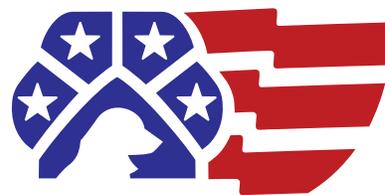


PATRIOTPAWS

SERVICE DOGS



FOSSIL, INC. BECOMES INAUGURAL P3 SPONSOR

After Patriot PAWS launched a new program last year, Patrons for Patriot PAWS (P3), Fossil, Inc. became the first to sign on with a very generous pledge. The P3 program was designed to help Patriot PAWS better plan for the future by asking businesses to make a three-year donation pledge.

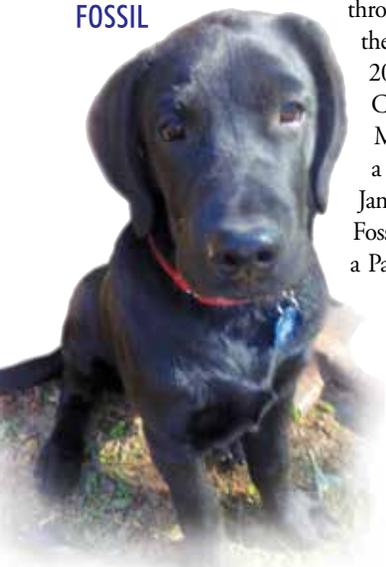
Patriot PAWS has a multi-faceted relationship with Fossil in that Fossil's past CFO and Executive Vice-President Mike Kovar sits on the Patriot PAWS Board of Directors as Treasurer, and his wife, Jana, is a Patriot PAWS puppy raiser. Jana had heard of Patriot PAWS and happened upon the training center by accident one day in late 2011. She stopped by to find out more and realized that she had found exactly the type of organization that she and Mike could personally support. According to Jana, "What Lori (Stevens) has done is awesome, helping veterans and inmates...changing lives." She signed on to be a puppy raiser and is currently enrolled in the Karen Pryor program to become a certified dog trainer fulfilling her lifelong dream to work with animals. Jana's enthusiasm for Patriot PAWS spilled over to Mike inspiring him to bring his financial expertise to the Board. According to Mike, "We can't let needs outgrow donations."

Following a demonstration given by Jana and then service-dog-in-training Pebbles (featured on the cover of our Winter 2012 newsletter), Fossil's leadership opened up funding to go beyond their mission statement of supporting children's charities and The Arts and became the first Patriot PAWS P3 program sponsor. Fossil also matches their employees' donations

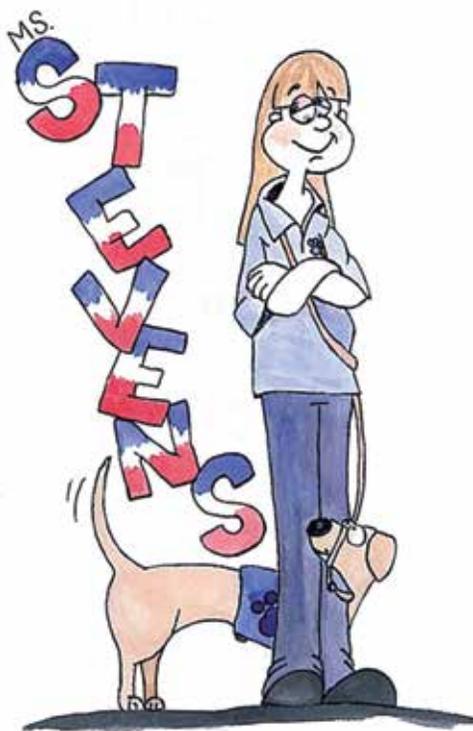
through their own matching funds program and gives their employees time off to volunteer. In December 2012, following his decision to step down as Fossil's CFO in order to spend more time with his family, Mike was given a retirement party at which time a black Lab puppy named Fossil was presented by Jana, Lori Stevens and the Patriot PAWS trainers. Fossil the puppy is currently in training to become a Patriot PAWS service dog and is representative of the importance of sponsorships to the program which receives no Federal or VA funding.

