

The Brigadoon Barker

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

Summer 2017



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Happy Summer!

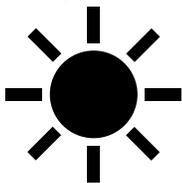
Happy summer from all of us at Brigadoon!

For many, summer is a time to relax, but here at Brigadoon we are working hard each day to raise and train dogs, coordinate volunteers, fundraise (fundraising by itself is a full-time job for non-profits!), and keep the programs up and running.

This summer, we encourage you to make supporting Brigadoon part of your summer vacation! Are you off work and looking for a fun and meaningful way to spend your time? Consider volunteering for a few hours. If volunteering isn't possible, maybe you can organize a fundraiser like a lemonade stand, garage sale, or other fundraiser! One great, easy way to support Brigadoon is to buy your tickets for our 13th Annual Graduation and Auction! You can purchase tickets online at any time. Be sure to join the Facebook event page for the Graduation to get all the latest updates. It's also a great way to let your friends know about the event. For more ideas of how to support Brigadoon this summer, see page 8.

We hope you, your family, and your dogs enjoy a fun and safe summer.

Enjoy the summer issue of "The Brigadoon Barker."



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 – Front Page
- 2 – Upcoming Events
- 3 – “Big Pups with Hopes of Even Bigger Futures”
- 4 – “Big Pups with Hopes of Even Bigger Futures”
- 5 – ““Big Pups with Hopes of Even Bigger Futures” and a thank you
- 6 – “What is That For?”
- 7 – “Keeping Cool This Summer” and Puppy Announcements
- 8 – “Thrillingham!,” “Wait List,” and a breed profile
- 9 – Fun Page

Newsletter edited by Celeste Macevicius.

Upcoming Events

- ✎ 9th Annual Paws and Claws Expo – Join Brigadoon at this free event hosted by the Alternative Humane Society on July 30th from 10AM-3PM at Bloedel Donovan Park. There will be games, prizes, vendors, demonstrations, raffle items, and more!
- ✎ Bellingham Northwest Wine Festival – Support Brigadoon and enjoy award-winning local wines. At the Four Points by Sheraton Grand Ballroom on August 5th from 7-10PM. Buy tickets at <http://www.bellinghamnorthwestwinefestival.com/>
- ✎ Thrillingham 2017 – Learn the Thriller dance and perform it as a zombie on Halloween while raising money for Brigadoon. Hosted at Maritime Heritage Park on Halloween at 8PM. Classes are held at Bloedel Donovan Park (MP) room on Fridays from 7-9PM starting on September 29th.
- ✎ Veteran's Day Event – More details to come. The Cascade Radio Group is hosting a Veteran's Day Event at the Underground Nightclub on November 10th from 7-10PM. Profits from the silent auction and ticket sales benefit Brigadoon.

Go to our website and Facebook page for more information on events!

Save the Date!

Save the date



2017 Brigadoon Service Dogs
13th Annual
Graduation and
Auction
*Changing Lives
One Dog at a Time*

Saturday
September 16th
5:30 p.m.
Silver Reef Hotel Casino
Ferndale, Washington
<http://www.brigadoondogs.org>



Get your tickets at <https://tinyurl.com/BrigadoonGrad>

Big Pups with Hopes of Even Bigger Futures

By Amie Chapman

Reprinted from the Growing Up Guide Pup Blog



When I first brought Bernard, Bianca, and Penny home, I wasn't sure what our plan for them would be. Of course our dream was to have them become service dogs, but at three weeks of age, how do you know if they are good candidates? At the time I had no idea what breeds they were or what type of personalities they would have.

As they grew and developed, I treated them as future service dogs. I handled them a lot, exposed them to all types of sights, sounds, and smells. I got them comfortable with being in crates, going on car rides, wearing collars, leashes, and even a puppy coat (I didn't actually take them out in public with the coat, just made sure that they didn't have a body sensitivity to one). They all developed into super sweet, loving, and happy puppies that were very attached to people. So why not try and see if they could become service dogs?



The puppies taking a break from the car on one of our many puppy pit stops.

I spent a lot of time on the internet looking for service dog organizations that were willing to take donated mixed breed dogs. I found a couple that we could get to by car within a day or two (I refuse to fly dogs in cargo) and I completely looked over their websites and reviewed them multiple times. But for some reason, I kept going back to the website for Brigadoon Service Dogs. I listened to my gut instinct and reach out to them to see if they would be interested in these three puppies.

