

## New Students, New Challenges

Seven Special Ed students from Santa Fe Capital High School are doing something fun and exciting this fall. They are the newest Student Trainers working with Assistance Dogs of the West. The group, along with teacher Debbie LaRouche, takes the bus to the ADW office on Wednesday mornings for a 90 minute class.

At ADW, we work with all student trainers to build success, and instructor/trainers give regular feedback on student progress. Our overall goal in educational and vocational classes is to make the activity valuable for all student trainers and dogs. We look at ADW "program output" as twofold: 1) great assistance dogs for our clients and 2) successful student trainers developed.

Student trainers with developmental disabilities must meet "abilities criteria" in order to enroll or should demonstrate acceptable levels within 90 days to continue in the program:

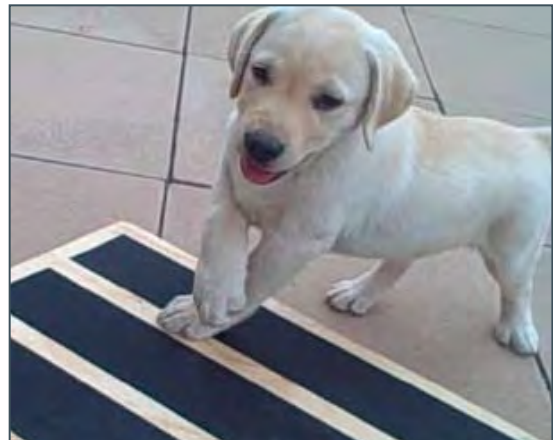
- Wheelchair/walker/mobility equipment ability (90% accuracy) with one month trial period to confirm
- Body awareness
- Mental acuity/cognitive ability acceptable to work with dogs successfully
- Sense of timing
- Visual ability
- Awareness of environment
- Ability to receive/process feedback
- Self concept/social skills/ability to work with others

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## We Get New Pups, They Get New Names

People frequently ask: where do the puppies come from and how do they get their names, these new recruits to ADW? Puppies enter our program on a cyclical schedule. When senior dogs are near to placement, their "re"placements are always "in the pens" so to speak. New pups constantly join the ADW team.

Since ADW dogs must meet rigorous temperament and health requirements for their future job assignments, not just any puppy can join the team. Some ADW dogs are purchased from other service dogs agencies with breeding programs; some from breeders with whom ADW has successful relationships; some are donated by great supporters; a rare few are rescued from shelters (see Rescue Dog Project article); and occasionally ADW breeds a litter. So, new pups are between four and twelve weeks old when they start their training.



Popeye practices agility (or secretly works on steps for Dancing with the Stars).

When the pups arrive, they usually need new names. This process is an art and a science. Names need to encourage positive response from the pups and be easy for all ADW clients and student trainers to say; one and two syllable names work best. Staff, student trainers, Board members and donors often make recommendations and a short list of names is created for each pup to see which name is the best fit.

The name might be in honor of a person (AJ in memory of Derek Saunders' mother or Seymour for a generous donor), be a name everyone likes (Lily and Zumi) or be some kind of descriptor for the pup's appearance (Popeye). Sometimes, the first name chosen evolves (Seymour to "Morrie", Naomi to "Mimi"). Ultimately, the dog picks the name it likes best, responds and moves on to learn the **next** 89 commands on the list.



Students at Santa Fe Capital High School prepare to learn grooming techniques.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

School is back in session; 15 different classes are training more dogs; staff, student trainers, clients, Board, volunteers and **everyone** associated with ADW are really working hard.

With the upcoming national election, the unsettled economy and the change in season, we are all challenged to conduct "business as usual". Dogs help keep us focused; they vote every day to live fully. Student trainers from middle and high schools, at Boys & Girls' Clubs, with programs for people with developmental disabilities and in juvenile detention learn to focus on the task at hand. That is what builds our success and is one of the many gifts given by ADW.

