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📄 Volunteer Spotlight – Chris Boal and Dennis Denzin

July 28, 2026



Dennis Denzin (left) and Chris Boal (right)

The volunteers at Power Paws play an essential role in every aspect of our programming. From puppy sitting and training to bringing dogs on visits and supporting community events. Volunteers are present at every stage to ensure our service dogs are fully prepared and socialized with the right temperament to assist PTSD, Type I Diabetes and Mobility clients.

Our ongoing series highlights volunteers that have helped the Power Paws dogs to move into successful service roles or as companion animals.

A Moment of Inspiration



DENNIS AND CHRIS FOSTERED THREE DOGS
WITH POWER PAWS: SAMI

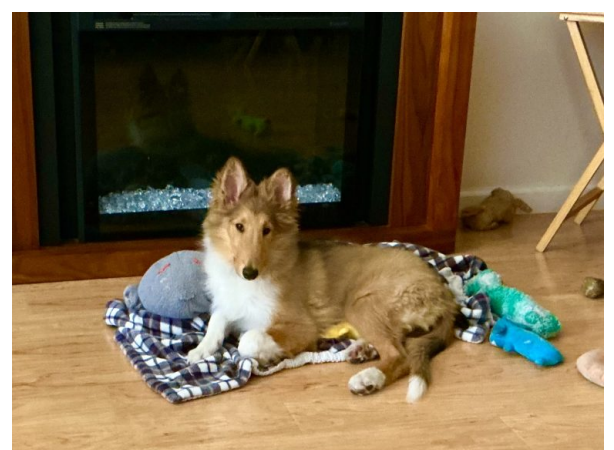
Partners Dennis Denzin and Chris Boal are retirees, introduced to Power Paws thanks in part to Prime Timers of Arizona. Prime Timers of Arizona (PTAZ) is a social club inviting organizations to visit at their monthly meetings. Power Paws' executive director, Elaine Starks, spoke at one of the club's meetings, which grabbed Dennis and Chris' attention. They called Power Paws the same week, asking "how can we help!"

"We were not aware of anything like this prior to her speaking at the meeting," the two remember.

During the event, Elaine explained Power Paws' mission and programs, and asked for volunteers, something that Chris and Dennis were both keen to try.

An Enriching Experience

Dennis and Chris recall that Elaine was very friendly and open to all questions posed, and that she was patient with guiding himself and Dennis



PENNY

through the fostering process. “We both like dogs and this has been an enriching experience,” they say.

In all, Chris and Dennis have fostered three dogs (Penny, Buddy and Sami). Chris and Dennis say they’ve all been wonderful and they’ve loved every one of them.



AND BUDDY

The Reward of Service

When asked what success looks like for someone volunteering at Power Paws, both say success comes from knowing the dogs have graduated and can go to help those in need. “Volunteering for the program is extremely important and

enriching,” they conclude.
