

# Paw Print Press

A Prison Pet Partnership Program Publication

WINTER 2011

VOL.10 NO.1

## PPP gets official ADI accreditation! by Grace Van Dyke

Prison Pet Partnership is, without a doubt, unique. Visitors to our program often comment that PPPP is a win-win-win situation. From the offender trainers who take unruly shelter dogs and transform them into well-mannered service, therapy or pet dogs, to the clients who receive the dogs, to the volunteers who donate countless hours of their time to help our program and our dogs achieve their full potential, we are all immensely proud of our program and its accomplishments.



Therefore, we are always quite pleased when our program is recognized for its achievements within the service dog industry.

This past summer, PPP was recognized in such a way.

After many years of hard work from volunteers, trainers, clients and staff, Prison Pet Partnership has achieved full professional accreditation with Assistance Dogs International. In the words of Peter Goring, President of ADI, this achievement "is indicative of [our] organization's strong commitment to upholding the highest professional standards of excellence within the Assistance Dog Industry." While PPP has been recognized as a member organization for many years, being granted full accreditation has been the impressive goal we've been striving for over the past several years.

The Assistance Dogs International is a member organization that advocates for the rights of assistance dog users as well as educates the public as to assistance dog access laws. In addition, they establish standards and guidelines for

assistance dog training programs in the areas of ethical and effective training, client relations and business practices. These minimum standards are established to help ensure the integrity of the service dog field as a professional industry.

At the end of June, Robin Dixon, an accreditation auditor with ADI and the executive director of Dogs for the Deaf in Oregon, spent several days with us. Being the first program of its kind, Ms. Dixon was eager to visit our program and learn about how we make what we do work. During that time, she evaluated all the different business aspects of our program from our record keeping to our kennel facilities and our training practices and classes.

There was no shortage of positive feedback after the accreditation. Ms. Dixon and the accreditation committee were impressed with the dedication of everyone. In fact, some of the biggest compliments were

directed toward the dedication, commitment and knowledge of our volunteers. This achievement was a huge group effort and we at PPP appreciate all of you for the part you played in helping us get there!



## Wishlist

### For kennels & grooming:

- Pedigree Large Breed Dog food
- gallon containers of bleach
- fabric for scarves

### For Service Dog Program:

- Purina Pro Plan Chicken and Rice
- Kongs
- dog treats
- lightly used manual wheelchairs

thank you!

## Wrapping up the year with treats and toys by Mollyrose Sommer

Prison Pet Partnership had another wonderfully fun holiday party this December. We appreciate our volunteers' willingness to play a few holiday themed games and share their delicious family recipes with us. Being able to celebrate the year together is only a small way for us to give thanks for all of the walking in the rain, driving far distances, and endless doggy shenanigans.

### Our dear volunteers -

**We appreciate your time and your unending dedication to our program, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!**

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

Happy 2011 to you and yours! As we start a new year, I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on some of our accomplishments from 2010.

Last year we had 41 dogs in training at various times throughout the year. Of these, 3 were placed as therapy dogs, 3 were placed as service dogs, 19 were adopted to permanent homes and 16 remain in training.

In 2010, we had 15 offender employees working in our boarding and grooming areas; 12 of these women were also dog trainers. Five of our offender employees past their Pet Care Technician level II class and an additional 27 offenders took the Pet Care Technician Level 1 class: 11 at Washington Corrections Center for Women and 12 at Mission Creek.

Our biggest accomplishment was the Assistance Dogs International accreditation (see cover story). Kudos to all of the staff and volunteers who helped us meet this goal.



Sage

On a sad note, in 2010 we lost a couple four-legged pals of past and present staff. Many of you may recall our regular Sage Advice newsletter column that was “written” by Sage McGehee. Sage, a boxer mix, came to PPP in 1998 from the Animal Emergency Clinic in Tacoma where she was a blood donor. Some of Sage’s endearing qualities were her ability to outwit beginning trainers and forage for treats in our training center. Sage was “paroled” from the program and lived, until her passing in July, with our former Training Coordinator, Susie McGehee.

And Murphy, our delightful 8 year-old Golden friend lost his battle with cancer in November. Murphy was Rachel Keeler’s dog whom she took into her home a little over a year and a half ago. Murphy was a true cuddle bug who enjoyed walks with his canine and human friends, playing ball, visits from the offenders from the prison’s Treatment and Evaluation Center, and soliciting snuggles from anyone nearby.

We will miss our special friends who provided us with hours of laughter and companionship.

Beth Rivard



Murphy

NEW BOARDING PRICES

Price increase will be in effect starting January 15th 2011. Price increase applies for ALL appointments already set.

\$17/night for first dog

\$15/night for every additional

\$10/night for cats

Boarding and grooming by Rachel Keeler

Happy New Year to all from PPPP! We are excited to start a new year and look forward to seeing all of your furry friends throughout the year! We would like to remind you that the kennel environment can be a stressful place for animals. There are new sights, smells and sounds to get used to. When your pets return home don’t be surprised if they seem sleepy for several days. They had such a great time – they were too

busy to sleep! We encourage all of our clients to view our kennels and meet our kennel staff. This can be done on our monthly tours of the facility.

