



# Paw Print Press

A Prison Pet Partnership Program Publication

WINTER 2010

SAVE  
THE  
DATE!

VOL.9 NO.1

## Founder Sister Pauline visits the Pet Partnership



Sister Pauline Quinn

This Fall, The Prison Pet Partnership Program welcomed founding member Sister Pauline Quinn to our facility. She was accompanied by her service dog, a beautiful Doberman Pinscher, and her Hearing Dog, a spunky little Papillion. Since helping to start PPPP at the Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW) in 1981, Sister Pauline has traveled worldwide to promote the concept of training dogs in a prison setting. She was still recovering from a bit of jet lag after a visit to Chile, where she had been discussing the options of starting a program.

Sister Pauline sat quietly in our training center surrounded by the staff, offenders and some program volunteers while a few offenders

shared their PPPP experiences. There was not a dry eye in the room. They spoke of gained skills, not only in the pet care field but also in their daily interactions with each other, or with their friends and family on the outside. They thanked Sister Pauline for her efforts, for without them these women would not be able to experience the joy they feel when their dogs wake them up with a kiss, or the pride they feel when they see their dogs leaving with a new service dog partner.

Joining Sister Pauline were Celeste Walsen and Ellen O'Neill-Stephens, representatives from Courthouse Dogs. Courthouse Dogs is a program whose dogs live with members of the court system – typically counselors and advocates – who come to work every day in the Seattle courts as special advocates for children and young adults. The dogs offer a calming, non-judgmental atmosphere for kids who have witnessed violence or been victims of physical and sexual abuse. Telling a cuddly, happy, furry face a scary secret is easier than trying to look an adult you do not know in the face to tell them that same secret. The concept seems like an easy one to develop, but this Courthouse Dog program is relatively new, and

the Seattle court system, and the community, is happy to welcome it.

Also joining us that day were representatives from the newly implanted dog programs at Stafford Creek Corrections Center, who are in the early stages of adopting dogs from shelters to train and adopt out to loving families. We were also happy to welcome administrative members of WCCW including Superintendent Doug Cole and Associate Superintendent of Programs Tamara Rowden. PPPP would struggle without the strong support of our partners within the Department of Corrections, and for that, we thank them.



The Prison Pet Partnership thanks Sister Pauline, and Ellen and Celeste of Courthouse Dogs for joining us that day. It was a great experience for all involved and we cannot say enough about the effort put forth by these women to better the lives of thousands of men, women, children and dogs all over the world.



Participants enjoyed getting to know the woman responsible for their rewarding rehabilitation program.

## A holly jolly holiday party!

For one of our last volunteer training classes of the year, PPPP staff and volunteers got together for a potluck holiday party. Bringing in gifts for the dogs in training, the volunteers also came ready with holiday sweaters and delicious food. They even humored staff long enough to play not one, but two holiday games! After a raucous game of Holiday Jeopardy, with subjects like "Hanukkah" and "Christmas Movie Trivia," each member of the winning team went home with a well deserved, and often sought after prize – the privilege to name one of our next service-dogs-in-training!



Fun and food at our holiday party....Shown above, PPPP Volunteers Helena Ray, Jackie Davies, Susanne Whalen, and Bev Simpson.

## In the community

Our Volunteers and dogs had a busy end to the summer. In July, they attended Dog-A-Thon. This fundraising dog walk benefits the Humane Society of Tacoma and Pierce County where many of our service dogs and dogs in training come from.

In August, PPPP had an information booth at Woofstock, an adoption fair at the University of Puget Sound, hosted by the Dugan Foundation. Many of our dogs and volunteers were there to socialize and promote PPPP.

On September 26th, our program dogs were out in force, sporting the names of the program's generous sponsors, at the Harbor Hounds dog walk. This highly anticipated annual event is hosted by the Gig Harbor Midday Rotary and benefits several area animal welfare organizations, including the PPPP.

This year, we were once again honored to host a booth at the annual Puyallup Fair. Our service dogs in training spent an exciting weekend socializing with the public and the various creatures and critters at the fair. Our dogs were also invited to perform several demonstrations, showing off their service dog skills for fair goers visiting the dog barn.



Newly placed therapy dog Thai makes a friend at the fair!



