

PATRIOTPAWS

SERVICE DOGS



FACILITY DOGS: BRINGING COMFORT & HEALING TO MANY

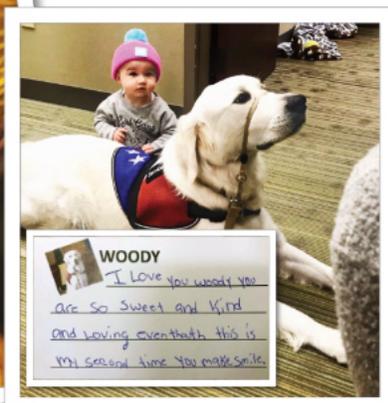
At Patriot PAWS, no dog is ever a failure, even if he or she is not successful as a service dog candidate. We believe that every dog has a purpose suited to their individual personality and strengths, and we make every effort to help them find their place in the world.

Perhaps one of the least known of our career-change dogs is the facility dog, a dog who works alongside humans who provide a particular service to other humans. Meet Woody and Jester, two facility dogs who have definitely found their place in the world.

The mission of **Project Harmony**, located in Omaha, Nebraska, is *"To protect and support children, collaborate with professionals and engage the community to end child abuse and neglect."* Children who have been removed from traumatic situations are typically frightened and confused and may find it hard to trust adults, which is why **Woody**, a big, lovable English Golden Retriever, was placed to comfort these children and help them deal with their current situation. According to Angela Roeber, Director of Communications, "Woody is the best dog ever and has touched so many lives in the past year he has been with us. I cannot imagine our work without him. I don't know if all those who had a part in Woody's upbringing and training even realize the impact and healing he has brought to so many children as well as adults. Words cannot express our sincere appreciation. Woody has such a strong intuition for who needs him most. When not in a forensic interview or therapy session, he seeks out those in our waiting area and even staff who could benefit from his support. He puts his paw on them as if to say, 'I'm here for you. I care about you. I love you.' And then he snuggles up beside them for as long as time will allow. Woody and those at Patriot PAWS are a true blessing."

Facility dogs don't only work with children, though. The mission of **3 For The Love (3FTL)**, located in Dallas, Texas, is *"To bridge the gap between mental illness treatment and recovery, as we work together to reduce the mental health stigma."* 3FTL works primarily with First Responders to help them deal with the traumatic events they have experienced while on the job. Patriot PAWS placed **Jester**, an English Cream Retriever, with Jennifer Halley, Owner and Treatment Coordinator, to aid in their work. "Jester has an unbelievable ability to detect an increase in emotions, specifically anxiety, and will give all his love to the First Responders that need him in their most vulnerable times, specifically when speaking about their trauma. I've witnessed his work during mass casualty debriefings, zeroing in on First Responders who might need extra love. He's even climbed in a First Responder's lap as they were describing their experience with the traumatic event. During intake, he will rest by their feet and let them pet him as they work through the most serious aspects of their jobs. When we are visiting firehouses or police stations, he carries around his toys, waiting for someone to play with him. He is always smiling!! I am continually amazed at how much love and joy he brings to everyone he sees. We are so blessed and grateful to have Jester as part of 3FTL."

Woody



Jester





LETTER FROM LORI

Looking back over the past decade and a half, I realize just how instrumental Dr. William D. (Bill) Perkins has been in the evolution of Patriot PAWS. I met Dr. Perkins while I was a dog trainer at Petco when he brought his young (and all ears!) German Shepherd pup, Max, to me for training. And from that, our friendship began.

He was with me every step of the way, right from the beginning when I first had the idea to train service dogs for disabled veterans, advising that, "If we are going to do this, it is going to be one of the best, so start with your standard high and go up from there. Make it first-class!" Dr. Perkins also served as our Chairman of the Board from 2006 until 2019 when he retired. His business guidance and moral support over the years helped turn my idea into one of the leading service dog organizations in the country today.

Dr. Perkins, Patriot PAWS would not be where it is without you, so for all that you have done, and on behalf of all the veterans we have served, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

SPOTLIGHT

ON DR. WILLIAM D. (BILL) PERKINS

William D. (Bill) Perkins, Ph.D. served as Patriot PAWS Chairman of the Board from 2006 until his retirement in 2019. Throughout his tenure, he also served as business advisor and grant writer and worked tirelessly in advancing and growing the organization.

On July 8, 2020, at a ceremony held at the Rockwall campus, the administration building was named in honor of Dr. Perkins. Looking back, Dr. Perkins says, "It has been such a great honor to serve as Chairman of the Board at Patriot PAWS. I'm very proud of Lori and the Patriot PAWS team and all that was accomplished during these 14 years. It has been a life-changing experience for me to see this program grow and become one of the premier service dog training facilities for disabled veterans in the United States. To give back to those who serve has truly been an honor."

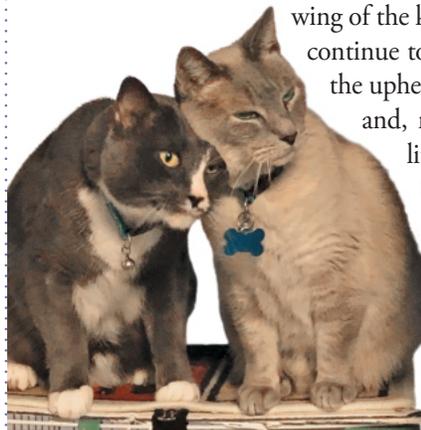
Congratulations and best wishes, Dr. Perkins!!



ELI'S CORNER

There's nothing quite like being quarantined during a pandemic shutdown to make you realize just how important your loved ones are to you.

