

RESUME Sam, Service Dog

Sandyoaks Silver Sam, Standard Poodle, DOB 04/21/2009, AKC PR13006605

BREEDER Judy K Knight, Sandyoaks Standard Poodles, Joy Texas

<http://sandyoaks.tripod.com/StandardPoodles.html>



All dogs bred and raised at Sandyoaks are house dogs. Puppies are handled daily by all members of their human family. They are exposed to as many experiences and stimuli as possible and develop healthy social skills for an easy transition to their new homes.

PURCHASED at 12 weeks old, picked up by car and transported in a crate, in the car for the two day trip to Phoenix, AZ

TRAINED BY Kathleen Healy, Owner

OWNER CREDENTIALS

MA, Syracuse University
AS, Veterinary Nursing, Harcum College, Summa Cum Laude
Internship Veterinary Hospital University of PA
Studied Canine Behavior at VHUP with Karen Overall
MA, VMD, PhD, Dipl. ACVB, CAAB
Practicing Registered Veterinary Nurse, Retired
Professor, Veterinary Technology Program, Harcum College, Retired

CONSULTING TRAINERS

Ali Brown, Owner/Trainer Great Companions, Allentown PA,
M Ed, CPDT-KA, CDBC, APDT
Troy Ballard APDT, Paws for Reflection, Maricopa AZ
Nathan Braaten, Owner/Trainer A-Wag to Wag, Tempe AZ, AA, APDT
Graduate of the Assistance Dog Institute,
Bergin University of Canine Studies, Sonoma Co CA

SAM'S CREDENTIALS

Sam earned his **CGC** on May 21, 2010 at 11 months old. He passed testing and became a **Registered Therapy Dog** with Therapy Dogs Inc on June 14, 2011.

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SAM's EXPERIENCE in the world. Sam has accompanied me into almost every conceivable situation and proven himself a sensible and stable service dog and helpmate.



From the age of 12 weeks he has traveled extensively with me in "Trains, Planes, and Automobiles." He has accompanied me into public settings of almost every kind, including airports, rail and bus stations, shopping malls, grocery and drug stores, restaurants, home improvement and department stores, physicians offices, hospitals and nursing homes. In the course of these travels, he has used stairs, elevators, escalators and moving walkways. He is experienced with most types of mobility equipment, such as canes, wheel chairs, walkers, etc., as well

as many other types of medical equipment, such as oxygen tanks.

He has negotiated airports large and small and flown with me as a passenger cross country from coast to coast three times, as well as on shorter flights. He has traveled by rail cross country on AMTRAK from Phoenix AZ to San Antonio TX to New Orleans LA to Atlanta GA to Philadelphia PA to Chicago IL to Denver CO to Reno NV to San Francisco CA.

He has been on charter buses, city buses, subways, airport transit carts, taxis, moving dollies, as well as many different types of automobiles and trucks.

ASSISTANCE BEHAVIORS

All of Sam's trained behaviors provide me with mobility assistance. These tasks include standing square on cue to help me balance as I rise from a kneeling position.

During periods when my symptoms require it, Sam wears a balance harness and walks attentively beside me, maintaining my pace and halting to rest when necessary.

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In potentially stressful situations, such as noisy crowds, Sam will, on cue, nudge me and provide a point of focus allowing me a socially acceptable means of escape.

He is learning to look for and pick up different objects I may drop. We are always training. I strive to make all training experiences positive and fun.

FAQ

How does Sam know what job he is to do?

Sam wears a different “uniform” for his roles as Service Dog, Therapy Dog, and my-best-friend-we’re-home-alone-time-to cuddle. He is keenly aware of what is expected of him when he wears each costume.

What kinds of things can he find and pick up?

Right now, Sam is able to identify different toys and we are using that to transition to other items, such as keys, pens, wallets, and other things that may fall from my hands. He enjoys “find it” very much



What kinds of therapy work has he done?

Our most gratifying therapy work has been with terminally ill people in hospice. Sam is able to reach people in ways that are impossible for any human caregiver. He has brought a smile to the face of a wheelchair-bound, totally unresponsive man simply by licking his toes.

Unlike a traditional hospital environment, the taboos about licking are often relaxed in a hospice situation where the possibility of contamination or infection does not exist.

How has Sam changed your life?

Sam loves me no matter what. Sam helps me feel safe. Sam enables me to get out into the world. I walk. I go to parks. I go to beaches. I take care of Sam and in the process I take care of myself as well.