

ADAI Volunteer Newsletter

April 22, 2011

New Grant

A HUGE thank you to the **Disabled American Veterans** who have generously donated **\$15,000** to ADAI! The funds are to be used to acquire, place, and train three dogs with veterans with disabilities.

National Assistance Dogs Week

ADAI would like to participate in the 2nd Annual National Assistance Dogs Week, August 7- 13. To do so, we need volunteers and clients to organize a community event that will increase awareness about the service dog industry. Two nine-year-olds, Noah and Olivia, suggested a "Bike-a-Thon" one evening during this week where people participate in their own neighborhoods riding their bikes for a determined number of miles.

Such as other events like the "Relay for Life" or Red Cross "Jump-a-Thon", we could collect pledges to ADAI and another charity of choice to celebrate National Assistance Dogs week. We would also need small flyers explaining how assistance dogs assist their owners. PLEASE - we know everyone is busy but there must be someone who would find this project a passion. We need to share our wonderful stories with the good people of Toledo and surrounding area! Contact Rhonda at rdekoninck@adai.org

Night Owls and Dogs?

Are you a night owl? Do you like wandering around meeting people and showing off your ADAI foster dog? As many of you know, Walgreens' Distribution Center chose ADAI as their charity for 2011. They will be raising funds that will come directly to us through many 2011 events.

In order for the employees to get to know us better, Walgreens would like volunteers and their foster dogs to visit the distribution center several times a month on both the day and night shifts (this is where the night owls come in). Margaret and Kali will be discussing these outing opportunities in training class but if you have a moment and want to go over to the building on 795 in Perrysburg, please contact Rhonda at rdekoninck@adai.org. She will call the distribution center manager to make arrangements for your visits.

Calendar of Events

May 7	Walgreens charity motorcycle ride
May 15	Oregon Festival, Oregon, 12 - 4
May 15	THS 'Bark in the Park', Maumee, 10 - 2
May 30	Memorial Day, office closed
June 5	Lake Erie British Car Club Show, Perrysburg ,11 - 3
June 14	School therapy dog workshop
July 4	Independence Day, office closed
July 11 - 15	Therapy dog team training
Aug. 1 - 12	Service dog team training
Aug. 7 - 14	National Assistance Dog Week
Aug. 11	Graduation
Aug. 17	Off-site staff meeting, office closed
Aug. 21	Maumee Summer Fair, 9 - 5
Sep. 5	Labor Day, office Closed
Sep. 10	Dealin' for Dogs
Sep. 18	Harrison Rally Days
Oct. 17 - 21	Therapy dog team training
Oct. 22	Bryan Eagle Reverse Raffle
Nov. 7 - 18	Service dog team training
Nov. 17	Graduation
Nov. 24 & 25	Thanksgiving, office closed
Dec. 12	Office closed for staff meeting
Dec. 25-Jan. 1	Christmas break, office closed

Foster Classes

Sat, May 14	9a.m. puppy 10:30 a.m. beginner/intermediate
Tues, May 17	6 p.m. puppy 7:30 p.m. beginner/intermediate
Sat, June 11	9a.m. puppy 10:30 a.m. beginner/intermediate
Tues, June 21	6 p.m. puppy 7:30 p.m. beginner/intermediate
Sat, July 9	9:00 a.m puppy 10:30 a.m. beginner/intermediate
Tues, July 19	6:00 p.m. puppy 7:30 p.m. beginner/intermediate

Please contact Margaret at mkatona@adai.org if you are interested in attending this class

Furlough Classes

May 21	10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
June 18	10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Anyone interested in these classes should contact Vera at varnold@adai.org

Assistance Dogs of America

History:

- ADAI started in 1984, Sam Maxwell trained her dog for her husband who was a quadriplegic.
- We moved to the current facility in 1989, located on a little less than three acres.
- ADAI's mission helps individuals with disabilities achieve greater independence by training and placing service and therapy dogs to assist with the individual's daily needs.
- ADAI trains service and therapy dogs. We place service dogs, walking service dogs, special needs therapy dogs, facility therapy dogs, and school therapy dogs.

Clients

- We serve Ohio, Indiana and the lower peninsula of Michigan.
- Our clients display a variety of disabilities including Spina Bifida, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, Post-polio Syndrome, Muscular Dystrophy and congenital birth defects to name a few.
- To apply for a dog the client needs to first talk to our client services staff to find out if they potentially qualify for a dog. If they might, then an application packet is sent to them. Once the application packet is returned along with a \$50 application fee, the client comes to the facility for a taped interview. During the interview, the client services staff reviews their needs, application and watches them work with a dog.
- The client services and training staff review the information and video tape to determine if the client would qualify for a dog. If so, the waiting list is 18 to 24 months.
- Once we match up a dog with the client, the client comes to the facility for team training; one week for therapy dogs and two weeks for service dogs.
- After team training, the client and dog are on a 1-1/2 year probation period before ownership is transferred to the client.
- We contact the client yearly to follow up on the partnership.

Dogs

- We generally utilize Labradors, Golden Retrievers, Doodles or mixes of the two.
 - We use these breeds because they like to retrieve
 - Have marvelous personalities
 - Are loyal and friendly
 - The public is not nervous around these breeds
 - They are a great size to pull open a door, brace someone or pull a wheelchair
- These dogs come from animal shelters, humane societies, pounds, breeders and pet owners.
- We take dogs anywhere from 8 weeks old to two years. We like to place them at the age of two so they will hopefully have a long working life.

One of Twelve!

The ADAI School Therapy Dog Program is a **finalist for the Ohio Nonprofit Excellence Award!** We are one of only 18 organizations across the state selected as finalists. Organizations were divided by budget size and by region (Northern, Central, Southern). Three from each region in each budget category were selected, or six per region. One in each of the six categories will win. Winners will be announced at a luncheon at the State House on May 5. ADAI will be represented!

We are in the Northern District that includes counties from the eastern to western state lines (Cleveland is in our district). The Central District includes Columbus; the Southern District includes Cincinnati.

This is a wonderful opportunity and a deserved recognition for ADAI and its staff that raises our profile in front of many prominent Ohio legislators and business people. Be very proud of what we have accomplished! Great work!

- Jan Fought Brown

Training Items Needed

We need two small saucepans and two to three exercise platforms for helping with the dogs' 'take it's' and with training. THANKS!

Volunteer of the Month

April's volunteer of the month is RACHEL WEBER!

Dogs at Sea!

Paws With A Cause is proud to announce the 2012 Assistance Dog Cruise aboard Royal Caribbean Cruise Line! Join us on Freedom of the Seas as we promote independent travel with Assistance Dogs. Assistance dog users and non-users alike are invited to cruise the Caribbean and enjoy three separate ports of call in January 2012. For more information read the attached or visit www.wwcruisehq.com. Bon voyage!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Assistance-Dog-Cruise-2012/124009004342232?sk=wall>

Kroger

It is time to re-enroll in the [Kroger Community Rewards](#) program. Simply go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com to activate your Kroger card in order to donate to Assistance Dogs of America. It is an easy way for ADAI to make money and there is NO COST TO YOU! By registering your card and selecting ADAI, we get a percentage of your Kroger purchases.

Thank You

To Helen Guilford for chairing the team training lunches and to everyone who made food or a donation for those lunches: Lee Ann Lyon, Rhonda DeKoninck, Judy Eckel, Jim and Sharon Hightower, Helen Guilford, Marilynn VanDerVliet.

To Chris Boesel, Bob Monard, Gale Tedhams, Chris Emery, Edie Recker, Kimberlie England, Jan Fought Brown, Linda Meeks, Judy Eckel, Clyde and Nathalie Givens and Debby Kelly for attending the Town Hall meeting.

Volunteers who worked with the following graduating dogs:

Therapy Dogs:

Gracie and Bryan City Schools

Amy Boyer, primary handler
Fostered by Helen Guilford

Jada and Aidan Lynch

Jada was obtained from breeder Micki Gabriel
Trained at Toledo Correctional Institution
Furloughed by Matt and Tracee Wielinski
Fostered by Don and Laura Stull

Steve and Alex Sibley

Steve (named after Steve Hanson) was obtained from breeder Margee Detrow
Trained at Toledo Correctional Institution
Furloughed by Sherrie Heldman
Fostered by Ted and Judy Eckel, Tod and Diane Pickering

Service Dogs:

Iggy and Joseph Marchi

Iggy was obtained from breeder Micki Gabriel
Trained at Toledo Correctional Institution
Furloughed by Dave Kielmeier
Fostered by Sarah Miller and Denise Antoine

Lakota and Amira Akl

Lakota was obtained from breeder Patrick Cox
Trained at Northeast Pre-Release Center
Furloughed by Nancy Sharp and Joey Shirring
Fostered by Jan Jones and Robert Johnson

Lyla and Lois Crane

Lyla was obtained from breeder Patrick Cox
Trained at Northeast Pre-Release Center
Furloughed by Lori Proch
Fostered by Judy Conley, Colleen Donahue and Lee Vogelsong

Dogs returning for summer class are Victor, Sammy, Stryker, Hope, Ozzie, and Herman.

Walgreens Charity Ride and Poker Run Benefits ADA!



Saturday, May 7
Signature Harley Davidson
1176 Professional Dr.
Perrysburg

Volunteers are still needed for the following jobs:

- People are needed to help with the set up of food at 12:30
- Fosters/furloughs with dogs-in-training are needed from 9 - 10:30 a.m. at Signature Harley Davidson.
- Fosters/furloughs with dogs-in-training are needed at the Walgreens in Perrysburg at 1 - 2:30 p.m.

All workers are invited back to the Walgreen's Distribution Center for lunch.

If you are interested in participating in the event, please see the flyer and registration form below.



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