



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Join the NVMM for Pets and Vets, July 13-15!

FREE community event; Columbus Metropolitan Library Cardholders receive free museum admission

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The <u>National Veterans Memorial and Museum</u> (NVMM) presents the third annual <u>Pets</u> and <u>Vets</u> at the museum on July 13-15, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Meet Columbus Zoo animals, participate in yoga with canines, hands-on treat making, bee keeping, Veteran companion animals, therapy dogs, rabbit adoptions and more!

Pets and Vets is a free community event for all ages celebrating the important roles animals hold in our military and as companion animals providing physical and emotional support. Pets and Vets participants will receive reduced rate museum admission (\$10 Adults, Seniors and Youth ages 5+, Veterans receive free admission every day). Columbus Metropolitan Library cardholders can show their library cards to receive free NVMM admission during Pets and Vets.

New sessions this year include:

- Yoga with Buckeye Paws Therapy Dogs
- Hands-on treat making with Growler's Dog Bones
- The benefits of beekeeping with the Central Ohio Beekeepers Association

Daily Breakout Sessions:

Thursday, July 13

- 12:00 p.m.: <u>Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Ambassador Animals</u> -- Enjoy a fun and meaningful experience with a member of the Ambassador Animal team and learn how they raise awareness for the animals they care for every day.
- 1:30 p.m.-- <u>Benefits of Beekeeping</u> -- Learn from the Central Ohio Beekeepers Association about the important elements of beekeeping, its impact on our biodiversity, and how we can improve pollinator habitats.

Friday, July 14

- 11:00 a.m.: <u>Yoga with Buckeye Paws Therapy Dogs</u> -- An innovative animal-assisted therapy program launched by The OSU Wexner Medical Center will provide a guided yoga session.
- 12:00 p.m.: <u>Urban Wildlife with the Urban Canid Center</u> -- Learn about what makes wild canine species uniquely able to adapt to urban environments and how we can safely cohabitate with them.

• 1:30 p.m.: <u>Treat Making with Growler's Dog Bones</u> -- The Growler's team walks participants through (hands-on) making their natural recipes as well as impacting lives by serving individuals with disabilities.

Saturday, July 15

- 12:00 p.m.: <u>Basic K9 Obedience with MALTAC K9</u> -- Join Sean, a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran, for a free Basic Dog Obedience lesson. For everyone's safety, the session is for people no animals other than qualified service animals.
- 2:00 p.m.: <u>Service Animals with Black Paw Canine</u> Get a crash course in service animals, their benefits and how Black Paw trains these highly intelligent K9s.

Throughout Pets and Vets, <u>local and regional pet and service-oriented organizations</u> will be present in the NVMM Great Hall to provide information and interactive experiences for the whole family. Check the website to see when these organizations will be onsite:

- Black Paw Canine
- Buckeye Paws
- Central Ohio Beekeepers Association
- Columbus Metroparks
- Columbus Police Department
- Columbus Zoo and Aquarium
- COPAW
- Franklin County Auditors
- Golden Hobby
- Growler's Dog Bones
- Humane Society of Delaware County
- MALTAC K9
- Midwest K9 Search Unit
- Ohio Canid Center
- Ohio Rabbit Rescue
- Pilot Dogs
- Powell Animal Welfare Society
- Stockhands Horses for Healing
- The Buckeye Lady
- USO Ohio
- Veteran Companion Animal Services (VCAS)

About the National Veterans Memorial and Museum

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum takes visitors on a narrative journey telling individual stories and sharing experiences of Veterans from all military branches throughout history. <u>The National Veterans Memorial and Museum</u> pays tribute to the sacrifices of men and women in service and their families. History is presented through a dynamic, participatory experience with photos, letters and personal effects, multi-media presentations, and interactive exhibits. Together, these elements link our national story of service to the larger context of the world.