Clients persevere in hunting for the resource a well trained assistance dog will provide, despite social context. When confronted with the opportunity to access improved quality of life, more independence and self reliance, and a non-judgmental best friend, government and the economy are certainly obstacles, but fall much lower on the list.

ADW continues to do hard work that is good work, driven by our core value of **quality in all relationships**. We count on each and every one of you, our essential supporters, to help us continue to do this work. Your contributions of volunteer time, financial resources, in-kind products, services, new contacts and collaborations are critical to our ongoing success.

Thank you.

Carolyn Clark Beedle  
Executive Director

## Thank You

Thank you to the **Grand Prix de Santa Fe** and the **Buckaroo Ball** for including Assistance Dogs of the West as a participant in your spectacular events

## MPDFAD

I am sad to report that my assistance dog, who goes by the name of Howie, has been diagnosed with a rare neurological disorder known as MPDFAD (multiple personality disorder for assistance dogs).

Howie regularly acts like a dog, assistance dog, pig, human, and a comatose speed bump Golden retriever. Yeah, that's right; I said Comatose Speed Bump Golden Retriever. You may ask yourself, "How can a Golden Retriever be comatose if he's so playful?" I know this sounds contradictory, but I totally swear it's the truth; I spend 24 hours a day with Howie.

When he accompanies me through the University of New Mexico, Howie is a respectable, distinguished assistance dog, but once I have him go under a desk in a classroom, that MPFAD kicks in. He immediately goes into his comatose speed bump phase.

The best example of this is when construction was going on outside my classroom and workers were jack hammering through concrete. The floor of the classroom began to vibrate and the noise was deafening, but Howie remained a comatose speed bump throughout. As the floor vibrated, Howie's whole body began to vibrate as well, but he didn't move; his eyes were closed tight and he

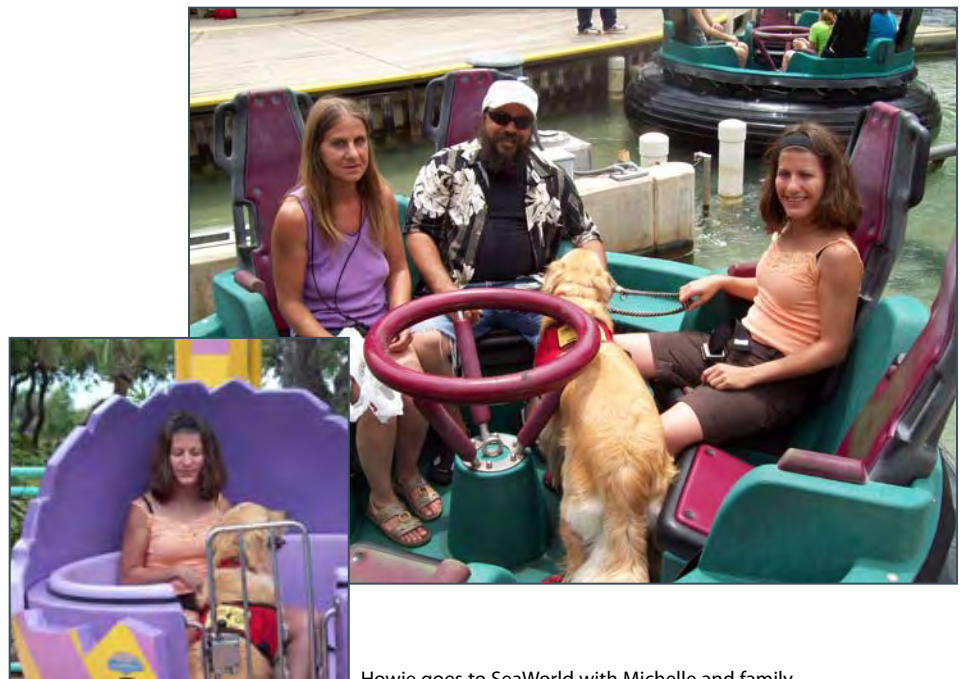
just laid there, snoring softly. This is a classic symptom of MPDFAD.

