

THE CANINE CHRONICLE

News for NEADS Puppy Raisers

September/October 2025

Greetings Puppy Raiser Community,

Happy autumn to all.

We have had quite a busy summer at NEADS with even more planned through this next season. Thank you all for embracing all of the changes and busy events. Your feedback and dedication mean a lot to all of us!

In this double edition of the Canine Chronicle, we have much to share and recap with you. We have important updates from NEADS with the launch of Re-Leashed and opportunities for you to tell people about your NEADS story. We have new support systems that we're excited to introduce, and more puppies are headed our way.

All of us in Raiser Ops are excited to share all that we have been working on over the next two installments of the Canine Chronicle. As always, we look forward to hearing your thoughts and feedback.

Thank you for all that you do and for being an active part of this wonderful community.

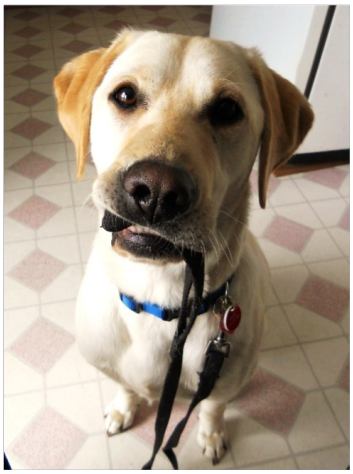
Heather Romanoff
Manager of Raiser Operations

Puppy Raiser Appreciation Recap

The 2025 Puppy Raiser Appreciation was an event to remember! We got to catch up with old friends and meet new members. We celebrated each other and all of the hard work that goes into preparing each class of new Service Dogs in Training. We cried and smiled, hearing about Kate Thurman's NEADS journey, and how YOU have helped to completely change her life forever. **See photo highlights here**. (PW: PuppyRaiser or FTRaiser)



NEADS Re-Leashed



The *Furloughed Favorites* program is getting a fresh new look!

The name of the NEADS adoption program has changed over the years - many of you may remember the Fabulous Flunkies and, most recently, our Furloughed Favorites.

Now, enter **NEADS Re-Leashed** - a name that perfectly captures the spirit of our former Service Dogs in Training starting a new chapter and enjoying a new "leash on life" as beloved pets.

You'll begin to see this new title roll out gradually as we update our systems and materials.

Welcoming Mentors to the Full-Time Raiser Program



The Mentor program has been successfully running in the Weekend Puppy Raiser program for the last two years. Mentors focus on the public socialization aspects of raising young puppies and will invite new Puppy Raisers to join field trips or will offer to join new Puppy Raisers on field trips.

We now feel confident about bringing the Puppy Raiser Mentor program to the Full-Time Puppy Raisers. Mentors are well-versed, knowledgeable Puppy Raisers in good standing that can help encourage new Full-Time Puppy Raisers and offer advice from experience. Mentors work with Raiser Ops and the Council to ensure that Puppy Raisers receive 360° support.

Please help me in congratulating our newest Mentors: Rachel Gould, Rick Ressijac, Amy Devin, and Jill Mongeau. **Read their stories here**.

Introducing a Combined Council



The Weekend Puppy Raiser Council was established over 15 years ago to support the growing Weekend Puppy Raiser program. The Council serves as a voice for volunteers, with each member representing a Prison PUP Program location. Members raise concerns, share suggestions, and offer input on program-wide updates, while also working closely with NEADS staff to resolve challenges and plan initiatives that strengthen the community.

With the launch of the Full-Time Puppy Raiser program, the Council recognized the importance of including representation for Full-Time Puppy Raisers as well. This addition ensures that perspectives from both sides of our community are heard, fostering stronger collaboration and unity among all Puppy Raisers.

Please join us in welcoming our newest Council Members: Karen Terry and Michelle Lundquist. **Read their stories here**.

Significance of a Name

- **Brooke** - From the sponsor, "we included 'Naming a Puppy' as a silent auction item for the Ed Walsh Foundation and Steve was the winner. He chose the name Brooke to honor his niece who passed away." The Ed Walsh Foundation was started in memory/honor of Boston Firefighter Ed Walsh who lost his life in the line of duty.
- **Sammie** - Named in memory of Samantha Rose, a beloved family member.
- **Mason** - Named by a group that is part of the Masonic fraternity.

Welcome New Puppies

TURNER



This Justice puppy, named by the fans of the New England Revolution, has a ton of energy and can't wait to learn from the Hubbard family! Full-Time Puppy Raiser Molly Hubbard is returning with her busy family to get this puppy ready to take on the world of people and a couple of photographers.

GINGER

Ginger is Turner's sister, and we can't wait to see the antics they get up to during puppy playdates. This Justice puppy is as smart as her mom and will surely make a great student with new Full-Time Puppy Raiser Ashley Shuey.
Three of their siblings joined a class already in session at Concord Farm. We're excited to see what Sammie, Mason, and Brooke learn!



