



ADI Newsletter

Assistance Dogs International
Setting Standards for the Assistance Dog Industry since 1987

ROYAL VISIT FOR CANINE PARTNERS

Canine Partners for Independence, United Kingdom

Canine Partners welcomed a very special visitor to their National Training Centre and headquarters in 2010, which was the highlight of their 20th anniversary year. HRH Prince Harry, youngest son of HRH Prince Charles and the late Princess Diana, spent 90 minutes seeing the facilities, meeting some of the puppies in training and talking to people who have benefited from having a canine partner.

On the Prince's arrival at the training centre, all the working dogs waiting in the courtyard to meet him broke out into a spontaneous welcoming bark, which made everyone smile and set the tone for a very informal and fun visit. Prince Harry was escorted around the training centre by Andy Cook, Canine Partners' CEO, and the first port of call was the training hall where several of the Charity's youngest recruits were waiting to impress the royal visitor.



Among the pups lucky enough to interact with Prince Harry were 14 week old Labrador Una, who happily shook paws with the Prince, and even showed off how good her recall was by running to him when he called her. Four-month-old Golden Retriever Trudy demonstrated how she was learning to put her front paws on a step, and went one stage further in front of Prince Harry by putting all four paws on the step and sitting down! But the pup that received the most royal attention was eight-week-old Veyron – named after the famous supercar the Bugatti Veyron. The image of the Prince cuddling the cute puppy was beamed all over the globe, and appeared in thousands of diverse publications and websites. As Prince Harry cuddled the pup, he commented on the little noises Veyron was making. Andy quickly responded by joking, "That is what he normally does before he is sick!" Later on, however, the Prince got his own back on Andy when they were watching a dog being groomed by jokily saying that he was allergic to dog fur.

Once the youngsters had performed, it was time for the older dogs in training to show off the more advanced skills they learn, including pulling bedclothes off, handing over a purse at a checkout and opening doors. Prince Harry was invited to get involved by putting some wheelchair gloves on and asking demonstration dog Doyle to remove them and put them in the washing machine. Undeterred by his famous temporary handler and all the world's media taking pictures, Doyle performed his duty and earned a pat on the head from the Prince.

Then it was on to meet two very new partnerships who were on their two-week residential course at the centre, learning the training and cementing the bond with their new dogs. Gwyneira Waters with her canine partner Nikki and Alison Wyatt with her new partner Maddy had a chat with Prince Harry about how they were looking forward to more independence and confidence when they took their new dogs home with them at the end of the course.

Prince Harry then had an opportunity to have a close look at the Charity's brand new state-of-the-art accommodation where applicants like Gwyneira and Alison stay when they are on their two-week residential course working with their new partner. The six chalets are fitted with a variety of hoists and other aids designed to allow people with even the most complex disabilities to stay there comfortably. *...continued on page 2*

ROYAL VISIT FOR CANINE PARTNERS

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physical disabilities.

Another partnership lucky enough to meet Prince Harry was Stephen Brookes who, at that point, had been with canine partner Major for six weeks. Stephen is a petty officer in the Royal Navy and has served for 14 years. After an accident on his motorbike, he sustained a spinal injury which left him tetraplegic and a wheelchair user. He has been undergoing rehabilitation at Headley Court, the defence medical rehabilitation unit, and it was there that he heard about Canine Partners, and decided to apply. Canine Partners is working very closely with Headley Court and the charity Help For Heroes in order to offer fully trained dogs that will help members of HM Armed Forces returning from active service with severe

Stephen's wife, Nichola and two young children Emily and Grace also met the Prince, and the two girls presented him with little posies. They were very excited at meeting Prince Harry, but even more excited at all the photographers and television cameras. After a few seconds of talking to the Prince, Emily turned away and was heard to say: "Can I have my biscuit now?" which caused much merriment with the royal visitor.

The event was rounded off with a tea party where Prince Harry had a chance to mingle with a host of working partnerships. There was even a "when Harry met Harry" moment when he came upon a red golden retriever canine partner sharing his name. The Prince asked Harry's disabled owner, Sarah Ashcroft, if he was so named because he was ginger!

The royal visit really helped raise the profile of Canine Partners both in the UK and abroad, and even made it onto the front page of HM The Queen's personal Facebook page!

www.caninepartners.org.uk

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DOGS WITH WINGS TURNS 15!

