

Harness & Leash

Edition 28

Message from David Locklin, Director of Programs

Good summer to everyone! During this time of year, we receive a lot of questions concerning the safety of your Leader Dogs when it is hot outside. So, I asked our veterinarians, Dr. Smith and Dr. Wilson, to give me some “warm weather” guidelines:

- Make sure your dog has access to fresh water and always carry water with you.
- Be careful of hot sidewalks. If it’s too hot for your hand or foot, it’s too hot for your dog’s paws. Try booties for paw protection.
- Be consistent with heartworm medication and flea and tick topicals.
- Never leave your dog alone in the car—this can be fatal.
- Make sure the plants in your yard are safe for your dog.
- Store fertilizers and insecticides out of reach of your dog.
- Do not use cocoa bean mulch—it has the same pet toxin that is found in chocolate.
- If your dog shows the following signs of heat stress, seek immediate veterinary care: anxiousness, excessive panting, restlessness, excessive drooling, unsteadiness, abnormal gum and tongue color, and collapse.

With the proper preparations, you and your dog (and your other pets) can have a wonderful summer.

Remember, we are always here to assist you as needed. Please contact the client services department if you have questions or concerns regarding your dog or training. Reach them at clientservices@leaderdog.org or 888-777-5332.

Do I Need O&M Training?

By Maggie Winn, COMS

Orientation and mobility (O&M) is a skill that requires lifelong learning. Environments and vehicles are constantly changing, so the skills required to travel independently and safely change too. Some of the many reasons LDB's one-week Accelerated O&M Training may be right for you include:

- You have relocated and want to feel confident orienting yourself to an unfamiliar environment.
- Your vision has changed and you need more non-visual skills to travel confidently at different times of the day or year.
- You feel you are relying too heavily on your Leader Dog, friends or family members for direction.
- You want to prove to yourself, friends and family that you can travel independently.
- You are thinking about retiring your current Leader Dog and want an O&M brush-up before training with a new Leader Dog.

In our week-long Accelerated O&M Training clients benefit from a program that is individualized for their specific needs. Areas of training may include basic cane skills; utilizing a human guide; street crossings; traveling in residential, business, shopping and rural environments.

If this article has you thinking about improving your O&M skills, call our client services department today at 888-777-5332 to discuss whether O&M training is right for you.

15% Discount on Flea and Tick Topicals from Tevra Brands

Tevra Brands is the official flea and tick solution of Leader Dog. Through this partnership, Tevra provides monthly flea and tick topicals for our puppies and dogs in training. Our veterinarians requested TevraPet Activate II and Vetality Avantect II, which contain the active ingredients found in K9 Advantix II (a product of Bayer). This formula repels and kills fleas, ticks and mosquitoes.

As a special promotion for everyone associated with Leader Dog, Tevra is offering 15% off Activate II for the month of July. Go to amazon.com/promocode/A2PSR99YOZYKEI to purchase online. The promo code '15LEADER' should appear under your order summary and apply the 15% at checkout.

If you have questions regarding the use of Activate II on your dog, contact your local veterinarian or call the client services department at 888-777-5332.

Abroad With Disabilities

By LDB Client Juanita Lillie

Ten years ago, I participated in the Trekker Program (now called Summer Experience Camp) at Leader Dog during high school. I began receiving more consistent mobility lessons during this period because my vision was deteriorating. As I developed cane skills and confidence for travel, I decided to take a leap abroad to Costa Rica during college as part of a study abroad program.

My mobility skills and confidence were invaluable. In fact, upon my return from Costa Rica, I founded an organization to support other persons with disabilities who wish to go abroad. The organization is called Abroad With Disabilities. Although originally intended for study abroad experiences, Abroad With Disabilities now embraces local, national and international travel discussions.

I have also returned to Leader Dog to get my first guide dog. When I first met and worked with my partner in crime, Leader Dog Baylor, I was apprehensive. I was concerned about using a dog without having constant contact with obstacles with my cane, but now I cannot imagine a day without Leader Dog Baylor. He has enhanced my independence and confidence, as we travel frequently nationally. I am looking forward to future abroad adventures with Leader Dog Baylor.

