SUMMER 2012 VOL.11 NO.3



# **Our Spring Celebration**

by Grace Van Dyke

On a chilly Friday evening, March 30th to be exact, PPP supporters, volunteers, staff and offenders gathered to celebrate our achievements over the past nine months. Amidst the cake, fruit, stories, well-wishes and tears was a sense of accomplishment and pride. And, while the PPP graduation typically falls on the last day of a

This graduation also celebrated the placement of program dog Seymore as a working facility dog at the Spokane Veterans Home.

service or therapy client training, it recognizes and celebrates much more than that.

This year, for the first time, our graduation ceremony was joined by the fifteen Pet Care Technician Level 1 course graduates. This entry level course is a prerequisite of employment at PPP and is, therefore,

the first step an incarcerated woman at the Washington Corrections Center for Women takes to becoming involved with the program. This class provides students with the basic knowledge and skills set they need to work with and care for dogs and cats on a professional basis. The curriculum includes small animal physiology, parasitology and health monitoring as well as client service skills.

Over the course of the last nine months, the trainers at both the Washington Correction Center for Women and the Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women paved the way for fifteen previously homeless and displaced dogs to find new, permanent homes with loving families. Under the supervision of their trainers, each of the adopted dogs were certified as Canine Good Citizens through the American Red Cross. Paroled Pets Abner, Juneau, Harper, Phelps, Tigger and Zander all came back to graduation so their trainers and new adopted families could share in the celebration. A special thank you to our volunteers who helped find our paroled pets their forever homes!

This graduation also celebrated the placement of program dog Seymore



Newly placed therapy dog "Seymour" with his handler Shane, and supporters from the World Wings Inc, Seattle Chapter smile for the camera! "Seymour" will be spending his days meandering the halls of the Spokane Veterans Home, with previously placed therapy dog "Jersey."

as a working facility dog at the Spokane Veterans Home. This is not the first PPP dog to join the Veterans Home family. Program dog, Jersey, was placed there several years ago, but is ready to enjoy the services of the nursing home and leave the work to a younger, more spry replacement.

Seymore, or Boomer, as he was originally known, came to us from the Kitsap Humane Society. After changing his name to one more befitting of a dignified working dog, Seymore started in on his training.

Though a fast favorite at the nursing home and amongst the volunteers, Seymore made it clear he much preferred being a schmoozing socialite to spending his day working as a service dog – a trait which made him a perfect match for the Spokane Veterans Home. He's settled in quickly to his role there and spends the day roaming the halls and spending time with the residents.



# Picnic Potluck! by Mollyrose Sommer

PPP was thrilled to celebrate another spring-into-summer potluck picnic in the park with our volunteers, board members and staff!

Not only do we take this opportunity to eat, laugh and socialize but the picnic is a great time to get organized for our summer filled with community events!

We rely on our volunteers not only to help around the office,

transport dogs around Puget Sound and run errands when the staff is swamped, but they are our "foot patrol" in public. They attend our summer booth stops to help expose our service dogs-in-training to new environments, educate the public about incarcerated individuals, and share our boarding and grooming information! The summer is also a time when we can raise funds for the program through sales of PPP t-shirts and other "swag"!



### **JULY 21** Saturday

Pierce County Humane Society's DOG-A-THON Fort Steilacoom Park, Tacoma

### **AUG 4** Saturday

Dugan Foundation's WOOFSTOCK University of Puget Sound, Tacoma

### **AUG 18** Saturday

SUNDogs' PUPS IN THE PARK Cirque Park, University Place

### **AUG 18** Saturday

Mason County Humane Society's DOG WALK Belfair State Park, Belfair

### **SEPT 7-9** Friday - Sunday

**PUYALLUP FAIR** The fairgrounds, Puyallup

### **SEPT 15** Saturday

Gig Harbor Midday Rotary's HARBOR HOUNDS Gig Harbor Waterfront

Mission Statement

Prison Pet Partnership enriches the lives of inmates, homeless animals and the community through the human-animal bond.

