



## Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati

# The Pet Connection



### WINTER 2018

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Glenna Mockbee

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*Bylaws:* Susan Steinhardt, Susan Coates

*Pillows:* Rhona Joseph, Arlene Martin

*Newsletter:* Susan Steinhardt

*Website:* Brian Fink, Glenna Mockbee, Betty McCord

*Welcome :* Chris Dauenhauer, Marianne McKenzie, Susan Steinhardt

*Electronics:* Doug Grau

*Photo Album:* McKenzie Grau

*Luncheon:* Robin Daniels, Joy Fotsch, Glenda Flaughner

### Message from our Director

Hello Everyone,

Well, Hopefully winter is over and now we can have sunshine, Thank you everyone for all your help with the events—we sure had a lot and still have many more before the end of the school year. I could still use volunteers for 7 Hills and the Loveland Science Day. If you can help, please let me know.

TPGC is lucky to have so many Instructors and Evaluators! We have Glenna, Robin, Karen S and Karen H. Our newest instructor is George Kent.

We do plan on having a luncheon this year but have postponed it until the fall.

Finally, elections are right around the corner, You still have an opportunity to join the board to have an impact on TPGC.

Thanks to you all.

~Glenna Mockbee, Executive Director  
Founder. TPGC

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 29 9 AM—3 PM**

**Pet Partner/TPGC Team Evaluations**

**Bethesda North**

**Contact: [Glenna Mockbee](#)**

**May 12 9 AM—3 PM**

**Pet Partners/TPGC Team Evaluations**

**Bethesda North**

**Contact: [Glenna Mockbee](#)**

**May 19 9 AM—3:30 PM**

**Pet Partners Handlers Workshop**

**Locust Corner United Methodist Church**

**Contact: [Karen Spradlin](#)**

**June 10 9 AM –3 PM**

**Pet Partner/TPGC Team Evaluations**

**Bethesda North**

**Contact: [Glenna Mockbee](#)**

**June 23 9:30 AM—2:30 PM**

**Pet Partners/TPGC Team Evaluations**

**Locust Corner Church**

**Contact: [Karen Spradlin](#)**

See [therappetsofgreatercincinnati.org](http://therappetsofgreatercincinnati.org) for more events

### GLENNA'S CORNER

1. What unit or units in a hospital are doctors finding out Therapy Animals are helping the most?
2. What do you have to do to sign up to get your pet tested?
3. What are the names of TPGC Evaluators?

## Service volunteer beats cancer with the help of some familiar faces



Tracy Kinney and her therapy dogs have been regular visitors to [The Christ Hospital Cancer Center](#) for nearly two decades. Both she and her canine friends were already well known to staff and patients alike when she was diagnosed with cancer herself.

“I have 12 dogs total, and eight are registered therapy dogs,” Kinney says.

But her long partnership with the hospital actually started with a different

species entirely, when she came to work as a technician on the Cancer Center’s 150-gallon saltwater fish tank. When the hospital learned about her dogs, she was told they would be welcome visitors, too.

“She’s almost part of the family down here at this point,” says Dr. Cornelia McCluskey, a Radiation Oncologist who met Kinney as a volunteer and later treated her as a patient.

Kinney’s connection to the Center deepened when her own battle with cancer began in late 2016.

“I had blood in my stool for quite a while. I kept thinking it was because I had a hemorrhoid, but it just got worse,” Kinney says.

When Kinney finally sought help, her primary care doctor immediately ordered a colonoscopy. “After I woke up from the procedure, the gastroenterologist showed us the pictures he had taken inside my

colon and pointed to this monstrous-looking thing,” Kinney says. “He said, ‘I’m going to put a rush on it, send it off to the lab to find out for sure, but I think this is cancer.’ ”

Kinney was diagnosed with stage 3 rectal cancer. “If I hadn’t finally called, it could have metastasized,” she says. “It was into the wall of the tissue, but it hadn’t gone through it and elsewhere in the body. I was lucky.”

Kinney received care from three different groups in the Cancer Center, including chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and surgery.

