

November 2013
Award Winning
Bi-Monthly Newsletter
Volume 5, Issue 6
www.mwdtsa.org

Support MWDTSA now and you won't miss any of the photos, stories, news and highlights of 2013!

Kennel Talk is now an award winning MWD publication!

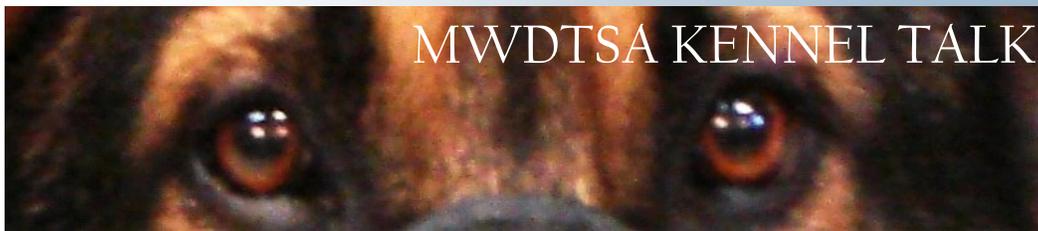
Inside this issue:

Centennial Honor Ceremony	1
Multipurpose Canines Train Like They fight	5
NY Fundraising Event	7
MWDTSA Donors	8
Fall Pet Picture Day	9
Kongs for K9s	10
Operation Tusca-Lucca	11
Abington Library Shares Tail Wags	12
Paw Festival	13
Louisiana War Dog Memorial	14
Introducing Christie Ferris	14
New T-shirts, 2014 Calendar	15
MWD Photo of the Month	16

What skills can you share to support our dog teams? We are looking for volunteers in:

- Fundraising
- Grant writing
- Giving presentations
- Soliciting in kind - donations
- Newsletter editing
- Social networking

Contact us for more info: iatinfo@mwdtsa.org



PFC Corey Rodriguez and MWD Laken enjoy some time spent watching the German Shepherd Dog Club of America (GSDCA) Obedience. The Army handlers enjoyed watching Team Obedience which puts four dogs and four handlers into a synchronized routine.

Centennial Honor Ceremony: Like a Heartbeat

By Dixie Whitman

Pride is hard to describe, to neatly wrap in a box and tie with a bow. It has levels and nuances. As one astute writer penned, "But some emotions don't make a lot of noise. It's hard to hear pride. Caring is real faint - like a heartbeat."

I am a mixture of emotions returning from the German Shepherd National: proud of the legacy of my breed, the German Shepherd Dog, and of the caring by the German Shepherd Dog

Club of America to make sure that our military working dogs and their handlers were showcased at our German Shepherd Centennial and I am also humbled at the opportunity to work with dog handlers and to have been selected as the Military Liaison for the German Shepherd Dog Club's Honor Ceremony, which feted dogs from a variety of work venues.

With all of the years of work with Military Working Dogs and



Centennial Honor Ceremony continued from page 1

all of the contacts that we have, I really thought this would be a slam dunk. Fate had another idea; fate can be extremely sarcastic: "Sure, let's try to pull this off when the government shuts down."

Fate threw everything at us: sequestration, government shut-down, including pulling participants at almost the last minute. Thankfully, we have some amazing MWD friends and it was only through their support that we managed to pull this out. In the end, good triumphed and amazing dogs and handlers were honored at the Centennial Ceremony on Friday, October 11, 2013 at the Dream Park in Swedesboro, New Jersey.

Participating from each branch of service were:

Representing the US Army from Fort Hood, Texas: SGT Bradley Mrsny and PFC Corey Rodriguez, accompanied by MWD Laken

Representing the Navy from NWS Earle in New Jersey: MA3 Jose Quiles and MWD Betty.

Representing the Air Force: Vietnam Veteran dog handler, James W Kessel accompanied by Retired MWD Egon

Representing the Marine Corps from Camp Pendleton: Sgt. Kathleen Stanford, Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran, Albert Johnson and Veteran Dog Handler Angelo Melendez with Retired MWD "Zita".

The Army handlers arrived in New Jersey first, following closely by the other branches. It was amazing to finally meet two of the handlers that MWD TSA had supported with care packages, introduce myself to new handlers while having the opportunity to

spoil all of the dogs was very special.

