NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2014

PATRIOTPAWS SERVICE DOGS

PATRIOT PAWS NAMED 2014 HUNTING ART PRIZE CHARITY

Hunting PLC, an international oil services company, sponsors a prestigious annual competition open to Texas artists known as the Hunting Art Prize. Hunting PLC also supports a single Texas-based charity each year through

a donation made on behalf of the Hunting Art Prize. The gift includes a direct donation as well as a contribution from Hunting that matches the funds generated from finalists who sell their art at the annual gala.

On May 3, 2014, Lori Stevens and others representing Patriot PAWS attended the Hunting Art Prize gala held in Houston. Patriot PAWS would like to thank Houston CEO Dennis Proctor and his wife Nancy for their role in the selection of Patriot PAWS as the 2014 Hunting Art Prize charity and for the generous donation.





FORMER PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH MEETS WITH PATRIOT PAWS

On April 7, 2014, Lori Stevens, along with demo dog Jazz, members of the Patriot PAWS staff and board of directors, local veteran recipients and PAWS friend and supporter Jan Rees-Jones, met with former President George W. Bush in his office at the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Mr. Bush personally conversed with each of his visitors as well as spoke with the group about his interest in disabled veterans. The George W. Bush Institute's Military Service Initiative hosts an annual spring bike ride, the Warrior 100K, and an annual fall golf tournament, the Warrior Open, to honor service members injured in Afghanistan and Iraq. Lori and Jazz presented a demonstration for Mr. Bush of what service dogs and PTSD dogs can do to help disabled veterans. Mr. Bush remarked that he would like to see the D dropped from PTSD because he believes that post-traumatic stress is an injury rather than a disorder. Patriot PAWS supports this change. Each veteran present was presented with a Presidential challenge coin, and everyone had his or her photo taken with Mr. Bush and later received an autographed copy of it as a memento.

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LETTER FROM LORI

hen I first started receiving donations for Patriot PAWS, I was in awe that people believed enough in our little organization to actually donate money. Now, eight years later, it's not so little any more, and the many ways in which we receive support are so varied that I could never have dreamed of most of them. More and more businesses and churches and foundations and organizations of all kinds have come on board in all sorts of ways from bestowing grants to hosting benefit art auctions and golf tournaments to matching their employees' donations as well as with many other creative and generous endeavors. It's truly gratifying to know that so many from your next-door neighbors to our team of dedicated volunteers, your local businesses and churches to some nationally-known corporations all believe in the mission of helping our disabled veterans and trust in Patriot PAWS to do just that. And to maintain that trust, we make a conscientious effort to manage our budget for a G&A at only 20% or under. So to all of you who have gone above and beyond in helping us, thank you, not just from me, but from those whom we serve who went above and beyond for all of us.

SPOTLIGHT

ON NORTH FORTY KENNELS

Patriot PAWS is fortunate to receive donated puppies from a number of fine breeders. In fact, 43 of the 58 dogs currently in our program were donated. North Forty Kennels in Guthrie, OK, owned by Jim and Janet Ervin, has produced more placed service dogs and social companion dogs for us than any other breeder, 18 to be exact: Houston, Maverick, Mustang, Sergeant, Star, Captain, Lily, Dusty, Maddy, T-Boone, Taylor, Trinity, Dillinger, Mason, Mighty Mouse, Sandy, Ranger and DOG. So to North Forty Kennels and all of the other breeders who so generously support

our program, thank you on behalf of all of the disabled veterans and others who have received your dogs throughout the years. Know that you are helping us to change lives for the better, four paws at a time.



ELI'S CORNER

To me, the best part about online shopping isn't the convenience or the selection, it's the boxes. Every time we get a delivery here at Patriot PAWS, my coworkers want to throw away the wonderful box that it came in. But like most felines, I never met a box I didn't like, so I'm always more than happy to take all those unwanted boxes off their hands. And speaking of online shopping, have you heard about AmazonSmile?

In addition to buying from our wish list on Amazon.com, AmazonSmile is another way that you can help Patriot PAWS, and the best part is, it's at no additional cost! Simply go to smile.amazon.com, and on your first visit, select Patriot PAWS from the list of charitable organizations. The site will remember your selection from then on, and every item that you purchase that is marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" will generate a donation to us of 0.5% of the purchase price which is the same price as on Amazon.com. So the purchase that you were going to make anyway now can help Patriot PAWS at the same time. Additional cost to you...zero...the good feeling that you'll get from helping our disabled veterans...priceless!

So remember, next time you shop online, try AmazonSmile. And don't forget to give your cat the box!

Until next time, dear friends. Seli



SUMMER 2014



VETERAN CHAD BOUDREAUX AND ANDY

Army SGT Chad Boudreaux of Melville, LA, served two tours in Iraq. He suffered a traumatic brain injury, his neck was fractured in seven places which has affected his balance, nerve damage makes it difficult to use his hands, and he has been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress.

In April 2014, Chad received service dog Andy, a male black Lab, at a graduation held at the Rockwall training center. According to Chad, Andy helps him by bringing things to him and picking up dropped items for him, and by calming him, especially during storms. His kids love to come over and play with Andy during his dog time, and Chad believes he is now a better father to them. "He makes people laugh. He makes me happy."



VETERAN CASEY TANNER AND TYNDALL

Army SGT Casey Tanner of Eustace, TX, served in combat in Iraq. It wasn't until after he returned home that it was discovered that he had received a traumatic brain injury while deployed. He was also diagnosed with severe post-traumatic stress which causes him to be hyper-vigilant.

In February 2014, Casey received service dog Tyndall, a male yellow Lab. According to Casey, "Tyndall has taken some of the burden off. I am more comfortable in public now and am not so vigilant. I was not the person my wife and kids needed. I'm still a work in progress, but Tyndall helps me stay on track. He copies me. When I kiss my wife goodbye, Tyndall then kisses her, too. He loves the whole family."



VETERAN MATT OBRIEN AND SADIE

USMC Sgt Matthew OBrien of Madison, WI, served two tours in Afghanistan on foot as a combat engineer detecting IEDs. He suffered a traumatic brain injury and back injuries on his second tour from the third IED explosion that he encountered in the space of only four months. He has also been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress which causes him anxiety in public.

In April 2014, Matt received service dog Sadie, a female yellow Lab, at a graduation held at the training center in Rockwall. According to Matt, "Sadie is such a great addition...I feel more relaxed with her because my attention is all on her, not everyone around me. I'm getting out more, slowly but surely...making myself more comfortable being around other people."

WHEN THE MAGIC DOESN'T WORK

Skill, intention, determination and will, all working together toward a desired result, can seem like magic. "Well, sometimes the magic works. Sometimes, it doesn't." This quote by Chief Daniel George from the movie, <u>Little Big Man</u>, rings true. Wanting something badly isn't always enough...magic doesn't always work.

In follow-up to last issue's cover story on service dog Rocky, we must report that his placement did not work out as expected. Rocky is a very smart dog, and every training effort was made to fit him into a unique situation, but ultimately, it just was not meant to be. We understand this can happen, and Rocky is now back at Patriot PAWS where he is being re-evaluated prior to a decision being made about his future. Remember, you can't keep a champ down for long...

RECENT FUNDRAISERS

APRIL

Eldorado Country Club – Rockin' with Care 2014 – chose Patriot PAWS as their charity this year. Donations were truly "rockin" and totaled enough to sponsor this black Lab pup, now named Eldorado. He was born in March and is diligently training to be a service dog.

MAY

The 2014 **Hunting Art Prize** charity did fundraising for a generous donation which led to the sponsorship of this silver Lab pup, Hunter, born in April. It also led to Lori Stevens' photo being displayed on the 23-story high Reuters digital billboard located in New York's Times Square!







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JUNE

The **Dallas Assembly of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew** held their third annual Patriot PAWS Charity Golf Tournament at Canyon

Creek Country Club with Patriot PAWS as the sole beneficiary. There were 107 golfers participating, and the major sponsors included Fritz Industries, Standardized Controls, Truly Noble Services, Karen E. Williamson, DDS, Petco Marketing/Petco Foundation and IN-N-OUT BURGER.

Veteran recipient Dustin Deweerd with his service dog Gunny was the speaker for those present at the dinner following.









IN MEMORIAM

RECIPIENT, Paula Hibbs

VETERAN RECIPIENT, Scott Johnson

Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal -Author Unknown

PLEASE DONATE TODAY

- We accept all major credit cards on our website
- Cash, checks and money orders by mail or in person
- Smartphone App—Download it from your phone's Internet browser at www.patriotpaws.givemodo.com

ALSO CONSIDER:

- Setting up a recurring donation
- Honoring or memorializing someone with a donation
- Matching your employee's donation
- Pledging for a 3-year period
- Becoming a PAWS ambassador
- Conducting a fundraiser
- Volunteering or becoming a puppy raiser
- If you are a Federal employee, you may make donations using our CFC# 35710

PATRIOT PAWS SERVICE DOGS IS LOCATED AT 254 RANCH TRAIL, ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75032 FOR INFORMATION, VISIT PATRIOTPAWS.ORG OR CALL 972-772-3282



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