At first the response was no, we were too far away from them. But Matt and I offered to bring the puppies to them, and it was an immediate yes, they were interested. After a few emails back and forth and a nice phone conversation with the director, we figured out a time where we could take a break

from our duties at home and take a few days to drive up to Washington and drop the puppies off.

We just got home from that trip. I have to admit I was really nervous about doing a 915-mile road trip with three 10-week-old puppies, Ricki, and Ozzy. Things actually went really well. We gave everyone plenty of playtime before we left and decided to drive at night when the pups were used to sleeping. The plan worked. The pups did really well, sleeping almost the whole trip, and of course Ricki and Ozzy are seasoned travelers so they were great as well.

I really could not have asked them to be better behaved than they were. They would wake up every couple of hours and need to potty, so there were a lot of stops. But all of our work getting the pups used to relieving on a leash and lots of car rides really prepared them for the trip. There was absolutely no way to get a hotel room with five dogs so we did the trip without a long break. Matt and I took turns driving and sleeping during the 20-hour trip. *Continued on page 3*

Did you Know?

Brigadoon aims to give shelter dogs a second chance when possible. After going through rigorous health and temperament tests, many shelter dogs have been trained and placed as service dogs!

Brigadoon Service Dogs is a small organization that makes a big impact. They train every type of service dog except guide dogs for the visually impaired. Denise, the founder, runs the school with the help of volunteers and a handful of employees. They are also partnered with a few prisons and the inmates are involved with helping to train the dogs. I have to admit that the prison program was one of the things that drew me to this organization. Because these puppies were unwanted and abandoned, maybe the inmates would see that just because you have a rough start in life doesn't mean you can't become something great. It is a win-win for everyone. The organization gains some new prospects, the inmates gain life skills and a way to give back to the community, and the puppies will be guaranteed a good home no matter what their path is.

When we finally arrived, we received a warm welcome. The few people we met were very excited to be receiving the puppies. We got a tour of the facility and a rundown of how things work there. We met the current dogs in training along with a litter of 12-week-old collie puppies (sooooo cute!). The puppies got a chance to run and play in a small fenced-in yard, and Ricki and Ozzy got to run in a very large fenced in area. We had a chance to ask any questions we had and to give Denise as much information about Bernard, Bianca, and Penny as we could. Everyone involved wanted to make their transition as smooth as possible, their well-being was the most important thing to me.

Once all the details were worked out, we learned that a couple of raisers that were lined up for the school had changed their mind. One of the collie puppies, along with Penny, Bernard, and Bianca, were now waiting for raisers. We were asked if we had any interest in raising the collie puppy ... or one of our pups. We hadn't planned on raising again so soon—we were actually wanting to take a break to finish our current Growing Up Guide Pup projects and start others that we have been wanting to do for a long time. But I feel that things happen for a reason, and the timing isn't always when you want it. So of course we said yes to raising one of our pups. How can you not help someone who is already doing so much to help others?

Deciding who to bring back home with us wasn't easy, since we love all three of them. All the puppies are great puppies, and all different. Bernard is the silly one who makes you laugh and smile. He learns things super fast, but also likes to do what he wants, like pick on the girls. Bianca changed the most as she grew. She was easily scared and a little shy, but boy did she come out of her shell. She loves to cuddle and is super social with people and other dogs, her tail wags the most. Penny is the mellow one, usually the first to tire out. She too is a great cuddler and will sit in your lap for hours (at least for now, she will be way too big as she gets older) and the most eager to please you.

After a lot of consideration we decided that Penny was the right fit for us at this time. Ricki and Ozzy need a bit of a break too (after Patrick and Arturo, both high energy dogs), and a mellow puppy would be easiest on them. Between work schedules, Growing Guide Pup duties, and some very much need home repairs, we need a puppy that actually sleeps for more than 30 minutes before needing to run, play, or train to fulfill their mental and physical requirements. *Continued on page 4.*



Amie poses with Bernard, Bianca and Penny next to the Brigadoon logo.



Penny wearing her new Brigadoon puppy coat for the first time.

Penny is giving us an opportunity for a lot of firsts. This is the first time that we got to choose which puppy we get to raise. This is also our first time raising a puppy for a different type of service other than guide work. Along with the firsts, there is of course working with yet another different school and different training protocols, new commands and different commands for the same behaviors like relieving (so far we have used “do your business,” “get busy,” and now “hurry”). It is hard to retrain ourselves from one protocol to another and remember different rules and guidelines. But as always these challenges are also great ways to learn new things.

