

The Pilot Bight



OPEN YOUR HEART FOR CLOSED EYES



1st Annual PupCrawl Fundraiser

Elevator Brewing Company partnered with us to help raise funds to benefit Pilot Dogs. Throughout the year, they've hosted a few events with proceeds donated to Pilot Dogs, one of which was the PupCrawl. On Saturday, October 5th, many people gathered at Pilot Dogs for the First PupCrawl Fundraiser. The PupCrawl was a family-friendly route, with complimentary Puppy Beer, live art installations, dog contests, raffles, pup treats, and craft beer samples (to those 21 and up). The route, led by our blowup dog Tobi, had sidewalk art painted along the way by local artists and had stops at Pilot Dogs, Land Grant, Pecan Penny's, and Elevator Brewing Company. Doggie Day Spa handed out complimentary self-wash vouchers to all pups in attendance. Puppy Beer Growlers, Puppy Beer Treats, and T-shirts were available for purchase with 100% proceeds donated to Pilot Dogs. As of October 13th, after the PupCrawl and Columbus Chicken Wing Championship, the total amount raised for Pilot Dogs was \$6,500! Visit www.puppybeer.com to order your T-shirt and/or Puppy Beer Growler (growler only available for pick up at Elevator Brewing Company). Hope to see you at next years event!

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16TH PDI GOLF OUTING

This year we had a turn out of 19 golf groups! The outing was held at Westchester Golf Course on Saturday, August 17th, 2019. There were skill competitions, including one of the favorites, The Blindfold Putt. In this competition, the golfer that's putting puts on a blindfold while the team lines him/her up. The longest putt made with the blindfold wins a prize and bragging rights. Lunch of BBQ was served afterward, and we handed out prizes.

The winning team was awarded gift cards and the coveted Pilot Dogs Red Sweatshirt, which rivals that of the Masters Green Jacket. The winners were team ACL Exteriors. Special thanks to our sponsors: ACL Exteriors, Elford, Jerry Hunt, Lawrence & Jacquetta Sellers, Michelle A. Pomarico DDS, Myra Tewksbury, and Tom Webber.

4th Annual Valentine's Wine Tasting Fundraiser

Join us for a fun night of wine, heavy hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, raffles, music, and more!

Friday, February 14th, 2020
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
577 West Town Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

\$45.00 per person

Register online at bit.ly/2020PDIWINE or call 614.221.6367

2019 COLLECTIBLE ORNAMENT

The 2019 Pilot Dogs Collectible Pewter Holiday Ornament is still available!

This year's ornament features the Boxer.

Each ornament was handmade by Woodbury Pewter in Woodbury, Connecticut.

This is the fifth in a series of seven ornaments that will feature each of our breeds.

Limited Supply! \$20/ornament.

You can purchase from our website www.pilotdogs.org or mail a check or cash to:
Pilot Dogs, Inc.
625 West Town Street
Columbus, OH 43215

*If mailing a check or cash, please be sure to specify it is for the ornament. Ornaments will be mailed out within one week of receiving your order.



Top Left: Bryce attempting to make a blindfold putt
Top Right: 19 golf groups ready to go in their golf carts
Above: Both sides of the 2019 Boxer Ornament



Pilot Dogs Welcomes New Volunteer Coordinator: Sarah Cornell

Sarah Cornell recently graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in Hospitality Management. She was born and raised in Mansfield, Ohio where she grew up raising animals through her local 4-H club for ten years and playing on the varsity tennis team in high school. For the last three and a half years, Sarah has called Columbus her home. During her time in college, she had the opportunity to experience a variety of industries through internships with local companies including the Hilton at Easton and Wedded Perfection. As a member of The Ohio State University's Major Campus Event Committee, she had the opportunity to coordinate various events and recruit volunteers for OSU's Spring 2019 Commencement. Sarah realized that she wanted to work for a non-profit organization that will make a difference in other people's lives, so Pilot Dogs was the perfect match for her! In her free time, Sarah enjoys baking sweets for Honeybirch, an at-home bakery she started with her sister, Grace. She also loves to go hiking and travel out of state to explore whenever she can.



Stay tuned for future volunteer opportunities!

Above: Sarah Cornell

Left: Alton & Athena on Bourbon Street

Below: Pilot Dog in training lying on a Kuranda Cot

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ALTON PALMORE



Hello, I am Alton Palmore, born and raised in Sarasota, Florida. I joined the Army right out of High School. After my great experience in the Army, I came home and found my calling in Radio and Television. This career lasted 37 years. During the last years of work, I noticed I wasn't able to read the liner cards. My optometrist referred me to a Glaucoma Specialist, where I was officially diagnosed. I had surgery's in both eyes to create artificial blebs to relieve the pressure, which was successful. The surgery slowed down the deterioration, however not before I already lost a lot of central vision. As a veteran, I visited the Blind Rehab Center for Independent Living Training, which improved my quality of life. It was there I met a fellow veteran, who had a guide dog. I never thought I needed a guide dog because I could get around on my own fairly well. However, after talking and spending time with other vets, and noticing my central vision worsening, I decided to look into getting a guide dog. After researching several schools and the different breeds used for guide work, I decided that Pilot Dogs would be the best fit. In 2017, I arrived at Pilot Dogs and met my new friend, companion, and guide dog, Athena. Athena is a Doberman with a great personality and loves to travel. We've been all over the country and just went to France this December. Athena has made my life so much easier. We live in Panama City, Florida, right on the bay. Athena loves living by the water.

Thank you, Pilot Dogs for everything you do for us. It is because of the VA and Pilot Dogs, my quality of life has improved tremendously.

KURANDA COT CAMPAIGN



A Kuranda ShelterBed is a gift that will last for years. You can help numerous Pilot Dogs sleep better, increasing their comfort during their stay for training. These high-quality beds are comfortable, easy to sterilize, and are Made in the USA. Our goal is to have a cot for every kennel pod for our Pilot Dogs in training. Many people have stepped up and gifted a bed, but we are still in need.

To donate a bed, visit our wishlist at bit.ly/DonateACot

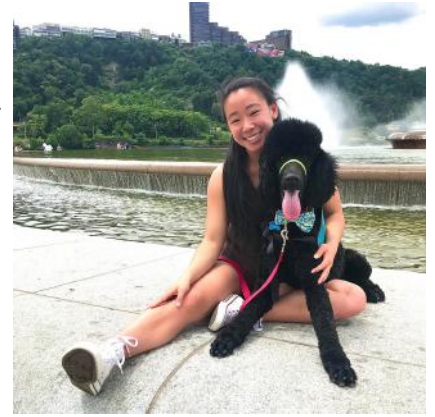
A BIG THANK YOU to those who have donated already! Our dogs love them.

Puppy Raiser Spotlight: Theresa Tran

For as long as I can remember, I've always loved dogs and asked my mom for one. Unfortunately, she always said no because they were a lot of responsibility. I told myself that I was going to have many dogs when I grew up.

Grace Allwein and I lived together at The Ohio State University during our senior year. One day, her animal science class toured the Pilot Dogs facility. She was sold, and when she told me that she was interested in raising, I was immediately on board! We were getting a dog!

On June 28, 2017, we received Bowie, the white standard poodle. Prior to Bowie, I saw poodles as “yappy little fufu dogs”, but he quickly proved me wrong. Bowie attended all of our classes, slept in them while we had to pay attention, and bounced his way through the highs and lows of college. The three of us became Pilot's biggest hype group at OSU. Giving him back in May 2018 was really difficult, but we reminded ourselves of his important job. He flew through his formal training and after just 3 months, matched with his handler, who lives in Wisconsin!



*Above: Theresa & Apollo
Below: Theresa, Bowie, & Grace*



We're fortunate to have contact with his handler and every couple of months, she calls to tell us how they're doing. This past June, we met her at the Alumni association convention, and saw Bowie again after all this time! It was great to witness the important job guide dogs do and talk to everyone!

