

# Veterans & Family Support

Volume 23

Issue 3

August 2022

Department Presidents Theme: *"CHAMPION FOR VETERANS"*

Department Presidents Motto: *"Strong people stand up for themselves, but stronger people stand up for others"*

Department Presidents Special Project: 'Southeastern Guide Dogs'

National Presidents Theme: *"Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care"*



Some veterans lose vision on the battlefield. Some return home, with unseen scars...nightmares and flashbacks so severe that it feels safer to just never leave the house. Southeastern Guide dogs make a dramatic difference.

**SGD is located at:**  
**4210 77th Street East**  
**Palmetto, FL 34221**  
[941.729.5665 \(Direct\)](tel:941.729.5665)  
[800.944.3647 \(Toll Free\)](tel:800.944.3647)

For more information go to:  
[www.guidedogs.org/get-a-dog/dogs-for-veterans/](http://www.guidedogs.org/get-a-dog/dogs-for-veterans/)

- Guide dogs lead the way for veterans with vision loss, opening doors for veterans to have independence, building their confidence, and giving them companionship. Their dogs learn over 40 skills, including intelligent disobedience which is refusing a cue because the situation is unsafe.
- Service dogs shift the focus from triggers and trauma to a calm, steady presence of a highly trained dog. Their dogs learn 15 to 20 cues and bring a peace of mind to veterans who are living with PTSD and other disabilities.
- Facility therapy dogs live with staff members and provide therapeutic services to veterans and families being treated in military medical facilities and who work in high stress environments across the nation.
- Emotional support dogs provide comfort to veterans. These gentle dogs ease stress, provide companionship, and offer opportunities for enhanced exercise and the development of daily routines.
- Well-trained Gold Star Family Dogs offer love and companionship to military children & families who have lost a loved one in service to the nation, delivering comfort during the most difficult times.

## Dates to Remember:

### August:

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Coast Guards Birthday
- 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary Boot Camp

### September:

- 5<sup>th</sup> – Labor Day
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Patriots Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> – VFW Auxiliary Birthday (9/14/1914)
- 16<sup>th</sup> – National POW MIA Recognition Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Constitution & Citizenship Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> Gold Star Mothers/Family's Day
- 29<sup>th</sup> – VFW Birthday (9/29/1899)

### October:

- 10<sup>th</sup> – Columbus Day
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Navy Birthday
- 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> – VFW & Aux Fall Conference
- 31<sup>st</sup> - Halloween



### November:

- National Caregivers Month
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Election Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Marine Corp Birthday
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Veterans Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Day
- 29<sup>th</sup> – National Day of Giving

### December:

- 7<sup>th</sup> - Pearl Harbor Day
- 13<sup>th</sup> - National Guards Birthday
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Wreaths Across America
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas

*"A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards."*

Theodore Roosevelt - July 4, 1903