



<http://thailanddoghandlers.com> - "Old Dogs & Pups"

(12/15/2014)

**OVER NINE YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!**  
**MORE THAN 425 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!**  
***116 Deployed Military Working Dog Kennels Supported***  
**More than \$95,919.00 of supplies shipped down range!**

<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.htm>

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting six (6) kennels and twenty-two (22) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of December 15, 2014. December 2014 brings us to nine years and four months of operation for our "Old Dawgs & Pups" program. Once again, I'd just like to say thank you to all of you that have supported our awesome programs and especially our troops and their canine partners deployed down range.

### **Area of Operation Status - K-9 Teams Arriving/Departing**

We are currently supporting troops at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; Ali Al Salem Air Base and Ali Al Salem MWD Hub, Kuwait; Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE); and Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia; and the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, Afghanistan. We have two (2) new pups to introduce this month.

### **Pups arriving in the AOR**

**Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates:** SSgt Joshua Hayes, Kennel Master, deployed from the 60<sup>th</sup> SFS, Travis AFB, California. Jon Hemp (TSN) supports SSgt Hayes.

SSgt Matthew Byrnes, Trainer, deployed from the 319<sup>th</sup> SFS, Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota. Bob Citrano (NKP) supports SSgt Byrnes.

### **Pups heading home from the AOR**

SSgt Melissa Burns and MWD Iva have rotated stateside to warm weather at Columbus AFB, Mississippi.



**379<sup>th</sup> ESFS - Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar**

## ***LAST CALL FOR RUFF RUCK T-SHIRTS***

***LAST DAY TO ORDER IS DECEMBER 18, 2014***

### **Ruff Ruck & B-B-Q to benefit Old Dawgs & Pups**

The “Ruff Ruck and BBQ” sponsored by the 379<sup>th</sup> ESFS Military Working Dog Section, Al Udeid Air Base is now in full swing! Participants have signed up and the event will take place on January 3, 2015. The troops there have decided that all proceeds for the event will go to benefit our “Old Dawgs & Pups” Program – these guys are “Paying it Forward” for handlers that will follow them down range – are they awesome or what?

Here is the shirt that will be available for the participants of the “Ruff Ruck” run.

**If you are interested in purchasing a shirt - Please see the details below the photographs.**



SSgt Sean Schwartz has created a CustomInk Sign-up Sheet for the K9 Ruff Ruck BBQ:

**GO TO THIS LINK:**      <http://www.customink.com/signup/br153kzv>

After going to the link, all you need to do is:

1. **“CHOOSE YOUR SIZE”,**
2. **“ADD YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION”,**
3. **AND THEN HIT “FINISH” and Sean will contact you with the details.**
4. **If you want an additional shirt – just click on “+ Add Another” and continue as prompted!**

**The price is \$20.00 for each shirt - Sizes YS – 3XL by Jerzees.**

SSgt Sean Schwartz will contact you concerning shipping and payment information. If you have any question concerning how/where to send payment – you can also contact Bill Cummings. If you are interested in donating a prize or supporting the event in any other way, please contact Bill Cummings for details or information. This is going to be an awesome event and opportunity for us!

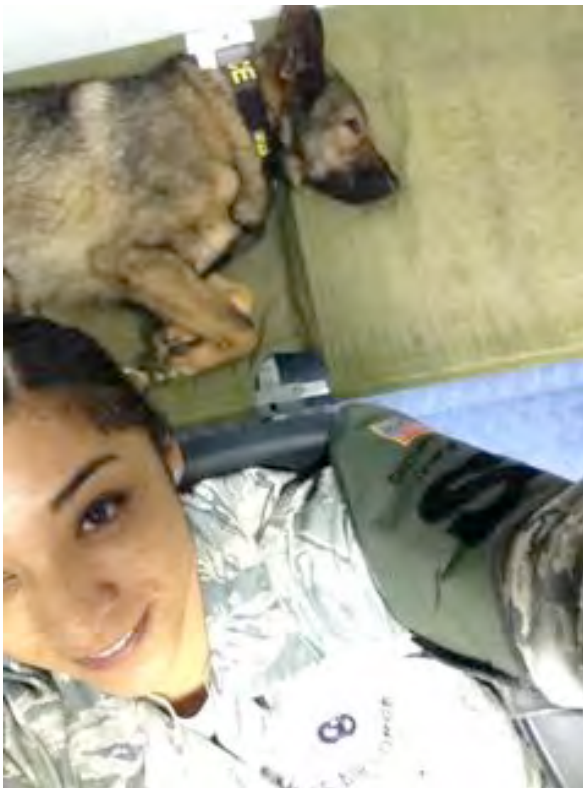
We’d like to thank the Vietnam Dog Handler Association (VDHA), Remington/Dublin Dogs for team prizes; TSgt Justin Kitts, SSgt Sean McKenna and family, MWDTSA, and John Homa for their very generous donations for the event. More details will be forthcoming!

