



The Paw Print

*The Voice of the Military Working Dog Heritage Museum
& Handler Center*



Volume 3 Issue 3

March 2023

Special points of interest:

- A dog named Thor who possessed a unique character is remembered.
- Airmen who encounter the Security Police can often have interesting stories.

Inside this issue:

From the President's Desk	2
Alene Erlanger	3
Canine Scout Flush Viet Cong	6
Hurlburt Field Handler	7
Fast Times At Osan	8
Brawl At The Sawadee Club	10
Honoring Vietnam Veterans	11

Dogs For Defense Founder: Alene Erlanger



Responding to the attack on Pearl Harbor, Alene Erlanger set out to establish an American K9 Corps. (Pathfinder Image courtesy of the Eric Queen Collection.)

Dogs for Defense (DFD) was a program started by private citizen Mrs. Alene Erlanger, who graduated from Barnard College in 1913 with a Bachelor of Arts with a Major in English. During World War I, Alene was captain of the Red Cross at Fort Monmouth (New Jersey).

During World War II, she organized DFD, a program that arranged for the donation of dogs for military ser-

vice and placed them in homes after the war ended.

As a civilian consultant to the Quartermaster General from 1942 to '45, Ms. Erlanger, in this role, helped found the K9 Corps, wrote training manuals and supervised dog training programs. As a result, she received the "Exceptional Civilian Service Award" in 1945.

Besides being one of the world's leading judges of dogs of all breeds, she au-

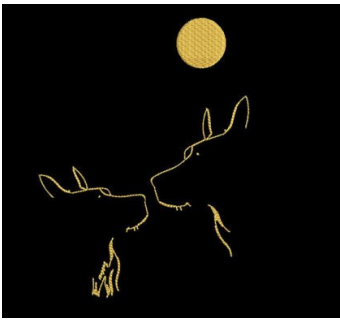
thored a Pet Poodle, a manual (1954).

Married in 1914, she and her textile-manufacturer husband, Milton S. Erlanger, owned Woodside Stables and a large aviary.

Alene Stern Erlanger passed away on June 26, 1969, after a long illness at her home at the age of 76. Inside this issue, we'll introduce you to a more in-depth profile of this trail-blazing American.



Lane Hagerdorn
Vice President



From the President's Desk

On March 13th, we celebrate K9 Veterans Day, a day dedicated to honoring the brave military working dogs who have served our country alongside their leash-holding handlers. These animals have played a crucial role in our nation's military history. They deserve recognition and reverence for their service, and the Military Working Dog Heritage Museum lives to honor them.

The history of military working dogs dates back to World War I (and arguably the Civil War, where dogs were used for companionship to ease the stress on troops), when the US Army first began using dogs as messengers, sentries, and scouts. After an experimental program initiated by the American Kennel Club named Dogs for Defense was deemed successful, the US Army founded the first official K9 Corps on March 13, 1942. The first dog training centers were scattered around the country in Virginia, Nebraska, Mississippi, Montana, and California. Since then, military working dogs have performed various roles, including detecting explosives and drugs, tracking enemy combatants, and providing emotional support for soldiers. These dogs have saved countless lives and significantly contributed to our national defense for multiple generations.

March is also Women's History Month. Women military dog handlers have achieved many notable accomplishments throughout the history of the military working dog program. Some examples include:

Staff Sergeant Megan Leavey was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained while serving as a dog handler in Iraq. Leavey and her military working dog, Rex, completed over 50 combat missions together and were injured in a 2006 IED explosion.

Sergeant First Class Christina Smith, who received the Military Working Dog Trainer of the Year award in 2013, was recognized for her outstanding training skills and dedication to caring for her military working dogs.

Sergeant Christina Luna, who earned the Military Working Dog Trainer of the Year award in 2019, was recognized for her outstanding training skills and dedication to caring for her military working dogs.

These are just a few examples of the achievements of female military dog handlers. They have served with distinction and significantly contributed to our national defense. They have served in various capacities and have worked under strenuous conditions, and their achievements are a testament to their hard work,

dedication, and commitment.

In addition to recognizing the service of military working dogs, this month also celebrates National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29th, a day to honor the men and women who served in the Vietnam War. These veterans made great sacrifices for our country, and we are forever grateful for their service.

I want to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for the volunteers who support the Military Working Dog Heritage Museum. This museum is a testament to the contributions of military working dog teams, and the volunteers who work here play a vital role in preserving their legacy.

