



Paw Print Press

A Prison Pet Partnership Publication

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PPP Groomers Certify with IPG! by Rachel Keeler

In October of 2013 Prison Pet Partnership was fortunate to host a grooming certification in collaboration with the International Professional Groomers Inc.

Our 5 offender groomers and Grooming Instructor Ruth Bloch tested in both the Salon Details certification as well as the Non-Sporting Breed practical. The Salon Details test ensures the women have the needed skills to brush and wash a dog properly, how to safely clip toenails and which drying techniques to use in order to get that finished look! Included in this test was both a written and a practical.

Next, the women moved on to the practical exam for the Non-Sporting Group. Each of

the groomers completed their practical exam on the Standard Poodle! I am very proud to report that all of the women passed both of the practical exams as well as the written portion for

"I hope the ladies were happy with the whole testing process. They all did a great job. I would recommend any and all of them for employment as a groomer."

Salon Details. Denise McDonald, founder and owner of Masers Grooming Academy in Kenmore,

WA represented IPG as our test administrator. Denise was patient and kind to all of our students giving them positive feedback and constructive criticism during the grading process! In an email soon after the testing day Denise expressed the following sentiment. "I hope the ladies were happy with the whole testing process. They all did a great job. I would recommend any and all of them for employment as a groomer."

I am very proud of all involved to have reached such an amazing accomplishment!



Nichole trimming Jemma's feet.

A month after certification 1 offender groomer, Nichole, was released from prison. Before leaving the PPP organization Nichole applied for a continuing education scholarship. The Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve her scholarship and Nichole was off to grooming school! She is currently attending Masers Grooming Academy with Denise McDonald where she is learning how to refine her grooming skills that she learned at PPP. Upon completion of her schooling Nichole will be seeking full time employment in the Seattle area! We look forward to watching her blossom into the strong and independent woman we know she is! Good luck Nichole!

PPP groomers proud of their success!



Volunteer Spotlight by Mollyrose Sommer

Susanne has been volunteering with PPP since 2006. She started volunteering after her dog passed away and she was missing some dog time, but wasn't quite ready to bring a new, permanent resident into her home. She often brings our dogs-in-training to the local Boys & Girls Club to help lend

an unconditional furry ear to the children during reading time. For Susanne, "working with the dogs at the Boys and Girls Club helping children with their reading combines my two favorite passions, reading with children and working with the dogs!"

Though Susanne works with our dogs regularly, she admits that her focus has changed a bit. "After working with the program for 8 years I realize my goals for working

with the program have broadened. I still love the challenge of working with the dogs and to see them have a second chance, but I have found it to be even more rewarding to see young women turn their lives around with the help of Prison Pet Partnership. To be a part of this is wonderful."

One quality that we have always admired in Susanne is that she comes in with no agenda – whether it is working with a difficult dog in the training center, or just making sure a newer dog-in-training gets some time to put his basic skills to test on the outside, Susanne is always willing to do what the trainer asks of her. Thank you Susanne for all you do for PPP!



Volunteer Susanne Whalen and Service Dog-in-Training, Gatsby.

WishList

- cat litter
- canned and dry cat food
- bleach
- fabric for scarves
- Kongs
- dog treats
- gift cards to pet or office supply stores
- washer and dryer

thank you!

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

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A note from the director

The end of 2013 brought some challenges to PPP so we are looking forward to a busy yet productive new year. In October, the prison informed us that due to the prison's overcrowding, they may be using half of the building space we occupy for an offender housing unit. In typical fashion, PPP staff took the news in stride by consolidating offices and shuffling workspace to accommodate classes and training activities. As of this writing, the "other" half of the building remains unoccupied. Whether we are able to move back in or need to lease some sort of portable, multiuse space to accommodate additional growth remains to be seen.

At the end of November, we were informed by the United Way of Pierce County that our Vocational Education Program will no longer receive funding. The United Way decided last summer that they want to shift their focus to assist families with young children. While our VocEd program falls within their guidelines of strengthening families...especially by empowering women to become economically self-sufficient heads of household... the number of programs seeking funding combined with a reduction in campaign dollars knocked our program (along with several others in Pierce County) out of the running for the limited dollars available. Down, but not out, staff and board are gearing up for a big year in fundraising to sustain all of the good work we do for the animals, inmates and the community. We appreciate all of you for being so supportive of our program and encouraging us in our work.