### **379<sup>th</sup> ESFS - Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar**



**SSgt Corey Rainge and MWD Cora are “ready for some football”. How about that #1 team Alabama – Cora is going to be the flanker - “Roll Tide”! Steve and Lise Gattis (CRB) support the team.**

### **386<sup>th</sup> ESFS - Ali Al Salem Air Base - “The Rock”, Kuwait**



**How about our first “K-9 Selfie”? SrA Teofila Ochoa-Hudson managed to capture this photo of Timo “just chilling” on the left, and when Timo realized that he’d be “selfied” he wanted more of the action as you can see by the photo on the right. Team Timo is deployed from the 72<sup>nd</sup> SFS, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, and Joel Burton (USAF Ret.) supports the team.**



## **380<sup>th</sup> ESFS - Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE)**



**Back Row: (L-R) SrA Fouts/MWD Daman, SSgt Joshua Hayes/KM, SSgt Matthew Byrnes/Trainer, SrA Latisha Langley/MWD Lama). Front Row: SSgt Matthew Lenegan/MWD Kalo, SSgt Justin Leon Guerrero/MWD Oxigen, SSgt Brandon Miller/MWD Zumba, SrA Steven Watkins/MWD Bob, SSgt Nicholas Taylor/MWD Bessy. They were awarded the November 2014 Squadron Level Bi-monthly Team Award! Way to go Team Al Dhafra – Great looking MWD Section aren't they?**

### **VIP's visit the 380<sup>th</sup> Military Working Dog Kennels**

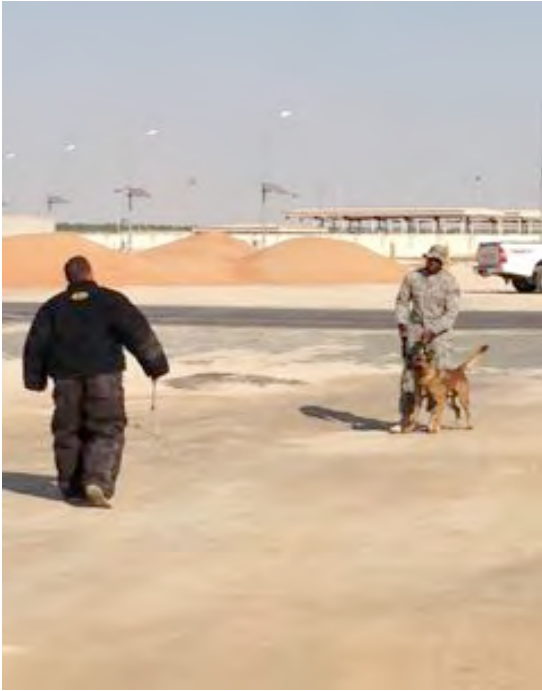
**AFCENT Commander, Lt. General John Hesterman, recently visited the troops of the 380<sup>th</sup> ESFS. Of course, our troops at the MWD Section put on a great demo for the visiting General and his staff.**



**SSgt Justin Leon Guerrero and MWD Oxigen led the demo and Trainer SSgt Matthew Byrnes was first up to show the General the capabilities of “the bite”. On the right SSgt Matthew Byrnes bites the dust!**

**SSgt Leon Guerrero is deployed from the 92<sup>nd</sup> SFS, Fairchild AFB, Washington, and is supported Jim Cox (Bien Hoa) who also served at the 92<sup>nd</sup> back in the day. SSgt Byrnes is deployed from the 319<sup>th</sup> SFS, Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota, and Bob Citrano (NKP) who also served with the 319<sup>th</sup> back in the 70's supports him.**

## **380<sup>th</sup> ESFS - Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE) - Continued**



Next up (on the left) SSgt Brandon Miller and MWD Zumba are on point as decoy, SSgt Justin Leon Guerrero, approaches. Even though we don't have the photos – we understand that Zumba did a great job on the attack.

