



Bark All About It

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

MAY 1, 2017

Dogs for the Deaf
Foster Puppy Program



Thank you letter

Spring is by far my favorite season! The sun starts making an appearance, the hills are green, baby animals are everywhere, and the flowers and trees start blooming, along with my allergies. That doesn't matter to me because everything is so beautiful in spring! Along with it being my favorite season, I feel this spring edition of Bark All About It is also my favorite, so far! There are so many great things going on at Dogs for the Deaf and I am excited to share them with you. We have a couple new additions to our Foster Puppy Program, some spring-time tips along with the usual training tips, and a heart-warming placement story of our newest Autism Assistance Dog, Dinero. The good times are definitely rolling and there are so many more great moments and stories to be shared that it is almost impossible for me to fit them all into this newsletter. I am so lucky to have such an amazing team of puppy raisers and I just want you to know how much I appreciate each and every one of you. You all have such determination and put in so much hard work into raising these foster puppies so that they can one day become Assistance Dogs and change the lives of so many families; it's beyond incredible. So, thank you for all that you do. I hope you realize what a tremendous difference you are making in the lives of others.



**Silence is golden,
unless you have a
puppy.....
Then silence is
suspicious....
Very, very
suspicious.**

Sincerely,

Hannah Crane

Hannah Crane

Foster Puppy Program Coordinator

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New Kids On The Block



I wanted to kick off our Spring Edition with a big warm welcome to the new kids on the block! Thanks to our wonderful relationship with Dogs with Wings, we received a beautiful yellow lab, Wynne, along with two of her puppies, Harley and Halo. Dogs with Wings volunteer Brian was so kind to drive all the way from the city of Edmonton in Alberta, Canada to hand deliver our new furry additions. Brian had mentioned that this was the first time that the pups had ever seen grass because of all the snow they've had in Canada, and he wasn't kidding! Both the pups have enjoyed zooming around and playing in this new wondrous green thing called grass. I am excited to watch these new foster puppies grow into Future Assistance Dogs with the help of their new foster families. We are all so excited to watch Wynne blossom with motherhood, not to mention play with all her future offspring.



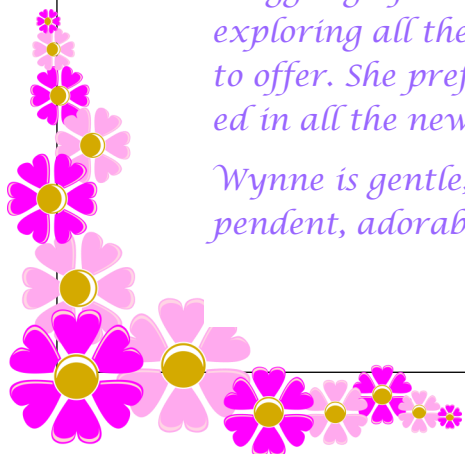
Wynne

Wynne is a gorgeous two-year-old yellow lab who is the newest addition to our Breeding Program. She is being fostered by our very own Operations Director, Annette. So far, Wynne has enjoyed spending time with her new family and particularly loves going on hikes with Annette. Wynne has such a fun, loving personality; one minute she is so calm and regal and the next minute she is jumping around like she is half gazelle.

"Wynne and her new house-mate, my 16 year old mini Dachshund Tarra, get along great and enjoy snuggling up next to each other. Together, we are exploring all the hiking trails southern Oregon has to offer. She prefers slow walks and is very interested in all the new smells."

Wynne is gentle, attentive, observant, patient, independent, adorable and much more. I look forward to many years with Wynne."

-Annette Vitello



Harley

Harley is a four-month-old yellow ball of curiosity. He is being fostered by Dogs for the Deaf board member Al and his wife Kim. They had recently lost one of their own dogs, Ziggy, and their other dog Barney just wasn't the same afterwards. In hopes to raise Barney's spirits, they decided to give puppy raising a shot. The second Barney spotted Harley, he started wagging his tail, and since their first encounter, the two have been inseparable! They love playing with each other and when they are too tired to continue, they curl up next to each other and take a nap. Harley and Barney's story is just another example of how these dogs change the lives of not only the families who receive these Assistance Dogs, but also the lives of the volunteer families who help put in all the hard work of getting these foster puppies the foundation they need to become Assistance Dogs.



Halo

Like her brother Harley, Halo is very curious, but also thinks she is part roadrunner! She loves running around with her two new best friends Molly and Wally, two very lovable bulldogs. She is being fostered by Laurie, Jeremy, Zach, and Hannah, a wonderful outgoing family who were looking to give back while supporting a local non-profit. While Laurie and Hannah will mainly be the ones handling and training Halo, the whole family is very excited to be fostering a Dogs for the Deaf foster puppy. We are so lucky to have this family on our team of puppy raisers and I am excited to watch as they continue on their new adventure of puppy raising.



"Halo is quite the character. She has a great time playing with her bulldog friends. She went from watching the bulldogs play to participating in the games. She now holds the male bulldog down and gives him a taste of his own medicine.....licking his face clean."

- Laurie



In my opinion, Spring is the best time of year. With the sun finally coming out of hiding, everything is blooming, and we can finally enjoy outdoor activities with our pets. With that said, a lot of other critters that we aren't quite fond of love spring as well; fleas, ticks and mosquitos are a few examples. There are some other things to

watch out for in spring as well like certain flowers, water safety, lawn care, and spring cleaning that can be hazardous to your foster puppy. Overall, we want you and your foster puppy to enjoy all the wonders of spring while being safe and knowledgeable in what to look for.

Fleas

There are over 200 different species of fleas that can be found in the U.S. alone. These pesky brown critters can be found not only on your foster puppy but also in any bedding the puppy encounters, carpeting, and your yard. They don't have wings but can jump a distance of up to 50 times their body length and have claws that make it easy for them to latch on to just about anything, which also makes it hard for them to be brushed off. The cure you ask?



Please be diligent about giving your foster puppy the flea medication provided to you by Dogs for the Deaf, vacuum often and change out the bag, and wash bedding regularly. Follow these few simple steps and you should enjoy a flea free spring!

Mosquitos



It has been a particularly wet winter this year in southern Oregon, which means there will most likely be a large boom of mosquitos. Mosquitos thrive and breed in stagnant bodies of water, like birdbaths and ponds. The eggs can be laid in even a tablespoon sized body of water, like puddles. What does this mean for you and your foster puppy? Heartworms, are foot-long thin thread-like worms that can damage arteries, lungs, and heart. They can also be potentially fatal, which is why it is so important that you keep your foster puppy on the heartworm supplement given to you by Dogs for the Deaf.

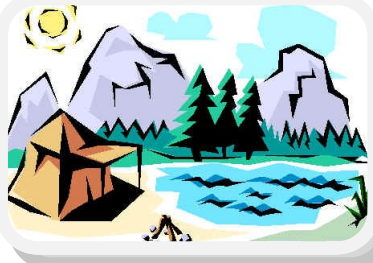
Ticks



Like fleas, there are many different varieties of ticks. They can be found in woodland, grassy, or beach areas. Ticks latch on to their hosts and feed on their blood. These parasitic arachnids can cause a variety of issues to your foster puppy, including anemia and Lyme disease. If you happen to see one of these on your foster puppy remove, it immediately and be sure to get the head, otherwise their head can break off and remain in the skin. There are plenty of tick removal products on the market however; a fine-point pair of tweezers will work just as well.

Water Safety

As the weather gets warmer, it becomes more tempting for your foster puppy to want to leap into the lake or pool. Never leave your foster puppy unattended around any body of water, even the strongest swimmer can get exhausted and drown. Also, never let your foster puppy drink from ponds, lakes, streams, or any body of water that is exposed to the elements and other animals. These bodies of water are a breeding ground for bacteria, eggs, and larvae that can be digested and cause the puppy to become ill. When out and about with your foster puppy, bring a bottle of water and bowl for the puppy to drink from.



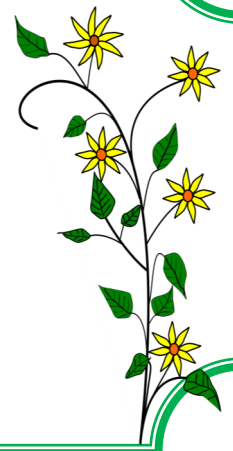
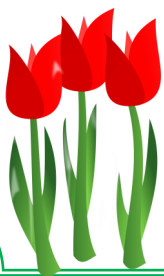
Allergies

Dogs can suffer from allergies just as much as we can. If you start to notice your foster puppy scratching incessantly, swollen or watery eyes, coat or skin conditions, or sneezing, let your vet know so that they can assist you. Spring also brings out all sorts of critters that can bite or sting your foster puppy causing areas on the puppy to swell. Puppies can be particularly nose-y, so it is very common for them to get bit or stung on and around their face. Be sure to handle and check your foster puppy frequently. Not only does this help you to see any irritants, but it is also excellent training for the puppy to be handled.



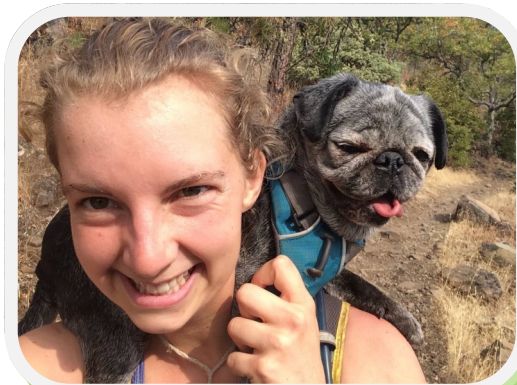
Gardening

Spring is a time for everyone to head over to their local farm and garden stores to battle it out with your neighbors over the perfect tomato plant. Be sure to check the list of toxic plants in your foster puppy binder before you go! Common plants include; tulips, lilies, daffodils, hyacinth, rhododendron, morning glory, ferns, azaleas, and my favorite, foxgloves. Also be sure to keep any fertilizers, insecticides, and herbicides out of reach of the puppy as they are dangerous if ingested.



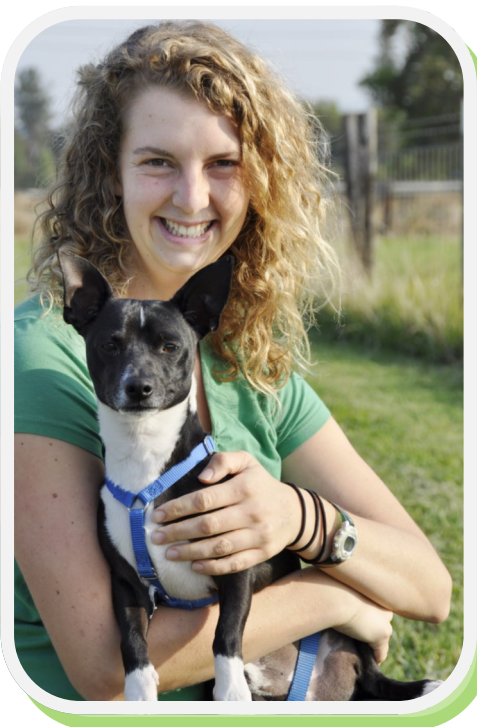
Training Tips By Jess

One of your primary tasks as a puppy raiser is to get your puppy as much positive exposure to new places and new people as you can. Get creative with it! Go to places like the children's museum, aquarium, and the farmer's market, in addition to the everyday places like the mall and the grocery store. It will be good exposure for your foster puppy, and can be a fun way to explore places you might not have been before!



While finding new spots to train and socialize your foster puppy, don't forget about the mundane places either. Your foster puppy's future partner will go to the grocery store and the bank, but they'll likely want to go to the park and walk around the neighborhood with their Assistance Dog as well. Work obedience and manners into your neighborhood walks and at the park so that the puppy is familiar with those environments and happily listens there as well.

When out in public, people will usually stop to ask you about your foster puppy. Often times people will want to engage with the puppy; utilize these people to help with training. If your foster puppy is over exuberant in greetings, ask if the person minds helping you. If they agree, you can then tell them what you're working on and how they can help. For example, if you're working on calm greeting behavior, you can ask them to pet while the puppy is on a loose leash and has four paws on the ground (or whatever behavior you're working on), and to stop petting and step away if the puppy jumps or pulls. Once you reset your foster puppy, they can then pet again, stopping when the puppy pulls or jumps. This not only helps instill manners in your foster puppy while out in public, but is a great way to engage people and let them feel like they've helped.



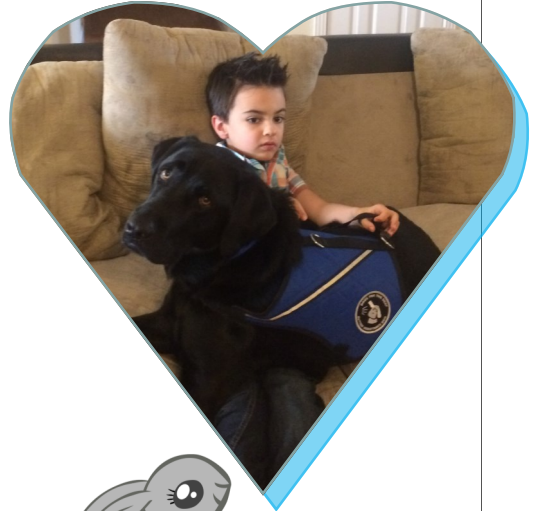
Lastly, don't forget that what you teach your foster puppy now will influence the rest of the dog's life and potentially their future partners as well. Those lovely house manners, calm greeting behaviors, and positive socialization all come together to help create a calm confident obedient dog. These things make a great foundation for an Assistance Dog!



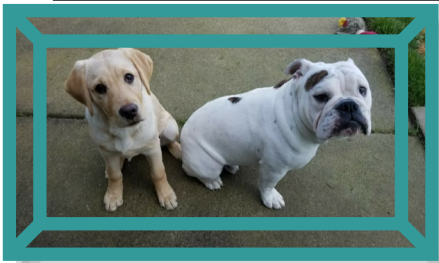
Latest News from Dogs for the Deaf



We have placed our third Autism Assistance Dog with his new client, Jack! Dinero, a beautiful black Labrador retriever, donated by Guide Dogs for the Blind. Dinero was so calm and attentive when working with his trainer Jess that she knew he would be a perfect match for Jack. Whitney, Jack's mother, is over the moon about having Dinero as the new addition to their family, saying "This has been such a life changing choice for our family." I love sharing these stories with you so you can see the end result of all the hard work it takes fostering a puppy. You are helping to change lives for the better, always remember that!



Building Our Community



Those of you who have met me know how much I love my job! Of course, who wouldn't? I get to work with puppies and meet amazing people who selflessly donate their time to raise a foster puppy and help to build a foundation so that the puppy may one day become an Assistance Dog. I love spreading the word about our foster puppy program and how our raisers and their foster puppies are doing to help

encourage people to help us build a community of changing lives for the better. My newest adventure will be to spread the word about our program at the Thursday Grower's Market in Medford, so be sure to look for me! Also, if you have a story that you would like me to share, send it my way!

Toys For Joy

Looking for other ways to give or have friends and family looking to give back who don't have time to raise a foster puppy? Then Toys for Joy donations are another great way to help our Assistance Dogs in training! Our Toys for Joy program provides our dogs with both play and enrichment toys. These toys help allow our dogs to unwind after all their hard work training to become Assistance Dogs, while also enriching their minds. If this sounds like a program you or your family would like to donate to, give us a call!



Dogs for the Deaf Foster Puppy Program

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Professionally training dogs to assist people, enhance lives & provide greater independence is what Dogs for the Deaf is all about.

Our Mission

Dogs for the Deaf's mission is to professionally train dogs to help people and enhance lives while maintaining a lifelong commitment to all dogs we rescue or breed and the people we serve.

Our Vision

Dogs for the Deaf's vision is to be a premier national provider of professionally trained Assistance Dogs.

History



Dogs for the Deaf, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit, "for impact" organization, was founded in 1977 by the late Roy G. Kabat. Roy worked with exotic and domestic



Dogs for the Deaf founder, Roy Kabat, with Jeremiah.

animals for movies and television and had a small traveling circus. After retiring to the Applegate Valley in southern Oregon,

he was contacted by the American Humane Association and their headquarters in Denver, Colorado. A deaf woman in Minnesota had a dog that trained itself to let her know when things were going on. As she lost more and more hearing, the dog alerted her to more and more things. After her dog died, the woman realized how much she had come to depend on the dog and began a search for someone to train a new dog for her. The American Humane Association began some experimental work trying to train dogs

to help people who were deaf, and they wanted Roy's advice. After spending two weeks in Denver, Roy came back to Oregon and founded Dogs for the Deaf.

Dogs for the Deaf was first housed outside Jacksonville, Oregon, then moved in 1989 to our current 40 acre site at the base of lower Table Rock in Central Point, Oregon.

Dogs for the Deaf maintains a life-time commitment to every dog rescued from shelters or bred and every client helped.