

WILKES COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL PAW PRINTS

WINTER - 2011



MILITARY SERVICE DOGS



“My eyes are your eyes, to watch and protect you & yours

My ears are your ears to hear and detect evil minds in the dark.

My nose is your nose to scent the invader of your domain. And so you may live, my life is also yours.”

Unknown author

These words are referred to as the K-9 promise. They are inscribed on many of the memorials and tributes dedicated to War Dogs and K-9 Units across the nation.

When I first thought of includ-

ing an article on dogs in the military I never imagined the degree of involvement our canine companions really have had and continue to have. My curiosity was sparked by an article in “All Animals” Nov/Dec 2010 entitled, “Someone to watch over me” by Carrie Allan.

From there to the internet I found myself paw deep in the world of military service dogs.

Even for this animal lover, I never realized the amount of service or the sacrifice of life these four legged friends have given for the lives of human kind. So much so that I’ve divided the article into two parts to cover if only briefly the value of the military service dogs.

PART I

Mascots and guards

are common roles for dogs to fill. But dogs have been taken to battle by the thousands down through time.

By the first World War numerous breeds were utilized around the globe for their military strengths.

Most commonly used were German Shepherds, Labs and Dobermans.

During World War II the American Kennel Club along with “Dogs for Defense” urged dog owner to donate quality animals to the Quartermaster Corps. “K-9 Corps” became a popular used title for the War Dog Program in the 40’s and 50’s. The corps used in addition to Shepherds and Dobses, Belgian Sheep Dogs, Farm Collies, and Sled Dogs.

Some breeds were discovered unsuitable because of

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ALL AROUND GREAT CHOICE - The Terrier Group

The word Terrier refers to earth or terra. Dogs in the Terrier Group have the common trait to kill rodents and vermin. Some terriers were developed in part to kill rats and pits later to fight against each other. Terriers are roughly divided into long-legged and short-legged breeds. Their appearance and personality is as varied as their owners. The Terrier Group truly holds something for everyone. Although their energy levels are high, so is their playfulness. For most in this breed their watchdog ability is high. For the potential adopter, you should research the breed to find one just right for you. Terriers and terrier mixes are often guest at the Animal Shelter where many of these popular companions are easily adopted. The Terrier Group includes:

Airedale	Bedlington	Border	Bull
Carin	Boston	Fox	Jack Russell
Irish	Manchester	Norfolk	Schnauzer



MILITARY SERVICE DOGS . . Continued from p.1

NO MATTER

HOW MUCH

CATS FIGHT...

THERE ALWAYS

SEEMS TO BE

PLENTY OF

KITTENS.

ABRAHAM

LINCOLN

their large size made them difficult to train and breeds such as hunting dogs in general were too easily distracted.

Dogs of neutral color such as gray, black, tan or salt and pepper were acceptable. Those with extensive white or buff markings were deemed as too conspicuous.

The "Dogs for Defense" collected canine recruits from 48 states and all walks of life.

Trainers

The first training center was established in 1942

at the Front Royal War Dog Reception and Training Center in the Blue Ridge Mtns. of Virginia. At the time it housed over 1,800 dogs.

As war tactics have advanced so has the role and respect for the military service dog. They have a special place in our nation's heart and many a soldier owns his life and limb to their service.

Animals continue to serve mankind in many specialized areas. Their sacrifice and value can never be measured. Whether its

airport security, law enforcement k-9's, drug dogs, search and rescue, and the list goes on.

Other military animals have been recruited through the years, Horses, pigs, oxen, camels, mules, cats, rats, and pigeons.

The United States has always been one of the most populous dog countries in the world. Most Americans however, keep their dogs strictly as pets. But their military use continue to grow as we will discover in Part II

North Carolina State Emblems

Flower - Dogwood

Bird - Cardinal

Tree - Pine

Shell - Scotch Bonnet

Saltwater Fish - Channel Bass

Stone - Emerald

Beverage - Milk

Dog - Plotthound

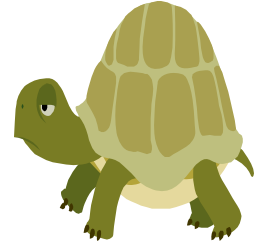
Vegetable - Sweet Potato

Mammal - Gray Squirrel

Insect - Honeybee

Reptile - Turtle

Rock - Granite



SKIN AND BONES - Reporting Neglect

The Wilkes County Animal Shelter receives a number of calls this time of year as well as during the hot summer months.

Callers are often concerned for animals they seen during inclement weather - rain, cold & snow, and oppressive heat.

Each call is taken seriously with regard to the animals welfare, safety, and comfort.

Often its as simple as educating the pet owner and helping them to better understand how they can provide for their animals.

With the economy as it is, many folks simply can no longer afford to care for a multiple number of pets. The decision to turn over an animal to the Animal Shelter is not an easy one. However, depriving an animal of the most basic of needs fails to remedy the situation.

When necessary Animal Control must step in to resolve the situation before it becomes a crisis.

The Wilkes County Animal Control Ordinance Article VII Section 2 states that:

- (a) *The owner of an animal shall at all times provide said animal with adequate, fresh, and sanitary supply of food and water.*
- (b) *The owner of non-aquatic animals, other than livestock and other large animals which are*

normally pastured or otherwise live in the open, shall at all times provide said animal with shelter adequate to reasonably protect it from the elements. Such shelter shall, at a minimum, be sufficient to keep the animal dry, protected from adverse weather conditions, and at a temperature level that is healthful to the animal. Said shelter shall further be kept free of accumulated waste and debris so that the animal can walk or lie down without coming in contact with any such waste or debris, and shall have a suitable method of draining to eliminate water.

- (c) *The owner of an animal shall at all times provide said animal with adequate veterinary care and shall take such steps as may be reasonably necessary in order to protect the health of said animal.*
- (d) *If an Animal Control Officer finds that an animal is without the appropriate provision as stated in a, b, or c, then the officer is authorized to direct the owner that such provisions be immediately provided, or the officer has the authority to remove the animal.*

It shall be unlawful and a violation of this Ordinance for any person to make a verbal or written complaint under Article IX which such person know or has reasonable grounds to believe is

WILKES COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL SNAP PROGRAM

The HSOW now offers the revised spay/neuter assistance program. In collaboration with our local vets, we are now able to offer a reduced cost for your pet without it leaving the county.

Please spread the word!

*Spaying & Neutering not only saves lives, it helps with behavior problems,
and prevents health issues with your loved one!*

If you have any questions, call 336-984-0227

Registration is still done at the WILKES COUNTY LIBRARY on Tuesday evenings between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.. You must pre-register. The voucher program is no longer necessary. Fees are still based on income to accommodate all levels of financial ability. You now have the option of choosing your vet.

**Coming in the
Spring Issue**

May 2011 Rabies Clinics

Article Information Sources for Military Service Dogs

INTERNET

Military Working Dog Foundation - History of Military Dogs - War Dogs

K-9 History: U.S. - Dogs for Defense

The Pet Blog - Unsung Heroes - Remembering Military Service Dogs

PUBLICATIONS

All Animals November/December 2010 "Someone to watch over me" by Carrie Allan