Howie also likes to roll on the floor snorting like a pig, more evidence of his disorder. He often uses the living room floor as his napkin after eating each night; rubbing his face with both paws in a scrubbing motion and then wiping all remaining food particles on the carpet emulating the human behavior of cleanliness. Wait, what's that Howie...? Oh, Howie says that he is not "emulating" human behavior because **he is a human**, not a service dog.

The final symptom that makes me positive Howie suffers from MPDFAD is his love of amusement park rides. A couple months ago, my family and I (Howie, too) went on vacation to SeaWorld. Howie insisted that he go on the rides and when I told him dogs couldn't go on rides, he reminded me he wasn't a dog. So what could I do — I took him on the Pin Wheel (a type of Ferris Wheel) and Rio Loco (a water ride).

What "normal" Golden Retriever goes on amusement park rides? I don't know any others, that's for sure. The only logical explanation for such behavior is MPDFAD. Howie is a great success as my assistance dog, despite this little problem. If you would like more information about this condition though, please contact Assistance Dogs of the West.

~ Michelle McMaster, Howie's person



Howie goes to SeaWorld with Michelle and family.

## AJ Joins Team



Board Member Derek Saunders generated \$15,000 in donations for an ADW dog and asked that it be named in honor of his late mother. AJ joined the team in January 2008.

## Major Donor Thanks

Long time Santa Fe resident Ann Rutledge heard about Assistance Dogs of the West and was impressed with the work done by and for dogs in the community. Ann has owned and showed beautiful standard poodles and has a great appreciation for the indescribable gifts that dogs can bring to their humans.

After reading news stories about last year's ADW graduation, Ann had some research done into ADW financials and operations. Pleased with what she learned, Ann made a gift to ADW of \$35,000 "dog tagged" for Santa Fe program activity. We are so grateful for Ann's vote of confidence in ADW and her gift to all of Santa Fe. More SF student trainers will get to work with and develop great relationships with dogs and quality ADW programs will run that much more smoothly.



The Santa Fe Summer Program took a field trip to Museum Hill in Santa Fe.

## Triple Duty Dog

Good thing Schubert is a great big Bernese Mountain Dog. He does more work than almost any person you know, joyfully and professionally. Schubert works 24/7 as an assistance (service) dog with Del Wilkinson in Santa Fe, and Shubert and Del together work as a therapy dog team at St. Vincent's Hospital visiting with patients and as a facility dog team at local schools explaining what assistance dogs do. Shubert and Del were trained by ADW in the Self-Training course, have been working successfully for years, and they look a lot different (and much bigger) than many service dog teams.

ED Carolyn Clark Beedle and staff do regular educational outreach presentations to local business and government entities, explaining the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) service animal access laws. Because teams look different and needs keep changing, this is an area of unfortunate misunderstanding and miscommunication. Service animals (guide dogs for the visually impaired, hearing dogs for hearing impaired and assistance animals for people with varied disabilities) are trained working animals and have full public access rights. Therapy and facility animals (trained to work with many people but not to public access) are invited in by the agencies they visit. Companion animals or purely emotional support animals are considered pets and do not have any public access rights.

For more information or to schedule an outreach presentation, please call the ADW office.



Assistance Dog, Schubert, with Del Wilkinson.



# Program News

**Staff In-Service Training and Development** sessions have included Infectious Disease Information and Management, Resolving Dog Aggression, Dealing with Difficult Conversations, Effective Service Dog Temperament Testing and **Clicker Training** with **Dani Weinberg**.

**Capital High School Special Education** students are the newest student trainer class at ADW. (See article.)

The continuing **Santa Maria El Mirador** program is graduating some developmentally challenged student trainers and adding new members. These trainers' hard work results in their advancing skill building and vocational goals. "Graduates" are celebrated as they leave the class armed with new tools for new adventures.