“The concept was to treat her ahead of time with chemotherapy and radiation therapy to help shrink the tumor,” Dr. McCluskey says. “That gave the surgeon a better chance to get everything out.”

After successful treatments, Kinney and her dogs returned to the Cancer Center with new insights for other patients.

“I think I have a better understanding of what the cancer patients go through, having gone through it myself now,” she says. “It means a little more to me when I can make them (patients) smile with the dogs or at least relieve their discomfort for a short time. I had compassion for them before, but I think I have a little more now,” Kinney says.

Kinney’s dogs help lower stress levels in patients they visit, whether it’s snuggling in chairs with people undergoing chemotherapy or bringing a smile to a person who felt lonely and isolated before a visit with a canine.

Dr. McCluskey agrees. “It’s a joy having Tracy and the dogs down here. As you can imagine, lowering the level of stress for anybody getting cancer treatment is gold. It’s so thrilling that people like Tracy are willing to come and volunteer. I just can’t give them enough credit.”





***OUR FIRST RAT THERAPY PET!!!***



*"Love that group petting"*

## CONGRATULATIONS!



### HOSPICE OF CINCINNATI BLUE ASH INPATIENT UNIT DAISY AWARD

*TPGC Members who volunteer at Hospice of Cincinnati Blue Ash were recipients of the Daisy award at the annual luncheon on April 18, 2018: Amy Hudoba (pictured), Jane Dewey, Rhona Joseph Betty McCord, Erica Heskamp and Liz Spear.*

*The Daisy Award, which honors the "super-human work nurses do for patients and families every day," was recently awarded to Amy Hudoba by Hospice of Cincinnati for her extraordinary commitment to Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati and Pet Partners.*

Over the past 14 years, Amy and Sparky (a gentle Bedlington terrier who passed at age 15 last year) shared over 2,600 hours with individuals (young and old) and their families. Even in the hardest of times all would wear the biggest smile when the two walked in the room. During the more than 1,000 visits to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Hospice of Cincinnati, Shriners Hospitals for Children, Ronald McDonald House, Cincinnati VA Medical Center, and countless other school and local programs, the hospitals and patients touched by Amy's and Sparky's kind love have always expressed their appreciation, gratitude, happiness and joy. Daisy's recognition of Amy's compassion and excellence is truly well deserved. She continues to volunteer with Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati and looks forward to visiting patients again soon once her 9-month old Bedlington puppy, Chipper, completes his pet therapy training later this year.

## *Letter from the President*

*Hello fellow TPGC Members,*

### **VISIT REQUESTS**

As I am sure you are aware, we have been *SWAMPED* with requests for visits, especially for de-stress events at our local universities and high schools. Furthermore, many facilities, including corporations, are recognizing the benefits of AAI and are seeking visits for larger numbers of people.

### **GUIDELINES**

As I mentioned in the last newsletter. in late 2017, several TPGC members got together to come up with guidelines to help manage visits and avoid potential incidents. The Board has reviewed and approved these measures which focus on (1) Facility Requests (2) Event Coordinators and (3) Members. We intend to gather enough information so that each team can make an appropriate decision on whether or not to participate. Only you know how well your dog does in situations that may include multiple teams, many kids or may be outdoors. You can read through these guidelines in this Newsletter.

### **TREATS**

A quick reminder that when you are visiting with other dogs, NO TREATS should be offered to your pet partner. When visiting alone, treats are permitted.

### **ANNIE PETERS**

Many of our members were able to participate in our event, "An Evening with Annie Peters, President of Pet Partners". Annie was incredibly personable, down to earth and shared with us plans for the future of Pet Partners including a discussion on advocacy and how Pet Partners is working to be "at the table" as several state legislatures consider legislation that will have an impact on AAI. Most elected officials have little or no understanding of the differences in "service animals", "therapy animals" and "emotional support animals". Pet Partners is re-releasing "Standards of Practice" which can help facilities know what to expect from visits as it relates to training, insurance, etc.