Mission Statement

**The Prison Pet Partnership Program rescues and trains homeless animals to provide service dogs for people with disabilities, and operates a boarding and grooming facility that provides vocational education to women inmates.**

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A note from the director

*This past year PPPP saw a flurry of media attention. In March, the Gig Harbor Midday Rotary visited the facility to see their generous contributions in action. Following a luncheon and presentation, Rotarians trekked to the kennel facilities to watch the offenders put some of our dogs through their training paces. PPPP was featured on King 5 and Komo 4 news that evening. Komo AM 1000 broadcasted snippets from the visit throughout the following days. Gig Harbor Life and the Gateway also provided coverage in their publications.*

*In April, PPPP was once again spotlighted on Komo 4 news in a consumer story about the top rated kennels in the Puget Sound area. According to Consumer's CHECKBOOK magazine, PPPP was rated one of the top three kennels for quality and price. This was a great pat on the back for all our staff's hard work and dedication to their craft.*

*In August, the media attention came out of a potentially disastrous situation when one of our dogs-in-training, Indy darted away while on an outing in downtown Gig Harbor. Indy was safely apprehended after several days of surveillance and strategic food placement. Thanks to dedication from the community by phoning in sightings and Keith Eldridge from KOMO 4 News, this was one missing dog that had a happy ending.*

*This fall, Beanfield Productions came to the prison with a film crew to feature our program on a Japanese television show. The show's celebrity host, Tatsuya Yamaguchi came with the crew for filming in November. Yamaguchi is a pop star in Japan and was featured in the States as a voiceover in Kung Fu Panda.*

*At the end of the year, we were notified that the book, "To the Rescue" is now in print. The book features dogs who were rescued and went on to provide much needed companionship or assistance to humans. The author, Elise Lufkin came to visit the program with photographer, Diana Walker about 18 months prior. Four PPPP offenders and dogs were featured in this delightful book.*

*In November, photographers from Dog Fancy magazine came to take action shots of dogs and offenders at work. Watch your news stands in March for the edition featuring prison dogs in training.*

*We had a very busy 2009 and so appreciated all of the attention from local and international media. Without the dedication of our staff, volunteers, donors and the community, we would not have success stories to share with others. Thanks to all of you for sharing in our success!*



Our intrepid Indy



*Beth Rivard*

◀ **Quinn is a special dog to PPPP.** After his job reassignment from service-dog-in-training to paroled pet, it took us a little while to find him a great home. Quinn's new parents treat him like the King he thinks he is, and we couldn't be happier for him! They even take him on family vacations – most recently to Mexico!!

Boarding and grooming

by Rachel Keeler – Voc Ed Program Manager

As I sit here looking back on the year I can't help but remember all of the great things we have accomplished at PPPP. Our boarding and grooming facility continues to be a success thanks to our wonderful supporters who come back year after year. I continue to be amazed by the effort put forth by our offender employees and their determination to learn more about the pet care industry.

Several of our ladies just completed the Pet Care Services Association Pet Care Technician Level 2 course. All 5 are now considered Advanced Pet Care Technicians. The Level 2 course covers a wide range of information including customer relations, human resources, animal stress, anatomy, managing sick and injured pets, as

well as boarding geriatric pets. Their commitment to learning all they can about caring for animals is exciting and comforting to our clients. Your animals are in good hands while staying with PPPP!

I would also like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to some of our boarding and grooming clients we have lost this year. It is with love we say goodbye to Maggie A, Holly S, Pixie W, Jake C, Maggie F, Joey B, Louie Mac, Rosie T, Lilly C, Quincey J, Murphy K, Simon L, and Ebby P. We hope the New Year brings new memories to you and your furry friends!

**PPPP would like to thank our volunteers for all of their hard work and dedication to the program and wishes them all a happy and healthy new year!**

Prison Pet Partnership Program

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PrisonPetPartnership.org

Pet Care Services  
A s s o c i a t i o n



Our new recruits

Introducing our new batch of service-dogs-in-training! We are always on the lookout for dogs who fit the profile. With a little proper training, these guys have a promising future in serving the community.



Xtra Meet Xtra, our new one

year old lab/shepherd mix! A caring gentleman found this nice young dog abandoned on the side of the road with a bowl and a bag of food. He was going to take him to a shelter but called us first to evaluate him. Since he was not selected the way most of our other dogs are, he was our “extra” dog!



Lincoln This three year old

Lab spent a few months fostering at PPPP service dog recipient, friend and volunteer Don Alfera’s house before making his way into the institution. Lincoln’s previous owners were forced to relinquish him due to vet bills. A big thanks to Don and Karol for all of their time and hard work that went into this lovable lab!!



Vito Vito came to us through a

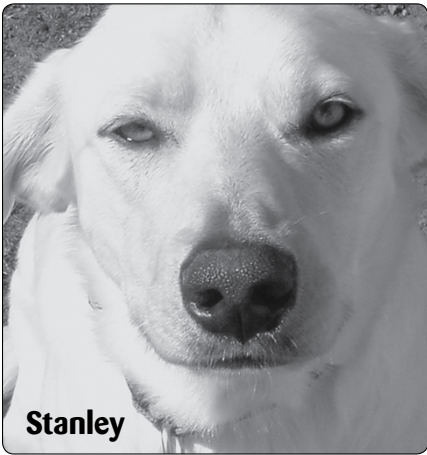
foster family for the Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue this fall. Almost two years old, Vito is a shy guy, who is just starting to come out of his shell.

