



Supporting Our Military, Veterans and their Beloved Pets since 2005.

May 2013

Founder's Corner

We've been busy the first quarter of 2013.

We've added new volunteers, transferred roles within the organization, expanded our foster home network, continued work on the MVP Sanctuary and have fostered hundred of pets for our deployed service members.

We want to thank you, our faithful supporter for the continued support of our cause. We greatly appreciate it!

Angel HUGS,

Linda Spurlin-Dominik



A Look Inside...

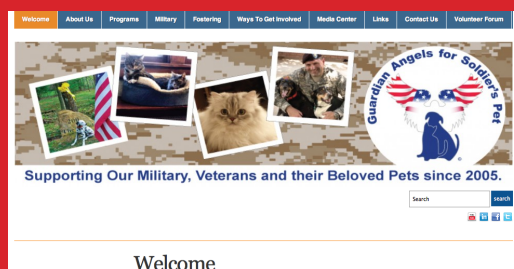
New Regional Directors	2
Win an Autographed CD from Lucas Hoge	2
A MSM's Appreciation	3
Fundraising Support	3
Mission Accomplished	4
LinkedIn	5
Around Town	5
Helping Bumble	5
Volunteer Appreciation	6
New Board Members	6
Appreciation Award	6
Volunteer Opportunities	7
Foster Coordination Liaison	7
Community Outreach Liaison	7
Military and Veteran Pet Foster Home Program	8
Military Pet Assistance Program	8
Military Veteran and Pet Sanctuary	9

New Website

We recently launched a new website for the organization! It has many new features, including:

- new updated look
- easy to navigate menus, including one dedicated just to Military Service Members and one dedicated to Foster Homes
- new easy to complete forms to submit a pet or foster a pet
- information about who we are, what we do and how we do it
- a section about getting involved with the organization (includes 3rd party fundraising, volunteering and online shopping)

We hope you will check it out and come back often as we continue to improve and update information!



New Regional Directors Provide Better Customer Service to our MSM's

During this past January, we completed the restructure of states to become part of a region concept. This new structure will better serve and assist our clients and foster home volunteers.

The new Regional Director role allows a liaison between the State Support Teams assigned to a specific region and the organization's National CEO and Staff. In addition, the specific Regional Directors' will ensure the coordination effort is covered in those states where there is not a "Coordination Liaison" volunteer in place.

The appointed Regional Directors and the states included in their respective regions are as follows:

Central Region: Heather O'Brien

Covering: IA, KS, NE, ND, and SD

Southern Region: Cherie Boudreaux

Covering: AZ, LA, NM, and TX

Southeastern Region: Shawna Michaud

Covering: AL, AR, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN

Eastern Region: JoAnn Pilston

Covering: DE, NJ, PA, WV

Northwest Region: Courtney Hilborn

Covering: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

Northeast Region: Victoria Scott

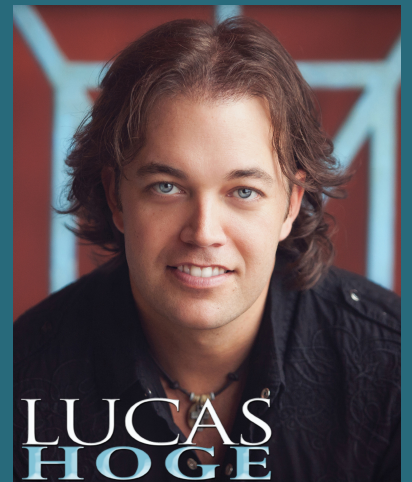
Covering: NY, CT, MA, ME, MI, NH, RI, VT

Win an Autographed CD from Lucas Hoge, our Celebrity Spokesperson!

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet and Lucas Hoge (organization's celebrity spokesperson) want to give a special THANK YOU to all our foster parents, with a chance to win the new Lucas Hoge CD (he'll even autograph it!).

Simply visit Lucas' official facebook page (www.facebook.com/officiallucashoge), and click on the "Guardian Angels Fosters" button to be entered to win.

We will pick 5 winners – one each week and the contest runs until Memorial Day 2013.





In April, the organization received a fantastic surprise in the mail! An MSM from Virginia sent us a framed flag flown over Afghanistan on 11 September 2011. We fostered this MSM's pup while he was deployed. We are touched and honored to receive this gift and look forward to hanging it in the future MVP Sanctuary for all to see.

