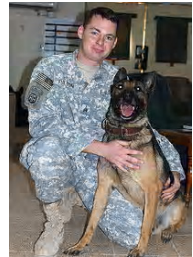


Major Parker Frawley wrote to his mother, Starline Nunley:

*"I received the vests and the chew toys a couple of days ago. I delivered*

*them yesterday. SFC Budge, the combat stress dog (black lab) even stopped by my office to pick his up. The dogs seemed very happy with the chew toys, and the handlers were very happy with the vests."*

He continued, *"The cooling vests and other items you have purchased for the MWD allow them to work more efficiently in the oppressive heat in Iraq. As the summer approaches the shifts that the dogs and handlers can work become shorter and shorter and the rate of fatigue and danger to the dogs increases. The vests will protect the dogs from heat related injuries and enable them to work*



SGT Daniel Fulton  
MWD SSG Bronco

*Soldiers. I know that support for the Soldiers does not necessarily equate to support for our mission, however your actions, and those of the GCDOC, belie that perception and boost the morale of the Soldiers of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment."*

*longer and more effectively. That protection for the dogs directly translates into protection for our Soldiers.*

*It's refreshing and heartening to know that so many people support our*



MA3 Joshua Raymond  
MWD MA2 Rattler



SSG Aaron Kimes  
MWD SFC Lucky



*Zzar and his handler were awarded the "Iron Hero" award in their division.*



SSG Kevin Dee and MWD SFC Zzar were performing combat missions with C Co 1/8 Infantry Division. While searching in and around an industrial complex filled with toxic waste, for explosive materials and IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices) Zzar showed a strong change of behavior throughout the building, but especially near a 50 gallon drum. EOD came in and moved it, discovering a hole in the floor. Further investigation revealed over 1,200 lbs. of explosive ingredients and finished bombs inside.



***Our heartfelt thanks to Gem City Dog Obedience Club for helping us get this project underway.***



(937) 258-8493 ~ [www.gcdoc.com](http://www.gcdoc.com)

*"Training You to Train Your Dog"*

# Military Working Dogs

## Cooling Vest Project



### *What do the Military Working Dogs (MWD) do for our soldiers in Iraq?*

- Detect Bombs & Explosive Materials
- Detect Trip Wires Used to Detonate Explosives
- Aid with Search & Rescue
- Provide Therapy for the Troops
- Act as Ambassadors for the United States When Meeting Children & Iraqi Citizens



**SupportMilitaryWorkingDogs.org**

PO Box 122

Donnelsville, OH 45319-0122

**(937) 882-6636**

[info@supportmilitaryworkingdogs.org](mailto:info@supportmilitaryworkingdogs.org)

### For more information

Visit us online at

[www.supportmilitaryworkingdogs.org](http://www.supportmilitaryworkingdogs.org)

or call Starline Nunley at

(937) 882-6636, or e-mail her at

[info@supportmilitaryworkingdogs.org](mailto:info@supportmilitaryworkingdogs.org)

## How did the idea for this project come about?

Starline Nunley, a member of the Gem City Dog Obedience Club, started with the idea of helping her son, Major Parker Frawley, who is a Longbow, Apache helicopter fighter pilot stationed in Iraq. She asked him if he would like a Cooling Vest to help him cope with the typically very hot temperatures encountered there. His reply was "Mom, I am and we (soldiers) are all right. The military provides for us very well, but dogs have different needs. It is so hot that they are having trouble doing their job and that puts us all in danger."

Temperatures sometimes reach as high as 130 degrees. The dogs cannot work for more than an hour to an hour-and-a-half before being completely exhausted. Our troops are provided with proper equipment but the dogs are our first line of defense in many situations. They've been forgotten and have no protection against the heat, blowing sands and rough terrain.

## Why Dogs?

Starline said "I can't physically protect my son, and all the other sons and daughters in Iraq. But I can help the dogs who do." These dedicated dogs do this service selflessly and with great courage. Whatever we can do to help them do their job easier is helping to protect our sons and daughters.

