



Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound

NEWS

December 2017

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ADC's Next Meeting will be held in January 2018

ADC's January meeting will take place at TACID on January 27, 2018. We'll see you there at 12:00. This meeting will kick off 2018. We hope you join us.

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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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<http://www.assisteddogclub.org>

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Editor's Corner

by Jack Pearce-Droge

As I look back over the year I can see that we have been introduced to issues that for many are new to us. We have been offered a serious examination of a topic that many of us have dealt with but most likely don't wish to experience again, the grief process of a lost assistance dog. Our discussion included ways in which we can carefully move through the process with a sense of understanding. I am grateful to Rachel Wright, MSW at Summit Veterinary Referral Center.



Members have enjoyed their ride on Tacoma's Light Rail downtown. We have been told that the Light Rail provides a motion very similar to that of an airplane. Given that, it's a great experience if you're inclined to be travelling by air with your assistance dog.

We all were shown the benefit of Zephyr Touch Animal Massage by Lisa Ferrari and what a relaxing day that was!

We are now in the process of organizing events, activities and speakers that we can invite to join us during 2018. Please keep an eye on our website and our Facebook page for additional information on our activities and events. If you have a service dog and are interested in joining us, please take a look at our Meetings, Events page on our website <http://www.assisteddogclub.org/>. You will find additional information on that page.

We are looking forward to a new year complete with new experiences designed for both the human partner and the service dog.

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, educational environment for persons with disabilities partnered with assistance dogs and to provide educational opportunities for the local business community and the general public, including persons dedicated to the raising and training of assistance dogs

Training Tips

How Safe Are Dog Treats?

By Jeanne Hampl



I have been a dog owner for the past 40 years. Back in the day we didn't use dog treats. We surely didn't use them to train and other than Milk Bone dog biscuits you didn't find a whole aisle of dog treats in any stores. Today the dog treat aisle looks like the chip aisle of a grocery store. So the big question is: do dogs even need dog treats and are the treats in the dog food aisle any better for your dog than the chip aisle is for us. To go one step further are the treats really a treat at all? Are they even safe for your dog?

In my classes I always take time to discuss what dog foods are being fed to the dog and refer my students to www.dogfoodadvisor.com to check on the rating of the food they are choosing to feed. Many of the students are all ready feeding a good quality food and it shows in their dog's shiny coats and good weight and energy levels. But when I look over to see what treats they have brought to class to reinforce the behaviors we are teaching they might as well have brought a bag of potato chips.

So how does a consumer know if a dog treat is both safe and non allergenic for their dog. First check with the FDA recall list to be sure that the treat you are planning to buy is not listed. You can also sign up for alerts at www.dogfoodadviser.com. I have rules I automatically apply to treats. They must be made in the USA or Canada from USA or Canadian meats. If the treat is made in China throw it out. That easily cuts down on your selection. I personally feed my dog grain free food so I only buy grain free treats.

If your dog has allergies and you have found a food that works see if they make a matching treat or check the ingredients in the food and find a treat that has the same protein source. For example I feed my dog a Fish based food so I feed fish based treats like Plato's Salmon Strips or Natural Balance's limited ingredients Sweet Potato and Fish. I slowly tried to add a single ingredient such as Pure Bite freeze dried Beef Liver which she tolerated well. So then I tried Ziwi Peak Venison and Fish Recipe also with great success. All of the above treats have limited ingredients and except for Ziwi Peak are made in the USA. You will find these types of treats at specialty stores like Sophie's Touch or Mud Bay Granary.

I will admit that the treats I use to train and do Nosework are pricey. If you are on a limited budget and your dog can tolerate grain Charlie Bear Dog Treats with Beef Liver is a reasonable choice. I buy mine at Trader Joes. They are made in the USA with USA product. The Natural Balance L.I.T. small dog treats also an inexpensive choice.

When training my dog at home I frequently use their own kibble so I train right before I plan to feed the dog and I remove a handful of kibble from their bowl. It is important to remember that training

How Safe Are Dog Treats (Continued on page 3.)

