



# Summit Assistance Dogs

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## Our Featured Career

### Change Dogs

“ Mr. Lincoln”



“Kinzie”



“Adorable & adoptable to loving pet homes”

For further

information go to

<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/WA177.html>

[wendy@summitdogs.org](mailto:wendy@summitdogs.org)

## Dogs Promote Health, and Happiness

It isn't much of a secret for those of us who share our lives with our furry canine companions, but it's always nice when others acknowledge what we knew all along. We read a recent study that came to the conclusion that dogs increase the quality of health and happiness for their human partners. Dog owners are obligated to walk their dogs regardless of how they are feeling. It provides the owner an opportunity to exercise with their dog resulting in less depression and loneliness for both.

Spring is finally here!

Get out those leashes!

## “Empowering People To Greater Heights”

### Training On The High Sea's



Who would have guessed the magnitude of training possibilities aboard a ship? Twenty-nine dogs with their trainers/owners joined other cruisers aboard the Caribbean Princess for a 7-day bask in the sun. Enviously we said “Bon Voyage” to the Summit contingent

made up of Executive Director Sue Meinzinger with Shiloh, Puppy-raiser Jan Hemme with Murray and Volunteer Coordinator Michelle Munro with her service dog, Hayden. They participated in seminars and a reunion hosted by The Assistance Dog Institute. The cruise presented a perfect setting for training opportunities including dining in various restaurants, shopping, walking on a leash in new environments and socializing with people from all over the world. Upon her return to rainy Anacortes, Sue said “The ability to expose so many people to Summit was phenomenal! Imagine 29 dogs on the same ship with 3000 people having to get along and be on their best behavior.”



## APRIL 2008

### Dog Lover's Humor To All Non-Pet Owner's Who Visit and Like to Complain About Our Pets:



- They live here. You don't.
- If you don't want their hair on your clothes, stay off the furniture. (That's why they call it 'fur'niture.)
- I like my pets a lot better than I like most people.
- To you, it's an animal. To me, he/she is an adopted son/daughter who is short, hairy, walks on all fours and doesn't speak clearly.

Please be so kind as to follow your rules and I will ensure that visitors follow theirs!

Love,  
Your human companion

### Ari the Hero



Our dogs do amazing things! We hear these kinds of stories from our graduates frequently. Ari is partnered with Bill Holtz who has a hearing impairment. Part of Ari's training was to recognize Bill's name, alert him to various sounds and get his attention when someone was calling for him. I want to share this email from Summit's Development Director's mother. Ari lives with her and her husband, Bill.

Hi Deb,

I thought you would like to know this. Yesterday I had a low blood sugar attack. I was shaky and itchy all over and discovered my blood sugar was down to 60 and falling fast. 120 is normal for me. I made a bowl of cereal but of course it was not something that could work fast enough to stop the downward slide which can become a true medical emergency in very short order. I called “Bill, Bill!”. I had no idea where he was, but Ari came running a hundred miles an hour and then ran and got Dad. Dad thought it was a drill until he saw me and then he ran for juice. Ari did it! We have been trying this for months. Usually he runs right past me and goes to the back door, which is the portal to fun, or he runs to the phone or he runs to Dad for a treat, but this time he did exactly what he was trained to do. Maybe in his dog brain, he could tell the difference in my panicked voice. Good job and thanks to Ari Dad didn't find me on the floor when he came in to ask what was for dinner four hours later.

Mom