



Foster Family Focus Volunteer Newsletter

www.adai.org

ABC's of Foster Care N is for Nagging!

When we give our dogs a verbal command that they know, we

expect them to follow it. If they respond incorrectly, and we keep repeating the command, we are NAGGING.

For example, if you are heeling with your dog and he is at your side, there is no need to repeat the command. If he starts to fall behind, or get ahead say "No," and wait for him to correct himself, if he doesn't, then

repeat "Heel." Otherwise, praise him by saying "Good" or "That's it!" You can say anything you like as long as you convey that you are happy. If it appears he doesn't really know the command, it is time to go back a few steps and work on the command, shortening the time and distance. Then you



can gradually build on a strong foundation.

Another occasion nagging may arise is with distractions. Suppose you are walking down the street one day. Your dog is heeling perfectly at your side, when suddenly a squirrel darts across the street.

Your dog instinctively wants to follow and he moves out of place.

You respond by saying, "HEEL, HEEL HEEL!" That is NAGGING! To solve the problem instead of nagging, first you need to establish eye contact. Make sure he hears you and his mind is not following the squirrel. If that doesn't work, step back from the distraction and/or reposition yourself. Sometimes just walking away and giving a simple command like SIT (Good Boy!) will refocus him on you. If you are still having a difficult time, give a different simple command, heel a few steps and end the session on a positive note.



ADAI Conference Review

Assistance Dogs of America, Inc. is an original voting member of Assistance Dogs International (ADI). ADI was formed in the mid 1980's as an umbrella organization for members to share information, and promote excellence and standards. ADI has become the authority for policies and ethics in federal, state and local governments when addressing issues related to the assistance dog industry. Every year ADI has a very well attended conference with educational workshops and the opportunity to conduct the business of ADI. This year Temple Grandin was the keynote speaker. She is the

author of a very well respected book about autism called *Animals in Translation*. The educational workshops topics consisted of a breeding educational track, trainer's roundtable discussion and equipment exchange, special event fundraising and success of puppies raised in prisons. In addition to the workshops the attendees may attend small group breakout sessions on various topics from training hearing dogs, working with at risk teens and the art of asking for money. Next year the conference will be held from January 27 to 30 in Baltimore.

Inside

[Prison Program Update](#)

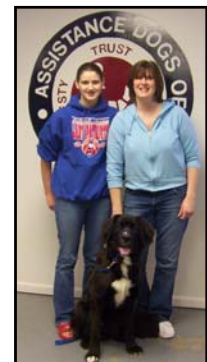
[Click to Calm Seminar](#)

[Final Training and Graduation Information](#)

[New Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Meet the Foster

The Badenhops and Murray



Prison Puppy Update

Our new prison puppy program is up and running. Jazzy, a 5 month-old Black Lab, Belle, a 4 month-old Golden Retriever, and newly added Scarlet, a 4 month-old Golden Retriever are adjusting well to their new lives behind bars at the Toledo Correctional Institution.

Jazzy was the pioneer, as the first puppy placed, followed by Belle three weeks later and Scarlet shortly after.

Their handlers are enjoying the puppy's company and are taking this new responsibility seriously.

With round-the-clock attention the puppies are excelling in their training and socializing.

Kali and Susan hold training classes twice a week at the prison.

The new training teams made their debut on Channel 11 news which aired on Thursday February 23rd and again on Monday the 27th.

Inmates, puppies and channel 11 crew pose for a picture. Puppies from the left: Belle, Jazzy, Jewel (Chris's pup), and Scarlet.



Save the Date—Click to Calm Seminar

Pups-N-People will be presenting Emma Parson's "Click to Calm – Healing the Aggressive Dog" seminar on March 11th and 12th, at the Pups-N-People facility in Maumee. In Emma's two-day learning session, you will practice proven recipes to:

- Desensitize your dog to approaching stranger dogs.
- Allow you to grab your dog's collar without him/her snapping.

- Have your dog perform canine calming signals, instead of aggressive displays, on cue.
- Have your dog turn and give you eye contact whenever another dog approaches, or you tighten up on the leash.
- Use your own body language when under stress as a cue for your dog to remain calm.