## *Letter from the President Continued*

### **ELECTIONS**

Our annual elections will begin next week. This year we will be filling positions for President, Vice President, Treasurer and 2 Trustee positions. These terms are for 2 years with the exception of Vice President. This position will be for 1 year to fill the unexpired term that I was originally elected to last year.

Please consider offering your name up to fill one of these positions. You can make a difference in the future of TPGC by sharing ideas on how to increase participation in events, particularly stress relief; recruiting teams for underserved parts of the Greater Cincinnati area (e.g. the far east side of town and the west side of town); ideas for improving communication and our website, etc. Please submit a bio to Jamie Stewart at [jamiesmilz@gmail.com](mailto:jamiesmilz@gmail.com)

### **LUNCHEON**

It was decided to postpone our annual luncheon until the fall (likely October). This was in part due to the visit from Annie Peters earlier this month. Please let us know if you are interested in helping make this event possible including sending out invites, tracking RSVP's, arranging for food, decorating, recognitions etc.

### **DE-STRESS EVENTS**

We have a large number of de-stress events and other visits in the coming weeks and frankly need many more teams for the following locations: Miami Hamilton on May 9 (Noon-12:30); Miami Middletown on May 11 (11:30—1:30); Miami Hamilton on May 13 (7PM); 7 Hills on May 21 and May 30 (10:25-12:25); Loveland Science Day on May 25 (9-11); Covington Latin School May 23-25 (7:30 AM); Mariemont High School on May 31 (9:30— 10:30) ; St. Ignatius Health Fair on June 6 (9-3) and Roberts Academy (date TBD on interest of teams).

If interested, please email me.

~Susan Steinhardt

### **Answers to Glenna's Corner:**

1. Cancer, ICU      2. Go to Pet Partners website and sign –up
3. Glenna Mockbee, Robin Daniels, Karen Spradlin, Karen Howell

## MEMBER PROFILES

Jamie Stewart and her Golden Retriever, Maggie, have been members of TPGC for the past 3 years. Maggie was a senior rescue who loved everyone, and she shared her love through visiting high school special needs students, college students at health fairs, preschools, rehab facilities and her weekly "Read With Maggie" at a local elementary school. She loved being petted and smiling at people with her sweet sugar face. Sadly, Maggie Moo was diagnosed with osteosarcoma at the age of 12+ and crossed over the Rainbow Bridge August, 2017. Jamie remains as a TPGC ambassador, helping with testings and serving as a trustee on the TPGC Board of Directors, until she finds another special therapy pet. RIP Maggie Moo.



We (Amy Hudoba and Sparky - Bedlington Terrier) have been members of TPGC for over 13 years. During our tenure we visited Shriners Burns Hospital for Children, Cincinnati Childrens' Hospital, VA Hospital, Hospice of Cincinnati Inpatient Units: Blue Ash, Anderson and Twin Towers, The Christ Hospital, University of Cincinnati, Xavier University, Mt. St. Joe, Mason High School, Western Row Elementary School, St. Ignatius, Loveland Elementary and Middle Schools, presentations to Boy and Girl Scout troops, and participated in many special events such as Blue Ash Memorial Day Parade.

Sadly Sparky passed away unexpectedly from either a heart attack or coronary embolism on September 4, 2017.

I am now a Community Partner with TPGC until Chipper (With Me - 15 weeks of age - Bedlington Terrier) and I test. I began Chipper's training to become a pet therapy dog in January 2018 with plan to test in the fall of 2018 at which time Chipper will be one year of age.





## **FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION**



*Note: Photos provided by  
Firefighters Foundation;  
Photo releases on file.*

### Facility Guidelines for TPGC Visits

Thank you for your interest in having members of Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati (TPGC) visit your facility.

To ensure a successful visit we request the following information and accommodations:

Purpose of Visit:

Date and Time of Visit:

Number of participants: (If a large number of participants, we require a schedule to manage how many people are with the dogs at one time, generally smaller groups every 10 minutes)

Location of the visit (preferred indoors and be of sufficient space to avoid overcrowding of the dogs):

Length of Visit:

Parking arrangement:

Directions:

Contact Person (if the contact person is a student, we also need the name and contact information of a responsible adult):

Additionally, we require a space to allow for a “meet and greet” of the Therapy Teams (outside if acceptable; in the case of inclement weather, we request an indoor space such as a large lobby area).

