjust to new places, people, and things.



Fearful dogs are extremely sensitive to everything. They carefully observe, hear, and smell the signals that tell them what other dogs are doing and feeling. They learn from the attitudes of other dogs. A younger dog often mirrors an older dog's behavior and reactions. If this older dog is fearful, anxious or aggressive, its negative influence could cause major problems. We call that type of dog a “Dementor Dog”! Avoid those types!

Instead, this other dog could help to prevent and overcome problems, if it has the right temperament. This new Mentor Dog Career for dogs is tailor-made for a calm gentle dog that has “been there, done that”. Some of the best Mentor Dogs are retired SDs who have complete trust and confidence that the world is a good place, and are relaxed in all situations. They can do this great work while nearing the end of their lives, preparing a new generation of well-balanced dogs.

Exposure to a Mentor Dog can make a huge difference

Living full time with a Mentor Dog for a few days or weeks can be beneficial. A pup that wakes up anxiously hearing a strange sound and starts to alarm bark, will notice that its Mentor Dog is still peacefully sleeping and unconcerned. Learning to relax and sleep through the night makes a strong imprint. Importantly, those eight training hours require no special effort by the owners, who themselves can get some rest and gain energy for training.

There are also benefits to a few hours of visiting or exploring with the Mentor Dog. If you have a friend or neighbor with a wonderful dog like this, schedule some play dates: supervised yard visits, or quiet walks. Any puppy or shelter adoptee benefits from a friendship like this, not just the timid ones!

The fearful dog might show barking or avoidance behavior when a strange person or object is encountered, but the Mentor Dog will not intensify and encourage that behavior by joining in. Instead, the Mentor Dog will behave calmly and confidently. The fearful dog might hang back, but might then approach, getting more confident, and even getting motivated by jealousy, if the Mentor dog is getting attention!

Service Dog prospects and Mentor Dogs

If you are raising your dog to be a Service Dog, you won't want your prospect bonding intensely with another dog. You need to be your dogs' favorite friend. Other dogs and people can become casual acquaintances, as long as your bond together is primary. But bonding with the Mentor Dog is not necessary or desirable. They do not even have to play together. They simply have to trust each other and co-exist in the same space. If the Mentor Dog is tolerant but not playful, that is an advantage. There are many benefits from just going places together and interacting casually. Your pup will learn to calmly hang out and go places with a dog that ignores it, so that it can maintain its primary relationship with you. This is good practice for ignoring strange dogs, too.

Mentor Dogs..(Continued on Page 7)

Even wild animals can benefit from Mentor Dogs!

The San Diego Zoo had this idea to use with their wolf cubs! They adopted a mixed breed shelter dog who was rated as unadoptable, but with training, became a great companion for the wolves. Her playful and confident attitude allows the wolves to decide that life is safe and fun, even when doing public demos. This video shows the wolves and trainers demonstrating wolf behaviors, while their Mentor Dog retrieves a ball with another trainer. The wolves do not want to play fetch, but they understand that if their Mentor Dog feels safe to play, there must be no danger, and so they relax around the strangers watching the demo.

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Martha Hoffman is the Training Director for the Hearing Dog Program. She has trained several hundred Hearing Dogs and tested over 20,000 shelter dogs over the course of 25 years. She is the founder and lead trainer at Martha Hoffman Hearing Dog Academy (MHHD) and the author of the highly respected text on Hearing Dog training, Lend Me an Ear.

Support ADC While You Shop

If you are interested in supporting the Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound there are a few options that are available to you! ADCPS has entered into a partnership with both Amazon.com and Fred Meyer. If you would like more information about both options offered by these two corporation you will find it on ADC's website, [<http://www.assistedogclub.org/home/support>] complete with links that will guide you through the process.



Lisa Ferrari
Canine Massage

On Saturday, January 28, Lisa Ferrari joined us to offer information about the value of touch canine massage for calming our dogs. It was a very informative meeting and given the many different experiences our dogs face when they travel with us throughout our day, understanding and performing these calming techniques can be so beneficial to our service dogs. Many thanks to Lisa for sharing her time, skills and knowledge.

Lisa demonstrating the calming effects of massage for Sara.



Cat soothes and calms her SDIT as she is in a new environment



Diane and Katie enjoying some relaxing time with one another



Ciara letting Sara know how much she appreciates the calming attention



Lisa calms Lucy, Connie's Old English Sheepdog into a restful nap

Lisa Ferrari is the owner of Zephyr Touch Animal Massage in Tacoma. She is a graduate of the Northwest School of Animal Massage, where she studied with Lola Michelin. Lisa has trained in a variety of modalities, including myofascial release and Manual Ligament Therapy™. Since 2015, she has been licensed by the State of Washington and certified by the National Board of Certification for Animal Accupressure and Massage. Lisa's particular interests include service dogs, senior dogs, and animals in hospice. When not practicing massage, Lisa is a faculty member in Politics and Government at the University of Puget Sound.

Informational Websites On Behalf of Service Dogs

Given that the partnership of a person with a disability with an assistance dog is governed by legal requirements it is beneficial that each of us have access to as much material as possible. The discussions at the January meeting included suggestions that can be misleading, inaccurate or legally correct and helpful. It is critically important that each of us become our own best advocate.

Here are some websites that are accessible to you that will provide you with valuable information. Many of these websites are also available on ADC's website on the Favorite links page. The link for our website is: <http://www.assisteddogclub.org/home>

Legal Description of Service Dogs: http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/service_animal_qa.html
http://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm

Legal Clarification on Rules for Assistance Dogs: <http://www.workinglikedogs.com/2011/03/u-s-department-of-justice-rules-on-assistance-dogs-to-become-stricter-march-15-2011/>

Medical information: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions>

Veterinary questions: <http://www.merckvetmanual.com/pethealth/index.html>
<http://www.carecredit.com/vetmed/> (credit card for veterinary care, people have 1 year to pay, use it if you have no other credit card for emergency surgery.)

Service Dog Information: <http://www.iaadp.org>
<http://www.assisteddogsinternational.org>
<http://www.servicedogcentral.org/content/>
<http://www.assisteddogclub.org/>

Service Dog Gear: <https://www.bridgeportequipment.com>
<https://www.sitstay.com/>
<http://www.boldleaddesigns.com>
<http://www.kurgo.com/>

Service Dog Training: <http://www.lakeerieassisteddogs.org/>
<http://www.cooperativepaws.com>
<http://www.riverdogk9.com/>

Also remember that the Assistance Dog Club has a facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/Assistance-Dog-Club-of-Puget-Sound-155317554486927/>
Be sure to friend us for the latest information about all things service dog.

Additional Information: <http://www.anythingpawsable.com/>
<http://www.allthingspawssible.com/>