

The Brigadoon Barker

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

Summer 2019



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Letter from Donald A. Lachman President of the Board of Directors

Dear Brigadoon Service Dog Supporters,

It is an honor to serve on the Board of Directors for Brigadoon Service Dogs and in a leadership position as Board President. I have had the privilege of working with Denise and Brigadoon for over 10 years as Special Projects Coordinator for the Washington State Department of Veteran Affairs (WDVA) and its close partner, the WestCare Foundation. It is while working with justice involved veterans that I became aware of the life altering impact of Brigadoon Service Dogs. Since starting my relationship with Denise and Brigadoon Service Dogs, I have personally observed the transformational impact Brigadoon dogs have on hundreds of disabled veterans, their families, and inmates at the state prisons.

As a Vietnam veteran, I proudly served in the Army Medical Service Corp first on an orthopedic surgery team and then in leadership of an air medical unit. Since 2005, I have been blessed to have one of the most rewarding positions in the State of Washington working to inspire leadership at the WDVA and WestCare Foundation as Special Projects Coordinator. In 2018, I retired from public service to accept a similar position at the WestCare Foundation continuing to work for John Lee, the former director of the state agency and now Deputy CCO for the WestCare Foundation.

My priorities as President of the Board include: 1) Implement the valuable succession planning conducted by the board in 2018. 2) Develop and implement a financial strategy that contributes to short and long-term financial goals. 3) Support board members in specific organizational activities. 4) Advance training efficiencies. 5) Contribute to the mission of Brigadoon Service Dogs organization.

Sincerely,

Donald A Lachman
President, Board of Directors
Brigadoon Service Dogs

Newsletter edited by Celeste Maceviciu

Welcome, Maria!

Maria joined Brigadoon earlier this spring. She has been doing an amazing job as our new administrative assistance. We've conducted a short interview here so you can learn a bit more about her!

Brigadoon Barker: Tell us a bit about how you got to Washington.

Maria: "I spent my first 23 years in Detroit, Michigan. I met my husband, Jake, when I was living in Las Vegas. When we got engaged in 2012, I moved to Washington where he was stationed at NAS Whidbey with the U.S. Navy.

Brigadoon Barker: Do you have a dog?

We own a cat, Charlie, who thinks he's a dog. I've been enjoying spending so much time with all of the dogs (and Loki!) in the office. My husband and I hope to own a dog one day (a black lab to be specific), so it's awesome to learn from Denise; who I like to call the "Dog Whisperer".

Brigadoon Barker: How did you come to start working at Brigadoon?

Maria: I am embarrassed to say that I didn't know anything about Brigadoon before I saw the job posting online. After looking through the website, I fell in love with the organization, it's mission, and especially the inmate program. What a great way to help inmates experience compassion, responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment. It sounds cheesy, but for some reason I knew this was where I needed to be, before I even got the job. I am loving my first few months here and am excited for all of the things we have planned for the rest of 2019.

Brigadoon Barker: What are some of the things you do outside of your work with Brigadoon?

Maria: I love cooking and find preparing a meal relaxing. I enjoy hiking, camping, and anything I can do to be outside. I recently started taking ballroom lessons and am loving the physical and mental challenge. I love music and am always singing, humming, or tapping my feet.

Follow us on Social Media!

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram to see event announcements, news updates, and tons of super cute puppy photos.

Facebook: BrigadoonServiceDogs
Instagram: Brigadoon_Service_Dogs

New Puppies

5 puppies have recently joined Brigadoon.

3 wiggly young labs came in late May– two black labs (male) and one yellow lab (female).

The puppies were named by the winners of our online Facebook contest: Silas, Hamilton, and Rosemary. Thank you to the winners for their donation to Brigadoon and for the beautiful name choices.



2 more pups arrived in June: Noah and Rudder!



Denise Publishes Training DVD!