Currently, Grace is raising her 3rd puppy named Zuko while waiting to hear from vet schools. Her 2nd puppy named Rosie graduated in July. Now, I'm in Pittsburgh for occupational therapy school and helped my sister Christina raise her 1st Pilot puppy named Apollo. They're all poodles, so I guess they really grew on me. Apollo returned for formal training this past August, and we all have our fingers crossed for him!

OSU Pilot Dogs Tailgate Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who came to our Annual OSU Tailgate fundraiser on September 14th. This was our 13th year and we had a great turnout. The Ohio State Buckeyes were at Indiana and beat the Hoosiers 51-10. We had perfect weather for the noon game! There was a Bloody Mary bar, fresh popped popcorn, sandwiches and sides provided by Graze catering, and desserts donated by Lauren Cenky. Guests enjoyed blindfold walks provided by Pilot Dogs in training, a silent auction, the football game on four large



screens, and Pilot Dog trivia at halftime. One of our longtime students, Truie Davis, told us her story during halftime. Special thanks to our sponsor PNC, and to all those who donated to our Silent Auction, including:

Myra Tewksbury, Beth Seech, Doug & Julie Metz, Dr Lisa Lowry, Pat Walters, Thurn's Specialty Meats, Inc., Pilot Dogs Womens Board, Debbie & Jennifer Luttrell, John Giallombardo & Pilot Dog Cheyenne, Steve Weiker, Paul Koloda, and Lauren Cenky.



SAVE THE DATE for next year: October 17th, 2020 for the OSU at Michigan State Game.

Want to help?

We are always looking for Volunteer
Puppy Raisers.

Find out more at
www.pilotdogs.org
614.221.6367
puppydepartment@pilotdogs.org



PUPPY PARTIES

It takes a village to raise a child, and from whelping box to working dog, it takes a dedicated community to raise a Pilot Dog. This fall, our Pilot Dog Dams, Lilly the Labrador Retriever and Lollie the Golden Retriever, blessed us with two healthy litters of future Pilot Dogs: Lilly with seven pups in August and Lollie had a whopping dozen born in July. After weaning, each litter was brought back to Pilot Dogs for a brief layover for their usual pre-raiser check-up. This included vaccinations, deworming, and, for these lucky litters, three days of partying.

Whereas most parties have cake and balloons, these lucky pups had things like skateboards and vacuum cleaners. These parties celebrated a milestone in their development called their critical socialization period: a window of time during which they are naturally more curious than cautious. It's the perfect time to make a life-long difference by building confidence through giving these pups positive experiences with things they may otherwise find startling later in life.

Each litter spent time with volunteers learning the best way that puppies know how: through play. With careful guidance and encouragement, the puppies interacted with things like stairs, strollers, vacuums, scooters, and learned to happily ignore loud noises like fireworks, buses, thunderstorms, and sirens. They met folks of all different ages, accepting handling like brushing, ear cleaning, teeth brushing, and nail clipping. While play took up the majority of their party time, the puppies also had their very first work to complete: learning to earn their lunch. Each pup spent a few minutes being trained by a volunteer to focus and to come when called. Within a few short repetitions, a call of "puppy, puppy, puppy!" caused a stampede of puppies from across the room. Their work was followed more by play and exploration with their new best friends, the volunteers, before capping it all off with an afternoon nap to help them retain all they experienced and learned.

It's a "ruff life" for these pups. They're destined to do great things with the support of their community, helping them every step of the way closer to Four Paws, Two Feet, One Team.



*Top Left: Two Black Lab puppies investigate a teeter-totter
Top Right: Black lab lying on a donated Kuranda Cot
Left: Golden Retriever puppy fearlessly skateboards
Right: A Yellow & Black Lab Puppy take a break from the party*





FUTURE PILOT DOGS EVENT

3rd Annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser- Friday, February 14th 6 - 9 PM

Pilot Dogs Online Store Opening- COMING SOON

17th Pilot Dogs Golf Outing - August 29th, 2020

13th Annual OSU Tailgate Party - Saturday, October 17, 2020



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newsletters, and event information
delivered to your inbox.

Text the keyword PILOTDOGS to 22828 and
follow the prompts!



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everytime you shop.

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