With Penny being such a soft dog we also have to change our approach to our training with her. With Patrick he was fearless and we were able to bring him almost anywhere from the beginning and he took everything in stride. Penny gets overwhelmed easily and we will need to take exposing her to things much slower. She is also already very attached to Ricki, so we will be using Ricki as a mentor in our training to help build Penny’s confidence.

So let the new adventure begin, I have no idea what will happen with these three wonderful puppies. All I know is that they have brought so much joy during their time with me and I am looking forward to watching them grow and see what path they will choose.

Growing Up Guide Pup is a web series that promotes public awareness and education about service dogs. Follow Growing up Guide Pup and Brigadoon dog Penny at <https://growingupguidepup.org>! Also check them out on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter (links can be found at their website). Thank you, Growing Up Guide Pup, for the amazing work you do for the service dog community and for choosing to support Brigadoon.

Most Popular Dog Breeds in the USA

1. Labrador Retriever
2. German Shepherd
3. Golden Retriever
4. Bulldog
5. Beagle
6. French Bulldog
7. Poodle
8. Rottweiler
9. Yorkshire Terrier
10. Boxer

-Source: American Kennel Club

Most Popular Service Dog Breeds

-  Labrador Retriever
-  Golden Retriever
-  German Shepherd
-  Collie
-  Poodle
-  Samoyed
-  Irish Setter
-  Shetland Sheepdog
-  Vizla
-  Springer Spaniel
-  Welsh Corgi

-Source: My Assistance Dogs Inc.

Answers to Dog Breed Crossword (page 9)

1. Great Dane 2. Poodle 3. Papillion 4. Dachshund 5. Jack Russell 6. Pug 7. Dalmatian 8. Greyhound 9. Mastiff
10. Golden Retriever 11. Rottweiler 12. Husky 13. Corgi 14. Bulldog 15. Beagle 16. Lab 17. Collie

“What is That For?”

Have you ever seen a service dog wearing a piece of gear and wondered what it was? You're not alone! There are many different equipment options for dogs nowadays. Handlers enjoy lots of different options to choose from when they're deciding what will suit them and their dog best.

<p>Head halters</p> 	<p>Head halters are like horse halters, but for dogs! Head halters give the handler more control than a flat buckle collar would. They can discourage pulling and sniffing, and also help the handler to direct the dog's movements more easily. They are not muzzles – dogs can freely breathe, eat, open their mouths, and even hold a ball while wearing one.</p>
<p>Martingale collars</p> 	<p>These collars are another tool that can give handlers more control than a flat buckle collar. They are also useful for dogs with narrow heads, as they do not slip off the head as easily. A martingale collar will tighten slightly if a dog moves too far away from the handler, but will not choke the dog. The tightening gives feedback to the dog in a non-painful way.</p>
<p>Harnesses</p> 	<p>There are a couple of different harnesses that service dogs wear. Guide dogs wear guiding harnesses that have a loosely fitted, long, angled handle. The dog pushes into the harness to help guide the handler forward. Other service dogs may wear a harness if their handler needs balance support. These harnesses have a sturdy, short, straight handle. Some handlers continually use the handler to help them walk, others may use it as counterbalance support to keep steady, and others may only use it when they stumble, fall, go up stairs, or need other periodic support.</p>
<p>Vest or cape</p> 	<p>Many service dogs wear a vest or cape to identify them as a service dogs. Vests come in many different styles and colors, but they all mean the same thing: This dog is working. Some service dogs learn that the vest means they are working, so the vest can also be used as a signifier to the dog that it is time to work. The vest doesn't make a service dog a service dog, though. Buying a vest online will not make your dog a service dog.</p>
<p>Backpacks</p> 	<p>Backpacks are sometimes used by handlers as another type of vest. They serve the same purpose as a vest, as well as offering the handler places to store things like bags, treats, or even medication.</p>
<p>Handles</p> 	<p>Some service dog vests have a handle attached for the handler to hold onto. These handles can provide an extra connection between the handler and service dog, and are particularly useful in two-person service dog teams where the parent holds the dog's leash and the child holds onto the handle. <i>(Photo credit: Active Dogs)</i></p>
<p>ID Cards</p> 	<p>All service dogs from Assistance Dogs International accredited schools have an identification card that identifies the dog as a service dog and details the rights of service dogs. Different states and countries may require additional identifications. For example, British Columbia requires that service dogs have a government-issued certificate card. But in the US, service dogs do not require an identification to gain access. Brigadoon dogs also carry an emergency information card with contact numbers and information about the dog.</p>

