



# The Monthly Treat

February 2017



The Latest and Greatest with the D4D Dogs-in-Training



*D4D Dog-in-Training, Toga*



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT...

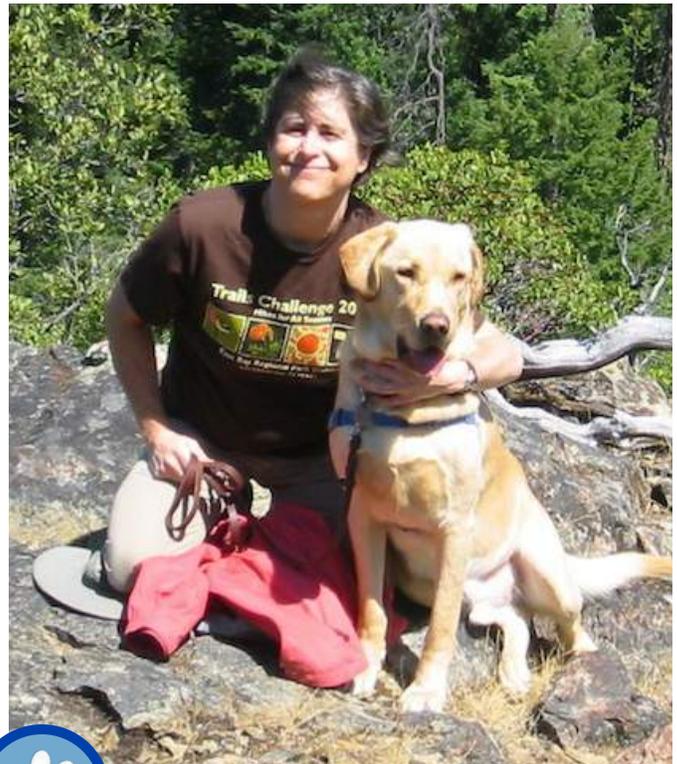
Maura Sullivan has generously volunteered her time at Dogs4Diabetics (D4D) in our training center helping out with scent training, grooming, relieving, and walking D4D dogs-in-training since August of 2015. The love and support she gives towards our organization has been tremendous and we have been blessed to have her as apart of our D4D family.

Maura has worked in fundraising operations over the past fifteen years but has taken a break from her job to care for her mother-in-law. In addition, she also volunteers her time for Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Rescue and for SparkPoint as a career counselor.

**“In my volunteer role in the training room, I love watching the dogs trying to figure out what we want them to do. It’s fascinating to see the wheels turning as they are asked to learn and unlearn things. Great people. Great dogs.” -Maura**

Maura’s enjoys watching women’s basketball games. As a avid fan, she even has season tickets for UC Davis Women’s basketball and always follows the women’s college tournament closely. Off the court, Maura visits botanical gardens and takes outdoor walks in nature with her dog, Buster.

Thank you Maura for volunteering your time in our training room. All that you contribute is greatly appreciated. Many Thanks! 



Photos above: Maura with her sweet dog, Buster.  

# Positive Experience while Bathing Dogs

By Hayley Sevilla, D4D Trainer

It's easy to forget that the most mundane tasks might be worrisome to our dogs. We as people tend to get focused on just getting the job done; we don't think about how our dogs are feeling about the whole experience. One example of this is bathing the dog. Whether it be at the pet store, groomer, or at home, we need to build a positive experience so our dogs look forward to that bath, instead of dreading it.

A popular way of bathing a dog is to take them to the local Pet Food Express. If we think about it from the dogs' perspective, the pet store is a pretty nice place to be--lots of smells, toys, and they might get

lucky with a special treat. However, it can also be a scary place, especially if we only take them to the store for a bath



If you have a dog that is reluctant to go towards the bathing area at the pet store, load up a lot of food in your treat bag. Before you even enter the pet store, start feeding your dog to keep them focused and engaged on you. As you enter and move through the store, continue with a high rate of reinforcement and praise while you're steadily moving to the bathing area. It's OK if it takes some time to get to the bathing area; feel free to exit the store and enter again, or leave and come back another day.

If your dog is especially reluctant to go towards the bathing area, break it down further and just wander around the store while continuing to reward and praise your dog. Sometimes taking a break from your goal and having fun somewhere else in the store will help your dog to relax.

Continued on next page...