Patriot PAWS is grateful for Fossil's generosity and for the support and dedication of the Kovars. Please contact us for details if you would like to learn more about the P3 program or other ways in which individuals or businesses can help.

FOSSIL



MIKE AND JANA KOVAR WITH SERVICE-DOG-IN-TRAINING, BETSY ROSS



LETTER FROM LORI

When I founded Patriot PAWS back in 2006, I had no idea what the future would hold or if I could even make this idea of mine work. Being both the daughter of a veteran and a dog trainer, training dogs to help disabled veterans seemed like a natural destiny for me, but I knew I couldn't do it alone. The question was, would anyone else be interested enough to help me? And how could I fund such an expensive undertaking?

But seven years later, here we are. We have gone from placing only 2-4 dogs per year to placing 17 in 2012 which brought our grand total of placed dogs to 50. We have a small paid staff, a large and varied group of wonderful volunteers and many generous supporters all over the country all coming together to achieve our goal of providing the highest quality service dogs possible to disabled veterans at no cost to the veterans.

So where do we go from here? My hope is to keep the momentum going and to be able to train and place as many dogs as there are veterans who need them. Dreaming big, you say? Well, yes, but I've heard that before.

SPOTLIGHT

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Patriot PAWS owes a great big **THANK YOU** to Father J.D. Brown and everyone at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Garland, Texas. Holy Trinity has been graciously allowing us to use their fine facility for our puppy raiser classes because our training area was, unfortunately, neither air-conditioned nor heated. All of our trainers, puppy raisers and dogs are most grateful to have had a comfortable environment in which to train while waiting for building improvements to be made at home. Stay tuned for news on those exciting changes that will allow us to place more dogs.

Holy Trinity has also sponsored a puppy named Trinity and continues to support Patriot PAWS with generous donations and fundraisers and getting the word out about our mission.

So to all our friends at Holy Trinity, thank you — we appreciate all that you do!



ELI'S CORNER

Since joining the Patriot PAWS staff in 2010, I've met so many wonderful people and wonderful dogs and had so many interesting experiences that it occurred to me recently that mine is not the average life of a cat. I mean, what other cat do you know who is employed, much less in a job working with dogs?

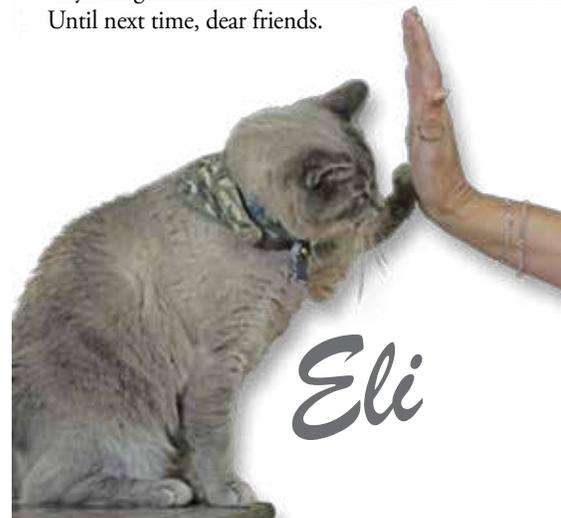
It also occurred to me that many cats down on their luck as I was are not given an opportunity to start over as I was. It was only through the kindness of the lady whose dogs gave me shelter for the night who made the phone call to Lori Stevens and the kindness of Lori who offered me this job that I am today happy and healthy and wanting for nothing. Well, almost nothing...I don't agree that I've gained too much weight and don't like the diet I've been put on, but Lori's the boss.