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

2011 marks the 15th anniversary of the founding of Dogs with Wings Assistance Dog Society. Located in Edmonton, we provide service to all areas of Alberta, Canada.

The development of our organization is probably not dissimilar to that of other ADI member schools. In the early days we operated out of a shoe box-sized office in the basement of a Saddler's shop, and our first graduated dogs were surrenders and rescues from the local Humane Society. Over time, our founder, Elisa Irlam, was joined by Maria Illes, now Training Director, and the motley crew has grown over the years to nine full time employees. Our services have also expanded. Originally, we provided only Guide Dogs, adding Service Dogs as demand from our clients grew. More recently, we added Autism Service Dogs and, in addition to the 15 or so dogs we have placed with these special kids, we have been approached by the local school district and now have several of these dogs working full time in junior classrooms as therapeutic resource for the entire class of special needs students. This departure from the one-dog-one-client model demonstrates how truly beneficial these dogs can be. We now operate out of a purpose-built Training Centre and our breeding program is, with the assistance of other ADI schools, beginning to show real results.

Dogs with Wings is proud of its accomplishments to date and looks forward to meeting the challenges that lie ahead.

<http://www.dogswithwings.ca/>

Editor: Robin Dickson, Dogs for the Deaf, Oregon, U.S.A.
Graphic Layout: Kristine Kellogg-Garrison, Dogs for the Deaf, Oregon, U.S.A.

Taiwan Guide Dog Association

Written by Grace Lu

It is a good start in 2011!

The Guide Dog program has been developing for years in a few Asian countries, such as Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. In January 2011, Hong Kong Guide Dog Association (HKGDA) was established.

The Taiwan Guide Dog program has been developing since 2002 in Taiwan. We have received a lot of assistance and friendly support from many international guide dog organizations since then. We sincerely hope that we can also share our resources with all the other Guide Dogs Organizations some day.

Fortunately, we had a plentiful year of 2010 because our own breeding program had 24 puppies. It's time for us to make our commitment. As of January 2011, we have shared 10 puppies with Guide Dog organizations in the USA, Japan, and Hong Kong.

In the beginning of this year, we donated a Guide Dog puppy, Google, to Hong Kong Guide Dogs Association (HKGDA). The reason why we choose "Google" as this puppy's name because he is one of G litter of pups. Most importantly, we hope using this familiar name (the popular Internet search engine) could draw the public's attention and then have them support the development of a Guide Dog program in Hong Kong.

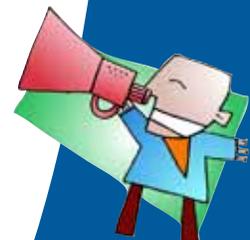
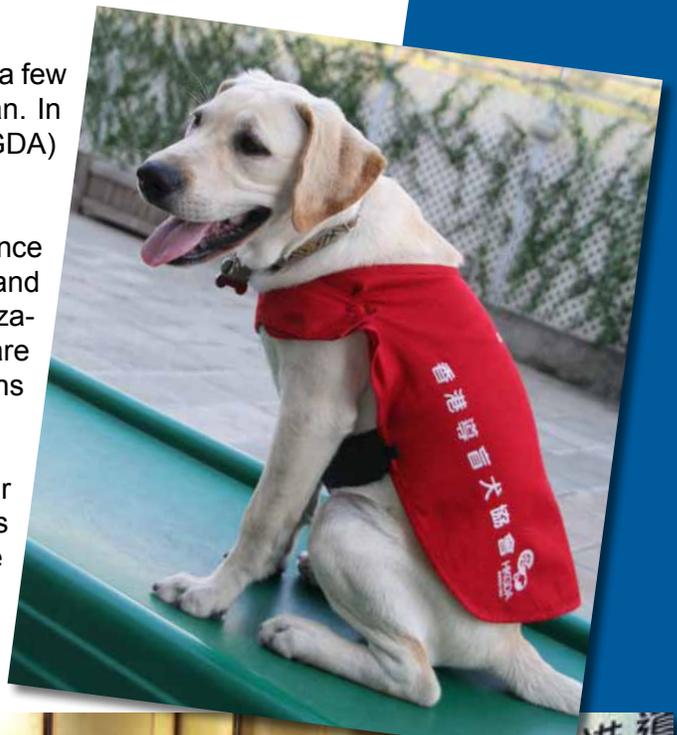
Actually, a Guide Dog program was initiated in 1975. But, it did not work out then. It has taken 25 years to get the first Guide Dog puppy for Hong Kong since 1975. Surely, Google got a taste of the Hong Kong media frenzy when he arrived. Google not only creates a social topic for discussion among the public but also means people who are blind or visually impaired in Hong Kong could have an alternative mobility aid in the future.