On Friday evening, after a great round of heavy hors d'oeuvres, the handlers lined up to be introduced. Our MC for the evening was Mr. David Frei, the Voice of Westminster. The very first handlers walking across the arena were US Army Representatives SGT Bradley Mrsny and PFC Corey Rodriques with MWD Laken. They were greeted with a rousing standing ovation and received a personalized plaque commemorating their participation. Each branch representative followed, walking across the long sod-covered arena to the pride-inducing service anthems: Caissons Rolling Along, Anchors Aweigh, Wild Blue Yonder, Halls of Montezuma still echoing in our hearts.

It may have been my mind playing tricks, but I think there was an especially loud recognition of our Vietnam veteran, James Kessel, so many years after his return to a much different type of reception. I know I was already crying, but tears were truly flowing at that point.

Here are some of my favorite images of the event. Please enjoy!



Left: Sgt Angelo Melendez III gives Retired MWD Zita some last minute instructions before the ceremony started.



Right: Veteran dog handler, James Kessel, drove up to New Jersey to participate with his wife, Bonnie and their amazing retired MWD, Egon. Jim and Egon have participated in several MWD TSA events and we were proud and honored to have him represented in such a public and meaningful way.

Centennial Honor Ceremony continued from page 2



Above: David Frei, the Voice of Westminster, congratulates Navy Representative MA3 Quiles and MWD Betty on their honor.



Left: SGT Kathleen Stanford and her husband, CPL Albert Johnson, came from Camp Pendleton, CA to show their support.

Right: MA3 Jose Quiles and his MWD Betty drove over from the Jersey coast to join us for the event. This is an up and coming team and we know we will hear from them often. Betty had just arrived when we took this photo. She's looking around taking in all of the dogs and the hub-bub.



Left: One of the fun images. This sort of puts into a nutshell why I love working with military dog handlers. They pull their share and make sure things get done.

My theory is that you are really with dog folks when dinner conversation turns to "poo".

Centennial Honor Ceremony continued from page 3



Left: James Kessel, Vietnam veteran is introduced to the crowd and a rousing standing ovation. One of those "Oh, wow" moments of the event.

Right: Retired MWD Egon was his usual charming self. He is the second retired MWD adopted by James Kessel and his wife, Bonnie.

Retired dogs are eligible to be adopted by the general public. For more information see our website favorites for a link to the DoD Adoption site. There is no fee to adopt the dogs, but like any other household pet, you are responsible for them for their lifetime.



Left: MWD Betty enjoying the activity.

Right: GSDCA Board Member and retired Army, Bill Pfeiffer, supported the participation of the Army handlers and was so delighted to meet them and do the presentation at the Honors Ceremony.



Multipurpose Canines Train Like They Fight

By Sgt Anthony Carter

U.S. Marine Corps photos by Sgt. Anthony Carter/Released

MARINE CORPS BASE, CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. – Marine military working dog handlers with U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command trained with their multipurpose canines (MPC) to prepare for a wide array of missions that include fast roping and Special Patrol Insertion/Extraction training (SPIE), on Camp Lejeune, N.C.

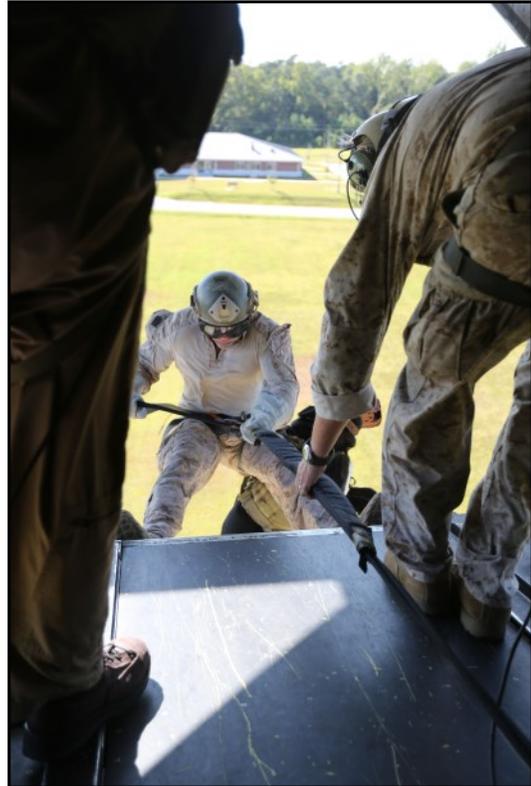
Though fast roping and SPIE rigging with canines is not new to the special operations world, this is the first time the program has been tested with a Marine Corps unit.

