

Polly Stops Cody Just in Time

Ronda McCowen

Saturday morning, August 1, 2009. I needed to get a few things done. Yes, I know: shocking for a busy mom of an active teen and an active seizure alert service dog. Without thinking, I asked Cody to leave Polly in the house and run out to my truck sitting just outside the garage. I needed my key to the shop.



My wonderful teenager eagerly responded. I was just around the corner in the kitchen when I heard him say, “Polly, moooooooooove.” Just by the tone of his voice, I knew something important was up, so I quickly walked around the corner.

I saw Cody reaching in vain for the doorknob, but Polly stood firmly between the door to the garage and Cody. She was *not* going to let him out the door.

“Cody,” I said, “are you...”

He suddenly started turning the way he does when he goes into a grand mal (tonic-clonic) seizure. I tried to help him walk back around the corner, and at the same time, Polly realized I wasn’t going to let him go out.

She then started barking, letting me know he was seizing. Cody sat down on the floor and was unknowingly jerking and banging his recently broken finger on the floor. Polly was right there barking and licking him in the face.

It was only minutes later that he got up and walked to the bedroom, where he lay down in the floor. Polly curled up next to him and they both fell asleep.

I then went out to get the key I needed, but not before I ran the whole thing through my mind as I opened the door Polly had just stopped Cody from going through. To think that she stopped him from going out because she felt he might get hurt, even though she didn’t bark right at the onset.

Not letting Cody go out into what could have been something worse: amazing. It could have been very bad if he had seized in the garage with the motorcycles and other stuff in the garage. He could easily have fallen over something and gotten seriously hurt.

It gives me goose bumps to think Polly may not have barked at the onset of a seizure, but she kept him from harm’s way, just moments before he went into a seizure. She is totally amazing. I don’t know what we ever did without Polly in our lives.



The Amazing Polly...Class of June ‘09