2009 winter placements by Grace Van Dyke – Service Dog Program Manager

Through a combination of the long hours of hard work by our trainers and volunteers, we celebrated three successful placements during this past year. We are all immensely proud of everyone who helped get these dogs on their way to a successful career.



Thai In December 2008, a large black lab mix came to us from the Pierce County Humane Society. This energetic and dynamic dog was named Thai. He was the first service-dog-in-training assigned to new program trainer Karen. After equipping him with a strong foundation in basic skills, Thai was assigned to Teresa for his advanced training. Volunteers Linda Price and Susanne Whalen along with other volunteers, helped socialize this charismatic young pup. Early this December, Thai was partnered with Jon, a Mental Health Specialist with



the U.S. Army. Thai will become an official military dog with the Army’s Human-Animal-Bond Program. His new duties will include visiting soldiers in local Military Hospitals, and he will also be deployed overseas with Jon to provide stress relief and increase morale on bases.

Stanley During a group trip to the shelter, volunteers Bev Simpson, Jackie Davies and I evaluated and rescued Stanley, a young yellow lab. While he seemed to be a little too much of the class clown for the more serious service dog work,



Stanley quickly showed us that love and affection were his specialties. Stanley proved to be an incredibly popular service dog in training and was socialized by over twelve different volunteers during his year with us. Trainers Rachel, Heather and Teresa all helped Stanley realize his dreams of being a Social Therapy Dog. Back in August, Stanley was placed with Billie Grande. Along with Billie, Stanley visits the residents of Highline Hospice and Wesley Homes Hospice.

Ellen Early in December of 2007, while evaluating dogs at Kitsap Humane Society, I came across a small tan and white, freckled-faced puppy. At four months old, she was younger than most dogs we bring into the program but with those mischievous ears and far-too-short legs, she proved irresistible. Trainer Teresa took in the troublesome toddler and, with the help of volunteers Linda Price, Donna Hixon, Roger Rue, Carol Brownrigg and Margret Grossman, helped her grow into a promising young service dog. This past May, Ellen was partnered with Steve Nourse – a match which quickly proved to be perfect. Though she still, very much, has her own personality, she and Steve make an excellent team.

Adopt a PPPP pet!



Hello! My name is Freya and I’ve been in the program since March. I had high hopes to be a service dog (I’m a very smart girl and I learn quickly). I’m a fast learner but new people make me nervous and sometimes it takes me a little while to trust. Once I learn to trust you, we will be fantastic friends for life! Until then, I may bark and growl and even snap a little, but I have never actually bitten anyone. I do great with other dogs and would prefer to be around older children who can be patient as I get to know them. I would love to start off the new year with a loving new home.

I’m Pike and, as I’m sure you can tell from my picture, I’m quite a character. I came to PPPP to be a service dog but, due to my playfulness and preoccupation with birds, being someone’s pet seems like a better career choice. I am a big and energetic fellow and (if I can toot my own horn for a moment) I’m quite the athlete. I can clear four-foot fences with ease and I’ve been known to climb six-feet! I’d prefer a home with lots of room to run or a yard with a very tall, solid fence (6’- 8’). My nose is quite impressive as well – I can quickly find every mole in your backyard! So, if you’re looking for a handsome hiking pal or even the flashiest hunting partner in the Cascades, come check me out!



I’m CeeCee! a 4 year old brown tabby female cat searching for my forever home. I enjoy lounging around, sleeping or playing with feather toys. Dogs are okay as long as they give me my space, but frankly I prefer not to have other cats in the house. I would enjoy a quiet environment with a family I can spend time with. I like to be the queen of the castle! I am spayed, house broken, and up to date on vaccinations. If you feel you can give me the perfect home, please contact PPPP. Thank you!!!

Wishlist

For kennels and grooming:

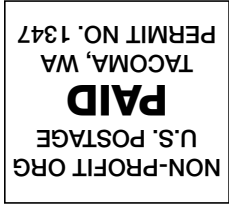
- Pedigree Large Breed Dog food
- gallon containers of bleach
- dish soap
- masking tape

For Service Dog Program:

- lams large breed dog food
- empty square bottles (like Odwalla)
- Powerpoint projector
- dog treats
- treat pouches
- dry erase markers
- lightly used manual wheelchairs

thank you!





## Thank you to our Donors!! Without you, we wouldn't be possible.

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The Groomers  
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Katherine the Corgi  
James Rohrscheib

Lincoln & Duke  
Timothy Sholtis

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Otis  
Wayne & Georgia Thronson

All homeless pets  
William & Ann Weinschenk

The many years I served  
on the prison advisory board  
Gretchen Wilbert

A special mention in  
memory of some very  
close friends of PPPP:  
**Kimmie, Shilo & Gentry**

Gifts and in-kind donations received June 18, 2009 – January 6, 2010.  
If your name is misspelled or omitted, or you wish  
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