How Safe Are Dog Treats?

(Continued from page 2)

By Jeanne Hampl

treats are added calories. If you are working your dog on a regular basis and are not using kibble from your dog's bowl then decrease the amount of food you are feeding each day.

Another item found in the dog treat aisle are different types of chew treats. While chewing is a fun activity for the dog many of the chew treats available actually have the potential to either make you and your dog sick or require expensive surgery to remove the chewed treat from your dog's stomach. Pigs Ears have been responsible for Salmonella infections. Chew Hoofs and Raw Hide and Greenies have had to be removed from dog's stomach. Large Raw knuckle bones give a dog a good outlet for chewing. But remember to supervise the dog and remove the bone after your dog loses interest and discard so that it doesn't sit around growing bacteria.

Lastly let your dog earn their treats. Reward behaviors that you like and the dog will repeat them.

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President's Corner

By Jeanne Hampl



The Holidays are just around the corner. They are always a busy time for people and usually a chaotic time for service dogs. The malls are crowded and no one is watching where they are walking. Parking lots are a danger zone and Holiday parties can prove exhausting to both dogs and handler. Keeping this in mind I hope that everyone is building in some quiet time for both themselves and their service dogs.

Since we have our Holiday Luncheon in early December our next meeting will be held at TACID on January 27th, 2018 at noon. The program is to be announced. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

I am wishing all our members and friends Happy Holidays and Happy and Healthy New Year.

The Fine Art of Puppy Raising

By Tanya Carter



Does turn in ever get any easier? I turned in Ceely, my 12th pup for Canine Companions for Independence (CCI), in November. Turn in is different each time. Sometimes, I am happy because I just know that the pup will do well and become a service dog in 6 months. Sometimes, I am anxious about how the pup will adjust to “college” life. Sometimes, I am sad because I miss the pup so much; I look over my shoulder when I am in the car, expecting to see a golden or lab face, and at my job, I glance at my feet or over my shoulder expecting to see a snoozing puppy.

I try to distract myself after turn in while I anxiously await the first report card. Sometimes I have gotten a new puppy right away, and an eight-week-old puppy is very distracting, leaving little time to miss the older pup. Other times, I am waiting for a new pup and even that wait can help distract me as I look for updates on the

litter and start preparing. Sometimes I plan a trip after turning in a puppy.

A couple of my graduate dogs live in the Bay Area, so I usually visit with one or both while in the area. In November, Richard who has service dog Patriot sat with Jason and I during the graduation ceremony. It helped to see how much Patriot has done for Richard in the last couple of years. I also had the opportunity to see Natalie with service dog Cassius, and it is always a joy to spend time with them. Spending time with Natalie and Richard, remind me why I choose to raise these pups.

Since I don't know when I will get my next puppy, Jason and I flew to San Diego to spend a week of vacation after turn in. When we returned to the Puget Sound area, I still needed some distractions. So I borrowed a CCI puppy, Norman, who is being raised in the prison at Joint Base Lewis McChord. Norman spent a couple of weeks going to work with me, sleeping in dog beds, and playing with the scattered toys.

So to answer my question; No, it does not get any easier - it is simply different every time. But the mission of CCI is one that I believe in. If Ceely chooses to become a service dog, I will treasure every memory from the day that I get to hand over the leash to the person she will help.

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Photo: Tanya and husband, Jason Carter strive to expose the puppies in their home to as many experiences as possible to better prepare the dogs for their future as a service dog.

Practicing Your Inner Lassie Training

by Martha Hoffman



If you do nothing else, its still fantastic to practice your Inner Lassie training, because even your pet dog may save your life someday in a situation the dog was never trained to alert you about.

You never know what will develop, when you have a dog that has learned to communicate its inner senses and feelings to you. And, it's a window into their mysterious world.

Every dog has some unique quirk or odd talent. These can often become the basis for a trick...or a task!

One HD partner discovered that her dog had memorized about 20 car sounds that were those of the neighbors in her building. The dog ignored all these car sounds, but decided to alert her to any strange cars sound. And very usefully, knew the sounds of all friends cars and gave a stronger alert about visitors when friends cars were first in the parking lot.

