

Paw Prints



VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2

NOVEMBER, 2004

And the Winner Is . . .



We hope you like the name of our volunteer newsletter as much as the judges of the Name the Newsletter contest did. In a blind judging of all entries, "Paw Prints" was a unanimous favorite of the three judges. After making their selection, the judges were delighted to find the winning entry was submitted by long-time puppy petter, Frances Waska.

Frances has been a puppy petter at ADI since May 1999. She's only half of an involved Waska team at ADI. With her husband, Bob, beside her, they've brought love and tenderness to many litters since they've joined us. Both Frances and Bob have a special place in their hearts for Revere whom they watched progress from puppyhood to working assistance dog. It was a sad but proud moment when Frances and Bob sat in the audience as Revere graduated with his new partner, Joyce Trainer, in December 2002. The Waskas keep in touch with Joyce and continue to track Revere's progress, but that doesn't stop them from falling in love with new litters as they come along. Frances' current favorite in the "G" litter is Gomez.

Congratulations, Frances, on your winning contest entry. You can be proud to see the name you submitted on the masthead of this and future editions of our volunteer newsletter.

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Name the Newsletter contest winner, Frances Waska, cuddles with Gomez after learning of her winning entry.



We Did It!



Thanks to the efforts of faithful, hardworking volunteers, the first major fundraising event sponsored by the Purple Circle was a great success. The parking lot sale, held on October 2, was a good example of how a coordinated effort can make a difference in an organization. We also appreciated the generous support of a neighboring business, Storage Master, for donating storage space while we collected our treasures before the sale.

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Our Family Is Growing--Again

In the last issue of the newsletter we anticipated the arrival of our "G" litter. On August 20 Tay delivered four male and two female puppies. From the time they were two weeks old they've traveled to Sacramento on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays with High Schooled Assistance-A Dog Manager, Rick Yount, where they participate in a program with at-risk teens. Rick reports that some of the students feel their behavior has improved since they began working with the puppies. This has made their lives easier at school and home as teachers and parents respond to this improvement.

We hope our family will be growing even larger very soon. Ideal was bred recently, and if everything goes as planned, the "H" litter will be born at the end of November.

For those of you who are having puppy withdrawal symptoms because the "G" litter is gone part of the week, you'll be happy to hear the "H" litter will not be racking up "frequent rider" miles to Sacramento. They will be in Santa Rosa full time and available for petting Monday through Saturday.

Don't forget our puppy petting hours: Weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., except the first Saturday of the month when puppy petting hours are extended to 3:00 p.m.



A snooze is always more comforting when you share it with your brothers and sisters.

FAQ's

Q: What happens to dogs who "don't make it" at ADI?

A: We prefer to think of this as a "career change" rather than a failure to "make it." The success rate of ADI's breeding, training, and placement program is quite high. There are times, however, when a dog may not be suitable as a full service dog due to physical characteristics or temperament. In these cases, placement as a home helpmate or social/therapy dog may be possible. When none of these roles is suitable, a dog may be released to a loving home as a pet.

Q: How does a person get a release dog?

A. Because the need to release a dog occurs rather infrequently, ADI does not maintain a wait list. You may contact the staff periodically to see if a release dog is available at that time.



Upcoming Volunteer Needs



As we near the end of the year, we've identified a number of volunteer opportunities for people who want to have fun and help us at the same time. If you can lend a helping hand and an hour or more of your time, please call Cheryl Brighting at 545-3647 to let her know when you're available. We realize we're getting into the busy holiday season, so any help you can offer will be appreciated. Here's what we need:

- Cookies for graduation on December 18 (baked or bought)
- All or part of a lunch for college students and clients during the week of December 13-17
- Gift wrapping volunteers for ADI table in local bookstores
- "Tree Sitters" for ADI donation tree in local pet stores

The latter two opportunities are good examples of how ADI has developed relationships with Sonoma County businesses over the past several years, allowing us to benefit from cash donations, as well as pet products and gift certificates from customers who support our cause. If you're interested in exploring similar opportunities with businesses in your area to benefit ADI, please contact Jorjan Powers with your ideas. This would be an excellent way to be involved as an ADI volunteer even though you may not be physically located near us.



Lightbulb Moment?

Do you have a topic you'd like to see covered in a future issue of this newsletter? Submit your ideas to Margaret Bonkowski, Editor, via Cheryl Brighting at ADI, 1215 Sebastopol Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95407, (707) 545-3647, or cheryl@assistancedog.org.

Open House



When you plan to open your house to a large group of friends, what are some of the things you think of? Better get the house in order. What will I serve for refreshments? How will I entertain my guests? These are the same things ADI thought of when planning its second annual open house for September 22. Volunteers played a key role in assisting the staff with cleanup of the facility, providing refreshments, and staffing the exhibition hall and facility tour stations. Positive remarks from many visitors that day showed our efforts didn't go unnoticed. The teamwork among staff, college students, volunteers, and, of course, the dogs, was evident.



Want to Have a Pawty?

by Jorjan Powers



ADI has become involved with a company called Petlane that has dog, cat, bird and horse products which are sold in your home. Founded by the same person who started Discovery Toys for children, the concept is to have a group of friends come to your house to see an assortment of toys, treats, and many other items for your pets. Our arrangement with Petlane will allow 25% of the sales proceeds to come to the Assistance Dog Institute as a donation.

Now that holiday time is fast approaching, these items make great gifts. Your pets will thank you for a new toy. Or perhaps you know someone with a dog who will be having puppies soon--consider having a "dog shower" for them!

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Evening of Giving



Mark your calendar and purchase a ticket for the 4th annual Simon Evening of Giving at Santa Rosa Plaza on Sunday, November 21, from 7:00-10:00 p.m. This event is a great way to kick off the holiday season while helping raise funds for ADI. Ticket holders have an opportunity to begin their holiday shopping during this after-hours Plaza event. There's also entertainment, prizes, and special offers available at mall stores. Ticket holders are eligible to win over 20 prizes including a grand prize valued at \$1,000 or more. A ticket for this spectacular Evening of Giving costs only \$10. Eight dollars from each ticket will directly benefit ADI; the remainder will benefit the Simon Youth Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that fosters educational and career development for at-risk youth. If you'd like to buy a ticket, call Donna Siegel at (707) 545-3647. Happy shopping!



A Picture Is Worth A Thousand Words



Puppy Petter, Tyler Bear, can't resist the charms of Garrett.

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Just for the record, Al Johnson liked the sound of "Paw Prints," too. He submitted the same name in the contest. Sorry, Al. Frances beat you to the punch and got her entry in first.



We Did It!, Continued from Page 1

Our volunteers had an early wake-up call the day of the sale as we gathered before sunrise to start setting up. Eleven hours later we were packed up, cleaned up, and closing the parking lot gate, tired, but proud of our effort.

The result? A donation of \$658 to ADI. President/CEO, Bonnie Bergin, expressed her thanks to the volunteers for the parking lot sale proceeds. She said it was wonderful to hold the donation in her hands, and she very much appreciated the money and efforts of all those involved.

Thanks to all of our supporters who donated goods and shopped at the sale, too.



Want to Have a Pawty?, Continued from Page 3

This fun approach to fundraising allows people to get quality items for themselves while at the same time supporting ADI. If you would like to host a party, attend one, or order through a catalog or online, please call Jorjan Powers for more information at (707) 545-DOGS (3647).

