



# Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound

## NEWS

February 2018

=|

### **ADC's Next Meeting will be held in March 2018**

ADC's next meeting will take place at TACID on March 24, 2018. We will be welcoming Dr. Nancy Isbell, DVM whose area of expertise is herbal care & acupuncture

=|

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

=|

#### Website

<http://www.assisteddogclub.org>

#### E-Mail Address

[assist\\_dog\\_club@hotmail.com](mailto:assist_dog_club@hotmail.com)

#### Mailing Address

Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound  
2522 N. Proctor Street, #459  
Tacoma, WA 98406

=|

### **Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound Board of Directors**

#### **President**

Jeanne Hampl

#### **Vice President/**

Sarah Biesold

#### **Secretary**

Jack Pearce-Droge

#### **Treasurer**

Tanya Carter

#### **At-Large Members**

Janelle Ellen

Connie Fuller

=|

### **Editor's Corner**

by Jack Pearce-Droge

Thus far, Tacoma has offered the Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound some surprising and unexpected days. The day before our February meeting day brought snow to our doorsteps. We don't live in a high snow area so it can usually be a time for a pleasant surprise. This year we decided on a safety first plan and cancelled our scheduled meeting. However, it was a playful time for most of our dogs.



Our speaker for the cancelled February meeting has kindly agreed to join us on March 24th. Dr. Nancy Isbell, DVM, whose specialty focuses on Chinese herbs and acupuncture, is certain to present itself as an interesting discussion.

We will be asking members to think about some presentations for spring and summer that will take us outside. So I encourage ADC members to think about issues or topics that you are interested in discussing or being involved in as we look at a field trip. Exposure to a variety of settings and situations will help our dogs with recognition and understanding of a variety of experiences. So think about what might be helpful to you.

I for one am looking forward to our March discussion and to sharing some time with other club members.

---

**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*

## ***A Trainer's Eulogy and Legacy***

*By Jeanne Hampl*



In 1992 I first began to train service dogs. In 1994 I placed my first program trained dog. By 2008 all the dogs I placed from 1994 till 1998 were reaching the end of their lives. A few years back the calls from my old clients concerned retirement issues. Now those same calls are about end of life issues. Facing the aging, illness and death of a service dog is a gut wrenching journey not only for the partner but for the trainers of these wonderful dogs.

So many of these dogs have wormed their way into my heart. It would truly take a book to mention them all. But many of these teams ultimately became early members of The Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound so I continued to see them throughout their working life and their retirements and unfortunately their end of life struggles.

My first owner trained placement was Pam's first service dog, Lacey. Lacey was a sweet easy to train golden retriever who kept Pam working and active for many years. She also introduced me to Pam. Over training lessons we found out that we had lived parallel lives and at times are more like sisters than friends. Lacey left us too soon. But then they all leave us too soon.

Lacey was followed in my training history by Bronson and Spencer. Both were Rottweiler mixes that were trained during my first six months, a trial by fire, at The Prison Pet Partnership Program. They both vied for status of my man main and frequently found ways of getting even if they thought I was giving one too much attention. They are responsible for my first curse words in prison as they took me out at the knees while chasing each other during doggy recess.

Both Bronson and Spencer were rescues with little known of their past history at the time of placement. Spencer was placed in the fall of 1994 with a woman named China as a mobility dog. Unbeknown to us he had started his life in the southwest and in middle age was diagnosed with a chronic lung problem. He received amazing care from China and lived and worked till he was 9 years old.

Bronson was placed with Leana in February of 1995. He was the first seizure alert dog that I placed. Bronson was an amazing dog. I say was because like all the dogs in this story Bronson is dead. I had the honor of being with him at the end receiving a final kiss and being able to help him pass to another world at age 15 ½ as close as we can figure. I am sure his buddy, Blaze, was waiting for him with the high jump set up. My Blaze and Bronson use to have jump offs in class to see who could jump the most boards on the high jump.

Then came Allie and Andrew, another main man, Brody and Cheyenne. It was always a joy to see these dogs work with their partners but also a joy to see the happy tails and instant recognition of their former trainer.

***A Trainer's Eulogy and Legacy*** (Continued on page 3.)

## ***A Trainer's Eulogy and Legacy (Continued from page 2.)***

Each of their partners called over the years to ask for advice with training issues, health and nutrition. Each of their partners also called to ask for advice and guidance with end of life issues. Though I was not in attendance for their passing my heart was with both dog and handler in the end.