Operation Enduring Freedom CJSOTF – Afghanistan

This certifies that the accompanying United States flag was flown over the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force – Afghanistan Fallen Comrade Memorial, Camp Vance Compound, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan during
Operation ENDURING FREEDOM

In Honor of
Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet
11 September 2011
The United States flag flown over Afghanistan symbolizes the resilience and bravery of the United States Forces to continue to execute the Global War on Terrorism and bring freedom to oppressed nations.

R. Patrick Meffert, CSM, USA
CJSOTF-A, CSM

Mark C. Schwartz, COL, SF
CJSOTF-A, Commanding

Fundraising Support

Our 3rd Party Fundraising activities have been developed for those who wish to raise funds benefitting Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet whether by an individual, a group of people, business/corporation employees, a school, or another tax exempt nonprofit organization (i.e., VFW, American Legion, DAV, AUSA, Boys/Girl Scouts, 4-H, Lions, church, etc.). This guideline has been established as a protection to both a specific Event Coordinator and Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet® to ensure that the proper paper trail, record-keeping, and accounting requirements are accomplished.

Basically there are two (2) types of "Third-Party Activities" as follows:

1. **Group or individual can host an event or sponsor an activity and make Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet® the beneficiary. Examples:** (a) An organization hosts a "dance" or "poker rung" and donates to Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet a check for the "net proceeds" from the event; (b) an individual hosts a "party" or "event" where the "net proceeds" or a

"percentage of sales" is donated to Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet® and made via a check to benefit the Organization.

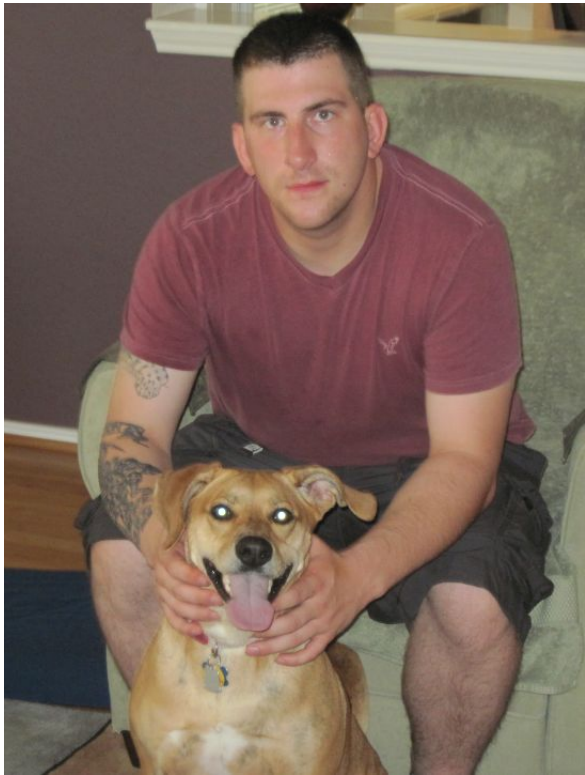
2. Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet can "piggy back" on an existing event, adding a third-party Fundraising element and receive the income produced from that element. Example: A company has an annual or monthly party and asks their employees to bring a monetary donation for Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet® or a group becomes a sponsor of an annual marathon offering registrants the opportunity to receive pledges for Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet.

For more information about how you can support our mission as a "3rd Party Fundraiser" visit our website, click on the "Ways to Help" menu and then the "3rd Party Fundraising" link.

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet has joined and been approved to be party of the "Giftit" Indirect Public Support capability.

Giftit is a new twist for nonprofits and allows another way for others to support their favorite charity. Interested party lists their item for sale and selects the organization to receive the proceeds from such sale. Funds raised via Giftit will be allocated to our Foster Home program and mandatory general /fundraising expenses. To Donate, visit:
<http://www.gift-it.com/charity/guardianangelsforsoldierspet>