POPPY

Poppy left with her returning Full-Time Puppy Raiser, Phyllis Wojcoski, at the end of September. She's getting a great start with Renee as a nearby built-in buddy. Poppy is entering the program with siblings, Sumner and Brewer.



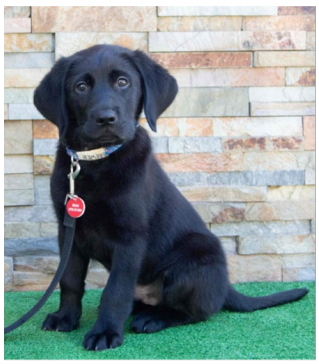
SUMNER

Big boy Sumner is being raised with new Full-Time Puppy Raiser, Joy with the help of her mom and Team Raiser, Joanna. Welcome to this new team and we're excited to see you out and about with this sweet guy!



BREWER

This sweet little guy is the last of this Parker litter and will be going home with his new Full-Time Puppy Raiser, Joaquin Rocca, in early October. We hope to see some adorable puppy playtimes with these puppies soon!





We have one puppy that will be joining us in October. **We'll have 18 more puppies that will be ready for homes mid-November through December.**

Know someone that would love to raise a

puppy and change a life? [Have them apply today!]

Client Matches



ASSISTANCE DOG GILBERT

Assistance Dog Gilbert may be one of the most famous dogs at NEADS. At nearly 100 pounds, Gilberts entire life has been shared through NEADS social media. This gentle giant is perfectly prepared for his new career thanks to his Puppy Raisers.

His journey started with Full-Time Puppy Raisers Bruce and Josephine Dow, before spending time at the NEADS campus and long-time Weekend Puppy Raiser Jennifer Matteson, and Weekend Puppy Raiser Wayne Parker in Norfolk. Thank you all for helping to shape the incredible dog he is today!



SERVICE DOG FOR HEARING LUNA

Service Dog for Hearing Luna is ready to take on her career with her retired Air Force veteran. Every person that meets Luna can clearly see her demonstrated drive and intelligence.

Thank you to Sue Scheffler who was Luna's Weekend Puppy Raiser at Concord Farm and Joanne Peterson who was her Weekend Puppy Raiser at Norfolk.



SERVICE DOG FOR HEARING SHERMAN

Service Dog for Hearing Sherman is ready for his career that will take him across the country with his new client. Sherman's enthusiasm for life is going to make him the perfect match for his new person, and we can't wait to hear about his adventures.

Thank you to Full-Time Puppy Raiser, Kimberly Granat, for helping Sherman off to a great start. And thank you to his Weekend Puppy Raiser from JJ Moran, Madeline Metzler and his String Weekend Puppy Raiser Barbara Butler. All of you did a wonderful job to prepare Sherman for his new life!

Reminders:
Share Your NEADS Puppy Raiser Story

Over the years, we've loved reaching out to Puppy Raisers to help tell their stories. Whether in print, on the radio, or on television, your experiences highlight the incredible connection and love you share with our future Service Dogs. If you'd like to share your Puppy Raiser journey—or a specific story—please reach out to Heather at **hromanoff@neads.org** or Audrey at **atrieschman@neads.org**. We can't wait to help you share your story!

Paw It Forward

Paw It Forward is a way to spotlight the dedication, kindness, and teamwork within our Puppy Raiser community. We're inviting you to share stories about fellow Puppy Raisers who have made a difference—whether they've been a mentor, a source of encouragement, or gone above and beyond in any way.

You can submit a short story about a Puppy Raiser who has inspired you, supported you, or positively impacted the NEADS community; selected stories will be featured in the Canine Chronicle and other digital platforms.

Ready to recognize someone special? Submit your story today: **Paw It Forward**

From the NEADS Medical Team

The NEADS Medical Team is available from 8am to 8pm. Please reach out via email at medical@neads.org. This email address allows all team members to receive your message, regardless of their location, and ensures a prompt response. For urgent matters, we aim to reply within 2 hours, unless there is an unexpected surge in contacts.

Emergency call number: 978-563-1495.

During regular business hours, we strive to return emergency calls within 30 minutes. In case of a medical emergency, please take immediate action by visiting your nearest urgent veterinary care facility if it is after hours.

If you are uncertain about the nature of your concern, please refer to the Medical Manual available on the Puppy Raiser Portals. The manual provides a comprehensive list of symptoms to help you determine whether your issue is urgent, an emergency, or a non-emergency.

Non-urgent or non-emergency emails will be responded to within 24 hours.

Puppy Raiser Resource Center

Weekend Puppy Raisers enter with password PuppyRaiser
Full Time Puppy Raisers enter with password FTRaiser

Please contact **Audrey Trieschman** with questions, issues, or suggestions about the portal.

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