Santa Fe **In School** programs at **Desert Academy** and **La Mariposa Montessori School** are full of returning and new students. Santa Fe **After School** open enrollment programs (Mon, Wed and Thurs) are revved up for Fall. There are many first time student trainers starting this fall, and seasoned ADW student Teaching Assistants share their expertise.

Three clients are currently enrolled in **ADW Self Training Classes** working with their own dogs; golden retrievers are big this year. The minimum 40 hours of training goes by quickly when **Sue Barns, Instructor/Trainer** is at the head of the class.



Chimayo Boys & Girls Club Class.



Kazumi Uchikoshi, ADW Student Intern, on bench with ADW friends.

**Santa Fe Boys & Girls Club** and **Chimayo Boys & Girls Club** students are excited to continue fall after school programs. **Chimayo Club Program Coordinator Dana Abrums** sent ADW a thank you note for the amazing gifts her students have received. "It has been a real pleasure watching the children in the ADW program learn to love caring for the dogs and also begin to question some of the ways they see dogs being treated in our community. Although they may not be able to control the choices adults make around them, your program is showing these children that it is okay to have empathy and love towards an animal and maybe even voice the concerns they have about the way an animal is being treated. I also know that if a child is able to show empathy for an animal, they are much more likely to be able to do this for a person as well."

**Client Placement Training (CPT)** is held a number of times each year when two to four clients participate in two-week workshops to learn how to work with their dogs, and individual sessions are also offered as needed. The **Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi Peace and Social Justice Committee** awarded **\$3,000** in scholarship funds to support 2008-09 ADW clients.

Another group of **Santa Fe Prep TAP** community service program students start again this September. They are focused on learning the value of community service through engaging as active participants in assistance dog training.

**Albuquerque After School Programs** run three times weekly. Two classes

at **Kid Power** are for "mixed abilities" student trainers from 8 to 18 focused on assistance dog training and some occupational therapy. The third class is hosted by the **ABQ Jewish Community Center**. We are grateful for this new community partner.

The **ADW Juvenile Detention Center** assistance dog training program has been spending that **\$100,000 grant from the Annenberg Foundation** on the four-day per week program at the **ABQ Boys Re-integration Center**. Seven to eight student trainers have been learning behavioral and life skills along with assistance dog training.

The **30 ADW dogs in training** continue the cycle through our programs. Four to five will be placed this fall and another four to five are targeted for Spring 09 placements. Those client applications continue to roll in at average of five per month, so the **ADW dog training/client interviewing/student teaching plates are full to bursting**.

The first **ADW Student Internship** with **Kazumi Uchikoshi** was so successful this past summer; ADW has taken on a second intern this fall. **Anna Wilder**, also a student from the Assistance Dog Institute, will intern two days a week this fall in all program activities. Kazumi will return to ADW for two more months this fall. **Through these internships, ADW is adding strength to the industry through arming well educated students with practical experience.** To support the Student Intern Program or for more info, call or email ADW.

# Wishes Come True

In early 2006, breeder and **ADW Advisory council member Linda Berkeley** in Massachusetts generously donated a lab puppy to ADW and \$15,000 to scholarship his entire training. Linda heard about ADW from the **TODAY Show** segment about ADW developmentally disabled student trainers. Her gift, Berkeley, is being placed this fall with **Livia**, a little girl with autism in Dallas, Texas.

Livia's family found ADW through the **North Texas chapter of Make A Wish Foundation**. Since ADW is one of the few agencies in the U.S. that places service dogs with children with autism, we get calls and applications from across the country. Make A Wish Foundation staff was diligent in their search for the right resource for Livia and her family, and ADW had the perfect answer to her request.

When Berkeley officially "graduates" next May on stage with his student trainers, his proud breeder Linda will also be there to celebrate his success and the phenomenal "wish come true" Berkeley will bring to Livia. We want to recognize Linda Berkeley for her invaluable help in making this magic happen.