**Continued from previous page...**

Once you have gotten your dog to the bathing area, it's important to remember to continue rewarding through each step of the process, and talk to them in a matter of fact voice. If you don't make a big deal out of it, your dog will start to relax. It might sound silly, but talking to your dog will both ease your tension, as well as theirs. Other dogs will also feed off of your positive vibes and relax for their baths as well.

A couple of other things to note is how you give your dog a bath. The tubs can be slippery, so ease your dog into it if they climbed on top the platform themselves. If

you have to lift your dog, hold onto them for a few seconds so they don't scabble around in the tub. Keeping contact with them will allow them to settle in the tub before they are let go. Try to not turn the water on and aim it directly at them; turn the water on with the nozzle turned away from the dog. Start from the paws and work your way up the legs to the body every time the water is turned on. The first few times the water is turned on, don't forget to feed and praise!

The dryer can be a pretty scary experience by itself. If your dog had any issue with the bathing experience, it's recommended that you don't try the dryer right away. With the last few minutes of the bathing time, you can work on turning the dryer on and feeding your dog simultaneously. It might take several sessions before you're able to move your dog closer to the dryer hose, or able to start to point it at your dog. Use the same guidelines as the water; turn it on with it pointed away from your dog. When you do start to use it, start at the feet and move upwards to the body.

If you bathe your dog at home, one thing to keep in mind, is to never call your dog to "come" to where they regularly get a bath. Instead, place a leash on your dog well before you'd be giving them a bath. When you pick up the leash and start moving towards the bathing area, begin feeding your dog for walking willingly towards the bathroom.

Remember, with food, praise, and positivity, your dog will be happier and calmer about their bathing experience.



# First Thursday at D4D



Our D4D Client/Dog teams gather on "First Thursday" each month to work on dog grooming, nail trimming, maintenance training, and having fun playing games.

In a best two out of three tic-tac-toe games, black Labs took the win over yellow Labs.



D4D Client, Bekah with dog-in-training, Toga, alongside Tiffani & Charcoal (right) verse each other in a friendly game of yellow vs black Labs tic-tac-toe.



D4D Client, Clayton, grooming retired GDB breeder, Tenley.



D4D Client/Dog team, Jordan and Flutter with dad, Jeremy and mom, Fatima.



D4D trainer, Cindy, working with Client, Christy.



D4D Client/Dog team, Casie and Anders



D4D dog-in-training, Ving, getting his nails trimmed.



# Dogs-in-Training



## Darling

Darling's super sniffer is in search of the hypoglycemic scent with the "find it" game with D4D's trainer, Hayley. Darling is now in Phase B-1,2.



## Ving

Ving is currently in Phase C3 and working on scent training, and bringsel training. He is working towards being a life-saving medical-alert dog. Keep up the great work.



## Toga

D4D's trainer, Hayley, working with Toga on down/stays. Toga rocked the exercise and maintained perfect focus on Hayley. She is now in Phase C-1,3. Way to go, girl!

# New Client/Dog Teams



Thank you TrustyPup, & Nylabone for making these life-saving partnerships possible.

Holly, and Escort pose for a photo with D4D Foster, Kellie.



Thank you D4D Fosters, Richard Tong and wife, Jennifer (not pictured), for having a hand in Shamrock & Aimee's placement.

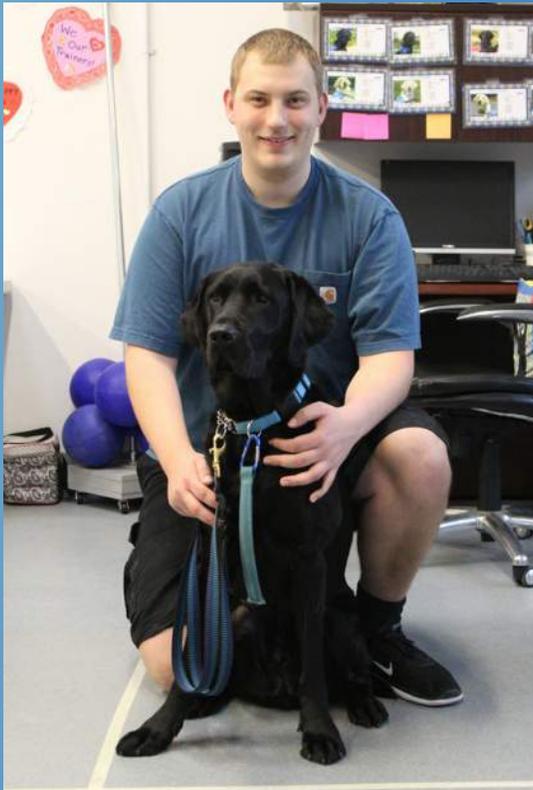
## Holly & Escort Aimee & Shamrock

Congratulations to our two new Client/Dog teams that we placed at the end of January at D4D. Both Aimee and Shamrock as well as Holly and Escort trail partnerships has been off to a great start! We could not be more proud of their placements and as they bring much pride to our organization.