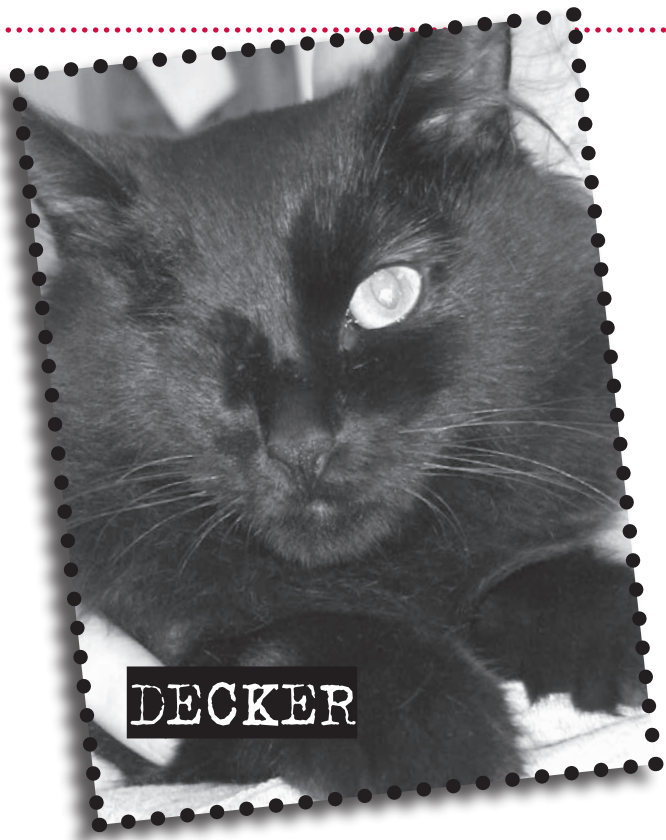
Our tour dates will be on the following Wednesdays: January 13th, February 10th, March 10th and April 14th!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Pet Care Services Association

Prison Pet Partnership Program  
9601 Bujacich Road NW  
Gig Harbor, WA 98332  
PH 253-858-4240  
FX 253-858-4674  
PrisonPetPartnership.org





## Looking for Love?

Meet Decker! Decker was found living in a feral cat colony with an eye problem. Ultimately he had to have his eye removed but it does not seem to bother him! Too sweet to return to the colony, Decker was brought to PPPP for socialization. He is an extremely affectionate cat who enjoys his catnip toys and sleeping with his person.

Decker loves dogs and will tolerate other cats just fine! He would like to have a quiet home with no children as he is a shy cat who will need some time to adjust to his new environment. Once bonded to his owner, Decker enjoys cuddling and to be held. He even wraps his paws around you like a hug! If you think Decker would complete your home please call the Prison Pet Partnership Program!

# CHECK OUT THE ADOPTABLE DOGS & CATS ON OUR WEB SITE!

## PrisonPetPartnership.org

## Welcome our new recruits!



### Mia

Meet Mia, one of PPP's superstars! PPP volunteer

Bev found this dog listed on Craigslist and after putting Mia through our behavior assessment brought her to begin her training. Mia's trainers have put in many hours and lots of effort with this gorgeous gal and their hard work has paid off – Mia has true potential for service work and is a shining example of the training that we do. PPP is excited for Mia's future and looks forward to watching her continue to excel.



### Quinlan

After a Craigslist search connected PPP and my

previous owner, I ended up traveling to Gig Harbor to start my life as a service-dog-in-training. I doubt you have met such a young dog that moves as slowly as I do. It takes a lot to get me moving faster than a mosey, which, lucky for me, is a great quality in a potential service dog. I can be shy around new people but so far, I am loving my training!



### Seymore

I came from the Kitsap Humane Society and I am

your typical happy go lucky Golden Retriever. I am starting to learn my obedience work with style. I get so distracted by my environment it takes a little while to understand what I'm being taught sometimes. Eventually, I figure most things out and enjoy myself along the way!

**The Prison Pet Partnership would like to extend a special thank you to a few special fundraisers and donors from this past year:**