On the right, Zumba appears to be very pleased about the results of the demonstration. It seems like he might be thinking – “Who’s next”? SSgt Brandon Miller and MWD Zumba are deployed from the 319<sup>th</sup> SFS, Grand Forks AFB and John and Carolyn Risse supports the team.



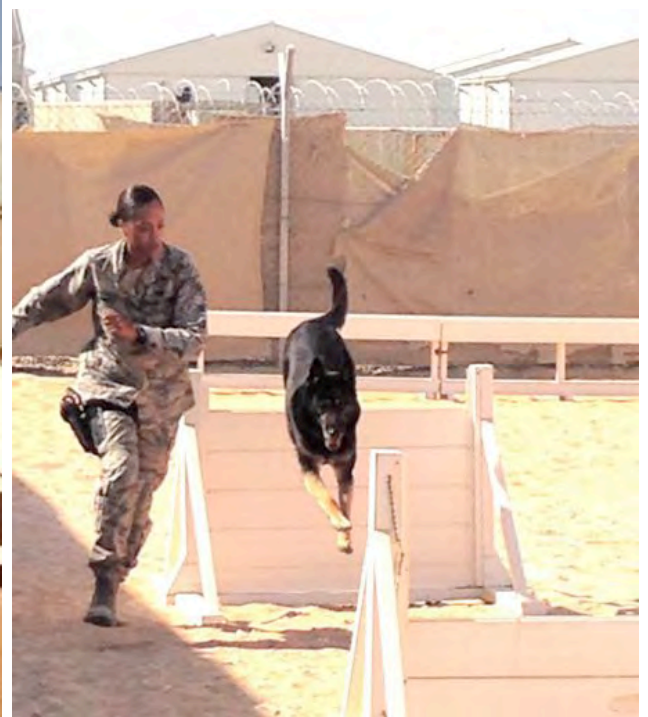
General Hesterman took the time to get up close and personal with SSgt Byrnes and SSgt Guerrero following the visit. Great job guys – great job! SSgt Guerrero and MWD Oxygen are deployed from the 92<sup>nd</sup> SFS, Fairchild AFB and they are supported by Jim Cox (Bien Hoa). SSgt Byrnes is deployed from the 319<sup>th</sup> SFS, Grand Forks AFB and Bob Citrano (NKP) supports him during this tour. Bob also served at Grand Forks during his time in service.



## **380<sup>th</sup> ESFS - Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE) - Continued**

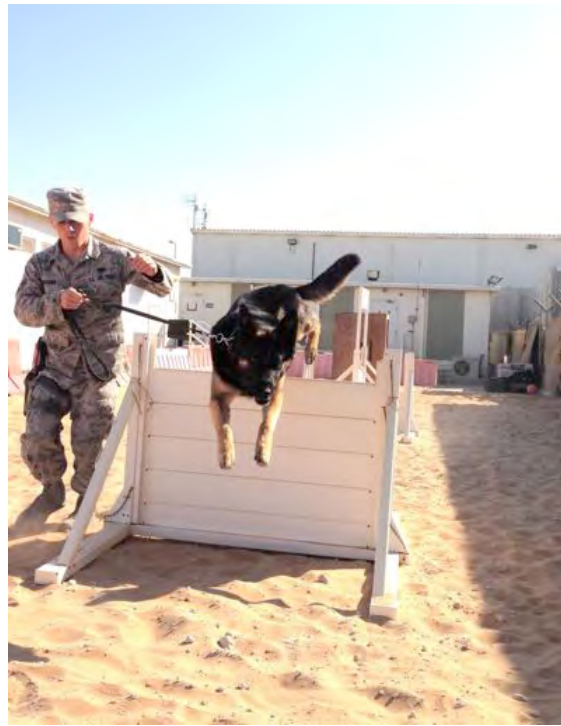
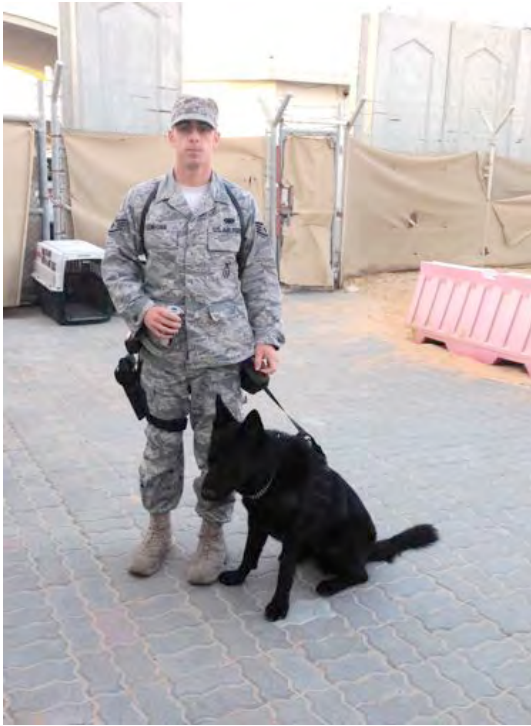