"We try to give our MPC dogs as much exposure to different environments so there's nothing the dogs won't try and partake in along with the critical skills operators (CSO)," said the MPC program manager. "If CSOs are

jumping, rappelling, SPIE rigging or fast roping, we need our MPC handlers and dogs to be ready to do the same, and that is why we are developing the MPC SOP (standard operating procedures) for MARSOC."

The training was conducted in order to bring the Special Operations Capabilities Specialists (SOCS-D (Multipurpose Canine Handler)) to U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) standards so the dogs and SOCS-Ds are qualified to utilize the USSOCOM platforms and accompany CSOs on missions.

"We really need to push our insert capabilities with our dogs," said an SOCS-D with MARSOC. "No longer will it just be in and out of vehicles and running air ops. Now we are learning techniques on different platforms."



Above: A Marine Multipurpose Canine (MPC) handler with Marine Corps Special Operations Command and his dog fast rope off a MV-22 Osprey while conducting MPC Helicopter Rope Suspension Training Course aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 19, 2013. MARSOC MPC program is developing a standard operating procedures, while also partaking in the training to build the program.



Left: A Marine Multipurpose Canine (MPC) handler with Marine Corps Special Operations Command and his dog fast rope off a MV-22 Osprey.

Multipurpose Canines continued from page 5

The MARSOC program merges the fast rope, rappel and SPIE masters into one program to meet SOCOM standards, said a CSO assigned as an instructor to Marine Corps Special Operations School.

The purpose is to qualify every

SOCS-D so they can be incorporated into the Marine Special Operations Team with operators knowing their full capabilities. MARSOC continues to develop the program in order to align itself with SOCOM standards.

“It has been an educational and eye-opening experience, utilizing all these different platforms and techniques that allow us to break new ground,” said the MPC kennel master. “Not only has it been a learning experience for the handlers and dogs,

but also for the (Helicopter Rope Suspension Training) Masters and CSOs. The operators need to know how the dog handlers work and how they are going to utilize the dogs, whether it’s fast roping or rappelling.”

Right: Marines with Marine Corps Special Operations Command conduct a Special Patrol Insertion/Extraction exercise on a CH-53E . This training has helped the MARSOC MPC program in developing what will become the standard operating procedures.



Left: Marines with Marine Corps Special Operations Command move into position on a rooftop to prepare for a Special Patrol Insertion/Extraction exercise

R&S Pet Supplies and Long Island Canine Class Of Middle Island, NY Host Fundraising Event

By Kristin Papile Kranjc

Every September, the American Kennel Club sponsors Responsible Dog Ownership Days. Events are held throughout the country to educate the public regarding the importance of responsible dog ownership. R&S Pet Supplies and Long Island Canine Class of Middle Island, NY use this opportunity to host an event and to donate the proceeds to a worthy dog-related cause. This year's cause was the Military Dog Team Support Association, Inc.

The story as to how event coordinators Deb Palestrini and Kristen Papile Kranjc chose this organization is a very interesting one. They called a close friend who is a US Marine K9 handler and asked if he knew of any organization that we should support. He immediately answered MWD TSA. He related how this grassroots group supported his team and fellow Marines by sending packages to the handlers and their dogs while they were stationed in Afghanistan, and how this group became "like family" to the teams. "Like family" were his exact words. Upon contacting MWD TSA, Deb and Kristen understood what he meant.

This organization is a group of ordinary Americans who chose to help others and make a difference with their hard work and kindness.

The event was a great day for dog enthusiasts of all ages. In attendance were local rescue groups, veterinarians, AKC clubs, therapy dogs, pet food and supply distributors, and local pet related services. A Meet the Breeds Dog Show, dog games, and raffles were held as entertainment. All proceeds earned from t-shirt sales and raffles were donated to MWD TSA. A display table of the care package boxes that MWD TSA sends to the troops and the requested items was set up to illustrate what MWD TSA does. Through the networking of Eileen Cooke and Hector Sepulveda, members of Long Island Canine Class' Therapy Dog Team, Henry Schein Cares made a donation of holistic dog treats and a generous monetary gift to MWD TSA.