"Listen. Is that our flight?" Zumi and Seymour coming to ADW from breeder/donor in Bangor, Maine.

# Emergency Veterinary Fund

In December of 2007 the Assistance Dogs of the West Youth Board was created. The Youth Board and its six initial members took on two major tasks. First we want to increase awareness and interest in ADW among our peers and second to raise funds for the program. We chose to tackle raising **\$45,000 for an Emergency Veterinary Fund**. The primary goal of the Emergency Veterinary Fund (EVF) is to provide ADW with relief from the unexpected financial burden of veterinary emergencies.

We plan to raise this financial support through grant proposals, individual donations, and merchandise sales. Youth Board members have set up community information tables, asked for individual donations, and in October an **ADW 2009 Calendar** designed by the Youth Board will be available to purchase.

The need for an EVF became a reality in the summer of 2007 when two 5 week old ADW puppies sustained rattle snake bites. Thanks to student trainer **Victoria Weiner** both puppies miraculously survived, but the incident was emotionally and monetarily costly. Although we take every precaution to keep dogs safe as possible, accidents can still happen. In August of 2008 ADW was hit with a terrible epidemic of kennel cough. Tragically the mutant strain killed one of our 14 month old dogs, Parker.

Three other dogs were hospitalized, one for an extended period of time. The cost to ADW is estimated to be \$25,000; but more essential than money is the loss of a great dog. Some client will have to wait longer before receiving a service dog, and our entire ADW family is devastated.



Parker had been living with me since he was 8 weeks old and though this is incredibly sad, I am so thankful for the time we had together. He loved his job, but more importantly Parker simply loved life. He also brightened the lives of everyone who knew him. Whether chasing his tail, sticking his entire head in the water bucket, or learning a new command, Parker always found a way to make everyone laugh. He will be missed horribly, but we are determined something good will come from this. The need for an Emergency Vet Fund has never been more apparent and the Youth Board is going to make it happen.

*~ Rebekah Reyes, Youth Board President  
In memory of Parker ("Park")*



Puppies practice "Find It"

# Thank You from Assistance Dogs of the West

We want to take this opportunity to recognize our generous donors and supporters who helped us from April 1, 2008 - September 13, 2008.

**Major Donors\* contribute over \$1000 and/or substantial in-kind services, time or effort.**

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# Shelter / Rescue Dog Project

It takes a very special dog to be a service dog. The job description includes calmly being with the client in all environments, 24/7. Those clusters of pigeons, the enticing smells of food or other animals, distracting noises and appealing activities...well, all service dogs are asked most often to rise above normal dog reactions while working. They must present clean bills of health, good family health histories, as well as minimal emotional issues. A service dog will work with the client successfully for a long time (hopefully 6-8 years,) and all training agencies look for candidates most likely to succeed.

Shelter/rescue dogs are unknown entities when it comes to the list of qualifications, and time and effort to train an assistance dog are limited resources. ADW unfortunately can't afford to spend \$15,000 and 18-24 months on a dog that probably can't successfully graduate...unless we can increase the probability of success. So building on some specific experience, client and seasoned seizure dog handler/trainer Sebastian is working with ADW staff to identify high potential "seizure dog" candidates from local shelters.

Seizure dogs have the need for increased focus on their client match; to hopefully develop the ability to alert to seizure onset. Sebastian and ADW chose his current dog Billy from the SF Animal Shelter and we know other shelter dogs might have that ability. ADW and Sebastian evaluate pups for that human focus along with the other temperament qualities required to make a successful service dog. **The Thaw Charitable Trust** and **Laura J. Niles Foundation** have awarded ADW grants in support of this project, giving shelter/rescue dogs the opportunity for new lives, new work and enhanced public awareness of their abilities.



ABQ Student Teaching Assistant Francie Bustamante and ADW dog in training Maisey, during Airport/Flight Access Training.

