

PATRIOTPAWS

SERVICE DOGS



WELCOME TO PATRIOT GARDEN!

When Patriot PAWS purchased the land and buildings of our main campus, a small dilapidated house sat next to the training center. The Dallas Builders Association offered to renovate it for use by visiting veterans and as a meeting place for our Veterans For PAWS group, but close inspection determined that it would be more cost-effective to demolish it and build a new house on the site instead. And so, our new Veterans House was created.

Thank you, DBA, for such a generous undertaking! Great attention to detail was given to ensure that the house is fully wheelchair-accessible, including the kitchen and both bathrooms. Thanks also to all who donated their time and talents, as well as funds and items to furnish the house with everything from furniture, a washer and dryer and kitchen necessities, to all the little finishing touches to make it a home away from home for all its guests. We are truly grateful and humbled by this outpouring of generosity which made our Veterans House possible.

In front of the Veterans House sits the also newly created Patriot Garden which features the engraved bricks and benches from our recent fundraising campaign. Many thanks to all who ordered! The bricks have been installed to create a circular walkway graced by the benches which provide a place to sit and reflect upon those who are honored or memorialized there. The center of the walkway is highlighted by a large flagpole and American flag, donated by Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers in Rockwall, and beautiful landscaping throughout completes the garden setting.

We are now offering additional engraved bricks and benches to be

installed in Patriot Garden at a future date, so if you missed out on the first offering or would like to order additional items, please go to our website to download an order form, or call the training center for one to be mailed to you.

So now, please enjoy your photographic tour of our new Veterans House and Patriot Garden!

IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION
FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR VETERANS HOUSE

Dallas Builders Association

Builder Captains

100 Business Leaders of Rockwall County
Altrusa International of Dallas
The Brotherhood of St. Andrew
Champion Fire
Creative Architects
Dixie Homes
Enterprise Plumbing
First Floors
Gary's Pest Control Services
Johnson Supply
MDG Trash Removal
Performance Spray Foam
Pulte Homes
Southern Roofing
TAMCO
University Furnishings

2-10 Home Buyers Warranty
Arizona Tile
Cabinet Specialist
City of Rockwall
Dallas Demolition
D-N-D Services
Eric Davis Engineering
Foxworth-Galbraith Lumber Co.
IES Electrical
Lee Lighting
myHomeMedia
Ply Gym Windows
Reliable Tractor Services
Statewide Tracking Corporation
Texas Door & Trim
Vault Construction Group

ACME Brick
BKS
Carter & Clark Surveyors
Counter Source
Discount Waste, LLC
Electrolux
Expressions Home Gallery
Frank Garcia
IME Mechanical
McClary Sand & Gravel
Performance Drywall Services
Prosource
Sherwin Williams
Suncoast Post-Tension
United Rentals
Walker Zanger

Ray Collins, Elaine Ford, Marti Gastano and many other helping hands and hearts!

PATRIOTPAWS

Photos by Scott Roberts





LETTER FROM LORI

Ken Ramirez is a world-renowned animal care and training expert. His 40+ years of experience includes positive reinforcement training techniques for everything from marine mammals to primates to dogs. Mr. Ramirez is also an author and professor and was host of the television series, "Talk to the Animals".

Our trainers and interns and I had the great privilege of a visit from Mr. Ramirez earlier this year at our Rockwall training center. Anyone in the dog training world knows the name Ken Ramirez, and personally, it was a dream come true for me to get to work with him. His vast knowledge and keen insight into the canine mind are realistic and relevant to the Patriot PAWS way of training, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to benefit from it.

SPOTLIGHT

CARRY THE LOAD

Patriot PAWS is proud to partner with Carry The Load, a non-profit founded in Dallas in 2011 by two Navy SEAL veterans to restore the true meaning of Memorial Day. It began with a 20-hour memorial march in Dallas but has since expanded to an East Coast relay from NY, a West Coast relay from WA and, new this year, a Midwest relay from MN, all culminating in Dallas at a 2-day event Memorial Day weekend. Puppy Raiser Tammie Zaleski with service dog in training Fallin, Ambassador Kathy Gordon and Veteran recipient Freedom Marie Green with service dog Gus were present representing Patriot PAWS at the NY kickoff of the East Coast relay. Patriot PAWS benefits as a Continuum Of Care partner in Carry The Load's mission to honor and celebrate the sacrifices made by our nation's heroes — military, veterans, first responders and their families.

Thank you, Carry The Load!



Photos courtesy of Elizabeth V. Woodruff

ELI'S CORNER

Leo and I love our job. Teaching feline tolerance to our dogs in training ensures that as each one goes out into the world with his veteran, a cat encounter won't be a problem. We teach them that cats are not to be barked at or chased, but respected and maybe even liked, something that benefits us cats as well. When you stop and think about it, felines everywhere may be benefiting from the efforts of two little cats who quietly work at a non-profit teaching dogs to tolerate cats. Hmmm, this could be the beginning of a movement. Hey, this could be huge! Or not. Well, anyway, it's good to know that at the end of a hard day's work, there's a nice meal and a soft bed waiting. And maybe, just maybe, there's one less cat out there being chased by a dog.