During the time our admin building was closed, Leo and I moved into the isolation wing of the kennels so we, along with the other trainers, could continue to train the dogs who were housed there. With all the upheaval around us, the fact that we still had our work and, more importantly, each other, made that time a little less difficult than it otherwise could have been. Leo has become more to me than just my apprentice, he's my friend, and we all need friends to walk with us through life. I hope that each of you has as good a friend to walk with you as I have in Leo.



Until next time, dear friends.

Eli



KEEP CALM AND TRAIN ON!

Although 2020 is turning out to be anything but a normal year, the good news here at Patriot PAWS is that, through it all, we have continued with our mission of training service dogs for disabled veterans.

As the pandemic unfolded, some difficult decisions had to be made, including furloughing part of the staff and temporarily discontinuing all volunteer work on campus. Although the admin building was closed, administrative matters were handled by staff from home. The kennels remained open, though, with a handful of dedicated staff and our awesome veterinarian, Dr. Rhonda Phillips, caring for and training the dogs who were housed there. Both our Dallas-Fort Worth area and Texas A&M volunteer puppy raisers continued to care for and train their assigned dogs, and our inmate trainers continued to train the dogs in their care at the prisons. Our two cats, Eli and Leo, were temporarily moved to the isolation wing of the kennels which was lovingly dubbed “kitty city” for the duration.

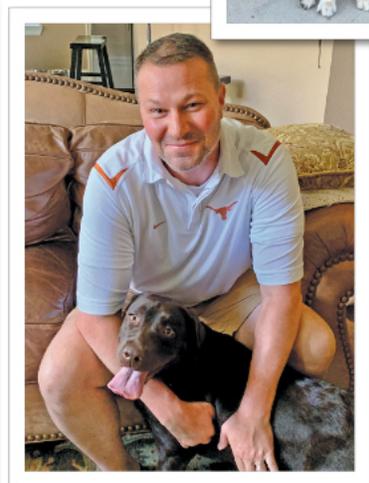
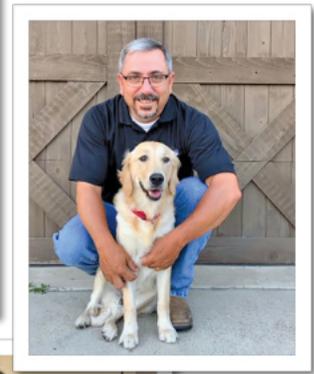
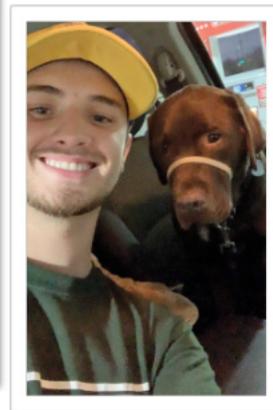
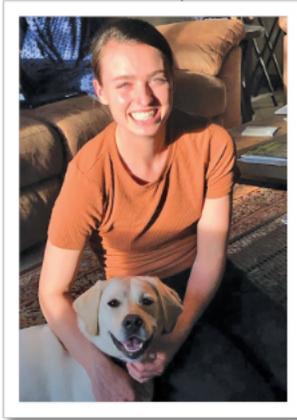
After the governor here in Texas began to reopen our state in phases, Patriot PAWS reopened when allowed, first with staff only, then later with a controlled number of volunteers on campus at any one time, and always while observing CDC protocols for the safety of everyone present.

The old adage, “when the going gets tough, the tough get going”, is as true now as ever. These past few months have seen everyday people step up and become heroes, putting others before self and restoring our faith in humanity. But the unprecedented blow to our economy has negatively impacted donations to non-profits, and Patriot PAWS is no exception. Scheduled demos and events, both major components of our fundraising, were canceled or postponed for the foreseeable

future, and monetary donations remain greatly diminished. Now, more than ever, we are grateful for each and every dollar that we receive in support of our mission. We must never forget that today’s disabled veterans were yesterday’s “tough” who “got going” when our country needed them.

Although our April graduation had to be postponed, we were able to continue placing dogs as social companions. Unlike service dogs, social companion dogs are not granted public access, but they nonetheless fill the very real need for in-home assistance and companionship for the people they serve. Here are just a few of our recent social companion placements.

Congratulations to all our new social companion teams!



SOCIAL COMPANION TEAMS

TOP ROW:

- Audrey Winking and Jules
- Cecelia Givens and Liberty
- Chris Mixell and Weston
- Craig Vinci and Jaye

BOTTOM ROW:

- Tina Galvan and Cayson
- Tiffany Moody and Harbor
- Marc Patterson and Mocha

It's not just for Texans

**NORTH TEXAS
GIVING
DAY**.ORG
9.17.20

powered by
**COMMUNITIES
FOUNDATION OF TEXAS**

Give to



PATRIOTPAWS
SERVICE DOGS



9.17.20

6 A.M. - MIDNIGHT

STEPS TO GIVE:

- Go to NorthTexasGivingDay.org
- Search for **Patriot PAWS Service Dogs**
- Donate on North Texas Giving Day 9.17.20 **or make your gift early beginning 9.01.20**
- Tell your friends why you give with the hashtag **#NTxGivingDay**

Missed our Summer e-version only newsletter?

No worries, it's archived on our website right along with all of our other previous issues under News/Newsletters. Check it out! All you Eli fans are in for a treat!



IN MEMORIAM

The Patriot PAWS Family has lost four of our own, one veteran and three service dogs. Our hearts go out to their families.

Veteran Chris Taranta

Blaze, service dog of Veteran Connie Rendon

Lucky, service dog of Veteran Nathan Houser

Spot, service dog of Veteran Keith Young

Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal.

— Author Unknown

• **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.