Plus many more creative and effective uses of managing behavior

through clicker training.

Linda Copti has generously offered this seminar at half price to all ADAI fosters and volunteers. If you would like to attend, your cost will be \$87.50 for one day, or \$137.50 for both days. ADAI staff will be attending this seminar. If you are interested, go to www.pupsnpeople.com and download the registration form. Be sure to mention that you are an

Final Training and

Congratulations to all our dogs in final training! Ranger, Dusty, Teddy, Libby, and Dinero are putting the finishing touches on their service dog talents, while Willow and Magic prepare for a career as therapy dogs. Thank you to all the fosters who have made their impending success possible. All your hard work and dedication shows. We could not do this without you!



Graduation

Another graduation is upon us. With this graduation brings some changes. The ceremony will be held at 6:00 on April 6th at Valley Wood Golf Club, off Airport Highway in Swanton. A "cold deli buffet" dinner will be served.

This event will be free for graduates and fosters of graduating dogs. The cost is ten dollars at the door for the ceremony and dinner.

Volunteers Needed

Prison Puppy Furlough

With our new prison puppy program up and running, we are looking for puppy furlough volunteers.

Volunteers will foster a prison puppy for a week or weekend each month for a year. Each puppy needs exposure to a home environment

and the world outside the prison.

Furlough time will be focused on community outings and socializing, not

training, as the inmates will teach the puppies all their commands.

Our incarcerated canines are



looking for a loving home environment, a chance to get out on the town, and an occasional trip to the veterinarian.

All of their supplies will be provided and can stay in your home when the puppy is back at the prison. If you are interested in a part-time puppy, and can commit to a year of fostering for a week or a weekend each month, or would like more information, please contact Susan Paiva at spaiva@adai.org.

Collection Boxes

If you like money, we have the volunteer opportunity for you! We are looking for a new collection box coordinator, to monitor, collect, and deposit our money box donations. We would also like to expand our program and add more boxes around town. If this sounds like something you would like to help with, please contact Chris at cdiefenthaler@adai.org.



Meet the Foster: The Badenhops

What is black and white, furry and just keeps growing? It's Murray, the Badenhop family's latest foster puppy. Murray, a one-year-old Newfoundland mix weighs in at a whopping 73 lbs, making him the largest dog in his class. The Badenhops have their hands full as they train this lovable mass of energy.



Geralyn, Jenna and Murray

He has learned a lot since found roaming the streets as a stray in November. Murray is the Badenhop's third foster dog. Their first, Buddy, was released for elbow dysplasia, followed by black lab, Jessie, who was placed as a service dog this fall. Murray is scheduled for final training in November.

Thank You!

Thank you to all the foster volunteers and puppies who participated in the annual Toledo Mutt Show on February 11th. There was a great turn out for this exciting event starting mutts of all shapes and sizes. Foster puppies did well in all the excitement, demonstrating their fine social skills.



There was a lot of interest in the ADAI booth and information given out to the public. Thanks everyone!!!!

Community Shares Fundraiser

Community Shares of Northwest Ohio is conducting a Carruth Fundraiser for their general operating costs. They have asked all Community Shares agencies to sell 11 pieces to help raise \$5,000. Assistance Dogs of America, Inc. is the top agency for designated donations through their workplace campaigns. The items in the Carruth catalog is available to view and the price list is on their website at www.communitysharesnwohio.org.

If you would like to place an order, please email Chris the item number and cost. You cannot place an order through their website. You can then mail your payment for the items to Chris at Assistance Dogs of America, Inc. 8806 State Route 64, Swanton, OH 43558.

Please make your checks payable to Community Shares of Northwest Ohio.

The deadline to order is March 17th. Community Share's goal is to not be in the fundraising business. They realize agencies have their own fundraising to do. The goal is for Community Shares to be self-sustaining by gaining enough access workplace campaigns so fundraising is not necessary. Please consider helping Community Shares while they work on expanding their workplace campaigns.

Assistance Dogs of
America

Primary Business Address

Your Address Line 2

Your Address Line 3

Your Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555

Fax: 555-555-5555

Email: xyz@microsoft.com



Your business tag line
here.



Organization

Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names

and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to

mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



Caption describing picture or graphic.