Ask for feedback

### TPGC Event Coordinator Guidelines

#### Pre-work

If you are a coordinator for a TPGC Event e.g. De-stress, Book Fair, Science

It is your responsibility to gather the following information from the facility:

Purpose of Visit

Date & Time

Number of Participants

Location

Length of Visit

Parking/Directions

Contact Person (if a student, have a secondary contact who is an adult)

**Be sure to tell the facility coordinator that TPGC participation is contingent on having a sufficient number of volunteers.**

#### Communication

When requesting Volunteer teams for an event, make sure to provide the following information for the email blast:

Who

What

Where

When

Why

TPGC Contact Person (name/email/cell)

Determine the appropriate number of teams needed and if there will be different 2 hour shifts.

If you do not have sufficient teams 1 week prior to the event, it is recommended the event is either downsized or cancelled. Use your judgment as to what is best for all involved.

#### Other Considerations

Consider bringing Business cards, TPGC Brochures and/or the TPGC banner

Screen for inexperienced teams (for large events, make sure the new team has been mentored and has at least 3 months experience)



### Member Guidelines for Event Participation

Prior to signing up for an event, consider if the conditions outlined are appropriate for your dog.

If you have not participated in a large event such as a school de-stress program, consider attending such an event without your dog to be able to better assess whether your dog will be comfortable in that environment. Please be sure to allow enough time to participate in the Meet & Greet prior to the start of the event.

If you are running late, and will miss the Meet & Greet, consider not attending.

If there are multiple shifts (such as during health fairs), a traditional Meet & Greet may not be possible. Be sensitive to minimize any disruption.

If you attend an event and your dog shows signs of stress – leave.

If you have been visiting for less than 3 months, consider attending an event without your dog

## OUT AND ABOUT...



**Initiating Pet Partner's Walk With Me Program has been a challenge until now.**

Kivrin and her handler continue to represent TPGC here in Northeast Ohio by recently becoming members of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park's Paw Patrol. Honorary Ranger Kivrin and her handler not only provide education, assistance, information and act as a role model for owners and their dogs on the 125 miles of trails making them safe for walkers visiting the park, she gets a lot of petting and attention along the way, which of course is the usual type of therapy she provides. On a recent Full Moon Walk at the park, Kivrin became friends with Ranger Paige.

*~Mark Smyers*



## OUT AND ABOUT...



Rosebud and I volunteer at Holmes Elementary School in Wilmington. We see the same 8 children each week and we have had many of the children for 2 to 3 years. Our Rosebud kids all have severe "life issues"...from anxiety, anger control, autism, speech impairment, and one child currently has both parents incarcerated. Rosebud and I are a positive, reliable, trusting, force in their lives, that listen and help them work through their daily struggles. We teach them to make good decisions and choices and in the process we help build their self confidence. Rosebud's kids feel like we are a family.

Probably the most powerful statement we received was the question from our 4th grader who asked "what would you do if you could change the world?" I asked him what his answer would be and he said "I'd give everyone in the world Rosebud time and she would listen".

*~Susan Ertel*

### FUTURE THERAPY PET

Glenna meets Chipper (a Bedlington Terrier) at 4 mos old. Amy and Chipper have started obedience training and are now officially preparing Chipper to become a therapy dog and future member of TPGC.





## OUT AND ABOUT...



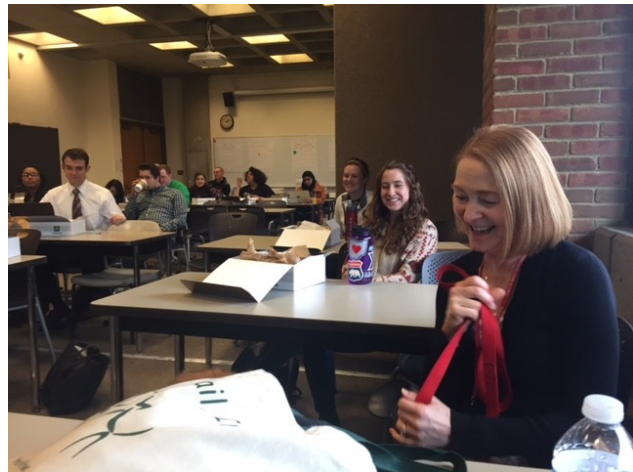
### FIDELITY

Oliver made his first visit to Fidelity this year. He is modeling his new vest, which had to be refitted 3 times!



