

The Brigadoon Barker

The Newsletter of Brigadoon Service Dogs - We change lives one partnership at a time by offering a helping paw!

Summer 2015



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Letter from Denise Costanten

Founder and Executive Director of Brigadoon Service Dogs

Greetings!

I am excited to share with you some wonderful news happening at Brigadoon in 2015. "New Beginnings" is the theme. Why? With my husband needing to retire, and me not far behind, I needed to make a decision - how to keep the dream I started with Brigadoon alive. After a lot of soul searching and reflection of my experiences over the past 10 years, I came up with a plan. I needed to get a new generation to carry Brigadoon forward. They have to have the right attitude, understanding, and passion of what Brigadoon is all about. The search has begun and this is the plan.

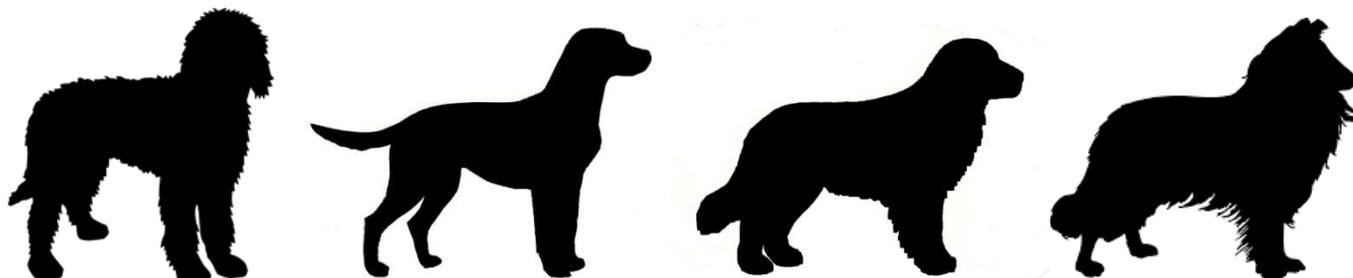
As I prepare to step down as Executive Director; the current board of directors and I are building a solid foundation of staff who believe in our mission, and we will increase the number of board members who also believe in our mission so that they may continue my vision for Brigadoon. I would like to do what I do best- work with the dogs and oversee the dog programs.

We have about a 1.5 – 2 year timeline for this transition to transpire. The transition will allow Brigadoon to be able to provide more dogs to those in need, increase public outreach with education programs and presentations and open a second small satellite in Thurston County.

I invite you to help launch our "New Beginnings" theme. You can help either with a financial donation (just \$25.00 a month can do so much), volunteer and/or share our story with family and friends. That is all it takes to help us help others☺

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

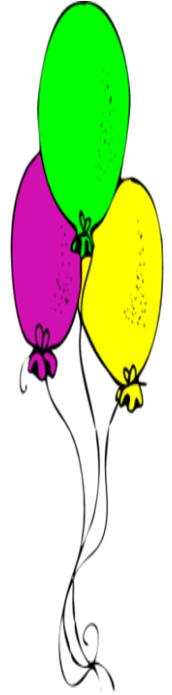
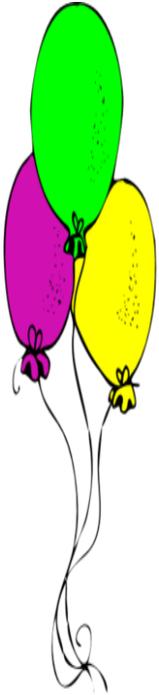
Denise



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Congratulations, Graduates!!!



Five new teams graduated from Brigadoon in May, 2015. George, Roman, Brandi, and Zola are pictured above with their new partners in order from left to right. Styx also graduated with his new picture earlier in May.



Congratulations to everyone!



"Josh and Zola have an amazing love for each other. This year Josh and Zola will be starting Sehome High School. Without Zola this would not be possible. Brigadoon has been a fabulous gift to our family."

"With Roman at his side, it's like a whole new world is opening up to him."

Brigadoon Clients' Recent Fundraisers a Huge Success!