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Pete Philley Secretary

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Bonnie Bush John Davies Heather DeJesus Melissa Perry

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Rachel Keeler Vocational Education Program Manager

Grace Van Dyke Service Dog Program Manager

Nicole Ribiero Service Dog Training Assistant

Mollyrose Sommer Program Assistant

### Advisory Committee

Penny Drost, Indra Finch, George LeMasurier, Richard Levandowski, Hugh McMillan, Laura Waters DVM

Graphic Design Lynn Stevenson

### A note from the director

Happy Summer! Hopefully, by the time of this printing, we have had at least a couple of day of sun. PPP got some bright news recently from the Department of Corrections. We now have access to the other half of the building we had shared for 4 years. So, it looks like PPP has some growing to do! We have lots of ideas from expanding the grooming program to providing job skills to more offenders to increasing the training program to help more dogs and the community. The planning, organizing and

Beth with her dog "Manu"

implementing is just beginning so stay tuned.....

Now, as promised from the last newsletter, below is the second half of the bios from our board members.

Bonnie Bush has been a resident of Federal Way since 1982 where she lives with her husband, Bob. They have four children, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. They are proud pet parents of two (beautiful!) Black Labs. Bonnie has worked at Franciscan Health System for the last 13 years. In addition to serving on the PPP Board, she is a Master Gardener and enjoys playing golf.

Current board projects include review of our by-laws, and working towards our next strategic planning session.

John Davies is a registered Professional Engineer of the State of Washington and member of the Society of Automotive Engineers. He is a retired Boeing Associate Technical Fellow. John is currently a part time Engineering Consultant at a major aerospace company. John has been volunteering for PPP for the past five years doing vet visits, walking dogs, and working at outreach booths.

Heather DeJesus is an MBA and Project Management Professional. Formerly a project manager and scientist at Weyerhaeuser, Heather is now a stay at home mom to two little boys. Heather has a passion for the dog rescue piece of PPP's mission; as a mom, she has a passion for giving female offenders an opportunity to become better and more responsible parents and members of society.

Our board president, Kay Hayes, is a former operations director of the pharmacy in St Joseph's Hospital in Tacoma. Kay lives in Gig Harbor with her husband Geary and their dog, Sadie. When not busy chairing the Bark and Bid committee or leading the board, Kay loves to garden and spend time with her two, adorable grandchildren. Kay is the owner of an online business, a hummingbirdnamedChristine.com

The newest member, Anne Mattis, lives in Tacoma with her fiancé, Bryce Kerker, and their rescue dogs, Ava and Forrest. She is the Director of HR for Burkhart Dental, the oldest company in Washington. Anne moved here from Pennsylvania 5 years ago and loves living in the Pacific Northwest! Anne is also on the board for the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra and is very much looking forward to working with the PPP.

Beth Rivard

Service dog "Quinlan" patiently waits for a ball to be thrown (above). When he's not busy playing, "Quinlan" is working hard for his dad, picking up dropped items, retrieving the remote, or opening doors (right).

# **UPDATE:** Quinlan

Well it's been a year now that Quinlan and I have been together. He has really become part of the family. Even the cats have accepted him. Last week he passed his annual public access test. Yahoo!! It took us a few months to get used to each other. Having him with me 24/7 took some getting used to. Now it's just the norm and I wouldn't have it any other way. What a great companion. Having him pull the doors shut behind me is a big deal since I use a wheelchair full time. He is very good at picking up things I drop. When I transfer from my wheelchair to my recliner I sometimes forget to get the ty remote or phone. I can say "Quinlan remote

get it." And I will have it in my hand in seconds. He loves to play in the back yard especially when his cousin Sue comes to visit. Sue is a high energy Vizsla. They love to chase the tennis ball. I am so pleased to have my dog. He's a good Quinlan, I don't care what the cat says!

**Prison Pet Partnership Program** 

9601 Bujacich Road NW Gig Harbor, WA 98332

PH 253-858-4240

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PrisonPetPartnership.org



# MCCW Update by Nicole Ribiero

Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women has recently graduated another 7 women from the Basic Obedience Training Course, and will hire another paid offender trainer. We have also recently started another Basic Pet Care class, in which 12 women will learn basic pet care and handling skills. MCCCW – PPP is also happy to report that 2 recent graduates of the training program have gone on to find employment in the community. Cece Christensen is working at a 24hr doggie day care in Seattle and Lola Savidge is working as an equine trainer at a horse rescue/sanctuary in Shelton. Congratulations!

MCCCW PPP is also seeking volunteers that would like to come take dogs on outings. We are currently looking for volunteers on Mondays and Fridays between 8am and 4pm. If you'd like more information, please contact Mollyrose or Nicole.

## **Dog Updates**



Dodger is a tri-colored pup that came from Kitsap Humane Society. He is currently at

Mission Creek working with his new trainer. He is teaching her all his level 2 and 3 skills and they are currently practicing for his AKC Canine Good Citizen test.