Being a member of ADI, it is our pleasure to participate in the development of the Guide Dog program in Hong Kong. And, we will continue to provide HKGDA with assistance in the future. Hopefully, through this kind of cooperation, the Guide Dog program could gradually be accepted and supported by the public in Hong Kong.

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Membership Renewal Packets for 2011 were e-mailed on February 8, 2011.

If you did not receive your renewal packet or have membership questions please contact Suzi Hall, ADI Coordinator at info@assistedoginternational.org.





CCI Graduates Speak to Japanese Delegates

*Written by Jeanine Konopelski, National Director of Marketing Communications
Canine Companions for Independence, Santa Rosa, California, USA*

Canine Companions for Independence CEO, Corey Hudson, knows graduates Wallis, Cara and Jill pretty well. He's spoken with them numerous times, and heard them speak about their lives with their respective Canine Companions Assistance Dogs and their experiences with Canine Companions for Independence.

But, this time, he was so moved that he was speechless.

This time Corey heard these seasoned graduates describe the changes in their quality of life because of their Assistance Dogs and their relationship with Canine Companions for Independence as one of a family where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. All of this was spoken to thousands of Japanese delegates through a Japanese interpreter. "It was overwhelming," says Corey.

They were at the International Conference of Assistance Dog Partners in Hyogo, Japan. As CEO of Canine Companions, Corey Hudson was invited to be the keynote speaker at the event. Corey's task was to educate attendees about training Assistance Dogs for quality human partnerships while always treating everyone with dignity and respect.

While proud and honored to speak to the Japanese delegates, the memory from that trip that lives with Corey is that of our graduates describing how their lives have been transformed thanks to their Canine Companions partners.

www.cci.org

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Second IADP Conference

*Written by Moto Arima, President, Japan Hearing Dogs for Deaf; Presidnet of AD, Japan;
General Producer of the second IADP*



From October 29 to October 31st, 2010, the Second International Assistance Dog Partners (IADP) Conference has been held in Ashiya City, Hyogo in Japan. Around 630 attendees, including 80 partners and 8 persons who are in charge of Japanese schools, were there for the three days. Also, per our committees efforts, we obtained 6,250,000 yen from the public as the donation for the conference. The purpose of the conference was to bring greater awareness to the international community about the importance of Assistance Dogs and their partners. Also in attendance were Toni, Devon, Jill, Cara and Wallis, some of the board members of International Association of Assistance Dog Partners from the United States and Canada. Corey Hudson, CEO of Canine Companions for Independence, Santa

Rosa, California was the keynote speaker. The three day event was exciting and informative. There was an opening ceremony followed by a parade like no other in both Ashiya and Kobe. The 250 people on parade made a strong impression on pedestrians. There were workshops and panel discussions and also demonstrations of Assistance Dogs at work. It was a time for learning, understanding and participating with those whose lives have been changed with the help of an Assistance Dog.

We are planning the Third IADP Conference at 2015 near Tokyo. Please contact Moto Arima at moto@hearingdog.or.jp for more information or if you have any questions about the conference.

Dog Guides Now Helping Children with Autism

*Written by Natalie Moncur, Promotions Coordinator
Lions Foundation of Canada/Dog Guides Canada, Oakville, Ontario, Canada*

As the fastest growing developmental disease in North America, autism has touched the lives of many families. In an effort to address the disability and provide assistance, Lions Foundation of Canada has introduced a fifth Dog Guide program called Autism Assistance Dog Guides. Since its inception, the program has been met with enthusiasm and the Foundation has received substantial interest through applications for these specialized Dog Guides.

“Our school was already unique in exploring a wide range of ways our trained Dog Guides can assist people. Families with children with autism encounter a number of challenges and our Autism Assistance Dog Guides help to address and overcome many of them. We are pleased to see the positive results they are already having,” says Sandy Turney, Executive Director of Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides.

Addressing a wide range of symptoms, Autism Assistance Dog Guides provide calming relief to children in high stress situations and also act as an anchor if the child decides to bolt. More than fifty families are experiencing the benefits of an Autism Assistance Dog Guide and most also note their ability to venture out as a family has increased significantly since bringing their child’s Dog Guide home.

