



Paw Print Press

A Prison Pet Partnership Publication

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Our groomers showing off their work with PPP staff and IPG tester, Denise McDonald

Grooming Students Earn New Certifications by Rachel Keeler

The groomers of PPP have done it again! In early December Denise McDonald with the International Professional Groomers Inc. came into the prison to test our ladies in the basics of bathing and brushing. Our 4 new students completed a written test which included questions on how to use specific grooming tools and how to safely handle a dog while grooming. The women then moved on to the practical portion of the test where they were required to properly wash and blow dry a dog. New this year to the Salon Details certification, the women had to show their ability to perform a basic kennel clip! All 4 of the new groomers, on their freshly bathed

and prepped canine friends, showed their skill in clipper and scissor work! We are so proud that each of the 4 groomers in training passed their Salon Details Certification with flying colors! They will now move on to taking the tests in the Non Sporting Breed using the standard poodle!

Also continuing their education were PPP's 2 senior groomers. These ladies have already completed the Salon Details Certification as well as the practical exam for the Non Sporting breeds. On testing day Leslie and Teresa completed the written test for the Non Sporting breeds with flying colors! Now each of these ladies

have 2 full national certifications to use once they are released from incarceration! These 2 were also able to take the practical of the Sporting breeds on the beautiful English Springer Spaniel. The dogs looked fantastic and both women scored very high on their tests!

We are so proud of these women and their accomplishments! Each of the groomers will continue to work their way through the testing process with the ultimate goal of becoming a Certified Master Groomer! Please join us in congratulating the groomers of PPP in all of their remarkable achievements!

Volunteer Spotlight: Cathleen FitzGerald by Grace Van Dyke

Cathleen FitzGerald began volunteering with PPP five years ago. In that time, her dedication to the program has been inspiring. When asked why she volunteers with PPP, this is what she had to say...

"Dogs have always been part of my family and I've marveled at their delightfully varied personalities.

I've enjoyed understanding the idiosyncracies and charms of 100 dogs since I've started PPP. Many have stayed in my home and are still in my heart. Others have taught me about patience, listening, experimenting, self-discipline, and expressing joy and longing. I have learned how to let them go, and to celebrate their good fortune.

And, no, I didn't just magically learn all this from the dogs. I was led by the knowledgeable staff at PPP and the women inmates with their extensive experience. I have come to consider the inmates as my colleagues as we share ideas on how to achieve goals together.

There are many emotions and tears when taking up a volunteer job with PPP, but most of them happy ones. As dogs leave us to go on to their new lives we miss them, but at graduation our tears of pride and happiness replace our tears of loss.

I'm looking forward to the coming years of acquiring more skills with client evaluations, adoption placements, and continuing with newsletter updates and social media. But the dogs will be front and center in my affections, both the naughty and the sweet ones. What a privilege it is to be a part of this program!"



Volunteer Cathleen and service dog in training Paisley on an outing.

In memoriam....

PPP has recently lost some of our good friends. Volunteer Roger Rue passed away in November. For years, Roger helped to socialize our dogs in training. Roger, along with his wife Judy, shared his love for sailing and flying with PPP by generously offering outings in his plane and cruises on his sailboat for Bark and Bid. Roger's love of dogs and compassion for our clients and offenders will be greatly missed.

It was with sadness that PPP learned of the passing of Billie Grande, who had been partnered with PPP Therapy Dog, Stanley. Billie and Stanley visited hospice patients, providing companionship and compassion to many. Billie was a generous and inspirational woman and will be greatly missed.

Sadly, we lost some of our four-legged friends including two of PPP's service dogs: Hogan, Service Dog partner for Tiesa Gaston and Sunny (Jackpot), Service Dog partner for Robbin McMannus. We also lost some of our regular boarding and grooming friends: Ruger Bernardez, Opel Heller, Rosey Jerkovich and Otis Thronson.



Arfs and Crafts

April 16th – 5-8pm at The Art Stop
Le Roy Jewelers: 940 Broadway, Tacoma

Come out and meet our dogs, bid on one-of-a-kind art pieces and support Prison Pet Partnership!

The Art Stop hosts a silent auction of pet related crafts created and donated by professional and hobby artists – including PPP staff and volunteers. The event benefits PPP and Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound. Bidding on the art continues until 4:00pm on Saturday, April 18th.

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

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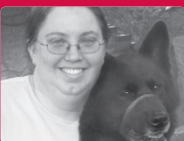
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A note from the director

Now that our new staff, Development Manager Jill Voelker and Training Instructor Betsy Pratt have settled in, we are looking forward to a productive 2015. In addition to Bark and Bid prep, Jill is busy creating a development and marketing plan for PPP. Betsy is diligently bringing in new dogs and has started a new class for basic obedience trainers.

2015 is also the year that PPP is due for its reaccreditation from Assistance Dogs International (ADI). For those of you who don't know, ADI is an organization made up of nonprofit assistance dog groups from around the world. In a nutshell, ADI sets standards for training and placement of dogs and advocates for service dogs and their human partners. The process of reaccreditation is a lengthy one which includes a review of PPP business processes and procedures around operations, finances, client relationships and dog training to name a few. The accreditation packet is due in March followed by a site visit sometime late summer or early fall. Kudos to our Service Dog Program Manager, Grace for pulling all of this together.

The Voc Ed program's goals for 2015 is to complete another level of grooming certification in the late spring and provide certification and Pet First Aid and CPR to our offender workers in addition to our basic pet care classes. We have another groomer that is releasing in the summer so we are busy helping with her transition.

Watch for updates in our coming newsletters!