Her partner joked, "I almost have time to bake them a cake!"

Most dogs know all these things, but they have no idea that we might want to know about them also.

Once we get them to share, life can become very interesting!

When I was a child my biggest wish was that I could just spend one minute in an animals mind. I dreamed of talking animals and would search for them when I woke up.

In some ways my wish has come true, with all these clues that dogs give us.

Do we need to know about spiders crawling on walls in another room? Maybe not, but its fun to learn that a dog can hear them! For someone allergic to certain insects, this ability could become a task.

My Yorkie would come alert me if the cat did anything that I had scolded the cat for. He wanted to recruit me to go shoo the cat together. Silly, but fun.

However, one Hearing Dog learned what behaviors done by two children made their mom interfere. Mom was Deaf, and the dog became a useful tattletale. He would alert her about the two kids quietly getting in trouble or fighting, the kids knowing their mom could not hear them.

We don't always see possibilities that seem impossible to us.

What odd quirks or interests or activities does your dog have? Any unusual talent or interest can be the seed of a unique and useful alert or task.

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.

Negotiating Tight Spaces with Lots of Dogs

By Veronica Sanchez, Northern Virginia Dog Trainer



Given the changing nature of my disability, I am either walking slowly, using a walker or using a wheelchair when I'm out and about with my dog. Anyone who has ever used adaptive equipment for any length of time quickly comes to appreciate how much more challenging it is to move in a small space with it. Add the challenge of managing a dog, and things are really tough. Add in lots of pet dogs in the immediate area and you are in for a nearly impossible challenge.

Whether you are training a service dog candidate, therapy dog candidate or pet there are a few behaviors that I like to teach all my clients that can help in negotiating tight, unpredictable urban settings when another dog might just pop up around the corner.

1. ***Walking forwards and backwards.*** With large dogs in particular, walking backwards can be really important and helpful in a tight space.
2. ***Returning to the owner's left side on cue.*** Way easier if the dog does it on cue than if you have to finagle the leash and do a pile of u-turns to get the dog by your side again!
3. ***Check in with you before greeting an unfamiliar dog.*** I teach my dogs to make eye contact with me and then if the other dog is equally as friendly as they are, I'll let them greet with the cue "go say hello." The reward for eye contact is the opportunity to sniff and interact.
4. ***The really short sniff hello.*** Most of the time I prefer to let unfamiliar dogs pass by without interaction. Realistically in some settings like farmers markets, fairs and pet stores this can be impossible. If your dog is not tolerant of unfamiliar dogs the best bet is to just avoid these situations entirely. However, if your dog is tolerant of unfamiliar dogs, then teaching your dog to quickly move away after sniffing is a great skill. It allows you to pass by a dog, briefly sniff and keep on going without missing a beat.
5. ***"Off" or "leave it"*** cue can be essential in tight spaces.

Are there any other cues you find really helpful in busy and tight settings? Feel free to chime in and happy training!

February 3, 2017

Veronica Sanchez M.ED. CABC CPDT-KA

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.

2018 ADC Holiday Party

Each year, the Assistance Dog Club Dog Puget Sound organizes a winter holiday celebration. We come together for conversation, wonderful food, gifts for the service dogs, photos to hold our memories, raffle objects, laughter and so much more. We hope you enjoy some of the photos of members and guests enjoying this year's party, not to mention the many breeds of SDs in ADC.



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.

The Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound wishes each of our friends a warm and caring holiday season.

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:
Assistance Dog Club of
Puget Sound

Get started

amazon smile

 Fred Meyer
**community
rewards** rewards
Where shopping & giving unite



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.assistancedogclub.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>
<http://www.summitvets.com/blog.html>

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.assistancedogsinternational.org>
<http://www.servicedogcentral.org/content/>
<http://www.assistancedogclub.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.lakeerieassistancedogs.org/>
<http://www.cooperativepaws.com>
<http://www.riverdogk9.com/>
<http://marthahoffmanhearingdogs.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/>