Matthew and his Dog Guide Cash are a perfect example of the difference a Dog Guide can make for a child with autism. Matthew’s mother, Lisa, first heard about the program at one of her Lions meetings and immediately looked into the program. Since bringing Cash home a little more than a year ago, Lisa cannot believe the change she has witnessed. “Matthew used to be very isolated and wouldn’t communicate at all, but now that he has Cash people are automatically drawn to him and ask him questions. The Matthew we knew before Cash would never engage in conversation, but now he does so confidently and explains why Cash is with him or what they have done together that day,” Lisa explains.

Head Autism Assistance Dog Guide trainer Chris Fowler leads the program, which saw more than 50 teams graduate in its first year. He works with the child’s parents for one week at the Dog Guides training facility in Oakville, teaching them the proper commands for each dog and how to initiate the bonding process between Dog Guide and child once they return home.



ASSISTANCE DOGS INTERNATIONAL NORTH AMERICAN TRAINERS CONFERENCE

November 8, 9 & 10, 2011

Presenter: Susan Clothier • Hosted by Susquehanna Service Dogs, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

A new way to look at dogs..... C.A.R.A.T.

Many of the existing dog scoring systems, including those used by the Assistance Dog world are designed as tests – with scores that are good, and scores that are bad; dogs who pass and dogs who fail. These tests are generally very centered around the type of job that the dog will be performing, and do not take into account the reasons that the dog may be showing specific behaviors. There are a few scoring systems designed as assessments; designed to look at the dog and simply describe the dog for who he is, without regard for what is “good” or “bad” for specific jobs – they still often suffer the flaw of lumping many traits into large categories such as fear, dominance, aggression, anxiety, etc.

The Clothier Animal Response Assessment Tool (CARATTM) is a novel scoring tool which was designed to be available for use with any dog, regardless of breed, age, sex, or potential job/role. It creates a profile of each dog as an individual made up of well defined traits which provide an accurate description of the dog, helping not only in the selection of dogs but also the creation of training plans. CARATTM is additionally unique in scoring systems, scoring dogs on each trait either as 0 (balanced) or as a negative or positive number. A -1 or +1 is the same degree of a trait, but the direction of the number helps define the whether the animal is inhibited or activated; avoidant or attracted. This kind of information can prove invaluable when making decisions about placement and training of Assistance Dogs. Organizations can define the “ideal” type of dog on paper for each type of placement that the organization does, and how flexible that profile can be for that organization.

CARATTM was developed by Suzanne Clothier in close conjunction with Guiding Eyes for the Blind, which was a testing site for both the Clothier puppy evaluations and the Clothier In-For-Training (IFT) tests. Susquehanna Service Dogs attended a CARATTM workshop at Guiding Eyes for the Blind in April 2008 and has used their knowledge since, seeing a dramatic improvement over the former methods of assessment. Both Guiding Eyes for the Blind and Susquehanna Service Dogs feel that CARATTM has helped tremendously in not only the formal evaluations of dogs, but also in “seeing” behavior in the dogs and being able to put it into an established framework of shared language and knowledge. It has helped to better understand each dog as an individual, and to make better choices about each dog’s role both during puppy testing and adult testing.

While this workshop will not give an organization all the existent information on CARATTM or the Clothier puppy & IFT tests, it is the first step. This workshop will give you a new approach to assessing & understanding behavior, which in turn affects all choices made for and with that dog, whether long range plans or moment-by-moment training decisions. Attendees will gain a wealth of information similar to that obtained by Susquehanna Service Dogs in April 2008, which helped us to make dramatic changes.

Several longitudinal studies are underway. CARATTM has been presented at the International Dog Breeders Association (San Antonio 2008), the European Society of Veterinary Clinical Ethology Conference (Barcelona 2008) and an abstract in the Journal of Applied Veterinary Behavior and Clinical Research (February 2009). A study done by Samantha Hobbes, a Guelph University student, as her thesis (to be published) regarding CARATTM and Suzanne Clothier’s IFT test, using data from GEB found that “stepwise logistic regression resulted in a statistically significant model including 10 CARAT traits that was able to correctly predict whether a dog would be successful in the Guide Dog program in 87.4% of cases.”

More than ever before, financial constraints and a desire to provide high quality Service Dogs are constant pressures on any service dog organization. CARATTM can help your organization make informed and effective assessments to help maximize success.