Beth Rivard

Reserve your seat now: Bark and Bid! Saturday, April 11

Please plan to join us for Prison Pet Partnership's 12th Annual Bark and Bid event at Tacoma's Convention Center featuring exciting items and unique life experiences in our silent and live auctions. Enjoy a sit-down dinner that includes a program featuring a former

offender employee. Come to hear Rachel's story of how her experience as a groomer and trainer in our program led to a grooming job in a Spokane salon just two weeks upon her release! With tools purchased by PPP and a generous starting wage including

tips, she has made a smooth transition into her new life. Visit prisonpetpartnership.org for more information and to purchase tickets for a memorable evening with fellow PPP supporters.

Please RSVP by April 1st.



PPP welcomes Betsy to the team!

Greetings! My name is Elizabeth Pratt, but you can call me Betsy. I am the new Service Dog Training Instructor. I've been working with dogs since I was 15 and although it wasn't my first career choice

growing up, it has become my passion. I worked at a Petco as a Head Dog Trainer for 4 years and have worked for the Kitsap Humane Society and REI before landing here.

I currently volunteer for Kitsap County Washington Explorer Search and Rescue (WESAR). Within WESAR I'm involved with All Breed Canine Search and Rescue (ABCSAR) helping the current handlers progress their dogs in Trailing, Air Scent, and Human Remains Detection (HRD).

I live in Poulsbo with my boyfriend, Jason, our dog Ingrid, and our two cats, Gabriel and Sabath. Last summer we lost our Chocolate lab to cancer. He is greatly missed, but we are hoping to add a puppy to our family by this summer to continue working with ABCSAR. I look forward to meeting many of you soon!

~ Betsy

In January, PPP was the recipient of a very large and generous donation. A BIG Thank You to King County Sheriff's Office, Jail ID Unit who collected and donated \$3,500 worth of items for our program!





2015 Bark and Bid

April 11

Saturday 5 – 9PM

at the Tacoma Convention Center

auctions • dinner
cash bar • fun!!

RSVP by April 1st!

REGISTRATION FORM

TICKETS \$50 individual or \$500 per table for ten.

- ☐ I would like _____ individual reservations at \$50 each: \$_____
- ☐ I would like _____ table reservations at \$500 each: \$_____
- ☐ I am unable to attend. Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution: \$_____
- ☐ I have an auction item for donation, please contact me!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please make checks payable to “Prison Pet Partnership” or “PPP.”
Mail reservation form, list of additional guests and check to:
PPP – Bark and Bid 9601 Bujacich Road NW Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Paper tickets will not be issued. Reservations will be held at the door. All proceeds to benefit the Prison Pet Partnership. Questions? Please visit prisonpetpartnership.org or send an email to info@prisonpetpartnership.org or call 253-858-4240.

PROGRAM DOG UPDATES

Dogs in Training



Dave –

After many months, Dave is on the final leg of his training. He

will be getting ready for Graduation this June.



Paisley – This quiet, lovable lady just finished her Level 3 evaluation

confidently and will be working towards mastering her Level 4 skills.



Quentin – Recently Quentin was “picked up” by the Washington

State Patrol. It is no surprise that he qualified for a new career in police work! He is perfectly suited for the job and will either end up with a Patrol near the Canadian border or with a Patrol in California. Good Luck Quentin!

New Dogs in the Program



Rama – This shepherd mix came to us from the Kitsap Humane Society

in December. He is about a year old and very intelligent. It only took him 2 weeks to pass his Level 1 skills. Just as his breeding indicates he is a high energy boy who loves to play and learn.



Truman – Truman is a very noble looking, year old, Golden Retriever. He

came to us early this January from a local family who know that he was meant for more than they could offer him. Since being here he has passed his Level 1 skills and is showing great promise towards being a Service Dog in the future.

Georgia Dogs

These four girls came to us, at the tail end of January, from the Rain City Rescue. They transported these ladies all the way here from Georgia. They just got here and are working hard to pass their first evaluation.



Sula – Beautiful Sula is a Shepherd mix with tons of energy. We are

still getting to know Sula, but she is very smart. All of her energy gets in the way sometimes.



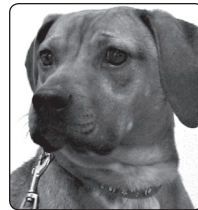
Ulea – Ulea (you-lee-a) is a small beagle mix who likes to follow her

nose. She is very smart but is quite the wiggle worm. It takes a lot of patience to get what you need out of her, but she’s a dog worth waiting for.



Victory – This Hound/Lab mix is a very shy girl. She is the largest of the ladies at

just under 45lbs. She is currently working on her confidence with Level 1 skills and progressing nicely.



Wren – She is a Hound mix that looks a little like a Rhodesian Ridgeback. She,

just like the rest, is working on Level 1 skills and learning to build some confidence. She loves to lean on you and get belly rubs.

Paroled Pets looking for Loving homes



Pike is still here looking for a home. He’s a 6 year old German Shorthaired Pointer/Great Dane cross. He is a big guy at 90 pounds, but just like most big dogs, has a sweet and gentle personality to match his size. He paces himself after who he’s with, if you want to relax, so does he. If you want to go for a hike, he’s more than happy to join. Pike had been in a home but was returned after the family’s situation changed.



Hampton is an almost 2 year old shepherd mix. He’s a larger dog, but quite the lover when you get to know him. His shepherd side comes out most with new people. He will bark very intimidatingly when he’s uncomfortable.

When he gets comfortable with someone he’s very responsive to training and will impress you with his skills. He learns even complex behaviors easily and will flourish under an experienced dog owner.



Thank you!

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