TOP DOG, INC
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NEWSLETTER
Bette Rose Immel Editor

MISSION STATEMENT
TOP DOG’s mission is to teach people with physical disabilities to train their own service dogs. TOP DOG also educates the public about the diversity and ability of all people.

TOP DOG is a nonprofit public charity founded in 1987. All training is humanely and lovingly performed. TOP DOG also offers educational presentations to schools, service groups, churches, service groups, clubs, and businesses. If you’d like to have TOP DOG speak to your organization, please call the TOP DOG office.

Message From The President

TOP DOG is proud to announce that 2017 marks the 30th year of our programs launch. Over these past 30 years the program has gone through some expected growing pains, but TOP DOG remains solid, and steadfast in its commitment to our mission. This year will also hail the certification of our 150th team. I want to take this opportunity to give my sincerest thank you to all our volunteers, and our Board members, for all their hard work and the time spent making this program successful.

Currently, we have five students in the program; each is doing exceptionally well. We anticipate several certifications in the near future.

TOP DOG is gratified by the two new grants we’ve been awarded recently from the Petco foundation and the Sundt Construction foundation. The Petco grant will provide us with the opportunity accomplish everything from micro-chipping to x-raying a dogs hips and elbows, when it’s necessary, through the creation of our veterinarian fund. While the Sundt grant we’ll use toward scholarships and deferring student expenses, thereby assisting low-income students the ability to continue their participation in TOP DOG. We sincerely thank these companies for supporting our efforts.

TOP DOG wants to thank Deb Bettis, RC Smith and Mario Christner for their volunteer contributions to TD and wish them well in their future endeavors. We’d also like to welcome our new volunteers: Sherri from Florida (website and graphic design) and Keri from Washington (she will be coming onboard as a grant writing student.)

I’m sad to announce that former student, Tim Moran, who with his service dog Hinzi, were Team #74, passed away on December 30, 2016. Tim trained two service dogs in our program.

Additional announcements:
► If any volunteers or students have any canine related stories, or cute anecdotes please submit them to the office email address, and we’ll include them in a newsletter as space permits.
► Jim Click is sponsoring yet another raffle this year for a 2017 Ford Explorer Platinum Edition. See flyer on following page.
► And finally, I want to let everyone know that after many years of faithful service, my loving service dog Hope has been retired for medical reasons.
Roving Reporter by Charlie Mendelsohn

Mom and I sat on the bed and watched the movie “The King and I.” The King sang a song “It’s a Puzzlement” and it made me think about the many puzzles I have.

For Christmas Mom bought me a new bed. It is low to the ground and she calls it a “queen size” mattress. It’s wonderful and it has a “Lectric Blanket” to roll on. I love it, but what I do not understand is why I keep finding Mom sleeping in it?

I love to go out with Mom at all times and know I am working when I am wearing my vest. I do not like going to the doctor’s office with her. We ride for a long time, which I love, then we get to the building with the doctor’s office. When we go inside she always tells me we are going up in the elevator. That is what she calls it, but it is really a moving box. I do not like the moving box. As soon as the box moves a man talks. I can’t see him and I can’t smell him. I know my eyes and nose are working. This is the only place they do not work. Is there a ghost in the moving box? And how do I get rid of it?

Mom just taught me how to take off her socks. I can do this and also pick up her shoes or boots, so that she can put them on. I could have done this for her a long time ago. I wonder if she knows this? I also wonder if she realizes just how many treats I have missed in the last two years by not getting her shoes, and helping her pull off her socks. How do I tell her I am missing out on two years worth of goodies? I wonder how many that is in dog years?

Mom asked me to remind everyone that summer is coming. Please be sure you take water for your service dog when you go out. Also they need to wear boots to protect their feet from the hot pavement and blacktop in the parking lots here in Tucson. We both hope you all have a safe summer, and remember if you are hot so is you dog!!!

TOP DOG would like to thank Sundt Construction for their generous grant to our organization. Thank You!

TOP DOG would like to thank the Petco Foundation for their abundant grant to our organization. Thank You!
Benefit TOP DOG

Raffle To Benefit TOPDOG
Top Dog trains people with disabilities in Tucson Area to train their own Service Dog.

3 Prizes:
2017 Ford Explorer Platinum
Round Trip Tickets Anywhere in the World
$5000. Cash

Tickets are 1 for $25. or 5 for $100.
All moneys from every ticket we sell stays with Top Dog

All Entries Due by December 1, 2017

Purchase by mail at 9420 E. Golf Links Rd
Ste 108, BMB 355
Tucson, AZ 85730-1317
or CALL 520-484-4034 For Arrangements.

A New Banner for TOP DOG
Designed and Presented by
Jane Gray
Jane is currently a student in our Intermediate Class and obviously very talented.
We now have a banner to represent TOP DOG wherever we go.
Thank You Jane from TOP DOG.
TOP DOG is seeking new program volunteers and new board members. The board has regular meetings four times per year. If anyone is interested in volunteer opportunities, please contact Helen at the office at 323-6677 for additional information.

TD is accepting applications for the next beginner’s class starting on August 12th, 2017. Please contact the office for an application and program information. Completed applications can be returned via email to contact-us@topdogusa.org.