**SSgt Nicholas Taylor and MWD Bessy spend some time in the search pits as part of their skill sets at Al Dhafra. It looks like they have this situation well in hand. They are deployed from the 60<sup>th</sup> SFS, Travis AFB, California. Karl Niemeyer (NKP) also served at Travis during his enlistment, supports the team.**



**SrA Latisha Langley and MWD Lama (just having some fun in the training area) are deployed from the 30<sup>th</sup> SFS, Vandenberg AFB, California and they are supported by Dave and Pat Broeker (U-Tapao). There's a lot "GO" in this dog team! Spending time in the training area will always pay off in the end as all of us know from our own experiences – as you can clearly see – this team is "High Speed – Low Drag"!**

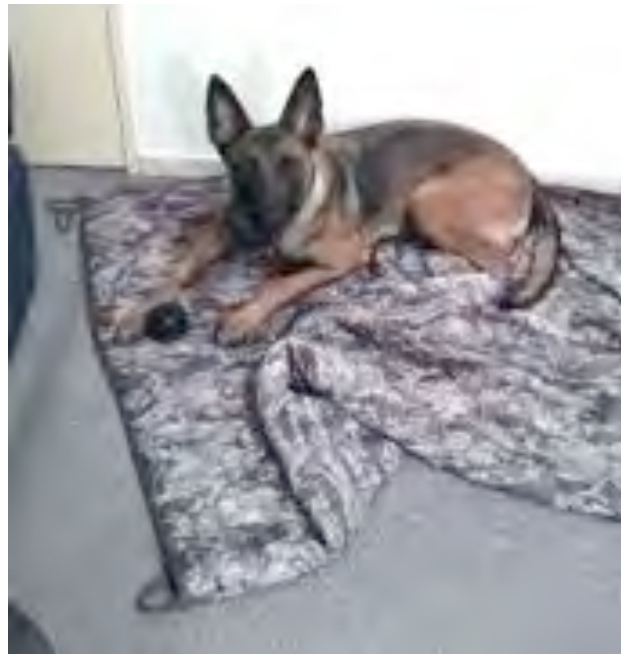
## **380<sup>th</sup> ESFS - Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE) - Continued**



**Left - SSgt Matthew Lenegan & MWD Kalo are deployed from the 99<sup>th</sup> SFS, Nellis AFB, Nevada, and the team is supported by John and Joan Smith (U-Tapao).**

**Right – SrA Steven Watkins & MWD Bob are deployed from the 366<sup>th</sup> SFS, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, and Jim and Nancy Stewart (TSN) support them.**

## **879<sup>th</sup> ESFS – Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia**



**SSgt Kyle Bernard & MWD FFrida are deployed from the 56<sup>th</sup> SFS, Luke AFB, Arizona. Above, left and right, the team takes a moment before patrol to “shoot us” a photograph. Following their tour of duty, MWD FFrida settles down with a “kong” and enjoys a “sweet spot” for a little R & R. The team is supported by Bob Curnick, an old “56er” himself from Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand**



## **1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Military Working Dog Section – Afghanistan**



**SrA Andrew Woodard and MWD PPrada share a little down time after completing an OTW mission in Afghanistan. The team is deployed from the 99<sup>th</sup> SFS, Nellis AFB, Nevada, and TSgt Justin Kitts (USAFA) supports them. Both SrA Woodard and TSgt Kitts have experienced this type of deployment and their paring has been great for both of them. Or as we say “Been there done that”!**