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ASSISTANCE DOGS INTERNATIONAL NORTH AMERICAN TRAINERS CONFERENCE

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Conference Information:

- Arrive November 7, 2011 after 5 pm & Depart November 11, 2011 before 11 am
- Cost all inclusive (room, meals and conference): \$440
- Camp Hebron is a rural rustic retreat. People will be sharing rooms and each room has a private bathroom.
- Camp Hebron is a place of modesty. No alcohol and no inside smoking is allowed. Sadly cell phone service is not good. There is no TV in rooms nor internet access. A pay phone is available. The area is beautiful and very dog friendly.
- One dog per attendee is welcome. Please bring only dogs that are not aggressive. Dogs are not to be on the bed or furniture. SSD can provide crates if requested.
- The number of attendees is limited by the rooming space at the camp so please reserve your space ASAP by registering on line.
- Pick up at the Middletown International Airport (Harrisburg) can be arranged.
- Sometimes less expensive flights are found to the Baltimore Airport. This is a two hour drive from the Camp and a car must be rented.
- You can check out Camp Hebron at www.camphebron.org. We will be staying at the Sylvan View Retreat Center.

You can register for this conference on line at the SSD website www.keystonehumanservices.org/ssd.

If you have questions please e-mail nfierer@keystonehumanservices.org or call (717) 599-5920.

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The Second International Assistance Dog Partner Conference 2010

Written by Toni Eames, IAADP President

In October 2004 my late husband Ed and I joined several other disabled people for the first International Assistance Dog Partner conference in Mosomoto, Japan. Moto Arima, director of Japan Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, invited IAADP's Board members to return for a second conference. At the time of her invitation, I was dealing with Ed's hospitalization, so put her generous invitation in the back of my memory. When I saw Moto and several members of her Board at the Assistance Dogs International conference in Toronto in June, she reminded me about the invitation and asked me to find other IAADP members to join the group.

Only three Board members were able to attend, so I needed to find other IAADP representatives. In addition to Canadian Board member Devon Wilkins with Guide Dog Vestor, Board member Jill Exposito, waiting for a successor Hearing Dog, joined the group. Cara Miller with Hearing Dog Maya took a break from her psychology internship to join the expedition. Rounding out the group was Wallis Brozman with Service Dog Caspin. Wallis is a student of American Sign Language. Cara and Wallis worked as a team. Wallis signed for Cara, who is deaf, and Cara spoke the words Wallis signed to her since Wallis' has lost the volume of her voice. Since I am having spinal issues, Lynn Danell traveled with me as my personal assistant.

Since Japan has a strict quarantine policy, the four dogs needed proof they were properly microchipped and were not rabies carriers.

On Wednesday October 27, Lynn's husband Doug drove us to the Fresno airport for our flight to San Francisco. Jill would be flying in from Arizona and the others were coming in from the east coast. Knowing I would have difficulty walking long distances or standing for long times, I brought my own wheelchair. ...continued on page 8

The Second International Assistance Dog Partner Conference 2010

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After a 12-hour flight, we faced the quarantine officers without a problem. Thankfully, all the dogs' papers were in order. And, the poor, patient dogs were finally able to relieve!

The conference center in Kansai was beautiful and extremely accessible. After morning speeches including an introduction and welcome by me, we gathered for a brief parade in Ashiya. I used the wheelchair for this outing. Gathering us in the waiting cars after the parade, we drove to the city of Kobe where we lunched at Kobe City Hall. This time the parade through Kobe mall was more extensive. About 20 Assistance Dogs and their handlers made the half mile trek through the crowded corridors of the mall.

Returning to the hotel by car, we prepared for a charity ball dinner. To our extreme surprise and delight, Moto and her crew had each of us fitted with kimonos and obis. I always joke with friends that I am a princess, and I certainly felt like one that night! Again, I took on Ed's job and spoke on stage with several Japanese guests. It was sure fun taking pictures in our special outfits. Moto generously donated the kimonos to each of us with the invitation to return to Japan in a few years where we could wear them again at the third Assistance Dog Partner Conference! After the festivities, as we left the room, each of us was handed a lovely bouquet of flowers.

The agenda on October 30 was to speak with children at the conference center. These first through six graders had questions for those of us with dogs. It was sweet to hear their young voices asking sensible questions as Miki, the interpreter, translated the questions in English for us.

