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1-866-838-3647



December 17, 2018



You Made A Difference

Dear Barbara,

December is a busy time for most nonprofits and we're no exception. This month alone, we've placed 24 assistance dogs with those we serve including [guide dogs](#) for people who are blind or have low vision, [service dogs](#) for veterans with physical disabilities, and [service dogs for veterans with PTSD](#).

America's VetDogs was thrust into the international spotlight after the passing of President George H.W. Bush. A photo of Sully, his service dog, lying beside the flag-draped coffin of the former president – continuing to do his job and remain close to his partner – went viral and garnered global attention about Sully and our service dog programs.

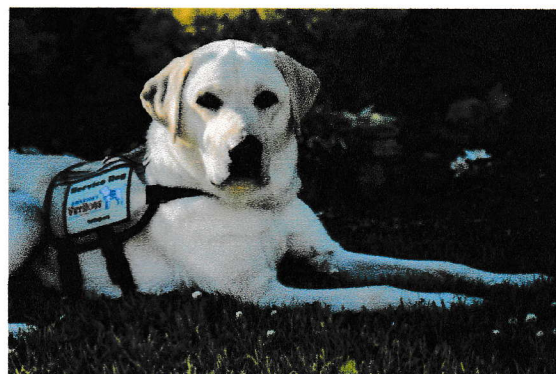
We also accomplished a great deal this past year. Our dedicated instructors, canine care team, admin staff, and volunteers, helped place over 60 specially trained assistance dogs with veterans. VetDogs also received the platinum seal of transparency from [GuideStar](#), a non-profit charity watchdog group. In addition, we recently underwent our five-year assessments by the International Guide Dog Federation and Assistance Dogs International for re-accreditation. America's VetDogs

was the second assistance dog school in the United States accredited by both ADI and IGDF, yet another instance how we are leading the way in the assistance dog industry.

As a regular reader of our email newsletter, you already understand how your support for America's VetDogs changes the lives of veterans and first responders with disabilities. You play an incredibly important role in our work to enhance the quality of life for the people who serve. Thank you for supporting our mission.

Tribute to President George H.W. Bush

In June, we were honored to place service dog Sully with President George H.W. Bush, a World War II Navy veteran. Sully was trained to open doors, pick up items, and summon help if needed. Sully and the president were a team until Mr. Bush passed away on November 30, 2018. Although they were together for a short time only, they developed a strong bond. People around the world were taken



by the image of Sully lying by the president's casket, and the image went viral. Here is a small sample of that coverage. [Time](#), [BBC](#), and [Associated Press](#).

Among Mr. Bush's last wishes were that Sully go on to help other veterans, and that's just what he'll do. In the new year, Sully will be joining the facility dog program at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and will work alongside fellow VetDogs facility dogs SGT Dillon and SGT Truman who assist the physical and occupational therapy teams as they work with wounded service members and active duty personnel during their rehabilitation.

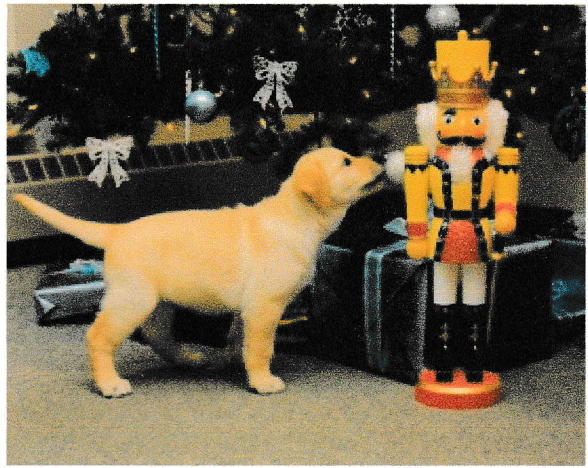
Seasonal Care Tips

Whether it's your service dog, guide dog, or your pet, check out our seasonal care tips to help keep your dog safe during the holiday season.

- Holly, mistletoe, and poinsettia plants are pet poisons! Make sure they are kept in places

your dog cannot reach.

- Antifreeze, which often collects on driveways and roadways, is highly poisonous. Although it smells and tastes good to your dog, it can be lethal.
- Keep your dog warm, dry and away from drafts. Tiles and non-carpeted areas may become extremely cold, make sure to place blankets and pads on floors in these areas.
- Be careful using glass ornaments. They break easily and may cut a dog's feet and mouth.



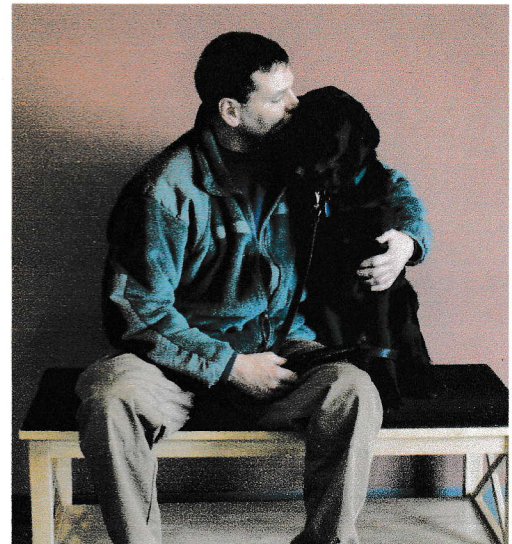
Read our full list of seasonal health and holiday care tips by clicking the button below.

[> Read More](#)

Year-End Giving

Forbes recently published an article titled "12 Days of Charitable Giving 2018" in which readers of the magazine recommend charities for them to highlight.

[VetDogs was the magazine's featured charity on December 12.](#) If you are thinking about making a year-end gift to America's VetDogs by donating cash, stock, or securities to gain the full 2018 tax advantage of your donation, here are some helpful tips to follow:



- If you are making a contribution through our [websites or over the phone](#), if your donation is charged to your card before December 31, it will count for 2019. This is true even if your credit card bill isn't due until January 2019.
- Through our [online donation tools](#), VetDogs can accept gifts via PayPal, and we accept vehicle donations, electronics, gift cards, and more.
- If you are [sending a gift by mail](#), the donation is effective on the date mailed as indicated by the postmark. If the envelope is postmarked by December 31, the gift is credited to 2018 even if we physically receive it in 2019. The postmark is the key to

your deduction, not the date on the check or the date a security certificate is signed over.

Click the button below to visit our online donation tool.

[> Donate Now](#)

You Change Lives

It costs over \$50,000 to raise, train, and place one assistance dog; however, [all of our services are provided at no charge to the individual](#). Funding comes from the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, businesses, and service clubs. Thank you for your dedication and your never-wavering support.

Please consider becoming a [VetDogs Patriot](#) and set up a recurring gift: (1) it's easy and convenient; (2) your donation goes right to work; (3) your gift goes further; (4) you're in charge.

If you have made a donation to America's VetDogs recently, thank you!

Please click the link below to change a veterans' life.

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America's VetDogs

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