Congrats to both our two new Client/Dog teams and we wish them the best of luck as they work to meet their graduation requirements. Woof!

# CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER...

Two D4D teams have met their Graduation requirements!!!



## Paul and Hunter

Paul and Hunter pose for a photo while at D4D's "First Thursday" client meeting.

The team kicked tail in the activities and helped secure a win for team #blackLab in a tic-tac-toe game vs team #YellowLab.

A special Thank You to Lauren Sinz for fostering Hunter.



## Tiffani & Charcoal

D4D's Client/Dog team, Tiffani and Charcoal, spending quality time together during D4D's "First Thursday" client meeting.

"Charcoal's my guardian angel."  
-Tiffani

A special Thank You to Jessica Ching for fostering Charcoal.

# Working Towards Graduation...

## Chelsea & Josette

D4D's Diabetes Buddy Dog, Josette, with her human, Chelsea, pose for a picture on a sunny day.



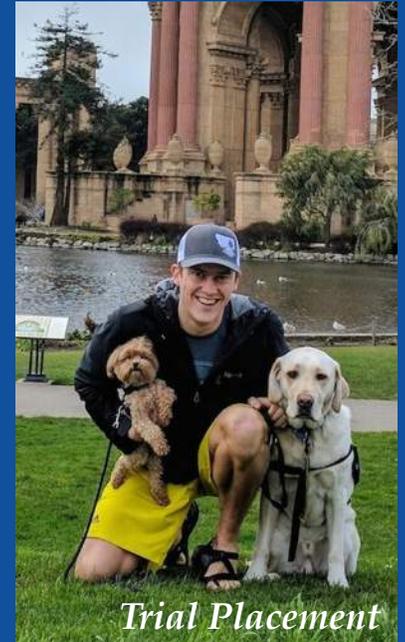
*Trial Placement*

"I have to say, Josette has yet to disappoint; she catches highs, lows, and continually loves whole-heartedly.

Thank you D4D and all those who's love dedication, and training went into helping shape Josette into the amazing companion she is today." - Chelsea's Mom, Sasha

## Spenser & Milton

Client/Dog team, Spenser & Milton at the Palace of Fine Arts, near the Golden Gate Bridge.



*Trial Placement*

Milton: a haiku

"Oh! Dearest Milton. Your jowls shake with every step. While wise eyes look on."  
-Spenser

## Client & Dog Teams Who Have Met Graduation Requirements

### Jordan and Flutter



Jordan and Flutter snuggle after nail trimming exercise at "First Thursday."

"Everything is worth a shot. This is just a cute way in telling others that are insulin-dependent that it's okay to just give a shot."- Jordan

### Peggy & Pilsner



"Pilsner brings a smile to everyone's face when we volunteer at Emanuel Medical Center!" -Peggy

# Career-Changed

The Block family was thrilled when Guide Dogs for the Blind honored us by placing Nala (a.k.a. Koi) permanently with us. Harley, our 8 year old black lab that was also a career change from D4D, was lonely and Nala has fit right in and become part of our family. She comes to work every day (Bollinger Canyon Animal Hospital) and has settled in well.

Eventually, she will be used like Harley as a demo dog to teach clients how to apply medications, trim nails etc. As part of the Block family, she will also get to go with us when we have free time. We love to hike, camp, snowshoe and spend time at the beach. We are grateful for all involved in raising this amazing dog and for the blessings we have received by adding her to our family.

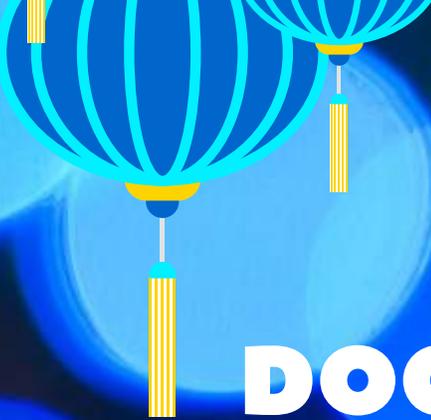
Dr. Block is honored to have been chosen as one of 3 national finalists in Pet Plan Insurance's "Veterinarian of the Year" contest. It is an immense honor as she was nominated by a grateful client, then made it through 2 other rounds and past over 6,000 other veterinarians around the country to achieve this status.



