



Department of Maryland
 Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
President's Special Project
U.S. Kennels Inc.
 August & September 2023



Hello President's Special Project Chairman,
 I hope that you each have received, reviewed, and shared my School of Instruction materials on our Department President's Special Project – U.S. Kennels. I hope that you have not only shared this information within your own Auxililaires but also with your Post and within your communities as well.



USK at Harve de Grace Parade



Dept. PSP Chairman Shelia Justice

U.S. Kennels (USK) is such a worthy cause that offers valuable resources to our veterans by pairing disabled veterans with rescue dogs. They offer free training until the dogs obtain their AKC Service Dog Training Certificate. They are a non-profit all-volunteer organization. Can you see the similarities between us and them? We both cater to our veterans, we are non-profit and all volunteer.



Executive Director Chris Hardy and his service dog Brody



USK provides a safe and inviting environment in which the veteran and dog both train together as a team. The dog receives free bathing, grooming, veterinary assistance and all of the other essentials to make sure they are healthy. USK also connects veterans to other resources as needed.



On the **1st Friday of every month at 11 am**, U.S. Kennels partners with Mission BBQ and invites all current trainees and graduates to come together at the USK Office. They eat and fellowship with each other. This event is free and also serves as part of the socialization and environmental training for the dogs.



It costs approximately \$15,000 to train ONE service dog for a Veteran. And of course, there are operating expenses within USK so that they can provide free services to our Veterans. We both depend on donations, gifts, and fundraising events to support our mission in service to our Veterans.

President Valette's Goal is to raise \$25,000 for U.S. Kennels



How can you help?

1. Volunteer your Time.
2. Donate needed items for our Veterans, their Service Dogs, or the USK Office
 - a. Items can be collected at your Auxiliary meetings, District Meetings, District Official Visits, Christmas Conference, and the Testimonial (see attached list for specific items needed)
 - i. I will be collecting items all year long at your Official Visits, Christmas Conference, Testimonial and Council Meetings.
 - b. Please take a picture of the receipt for any items purchased to go along with your PSP Report Form
3. Make a Financial Donation: All checks should be written out to the Department of Maryland VFW Auxiliary and earmarked President's Special Project
4. Purchase President Special Project items (shirts, scarves, ties, wristbands)
5. Purchase chances of the Mickey and Minnie Quilt (all money goes to USK)



Tickets will be sold for this beautiful Mickey and Minnie Quilt made and donated by our wonderful Department Secretary Libby DallaTezza.

Tickets will be \$1 each of 6 for \$5. The drawing will be at the Joint Testimonial. The money will go towards the USK goal of \$25,000.



Front



Back



<u>Items Our Veterans Need for Their Service</u>	<u>Things Needed in the Facility</u>
<u>Dogs</u>	
6' Dog Leashes (Leather or Nylon)	Service Dog Vests
Gentle Leader Training Collars	Fabuloso – Lavender (Purple)
Dog Toys	Windex
Stainless Steel Dog Bowls (All Sizes)	Paper Towels
Dog Treats (Natural Balance Training Treats)	Velcro Patches (Service Dog & (Service Dog in Training)
Poop Bags	
Poop Bag Carrier	
Plain Baby Wipes	
Book Bags	
Collapsible Travel Water Bowls	
<u>Things Needed for Both:</u>	
Blankets (New) Ideal Size is 50" x 60" Mainstay at Walmart are \$3.00	
1.5 or 2-inch THREE Ring Binders	
3 Prong 2 Pocket Folders to keep Important Paperwork	
Clear Front Report/Presentation Folder	

Washable Mop Refills (for Mop Buckets)

U.S. Kennels Upcoming Events:

HOGS FOR SERVICE DOGS
RIDE **SUNDAY JULY 23**
(RAIN DATE AUGUST 6TH)

START @ HARLEY DAVIDSON IN SALISBURY MD

\$20 /BIKER ENDS @ MISSION BBQ \$10 /PASSENGER

REGISTRATION 10:00-11:00AM / KICKSTAND 11:30 / RETURN 1:00 PM

FIRST 50 PEOPLE WHO REGISTER FOR THE EVENT GET FREE EVENT T'S

MISSION BBQ **GRAND PRIZE** FREE LUNCH PROVIDED BY HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR 2 AT THE RESIDENCE INN MARRIOTT OCEAN CITY MD

PROCEEDS DONATED TO U.S. KENNELS INC. FOR TRAINING SERVICE DOGS FOR VETERANS & FIRST RESPONDERS

For more information call: 410-572-4328

BOURBON & CIGARS

RAISE A GLASS FOR
MAN'S BEST FRIEND AND LOCAL VETERANS

AUGUST 4, 2023
Starting at 5:30
\$80 PER TICKET

ESTATE AT PLANTATION RIDGE
25113 Enge Lane
Millsboro, DE 19966

BENEFITS U.S. KENNELS
www.uskennels.org

PURCHASE TICKETS AT
https://bourbonandcigars_plantationridge.eventbrite.com
OR AT U. S. Kennels at 900 Progress Circle
Salisbury, MD 21804

Call Mirela at 410-572-4328 regarding DESIGNATED DRIVER TICKETS, OR DRINK AND FOOD ONLY TICKETS.

Each auxiliary who participates and reports in this program will be entered into a drawing to win a wooden hand-carved American Flag.



- ❖ Two drawings will take place: one at the Christmas Conference and the other at the Department Convention.
- ❖ The American flag is hand carved by Dan, a veteran, who is also a trainer at USK.
- ❖ Each flag is unique - Here is a picture of one similar:



The first auxiliary to host a fundraiser specifically for the President's Special Project will receive a special gift. If more than

one auxiliary reports at the same time there will be a drawing between them.
Remember you must report it! Pictures are welcome.



Are you or do you know a veteran who could benefit from the services that U.S. Kennels offers? Contact them directly:

Website: <https://www.uskennelsinc.org/>

Telephone: 410-572-4328

E-mail: u.s.kennelsinc@uskennelsinc.org



**All Donations should be earmarked PSP US Kennels.
All checks should be written to: Dept. of MD VFW
Auxiliary and mailed or given to our Department
Treasurer:**

**Jackie Kimball
1019 Queen Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801**

**All PSP Reports should be sent via email
or snail mail to:**

**PSP Chairman Shelia Justice
PO Box 5078, Salisbury, MD 21802-5078
Email: justice.sheila51@gmail.com
Phone: (410) 422-5867**



***100 bonus points per month will be awarded for every report.**

