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Celebrate Dog Days at the National Museum of the Marine Corps

Annual event highlights animal-loving organizations

Wrap up the last day of summer at the National Museum of the Marine Corps' Dog Days event on Saturday, September 22. The event features a number of activities based on the vital role dogs play in the Marine Corps and the community.

The Marine Corps' official bulldog mascot, Chesty XV will kick off the event at 10 a.m. The event, which runs until 2 p.m., is free and offers family-friendly attractions for all ages including working dog demonstrations by the U.S. State Department K9 team and the Marine Corps Base Quantico Working Dog team. Of course, there's also a bulldog "kissing booth" hosted by On the Rebound Bulldog Rescue.

Multiple community organizations will offer visitors a chance to adopt a new pet and learn about canine community programs. Airedale Terrier Rescue of the Virginias, Lab Rescue of the LRCP (Potomac), Prince William SPCA, Prince William Humane Society, Semper K9, Leashes of Valor, Grey Hearts Service Dogs and Dogs on Deployment will be on the Museum grounds sharing their mission with visitors. And, of course, they will have dogs to meet and greet.

In addition to dogs, the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia will be in Leatherneck Gallery showcasing raptors. Marine Corps Base Quantico Wildlife and Fisheries will have their trailer onsite sharing information about animals, plant life and hunting regulations on Quantico.

Bring the kids! Join us for "Tales with Tails" in Leatherneck Gallery where young readers will have the opportunity to read to a therapy dog. There will also be crafts, puppet shows and a gallery scavenger hunt.

Whether you're looking to adopt a fur-baby or learn about working dogs in action, there is something at Dog Days for you! All visitors are welcome at this event, including our four-legged friends — provided they wear their leash and use our "doggie" relief area. Food and drink will be available for purchase from Devil Dog Diner and, as always, Museum admission and parking are free.

Visitors are also welcome to explore more history in the Museum, which is open daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., except Christmas Day. The National Museum of the Marine Corps is located at 18900 Jefferson Davis Highway in Triangle, Virginia. Admission and parking are free. For more information on the National Museum of the Marine Corps, call 703-784-6107 or visit www.usmcmuseum.com.

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