I have often said that when it is my turn to leave this earth I expect to be greeted on the other side with wagging tails and sloppy wet kisses. What a welcoming party; eight golden retrievers, two Rottweiler mixes, two beautiful German Shepherd Dogs, a black Labrador, and a big black Lab mix all herded together by Foxy, my Pembroke Welsh Corgi. No trainer could ask for more.

While I don't actually train many service dogs I do have a very busy pet dog business. Within the last three weeks one of my surrogate Golden Retrievers, Rosie who is almost 9, was diagnosed with hemangioma located on her heart. Her days are limited now and I miss seeing her smiling face at Walk in the Park and Nosework classes. Another client's barely 3 year old Golden was just diagnosed with Lymphoma. He is responding well to treatment and has joined us for Nosework. While we try so hard to keep our dog's healthy sometimes even the best we do isn't good enough.

Then there is the young Australian Shepherd who displayed sudden moments of frightening aggression. His family was so committed to him. We tried using classic conditioning and desensitization. They family took him to a Veterinary behaviorist for further treatment but all to no avail and the family made the hard decision to euthanize a young physical healthy but mentally unstable dog.

As a trainer I frequently know dogs from puppy hood until they take their trip across the bridge. As a trainer I try to help clients pick up the pieces and go on, supporting their decision about both end of life and the next chapter in their lives.

© 2018

---

*Jeanne T. Hampl is a registered nurse by profession and a dog trainer by avocation. She was the Executive Director of the Prison Pet Partnership Program at the Washington Correction Center for Women from 1994 to 1998. She served on the Program's Board of Directors from 1991 to 1994 and 1998 to 1999. Under her guidance a new kennel and Service Dog training center was constructed on the prison grounds.*

*Jeanne has trained dogs and instructed clients for the past thirty five years. She teaches private obedience classes as well as assisting person with disabilities to train their own service dog.*

*She also is a Service Dog Access Specialist. Jeanne is the co-founder and current president of The Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound. She is a certified member of National Association of Dog Obedience Instructors (NADOI) and serves as the chair of the Committee on Handlers with disabilities.*

## President's Corner

By Jeanne Hampl



Once again it has been proven that you cannot trust the weatherman. After hearing the forecast for snow on February 23 and 24th your Board decided to cancel our meeting. I know I had to make a decision on Friday so that we could notify both TACID and our speaker. Dr. Nancy Isbell has graciously said that she would come and do her presentation at our March 24 meeting.

Dr. Isbell, DVM is certified in acupuncture by IVAS, and carries a Diploma in Veterinary Chinese Herbal Medicine. Dr. Nancy blends her knowledge from her Internal Medicine training with the arts of Chinese medicine to provide a truly integrated therapy, along with diet and nutritional support. I am especially in the use of nutrition and herbs in the prevention as well as treatment of canine cancer.

Just a reminder if you see any type of "Service Dog Welcome" signs that provide correct information please take a picture and e-mail them to me at [praise\\_luke@hotmail.com](mailto:praise_luke@hotmail.com). ADC would like to do a composite and have signs printed which we can give out to businesses in our communities.

From the Washington Legislature:

SENATE BILL REPORT SHB 2822 Passed and is now going to the Governor for signature.

Brief Summary of Bill:

Limits the definition of service animal as applied to public accommodations under Washington's Law Against Discrimination (WLAD) to dogs and miniature horses specifically trained to perform tasks related to an individual's disability. Retains a requirement for reasonable modifications in a public accommodation to permit the use of a miniature horse as a service animal. Authorizes limited inquiry by a public accommodation's staff or investigating officer to determine if a person misrepresents an animal as a service animal. Establishes the civil infraction of misrepresenting an animal as a service animal. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our March 24th meeting. Please feel free to bring a friend to listen to Dr. Isbell's presentation.



## ***Bringing Out the Inner Lassie***

*by Martha Hoffman*



A potentially dangerous and unusual sound or situation happens. Your Hearing or Service Dog has never encountered or trained for this before, yet it runs to alert you, and insists that you follow, just like the mythical Lassie with her canine superpowers.

Our “Inner Lassie” training goal is this: the more unique and puzzling the situation, the more the dog will want to alert us.

The results are just like opening a surprise gift.

