

Paws of Allegiance

Fall 2022 Newsletter - North-Mid Region



IN THIS ISSUE

WELCOMING DETROIT'S
FIRST TWO PPH PUPPIES

DETROIT UPDATES

SERVICE DOG LAWS IN
MICHIGAN

EXTENDING GRATITUDE

Welcoming Detroit's First Two PPH Puppies

By: Emma Coenen, Senior Program Instructor and Holly Hinote,
Associate Program Instructor

At the beginning of August 2022, Lois and Nelson left California and started the long drive to Detroit. Through over 35 hours in the car, the two puppies were angels, not making a peep from their shared kennel where they cuddled the entire trip.

Before leaving Bergin University to travel across the country, both Lois and Nelson were being trained on campus by students. This gave them a great foundation on their basic obedience commands, which makes all the difference as they continue their training with Paws for Purple Hearts!



PPH Detroit's Nelson and Lois

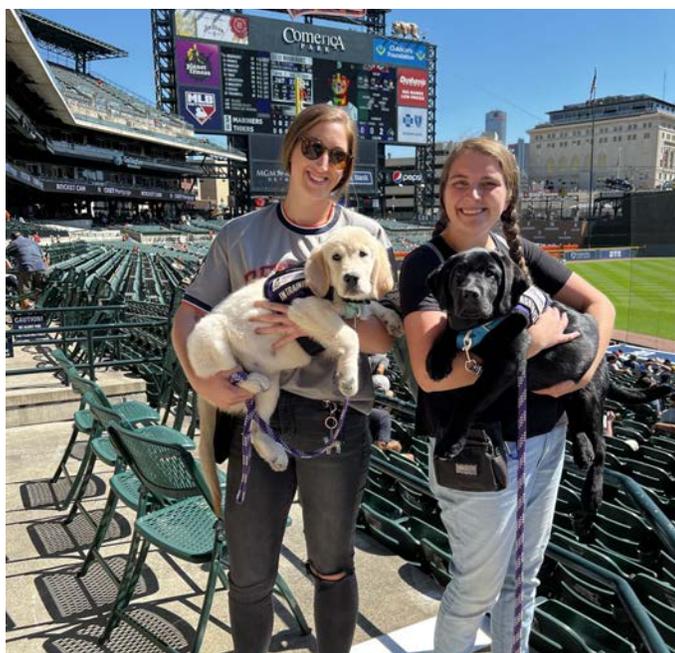
Lois is a Golden Retriever with plenty of personality to match her breed. Lois was born Memorial Day weekend and lived with her mother, Rosie, and her littermates before she started the journey to Michigan in early August. She certainly doesn't mind getting dirty, rolling around in the grass or throwing herself to the ground to get into position to nip at Nelson's legs. Lois has quite the charming personality, often scoping out the next new person she can greet with a smile.

Nelson is a Labrador Retriever, coming to us from B.E.S.T. Service Dogs in Northern California at 10 weeks old. One week older than Lois, Nelson is the ever-confident older brother, with a bark much bigger than his non-existent bite. His favorite activities include meeting new people, playing with all of his doggy friends, and continuing his war against sticks and leaves. Nelson also loves splaying out on cool tile floors after playtime.

Their futures are bright, and we cannot wait to see the amazing things they will do!

Detroit Updates

By: Emma Coenen, Senior Program Instructor



PPH Detroit Team at a Baseball Game

While we continue our search for a facility in the Detroit area, we're taking some time to get to know the surrounding communities, attending events in the area, and attending fun field trips with the puppies. The Detroit area is filled with beautiful parks, professional sports teams, and best of all, they offer many fundraisers and events to support our Warriors!

Nelson and Lois have experienced their first baseball game to see the Detroit Tigers play.

They've been able to meet many new people, experience new (and much louder) sounds, practice the "leave it" command with lots of food on the ground, and they always find time for a quick nap.

We are so excited to continue getting established in our new North-Mid region! We look forward to working with our Warriors and offering Canine-Assisted Warrior Therapy® to these new communities. It's because of donors and supporters like you that we can continue expanding and serve even more Veterans in our communities across the US!

Service Dog Laws in Michigan

By: Emma Coenen, Senior Program Instructor

A new state law that was passed in 2022 now allows trainers to socialize and train service animals in public spaces in the state of Michigan.

What does this mean for us at PPH Detroit?

It is nearly impossible to train our dogs to be successful working Service Dogs without the ability to train in public settings before placement with a Veteran. This new law allows our dogs to train and socialize in the environments that they are expected to work and perform tasks in once graduated. This is very exciting for not only our trainers and dogs, but

Follow Paws for Purple Hearts on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram



Holly and Nelson Training

our entire organization as a whole. Allowing us the ability to train and socialize our dogs from the very moment they join our program, means more successful working Service Dogs and more Warriors we can serve!

Many people are unsure of the differences between Service Dogs, emotional support animals, and therapy animals. Service Dogs are the only category that have public access rights in order to assist an individual with a disability. This new law could also create safer environments for our dogs to train in, as businesses will be more up-to-date on access rights and preventing untrained animals in these public settings. Our hope is that new Service Dog laws passing will help educate communities on the differences and why Service Dogs have different rights. We are thrilled to have more accessibility rights with our dogs in training while we kickoff our new site in Detroit!

Extending Gratitude

By: Claire Richardson, Advancement Associate

It's not often we as an organization are able to personally thank our donors, volunteers, and involved individuals that do so much for us every day. Whether you are a monthly donor or a one time donor, the donations you make help every single one of our sites around the country continue to graduate high-quality Service Dogs to our nation's Warriors. We thank you tirelessly for these contributions that you continue to make to ensure that our mission develops into new regions and flourishes in the years to come. Especially as we open this new site, we are aware more than ever of how important you all are.

It takes dedication and hard work to be a Paws for Purple Hearts volunteer, especially when it comes to puppy raising and being a crucial part of our Service Dog in training process. From dinners to painting, you all show up and come out to support our cause and we are immensely grateful. It is no small feat to be a PPH volunteer and we hope you can see how important you are to our staff.

And to those who simply see us at events and inquire about our organization, thank you for learning more about who we are and sharing any of that information to your friends and loved ones. It is you that helps spread awareness of our mission and allow new people to hear about our opportunities for volunteering and donating. Even if it is just a simple follow on our social media accounts, you are now becoming a part of the PPH family and we are so glad to have you here.

So, thank you to all those involved with us. We hope you know how important you are to all of us here at Paws for Purple Hearts and we cannot wait for you to join us as we head into the new year.



Follow Paws for Purple Hearts on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram



Paws for Purple Hearts

7404 Commerce Way, Unit D
Ruther Glen, VA. 22546

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #470
SANTA ROSA CA

Paws for Purple Hearts

Bonita Bergin, Chief Executive Officer

Board of Directors

Mark Quattrocchi, Chairperson

Dave Phillips, Secretary/Treasurer

Bonita Bergin, PPH President/CEO

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Camp (Retired), Member

Col. David Rabb (Retired), Member

Rob Rutherford, Esquire, Member

Roy Hurd, Member

Col. John Lemondes (Retired), Member

Facebook: @pphNorthmid

Instagram: @pphNorthmid

North-Mid Region

Regional Headquarters:

Detroit, Michigan (313) 230-4121

National Headquarters:

Penngrove, California (844) 700-7297

Paws for Purple Hearts is licensed by the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation, chartered by an Act of Congress for combat-wounded Veterans.



To donate, text PURPLEPAWS to 707070 or visit www.paws4ph.org/donate