Keeping Cool This Summer

Summer weather is here! While the sunny weather is amazing, it's important for dogs to stay cool in the heat. Here are some simple ways to make sure your dogs stay comfortable and safe this summer:

- 🐾 Provide access to cold water at all times. Remember to pack a bottle of water and a dish for your dogs when you go out!
- 🐾 Avoid exercise in the middle of the day. Mornings and evenings are the best time for walks
- 🐾 Stay off hot sidewalks and out of hot cars. Hot pavement can burn a dog's paw pads and hot cars can heat up to deadly temperatures in a matter of minutes. If your service dog must walk on hot pavement, dog boots are a way to protect your dog's paw pads.
- 🐾 Keep your dog at a healthy weight. In addition to other health risks, overweight dogs are at a higher risk for heatstroke.
- 🐾 Groom your dog. Keeping your dog's coat free of mats and tangles allows for easier cooling. If you have a dog that can be trimmed in the summer (check with your groomer first), consider a shorter summer cut.
- 🐾 Try some fun ways to keep your dog cool: filling a baby pool with water, offering "pup-sicles" (you can find recipes for dog popsicles online), going for a swim at a lake, running through a sprinkler, or wetting a beach towel in cold water for your dog to lie on are some great ways to help cool your dog down.

New Brigadoon Puppies

Allow us to introduce you to Brigadoon's newest puppies in training!



Bernard, Bianca, and Penny

These pups are Great Dane/German Shepherd mixes donated by Growing Up Guide Pup (see article on page 3). They are very sweet, people-oriented dogs that are eager to learn!



Cinder, Annie, and Tango

These are the puppies in-training from our spring collie puppy litter. Their mother is Zenyatta, a smooth tricolor collie, and their father is AJ, a rough sable collie. They are learning new things each day!

Thrillingham!

Thrillingham is a local organization that performs Michael Jackson's Thriller dance at Halloween each year while raising money for charity. This year, the charity Thrillingham chose was Brigadoon!

Thrillingham has been a great supporter of Brigadoon, not only through their fundraising efforts, but also through promoting Brigadoon events, sharing Brigadoon posts on social media, and in other great ways.

If you are interested in learning more about Thrillingham – maybe you want to join the annual dance?! – you can check out their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Thrillingham/>

Wait List

At this time, Brigadoon has had to stop accepting new applications as our waiting list is at capacity. It is only with financial and volunteer support that Brigadoon is able to train and place dogs. You can help us to match and graduate the clients on our wait list with dogs and allow us to open it up once again to people in need. Here are ways you can help:

- 🐕 Sign up as a monthly donor
- 🐕 Volunteer a few hours a week
- 🐕 Attend a fundraiser. See page 2.
- 🐕 Organize a fundraiser. Are you a business owner? Donate a portion of your profits to Brigadoon. Do you have extra stuff at home? Have a garage sale.
- 🐕 Sign up with Giving Assistant, Amazon Smile, iGive, and Fred Meyers. Shop at 100s of retailers that will give a portion of their profit to Brigadoon
- 🐕 Consider puppy raising
- 🐕 Reach out to businesses and organizations you support and ask them to consider supporting Brigadoon

Breed Profile: Golden Retrievers



Brigadoon uses a wide array of dog breeds. Meet one breed we train, the Golden Retriever!

Original purpose: Scottish duck hunters needed a breed that could retrieve game from both the water and the land, so they crossed spaniels with retrievers to create the Golden Retriever in the 19th century.

Appearance: Study, with a long, water repellent coat that can be straight or wavy. Colours range from dark to light golden.