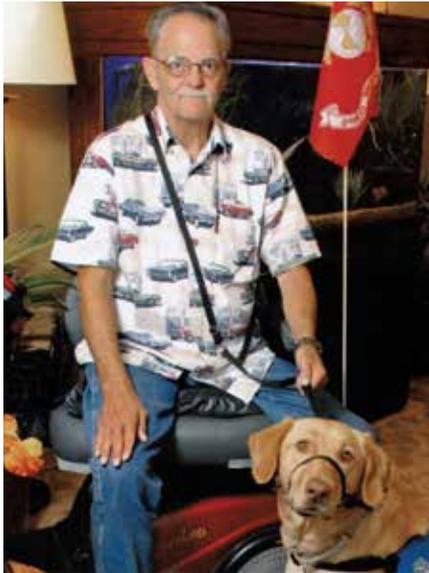
Anyway, if only every cat and dog with no home could be given a second chance, what a better place this world would be. There are so many in shelters all across the country, and worse yet, so many wandering the streets with no food or shelter as I was. I wish more people would open their hearts and homes and adopt

a homeless animal. I can tell you firsthand that it's a win-win situation for animals and humans alike.

We live in the best country on Earth because where else are dogs, and even occasionally a cat, given the opportunity to serve others such as the Patriot PAWS service dogs and I do? We are truly blessed to, along with our human constituents, be able to give back just a little to those who have served our country and given so much for us all.

Until next time, dear friends.





VETERAN CARL JOINER AND 2 SOX

Army Pfc. Carl Joiner of Watertown, MN, served in Vietnam (1965–1966) and was wounded when the helicopter on which he was a door gunner was ambushed upon landing. He still has a fragmented bullet lodged in his spinal canal which causes loss of feeling and coordination in his hands and difficulty in getting up and down and walking. He also suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder. In November 2012, Carl received service dog 2 Sox, a female black Lab mix, from Patriot PAWS Service Dogs.

Before receiving his dog, Carl lived alone and had been told by doctors that there was nothing to do to help him except manage his pain. Carl suffered from depression, didn't eat or sleep well and avoided going out in public except when absolutely necessary.

Since having 2 Sox, Carl says, "2 Sox has made a big difference in my life. She is by my side most of the day. I don't feel so alone now. It's so nice to have someone to share even the little things, like watching TV and meals. (She) sleeps close to me when I go to bed...I can't wait until warmer weather when we can be outside more."



VETERAN GEORGE PARKER AND WILLIE

Army Sgt. 1st Class George Parker proudly served our country for 26 years. He was deployed to Afghanistan as well as 2 tours in Iraq and survived over 20 IED blasts which left him with frontal lobe scarring, loss of cognitive skills, lack of eye coordination, imbalance, back problems and PTSD. George received service dog Willie, a male black Lab mix, from Patriot PAWS Service Dogs in Nov. 2012. Upon receiving him, George stated, "I'm blessed already. The road ahead will be easier."

Willie has indeed made George's life easier. George has fallen twice, and both times, Willie ran to find Becky, George's wife, to bring her to where George had fallen. George had been reluctant to venture out, becoming nervous in crowds, but for the first time in many years, with Willie by his side, he was able to go on a family vacation, something Becky says "meant so much". George also just recently received his long-awaited medical retirement and fulfilled his dream of moving "home" to Spanish Fort, Alabama. According to Becky, "Willie is a treasured family member but so much more. Thank you to everyone who was part of making this possible for our family."



VETERAN JOHN OLDHAM AND DUCHESS

Air Force Staff Sgt. John Oldham of Savannah, Texas, was a fuel specialist in Afghanistan in 2004 when an inbound missile attack left him with a traumatic brain injury, no cartilage in one ankle, liver problems from diesel fuel ingested in the blast and post-traumatic stress disorder. In November 2012, John received service dog Duchess, a black female mixed breed, from Patriot PAWS Service Dogs.

Before receiving Duchess, John had expressed the hope that having a service dog would help him to get off some of his medications, improve his overall outlook on life, be more of a father to his four children and relieve his wife Tyla of some of the burden that she has been carrying since he was injured. He had difficulty in going out in public, especially among crowds.