If you would like to learn more about Abroad With Disabilities, check out the website at AbroadWithDisabilities.org or email me directly at AWDteam@AbroadWithDisabilities.org

We Need Your Stories

We need your help in reaching out to people who could use our services and to people who are considering a donation to Leader Dog. The best way for us to help people understand the importance of our services is through storytelling—and we are always looking for new stories to tell. So we need you to share your stories with us. Stories of how the training you received from LDB changed your life; how your Leader Dog helped you through a difficult situation; or how you went back to school, got a new job or got a first job after leaving Leader Dog. These are just a few ideas. We also want stories on how your relationship with your family/friends/co-workers changed, how you became more physically active, and more.

If you have a story to share, please contact Rachelle Kniffen in the marketing department at rkniffen@leaderdog.org or 248-659-5013.

LDB Client Receives Collaboration and Partnership Award

Each year the Wisconsin Council of the Blind & Visually Impaired celebrates individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to promote the dignity and empowerment of the people of Wisconsin who are blind and visually impaired. This past May, LDB Client BJ Blahnik was awarded the Community Collaboration and Partnership Award.

BJ received the award for his many efforts to connect people to meaningful endeavors and to build community, including his

work with Leader Dog, transportation advocacy and a sailing program.

We would like to join the Wisconsin Council in congratulating BJ and thank him for all his efforts on behalf of Leader Dogs for the Blind.

Circle of Life

Births

Abby (hosted by Kathey Whitaker) x Teddy (hosted by Todd Beckett) – 9 lab/golden crosses

Bella (hosted by Gary and Judy Sproat) x Teddy (hosted by Todd Beckett) – 7 Labradors

Brook (hosted by Diane & Jim Byrnes) x Tabatha's Sunfest Hudson (hosted by Carol Heidi) – 3 Labradors

Chloe (hosted by Tracy Peterson) x Gatsby (hosted by Michael & Alice Bond) – 8 lab/golden crosses

Darla (hosted by Deborah Schroeder) x Teddy (hosted by Todd Beckett) – 2 Labradors

Greta (hosted by Sharon Peska) x Sergeant (hosted by Amy Schuster) – 6 Labradors

Halo (hosted by Meghan Carboni) x Quincy (hosted by Sandy Frick) – 7 goldens

Hazel (hosted by Susan Hackman) x Jake (hosted by Mike Lawrence) – 5 lab/shepherd crosses

Luna (hosted by Jennifer Hynes) x Fargo (hosted by Carrie Pryce)

– 2 lab/golden crosses

Maddie (hosted by Lisa Olson) x Rodeo (hosted by Mary Ann

Grutza) – 2 Labradors

Moonbeam (hosted by Ann Davis) x Myles - 10 goldens

Oaklie (hosted by Kay Shorkey) x Shadow (hosted by Faye Arndt)

- 10 Labradors

Phoebe (hosted by Jeanne Holmes) x Duck – 7 Labradors

Remi (hosted by Melissa Mazat) x Tug (hosted by David Creech) –

3 Labradors

Rin (hosted by Vincent & Loretta Brighton) x Kapten (hosted by

Sherrill Platt) - 9 lab/golden crosses

Rory (hosted by Deborah Reed) x Shaq (hosted by Anne Mitchell)

- 10 lab/golden crosses

Sadie (hosted by Gretchen Waters) x Myles – 9 goldens

Sadie (hosted by Todd Berends) x Obie (hosted by Aimee Crellin)

– 8 Labradors

Shandy (hosted by Barbara Chick) x Cash – 7 Labradors

Breeding Stock Retired

Brook – Diane & Jim Byrnes

Brooklyn – Michael Rager

Buddy – Brad Mackler

Gunner – Elizabeth Mattei

Jasmine – Kathryn Marl

Lola – Betty Crowder

Lucille – Ellen Waller

Millie – Eileen Delaney

Perrie – Rebecca Cobb

Piper – Laura Bandy

Riley – Nancy White

Scarlet – Cathy Topping

Stanley – Carol Trapp

Breeding Stock Deceased

Nilla – Elaine Berkheiser

Leader Dogs Retired

Al Capone – Maria Ramirez Coronado

Alisse – Gail Selfridge

Arwen – Elizabeth Gerhart

Badger – Jeffrey Blair

Bear – Thomas Frank

Bode – Jean Menzies

Bronte – Teresa Serrano Arce

Cami – Sandra Penn

Coal – Jenny Andrews

Cpl. Troy – Martha Arzate Torres

Cruiser – Juan Diaz Montero

Dexter – Dennie Pierce

Dottie – Vicente Cotan Pinto
Dugan – Corden Ryan
Ernie – Ronald Segura Calvo
Fozzie Bear – Gail Bartels
Franklin – Esther Schumaker
Heidi – Robert Ash
Jack – Allen Freitag
Journey – Tammy Douglass
Max – William Mortimer
Piper – Mitzy Velay
Quincy – Rafael Llopis Gimenez
Stanford – Thomas Keefe
Tarah – Brittany Sikorski
Teddy – Jesse Bolinger
Winston – Benjamin Wright
Ziva – Jo Ann VanderZee