R&S Pet Supplies and Long Island Canine Class feel it is a privilege to promote and support MWD TSA.



AKC RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP DAY
 hosted by
 LONG ISLAND CANINE CLASS and RAS PET SUPPLIES

Saturday, September 14th,
 11am to 3pm

Join us for dog demos, AKC CGC testing, Meet the Breeds, \$5 dog nail clipping, low cost vaccination and micro-chipping clinic, dog clubs, kids & dog safety presentation, kid crafts, face painting, goodie bags, raffles, training, tips and more!

100% of the proceeds will be donated to the MWD TSA (Military Working Dog Support Team Association, INC)

T-SHIRT WITH A \$15 DONATION TO A GREAT CAUSE! FREE GOODIE BAG TO FIRST 100 FAMILIES

MWD TSA.ORG

Mission Statement
 Supporting Currently Deployed Dogs & Handlers
 Supporting Veteran Dog Handler Events & Causes
 Supporting Retired Military Working Dogs

Come into RAS PET SUPPLIES, King Kullen shopping center, Middle Island or like LONG ISLAND CANINE CLASS on facebook for more information

MWD TSA: Donors

MWD TSA relies on the generosity of our donors, without whom we would be unable to make the care packages to the MWDs and their handlers happen. We would like to take this opportunity thank all the companies and individuals who gave recent donations, including:

Agathon Kennel Club,, Canton, OH
Alberston's, Camarillo, CA
American Legion Auxilliary Post #42, Acworth, GA
Animal Hospital of Thousand Oaks,
 Thousand Oaks, CA
The Animal Keeper, Poway, CA
Ari-Med, Tempe, AZ
Atlanta Falcons, Atlanta, GA
Baumer Foods, Inc, Metairie, LA
Bethany United Methodist Church, Smyrna, GA
Blue Dog Bakery, Seattle, WA
Carmex Labs, Franklin WI
Charlesbridge Publishing, Watertown, MA
The Chocolate Crocodile, Bossier City, LA
Claudia's Canine Cuisine, Maumelle, AR
Comfort Foods, Albuquerque, NM
Community Coffee, New Orleans, LA
Convenience Valet, Melrose Park, IL
DOG Bakery, Traverse City, MI
Dog Mom's Bakery, Ione, CA
Dot Foods, Inc., Mount Sterling, IL
Elementary School #5, Patterson, NJ
Golden Valley Kennel Club, Modesto, CA
Gorman High School, Gorman, TX
Hefty/Reynolds Consumer Products, Tampa, FL
Kent Precision Food Group, St Louis, MO
Kewl Dog Outfitters, Las Vegas, Nevada
Kong Co, Golden, CO
**Jeff Rabidoux, Life on the 45th Parallel
 Photography,** Glen Arbor, MI
Long Island Canine Class, Middle Island, NY
Loud Food Truck EFG LLC, Spokane, WA
McNett Corporation, Bellingham, WA
Militec Inc, Waldorf, MD
Mississippi Cheese Straw Co., Yazoo City, MS
Nashville Wraps.com, Hendersonville, TN
National Football League, NYC
Natural Balance, Pacoima, CA

**Mike & Mandy Depuy, Oakwood Pet
 Memorial Center,** Maple City, MI
Office Max #1084, Tuscaloosa, AL
Old World Spices & Seasonings, Overland Park, KS
Pacific Foods of Oregon, Inc., Tualatin, OR
Pet Supplies Plus Store, Tuscaloosa, AL
Rogers Family Coffee Co, Lincoln, CA
Ronlo Engineering, Camarillo, CA
R&S Pet Supplies, Middle Island, NY
Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bluefield, WV
The Store 4 Dogs, Norco, CA
Allison L Merrill, Sun Dog Boarding Kennel,
 Traverse City, MI
Thorlo, Statesville, NC
VFW National HQ, Kansas City, MO
Von's Market, Camarillo, CA
Walmart, Simi Valley, CA
Washington County Library, Abingdon, VA
Welch Elementary School, Welch, WV

Also:

Theresa Bales, Bluefield, VA
Dick Baumer, Monrovia, CA
Brian & Christine Bass, Simi Valley, CA
Sheri Boyd, Marietta, GA
Roland Bryan, Santa Barbara, CA
Arlene Cadell, West Islip, NY
Wesley and Rachel Campbell, Marietta, GA
Henry Schein Cares, Melville, NY
Lorelei Felix, San Diego, CA
Joyce Foster, Pasadena, CA
Jay Harvill, South Pasadena, CA
Albert Johnson and Kathleen Stanford, Sun City, CA
**Sue Keehn, and donors at
 Phillips Van Heusen,** Reading, PA
Carla Keene, DDS, Abingdon, VA
James and Bonnie Kessel, Arlington, GA
Jessica McCartney, VA
Maria Navarro, Camarillo, CA
Robert Nelson, Trabuco Canyon, CA
Robert Novell, Arcadia, CA
Lauren Paschal, Dallas, GA
Nikki Rohrig, Abingdon, VA
Jan Slotar, Camarillo, CA
James Walshe III, Walnut, CA

Fall Pet Picture Day

Allison Merrill, a very dedicated MWD TSA volunteer and avid German Shepherd Dog owner and owner of Sun Dog Boarding Kennel, Traverse City, MI, together with Mike & Mandy Depuy (Oakwood Pet Memorial Center, Maple City, MI) and Jeff Rabidoux (Life on the 45th Parallel Photography) organized the first Fall Pet Picture Day in Leelanau County, N Michigan on October 12 and 13, 2013. The event was to raise funds for MWD TSA.

Through their efforts, nearly \$400 was raised. This will go a long way towards sending care packages to deployed MWD teams.

Fall Pet Picture Day is to be an annual event, with planning already starting for next year for a bigger event involving more businesses.



Above: Mr. & Mrs. Freiwald, with Ralph, have their picture taken at the event. They donated 24 Kong Tails for the last quarter's care packages.

Right: The GSDs of Sun Dog Kennels.



Bottom Row: Some of the other beautiful photos taken at Fall Pet Picture Day.



Kongs For K9s: Five Years of Success

By Dixie Whitman

October 1st through early November, MWDTSA is partnering with some great small Mom and Pop pet supply stores across the country in a supply drive called "KONGs for K9s". We are nearing the end of our drive, but you should still have a few more days as you read this article to get involved.

This is the fifth year that we have partnered with the KONG Company to get donations in for our military working dogs.

This is how it works:

1. Each participating store has a list of items that we are requesting for our care packages. The list varies by store so that we get the variety and quantities needed.
2. Customers can go to one of the stores that partners with us. Choose one nearest to you and stop by to look over the list of items requested. The stores are in Iowa, Maryland, Utah, New York and Georgia. If you aren't local to one of the stores, call them when they are open and ask how you can help with your credit card. (Be sure to spread the love around.)

Leash On Life
Ms. Julie Phye
432 Highway 1 W
Iowa City, Iowa 52246
<http://www.leashonlife.net>
319-354-4334

Lucky Duck Pet Stuff
Ms. Carla Wynn
3723 E. Chesapeake Beach Road (Rt. 260)
Chesapeake Beach, Maryland 20723
<http://luckyduckpetstuff.com/>
410-257-5080

Ma and Paw's Bakery
Ms. Diane Sanders
1227 East 3300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84115
<http://www.maandpawsbakeryinc.com/>
801-487-3838

R & S Pet Supplies (1 location and more coming soon)
Ms. Debbie Palestrini
1177 Middle Country Rd.,
Middle Island, NY 631- 775-7805
<http://www.facebook.com/RSpetsupplies>
631-775-7805

Top Dogs Pet Boutique (2 Locations)
Ms. Suzette Lindsey
<http://www.topdogs.net/>
2615 George Busbee Parkway
Kennesaw, GA 30114
770-218-0602

900 Mansell Road Suite 13
Roswell, GA 30076.
770-641-8620



3. And, because of our special partnership with the KONG Company, for each KONG toy donated via one of our supporting stores, the KONG Company will match us with one more toy!

Just one more way you can support your military working dogs. Photos and results will be in the next issue of Kennel Talk.