## Who is assisting with the fundraising for this project?

Starline asked the president of Gem City Dog Obedience Club if she thought the Club would be willing to purchase one or two vests for MWDs (Military Working Dogs). The Board was very enthusiastic about this idea and immediately said that they would pay for two vests from the treasury and hold fundraisers to generate the additional funds for all fifteen dogs in Major Frawley's Unit.

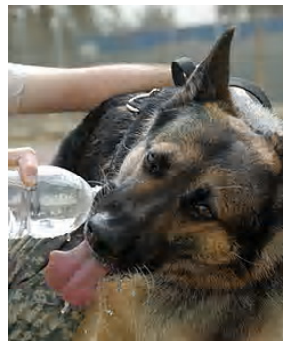
Gem City has raised over \$5,000 and many generous individuals have also contributed to the Cool Vest Project. People in the community have opened their hearts to this project and have helped bring this to the news media and national attention through the newspaper and television.

The members of Gem City are dedicated to dogs.

Many members of the club support breed rescue and all dogs are welcome, whether mixed breed or purebred. They also support many outreach programs in the community. Please visit their website [www.gcdoc.com](http://www.gcdoc.com) to find out more about their programs.

## What are the goals for this project?

The initial goal was to provide Cool Vests for the 15 MWDs at the Maser, Mosul, Iraq. This was expanded to purchase Doggles to protect their eyes from the blowing sands, MutLuks to protect their feet from the hot sand and asphalt which is melting in the 130 plus degree temps. This sticks to their feet, causing burns and not allowing them to dissipate their extra body heat since dogs "sweat" through



their feet. Plus collapsible lightweight water bowls that can be used for both food and water and allows no water to be wasted, and one toy for them to enjoy during their "down" times.

However, once we had reached our initial goal, we have continued to raise funds to be used to outfit more Units of MWDs.

Our goal now is to outfit all 45 kennels in Iraq, which is approximately 300 dogs within the 45 Units. This number changes, as dogs are rotated in and the ones who were there are sent home for R&R. The gear goes with the dogs, since most will be redeployed back to Iraq, they at least, will have their gear. So there will always be a need to outfit the incoming MWDs and replace gear that wears out, as long as we are in Iraq.

## What is the cost to outfit one dog?

\$300 purchases one cooling vest, two cool packs, doggles, mutluks, a water bowl and a toy. We do receive other requests for items such as extendable leashes which wear out, and sturdy storage containers for the dog food (the rats were eating through the bags and into the food faster than the dogs could be fed!)

## How do I make a donation?

There are three ways to make a donation:

- 1) Visit [www.SupportMilitaryWorkingDogs.org](http://www.SupportMilitaryWorkingDogs.org) and *click on* the **Support Our Troops** button and it will take you to a secure online PayPal link.
- 2) Mail a check, made out to:  
**SupportMilitaryWorkingDogs.org**  
P.O. Box 122  
Donnelsville, OH 45319-0122
- 3) Visit any **US Bank** location and give the teller a check made payable to:  
**SupportMilitaryWorkingDogs.org**  
**Account #130110310088**

*From SGT Kenneth Johnson with the K-9 unit in Q-West, Iraq:*

"I just wanted to give you a big thank you for the dog gear. It will find some good use while here in Iraq.

I am very thankful for people like you that take the time to think of us soldiers down range and help us in any way you can. God bless you.

I work with a German Shepherd Patrol, Explosive Dog - his name is Roy. He is almost 8 years old and is a great partner to have. I love doing what we do. Working with dogs is a self rewarding job.

Plus here on deployment I have



a friend no matter where I go that I can trust. Well once again thank you so much for the dog gear."

**SupportMilitaryWorkingDogs.org**

PO Box 122, Donnelsville, OH 45319-0122  
(937) 882-6636 ~ [info@supportmilitaryworkingdogs.org](mailto:info@supportmilitaryworkingdogs.org)