I encourage all members and supporters of the Military Working Dog Heritage Museum to take a moment this month to honor the brave military working dogs and handlers who have served our country, remember and recognize the contributions of the courageous women who served in the K9 Corps, and Welcome Home each and every Vietnam Veteran throughout the month of March. Let us remember the sacrifices and the contributions they have made to our national defense.

K9 Leads the Way!

Lane Hagerdorn

Dogs for Defense The Early Years

By: Sherri Swanson

Even with the European countries' success using dogs as sentries, patrol messengers, medical dogs, and foxhole cleaners, the US Government never organized military canine units during World War I. At the time, the only American military dogs were sled dogs in Alaska. Mrs. Alene Erlanger, a poodle breeder, and renowned dog show judge, recognized an urgent need and proposed using American canines during the First World War. She concluded that using K9s would benefit the soldiers on the battlefield, but the Army denied her initial request. The military felt they could not effectively train American dogs to go into battle, and the public support for the program would be nonexistent.

Things changed after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, forcing the United States into World War II. Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, there were rations of oil, rubber, and leather. The military drafted men, and the women worked assembling war supplies. And Alene Erlanger, a woman determined to get the military to accept canines as a

standard unit, set a plan in motion.

While American battle-ships were still glowing from the attack in the waters off Oahu, Ms. Erlanger contacted her friend Roland Kilbon, a journalist, and planned to have lunch. During their meeting, Alene explained to her companion that other countries had used military dogs for years, and America had not. After intense discussion, Roland agreed to back her proposal, and Erlanger and Kilbon created Dogs for Defense (DFD).

It wasn't long before the American dog world's prominent people joined the Dogs for Defense ranks. Harry I. Caesar, the head of the AKC (American Kennel Club) and a banker, volunteered to serve as its first president. Felicien Philippe, an artist and former director of the Italian State Game Preserve, provided insight into how the Axis powers trained war dogs. Henry Stoecker, Alene Erlanger's trainer at Pillicoc Kennels, joined the DFD team and later entered the military as a dog trainer. Prominent socialite women in the dog world volunteered for the cause, too.



But unfortunately, there was one problem: The military still took no interest in the Dogs for Defense idea. For years, technology had phased animals out of service; jeeps had replaced horses, trucks replaced mules, and carrier pigeons became obsolete with the inception of radios. So, the last thing the military wanted anything to do was introduce more animals into its ranks.

But the military's position didn't consider the growing national pastime: a dog-obedience craze swelled. Pet owners were teaching their dogs to jump, retrieve, and perform other obedience routines at any of the 404 obedience training clubs spread around the country.

The dogs were in a boot camp of sorts. Owners gave their dogs commands and began using

silent hand signals. Dogs received training on scent discrimination and could distinguish between their handler's or a stranger's smells to retrieve specific items. So technically, you could call these dog owners Drill Sergeants; they were grooming new warriors.

While enthusiastic, the K9 opportunities came slowly for Alene. But one misty, foggy night in June 1942, along the coast of Long Island, German saboteurs beached their rubber raft and came ashore carrying high explosives, detonators, and timers, along with wallets full of US cash. At about the same time, a German U-boat surfaced off the coast of Florida, and four more would-be saboteurs rowed ashore.

The FBI found all eight trespassers and the US executed six as spies. However, these events alarmed the popular imagination and raised awareness of how at-risk munitions factories and other high-value operations were. Facing a lack of men due to the war, the government needed a practical way to patrol 3,700 miles of unprotected coastline. Unwillingly,

Uncle Sam recognized it needed dogs-and it needed them urgently.

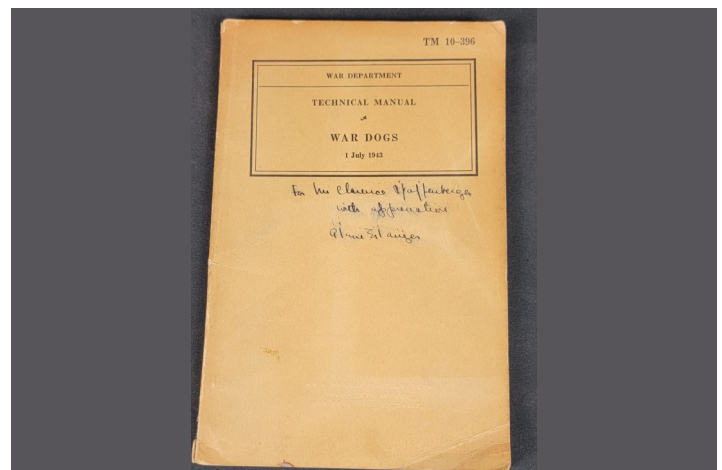
Alene ramped up her work immediately. People from around the country enlisted their dogs for the war effort. Among them were Greer Garson and her poodle, Cliquot; Rudy Vallee and his Doberman King; Ezio Pinza and his two Dalmatians. Ezio, an opera singer, sent an album of his music to keep his dogs company if they got lonely.

