

PATRIOT ASSISTANCE DOGS NEWS



Rescued Dogs Rescuing Veterans

Issue 7, February 1, 2018

We are listening!

Many veterans have stated that they would like to know what the Patriot Assistance Dogs Board of Directors does. As a non-profit organization, P.A.D. is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors which meets monthly. Therefore, a new section in the Newsletter has been added called "Board Bits". This will summarize Board discussions and actions each month. The Board reviews the program's finances monthly and gets a "dog report" as to how many dogs are in training, as well as any issues affecting the program's dogs. To see the Bios of the ten Board members, please visit our website: patriotassistancedogs.org.

BOARD BITS

NOVEMBER, 2017

- A finance committee was formed to develop a formal budget and oversee P.A.D.'s financial transactions
- Introduction of new Board member Paula, Anderson, also a P.A.D trainer
- A new treasurer was appointed
- The Relinquish Ownership of Dog form was reviewed and discussed
- P.A.D. philosophically supports new legislation to prevent fake service dog credentials and will request a State Representative to take input from vets with dogs.

DECEMBER, 2017

- Agreed with need for a Federal service dog registry but as a non-profit, P.A.D. can't lobby
- Discussion/follow up on missing/donated and career-changed service dogs
- Discussion/acceptance of responsibility for service dogs hurt on P.A.D. property
- Discussed possibility of volunteers putting together an online store for P.A.D merchandise

CUTENESS OVERLOAD!!

Three Lab puppies and two German Shepard puppies have been donated and will be trained as P.A.D dogs. Thanks, donors and foster families! Also be sure to follow "Nero, From Rags to Riches" on Facebook. Nero is a rescue from a local shelter; this follows his training to be a Patriot Assistance Dog.

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED AGAIN

Because of long waits for veterans to get dogs and training, the P.A.D. Board decided last Fall to temporarily suspend the acceptance of new applications. After classes in October, December and January, progress has been made and applications are again being accepted. Preference will continue to be given to applications submitted from Minnesota and the border states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

The following teams have passed the December 13th, 2017 Public Access Test and are now fully certified:

Jerry and Kacie	Lee and Huckleberry
Scott and Sarge	Tommy and Lucy
Charlie and Henry	

These veterans and dogs completed P.A.D class October 23-27, 2017:

Colin (U.S. Army) and Harley Girl	Germaine (U.S. Army) and Cooper
Lee (U.S. Army) and Huckleberry	Reginald (U.S. Army) and Chance
Jacob (U.S. Air Force) and Gooseberry	

These veterans and dogs completed P.A.D class December 4-8, 2017:

Laurel (U.S. Navy) and Dixie	Jason (U.S. Army) and Sammy
Donald (U.S. Navy) and Mason	Jon (U.S. Air Force) and Sancho
Donna (U.S. Marines) and Pudding	Tony (U.S. Air Force) and Ellie
Steven (U.S. Air Force) and Roxy	

These veterans and dogs completed P.A.D class January 22-26, 2018:

Jesadae (U.S. Army) and Sgt. Pepper	Karen (U.S. Air Force) and Johnny
Roger (U.S. Navy) and Thelma	Ryan (U.S. Coast Guard) and Bella 2.0

Patriot Assistance Dogs now has 133 fully certified teams!!

WATCH FOR

2-16-18	Next Public Access testing
3-7-18	Veteran owned dog clinic- class in May if enough pass screening

3-3-18	Airport training- please sign up early if you wish to attend. 218-847-4100
4-23 to 27-18	Next P.A.D. class
6-2-18	Airport training
10-6-18	Airport training
6-30—18	Blaine Patriot Ride, Blaine, MN
All year:	Sponsorships of dogs available. Sponsor a P.A.D dog and do something great!

ALL FUNDS DONATED TO THE PATRIOT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ARE USED DIRECTLY FOR THE P.A.D. program!

Patriot Assistance Dogs is a non-profit 501c3

Organization

All donations are tax deductible

HEAD TRAINER:

Linda Wiedewitsch

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Darlene Rivera-Spalla, Chair
 Cathy Hansen, Vice Chair
 Mary Jimmerson, Secretary
 Nancy Zehnacker
 Paul Goecke, Treasurer
 Geoff Zehnacker
 Bruce Kunz
 Raymond Pizarro
 Sara Dohrer
 Paula Anderson

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Patriot Assistance Dogs does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or age. All veterans must have served in the United States Armed Forces.