*A Partnership between the
KONG Company and MWDTSA*

Operation: Tusca-Lucca

By Dixie Whitman

Among the most popular of MWD TSA's hall-marks themed care packages is the 'Super Bowl in a Box'. As our MWD TSA team was brain-storming as to what items we wanted to include in our Super Bowl boxes heading down range in early January, the Air KONG football was high on the list, especially for those soft mouthed dogs who love to fetch and chew softly.

As we were discussing where would be the best places to approach for those Air Kong footballs, one of our regular supporters, Leash on Life near the University of Iowa, came to mind. They were awesome to get them for us a couple of years ago and are doing so again this year. We thought about additional locations in hotly contested university football towns and, suddenly, the idea coalesced, almost on its own.

The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL is where one of the greatest hero dogs who ever worked shows her support. On top of that, her name is Lucca and very quickly, Operation: Tusca-Lucca was born.

Big kudos to Dick Baumer, Christie Ferris and Courtney Griffin for making this event happen in coordination with the Pet Supplies Plus store in Tuscaloosa. Most of the KONGs for K9s events are taking place in October and will be ready to go with our 4th quarter boxes. The footballs will be going out in 1st quarter Super Bowl in a Box boxes. Thanks to GySgt Willingham for allowing us to borrow his image of Lucca in front of Bryant-Denny Stadium. And, a definite thanks to Lucca, one of the most legendary MWDs in American history. You can read more about Lucca on our website under the Heroes tab. <http://www.mwdtsa.org/lucca.html>

Hey Fans

Donate a football for a K-9 Hero and this New GoPro[®] Hero3 could be yours.

WIN!

Roll Tide!

**Lucca (K458)
Retired MWD**

Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this unique promotion to honor and give recognition and support to the many "unsung heroes" that give tirelessly, in an extraordinary role of service to our country. It is a great chance to be part of supporting our heroic four-footed soldiers. Simply make a donation of a football dog toy and provide some much needed stress relieving activity for one of the many deployed military working dogs.

Military working dogs have been saving American lives for over 70 years and Lucca is no exception. Military Working Dog Lucca (K458) is a 9-year old Belgian Malinois. She searched off-leash for explosives during more than 400 patrols over two deployments to Iraq and one to Afghanistan. She was credited with finding 40 explosives and saving her handler's life on two occasions.

During her 2012 deployment, Lucca was wounded in action and lost a leg. Lucca was adopted by her former handler, US Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Chris Willingham, a native of Tuscaloosa and a fervent Tide football fan. Thank you Lucca and Gunnery Sgt. Willingham for your service and sacrifice to defend our nation and protect the freedoms we cherish so deeply.

PET SUPPLIES PLUS.
GREAT PRICES. NO BEGGING.
(205) 345-1212
2600 McFarland Blvd. in the Bama Mall behind Red Lobster
www.mwdtsa.org

MWD TSA
Military Working Dog Team Support Assoc.



Abingdon, VA Library Shares Tail Wags

By Dixie Whitman



Above: Jodi Jackson and her partner, Janis, patrolled centuries old smuggling routes in Iraq.

MWDTSA volunteer, Nikki Rohrig, knows a thing or two about volunteering as she is also a volunteer with the Washington County Public Library system in Abingdon, Virginia. In partnering the two together, Nikki and Donnamarie Emmert, a Children's Staff Librarian at the main library, coordinated a Tail Waggin' Tutor event with children coming to hear fun dog-related stories. The event will take place Saturday, Nov. 16 at 11 a.m. at the Washington County Public Library, 205 Oak Hill Street, Abingdon, Va.

Presenting at the event will be two veteran dog handlers, Thomas Jonathan Jackson and his wife, Jodi Jackson, both seasoned dog handlers who

were supported on their missions by MWDTSA.

Mr. Jackson, a Bronze Star recipient, was paired with Toby, a black Labrador who served as a Specialized Search Dog partner on a tour in Afghanistan. Mrs. Jackson's partner, Janis, was by her side as she patrolled centuries old smuggling routes in northern Iraq.

While sharing the stories with the children, the library will also be educating and asking for any donations from the MWDTSA Wish List to be sent to dog handlers in one of the next two rounds of MWDTSA care packages.

Below: These items were donated as part of the Abingdon, VA library event. Some of the items were donated by the Washington County Library, others were collected by Welch Elementary students and Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bluefield, VA. Collections are continuing through November 16, 2013.



Above: Bronze Star recipient, Thomas Jackson, was partnered with Specialized Search Dog, Toby, in Afghanistan.



MWDTSA Attends Top Dogs Pet Boutique Paw Festival

On September 29, MWDTSA representatives attended Paw Festival in support off Top Dogs Pet Boutique, a local Mom and Pop pet store. MWDTSA President, Dixie Whitman, and Treasurer, Pamela Kendrick, were joined by Jerry Whitman and Jody McGlothlin, a staunch MWDTSA supporter and manager at Invisible Fence, in manning the booth.

The event afforded an opportunity to do some public education regarding MWDs and MWDTSA.



Above: Pamela Kendrick, MWDTSA Treasurer, and Jody McGlothlin (Invisible Fence) helped man the booth at Paw Festival on September 29.



Left: Jerry Whitman took a break to enjoy the attention of a sweet black Labrador who stopped by for a visit.



Above: Zoe a stunning little lady bug matching her mom, Tiffany, in red and black came in second in the Fashion Show. Tiffany, Zoe and Jody McGlothlin pose with Zoe's beautiful piece.



Left: Meet Lyric and mom, Kayla. Lyric got a set of "paw prints" done thanks to Jody from Invisible Fence. Pet parents need refrigerator art, too, and thanks to Jody they get some great things to post.

www.mwdtsa.org

Louisiana War Dog Memorial Unveiling

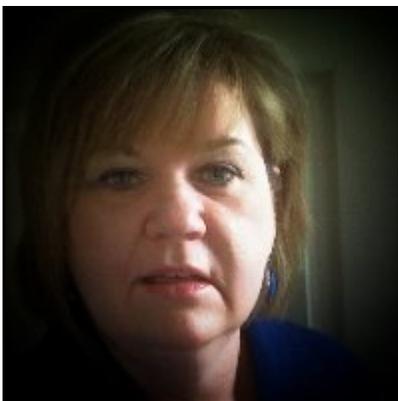
An open invitation has been issued to the unveiling ceremony of the Louisiana War Dog Memorial, a memorial to the Vietnam Dog Handlers, and the Grand Opening of the My Heart's Desire Pet Adoption Center.

This event takes place at 11am, November 10, 2013 at 8379 Tupelo St, Houma, LA.

Early wax rendering of the Louisiana War Dog Memorial to be dedicated on 10 November, 2013 in Houma, LA.



New MWDTSA Board Member: Christie Ferris, Member at Large



Please welcome our newest Board member, Christie Ferris.

Christie has 30 Years of experience in Marketing , Advertising, Strategic Planning and Operations Excellence. She also has a variety of experience with multi-unit operator and franchise organization management. Her background includes both Client and Agency sides of business as well as independent business ownership. Christie currently serves as Chief Operating Officer of The Animal Keeper, Inc. and Pet Suites with four locations in Southern California and is President of Beyond Concept Marketing, a

small advertising and promotions agency, serving clients such as Pepsi, ARAMARK, 211 Orange County Lakeshore Engineering, and Richmond Commonwealth University, Qatar Campus to name a few.

At the start of her career she was focused on marketing and advertising on a national scale but has rounded out her talents with expertise in strategic brand development and operations management.

Christie is a valuable addition to the MWDTSA team.