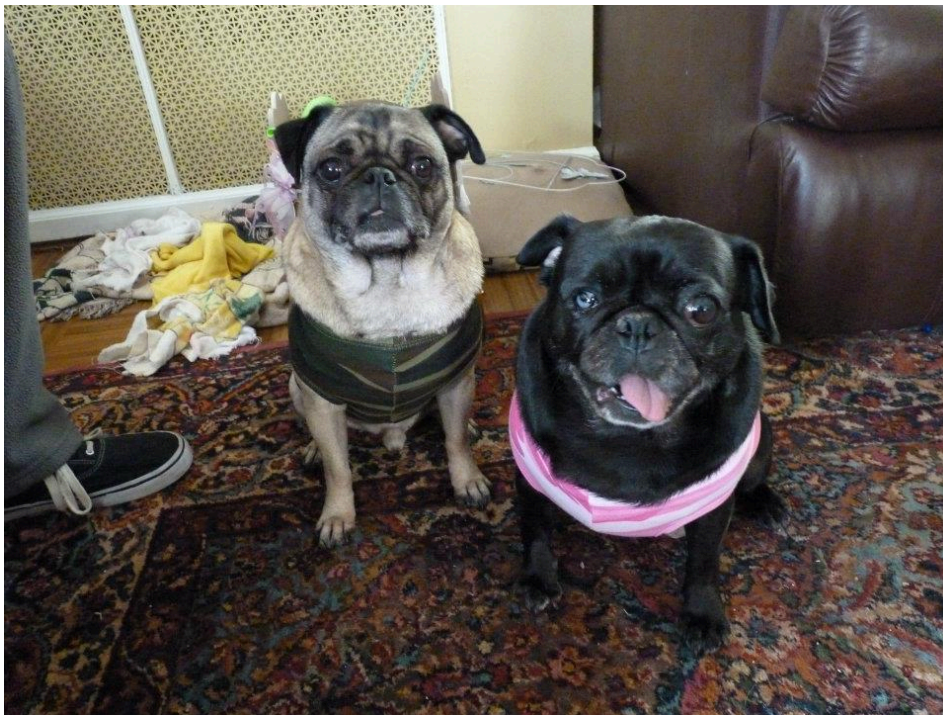
Mission Accomplished



Brooke and MSM
(Texas)



Rico and his Family
(Maryland)



Jake and Sahsa
(Texas)



Max
(California)



We now have a Group on LinkedIn.

Search "**Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet**" in the search bar and join the conversation about our military service members, our veterans and their beloved pets!

Information is posted about what is going on in the organization, so join in order to stay up to date on our activities!

Around Town ...

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet will have an information table from noon to 5PM at the **Texas Veterans Commission Fair & Expo** being held in **San Antonio, TX** on May 15, 2013.

Cherie Boudreaux, TX Director and South Region Director will be representing the organization at the event, sharing information about Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet programs and the "Military, Veterans, & Pet" (MVP) Sanctuary project in Gatesville TX.

Helping Bumble

On April 11, one of our veteran's beloved pet in one of our foster homes was attacked in the back yard by a pack of coyotes'. Bumble was taken to an emergency veterinary clinic in Parker, CO for evaluation and treatment. At first it appeared the injuries were so severe, her ability to survive during the night was not good. After stabilizing her and taking needed x-rays it was determined she may have a chance to survive and treatment was started. This morning it was confirmed that Bumble has a good chance of surviving. She is receiving appropriate IVs, pain meds, wounds were sutured and she appears to be on the road to recovery as her care continues and she is carefully watched. We are hoping to move her from the clinic to the foster's home where she will continue to get "in-home" veterinarian care and help from her Guardian Angels.

Bumble's vet care expenses were anticipated to be around \$4800. In order to cover these expenses and not totally deplete the Military Pet Assistance (MPA) fund for helping other veterans' pets currently in our foster homes and others needing our assistance we need everyone's help not only in contributing but sharing this info with your friends, co-workers, and family members so they may assist.

The generosity of our supporters has been fantastic! Our sincere thanks and appreciation to those who were able to contribute in helping to cover Bumble's veterinary care. As of April 25, 2013 we reached our goal and raised \$4,807. Thank you!

Though we have been able to ensure Bumble's vet bills were covered, the need for continued funding via our MPA fund is still needed. Details about the MPA fund and how those able can contribute can be found on page 8 of this newsletter.





Volunteer Appreciation

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet like many "All Volunteer" 501c3 nonprofit organizations are only able to operate and accomplish its mission due to the generosity, time, and energy provided by those who wish to make a difference in our society. All of our volunteers are deeply appreciated and are critical in the daily operations of our organization. They are dedicated 150% to supporting our military service member, veterans and their pets.

As a small token of the hard work and dedication these volunteers provide, we simply want to say "Thank you" to the following volunteers.



- Donna (TX)
- Cherie (TX)
- Lynne (AL)
- Kim (NV)
- Catherine (CA)
- Liz (TN)
- Nancy (MN)
- Amanda (IN)
- Cari (MS)
- Carol (IN)
- Courtney (AZ)
- Susan (MO)
- Lindsay (CA)
- Alison (WI)
- Cindy (NC)
- Janna (WA)
- Kim (LA)
- Shawna (TN)
- Madolyn (TX)
- Sandy (WI)
- Heather (IA)
- Matthew (IA)
- Tonya (MO)
- JoAnn (PA)
- Megan (TN)
- Marlous (TX)
- Victoria (MI)
- Jessica (VA)
- Linda (TX)
- Tammy (WI)
- Sally (MN)

New Board

Members

Congratulations to the following individuals for their nomination to the 2013 Board of Directors!

- Cherie Boudreaux as Treasurer (TX)
- Courtney Hilborn as Director (AZ)
- Shawna Michaud as Director (TN)

Appreciation Award

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet's CEO Linda Spurlin-Dominik was presented with an award in recognition of National Volunteer Week by Marlous Put, spouse of CSM James Put representing "The Netherlands Training Detachment" stationed at Fort Hood, TX.

The award represents the detachment's thanks and appreciation for the efforts of the organization and its volunteers dedication in their support of the United States Armed Forces active duty military service members, wounded warriors, and veterans encountering unforeseen medical and/or homeless hardship situations with pets needing assistance via the organization's programs across the country.



Volunteer Opportunities

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet like many "All Volunteer" 501c3 nonprofit organizations are only able to operate and accomplish its mission due to the generosity, time, and energy provided by those who wish to make a difference in our society. All of our volunteers are deeply appreciated and are critical in the daily operations of our organization.

Basic Qualifications:

- Have a passion to help our military service members, veterans, and their beloved pets plus work with others who share this passion. (personal opinion about the war should not affect your ability to support our Military)
- Be a self-starter, have excellent organizational, interpersonal, and leadership skills, plus able to work independently and as a "team" player.
- Follow and adhere to the organization's mission, purpose, operating procedures, and organizational policies/guidelines.
- Comfortable using and access to MS office (especially Word and Excel)
- Good and professional communication skills via the Internet, phone calls, and email.
- Previous experience in a specific volunteer role preferred
- Understanding of the military community and ability to interact with our clients.
- Able to commit at least 1 year to the volunteer role

To learn about the different positions needed within the organization, what the process entails, and the to complete an application, visit the Volunteer Section under "Way to Help" on our website.

URL: http://guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org/?page_id=429

Foster Coordination Liaison

Immeditate Need in: CO, FL, NC, SC, GA, TX, WA, HI

This position is a virtual volunteer role for Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet at the state level acting on behalf of the organization and responsible for assisting a Military Service Member (MSM), Wounded Warrior, or Veteran in recommending a potential foster home which closely emulates the pet(s) living environment and acting as the liaison between the MSM and the agreed to Foster Home (Guardian Angel) to care for the pet(s) during the foster term.

This position is NOT responsible for fundraising, organizing/attending local events as a representative of the organization, or doing presentations in their assigned state unless discussed and approval given in writing by the National CEO.

More information can be found at: http://guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org/?page_id=676

Estimated Time per Month: 15-30 hours

Community Outreach Liaison

The primary role of a state Community Outreach Liaison (COL) is to act as the liaison between the organization and the community. The target objectives are: 1) to interact with the military and community news outlets and 2) to representative the organization at information tables at various civilian and military held events within their respective state. Note: If the size of a state warrants multiple volunteers, this role could be divided into two. The National Office will advise if this is necessary.

More information can be found at: http://guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org/?page_id=684

Estimated Time Per Month: averaging 20--25 hours

Military and Veteran Pet Foster Home Program

The Military and Veteran Pet Foster Home (MVPFH) Program was developed and implemented in January 2005 for active duty military service members whose units have received orders related to a combat or peace-keeping, or humanitarian mission, wounded warriors, and veterans with unforeseen medical and/or homeless hardship situations. The purpose of this program is intended to assist those defined above in locating and placing a pet foster home within our Foster Home network (individuals/families who have registered as a potential foster home that has shown an interest in opening their heart and homes to these beloved pets).

Deployments

- **Active Duty:** single and dual military couples whose units have received deployment orders related to a combat or peacekeeping or humanitarian mission. (Foster term up to 1 year)

Hardships

- **Wounded Warrior:** assistance related to a medical and/or homeless situation by working with the various VA medical assigned representative (mentor, counselor, social work, etc.) or the military Warrior Transition Unit program. (Foster Term up to 1 year)
- **Honorable/General Discharged Veteran:** assistance related to a medical and/or homeless situation by working with the various VA Medical and Homeless Veteran Transition program representatives (mentor, counselor, case manager, etc.) (Foster Term

between 3 – 9 months dependent on situation)

- **Family of Deployed Hero:** assistance related to a medical situation within the family that would have an impact for the family to care for their beloved pet during the spouse's deployment or where the family needs to move in with parents during the deployment and unable to have pets with them. (Foster Term – not to extend deployment term up to 1 year)
- **Military family PCSing:** out of the country or to a different military installation within the continental US and taking their pet(s) with them, but due to airline restrictions (weather related) or regulations related to shots and quarantine requirements pet(s) are unable to travel at the same time as military service member or need to go on waiting list for permanent housing and temporary military housing does not allow for pets. (Foster Term between 3-6 months)
- **Ultimate Sacrifice:** Families impacted by the loss of a loved one (KIA or Suicide related) through the SOS or CAO representative. Family feels with everything unexpected happening at the moment they are unable to properly care for the MSM/ family pet or pets- At the end of the foster term and they have decided not to keep the pet, then the family will be responsible for rehoming their pet or pets (Foster Term up to 3 months)

Military Pet Assistance Fund

The Military Pet Assistance (MPA) fund was developed and implemented in February 2008 to assist with emergency pet care related costs for pets fostered in our MVPFH program when we are unable to reach the legal pet owner and emergency pet care is needed due to an unforeseen emergency medical situation occurs. These expenses can include but are not limited to:

1. temporary boarding (usually not exceeding 14 days);
2. required veterinary care related to the need for the pet or pets to be spayed/ neutered, heartworm tested, current on all required shots as deemed necessary by the veterinarian;
3. have the pets Microchipped;
4. cover costs for up to 6 months of heartworm/flea/tick meds, and
5. food and treats where the veteran does not have the funds to cover this expense.

Those who are able to contribute to the MPA fund may do so either on-line via PayPal, using the mpa@guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org email or by US mail via check/ money order payable to Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet (Memo Line: MPA) and mail to: Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet, 9725 FM 1783, Gatesville, TX 76528-4739.

Military Veteran and Pet Sanctuary

***We've raised
\$13,990 toward
the MVPS project
in 1Q 2013!***

Over the past 6 months we have been able to accomplish some of the landscaping needs related to the following items:

1. Front Entrance Improvements including installation of flags poles for the US and TX flags, installed new signs for each side of the entrance, and finish the expansion of the entrance to the MVP Sanctuary.
2. Landscaping improvements at the front and back side of the temporary National offices including planting 3-crepe myrtle trees, 6- red and white rose thorn bushes, 1- gardenia plant, and river rock.
3. Submitted a scaled down design for the new building housing the private pet care facility and the permanent National office for the organization's "day-to-day" operations to Morton Buildings.
4. Developed a MVP Sanctuary – TX specific brochure and updated the project's existing flyers.



Picture above is of the new landscaping around our temporary National Office space.

Over the 2nd and 3rd quarters 2013 working on the following goals:

1. Establish various volunteer committees related to fundraising, community outreach, and public relations.
2. Establish a team of volunteers to assist with the on-going property maintenance.
3. Establish a team of volunteers to participate in various community activities supporting our military and veterans.
4. Obtain new estimates for the new building septic tank, extending the utilities (electric, water, and phone) to the new building.
5. Review and revise the anticipated MVP Sanctuary project costs to complete the entire project.
6. Identify the various ways to raise the funds needed to erect the building housing the private pet care facility and the admin offices and begin those operations prior to end of 2013.

Ongoing updates related to the project are provided as follows:

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/TXMVPSanctuary

Official MVP Sanctuary – TX website: www.mvpsanctuary.org



Find us on:

LinkedIn

Facebook

Twitter

YouTube

"Military Appreciation Month" May 2013



**Lets never forget their service and sacrifices
made for our country and all of us here
at home yesterday, today, and tomorrow.**

Ways to Get More Involved with our Mission

Register as a Potential Foster Home

Become a part of our State Support volunteer
teams

Contribute

Spread the word

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet®

National Headquarters

9725 FM 1783 | Gatesville, TX 76528-4739

www.GuardianAngelsforSoldiersPet.org

ALL Volunteer 501c3 Military & Veterans Service Organization - EIN 20-2229425

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