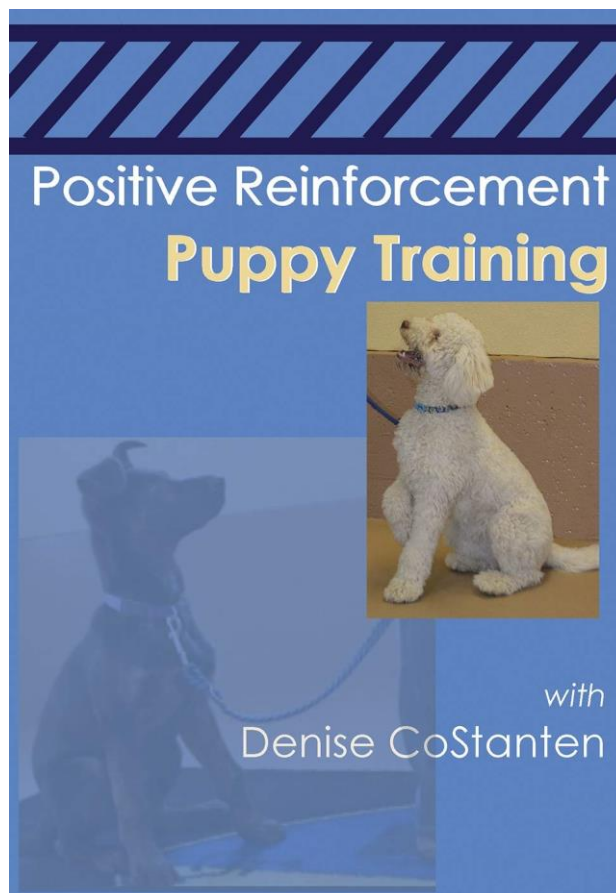
Denise, founder and President of Brigadoon has just released a training DVD on basic puppy training for good manners and understanding how a dog learns. Read more here, then buy the DVD at Amazon <https://tinyurl.com/brigadoondvd>

Positive Reinforcement Puppy Training

Use this method and you can train your family pet to be as well behaved as a service dog. Denise, long-time service dog trainer, guides you step-by-step through the same training techniques she has used to train service dogs to help veterans and disabled people. There are two sections, foundations and basic training.

- 🐾 Foundations include: preparation, observing the dog, clicker training, name recognition, attention as behavior, kennel, and potty training.
- 🐾 Basic training includes: encouraging behavior, lure and sit, waiting at doors, collar cues, loose leash walking, recall, down & on the mat.

Throughout, Denise explains each step, demonstrates with puppies of varying ages and temperaments, and provides numerous tips and examples.



Veteran Presented with Brigadoon Dog at Real Estate Conference

In April, Gary met Bernard thanks to the support of Billy Baker and other local real estates.

Read Lousie Thaxton's account of the event:

What a HUGE surprise yesterday at Cheney Stadium in Tacoma, Washington when a real estate agent in attendance stands up as we are nearing the end of the event - says he has been blessed with record amount of closings - and he donates \$3,000 toward the sponsorship of the service dog being awarded !!!

Billy Baker has been praying how he could give back and yesterday he said he found the cause! Thanks to his donation, the real estate agents in attendance who purchased \$2000 of #RedFriday shirts, and the generosity of the local branches of Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, the American Warrior Initiative was honored to present a sponsorship of this service dog from Brigadoon Service Dogs to Gary Cashman, an Iraq and Afghanistan combat veteran! Gary has continued to serve his brother's and sisters in arms even after leaving the military through his volunteer work with local non-profits assisting veterans in their transition to civilian careers.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this special partnership possible.



Are you, your community, or your company interested in sponsoring a Brigadoon dog?
Learn more here <http://www.brigadoondogs.org/sponsor-a-dog>

The Brigadoon Difference: By Ken Garrison

Ken is one of Brigadoon's inmate trainers at Coyote Ridge

I remember the exact moment. Fortunately I was alone with Oscar in the training room. I still glanced around to make sure nobody else had noticed.

I had been locked up for nearly five years at that time. Having trailed Shelter Rescue dogs nearly that entire time, I knew better than to allow myself to become attached. I loved the dogs and the sense of purpose that training them gave me. My "Dog Journal" listed 84 dogs trained. I was a calm, cool professional.