Nala (a.k.a. Koi) with Dr. Block



Thank You to GDB & GDB Puppy Raisers for all your support & contribution to our organization. A special Thank You to Joe and Sandy Eno for fostering Koi.



# **DOGS4DIABETICS** **5K LANTERN "RUN"**

CELEBRATING OUR 10TH ANNUAL WALK FOR THE DOGS

**JOIN THE LANTERN FUN "RUN" - HELP SAVE LIVES**  
**CREATE. JOIN. BACK A TEAM.**

[D4DLANTERNRUN.ORG](http://D4DLANTERNRUN.ORG)

Heather Farm Park, Walnut Creek Saturday, June 10th  
5:00pm - 9:00pm

- Glow Gear
- Costume Contest
- Lantern Lighting Ceremony
- Unbeatable Swag Bags
- Raffle Prizes
- Food Trucks
- Vendors
- Live DJ

An illuminated 5k walk/run through the evening...  
all humans and dogs welcome!



## Foster Care Class Schedule:

All Dogs4Diabetics Foster Care Training classes run from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, at IBEW Union Hall 1875, Arnold Dr. Martinez, CA 94553. A special thanks to IBEW Union Hall for letting us use their space free of charge.

### Thursday Night Classes:

- 03/02 - No Class, D4D's "First Thursday"
- 03/09
- 03/16
- 03/23
- 03/30

As a reminder, send all reports (Foster Care & Evaluator) to [FosterCare@Dogs4Diabetics.com](mailto:FosterCare@Dogs4Diabetics.com)

## Did you Know?

Your donations, large and small, contribute to the success of our program. Learn more how your donations make a difference.

Donate today: [Dogs4Diabetics.com](http://Dogs4Diabetics.com)

## Please Join D4D for our March Type-YOU Meeting.

This is an open support group for insulin-dependent diabetics to provide a forum for discussion of your life with diabetes.

**Tuesday, March 21st  
@ 7:00 pm**

1400 Willow Pass Ct.  
Suit 200, Concord

No registration needed.



Dog-in-training, Toga, patiently waits for a rope toy during "Play Time" at D4D. Her smile is so adorable!

## We Need Foster Care Providers...

Foster Care is one of the foundations of Dogs4Diabetics. The number of dogs we can accept into our program is determined by the number of Fosters available. If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity where your service will help save a life. Please contact Foster Care Leader, Stephanie Perkins:



Yellow Neener Photography

[fostercare@Dogs4Diabetics.com](mailto:fostercare@Dogs4Diabetics.com)

*Get involved and really make a difference!*

**Waggin' Wednesdays...** continue to be a great opportunity for Guide Dog Puppy Raisers to learn more about community placement, and our training program. Waggin' Wednesdays is open to all GDB puppy raisers and GDB staff. Contact Carrie Treggett to set up your visit!  
[carrie@Dogs4Diabetics.com](mailto:carrie@Dogs4Diabetics.com)

Looking to recycle your aluminum cans, plastic & glass bottles?

Donate them to Dogs4Diabetics' Recycling Program and help us in carrying out our mission to serve the Diabetic Community. We are also in need of volunteers to help build the program. For more information, contact Jeannie Hickey at [ghjeannie@aol.com](mailto:ghjeannie@aol.com).



# DOGS4DIABETICS TRAINING PHASES

The A,B,C phases of Dogs4Diabetics training refers to the dogs' current level of training and socialization.

## Phase A...

- GDB Released from the Puppy Home or GDB Early Training Release (Phases 0-3)
- Little or No Formal Training

## Phase B...

- GDB Training Release (Phases 4-7)
- Needs more formal training to pass the ADI Public access test

## Phase C...

- Completed Formal GDB Training (Phase 8) or Guide
- Meets standards of the ADI public access test

## Scent Training Phases 0-8

- 0 - Pre-training evaluation
- 1 - Bringsel training
- 2 - Beginning scent training
- 3 - Intermediate scent training
- 4 - Advanced scent training
- 5 - Testing
- 6 - Waiting for placement with a client
- 7 - Placement with a client
- 8 - Client and Dog are ready for Graduation