Until next time, dear friends. *Eli*



BEYOND THE VETERAN

When a disabled veteran takes home a Patriot PAWS service dog, his or her life changes for the better. The dogs' training enables them to help their veterans in countless ways, but often, the addition of a service dog for one member of the family results in unexpected benefits for the entire family, and sometimes even extends to others outside the family circle. And, once in a while, one of our service dogs goes beyond their training and does something extraordinary, even heroic.

MEET ROSE PETAL AND STAR

Anthony Balisi received service dog, **Rose Petal**, in October 2018. Since then, he has successfully been able to go back to school where Rose Petal has become very popular among his active duty classmates. She makes the soldiers smile and laugh, something Anthony calls "priceless".

Although Rose Petal has been good for Anthony personally in many ways, he credits her with bringing his family closer together as well. They now spend more time together and go more places together than before Rose Petal joined the family. "My kids started spending more time with me and my wife downstairs playing with Rose Petal instead of spending numerous hours playing Xbox. And my wife tells me that I have improved the way I communicate with the kids. I want to thank Patriot PAWS for making a tremendous difference in my life and my family and for showing us that there is a better way to live."



Rachel Stankiewicz received service dog, **Star**, in October 2018. Earlier this year, she, her three children and Star went on vacation to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Rachel, her 4-year-old son, Jaxson, and Star were heading back to their beach house from the beach when, as children sometimes do, Jaxson took off running. Star ran after him, with Rachel bringing up the rear. To Rachel's horror, Jaxson darted through the open gate of a neighboring beach house, disappearing from her sight. Star followed him through, and what Rachel saw next is nothing short of amazing. Jaxson had fallen into a pool.

"As I ran around the corner, I could not see Jaxson but saw Star making her way into the pool. As I got to the edge, she came up out of the water with Jaxson holding on to her back, and she pulled him out of the water. It all happened in just a matter of seconds. I love her so much and am so grateful. I wanted to share this to recognize who Star is, what you have helped her become, and what a great member of our family she is, to not only me, but my children as well. This was traumatizing, to say the least, but she was right there, and she continues to be by my side."



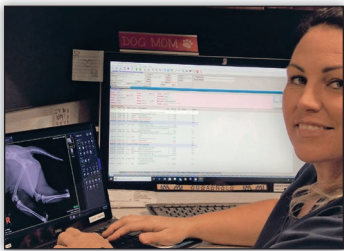
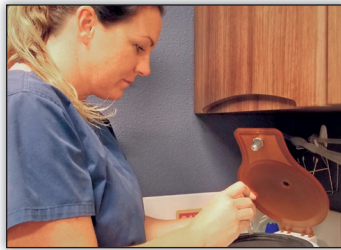
Rose Petal and Star are just two Patriot PAWS service dogs who are making a difference daily in the life of their veteran and others. Each and every one of our veteran/service dog teams is a testament to what your support helps make possible.

FROM THE KENNELS

With over 80 dogs currently in training to become Patriot PAWS Service Dogs, our volunteer Veterinarian, Dr. Rhonda Phillips, and Certified Veterinary Assistant III on staff, Carrie Robinson, have a lot of shots, checkups, spays and neuters to keep up with. "Having a full in-house veterinary clinic right here at our Rockwall kennels facility allows us to provide complete veterinary care for not only our dogs in training, but also any veterans in the area who have received a Patriot PAWS Service Dog," says Carrie. Come on a quick tour with us so we can show you some of the daily veterinary tasks that take place at our clinic.

- **Microscope**
– Viewing in-depth diagnostics such as intestinal parasite screening and ear cultures
- **Centrifuge**
– Preparing blood samples for the laboratory
- **Computer**
– Examining radiology results and documenting data for veterinary records
- Last, but not least, giving delicious **Purina treats** to one of our pups in training after they were such a good patient!

Thank you to all of our generous donors as you play a significant role in ensuring the best care possible for our pups in training and help us further our mission at Patriot PAWS Service Dogs!



THANK YOU!

We're saying Thanks to **Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers** for making Patriot PAWS the beneficiary of their **2019 Plush Puppy** sale! Since 2009, Raising Cane's has donated over \$700,000 to non-profit organizations through the sale of plush puppies inspired by the chain's canine namesake, Raising Cane. A portion of the sale of 2019's Stars & Stripes Plush Puppy goes directly to Patriot PAWS, and we couldn't be more grateful for this nationwide recognition and support!

2019 ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT PHOTOS



CapitalOne Volunteers



IN-N-OUT Burger



Volunteer Organizers



Toyota Volunteers

Photos by Donna Lee Riffle Dickson

SAVE-THE-DATE FOR NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY!



• 972-772-3282 •

Consider today what you can do to help us help them...



"The atmosphere here is unreal and reinforces the fact of how great it is to be an American veteran! What is really amazing is how the commitment of Patriot PAWS never ends. They are here forever for each veteran who receives one of their great animals..." – Arlie Matthews, 2016 Graduate

PLEASE DONATE TODAY

- We accept all major credit cards on our website at www.patriotpaws.org
- Cash, checks and money orders by mail or in person. **Address: 254 Ranch Trail Rockwall, TX 75032**

ALSO CONSIDER:

- Setting up a recurring donation
- Honoring or memorializing someone
- 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
- Every time you shop at www.smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate .5% of the purchase price to Patriot PAWS at no cost to you.