**Holiday Packages sent down range by Air Force family members!**



### **The Lucier Family & American Legion Post 129, Gardner, Massachusetts**

**We’d like to thank Steve and Shirley Lucier, and the rest of the Lucier family, for providing “Holiday Gift” boxes for the members of the 380<sup>th</sup> ESFS Military Working Dog Section, Al Dhafra Air Base, UAE, and an OTW trooper in Afghanistan. The Lucier’s are the family of SSgt Ryan Lucier, 355<sup>th</sup> SFS/S4, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. Thanks also goes out to American Legion Post #129, Gardner, Massachusetts, for their assistance in making sure the boxes were shipped downrange. From all of us at OD&P – Thank you for sharing the strength of “Boston Strong”!**

**SSgt Lucier has been deployed on many holidays during his career and he is very proud of his family for making sure his “Wing men and women” are taken care of during the upcoming holidays.**



## Alpha Dog Coin and Certificate Presentations



Bill Cummings (U-Tapao) presented MSgt Pablo Martinez with his “Alpha Dog” Certificate and unique serial numbered Coin #18 from Old Dawgs & Pups on December 2, 2014 at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. MSgt Martinez completed two tours with OD&P. First, then-SSgt Martinez and his MWD Argo (F590) were deployed at FOB Warrior, assigned with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, Iraq. Jo and Dar Robinson (FoK) and Bill Cummings (U-Tapao) supported him on this deployment. SSgt Martinez later deployed to Osan Air Base, Korea, where he represented OD&P in carrying out a project he created and we supported to benefit all the Military Working Dogs at Osan’s K-9 section. Phil Carroll (Takhli/NKP) and Bill Cummings supported SSgt Martinez during that deployment. MSgt Martinez was awarded the Purple Heart medal for wounds received in combat during his tour at FOB Warrior, Iraq. From all of us at OD&P, congratulations Pablo and thank you for your continued support for Old Dawgs & Pups. His family, wife Roz, Mia, Pablo III, and Kalani, joined Pablo for the “Coining/Certificate Ceremony”.

## “Pup” recognized by MWD Teams - Regional Training Center (RTC), Nevada



SSgt Rafael Rhodes was presented this “Board of Appreciation” by the last MWD teams graduating from the Creech RTC, Nevada. SSgt Rhodes was deployed to the 355<sup>th</sup> ESFG, Bagram Air Base in 2013. Kelly Bateman (Ubon) supported him during his deployment. This closes a chapter of MWD history at Creech.

## They did it again! Leatherman M5 Flashlight Donation

The Leatherman Tool Group has done it for us again, this time with a donation of 40 of their fantastic new LED Lenser flashlights - a \$2,600 total value! The four-inch, 4.6 ounce M5 LED flashlight is one of the most economical light sources on the market. This little jewel gives three-plus hours of run time (on high-power)

on just one inexpensive and easy to find AA battery. It has three settings; bright basic illumination, strobe for personal defense and low for conserving battery life (up to 4½ hours). It has a shaped reflector AND a carefully crafted lens, giving it incredibly smooth, even coverage whether it's zoomed out for broad area coverage or tightly focused for distance. Zooming this light couldn't be easier; you can go from wide to spot with the flick of a thumb or finger with the same hand that's holding the light. See the details at: <http://www.lenslensusa.com/880054.html> - start=18



Our former Leatherman Angel, Juli Warner, has moved on to greener pastures and our new contact, pictured here next to Phil Carroll, is Ms. Kitri McGuire. Kitri has some big shoes to fill at Leatherman, but she knows her job very well and she shares Leatherman's ethic of supporting the troops (especially the dogs). Kitri has already stepped up to support Old Dawgs & Pups by arranging for the current donation of these extremely handy flashlights. That's a crate full of them in the photo - taken in the lobby of Leatherman's Portland, Oregon, factory. The flashlights will start going out to Military Working Dog handlers in harm's way immediately, along with our OD&P signature gift of the laser-engraved Leatherman Surge multi tools and our iconic challenge coin.





## Other News concerning OD&P Graduates



On November 12, 2014, MSgt Jon Sarabia celebrated his retirement from the USAF. Above SMSgt Dennis Jones, 509<sup>th</sup> SFS, Whiteman AFB, Missouri, presented Jon with a newly released VDHA challenge coin from his sponsor Bill Cummings. Then SSgt Sarabia became one of the first Iraq War veterans to become a member of the VDHA. MSgt/TSgt/SSgt Sarabia has graced the pages of K-9 Supply many times since 2005. Jon was the “Official” First Pup sponsored by OD&P (Sponsored by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao and Marie Zeak (FoK)). He was presented his OD&P “Alpha Dog” certificate and challenge coin on May 2, 2014.