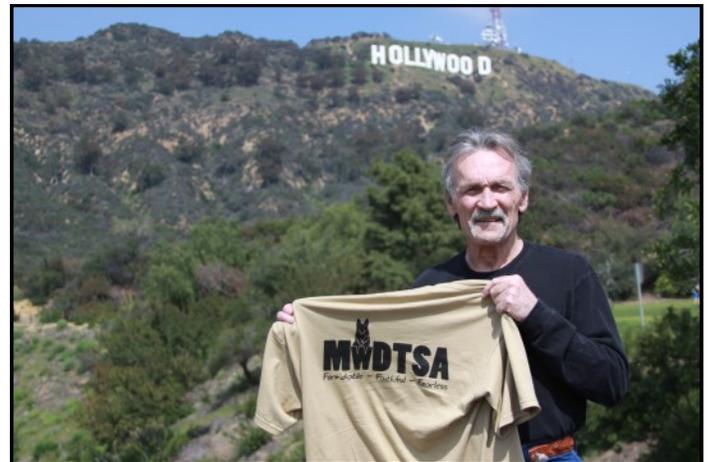
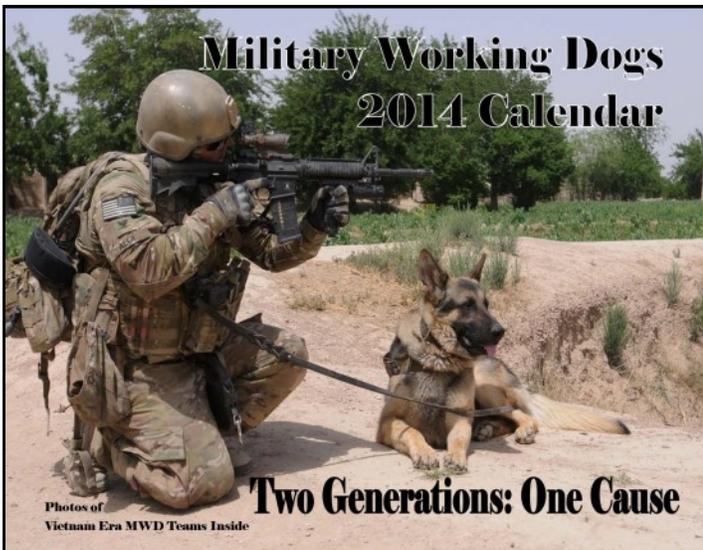
Dog Tagz, MWDTSA's Online Store, To Stock New MWDTSA T Shirts, 2014 Calendars



Be on the lookout soon for new T shirts coming to our Dog Tagz Store. MWDTSA has always raised funds for important missions via T Shirt sales. We have a stunning array of T shirts which will be available for sale soon on our website, including an old favorite, The Courtney Shirt. Consider picking up a few for yourself and those close to you. It's a great way to support military working dogs.

Courtney (left) shown here with her original design. Shown also (below right) is Muse Watson, NCIS Star who plays the role of Mike Franks and our newest version of the shirt with the logo on the front of the chest is shown by recent volunteer, Chloe (right). Other great designs to follow.

<http://www.mwdtsa.org/estore.html>



The 2014 Calendars are here! MWDTSA is grateful to the men and women who have graciously allowed us to share a moment of their lives with their dogs. This educational calendar serves three purposes: to honor American military working dog teams, to serve as a gorgeous place to keep yourself organized for 2014 and as a fundraiser to help MWDTSA support our missions.

Bucking all trends, the cost of the calendar went down this year to \$15 per calendar, postage paid to US and APO/FPO address-

es. To place your order, please go to our website at: <http://www.mwdtsa.org/estorecal2014.html>

You may also send a check for \$15 per calendar to:

MWDTSA
P. O. Box 5864
Canton, GA 30114

Sit. Stay. Support.

MWDTSA
P. O. Box 5864
Canton, GA 30114
Editor: Avril Roy-Smith

Phone: 404-451-2539
Email: info@mwdtسا.org



MWDTSA is on the web: www.mwdtسا.org

Follow our Blog: mwdtسا.blogspot.com

Like us on Facebook :

<https://www.facebook.com/MWDTSA>

Kennel Talk is the proud recipient of a GSDCA Special
Newsletter Award!

Please Recycle by Sending to a Friend



MWD Photo of the Month

PEDD (Patrol and Explosive Detection Dog) Chrach (pronounced Crash) is handled by SSGT Jesse Johnson out of Luke AFB. They have been featured in Kennel Talk previously. This photo shows the team conducting a training method called place training "targeting".

SSGT Jesse Johnson explains: "I give my MWD a target and a tell him 'place' and he is to place all four paws on to that object and remain in place until given a release command. That day, we also tested my strength along with his balance. I performed a couple of push-ups for fun, but anything we do will always challenge the dog and the handler. Eventually Chrach learned that when I said 'place' and pointed to my shoulder he was to 'hup' up on my back so I can carry him. This taught him to be comfortable in all positions for any obstacles we come across.

Chrach is a great partner and with the help of my teammates we keep advancing his MWD capabilities. I am very proud to have worked with this K9."