At a key point in the training, two of our students reported their first alerts to sounds they had not trained their dogs for. Dutchie had only been adopted a few months prior to training in our online classes.

Her owner, Erica Bukovac reported:

“Dutchie alerted me to the sound of my husband’s truck pulling into the driveway yesterday! This isn’t something I’ve trained, so I was surprised. As he was pulling into the driveway, she ran up to me, poked me firmly with her nose, and then ran to the side door to wait for him to come in. That was neat! Dutchie normally will happily run around when she hears Val’s car coming home, but she hasn’t come over to alert me about it before.”

Tara Mitrovic is another of our students. She told us:

“Franky alerted me about my mother returning home the other day. He ran from the window (where he was fast asleep), slapped me with his paw, and then ran between the side door and my slow self a few times till I got to the side door and discovered no one was there. I was confused – but I praised him and went and sat down again. About 2 minutes after I sat down – Mums’ car pulls up!!”

What made this happen?

Both dogs had been trained to alert to the doorbell. Like all dogs, they are good at making associations, and realized what sounds preceded that persons ringing the bell. They memorized the individual sound of their cars, and then started alerting as soon as they heard it. Some Hearing Dogs would wait for the doorbell itself, but Dutchie and Franky have been trained to communicate at a higher level.

Over the years, Hearing Dogs I’ve trained have alerted their partners to strange situations of danger, people in trouble, unconscious infants, odors, medical conditions, fires with no smoke alarm sound going, and lost baby animals. These were events they had never been trained to alert to. They had only been taught to alert to specific household sounds.

Before I realized that these purposeful alerts could become a trained behavior, they seemed miraculous to me. I used to think that only the most talented dogs did them, and only when the dog and partner really trained and bonded together.

***Bringing Out the Inner Lassie (Continued on page 6.)***

***Bringing Out the Inner Lassie*** (Continued from page 5.)

Since I thought these alerts were unpredictable and wonderful happenings, I did not think they could be taught. It had been drilled into my head that Lassie was not real, so I was strongly biased. I often explained to new partners that it was unrealistic to expect any such actions from their dog. Yet so many dogs, both Hearing Dogs and untrained pets, DID do Lassie-type behaviors sometimes.

These alerts seemed beyond the capability of dog intelligence. I had a spiritual attitude about them, that they were really miracles. How else could the Border Collie HD we placed, alert the sleeping parents that their new baby had stopped breathing? It had not even been trained for the baby cry yet. (Mom got the baby breathing again!)

Finally I realized that the dog does not have to be super-intelligent, or have some great talent. It has to have the right combination of good relationship with their person, be taught an alerting routine, and also encouraged to communicate about things that it alone knows. Of course, the dog has no idea we don't know those things. It rarely occurs to a dog to communicate about the things that humans are not interested in, unless there is some strong bond and an encouragement of alerting that goes beyond the basic tasks the dog is trained to do.

It's so amazing to me to see our students and their dogs achieve "Inner Lassie" alerts. These are never predictable, but they are always a wonderful surprise each time they happen.

Imagine if every pet dog was taught this! What amazing things would happen. Lives would be saved, the status of dogs would rise, dogs would get more respect, and they'd be treated better, too.

P.S. I still believe in miracles!

© 2016

---

*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. Be sure to join Martha and others from the Service Dog community on the Martha Hoffman Hearing Dogs Open Forum Facebook group. It's an open community where dog trainers, both professional and owner/trainers, exchange ideas and tips about training their dogs.*

## ***Behavior Problems and Service Dog Candidates***

*By Veronica Sanchez M.Ed. CABC CPDT-KA*

*Northern Virginia Dog Trainer*



I often receive inquiries from people with dogs with behavior problems asking if we can address the behavior problem and train the dog to become a service dog. Certainly, some dogs with minor behavior problems may be able to work as service dogs. In fact, few dogs are “perfect” for this challenging role. However, determining which types of issues can be worked through and which cannot is not an easy process.

When we are training a service dog, we are putting the dog in challenging situations, in complex settings and expecting the dog to be calm and relaxed for a long period of time. Service dogs are routinely in environments where avoiding something that may be scary is impossible or

very difficult. This work is hard for the most emotionally stable dogs. Putting a dog with a history of serious behavior problems in the role of a service dog is likely to make the behavior problem worse and risks triggering behavior problems that otherwise may never have occurred! It is not fair to the dog and if the dog may exhibit aggression when stressed, it is a risk to the public.

Of course, it would be easy if it were very clear which types of behaviors are automatic rule outs and which behavior problems can be worked through. A dog uncomfortable with some types of flooring might be able to learn to be more confident but a dog that is uncomfortable with unfamiliar people is not an appropriate dog to consider for service work.\* However, often times things are less obvious and it can be harder to tell if the dog’s behavior problem can be addressed sufficiently to the point where the dog can work as a service dog or not.

To make things even more complicated, behavior is not static. Young pups change significantly in their behavior as they mature. Newly adopted dogs take months to settle into a new environment and their behavior can be difficult to accurately assess during the transition period. Adolescent dogs may go through periods where their behavior is up and down even if there are no changes in their living situation, and it becomes tougher to tell whether something is a real behavior problem or just a developmental phase. An adolescent dog might bark at someone wearing a hat one evening and then be completely over it in a week. On the other hand, some behavior problems do not emerge until the dog matures or worsen as the dog matures.

Additionally, some behavior problems fall into a gray zone where the problem may not be serious but also not necessarily be something that can be modified to the point where the dog would be able to work as a service dog. There are no recipes for dog behavior modification and I’m still looking for the dog behavior crystal ball. Sometimes you really don’t know how a dog will respond to behavior modification and training until you try. Regardless, an experienced, qualified professional can help owners’ determine what their dog’s dream job actually is.

***Behavior Problems and Service Dog Candidates (Continued on page 8.)***

## **Behavior Problems and Service Dog Candidates**

(Continued from page 7.)

\*Specialists who work with dogs with behavior problems including some dog trainers, behavior consultants and veterinary behaviorists. Even if a dog has a behavior problem that makes the dog not suitable for service work, an appropriate behavioral intervention is important. The dog can still have a great quality of life as a pet and an appropriate behavioral intervention can help the owner greatly reduce and manage the problem behavior in the vast majority of cases.

© 2017

*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.*

---

## **What's Up With ADC?**

Activities and meetings this year will be held at TACID unless otherwise noted. The address for TACID is: 6315 S 19th St, Tacoma, Washington 98466. The Assistance Dog Club holds our business meeting from 12:00 - 1:00 and we welcome our speakers and presenters from 1:00 - 3:00. Meeting topics are in the process of being planned. If our members have a topic or speaker that they would like to hear, please contact Jeanne Hampl.

- March 24, 2018 - Dr. Nancy Isbell - Dr. Nancy is certified in acupuncture by IVAS and has a diploma in Veterinary Chinese Herbal Medicine. Dr. Nancy's practice is in Belfair.
- April 28, 2018 - Jeanne Hampl - Canine Body Language
- May 19, 2018 - To Be Announced
- June 23, 2018 - To Be Announced
- July 28, 2018 - To Be Announced
- August 25, 2018 - (Summer Break)
- September 22, 2018 - To Be Announced
- October 27, 2018 - ADC's Annual Business Meeting
- November, 2018 - Thanksgiving Break
- December 9, 2018 - Holiday Party (To Be Confirmed)

## What's on the ADC Agenda?

February 24, 12:00 - 3:00  
ADC February Program  
TACID  
6315 S 19th St, Tacoma, Washington 98466  
Dr. Nancy Isbell, DVM



Since graduation in 1983 from Washington State University, Dr. Nancy's career has taken her through an Internship, and her Residency in Internal Medicine at Tufts University. She has worked with chimpanzees and tiger cubs, done teaching and clinical research. But her heart is with her patients in practice. Dr. Nancy is certified in acupuncture by IVAS, and carries a Diploma in Veterinary Chinese Herbal Medicine. She spent 15 years in Port Orchard before establishing her practice in Belfair in 2007. Dr. Nancy blends her knowledge from her Internal Medicine training with the arts of Chinese medicine to provide a truly integrated therapy, along with diet and nutritional support. Dr. Nancy lives with her hiking companion Border Collie Oden and The Magnificent Darth (cat).

Special Interests:

- General Practice
- Chinese Herbs
- Acupuncture

---

## 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.

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

[Get started](#)

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

**Check our Facebook Page for more information!**

## ***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/regs2010/service_animal_qa.html)  
[http://www.ada.gov/service\\_animals\\_2010.htm](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.