

ASSISTANCE DOGS EUROPE CONFERENCE 2002
25 – 26 – 27 OCTOBER, FRANCE
INTRODUCTION

Facts recorded during the third meeting in Paris 2002.

During our conference in Paris there were many discussions on various aspects concerning educating and training assistance dogs. Many international and national issues were discussed and many thoughts were exchanged.

All this information will help to design proper statutes and standards for Assistance Dogs Europe.

The standards of Assistance Dogs International will be the basis for European standards. You can find these standards on www.adionline.org. Some members of the interim board are working to push them forward to the fourth meeting in Berlin.

The interim board will meet in the United Kingdom, on 24th and 25th May 2003 at the Institute of "Hearing Dogs for the Deaf".

We hope to welcome all of you again this year in Berlin, Germany; 30 October – 1 – 2 November.

Elma Burg
Secretariat

REPORT ON KEY ISSUES 2002 / 2003

TRAINING

- ◆ Travel Tips for people with an assistance dog by Pierre Margot Cattin, Switzerland
 - check in advance the veterinary regulations from the country you are travelling to
 - check if your veterinarian did everything what is required
 - when you travel by plane
 - if possible choose an US company (ADA)
 - book normally and announce that you have your dog only after confirmation
 - request that the dog travels with you in the cabin
 - when you travel by boat
 - check in advance with the company if they accept assistance dogs
 - book a cabin for people with restricted mobility
 - the assistance dog might not be accepted in all restaurants due to allergies of other consumers

- ◆ Matching client and dog.
Forms explained by Helen McCain, Dogs for the Disabled, UK. Forms available from Dogs for the Disabled on request.

- ◆ There are many good educated, conscious assistance dogs trainers across Europe.

- ◆ There are two different ways that assistance dogs are trained in Europe:
 - via teamtraining, by the client him/herself
 - via foster-families and institute-training.

- ◆ The most organisations for service-, guide-, or hearingdogs have “boot-camps” for clients in their program. Boot-camps can differ in length.

- ◆ There are many different types of equipment available for assistance dogs; there was a nice fashion show of all different back-pack, leashes, and capes.

- ◆ “De Hond Kan De Was Doen”, The Netherlands introduced a “dog-sit” to adjust on the wheelchair, used when a client with a wheelchair has to drive a long distance, which is too far for the dog.
They have also designed an electronic clicker.
Information from both products at “De Hond Kan De Was Doen”, The Netherlands.
- ◆ “HACHIKO” showed a “training-cupboard”, including switches and a drawer; idea to get at “HACHIKO”, Belgium
- ◆ If you want information about “Follow-up/aftercare” (support for a client by a professional trainer) contact Inge Molleman, “Stichting Hulphond Nederland”, The Netherlands
- ◆ Tellington Touch Practitioners
 - USA www.ttouch.com
 - UK SarahFisher@TTEAM.co.uk
 - Germany tteam.de
 - Sweden jmpette@ibm.net
 - The Netherlands www.ttouch.nl
 - Austria www.tteamoffice.at
 - Italy abs.tteam@libero.it
 - Switzerland www.TTEAM.ch
- ◆ ADEu has good connections with IAHAIO (International Association for Human Animal Interaction Organisations) through the participating organisations: “AIUCA”, Italy; “Ethologia”, Belgium; and “AFIRAC”, France.
www.iahaio.org

REPORT ON KEY ISSUES 2002 / 2003

MANAGEMENT

- ◆ Steering group 'Meeting 2002' did its work; with many thanks to Dominique L.Laillet, "ANECAH", France.
- ◆ Steering group 'Operational' has designed the draft for the Statutes of ADEu.
- ◆ The meeting decided that all organisations, who train service-, guide-, and hearingdogs, and/or who evaluate teams for Animal Assisted Activities (AAA), Animal Assisted Education (AAE), and Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) can be a member of ADEu, provided they meet the standards that will be agreed in 2003.
- ◆ Steering group 'Fund-Raising and Public Relations' lost its co-ordinator and members during the year.
- ◆ There is a website www.assistancedogseurope.info
- ◆ Steering group 'Organisational' ceased to operate after a flood in Austria. The programme is still recovering from the damage.
- ◆ Steering group 'Standards and Access' presented the first ideas for the standards derived from the standards of Assistance Dogs International.
- ◆ Financial Statement Meeting 2000 Groesbeek, "Stichting Hulphond Nederland", The Netherlands was received; the result is 0 Dutch Guilder. (0 Euro's)
- ◆ Financial Statement Meeting 2001 Grône, Le Copain, Switzerland is received. The result is 1100 Euro's, which are passed on to "ANECAH", France in October 2002.
- ◆ Financial Statement Meeting 2002 Paris, "ANECAH", France is not received yet.

- ◆ FEDESA reported on their work to bring the needs of access for partners with assistance dogs across Europe to the attention of the European Parliament. ADEu is co-operating with FEDESA.

- ◆ The year 2003 will be the European Year of People with Disabilities;
www.eypd2003.org

- ◆ Glasgow will host the IAHAIO Conference in 2004: The 10th International Conference on Human-Animal Interactions
People and Animals: A Timeless Relationship
www.glasgow2004ad.com

- ◆ Tips for working with volunteers, take care of **commitment** through
 - enthusiasm
 - guidelines
 - communication
 - giving a task, responsibility
 - giving trust and confidence
 - showing gratitude
 - giving recognition
 - providing new friendships**managing your volunteers** using
 - “intake”
 - home visits
 - guidelines (clear – honest)
 - providing a signed agreement
 - providing positive feed-back
 - supporting bereavement
 - “controlling” the guidelines
 - managing critical response
 - thanking your volunteers**finances** towards your volunteers like
 - expense allowance
 - food for the dog
 - veterinarian costs
 - distribution of requirements, equipment
 - informing about tax-reduction
 - and dog-tax freedom

REPORT ON CONFERENCE 2002 / 2003

PLENARY

- ◆ The following Resolutions were passed
 1. Conference resolves to call our new organisation Assistance Dogs Europe. The shortened form will be ADEu.
 2. Conference approves the draft constitution submitted to the business meeting on Sunday 27th October, subject to any minor changes, to be agreed by the Interim Board, required to meet the terms of registration.
 3. Conference resolves to register Assistance Dogs Europe in Belgium.
 4. Conference resolves to elect at the 2002 conference in Paris an Interim Board of seven members for one year. The election will take place in accordance with the constitution.
 5. Conference resolves to set affiliation fees for Assistance Dogs Europe the following levels: 50 –100 Euro's, depending of the financial situation of the organisation.
 6. Conference resolves that the financial year for Assistance Dogs Europe shall be the calendar year
 7. Conference resolves to set up a bank account for Assistance Dogs Europe. All transactions to be countersigned by at least two members of the Board.

- ◆ There will be full members and provisional members, according the Statutes.

- ◆ Full members will have one vote; provisional members will have no vote.

- ◆ The members of the Interim Board for one year will be:
 - Peter Gorbing, "Dogs for the Disabled", UK
 - Paul Lambilotte, HACHIKO, Belgium
 - Debra Buttram, AIUCA, Italy
 - Andy Cook, Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, UK
 - Anki Celander, Svenska Service- och Signalhundsförbundet, Sweden

- Charlotte Lyngaae Banff, Organisation for Servicehunde i Danmark, Denmark
 - Nina Bondarenko, Canine Partners, UK
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- ◆ We received a letter from Linda Jennings, President of Assistance Dogs International, thanking ADEu for the invitation to attend the conference.
She also expressed the hope that it may be possible for Assistance Dogs International and Assistance Dogs Europe to work together to organise a truly international conference for assistance dog programmes in the future.
Good luck and best wishes.

 - ◆ There were 66 participants present representing 25 organisations from 13 European countries and 1 South-American country.

POEM*

Dear people we don't want to forget
all those families who took care of our pet
we, five new clients, wouldn't be here,
when you didn't raise our new pals during a year.
Therefore we think it's very important
you people exist, because you're wanted;
with this doggy we got back some independence
thanks to you, who gave your time and attendance.
Thank you, dear people, whilst that year went so fast,
you trained and you nurtured, and now it's the past;
for us it's the future and listen to this:
we give you a thank you and symbolical' a kiss;
we'll keep you posted, not daily, don't worry
not every week, it should be too much
but we send you a note, a picture, a story
we will be in touch

* written by some Dutch clients 2001

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