Brigadoon Service Dogs was a new challenge, and an opportunity to build my skills. As a veteran, it would give me the chance to train dogs who would provide life changing help to veterans and their families.

Oscar was an intelligent enthusiastic, energetic year old Red Fox Lab. We ran through some basic cues. Sit, Down, Stay, Recall, and Loose Leash Waking. All good solid work, but nothing new. I had trained dozens of dogs to do all the same things.

Then I tried "Brace." Brace is intended for people with stability issues. The dog stands a Heel or Side while the handler places their hand on the dog's shoulder to literally brace themselves.

Something about the way Oscar braced himself; instinctively widening his stance and staring straight ahead; something broke in my heart. I was completely overcome with emotion. I just sad down and hugged Oscar.

Since then Oscar and I have practiced "Brace" hundreds of times. In a couple of months he will go on to be with his new family, and spend the rest of his life serving others.

I will always remember Oscar. He helped me heal my heart. More importantly, he reminded me that I can still make a difference.



Oscar as a young puppy

Keeping Cool This Summer

Summer is here! Your dog probably loves their warm spot on the deck, extra walks, more time with your kids, or swims at the lake. Summer is a fun time for dogs. But just as too much heat and sun can be dangerous for humans, so too can it be for dogs.

Here are some tips for keeping your dog cool this summer.



 **how hot is too hot?**

°C	°F				
15°	60°	1	1	1	① No evidence of risk: Have fun outside!
18°	65°	1	1	2	② Risk is unlikely: Have fun outside, but be careful!
21°	70°	2	2	3	③ Unsafe potential, depending on breed. Keep an eye on your pet outdoors.
23°	75°	3	3	3	④ Dangerous weather developing. Use caution.
26°	80°	3	3	4	⑤ Potentially life-threatening heat. Avoid prolonged outdoor activity.
29°	85°	4	4	5	
32°	90°	5	5	5	+1 if obese
35°	95°	5	5	5	+1 if brachycephalic breed
37°	100°	5	5	5	+1 if less than 6 months old or elderly
40°	105°	5	5	5	-1 if area is shaded from sun
43°	110°	5	5	5	-1 if water is available

source: adapted from The Tufts Animal Condition and Care (TACC) **Petplan** www.Petplan.com

Upcoming Events

Check out the upcoming events in the community that Brigadoon will be attending and/or benefitting from. For more information, check our Facebook page.

- 🐾 **4th Annual Puppy Rescue Mission Fundraiser** – June 29th 12-6 PM at Peace Arch Park. Includes dog walk, many vendors, BBQ, beer garden, live and silent auction. \$20/ticket
- 🐾 **Brigadoon Wine Tasting Event** – July 13th 1-5 PM at Glen Echo Garden. Stroll through the beautiful botanical gardens at Glen Echo Gardens and enjoy wine tasting featuring 30 different wines from Napa Valley. \$10/ticket. Must RSVP at denise@brigadoondogs.org
- 🐾 **Shootout for Soldiers Seattle** – August 17th-18th at Kasch Park (Everett). Shootout for Soldiers is a 24-Hour event, utilizing lacrosse as a platform to support American veterans and foster engagement between civilian and veteran communities. The event is organized by 1-hour games, open to co-ed, male, and female teams of all ages.
- 🐾 **Annual Dinner & Auction** – September 7th at the Four Seasons by Sheraton Bellingham. Stay tuned for more details on Brigadoon's biggest event of the year.

Keeping Up with Growing Up Guide Pup

Growing up Guide Pup, a California service dog organization whose mission is to “on education to help people with disabilities live more independent and fulfilling lives,” is as active as ever!

Matt and Amie of Growing Up Guide Pup recently came up to Bellingham for a visit with their current Brigadoon puppy in-training Scarlett. Check out their updates on their Facebook page! Also be sure to go to their blog to read their posts about their service dog adventures.

<https://www.growingupguidepup.org/>



Fun Page!

Summer Treats

Unscramble the words to spell out the name of a special summer treat for dogs!

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