# Proud ADW Board Member—Larry P Tilley, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM

Who Am I: Born in Creston, a small Iowa farm community, undergraduate at Iowa State University, 1969 graduate of Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine. Internship in NYC at the Animal Medical Center "the Mayo Clinic of Veterinary Medicine", Board Certified in veterinary internal medicine. Written and published over 12 textbooks, 3 last year. Honored with a number of awards including 1989 AAHA US Veterinarian of the Year and 1999 Waltham International Recognized Veterinarian of the Year.

I found ADW through my son. Kyle was a fortunate ADW student trainer for five years, during which he formed amazing relationships while gaining understanding about challenges faced by people with disabilities. Kyle helped train three dogs who are now serving grateful ADW clients. I joined the Board three years ago, and also provide whatever veterinary consulting needed.

What appeals to me most in my continuing education work is being able to help people and pets. The pet is so precious in this world, especially when there is an illness or disability. I cannot describe how exciting it is to be associated with ADW — to be able to pursue my desire and be on that path of helping both working pet and the person with a disability is a true gift.

I have always been "carried away with life" and am allowed to attain that objective in my association with ADW. Assistance Dogs of the West helps to demonstrate the beautiful relationship of the healing interaction between humans and their pets — need I say more? I learned a long time ago that as a doctor, treating a patient without exhausting every possibility is unimaginable — ADW allows me to attain that purpose.

~Larry Tilley



Tribute to Black Lab Eddie by Student Trainer Rosemary Buscher, age 11

# ADW News Barks

The **ADW Open House** gave great ADW Volunteers and friends the opportunity to see the new office, meet Staff, Board and Youth Board members, and new pups while eating yummy food and drink donated by **JINJA Bistro, Todos Santos Chocolates and Coca Cola Bottling of SF.**

A recent **Coffee with Mayor Coss** in Santa Fe resulted in the potential for filming a public service announcement about Service Dog Access for NM.

Congratulations to **Youth Board President Rebekah Reyes**; nominated for the 2008 New Mexico Youth in Philanthropy award.

The **Assistance Dogs International Conference** in London this June had agencies from across the world in attendance. Animal behavior education, organizational best practices, service dog access advocacy and new breeding program learning were among the many topics shared.

The **ADW Youth Board** is active: planning a Leadership Training Workshop at the **Santa Fe Mountain Center**, presenting grant proposals to local foundations, hosting community info booths and presentations and designing an **ADW 2009 Calendar** to help raise \$ for the **ADW Emergency Veterinary Fund** (see article).

Thank you to **Sharla Throckmorton McDowell** and **Michael McDowell** of **POP Gallery** who hosted their annual Silent Auction Fund Raiser for ADW in June. Staff, Board, Youth Board members and dogs mixed with art collectors and visitors to Santa Fe at a lively afternoon event.

Thank you to **Board President Kitty Ault** who ran the 16 mile Imogene Pass Run in Colorado again this September, challenging ADW donors to support her race through contributions.

**ADW Program and Service Dog Access Presentations and demonstrations** done by staff and student trainers for Animal Alliance Day in SF, Grand Prix de Santa Fe, El Dorado



Carolyn Clark Beedle, Vicky Wiener and Tilley conduct a Service Dog Access Presentation for Santa Fe Trails Drivers.

Health Fair, the Buckaroo Ball, Pojoaque Pueblo Public Library, the NM Governor's Commission on Disability, Santa Fe Trails Transportation drivers, NM Conference on Aging, NM State Humane Conference, St Vincent's Hospital Health & Safety Extravaganza and the NM ADA Council.

Thank you to **Advisory Council member Katrina Holder and her La Mariposa Montessori School** for including ADW as a beneficiary from the **FABULOUS FANDANGO** fundraiser. ADW Board and Staff ate and danced along with other revelers to South By Southwest band in August and attendees contributed \$1,700 to ADW.

**New Puppy Raiser** classes have commenced in Santa Fe on Thursdays from 3:30-5:00 pm. **Experienced Puppy Raiser** meetings continue in Santa Fe on Thursdays from 5:45-6:45 pm.

## Feed Me Walk Me Love Me

October 24-26 the third annual Art in the Honor of Animals event takes place; this year's theme is **Feed Me Walk Me Love Me**. Show opening night: **Friday, October 24 from 5-7:30 pm** at Galerie Züger, 120 W San Francisco St, downtown Santa Fe. Silent auction bidding continues all weekend with a closing party from **3-5 pm on Sunday, October 26**.

In 2006 there were 50-60 artists, last year 90 artists donated and 2008 has 125 artists on the donor list...we'll see just how big this creative community event can get. Many participating artists encourage their friends to contribute, and art comes from all over the country though the majority is from NM. Amazing and diverse talents like **Carol Anthony, Bruce Nauman, Susan Rothenberg, John Fincher, Darren Vigil Gray, Pat Oliphant, Kristin Lora, Susan Contreras, Bunny Tobias, Lynne Loshbaugh, Erika Wanenmacher** and many, many others are generous donors.

Stellar Event Committee members **Melissa Weiner, Shelley Robinson, Betsy Armstrong, Porter Dillon, Ed Keller** and CCB coordinate a great celebration. Galerie Züger will graciously host the exhibit, with locally sponsored food, drinks and music for our Sunday closing party. The entire event is a twist on your standard Santa Fe art opening as dogs and student trainers and clients are in attendance. Mark your calendars now.



# Trainer's Tip

## Puppy Housetraining

You will need: a properly sized crate; a collar and leash; treats; poop bags; time and patience.

Acclimate your puppy to his crate on his first day in your home, off and on all day. While you do this, take him outside on his leash to his designated potty spot every hour. When he obliges you with a pile or a puddle, tell him "Yes!" in a happy tone of voice (or Click! your clicker) and feed him a piece of cookie.

When he cries in the night, you must get up (quickly we're sorry to say), put him on his leash and take him out to his potty spot. Stand and wait. When he starts to go, say "better go now!" As soon as your pup has toileted, tell him "Yes!" in that happy tone of voice and feed

him a bit of cookie, praise him, then take him in and put him back in his crate. No food, no play, and no bed-cuddling.

First thing in the morning, take him out on leash and repeat the ritual. If you consistently go out with him, on leash, you will teach him to use the designated spot for his bathroom. Immediately after he is done eating each meal, take him out again, repeat your cue when he does his thing, and treat and praise when he is done. Also take him out upon the completion of any exuberant play sessions, and whenever he wakes up from a nap. For the rest of the day, take him out every hour on the hour for his potty ritual.

The remainder of the time he must be under your direct supervision, or on a leash or tether, in his pen or in his crate, every second of the day.

With supervision, consistency, and patience, housetraining is a snap!

# New Students...

continued from page 1

Actual Disability Program Student Trainer skills learned:

- Dog training/teaching
- Dog grooming and care giving
- Dog management
- Responsibility for dog/other
- Love/relationship building
- Elementary math/money management
- List making and accomplishing list completion
- Personal health/value of exercise awareness
- Presentation skills/working with the public more confidently
- Communications



Students in Santa Fe Capital High School Program practice grooming techniques.



Summer Program Student Trainer Mira Engel drawing in thanks for what she learned.

# How You Can Help

Your tax-exempt gifts can be used to help with the following needs and expenses:

## For Students

Single After School Session.....	\$30
After School Student Scholarship .....	\$250
School Program Student-Trainer Sponsor .....	\$2,500
After School Program Sponsor.....	\$15,000
Annual School Program Sponsor .....	\$35,000

## For Dogs

Dog Food Monthly Sponsor .....	\$50
Equipment/Supply Sponsor (Dog Harness).....	\$500
Buy a New Dog.....	\$1,500
Annual Vet Care Sponsor .....	\$1,500
Dog Training Sponsor (Name the Dog) .....	\$15,000
Emergency Vet Fund.....	<b>any amount</b>

## For Clients

Client Placement Training (CPT) Sponsor .....	\$3,500
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**Any contribution to CPT can help our clients**

## Administrative Needs

Office Color Copier Sponsor .....	\$500/mo
Program Vehicle Sponsor (donate an SUV or truck and get a tax write off).....	\$25,000
Instructor/Trainer Salary Sponsor.....	\$28,000
Operations Manager Salary Sponsor .....	\$35,000
ADW Training Facility Sponsors .....	\$3.5M Total Need
ADW Training Facility Single Room Sponsors .....	\$50,000 each
(Room Names in Memory of)	

## Any Amount is Truly Appreciated!

Assistance Dogs of the West is a 501(c) 3 tax exempt charity.

All contributions are 100% tax deductible.

# Dogs Can Paint

ADW clients pay a one time fee of \$3,500 for the two week Client Placement Training workshop they attend once they are matched with their assistance dog. This fee can present a big financial challenge to many people with disabilities, though all agree the learning experience is actually priceless. We offer all clients fund raising packages with suggestions of sources they might tap and ideas about how to find this money. ADW also writes grant proposals and encourages individual donors to support our **Client Placement Training Fund** which can offer partial scholarships to clients in need. The **Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi Peace and Social Justice Committee** just awarded \$3,000 towards CPT Scholarships.

Some clients are extremely creative when it comes to new ways to raise the "tuition". ADW service dog "Griz" Lawrence in Albuquerque left flyers in every vet's office explaining he was going to retire and needed help with his replacement. One SF Client and some friends came up with a really unusual fund raiser: Dogs Can Paint. Along with **Santa Fe Dog Dancing Club** and local pet boutique **Zoe and Guido's**, a fun evening of paw and tail painting was had by remarkably talented dog artists. The painting event and exhibition of finished work raised \$2,000 helped by PR from **Ben Swan of the New Mexican** paper. You can contribute to the Client Placement Training Fund at any time to keep those scholarships available.



ADW Service Dog, Mimi, puts her best feet forward for a great cause.



ADW Summer Program at Albuquerque Academy.

# Students Say

Hi, my name is C.J. Felton. I am a senior in high school and have been working with Assistance Dogs of the West for over two years. I would just like to state why I love working with Assistance Dogs of the West and what I get out of it.

I like working with ADW because the people there care about me and are all really nice people. I came to ADW in the first place just to hang out with the dogs and then I got the feeling that I could help a person other than myself. After doing the student trainer program for a while, I have learned a lot of new things like how to work with little kids and parents and random people. I've also been working on being more assertive with the dogs and have learned the difference between what I thought the meaning of assertiveness is and what the real meaning is.

I really enjoy doing the community service and I think it is a good way to spend time. It gives me a good feeling and it also helps others. The ADW Youth Board is also a great thing I'm involved in. It helps me be and feel more responsible and like I'm part of something bigger than the average teen. It is also an awesome way to give back to Assistance Dogs of the West.

My time with ADW has helped me to find a career for my life; in the near future I would like to go to college to get a degree in dog training and experience in professional dog and pet grooming. Once I do that, I want to start my own business. I would like to invite my sister to join the business with me, which would make it a "one stop shop". She sells dog and cat food at Tullivers, a local pet food emporium. At our place, animals could be trained, groomed, and fed all at one time and in one place.

Thanks for reading my story. I hope you have a wonderful day.

*- C.J. Felton, ADW Student Teaching Assistant and Youth Board Member*



Photo credit: K.T. Helene-Glick

**2009**  
**ASSISTANCE DOGS OF THE WEST**

You can support the ADW Emergency Vet Fund through purchase of the \$20 ADW 2009 Calendar created by the Youth Board.

# Shop ADW's Webstore for Cool New Products

[www.assistancedogsofthewest.org](http://www.assistancedogsofthewest.org)



ADW denim jacket, \$75; new ADW bumper sticker, \$2; Silver NOMI dog tag keyring, \$45; and much more at the online store!



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