UC College of  
Medicine  
Visit

## OUT AND ABOUT...



### UC LAW SCHOOL

Members Larry Bennett, Barb Haintl and Cathy Snider visited UC and provided a presentation on the benefits of AAI. Great job!



## *FAREWELL GABE! YOU WILL BE MISSED*



My Good Happy Gabe, passed away March 3rd, 2018. I can say he had a love of life, crazy boy, but very friendly. His favorite place to visit was for sure the VA Hospital, the Vets sure loved him. I would tell them don't sit on the floor because Gabe would sit on your lap and then crawl over each person's lap. Oh they would get him a bowl full of ice cubes, that was fun, the ice cubes flew all over the place. I never got so mad at one dog, but he would look at you and make me laugh.

Gabe had a rough 5 years. He came down with cancer, had 10 rounds of Chemo and 48 stitches in his leg, then after the Chemo another operation on the leg, 48 more stitches. We were then told he was cancer free. During the whole ordeal he was happy, ate well and went for daily rides in the car. When the doctor cleared him he went back to the VA, but not for long; his eating went down, and he had tremors, they were so bad, the meds did not work, found out he had tumor on the brain. We couldn't play God, we loved him too much, we had him put down. 5 years is not a long time to have a dog, but my family doesn't want to think of all the bad, but all the times he made us laugh. A lot of people ask me if we would have had him operated on the first time if we knew the outcome, the answer is no, but maybe that is why we don't know the future.

REST IN PEACE BIG GUY WE LOVE YOU

~Glenna Mockbee





## 3 Types Of Assistance Animals

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

### COMPARISON



Service



Therapy



Emotional Support

	Service	Therapy	Emotional Support
ADA covered: Rights to bring animal into public establishments	✓	✗	✗
Needs to tolerate a wide variety of experience	✓	✓	✗
May live with their disabled owners, even if "No Pets" policy in place	✓	✗	✓
May fly inside the airplane with their disabled owner	✓	✗	✓
Primary function is to provide emotional support, through companionship	✗	✗	✓
Specially trained to assist just one person	✓	✗	✗
Provide emotional support and comfort to many people	✗	✓	✗





### **KROGER REWARDS PROGRAM**

TPGC is partnering with Kroger Community Rewards to raise funds for our group. All you have to do is register your Kroger Plus card and keep shopping at Kroger! With very little effort and no personal cost, we can make a big difference for our organization. Sign up today!

***As of 11/22/17, we have 32 supporters resulting in a contribution from Kroger of \$218.84. It doesn't cost you anything and only takes a couple minutes to enroll. Once you are enrolled, you will begin earning rewards for TPGC every time you shop and use your Plus Card!***

Register your Kroger Plus card online at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com) and follow the steps for enrollment. Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus Card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger Plus Card when shopping for each purchase to count towards the Community Rewards.

\*\*\* If you do not have a Kroger Plus Card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger store

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION! LET'S GO KROGERING!**



### **AmazonSmile**

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati everytime you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com or AmazonPrime.com with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati. AmazonSmile does offer AmazonPrime delivery on items stated in product detail pages!!!

To get started, visit AmazonSmile at smile.amazon.com and select Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati before you begin shopping. You only need to do this step once.

### **BLAST FROM THE PAST**



#### **Original TPGC Board**

2004

Betty McCord  
Tracy Kinney  
Marilyn Edwards  
Marsha Peyton  
Elaine Waxler  
Anita Eithen  
Glenna Mockbee  
John Payton