As a fundraiser for her Brigadoon service dog, Celeste hosted a presentation about service dogs at her neighbourhood theatre, "Movie Monday" in Victoria, British Columbia. The event, which included photographs, videos, guest presenters, and a Q&A period, explored what service dogs are, what they can do, and how they help people with a wide range of disabilities and conditions. There was a special focus on Brigadoon with Brigadoon's mission statement video by Personal Focus Productions being shared, some photos of Brigadoon dogs presented, recent newsletters available in the lobby, and a poster detailing some of Brigadoon's work hung up. People were fascinated to learn more about service dogs and were very impressed with the work Brigadoon does. The event taught people a lot, raised some awareness about service dogs, and helped Celeste raise \$579.68!



Celeste, pictured on the right, at her event.
Photo courtesy of Movie Monday.
Kaelyn, picture on the left, being interviewed at her fundraiser.
Photo courtesy of King5.



In Muliketo, a single garage sale helped Brigadoon client Kaelyn raise \$7000! Kaelyn, who was recently matched with Finnegan, wrote a beautiful piece online about how special Finnegan already was to her: "*Finn can help me be the person I want to be... Finn makes me feel safe now and always. In just this short time with Finn, I now have a more clear picture of what my future with more independence will look like...and I am hopeful...and so excited!*" (from Kaelyn's letter). A schoolmate read Kaelyn's letter and organized a garage sale. In an impressive display of generosity and support, the neighbourhood came out, bargaining \$20 for a \$10 filing cabinet, \$100 for a box of children books, and even \$500 for a \$10 bike. Kaelyn has now reached the fundraising goal!!! Congratulations Kaelyn!

(Adapted from the King5 article "Garage sale for service dog shows Mukilteo's spirit of kindness")

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole."

- Roger Caras

Brigadoon is on Social Media! Check out
"Brigadoon Service Dogs" on Facebook, Twitter,
& Instagram

Profile of a Brigadoon Dog



Name: Freckles

Date of birth: February, 2015

Breed: Mutt! Gussed to have beagle and Australian shepherd in her.

Life so far: Freckles was found in a shelter. A staff member from one of the prisons in the prison program saw Freckles and signed up to foster her. After spending some time with Freckles, the staff member realized that Freckles' temperament would be a perfect fit for service dog work. Freckles was then adopted by Brigadoon and will soon be going into the prison program.

More about Freckles: Freckles is sweet and very people oriented. She has had a lot of fun playing with the other Brigadoon puppies (see page 5!). She is a very quick learner and will make an awesome service dog!

Job: Freckles will be matched with a veteran.

TIPS FOR KEEPING DOGS COOL IN THE SUMMER

- ⊗ Pack water for your dog when you go out. Make sure your dog always has plenty of fresh water at home as well.
- ⊗ Encourage your dog to drink by putting ice cubes in the water.
- ⊗ If your dog is not eating enough, try enticing them with a bit of wet food mixed into their kibble.
- ⊗ Try to avoid exercising or working your dog in the middle of the day, when it is hottest out.
- ⊗ Consider buying your dog a cooling products such as “cooler” vests or mesh dog booties meant for the summer.
- ⊗ Watch out for hot sidewalks: If you cannot hold the palm of your hand to the pavement for 5 seconds, it is too hot for your dog's paws!
- ⊗ Consider giving your dog a short hair cut.
- ⊗ Never leave your dog in the car. It gets very hot in cars very quickly.



Puppies!!!

Precious puppies prance, play, and pounce! Brigadoon is abounding with babies!



Brigadoon has recently welcomed in nine puppies; the next generation of service dogs!

Four Golden Retriever puppies Iris, Posey, Bubba, and Teyla were born in March 2015 and donated to Brigadoon by the Dahlberg family.

Freckles is a four month old rescue dog. She's a mixed breed, possibly with some Beagle and Australian Shepherd.

Cuddles, a newfiepo (Newfoundland dog X Poodle) was born in April 2015 and donated by DaeShar's Doodles.

Ned, a Golden Retriever X Labrador Retriever arrived with Cuddles. Ned was born in May 2015.

Two labradoodles, Chili and Tux, were born in May 2015 and donated to Brigadoon by Pine Lodge Labradoodles.

Finally, Denise has a new puppy! Zenyatta is a smooth coated collie puppy from Cherfire Collies. When she matures, she will be bred with AJ to produce a litter of service dog collies!

Upcoming Brigadoon Team Training

Brigadoon is having its second team training of this year in August! Ollie, Fresca, and Finnegan will be graduating. Congratulations teams on finding your matches and good luck in the upcoming team training!



From left to right: Ollie, Fresca, Finnegan.

Service Dog Related Terms - Explained!

There are many different types of service dogs. There are also many different terms used to describe service dogs! Here are some of the terms that you might here and what they actually mean!

Assistance dog - A dog that works a to help mitigate the disability or condition of their handler. Synonymous with **service dog**.

Autism assistance dog - A service dog that is trained to help a person on the autism spectrum.

Balance dog - A service dog that is helps stabilize a person who is unsteady on their feet or has balance issues.

Canine assisted intervention dog - A dog that works with its handler to support people physically, cognitively, or emotionally. Can work in jobs such as physical therapy, police victim services, or court houses. Not a service dog, though usually has service dog training. Synonymous with **facility dog**.

Certified service dog - A service dog that has been certified as an official service dog by its school *or*, in the case of some places, the government. In the USA, there is no state/federal certification of service dogs.

Companion dog - Usually refers to a pet, may also refer to an emotional support dog. Also some organizations refer to their service dogs as "skilled companion dogs."

Cue - A verbal, physical, or environmental signal that tells the dog to perform a task.

Diabetic alert dog - A service dog that is trained to help someone with diabetes and, usually, hypoglycemic unawareness.

Emotional support animal - A pet that provides comfort or support to its owner at home. Emotional support animals are not service animals and therefore do not have public access, although some exceptions to public access restrictions such as for housing and transportation can exist.

Facility dog - A dog that works with its handler to support people physically, cognitively, or emotionally. Can work in jobs such as physical therapy, police victim services, or courthouses. Not a service dog, though usually has service dog training. Synonymous with **canine assisted intervention dog**.

Guard dog - A dog that guards a property. Not a service dog.

Guide dog - A service dog that is trained to help its blind or visually impaired handler navigate safely. Synonymous with **seeing eye dog**.

Handler - The person partnered with a service dog.

Hearing dog - A service dog that is trained to help a person who is deaf or hard of hearing.

Match - A term used to describe a good fit between a client and a service dog. A good match is dependent on a number of things including needs of the dog and person, lifestyle and personality fit, and a good bond.

Medical alert dog - A service dog that can alert its handler to an oncoming medical emergency such as a low blood sugar, seizure, or migraine.

Mobility dog - A service dog that helps support a person with limited mobility.

Partner - One part of the service dog team! A service dog's partner is their handler, a handler's partner is their service dog.

Prison program/prison puppy - Programs in which inmates at prisons train service dogs. These service dogs are sometimes called "prison puppies."

Psychiatric service dog - A service dog that is trained to help a person with a psychiatric disability such as anxiety or Tourette syndrome.

Public access - The rights to go into a public place such as a theatre, restaurant, hospital, or shop; essentially the rights to go anywhere the dog's handler is allowed to go. Service dogs have public access rights.

Puppy raiser - The wonderful people who volunteer to raise, socialize, and train a service dog for the first year of its life.

Registered service dog - Not a real term; there is no registration for service dogs. This term is used by various online scams.

Rescue dog - May be used to describe a search-and-rescue dog, and more commonly used to describe a dog who has been adopted from an animal shelter or other adoption agency. Not a service dog.

Seeing eye dog - A service dog that is trained to help its blind or visually impaired handler navigate safely. Synonymous with guide dog.

Self-training - When a person trains their own service dog, rather than getting it from a school.

Seizure alert dog - A service dog that has developed the ability to alert to oncoming seizures. This is a rare ability and cannot usually be trained.

Seizure dog/seizure response dog - A service dog that is trained to help a person who has seizures.

Service dog - A dog that works a to help mitigate the disability or condition of their handler. Synonymous with **assistance dog**.