***A special note:** Thank you, John Davies for 3 years of service on the board of directors and a huge thank you to Kay Hayes for her 5 years of leadership as board president and 6 years of board service! We appreciate all that you both have done for PPP!*

Beth Rivard



ADOPT A PPP PET ☺

Schmelia came to PPP after the family dog decided she was no longer welcome in their home and was banished to the basement. It has taken several months for Schmelia to trust humans again however she still has that diva attitude. She doesn't like to be held but loves affection when its on her terms. She is a comical cat who is looking for a person

who understands her aloof personality. Schmelia tolerates dogs but cats are a big no no for her. She is also too temperamental for children unless they are older (13+). Schmelia is a vocal cat who will tell you when something just isn't right...like her food which she loves so much! She can stand to lose a few pounds too :) Schmelia is a long hair tabby who is spayed, current on all shots and is litter box trained. If you think you would like to meet Schmelia please email Rachel@rmkeeler@doc1.wa.gov and I will email you the Cat Adoption Application to get the process started.

All **Zuma** wants for 2014 is a home! This girl can be a big clown, whipping her way around the yard and rubbing her head all over her person with excitement. She has come a long way – she is wary of new people and can bark reactively when unsure of herself. We would recommend a quiet home without kids and a dog savvy owner for this wonderful girl! She has a bunch of dog friends here at PPP and lived with a cat. With proper introductions and respectful pets, Zuma would like to have a buddy at home to lean on. Call us today if you're interested in our Zuma girl!



2014 Bark and Bid

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

May 10
Saturday 5 – 9PM

at the Tacoma Convention Center

auctions
dinner
cash bar
fun!!



EARLY REGISTRATION CARD

TICKETS \$45 individual or \$450 per table for registration before February 28, 2014. After this date, tickets are \$50 (tables \$500)

- ☐ I would like _____ individual reservations at \$45 each: \$ _____
- ☐ I would like _____ table reservations at \$450 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 _____

I would like a reservation confirmation: ☐ YES ☐ NO

Please make checks payable to "Prison Pet Partnership" or "PPP."

Mail reservation form, list of additional guests and check in the enclosed envelope to:
PPP – Bark and Bid 9601 Bujacich Road NW Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Early bird reservations must be postmarked no later than February 28th. Reservations postmarked after February 28th are \$50 per person or \$500 for a table of 10. 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 barkandbid@yahoo.com or call 253-858-4240.

Act fast! Space is limited!

Sister Pauline's New Service Dog Finishes Training at PPP

by Teresa

Each dog is unique and that word describes Pax. Pax was brought to our program on August 27, 2013 by our founder Sister Pauline Quinn. She was in need of a new service dog because earlier this year she retired her previous service dog, Reni. Pax lived in a men's prison and got his first training there. Sister Pauline met Pax and was told he wouldn't make it as a service dog. She fell in love with him and recognized his special gifts. She brought him to us for one on one training and with a list of what Pax needed to learn ... retrieve –

counter and dead, roll , bracing for balance, lights, tug for doors and tug for helping Sister Pauline lift to an upright position and leash handoffs. Pax was resistant to many things. He had poor impulse control and was very mouthy. He also had countless natural abilities. As I identified his issues, we worked with counteracting this instinctive "mouthy" behavior. Behavior is not in the genes but traits are. For Golden Retrievers, it feels good to have things in their mouths and when stimulated they use their mouths. He had to learn to

put the right things in his mouth (not hands, arms or clothes).

Pax worked hard on impulse control and settle. As Pax learned responsibility, he gave me 100% every day.

Teresa training Pax.



Sister Pauline, Teresa and Pax

It was as important to teach Pax a way of being right as it is was to correct his unwanted behavior. When mastering something difficult, dogs like people always learn more from our success than we do from our mistakes. And we are most likely to repeat our success. Pax taught me that when we want to change a behavior it's

so important to balance our goals and expectations because any movement forward is success. I wonder who is really training who?

Thanks Pax, I'm glad you turned out to be a service dog that Sister Pauline needed.

Our dogs love to sleep on a KURANDA Dog beds, but we don't have enough for everyone. If you would like to donate a bed at a special wholesale price for another dog to sleep in comfort, please visit the Donate page on our website and click the Kuranda link.



Thank you Donors!!

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continued.....

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Prison Pet Partnership

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the wonderful PPP staff!
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Those who work to save both
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