Over 1,000 volunteers managed the intake. The dogs, at induction, received a tattoo on their ear for identification and were placed in an individual kennel. The volunteers fed the dogs a half pound of cooked horsemeat, $\frac{3}{4}$ pound of raw horse meat ground up with the bones, a half-pound of cornmeal gruel cooked in horsemeat broth, and a half pound of commercial dog food, and salted the mixture to the equivalent of one percent.

Every dog underwent a two-week basic training where they learned commonplace commands like sit, stay, and come and skills specific to their new roles, like riding on the



Above: Greer Garson enlists one of her poodles, Cliquot, to join the new Dogs for Defense. Other celebrities followed, including Mary Pickford sending her German shepherd, Silver. (Photo courtesy of the Alene Erlanger Collection at Smith College.)



Above: An original Training Manual given to Clarence Pfaffenberger by Alene Erlanger. Alene supervised the crafting of Training Manuals, films, and programs crafted by the War Department and the Quartermaster Corps. Mr. Pfaffenberger served as a representative of the Dogs for Defense in the San Francisco, California area. (Artifact from the Eric Queen Collection.)

back of trucks on bumpy roads. Next, they were exposed to gunfire until they did not flinch. The vast majority became sentry dogs and learned to growl or alert at the approach of strangers during an eight-week course. Finally, handlers taught the dogs to attack if need be, though the Army didn't train pure attack dogs.

The Honorable Robert P. Patterson, Secretary of War, signed an authorization letter following the application of The Quartermaster General; as a result, the war dogs were no longer known as pets or Army mascots.

Dogs for Defense had promised 25,000 dogs to the Army. Mrs. Erlanger donated nine poodles to the military from her breeding at Pillicoc kennels. Unfortunately, her champion poodle, Rumpelstiltskin, was not fit for military duty, as they deemed his demeanor too temperamental.

The men who were to become dog handlers received training first. Alene started the training school at Pillicoc Kennels, so military policemen were among the first assigned to attend classes

and work with the dogs. Initially, the men were uncertain of "the 'exotic breeds,' especially the poodles. However, they soon learned that all the breeds could learn and retain their training.

The first graduating class to go to the military from Mrs. Erlanger consisted of three black poodles, two Dalmatians, an Airdale, a German Shepherd, and an Afghan Hound.

Dogs For Defense appealed to the public's imagination from its inception, yet the Army identified some significant issues. The training by volunteers at inconsistent levels produced variances in the quality of the dogs' abilities. Further, while volunteer trainers could achieve gunfire acclimatization, they could not replicate combat artillery sounds and smells in the civilian world.

By June 1944, the War Department's Quartermaster Corps had created fifteen war dog platoons. All with their Table of Organization and Equipment. By the war's end, all fifteen War Dog platoons participated in active duty, eight sailed off to the Pacific theater, and the remaining seven went



Above: Rudy Vallee sent his Doberman, King, to be trained for the front. (Photo courtesy the Alene Erlanger Collection at Smith College.)

to Europe. The early War Dog Platoon rosters included eighteen scout dogs, sixteen messenger dogs, twenty enlisted men, and one officer.

Once the Quartermaster Corps took on the training, acquisition, and disposition of War Dogs, Dogs for Defense took a less active role. However, the history and heritage of America's K9 Corps are firmly planted on the shoulders of one of America's most extraordinary leading ladies, Mrs. Alene Erlanger.