After having Duchess for a while, John says, "The past several months have brought me great joy, and more comfort in my daily life. Duchess has enabled me to slowly return to a 'new normal', in so much that I am able to go to the store or out with my family on short outings...at home she...has fit in well with the family..."



VETERAN D.J. TAYLOR AND ZOE

Donald J. (D.J.) Taylor of Fort Worth, Texas, retired from the United States Marine Corps after 33 ½ years of service. He served in Vietnam where he was wounded and was a POW three times. He received many awards during his long career and is proud to have served his country.

Exposure to Agent Orange left D.J. with heart trouble and leukemia which fortunately is now in remission. He also suffers from diabetes and PTSD, had numerous surgeries on his knees, hip, back and shoulder and must use a scooter for mobility. D.J. relates that he didn't want to die in Vietnam, but there were times after coming home that he did want to die. His wish is to educate today's young soldiers returning home from combat using the benefit of his experiences to help them in ways that weren't available to him.

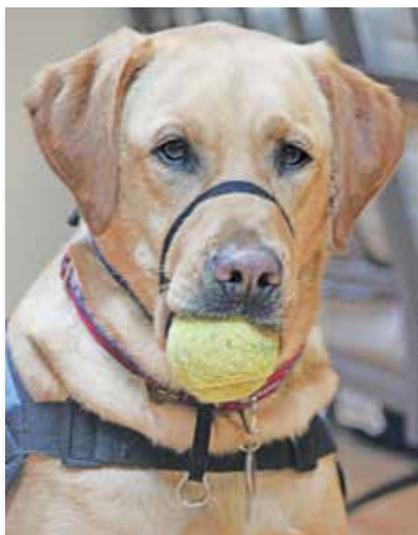
D.J. learned of Patriot PAWS from the VA Hospital in Dallas, and in July 2012, he received service dog Zoe, a female yellow Lab. They bonded immediately, and Zoe watches D.J. constantly to help him in any way that she can. According to D.J., "With Zoe, I am learning to trust again. She puts happiness in my life."

WHAT IS A GENTLE LEADER?

People often ask us why our service dogs wear “muzzles”. What our dogs wear is not a muzzle but a Gentle Leader Headcollar.

A gentle leader is a positive, no-pain, humane training tool that safely exerts a calming influence on the dog. The principle is that it allows the person to communicate with the dog in a way that the dog instinctively understands. It operates much the same as a halter for a horse on the premise that “where the head goes, the body follows.” A dog wearing a gentle leader can still eat, drink, pant, bark and carry objects in his mouth. It is lightweight and causes no pain, coughing, choking or gagging.

Gentle leaders work especially well for the disabled veterans whom we serve because many of them have problems with balance or have prosthetic limbs or traumatic brain injuries. Pulling on the leash is eliminated making it virtually impossible for the dog to pull the person down, and the person is able to walk with the dog with very little exertion. It is a safe, effective and humane alternative to the traditional neck collar.



WHO IS PATRIOT PAWS SERVICE DOGS?

Patriot PAWS Service Dogs is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Through our program disabled veterans, who receive service dogs **free of charge**, regain lost independence and emotional stability. Prison inmates, who have an active part in training the service dogs, have the opportunity to learn a new vocation and give back to society while incarcerated. Rescue and shelter dogs are given a new lease on life and will help to change people's lives. Caring for one of our dogs-in-training can cost up to \$30,000. **Only through tax-deductible donations are we able to continue our mission of helping disabled veterans.**

DONATE TODAY AT: WWW.PATRIOTPAWS.ORG

We accept all major credit cards (online or over the phone), cash, checks and money orders. A return envelope is enclosed in this newsletter for your convenience.

ALSO CONSIDER:

- Setting up a recurring donation
- Honoring or memorializing someone with a donation (remember to send us information so an acknowledgment can be sent)
- Matching your employee's donation
- Pledging for a 3-year period
- Becoming an ambassador
- Conducting a fundraiser
- Volunteering or becoming a puppy raiser

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