After lunch, I faced an audience of Japanese Assistance Dog partners, trainers and interested folks for a presentation about IAADP. The quarantine rules forbade us to touch the Japanese Assistance Dogs or have our dogs touched by Japanese folk. It certainly put a cramp to interacting with the other disabled participants. Part of the afternoon presentations was a panel discussion about the Assistance Dog movements in Japan and North America and the rights and responsibilities of partners.

The evening entertainment was a light dinner at the home of one of the conference supporters. Since we had been to the city of Kobe, we joked with Moto about wanting to eat Kobe beef.

At the party, to our great culinary delight, each of us was given several slices of the most moist and flavorful beef I ever ate! Kobe beef is probably the most expensive beef in the world.

On October 31, after the morning reception, Corey Hudson presented a talk about CCI, from breeding, to puppy raising, to training, to matching. Jill, Cara and Wallis, Graduates of CCI, then spoke about their experiences.

During the afternoon program many Japanese partners demonstrated for the audience the tasks performed by their Assistance Dogs.

When Moto and a dozen helpers got down on the floor to lint roll the carpet, we were beyond startled. She explained that some dog hair might stick to the carpet and a vacuum cleaner would not get every last strand out. One always left an area as clean as one originally found it! If only that sentiment were adopted in the U.S.!

After the closing speeches, we piled into the various cars to retrieve the luggage left at our hotel, in order to drive to our new hotel in Osaka. Unlike the first tiny hotel room, this one was larger. Jill would now be sharing the room with Lynn and I, so they gave us a suite with a living room and bedroom. Lynn and Jill were thrilled with the view of Osaka Castle from our thirteenth floor room. They could see the moats and the 30-foot wall surrounding the castle, and they couldn't wait to explore the interior.

For details about our exciting sightseeing experiences, check out your next issue of Partners' Forum. This was a most incredible experience and we were all treated like most welcome guests by Moto and her staff and volunteers. I strongly recommend your joining our 2015 return to the third International Assistance Dog Partner Conference in Japan!





ADI and US Airways Puppies in Flight Program Resumes

Written by Lynn Hoekstra, Accreditation Coordinator, Assistance Dogs International

ADI and US Airways are excited to report that the highly successful “Puppies in Flight” program is resuming in 2011. This partnership between ADI and US Airways offers ADI organizations in North America and Europe the opportunity to fly puppies, dogs-in-training and other member organization dogs in the cabin of US Airways jets accompanied by specially trained US Airways volunteers. Services are provided free to ADI member organizations because volunteers generously donate their time and airline miles to the Puppies in Flight program.

During January, US Airways and ADI conducted training for more than 100 new Puppies in Flight volunteers. Six sessions were conducted at US Airways hub locations in Phoenix, Philadelphia and Charlotte. The training sites included access to flight simulators and other areas that replicated actual flight experiences.

ADI organizations’ trainers, staff, and canines from Power Paws Assistance Dogs, Canine Partners for Life, Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, and Saint Francis Service Dogs participated in the training sessions. The Puppies in Flight volunteers received instruction about canine behavior, appropriate handling of assistance dogs, proper use of equipment, and common commands used by ADI member organizations. Part of the training gave the volunteers the opportunity to work one on one with trainers and dogs in a flight simulator, where they learned how to position dogs correctly on an airplane.

Jamie Lindemann, Community Relations Manager for US Airways, reported that she and all of the volunteers were very grateful and absolutely thrilled about the training sessions. They are all looking forward to having the opportunity to provide transports for ADI members’ puppies and dogs and feel very well prepared to provide them with an excellent travel experience.

Feedback from the ADI organizations that participated was also very positive. Some trainers had driven long distances and others caught very early morning flights to get to the trainings, and everyone indicated it was great to be able work with the US Airways volunteers and to thank them for their support.

Because of Puppies in Flight, ADI members’ dogs have been able to undergo training for airline travel, which has helped to desensitize them to turbulence and other in-flight occurrences. Members have also been able to exchange puppies and adult dogs with other organizations, including exchanges between North America and European members. This has helped members diversify and improve breeding programs. These are just a few examples of the many benefits of participation in the Puppies in Flight program.



Over 30 ADI members in North America and Europe have already signed up for Puppies in Flight. We encourage organizations in North America and Europe that are not already registered to learn more by contacting US Airways at: puppiesinflight@usairways.com.

You can also visit Puppies in Flight on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/US...Puppies-In-Flight/109602212414346.

ADI would like to thank US Airways and their dedicated volunteers for making it possible for ADI organizations to utilize this very beneficial program. We wish everyone safe and happy travels in 2011.

