



Assistance Dogs of America

May/June 2006

Foster Family Focus Volunteer Newsletter

www.adai.org

ABC's of Foster Care O is for Off!

Off is one of the first commands a puppy should learn. Their natural desire to get closer to your face, or something they want, causes them to jump up, a lot.

Many new puppy owners think this is cute and actually encourage this behavior. But as the cute, cuddly puppy grows into a large energetic dog with mammoth muddy paws, this appeal quickly fades. It is then the once proud puppy parent becomes the frustrated dog owner.

The best way to ensure a well mannered dog for years to come is to resist the cute little puppy pawing at your legs. As soon as he jumps up, immediately turn away from the puppy, or walk into him, saying in a firm voice, "OFF!" As minor a deterrent as this seems, a little goes a long way when you invade your puppy's

space and throw him off balance a little. He will quickly learn this is not the way to get your attention. As soon as all fours are back on the ground you can tell him "good," reassuring him that now he is in the right place. You can then follow that with "sit," as you bend down to pet him. After all, a sitting puppy can't jump up.

One of the mistakes new trainers often make is using the wrong word for this command. "Down" seems like a good word, but will confuse your pup if you also use it for the "Down" (lie down) command.



Agility Anyone?

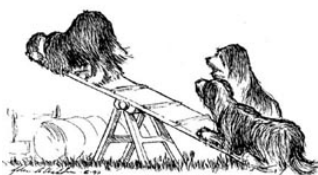
Judy Eckel has graciously offered to organize a weekly agility course activity through the summer here at the ADAI facility.

We will start at a very basic level, for novice pups and their people. If you don't have a foster pup, personal dogs are welcome also, providing

your dog is well-behaved around other dogs, properly socialized and is not disruptive to the

foster dogs.

We will be outside in the grass, so wear comfortable clothing and shoes. No equipment is needed, just leash, collar and lots of yummy treats. It is also helpful if your dog has a good solid recall. So practice those comes!! In the event of rain, thunder, lightning, or excessive heat, we will cancel the session and try to reschedule. We will start at 7:00 pm and go for about 1 hour. If you are interested, please call Judy Eckel at 419-893-4691, or email luvlabslot@aol.com for more information and dates.



"I'll count to three and we'll jump off!"

Inside

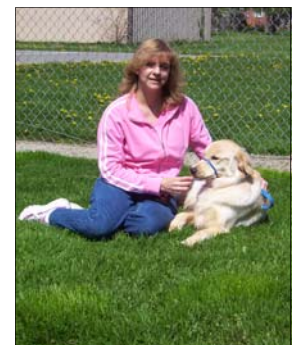
Prison Program
Update

May Golf
Tournament

Your dog and
Thunderstorms

Meet the Foster

Jill Kinsel



Prison Puppy Update



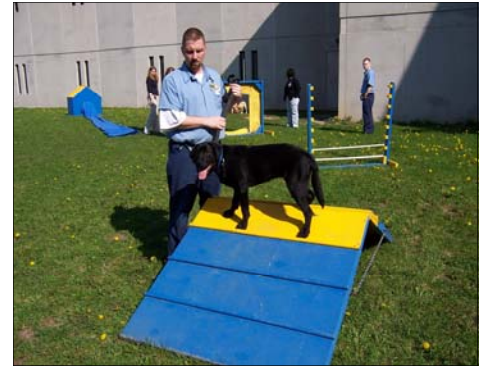
Puppies from the left: Belle, Scarlet, Jazzy

Our three incarcerated pups are doing well at the Toledo Correc-

tional Institution. They have all been out on their first furloughs, and have been doing well in public.

During the past month an agility course was set up in a prison yard. The puppies can now burn off some extra energy as they race around the course and develop their agility finesse.

We have recently selected four new inmate trainers and have begun their orientation. They are very excited to be part of this new program. Our goal is to have two



Jazzy and her handler look over the agility course.

additional puppies placed in the prison within the month.

It's Tee Time!

Our 2006 ADAI Golf Classic is right around the corner, Monday May 22. The scramble tournament is being held at Stone Ridge Golf Club in Bowling Green. Our program, following dinner, will honor Breck Davis and Jett, and is in memory of Cub, who passed away in July after 11 years of service. If you would like to attend, or need more information, please call Chris at (419) 825-3622.



Volunteer of the Month

In appreciation for all the hard work our volunteers do, we are beginning a new program to recognize all your outstanding contributions to ADAI. Each month, beginning in May, we will have a drawing to acknowledge one of our invaluable volunteers! So expect a phone call or email in the coming months!

Thanks Volunteers!!



Thank you to all the tireless graduation volunteers and fosters who helped make our last graduation a smashing success. It was a pleasure working with all of the new teams as they got to know each other and learned to work together. The dogs demonstrated a strong foundation from their fosters. Now they are well on their way making inseparable partners.

Judy Eckel, Karen Gallaway, Karen Bade, and Cindy Preston pulled the graduation dinner together, making for a very special and memorable evening. Thanks a million to all our volunteers!



Meet the Foster - Jill Kinsel

Our foster of the month is Jill Kinsel. Jill is currently raising her second foster dog, Lily, a rambunctious 9.5 month Golden Retriever. With the help of her husband Dave and their four boys, Jill is preparing Lily for an important career of service. Lily joins Jill for her daily errands and on a mile walk each day.

Their first dog, Onyx, a Black Lab began his career as a Therapy dog in Maumee, after two years in the Kinsel's care. Jill says she loves

being a foster, she enjoys the companionship and it feels good to do something good for someone else. The most challenging thing about fostering is giving them up in the end, she says. Thanks Jill for all that you do for us!



Our New Class

Welcome to our Spring 2006 class. Cedar, Domino, Raven, Toby and Jessie are adjusting well to life at the facility, while they learn their final service dog commands.

Thank you to fosters, Karen Bade, Natalie Givens, Paul Johnson, Judy Holdrige, and Dawn Tyndall-Sheater, for all the time and dedication you have invested in these dogs.



How to Prepare for a New Puppy

1. Pour cold apple juice on the carpet in several places and walk around barefoot in the dark.
2. Wear a sock to work that has had the toes shredded by a blender.
3. Cover all your best suits with dog hair. Float some hair in your first cup of coffee in the morning.
4. Play catch with a wet tennis ball.
5. Leave your underwear on the living room floor, because that's where the dog will drag it anyway.
6. Run out in the snow in your bare feet to close the gate.
7. Tip over a basket of clean laundry, scatter clothing all over the floor.
8. Gouge the leg of the dining room table several times with a screwdriver, it's going to get chewed on anyway.
9. Take a warm cuddly blanket out of the dryer and immediately wrap it around yourself. This is the feeling you will get when your puppy falls asleep in your lap.

Dogs4Fun



Thunder Storms

It's that time of year again: warm weather, sunny days at the beach, ice cream and the dreaded thunderstorms!

If you've ever had a dog that was afraid of thunderstorms, you'll know the fear these events can trigger in your pooch. Some dogs aren't bothered by the claps of thunder and poring rain, but even the toughest dog on the block can turn inside out even before they hit. These storm sensitive canines can be found hiding behind



the toilet, trembling like a leaf under the table, or trying to crawl up your pant leg. Why is it they find storms so frightening?

Experts speculate the fear could be triggered by the lightning flash, vibrations in the house, the sound of the thunder, the smell of the ozone following the lightning, or a combination of all of these. In a nutshell, nobody really knows. What we do know is that electrical storms get a reaction out of most

dogs. So, what can you do to alleviate the anxiety of a big storm? One thing you can try is using a distraction. Play with your dogs favorite ball or chew toy, give him a yummy treat, anything positive. Some experts recommend playing a tape recorder with the sound of thunder. Or as a last resort for extreme cases, tranquilizers can be an option. One thing you want to avoid is coddling, as this will encourage their negative reaction.

Assistance Dogs of
America

Primary Business Address

Your Address Line 2
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Your Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555

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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.