Jon helped us arrange our first VSPA Kennel tour at the reunion in San Antonio, Texas, on October 16, 2003. It was at this reunion event that remains of Sentry Dog Nemo’s (A534) kennel pad was discovered. Following the event, the Nemo’s War Dog Heroes Memorial Committee was formed which led to the establishment of the Nemo Memorial at the Security Forces Museum at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

MSgt (Retired) Sarabia is now officially an “Old Dawg” and we expect him to - in his words “Just make a phone call” to continue to serve our K-9 community. From all of us Jon – Congratulations on your retirement – it’s now time to get to work on preserving our history instead of making it! You did GOOD!

**No explanation needed!**



## Here's this month's update on the K-9 Supply Program

At the time of this report we have **22** members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting **23** handlers assigned to six (6) kennels in Southwest Asia.

Our K-9 Supply program has been coordinated and funded by the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program volunteers. The supporters are members of the VSPA, VDHA, and friends of K-9. A total of 2,189 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 15, 2005 to December 15, 2014. "Old Dawgs & Friends" have supported **116** kennels and **429** K-9 personnel via our program. For additional information on the program please go to:

<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.htm>

Please review, photographs, press releases, and more about our ongoing programs.

We have purchased and shipped **\$26,885.00** worth of supplies to **116** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman Corporation and other noted major donations; our program has supplied a total of **\$95,919.00** to deployed Military Working Dog teams. Please note that this total does not reflect all of the "care packages" that have been sent directly by team sponsors and other organizations that we have been so fortunate to be involved with for this program.

### Major List of Supplies Shipped by Old Dawgs & Pups

(For a complete list of supplies shipped contact Bill Cummings)

- 312 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (145 donated by Leatherman)
  - The Leatherman "Surge"/MUTS/Flashlights/Knives/Toys donation is valued at **\$65,614.00**
- 287 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 266 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 163 \* Leatherman Serac S3 Flashlights
- 133 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 102 Alpha Dog Challenge Coins
- 90 \* Leatherman M5 LED Lenser Flashlights
- 79 \* Leatherman MUT Tools
- 75 \* Leatherman Knives (Models: e33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 56 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 55 \* Leatherman Wave Dog Toys
- 54 Retractable Leashes (Pet Edge)
- 46 Sponges
- 44 PSI Water Holes
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 33 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 31 Doggles (10 Pairs donated)
- 24 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls
- 24 Rolls 26"x78" 20% Dark Limo Window Tint (Checker Auto Supply)
- 20 160 oz Stainless Steel Bowls (Pet Edge)
- 19 VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 16 Cooling Vests & Extra Cooling Packs (**Helping Udders – Value \$3,420.00**)
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades
- 16 Classis Long Tooth Undercoat Rakes
- 15 Classic HG Food Dishes
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers
- 12 Flat Sided Stainless Steel Water Pails (Pet Edge)
- 12 Bucket Clips (Pet Edge)
- 12 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails
- 10 Muzzles



10	Heavy Duty Handled Pails – 9 Quart (Pet Edge)
10	Stainless Steel – 3 Quart Dura-weight Bowls (Pet Edge)
10	Helping Udders Reward Toys (Helping Udders)
9	Hose Nozzles
8	K-9 Bluelight Supplement (2 pounds)
8	Cooling Wraps (Roshgo)
8	Cooldanna Cooling Mats (Roshgo)
8	Sets of Flood Light Bulbs
8	24” Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees
7	Digital Thermometers
7	Sets Ruff Wear Bark’n Boots Trex (Ray Allen & Ruff Wear)
6	20”/12” (3 each) Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
4	Carabiners
4	5” Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
3	100-Foot Water Hoses
3	Ceremonial K-9 Badges (Memorial)
2	Hose Reels – Wheeled Cart
2	50-Foot Water Hoses
2	Spray Bottles & Sprayers
2	130-Foot Enclosed Hose Reels
2	* Leatherman EOD MUT Tools
1	Large Patrol Harness
1	Medium Patrol Harness
1	Case Toilet Paper (30 Rolls)
1	Case Drink Mixes & Snacks
1	Syntek Hidden Sleeve (Ray Allen)
1	Armor Carrier Shoulder Pads
1	Molle Dump Pouch