Size: 55-65 lbs and 21.5-22.5" for females; 65-75 lbs and 23-24" for males

Lifespan: 10-12 years

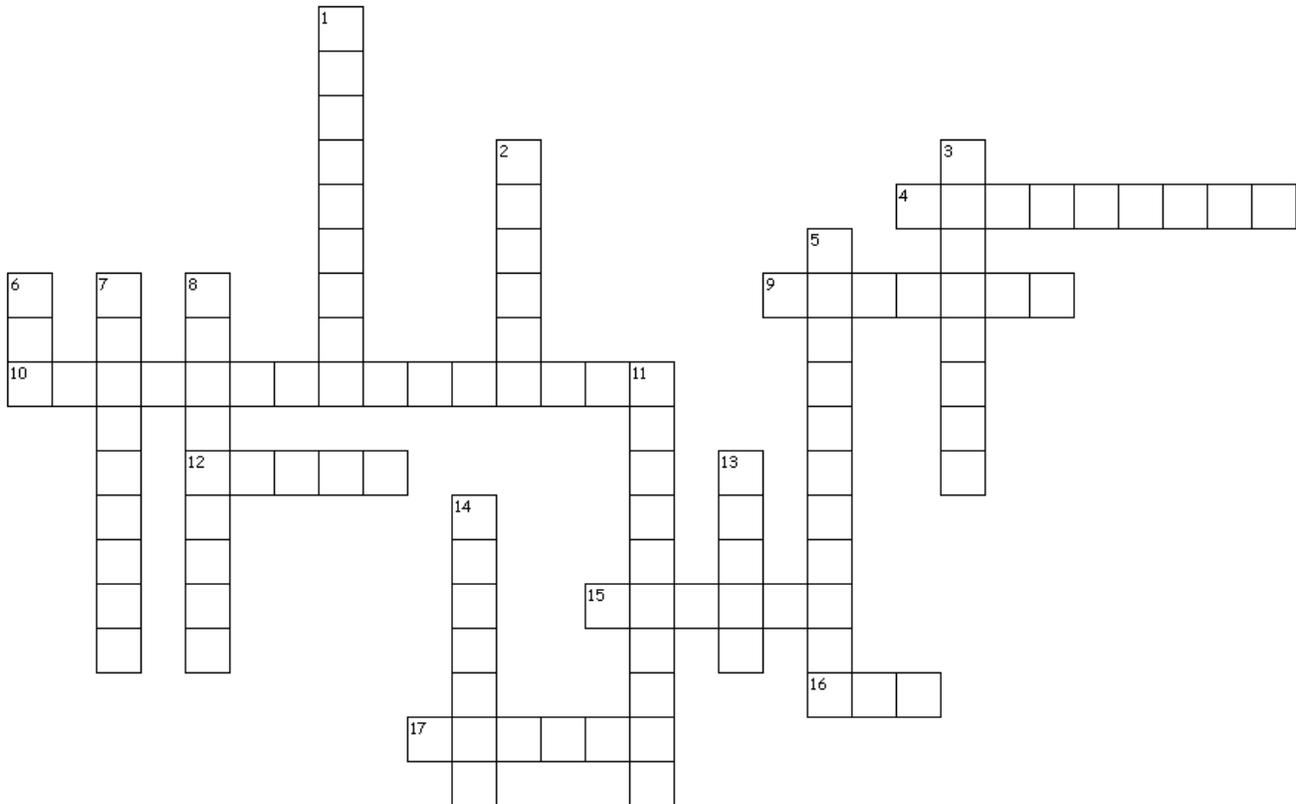
Temperament: Intelligent, friendly, devoted, eager to please, dependable, fun-loving, often puppy-like for many years

Fun Fact: Golden Retrievers are the 3rd most popular breed of dog in America!

Brigadoon Retrievers: Nugget, Styx, Zola, Teyla, Iris (*not a comprehensive list*)

Fun Page!

Dog Breed Crossword



Across

4. Nicknamed "wiener dog"
9. Heaviest dog bred
10. Originated in Scotland in the 19th century
(hint: p. 8)
12. Dog famous for pulling sleds
15. Small hound with long ears and a white, brown, and black coat
16. Most popular breed in America
17. The first and founding dog breed of Brigadoon Service Dogs

Down

1. Tallest dog breed
2. Non-shedding dog that comes in 3 sizes

3. Small dog with large ears and a name that means "butterfly" in French
5. Small terrier with a name that consists of 2 common boy's names
6. Short dog with a squishy face, curly tail, and wrinkles
7. Dog often seen by fire engines or with a villain wearing a fur coat
8. Dog famous for its speed
11. Large, black and tan dog with a docked tail
13. Short dog with "Pembroke" and "Welsh" varieties
14. Stocky dog with "French" and "English" varieties