Since then, the US Military Working Dog program has grown and has been integral to military missions in all conflicts since WWII. During the Korean and Southeast Asia wars, dogs served as sentry, scout, tracker, and booby

trap detection dogs. The training and use of dogs have become more sophisticated, with dogs performing patrol duties and drug, explosive, and down-range IED detection. From reports, the military estimated that dogs saved more than 10,000 lives in the Southeast Asia War alone. That number has grown immensely in the Global War on Terror. The origins of today's highly trained and skilled MWD teams all trace back to the determination, tenacity, and out-of-the-box thinking of Alene Erlanger's pushing the US Military to tap into the capabilities and bond that have always existed between man and dog is the foundation of the MWD programs of today.

Canine Scouts Flush Viet Cong From Delta

Story and photo courtesy of DoD publication

Dong Tam— The German shepherd moves down the rice paddy dike, held in check by his master. Suddenly, the dog lifts his head toward the direction of a wood line.

Swiftly, quietly, an element of riflemen move toward the wood line and open fire on the unsuspecting Viet Cong.

At the 9th Infantry Division's 2nd Bn., 60th Inf., such an operation is commonplace with the widespread use of the scout dog.

The teams are constantly on duty. Teams from the 43rd and 45th Scout Dog Platoons based here work out of the 3rd Brigade's Headquarters at Tan An, about 25 miles south of Saigon.

One of the masters, Spec. 4 Ernest Jonson, explained that both dog and master undergo rigorous training.

"The dogs are trained at Ft. Benning, GA.," said Jonson. "They're taught basic obedience and scouting. Then the dogs are run through their paces where we give them high praise when they do

well and correct their mistakes."

Trainers are qualified infantrymen and have completed a ten-week course at Ft. Benning. Upon their arrival in Vietnam, the men undergo a two-week refresher course at Bien Hoa. The rest is on-the-job-training," said Jonson.

Scout dogs differ from tracker dogs in that they will become alert to the scent of the enemy, but will not pursue him.

Trackers dogs, on the other hand, will follow the enemy's scent or blood trail and stay in pursuit until the enemy is found, much like a bloodhound.

Spec. 4 Darryl Hubble, another scout dog master, explained that German shepherds are probably the best-suited dogs for the purpose, although they have their shortcomings.

"Shepherds are the most adaptable to the climate," noted Hubble. "Of course, the heat and long hikes tire them out quickly, and they lose interest."

Hubble said that each master is responsible for his dog's upkeep, includ-



A scout dog and his master watch intently to their front in case any Viet Cong are nearby. The 9th Infantry Division uses the dogs to locate Viet Cong in the Mekong Delta area.

ing grooming and feeding.

According to the master, night operations are the best for the dogs since it is cooler, and sounds and scents will travel further.

One of the occupational hazards of scout dog duty is the likelihood that the master and dog become very attached to each other. "Some of the guys don't mind it when they leave their dog, but I love dogs, and I've become very attached to Major," said Jonson.

When the master is rotated back to the US, the dog is returned here for

"R&R" until a replacement master is found.

"The funniest thing," said one of the handlers, "is that the dogs seem to love riding helicopters. Wherever we have a chance to travel by air, the dogs get all excited."



Hurlburt Field MWD Handler Proves She Can Do It Better

by Airman 1st Class Amanda Flower

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. – A sea of emotion covers her face while describing her first deployment and the moment she was struck by an epiphany that would forever change her.

US Air Force Staff Sgt. Jessica Poteet, a military working dog handler with the 1st Special Operations Security Forces Squadron, was on her first deployment in Baghdad and it was an interesting one, to say the least. She was one of two females attached to an Army unit. While there, her interest was sparked by an Army sergeant who worked with canines.

“Just watching him work and the bond that they had between dog and handler, I was like, ‘I want that,’” Poteet said.

Poteet anxiously applied for the position of MWD handler and was accepted. After 11 ½ weeks she had completed the handler’s course. While she was excited to see what her new career had in store for her, she was also realistic about the hurdles she would surely have to overcome.

While shaking her head she explained that confidence hadn’t always come so easily to her. When she was initially accepted the position of MWD handler she was tremendously shy. Since then, her career has forced her to get out of her comfort zone and, with that,

brought many opportunities for which she is grateful.

“The difference I have seen in Staff Sgt. Poteet from when we met until now, besides her now being a mother of two beautiful kids, is a lot more self-confidence and drive towards her career goals,” said Tech. Sgt. Elvin Jose, a plans NCO in charge with the 1st SOSFS and Poteet’s former kennel master.

Poteet has worked with four dogs and each had their own personalities and touched her heart deeply, but she exuberated a special kind of sparkle when she mentioned her second four-legged partner, Pita. This particular canine was one of the most aggressive MWD’s at her shop and together the two were unstoppable.