Leader Dogs Deceased

Alisse – Gail Selfridge
Angel – Dallas Brauninger
Angel – Maria Vazquez
Banner – Sandra Burton
Baron – Richard Wallace
Brianna – David Stults
Brinkley – William Hine

Buddy – Christopher Keasler
Cocoa – Anthony Scorsese
Colten – Carlos Alonso Villa
Dream – Marti Geisenhaver
Ellie – Maria Coj
Fredrik – Beverly Thomann
Freedom – Karen Laroche-Hughes
Indigo – Agnes Ferris
Journey – Vincent Chiu
Katey – Deborah Yost
Kimberly – Kathy Martinez
Leo – Lenora Dent
Logan – Gary Schriver
Lola – Sandra Bolanos-Ocampo
Maverick – Avril Rinn
Monty – Marty Rahn
Owen – James Atkinson
Polar – Pedro Valdez Silva
Razzle – Patricia Wilcox
Sprocket – Vaughn Brown
Xavi – Christopher Milot
Zoe – Julie Stevenson

Classes (note: GDMI is Guide Dog Mobility Instructor)

Class 18-07

GDMI Linda Fisher; James Ryan and Leader Dog Piper, black lab (puppy raiser: Amy Stearns); Vickie Welbaum and Leader Dog Perrie, golden retriever (puppy raiser: Teri Tommet); Clyde Ray and Leader Dog Dexter, yellow lab/golden cross (Ionia Correctional Facility)

GDMI Lauren Brady; Duarte Rocha Cavaco and Leader Dog Lola, black lab (puppy raiser: Claudia Hodges); Marisol Taboadela Fernandez and Leader Dog Nova, yellow lab (puppy raiser: Darla Dickensheets)

Apprentice GDMI Meredith Bryde; Juana Torres Calet and Leader Dog Ivan, black lab (puppy raisers: Janice and Mike Hoffman); Pedro Olivares Manzano and Leader Dog Oscar, black lab (Fort Dodge Correctional Facility); Laura Mejias del Rio and Leader Dog Pocky, black lab (puppy raiser: Ayako Breitenbach)

GDMI Paul Meister; Jane Toleno and Leader Dog Bravo, black lab (puppy raiser Ken Scheble); Eric Smith and Leader Dog Excel, black lab (Oaks Correctional Facility); Maleike Schubert and Leader Dog Maci, golden retriever (puppy raiser: Patricia Agnew)

Warm Weather Training Group: Sabrina Girardot and Leader Dog Kenzie, yellow lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Marcia Belair); Emma Riley and Leader Dog Lucy, black lab (puppy raiser: Amber Herman); Mason Chronister and Leader Dog Xavier, yellow lab (Baraga Correction Facility); Virginia Olliff and Leader Dog Rosie, golden retriever (puppy raiser: June Parmeter); Linda Turner and Leader Dog Ruby, yellow lab (puppy raiser: Dara Edgerton); John Jeans and Leader Dog Thor, yellow lab (puppy raiser: Jeffrey Schafer)

Home Deliveries: Ron Lindsay and Leader Dog Apollo, black lab (Sanger P. Powers Correctional Facility); Tammy Freeman and Leader Dog Mukwa, black lab (Lino Lakes Correctional Facility)

Class 18-08

GDMI Alyssa Ozrovitz; Timothy Hagan and Leader Dog Radar, black lab (puppy raisers: Dave & Lori Johnson); Angel Prince and Leader Dog Radar, golden retriever (puppy raiser: Ray Ziegler); Henry Stamm and Leader Dog Harper, black lab (puppy raiser: Ronda Stewart)

Apprentice GDMI Heidi Vollrath; Gail Selfridge and Leader Dog Harley, golden retriever (Fort Dodge Correctional Facility); Robert Espie and Leader Dog Kaci, black lab (puppy raiser: Kathy

Larson); Lawrence Kokenge and Leader Dog Rosco, yellow lab (Chippewa Correctional Facility)