- Gig Harbor Midday Rotary & Harbor Hounds
- Delhi 2 Dublin
- Dogtalk Radio

**And for their always helpful in-kind donations:**

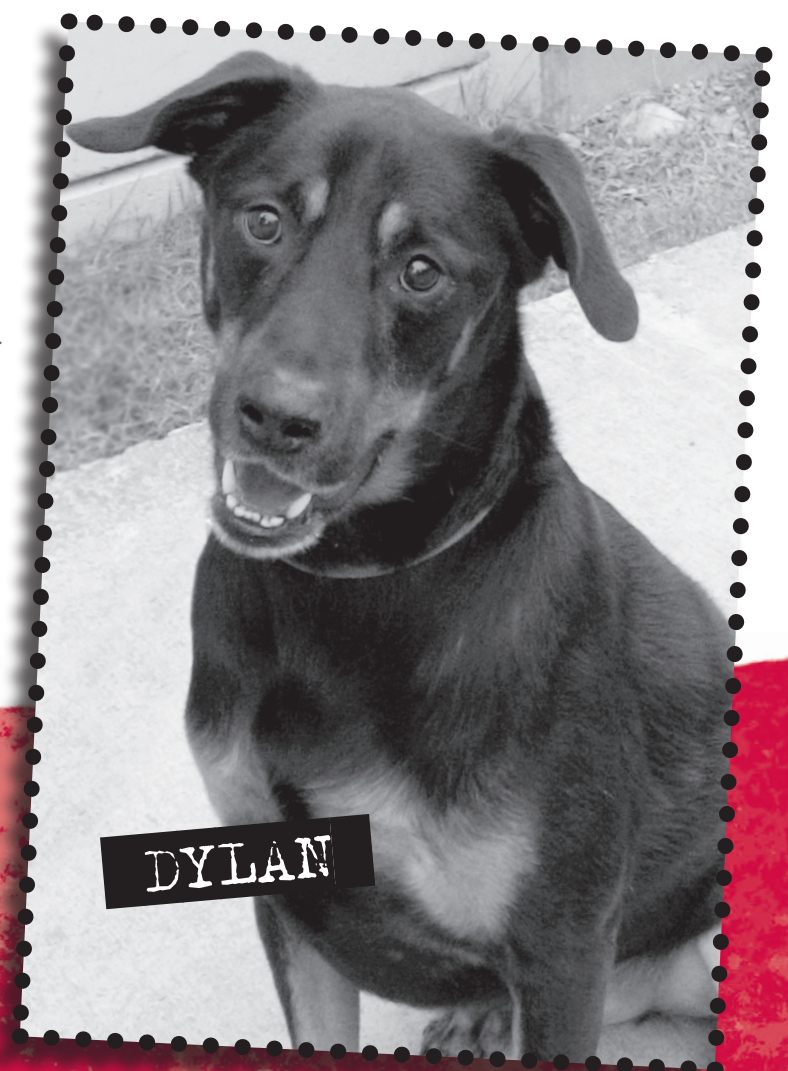
- Lori Lindsey
- Judy Smith
- Benita Smith
- MudBay
- WetNoses

## Paroled pet in the spotlight

**Dylan** This adorable Rottwieler mix has come back to the Prison Pet Partnership and is looking for his forever home! After Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005, the Prison Pet Partnership helped ease the stress of homeless animals by adopting two dogs from Louisiana. One of them was Dylan. After a scary brush with heartworm, Dylan was finally well enough to find a great home. He has spent the last several years with a family, being a happy well-loved pet. Unfortunately, Dylan's family suffered a loss this year and for Dylan's best interest, he returned to PPP.

Dylan would like a home without dogs or cats, as he prefers the company of humans only. A very loving and happy older gentleman at 7 years, Dylan has some discomfort in his back. This does not stop him from loving a good run in the field or cuddling up to his person. Will you be his retirement home?? If you are interested in meeting Dylan, please fill out our Paroled Pet application (found on our website) or call our office for more information!

Find out more about the rest of our adoptable dogs and cats online at [www.prisonpetpartnership.org](http://www.prisonpetpartnership.org)!



# PPP ON THE RADIO!

Tune in to:  
**[www.blogtalkradio.com](http://www.blogtalkradio.com)**  
search for:  
**Prison Pet Partnership**





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

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SAVE THE DATE!



# Bar k and Bid 2011

## May 21

### 4 - 7PM

at the Afifi Shrine in Tacoma

**\* We sold out last year! \***

Watch your mail and our website for registration information!

Gifts and in-kind donations received July 16 – December 15, 2010. If your name is misspelled or omitted, or you wish to be acknowledged differently, please call 253-858-4240.

Thank you Donors!!

Australian Shepherd Club of WA  
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Wiggles, Buffy Jean & Chloe  
Betty Jean Gustafson  
All my 10 feline  
and 5 canine friends  
Ellen Heitmann  
Nelly  
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Debbie Kusaka  
Max, Toshi & Sam  
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Warren Nevins  
David and Lifu I & II  
Charles & Carolyn Nicodemus  
Samuel Peyer  
Lisa S Peyer  
My beloved Max  
Rise M. Powers  
Tara  
Ted & Diana Sanford  
Jake & Joey  
Curt & Patty Schenk  
Louie  
Robert & Judie Shirley  
Little One & Muffy  
William & Ann Weinschenk  
Taylor  
Robert & Christina Yager  
The matchless Match  
Lorraine & Tom Young and Fami!



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John & Patricia Jerkovich  
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Dee Malloy  
Shadow, Greta & Lili  
Mary Monk  
Tiesa Gaston  
Larrie Noble  
Joyce & Phillip Blake  
Jessica Osborne  
Freya  
Robert & Christina Yager

IN HONOR OF . . .