**Elbe** a black lab mix also at Mission Creek. Elbe and his trainer are working on

bonding and he is also working on his level 3 skills and learning how to settle by himself.



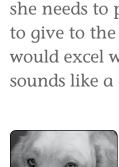
**Fiona** is a black lab mix from Metro Animal Services, and has been in training since March.

She is currently working on her level 3 skills.



**Grant** is a lover of a dog that came from Adopt-A-Pet in Shelton. He is at

WCCW and working on level 2 skills. Latest reports were that he was great on his last outing and is an easy dog to handle out and about the town.



WINNIE

**Hurley** a large mix of yellow lab, aolden retriever and great Pyrenees from N.O.A.H.

rescue. Hurley is a great dog and is currently working on level 3 skills with his trainer.



**Ilsa** a black lab mix from Grant County Animal Outreach and has been in

training since April. She is working with her new trainer on level 2 and 3 skills.

# **Paroled Pet Highlight**

Meet Winnie! Winnie is approximately 1 year old and still has a spunky little puppy inside of her. She can do ok with other dogs if introduced properly, but Winnie would do

best in a single dog home. Winnie has a lot of energy and will need an active family with no children or older (12+) children. Winnie would do best in a home where she can get a lot of mental stimulation and continue learning new things. She loves to play fetch! Winnie is house trained and will pace at the door to let you know she needs to potty. She is a loveable little girl with a lot to give to the right family. She is a very smart girl and would excel with dog sports like agility or flyball. If Winnie sounds like a great match for you, please contact us!



**Jed** was a stray chocolate lab, chesapeake bay retriever mix that was rescued and privately

donated to the program. He has been diligently working on his basic obedience and manners since May. He has passed his level 2 evaluation and is currently working on level 3 skills.



### For kennels & grooming:

- cat litter
- cat food (wet and dry)
- gallon containers of bleach
- fabric for scarves

### **For Service Dog Program:**

- gift cards to animal or office supply stores
- working fridge
- Kongs
- dog treats
- post-it notes



We here at PPP would like to THANK YOU for making Bark and Bid 2012 an incredible success! It was great seeing so many familiar faces along with new members to the PPP family. The new venue proved to be an excellent location that we will utilize for many years to come! We would like to thank the Greater Tacoma Convention Center for their amazing staff, location and appetizing food! We would also like to send a big

thank you to all of our sponsors and donors for their wonderful auction items that made the night one to remember. I'd also like to extend a big thank you to Gordon Graham and his wife Eve. His wonderful speech was a highlight for us all! Stay tuned for more information about Bark and Bid 2013 – our 10th annual charity auction! Keep those May weekends free so you can share this special night with all of us at PPP!

### **2012 SPONSORS:**

Event Sponsor \$5000 Friend and longtime supporter of Prison Pet Partnership

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A big thank you to Pete Philley and Monica Butler for their contribution!

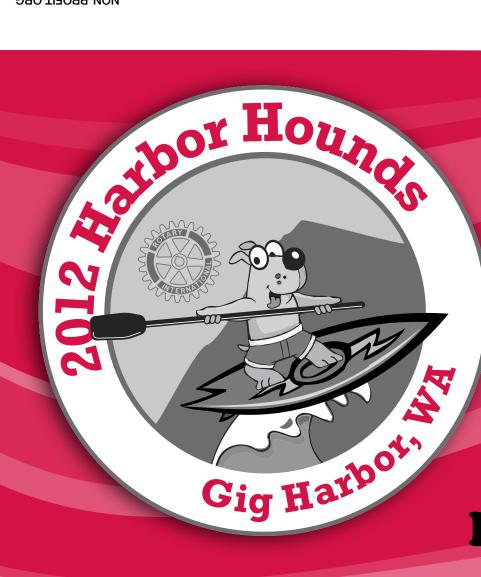


Gig Harbor, WA 98332 9601 Bujacich Road NW Washington Corrections Center for Women Prison Pet Partnership Program



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# Saturday September 15

For information and registration: HarborHounds.com

# **REGISTER TODAY!!**

Judy Hunt

Karen Hornby

Bonnie Bush

Judith Burcar

Brian & Lisa Hodkinson

Gifts and in-kind donations received March 15, 2012 – June 19, 2012. If your name is misspelled or omitted, or you wish to be acknowledged differently, please call 253-858-4240.

Sharon Tafil Kathy Barton

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