Assistance Dogs International Report from the Board

ACCREDITATION

After many years of working towards compulsory accreditation to be a member of ADI, the deadline of 31st December 2010, set by the members, has now passed and only accredited members are able to be voting members. We still have the category of Candidate for organisations that are working towards accreditation.

The Board are aware that changes like this are never easy, and we are grateful to all ADI members for their help and co-operation during the past year. The overall view of the Board is that we want as many programs as possible to be accredited members of ADI and we will do what we can to help programs to achieve that goal. Having strong standards and a robust accreditation system will enhance the ability of member programs to speak in a united voice for the interests of our clients across the world.

Our assessors in both North America and Europe have done a great job over the past year to accredit all the programs that have come forward and the Board are very grateful to them all for their hard work and dedication in supporting ADI.

As of December 31, 2010, ADI had 76 Accredited members. 24 accreditation surveys were completed during 2010. And of those, 22 organisations passed and 2 failed. 27 surveys were in process at the year-end of which 16 are new accreditations.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The members and Board of ADI are keen to work closely with the International Guide Dog Federation (IGDF) where our interests coincide. We are close to agreeing on a Memorandum of Understanding with the IGDF.

The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding is to establish a cooperative alliance between ADI and the IGDF. The core elements of the Memorandum are:

- Both ADI and IGDF recognise the right of the other organisation to represent the interests of their respective members.
- Both ADI and IGDF recognise that some programs / schools will be members of both organisations.
- Only IGDF will accredit Guide Dog schools and only ADI will accredit Service and Hearing Dog programs. Where there is the potential for possible overlap or confusion, the two organisations will talk to each other.
- The two organisations will work together to ensure their respective accreditation procedures are as similar as possible, accepting there may be some practical differences
- Each organisation will respect the way the other organisation uses terminology.
- ADI and IGDF will work together to ensure that there is a clear definition of what constitutes a “Guide Dog” and “Assistance Dog” and encourage this to be used as a legal definition where possible.
- ADI and IGDF will encourage their respective members to work together, where possible and appropriate, particularly in individual countries and regions of the world, to promote the overall interests of Guide Dog and Assistance Dog programs/schools.

The full Memorandum will be circulated once work on it is finished.

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Assistance Dogs International Report from the Board

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Eukanuba

ADI promotes feeding working dogs premium nutrition, such as that found in Eukanuba dog foods, to promote optimal performance

Finance

The Finance Committee and the Board have been working on a number of finance issues. We have produced a budget that clearly separates the activities of the regional chapters and their boards from the international board. There are still some protocols about how the international board and the regions relate to each other and it is hoped to resolve these in the next few months through a Partnership Agreement. We are still getting sponsorship from Eukanuba for our worldwide activities and from P&G for some of our work in North America. However, as discussed at the members' meeting in Toronto, the Board and members are concerned that ADI is not sustainable without this sponsorship and in the current economic climate, any sponsorship is vulnerable. The members asked the Board to come forward with a proposal to increase membership fees on a gradual basis over the next few years and work on this is ongoing. The Board should have a proposal to present to members for consultation April.

Standards

The Standards and Ethics Committee have been working on standards for prison programmes. A new standard on succession was also worked on during the last year. The Accreditation Committee and the Standards and Ethics Committee are constantly looking at how to improve the standards and the accreditation process and members are urged to send any thoughts they may have on these subjects to Lynn Hoekstra on lhoekstra.foradi@comcast.net and Lynn will feed them to the relevant committee.

**ADI Board
February 2011**

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ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT ADI ACCREDITATION?

Please visit the ADI website (www.assistedogsinternational.org) "Members Only" section and review the following:

- ADI Accreditation Survey Procedures
- ADI Accreditation Process Steps
- ADI Instructions for Accreditation Pre-Packet
- ADI Accreditation Manual
- Common Questions and Answers about ADI Accreditation

Please send inquiries to ADI at this e-mail address: info@assistedogsinternational.org, and a member of the Accreditation Review Committee will contact you.

PLEASE NOTE: ADI Members in Europe should contact the ADEu secretariat at this e-mail address: info@assistedogseurope.org, for an application and further information about accreditation in the ADEu Regional Chapter.



Mission Statement for Assistance Dogs International (ADI):

- **Promote** standards of excellence in all areas of Assistance Dog programs
- **Educate** the public to the benefits of these programs
- **Facilitate** communication and learning among organizations