Poteet and Pita worked together for five years and when the time came for Pita to retire due to hip dysplasia and muscle deterioration, there was no question in Poteet’s mind where she would go: the Poteet residence. Some were skeptical, considering Pita’s aggressive behavior, but Poteet was certain it was the right choice. As soon as she got Pita home, she fit right in with the other three dogs and Poteet’s daughter.

“I took her home and she was perfectly fine,” Poteet said with a proud smirk on

her face, “It was like a completely different dog.”

Her face took on a pained expression when she explained that after having Pita for about a year, she made the decision to put her down due to a decline in her health. When the time came, she said her good-byes in the comfort of their home so that Pita would feel as much peace as possible.

Poteet has been a MWD handler for about 7 ½ years now. When initially joining the military, her motivation was following in the footsteps of her family members who were before her. Since becoming a handler, she is motivated by the bond that she shares with her dogs.

“As long as she is a K9 handler,” Jose said, “Our MWD’s will continue to receive the best care and love they deserve.”

In the same way that Pita was able to prove wrong the judgment of others, so did Poteet.

The frustration could be heard in her voice as she described several scenarios where she was discriminated against for being a female military member. One scenario involved an older gentleman who saw her in uniform and assumed that her father must have wanted a boy instead. Another involved a nurse who assumed the bracelet on her



US Air Force Staff Sgt. Jessica Poteet, a military working dog handler with 1st Special Operations Security Forces Squadron, poses with military working dog Ronnie at Hurlburt Field, Florida, March 16, 2021. Poteet has been a military working dog handler for more than seven years, with Ronnie serving as her fourth canine partner. (US Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Amanda A. Flower-Raschella)

arm during the birth of her child was because her husband was in the military. She was taken aback when Poteet politely corrected her.

She was insulted by the insinuation that she may not be as capable as others because of her gender. At times she isn’t even given the opportunity to try. Not surprisingly, she stated that this has only pushed her to want to prove them wrong.

“If you can do it, I’m going to do it better,” Poteet said, “And that’s been my mentality since I joined.”

Thor: Fast Times At Osan

by Curtis Handel

"Get 'im, Thor!"

With that command, my second partner in South Korea rocketed in the general direction of the nefarious decoy and proceeded to stop halfway between him and me. Then, he sniffed the ground, squatted, and proceeded to do what he was supposed to do in the break area.

"Thor, get 'im, buddy, come on, Thor!"

I told the decoy to make some noise, get my dog's attention, and try to make him angry.

Nothing.

Thor finished his business, scratched the ground like a bull, and trotted back towards me. He never even glanced in the direction of the decoy, who was wearing himself out trying to get the vaunted military working dog's attention. But Thor, obviously proud of the pile he left behind, paid him no attention.

Let me backtrack just a bit. When I went through Patrol Dog School, I anticipated I'd get a massive, snarling beast to handle, but instead, I received the perfect challenge. My new partner, Valley, a female German Shepherd, carried

a tender character and wanted only to please me. Then, arriving on the perimeter at Osan, I was assigned Rex, who had a heart of gold but was old and just plain worn out. He had the courage of a lion but had served well past his prime. There was no extra training required with Rex; he had done his duty.

About two and a half months into my tour, I received the chance to upgrade to Thor, aka "The Wonder Dog." Warnings accompanied this offer. The Kennel Master mentioned that Thor had not worked much in the past several years as he was assigned to an Assistant Squad Leader. This served Thor perfectly. At nine years old, he was in great physical shape, likely because of the lack of effort he put into his work. He was a "ROAD" Dawg, (Retired On Active Duty.)

I refused to believe he had completely checked out, so I took on the challenge. Trust me, for a young Airman trying to assert himself in a squad of more veteran handlers, Thor proved himself a nightmare. Don't get me wrong; I loved that dog. But, as a happy-go-lucky pup, if he'd had an oppos-



Curtis and Thor, chillin'.

able thumb, he would have opened the gates for the North Koreans to come to take me out.

He was like Spicoli from Fast Times at Ridgemont High: the laid-back, care-free dude that seemed to love left-handed cigarettes a bit too much...

So, we worked, and I came in on my off days, and we worked more.

"Get 'im, Thor!"

"Nah, I gotta poop...."

"Come on, buddy, tear him up!"

"I just ain't feeling it, dude..."