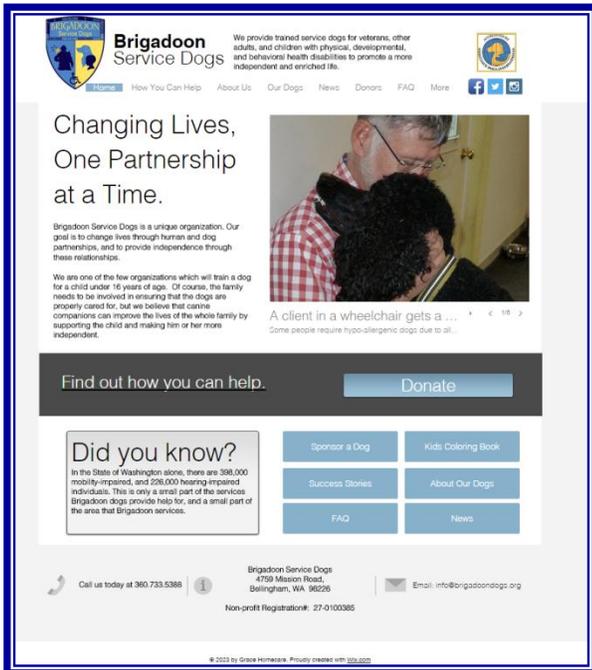
Task - A trained behaviour that a service dog does on cue.

Team training - The period, usually lasting 2-3 weeks, in which a new service dog team learns and practices in preparation for the public access test and graduation.

Therapy dog - A dog that visits facilities such as nursing homes or hospitals with its owner to provide emotional support or comfort to many people. Not a service dog.

Working dog - A term that is sometimes used to describe a category of dogs that were originally bred to work. Comparable to "toy dogs" or "hound dogs." Also can refer to a dog that has been trained to do a job such as rescue people, sniff out drugs, herd livestock, etc. Service dogs fit into the description of a working dog, but not every working dog is a service dog.

Brigadoon has a New Website!



The screenshot shows the Brigadoon Service Dogs website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, How You Can Help, About Us, Our Dogs, News, Donors, FAQ, and More. The main heading reads "Changing Lives, One Partnership at a Time." Below this, there is a photo of a man in a wheelchair with a dog. A text box below the photo says "A client in a wheelchair gets a..." and "Some people require hypo-allergenic dogs due to all...". There is a "Donate" button and a "Find out how you can help." section. A "Did you know?" box contains text about the number of hearing-impaired individuals in Washington. At the bottom, there is contact information: "Call us today at 360.733.5386", "Brigadoon Service Dogs, 4750 Mission Road, Bellingham, WA, 98226", and "Email: info@brigadoondogs.org".

Brigadoon has a fancy new website!
Check it out at
<http://www.brigadoondogs.org/>



Call for Contributions

Do you want to contribute to the next issue of The Brigadoon Barker? Awesome! There are many different ways of contributing:

Interviews

You could be featured in the Brigadoon Barker! If you are a volunteer, puppy raiser, applicant in the wait list, handler, or in some other way involved with Brigadoon and want to be interviewed about your involvement, please contact us! A list of questions will be sent to you for you to respond to.

Writing

Do you have a special dog cookie recipe or some advice for keeping your dog clean? What about an essay or report? A biography about your dog or a poem you wrote? Even some jokes? Your submissions are appreciated!

Art and Photos

If you have a picture (photographic or otherwise) that you'd like to share, send it to us!

All submissions can be sent to info@brigadoondogs.org under the subject: "Brigadoon Barker Submission"

Welcome, Sophie!

Brigadoon recently welcomed Sophie Chen onto the team. Sophie is Brigadoon's administrative assistant as well as newest puppy raiser!



Clearly, the puppies approve!
So do we!
We're so glad to have you Sophie.



Save the Date!

Brigadoon's graduation is going to be part of our annual auction again. Yeah!

The event will occur on September 19th, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. at the Lynwood Convention Centre.

Invitations will be sent out shortly.



Photos from the 2013 auction and graduation

"If you could only sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to the people you may never even dream of. There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person."

– Fred Rogers

Thank You to All of Our Volunteers, Donors and Sponsors!

Without your help, the work Brigadoon does would not be possible.



Melody says thank you!

Did you know that Brigadoon is Assistance Dogs International (ADI) Accredited? That means that Brigadoon has met global standards and ethics for raising and training dogs, working with clients, and managing an organization.



Fun Page!

Jokes

What do you call a mobility assistance dog who has just picked up the phone for you?
A golden receiver!



What if it's not a golden receiver you need...What do you call the dog who has called someone for you?
A dial-mation!



Caption this!



What do you think this little collie puppy is saying?
Write in and let us know!

Colouring Page

This colouring page was taken from the Brigadoon Service Dogs "Canine Colouring & Activity Book." To have more fun, go to brigadoondogs.org and access "kids colouring book" at the bottom of the home page.



This dog's
name is:
