

# The Brigadoon Barker

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

Winter 2022



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## A note from Executive Director Denise CoStanten

Warm Winter Thoughts Everyone!

First, a big shout out to all our friends, volunteers, and financial supporters. Without you, Brigadoon Service Dogs could not, would not exist! Our community gives us encouragement, time, dollars, and resources that are invaluable to our ability to continue. Individuals, public agencies, and businesses have joined our efforts and I'm pleased and grateful to keep building those relationships with you.



Dogs don't care about the pandemic, but we've all adapted our training to continue our work in public places and keep trainers and volunteers safe. We've learned to value our time together and to communicate in different ways. We're excited to put that together in continued efforts to work with dogs, clients, prisons, and the community.

As we prepare to start a new year, we are excited to open our new House of Puppies (made possible through the Lindsey Family Fund), taking a huge step in our ability to effectively train our next generation of dogs. Stay tuned for the grand opening announcement.

"Offering a Helping Paw"

With Gratitude,  
Denise

## Brigadoon's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction Raised \$120,000!

This year was **Brigadoon's** first Auction with both live and virtual attendance. We have many to thank for its success including Auctioneer Matt Lorch and Videographers Brenda Phillips and Destiny Ulanoff.

The Silent Auction featured wonderful packages.



Auctioneer Matt Lorch Gets the Crowd Engaged



Thanks to all those who attended and participated.



### The Labrador Retriever

The labrador is a retrieving dog of medium size, with a dense, weather-resistant coat, an "otter" tail, and a clean-cut head with a "kind" expression. The first labradors arrived in England from Newfoundland aboard fishing boats early in the 19th century, and imports to America began in the early 1900s. Labrador temperament is outgoing, indulgent with peers, human-oriented and tractable. Labradors can be found in guide and assistance dog programs, and substance detection and search and rescue work. Since 1992, the labrador retriever has headed the list as the most popular breed in the U.S. *Westminster Kennel Club*

## Training the Brigadoon Way:

No one wants a sore shoulder from having your dog pull you on leash. Start changing that now and practice these steps regularly until it becomes your new normal.

### **Cue: Heel or Side for loose leash walking**

Definition: The dog is walking next to handler without pulling or straining against the leash.

- Get your dog's attention then say: "let's go".
- As you step forward say "heel". If the dog moves out of "heel" position, that is if you can see the dog's nose when you glance down without turning to look at the dog, switch the dog from heel (left of you) to side (right of you).
- Take a few steps in the Side position and switch back to Heel position. Each time the dog inches ahead so that you notice his nose without looking directly at him, switch sides.

You may need to feed in position, at your knee, while walking until he gets the idea. Do not lure! Your hand should be up behind your back after you have fed in position. Keep treat bag behind you. Practice, practice, practice!



## Meet the Trainer:

Katy Brehan is the primary trainer of the young pups for Brigadoon. With the soft opening of the new Brigadoon House of Puppies, made possible by the Lindsey Family Fund, right around the corner we wanted you to meet Katy.



Q. How did you get started training dogs?

A. *In 2015, I completed my first dog training course with Animal Behavior College, a 6-month course with an internship. Shortly after I started volunteering at Brigadoon, then got a position here as a Kennel Technician, then became a trainer. Last year I earned my Dog Trainer Professional Certification from Karen Pryor Academy.*

Q. Why puppies for you Katy?

A. *Puppies can't NOT learn; their minds are malleable, and they are going to learn, so starting correctly with them is crucial. If I can get on top of their learning and get their foundations right, it will set them up well for future success. Plus, puppies are just fun!*

Q. How do you train with all the different ages, abilities, breeds, and levels you work with?

A. *Each dog is an individual, but they all have similar growth phases and fear periods. I cannot expect the same thing from every dog. I get to know the dog before I ask for*

*behaviors. When I know them, I can find their individual starting point and develop a unique plan for each puppy. The relationship I have with them helps me determine next steps.*

Q. What are some favorite innovations you use to engage the puppies?

A. *We use positive reinforcement with a clicker at Brigadoon, so I start incorporating the clicker as I engage them with active training and allow them to burn some energy at the same time. I must think on my feet as to what keeps their attention, keeps the work fun, and continues their learning. Puppies are seeing everything for the first time and sometimes those things are weird, so I introduce new experiences safety and try to see their environment as they see it. Our work together is a marathon, not a sprint.*

Q. Tell us about the new Brigadoon House of Puppies?

Q. Why a puppy center?

A. *Puppies need more care and attention and shorter training sessions with less distractions. They are also messier, so the washer/dryer and grooming sink are nearby.*

Q. How many puppies can you accommodate?

A. *Six to eight puppies*

Q. Will you also be whelping in-house litters?

A. *Yes, we plan on that and hope to have our first litter this winter.*

Q. How do you envision the new Brigadoon House of Puppies changing the way you train?

A. *Without big dog distractions, the puppy's environment will be calmer. I'll be able to spend more time and use accessible tools such as puppy sized exercise and training equipment.*

Q. What does a training day look like for a young puppy?

A. *Puppies have several short (5 – 10 minutes) training sessions each day. They also have play time with the other puppies and we spend some time with body handling and grooming. And being puppies, they snooze a lot! We also include enrichment activities such as puzzles and stuffed kongs.*

Q. When do puppies start working in public spaces?

A. *Depending on vaccine status, there are some limitations, but in general we start getting them out in public as soon as we possibly can. We may carry them or put them in a stroller first, since we want the experience without any harm or exposure to illness. Usually by 9-12 weeks they are out several times a week.*

Q. What do you watch for in a puppy to predict future success?

A. *Confidence, quick recovery from big sounds or movements, curiosity, being outgoing and people-oriented are all great traits in a service dog puppy.*

Q. Any recommendations for good puppy manners for new puppy parents?

A. *Everything good should come from you so build that trust with your puppy – it will get you both through any difficulty. Watch and listen to your puppy because they will let you know when they need to pee/eat/play or cuddle. Find a game they love (touch, tug, fetch). When your puppy needs a reward or distraction, offering some fun helps them work through any stress.*

## **A BIG BIG THANK YOU TO:**

### **SEATTLE SEAHAWKS**

They have provided wonderful support to a veteran and his family working with us to get them a service dog. Hoss is now with the family due to all their efforts. They also selected Brigadoon to receive a portion of Team Store sales!

### **RUSSELL INVESTMENTS**

As part of their Contributions to the Community, they spearheaded support for the work we do with Veterans by posting a wish list and easy contribution link for their employees to donate. Much appreciated!

### **TROOP 4007 WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO KAI LEEDY**

For Troop member Kai Leedy's Eagle Scout Project, this group improved drainage and reconfigured the dog's potty areas from 6 yards to 10 yards and recently completed the task when supplies became available again. This project was much needed, giving better access and drier surfaces for the handlers and dogs.



#### **FUNNY BONE:**

Q: Did you hear about the dog who had her puppies in the public park?

A: She was fined for littering.



## Thank You to All of Our First Half of 2021 Donors!

*At **Brigadoon**, we want to do a better job of thanking individuals, business owners and foundational leaders ... people like YOU who contribute and help further our mission.*

### Special thanks goes to our third quarter donors (July 1 - September 30, 2021)

#### **10,000 or more**

Lindsey, Cuquita & Mark  
Ford, Matt & Jessica Van Liew  
The Pless Foundation

#### **\$2,500 - \$9,999**

Ameritas  
Bank of America  
Gary's Plumbing  
George Zuke Construction  
Hempler's  
Northshore Veterinary Hospital  
Phillips 66 Ferndale Refinery  
RKMKC Downing Living Trust  
The Albertsons Companies Foundation

#### **\$1000 - \$2,499**

Beeman, Jo  
Benner, John & Joan  
Canines for Disabled Kids  
Chong, Erica  
Daughter's of the American Revolution  
Dereret Managment Corp.  
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Quiram, Tammy  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Ladder-D  
The Veteran Farm at McClains Meadows  
VECA Electric & Technologies  
Zuke, George

#### **\$500 - \$999**

Brokaw, Diane  
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Johnson, Shirley J  
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Orvik, Judith  
Patriot Fire Protection, Inc.  
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Teel, Miranda  
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Wallace, David

#### **\$250 - \$499**

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Hall, Linda  
Kulshan Veterinary Hospital  
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Porter, Marie  
Putnam, Amie  
Rexius, Robin  
Rosetti, Leah  
Sound View Camp  
Turner, Marguerite & Dan  
Wahler, Shannon C.  
Watts, Ronald & Susan  
Wylam, Robert & Victoria

#### **\$100 - \$249**

4 Spirits Distillery  
Baxter Family Trust  
Beebe, Karen  
Chapman, Aimee & Matt  
Colyer, Deb

#### **\$100 to \$249 continued**

Debates, Robin  
Douglas, Jonathan  
Fowler, Ken & Laurette  
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Kluck, Sheila  
Klump, Stephen  
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Proctor, Lois & William  
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Valdez, Chris  
Vanderwerff, Heidi, Greg & Tyler  
WA Secretary of State  
Wade, Sandra  
Ware, Molly  
Weiss, Daniel Edward  
Wheeler, Debora  
White, Steven J. & Susan  
Williams, Mathew  
Zwick, Randal

*And there are so many more including all our auction item donors that will be listed on our Annual Report year end.*

*This comes out mid-February and is listed on our website. We thank you all for your support.*

# Congratulations: Hoss and Salem, new graduate team!



**Brigadoon Service Dogs**  
4759 Mission Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226  
(360) 733-5388



Service Dog I.D. 2021/1131

Service Dog Team Partners:

**Salem & "Hoss"**  
Expires: April 2022




## Welcome New Puppies!

1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			<p><b>Meet the Puppies!</b></p> <p>Row 1: Rocket, Ace, Zelda</p> <p>Row 2: Rory, Ronnie, Sage</p> <p>Row 3: Becker, Hugo, Leo</p> <p>Row 4: Landon, Cobalt</p>

## Canidae

Who are "Canidae?" Unscramble each of the clues below, put the letters that appear in numbered boxes into the corresponding boxes down below, and find out!

RAGY FOLW

3							

NODGI

7		8			

TYOECO

4							

ERD XOF

2						

JCLAAK

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

TEIBMR LOFW

5										

RSTOH-DERAE GDO

6						-		1											

1	2	3

		U						
4	5		6	7	8	6		

Answers:  
 Gray Wolf, Dingo, Coyote, Red Fox,  
 Jackal,  
 Timber Wolf, Short-Eared Dog  
 Dog Cousins

**FUNNY BONE:**

Q: What do you call a dog that can't bark?

A: A hushpuppy!



Til next time!