"Thor, come on, buddy, get 'im!"

"Let's go again tomorrow, 'K, hooman?"

So, after some time, Thor would occasionally bite, just enough to keep his certification up. If a passing grade was 60%, he

was probably at a consistent 59.34%.

I worked every off day as much as I could to get Thor motivated, but it was just not happening. However, about a month and a half in, a spark, a bit of fire erupted from the gold-bricker.

We were training close in, trying to see how agitated we could get the old boy. The decoy worked in front of us, slapping the wrap, hissing, and carrying on. The trainer came up from behind us and grabbed the fierce dog by the back of the right flank. Common sense would tell us that grabbing a dog being agitated to bite and hold a decoy would take a specific plan; grab the left flank so that the dog would react away from the handler as he was held close to the handler's left side in heel position. Nope, the grab was to the right

flank, which caused the unexpected reaction of Thor, now angry for the first time I had seen, to turn in and bite his handler, me, on the inside of the right knee before sinking opposing canines into my right forearm near the elbow. And this was on my day off.

Thor bit and held nicely. I was impressed but looked down into his eyes, wondering if he realized just whom he was biting and holding. His eyes changed from fiery to a look of 'Uh oh.'

I didn't correct him because I knew he directed his anger at whatever he could get to, not necessarily me. So off to the ER to get cleaned up; no stitches needed. I got my first dog bite out of the

way too! So I counted it as a win/win day!

Thor and I continued to work hard, even after the new shipment of dogs arrived that would signal his replacement on the perimeter. We spent about three months together, and I can't complain. Thor, The Wonder Dog, proved himself a great partner. Well, except for the scars and the knowledge that, if the North Koreans showed up, he might just turn himself in. We spent many nights together, patrolling back and forth and taking some great timeouts.

My second dog in the field had served to get me a whole lot of laughs and hoots and hollers during training. Of

course, the famous 'poop attack run' was hard to deal with as a 19-year-old 'new guy.' But when all was said and done, I loved that dog as much as any other. I can remember almost everything about him, and he taught me much.

As the new crop of Osan dogs came out of quarantine, I got to choose a dog first out of all the handlers. What an incredible feeling! Getting to pick your partner out of over twenty dogs, all new to the field!

As I was building rapport with my third dog in the field, my first two, Rex C058 and Thor P247, were racing towards the tragic end of their careers. Unfortunately, their deaths occurred before

Military Working Dogs were retired. Part of me is happy that I wasn't at the kennel that day. Rex and Thor would have been perfect candidates for retirement and made great, long-term companions. They both earned that, and it is a damned shame that they didn't receive it. The other part wishes I could have soothed Rex and Thor as they crossed the rainbow bridge.

Besides keeping their memories alive, the best I can do is pray that they meet me when my time comes with their ears up and tails wagging. I hope I honored each of them as their last handler.

K9 Leads the Way!

Volunteer Spotlight—David Leitson



Military Working Dog Heritage Museum and Handler Center shines its volunteer spotlight on a valued member of our newsletter team, Mr. David Leitson. David joined the team in 2022 and has ushered two engaging newsletters from concept to completion.

In addition to planning the newsletters, David has researched and written about MWDs, notably his pieces on

Navy CAD Remco and adopting MWDs. He's currently working on more special articles for future newsletters.

Our multi-talented volunteer David, is a nationally certified free-lance American Sign Language Interpreter (ASL). Among his many hobbies, David enjoys his guitar and plays with both jazz and Big Band groups.

He also knows his way around a computer, from architectural design to software development.

Now retired, David fills his time with family, friends, and has become a valued and integral member of our volunteer newsletter staff.

Please join us as we honor our tenacious and team-focused volunteer, David Leitson. Thank you, David.

Brawl At the Sawadee Club

by David Adams

It had been a quiet Friday night when Bob, Blackie X850, and I pulled up to the back door of the Sawadee Club [Airmen's Club] to take a few minutes to listen to the band. The back door, always propped open, helped vent at least a small amount of the fog from cigarette smoke. As we shifted into gear to pull away, an inebriated airman came up to talk to us. He had consumed too much alcohol and perhaps other substances. He slurred a bunch of nonsense to us. We offered him a ride back to his quarters, suggesting he needed to sleep it off, but of course, he insisted he was fine.

"Well, you've had too much to drink, so don't go back into the club," Bob advised him. Nobody had access to personal vehicles of any kind, which removed the worry about him driving, and we headed on our way to Gate 1 for the evening curfew check and capture.

Halfway to Gate 1, we got a call to respond to a fight at the Sawadee Club. Bob and I looked at each other and said in unison, "He went back in!" So we flipped a U-turn and headed back. It wouldn't be the first time K9 helped clear the Sawadee. Terry Strickland and Mr. Misty X851 had gone in the front door driving the brawlers out the

back doors more than once.

We pulled up to the club's front door behind Security Police jeeps that had arrived before us. Blackie jumped out with me, and we joined Bob heading to the door as the club manager and another Security Policeman (SP) were dragging the problem child out in handcuffs. 'Yep, the same guy.'

The arresting SP didn't have a partner, so we put him in our jeep to take him to SP HQ for lockup. As Blackie jumped in, the arrestee started kicking at him. Blackie made a lunge at the guy, but I pulled him back. While K9 handlers were Security Police, we were more like the illegitimate children at the family reunion. The last thing I wanted to deal with was some law enforcement NCOIC troubling me for letting my dog go after a handcuffed guy. But it didn't stop me from landing a blow into his midsection, screaming at him, "Do that again, and I'm going to let the dog tear your family jewels off."

We dragged him screaming and cursing into the HQ and threw him in a cell consisting of chain link fencing from floor to ceiling supported by 2x4s and bolted to the concrete block walls.



With Blackie sitting by my side Bob and I start writing up the paperwork when the idiot starts tying his belt to the ceiling like he was going to hang himself. With Blackie blocking the open cell door, Bob and I retrieved the belt, and we held him down, stripping him of his clothes. We took everything, leaving him only with his briefs. Returning to our paperwork, he started to tie the sheets from the bed up. As I entered the cell, he took a swing at me. I leaned back a bit and grabbed his wrist as it came by, twisted it turning him around, and shoved his arm up his back. Bending him over, I drive him to the bed ramming his head into the concrete block wall. The Flight Chief directed Bob to take him to the hospital and get him knocked out.

Dazed from his head's encounter with the wall, we cuffed him. I put Blackie in his cell and say to him, "Go ahead, boy and pee on his rack so it will be nice and warm for him when we get back."

We put him on his knees in the back of the open jeep and his head into the rear seat while I held his handcuffed hands up his back; he was well under control. We drove to the hospital at neighboring Army Camp Friendship with his whitey-tighties sticking up in the air

At the hospital, we pulled his briefs down as a nurse on ER duty jabbed his butt and pushed the plunger down. We made the return trip in the jeep with his whitey-tighties, once again up in the air. On this trip, he drifted off into la-la land.



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Military Working Dog Heritage Museum honors our Vietnam Veterans on

March 29, 2023

National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Welcome Home!

mwdheritagemuseum.org





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Heritage Museum &
Handler Center
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From the Team at MWDHM...

We invite you to join the museum's journey
by signing up for a free *Paw Print* subscription.
Email: info@mwdhm.org

**Military Working Dog Heritage:
Always on Point**

We're on the Web: mwdhm.org

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Military Working Dog Heritage Museum



Recycle, please.

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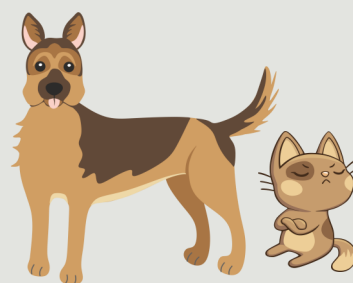
Important dates with Trooper and Scout

March 12, 2023 K9 Veterans Day Ceremony
American Legion Post #166, 201 S. Water Street East,
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 1:30-3:00 PM

March 13, 2023— Dedication of the Coast Guard K9
Memorial— Coast Guard Base Alameda. California. Open
to the public. For more information, click [here](#)

July 15, 2023 – 25th Anniversary Dedication of the War
Dog Memorial at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

*** Note Change of date.**



Historic Pooch Pic of the Month



Photo of US Army handlers of
the 26th ISDP in Korea, From
the Eric Queen Collection:
Front Row (L to R) Robert
Bollschweiler, Orville
“Andy” Anderson, Myron
Horn, Li Ki Jon (“Lee”)
Back Row (L to R) Ra-
mon Sylvester, Don
Stahl, Larry Piatt, Rein-
hardt Booth, Clyde
Treece

"The appearance of US Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement."