



# Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound

## NEWS

March 2018

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

ADC's next meeting will take place at TACID on April 18, 2018. Jeanne Hamp will lead the discussion on Canine Body Language

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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.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

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

#### **President**

Jeanne Hamp

#### **Vice President/**

Sarah Biesold

#### **Secretary**

Jack Pearce-Droge

#### **Treasurer**

Tanya Carter

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

Janelle Ellen

Connie Fuller

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### **Editor's Corner**

by Jack Pearce-Droge

Once again, the American College of Veterinary Oncologists (ACVO) is offering their time and resources to provide free screening ocular exams to qualified Service and Working Animals. This is their 11th year providing these complimentary screenings across the US, Puerto Rico and Canada. This is a valuable resource in the maintenance of the health of our our service dogs. The information on this event is on Page 3 and I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity.



Sarah Biesold took some of our members up to Seattle to provide information at a booth at the Seattle Kennel Club Dog Show. They

were able to talk with members about service dogs, their training and the tasks that they perform to assist their partners. Fortunately, CCI puppy raisers were about to discuss their training process.

Jeanne Hamp will be making a presentation on Canine Body Language. This presentation should be very informative for anyone with an assistance dog, especially if you are interested in being able to gauge the stress level in your dog.

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

**TACID's address is:**

**6315 S 19th St, Tacoma, Washington 98466**

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#### *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*

## ***Let's Talk About Feeding Your Dog***

*By Jeanne Hampl*



Do you know exactly how much you feed? Food should be dispensed with a measuring cup not some scoop you have no idea how much it really holds. Case in point I have a cute yellow lab, husband's hunting buddy's dog, staying with me. The owner said she is a picky eater. I asked how much do I feed her. He said two scoops twice a day with chicken strips broken on top. But she doesn't always eat it. She is a picky eater. So I measured the scoop/drinking cup. It holds 2 cups. So this small lab, who is obese is getting 4 cups of food a day. I gave her 1 cup, 8 oz of kibble and a broken up chicken strip. All gone in about 3 minutes. No picky eater here. She is simply being over fed.

Also do not believe the guide on the dog food bag. They want you to use up that bag quickly. Feed to the weight your dog should be not the weight it currently is. So often I hear the bag says to feed an 70 lb dog 6 cups. Unfortunately the dog is a petite lab that should only weight 55 lbs.

My little yellow Lab's food had been transferred into a plastic bin. I have no idea what she is eating. But I frequently ask clients of overweight, or hyperactive dogs what they are feeding and they do not know. Because it was from Costco or a pet store and their husband bought it and they just pour it into the bin. How would you know if the food had been recalled? Please if you put your food into a bin cut the Label and the Bar code and date off the bag and paste it to the top of the bin. Replace it every time you put in a new bag of dog food. Better safe than sorry. Also if you transfer the food into a bin cut the name of the food and the ingredients and tape to the bun. Then if you dog begins to show signs of food allergies you will know the protein that was in the food. So often people say I feed Duck and sweet potato but in fact the food has fish and other forms of poultry.

Weight control is easy when you know what you feed and exactly how much you are feeding. Dogs do not have opposable thumbs. They cannot raid the refrigerator at night.

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## **ACVO/Stokes National Service Animal Eye Exam**

### **Event Overview**

The ACVO/Stokes National Service Animal Eye Exam event is a philanthropic effort generously provided to the public by the board certified Diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists who donate their time, staff and services to provide free screening ocular exams to qualified Service and Working Animals. This is our 11th year providing these complimentary screenings across the US, Puerto Rico and Canada. This program would not be successful without the generosity of our Diplomate members and the financial support of all our valuable sponsors.

Each year most formally trained Service and Working Animals, and some qualified assistance and therapy animals, can be registered to receive these sight-preserving screenings. Registration is limited via qualification and occurs only April 1st – April 30th annually, online through this website. Exams take place in May at many members' clinics across the country, the full participation list is available to those that register online. (Here are the participating cities, these are typically similar year to year, but check back in 2018 for an updated list at that time.)

Nearly 60,000 animals have received these free screening exams over the past ten years. Please participate, support our ophthalmologists and sponsors to ensure this program continues in the future.

'Like' our Facebook page for updates and announcements about this and future events.

- Stacey Daniel, ACVO Executive Director

### **Sponsors**

**Special thanks to our name-sake sponsor through 2019, Stokes Pharmacy.**

### **Program Goals**

- 1) Preserve the sight of those who serve us all selflessly
- 2) Strengthen referral relationships with general practice veterinarians
- 3) Benefit those who rely on Service Animals - individuals and society

### **Participating Cities**

**Copy and paste this link into your browser**

<https://www.acvoeyeexam.org/participating-cities>

## **President's Corner**

*By Jeanne Hampl*



There are so many Thank You's this month.

Thank you to Sarah Biesold for keeping us on track for our booth at The Seattle Kennel Club Dog show. Thank you to our members who manned the booth as well as the CCI puppy raisers who brought puppies for the public to love.

Thank you to Connie Fuller and to Sally Montejano for bringing food to our meetings.

Thank you to Dr. Nancy Isbell DVM for coming to our meeting on Saturday and sharing her time and her knowledge. The information will help our members better care for their Service Dog Partners.

Thank you to the Washington State Legislators and the Governor for signing in to law SHB 2822 (Concerning service animals) this bill adopts the federal definition of service animal and creates a civil infraction for the misrepresentation of a service animal.

The link to the actual PDF document can be found at: <http://lawfilesexternal.leg.wa.gov/biennium/201718/Pdf/Bills/House%20Passed%20Legislature/2822-S.PL.pdf>

Thank you to Tacoma Area Coalition of Individuals with Disabilities' (TACID) whose mission is to promote the independence of individuals with disabilities through peer support, advocacy, and self-sufficiency programs. TACID allows ADC to use the building for free.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 28th at 12 PM at TACID. The topic for our monthly presentation will be reading dog body language both to keep your dog safe and to recognize when your dog is stressed.

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*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.*

## ***Look Mom, NO TREATS! Treat Magician Training***

*by Martha Hoffman*



The Treat Magician method trains our Hearing Dogs to be persistent, and helps their partners to keep the alerting and obedience behaviors sharp.

It's very easy. I do a simple test to show the partner how their dog is thinking.

I ask the partner, "Does your dog have faith in my Treat Magician Powers? Let's find out."

I have treats, and cue something simple like Touch.

If the dog Touches, I don't give the treat. I give a LITTLE praise like "Oh good", and then I cue again. If the dog Touches again, I treat.

Then I try for two or three in a row for one treat. MOST dogs will give up. They look away, don't touch, wander off, or try some other behavior.

I point these behaviors out to the partner. "Oh, she gave up! Oh ye dogs of little faith!!!! She lost hope that I would give the treat! Now you know you have a dog that will do things ONLY one or two times for one treat."

Now I try again. If the dog does not touch, I pretend I have a treat. I use extra luring, or act excited, do whatever it takes to persuade her to try ONCE MORE even though she is acting discouraged. I give the treat right away and praise!

When the dog consistently achieves 3 cued behaviors for one treat, I tell the partner they now have a dog that has faith and trust that THREE tries will work to get a treat.

Since most dogs can only count to about three, if the partner does "Treat Magician" training, they WILL see some success at above 3 repetitions. This starts a habit of persistence from the dog. The partner also learns to be persistent, instead of giving up.

Now the partner starts to get proud of their dog's ability to repeat the behaviors. Training becomes more interesting, instead of frustrating.

Then I show them how to be a professional Treat Magician. No bait bags allowed! I put the treats up on a shelf in my reach. I wash my hands and show the dog I have no treats. The dog smells my empty hands.

I cue and try to get one rep. I use the OTHER hand to sneakily grab a treat from the shelf, and drop it suddenly into the "treat" hand. "OH puppy, it was there all along, you should have sniffed harder!!!!"

***Look Mom! No Treats! (Continued on page 6.)***

**Look Mom! No Treats!** (Continued from page 5.)

I also show them how to treat with the other hand as a surprise.

Now I put the containers up on shelves around the home. I velcro the containers up on the wall. I thumbtack a baggie of treats up on the wall. The dog learns that only I can open or reach the container to get a treat out.

The dog learns to be persistent and repeat the behavior on cue, even though it can't reach the treats.

A little more training, and the partner can proudly show off their dog to friends and family! "AND SHE ALERTS ME FIVE TIMES TO THE PHONE BEFORE SHE GETS A TREAT!!" Or, "Look, she does several tricks in a row without a treat!" This is a step beyond what the average dog can do. Everyone will be impressed with the professional performance!

For sound alerting, we also use this technique, so that the partner does not have to carry treats after the dog is trained.

To maintain training, we keep treats in a closed container near the sound. The dog learns that alerting will result in the partner going to the sound, opening the container, and giving a treat. The dog will alert multiple times if the partner does not respond. We encourage our Hearing Dog partners to keep treat containers all around the house for the dogs lifetime. That way, a good effort in real life alerting can always be reinforced.

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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. 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.*

## **The Dog's Choice - Service Dog Tasks**

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

*Northern Virginia Dog Trainer*



Dog training industry leaders are talking about giving dogs choices in training, husbandry and in their daily lives. Having the opportunity to make choices is essential to dog's behavioral health.

The behaviors service dogs are trained to help a person with a disability, service dog "tasks," are chosen based on the owner's needs. What if the service dog in training is anxious, reticent, stressed by or simply dislikes to perform a desired task? Does the service dog in training have input in the task selection? How can we balance the owner's needs with the dog's?

It is often possible to teach a dog to accept and even like something he previously did not. Trainers routinely do this when teaching dogs to pick up items of different textures and materials like metal. Many dogs who are initially hesitant to pick up metal items can become more comfortable when the trainer proceeds slowly and uses high value rewards. Trainers often start with easier (smaller) metal items or may wrap metal with fabric or another material the dog is comfortable holding initially in the training process – slowly transitioning away from the fabric over time. However, this approach is not practical, preferable nor necessarily do-able in every situation.

### **Giving Dogs Choices**

One way to give a service dog in training a choice is to allow the dog to have some control on the way the task is performed. For instance, teach the dog two ways to push a button, with a paw and with the nose. Then allow the dog to choose either approach when performing the behavior in the environment. It may make no impact on the end result for the person, and the dog may much prefer doing it one way versus another.

Training techniques that involve allowing the animal to make choices, such as Chirag Patel's bucket game can also be included in the training process. The bucket game can be applied to behaviors like accepting a hug for an ESA or for a service dog helping a person with mental illness.

Sometimes it's worth considering changing the task or teaching several alternatives. For instance, consider a task referred to as DPT (deep pressure therapy) where the dog is cued to lie down directly on the owner. Some dogs thrive on close contact, my own dog Sulu would prefer it if he lived on my lap. Other dogs just don't enjoy prolonged close contact, or are physically uncomfortable (may be too warm) when lying on a person. Dogs, like people, may feel differently at different times: wanting to be close sometimes and preferring space other times. Close contact with an agitated or upset person or child can be stressful for the dog.

If a dog's body language and behavior indicates that a particular task is stressful for the dog, don't force the issue. Consider alternatives. With a little creativity, there are nearly always a number of alternatives that may both help the person and be more comfortable for the dog.

***The Dog's Choice - Service Dog Tasks (Continued on page 8.)***

## ***The Dog's Choice - Service Dog Tasks***

*(Continued from page 7.)*

Appropriate alternatives to DPT, as with all tasks, vary depending on the needs of the individual. Some options may include having the dog retrieve a therapeutic weighted blanket/lap pad, a weighted vest or stuffed animal (for a child), having the dog lean on the person (instead of fully lying down on them), teaching the dog to put his/her chin or paw on the person, or having the dog alert a caregiver that help is needed. Trainers may decide to teach the dog a couple of options and then allow the dog to choose. Also, allowing the dog to decide when to end behaviors that involve direct contact can help as well.

Of course, service dog candidates need to be selected not just with consideration for their suitability for public access, but also for their comfort in performing the desired tasks. However, as we all know, there is no perfect selection process and a dog may be a wonderful candidate who has individual preferences. Acknowledging the dog's needs and preferences when choosing how a task is performed can end up being beneficial to both, the handler and the dog. It can help promote the dog's behavioral health, give the person increased awareness of meeting the dog's behavioral needs, and prevent the dog from developing stress related behavior problems over time.

\*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.

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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.*

## **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.

- 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)

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## **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](#)  
amazon smile

**Dogwise**  
All things dog.

Every Quote Gives Hope

healthypaws  
PET INSURANCE & FOUNDATION

**Fred Meyer**  
community  
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.assisteddogclub.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.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/>  
<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.