GDMI Tina Goedertier; Jean Menzies and Leader Dog Leenie, black lab (Fort Dodge Correctional Facility); Gilbert Batista and Leader Dog Freedom, black lab (Oaks Correction Facility)

GDMI Randy Horn; Martha Arzate Torres and Leader Dog Mozart (puppy raisers: Deana Hagemeister & Alexis Tokar); Ronald Segura Calvo and Leader Dog Eli, black lab (puppy raiser: Debra Kaminski); Teresa Serrano Arce and Leader Dog Lucy, black lab (puppy raiser: Lindzy Sienkowski)

Class 18-09

GDMI Sue Horn; George Zarvos and Leader Dog Tucker, yellow lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Victoria Marble); Justin Sutton and Leader Dog Pharaoh, yellow lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Christina Stevens); Karen Stewart and Leader Dog Breezy, yellow lab (Lino Lakes Correctional Facility); Roy Sonne and Leader Dog Bryla, black lab (puppy raiser: Phyllis Krebs); Roy Hutchins and Leader Dog Jersey, black lab (puppy raiser: Jessica McGuire)

GDMI Ashley Ayers; Oscar Serrano Gonzalez and Leader Dog Finn, yellow lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Shannon VanDeren) Daniel Lahiton Barroso and Leader Dog Gracie, yellow lab (Fort Dodge

Correctional Facility); Raquel Marques Laso and Leader Dog Stella, black lab (puppy raiser: Matt Barton)

GDMI Sue Hackman; Josep Murgui Usach and Leader Dog Lille, yellow lab (puppy raiser: Gary Bunschotem); Francisca Sanchez Torronteras and Leader Dog Bella, black lab (puppy raiser: Catherine Turzewski); Jo Hager and Leader Dog Clancy, yellow lab (puppy raiser: Pamela Stamm); Ana Morejon Moreno and Leader Dog Honor, black lab (Oaks Correctional Facility)

Home Delivery: Tammy Douglass and Leader Dog Selah, yellow lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Jennifer Smith); Lis Goeghegan and Leader Dog Zilli, yellow lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Mary Sinclair)

Class 18-10

GDMI Katie Wattles; Gail Bartels and Leader Dog Finley, golden retriever (Ionia Correctional Facility); Rilee Sloan and Leader Dog Franklin, golden retriever (puppy raiser: Michael Zeckmeister); Connie Odom and Leader Dog Echo, black lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Jeanne Polak); Jane Foust and Leader Dog Sophie, black lab (puppy raiser: Daniel Schmier)

GDMI Sarah Duyck; JoAnn VanderZee and Leader Dog Mable, golden retriever (puppy raiser: Julie Beckwell); Kenneth Peterson

and Leader Dog Denver, yellow lab/golden cross (Chippewa Valley Correctional Facility); Theresa Peterson and Leader Dog Chloe, golden retriever (puppy raiser: Sandra Bowers); Robert Nickelsen and Leader Dog Wheeler, black lab (Fort Dodge Correctional Facility)

GDMI Carrie Pryce; Jorge Renteria Campos and Leader Dog Rio yellow lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Laura Brunsgaard); Elisio Figuera Ortega and Leader Dog Hudson, black lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Marnie Kramer); Luis Ferre Sanchez and Leader Dog Truman (puppy raiser: Elaine Borning)

GDMI Phil Griffin; Kelvin Spencer and Leader Dog Porter, golden retriever (puppy raiser: Lauren Brogdon); Jayne Thorson and Leader Dog JoJo, yellow lab (puppy raiser: Karen Green); Rebecca Judy and Leader Dog Gracie, black lab (Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility); James Gladson and Leader Dog Blanca, yellow lab (Marquette Prison); Thomas Pettit and Leader Dog Nora, golden retriever (puppy raiser: Jennifer Beckner)

Home Delivery: James Reynolds and Leader Dog Wallace, black lab (puppy raiser: Laura Fisher); Hannah Furney and Leader Dog Leger, yellow lab/golden cross (puppy raiser: Natalie Cousin)

Contact Us by Phone, Email or Text

Your first point of contact for assistance is always the client services department. You can reach them by calling 888–777–5332, or email or text them at clientservices@leaderdog.org.

Questions, Comments or Suggestions

Please send them to UpdateEditor@leaderdog.org or call 888–777–5332 ext. 1158.