



Sam's Radio Hams Receive "Happy Tails" Award

Dogs for the Deaf's Major Gift Manager Wanda Cockey presented the highly acclaimed "Happy Tails Award" to the Sam's Radio Hams Chapter in April at the annual Southern California Good Sam Rally. The Sam's Radio Hams Chapter is one of three nationwide chapters that raised over \$2,500, earning each chapter member the coveted "Happy Tails" patches.

Good Sam Club and Dogs for the Deaf have shared a very special relationship since 1989: "Together we make miracles happen." Good Sam Club chapters across the country have raised significant funds for Dogs for the Deaf over the years.

Sam's Radio Hams is a chapter of licensed amateur radio operators that stay active with monthly RV campouts in southern California, Nevada, and Arizona.



Volunteer Dog Walkers: Our Unsung Heroes

Paula moved to Central Point, OR after working 27 years at a city planning office. It wasn't long before she became a volunteer dog walker at Dogs for the Deaf.



"My previous job was a high-pressure position, so walking the dogs at their pace has taught me patience, how to slow down, and to enjoy life," Paula said. "I have always loved animals and am so appreciative for the opportunity to be a part of such a wonderful organization, and to be able to love such wonderful dogs."

Our volunteers are fully committed to walking our dogs twice a week, come rain, heat, or snow! In early January, southern Oregon was blanketed with unusual amounts of snow and ice. As one of our dedicated volunteers, Paula bundled herself up and inched her way to the facility to make sure the dogs were walked and cared for. The love and dedication from Paula — and all our volunteer dog walkers — is inspiring!

Providing Comfort When Needed the Most

Slim is Jane's third Hearing Assistance Dog from Dogs for the Deaf to help her with sound awareness and companionship. "Slim is incredibly smart — I trust him to let me know what's going on around me," Jane noted during a follow-up visit. Slim knew exactly what Jane needed when she was at home recovering from a recent surgery: he stayed right by Jane's side to comfort and alert her as needed. The love and joy between them is heartwarming — there is no doubt that Slim is making a lasting impact on Jane's quality of life!



Kathleen & Harper



Hearing Dog Harper has been assisting Kathleen in California for two years. Harper helps with many sounds, including the oven timer which is a big help when Kathleen is baking. "Harper is always with me," Kathleen said. Whether they are practicing sound work or simply people watching, Kathleen and Harper always enjoy their time together.

Educating People Every Day

Dogs for the Deaf Nationwide Ambassador Bev and her Hearing Dog Jude educate people every day. Earlier this year, Bev spoke to several elementary school children about Hearing



and Dogs for the Deaf. Needless to say, Jude was a hit with all the children, leaving a lasting impression about Assistance Dogs and the impact they make for people with hearing loss.

Bev and Jude love to camp, and they are often approached by curious campers. Recently a speech therapist who was camping nearby was so intrigued by Jude that she couldn't resist bringing her kids over to visit Bev and Jude. It was yet another opportunity to educate people! We love our Dogs for the Deaf Ambassadors. The educational impact they make nationwide is so important — and so appreciated. *Thank you, Bev and Jude!*