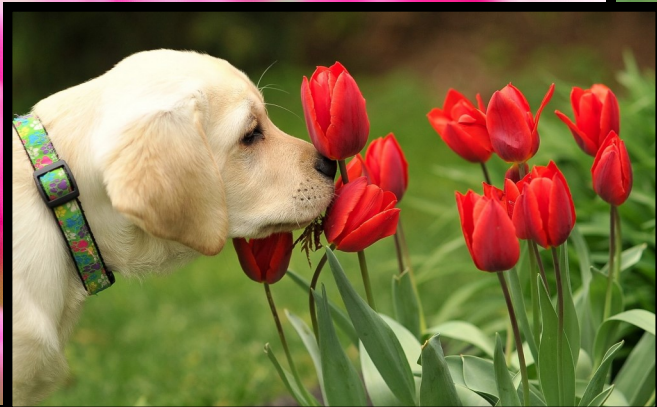




Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati





A Letter from our President

Hello PPGC Members,

This will be my last “official” letter as President. 5 years have gone by quickly and I am excited for PPGC’s future. But first, some updates:

Luncheon

Invitations have gone out for our PPGC Luncheon scheduled for June 11, 11 AM – 2 PM At Mercy Anderson Medical Arts Building. Karen Howell and her team have created a wonderful, themed agenda with great food, a raffle, and a special presentation! If you have not yet RSVP’d, please do so.

Elections

Thanks to all who voted in our recent elections for PPGC Board of Directors. I believe we had the biggest response in years. I am excited for our new team!

President – Jen Garrett

Treasurer – Sarah Schuck

Secretary – Julie Johnson (1 year term)

Trustees - Heather Hauser (2nd term)

Denise Sebastianelli

The continuing Board members are:

Vice President – Marilyn Edwards

Trustee – Karen Howell

Ex-Officio (non-voting position) – Susan Steinhardt



A Letter from our President (continued)

I would like to thank our outgoing Board Members Barb Haintl (Treasurer), Karin Dyke (Secretary) and Sam Gingrich (Trustee) for their dedication and hard work over the last several years. Specifically, as treasurer, Barb has taken our financial health very seriously and has done a phenomenal job ensuring accurate accounting, appropriate financial controls, and sound fiscal management. Sam has been our “go to” marketing guy lending his experience and expertise in creating our current, updated flyer and providing guidance on our marketing efforts. Karin has been our most cheerful, smiling face on the board keeping great records of our meetings despite many side conversations.

Overall, the Board over the last 4+ years has been incredibly professional and very focused on doing what is right for our members as well as our clients. We are in great financial shape, have greatly expanded our client base, embraced technology where it can help us function more effectively (Gmail, website) and most importantly, we had some fun doing it!

Bylaws/Standing Rules

Earlier this year, the members approved our revised bylaws. Thanks to Marilyn Edwards, Dee Volante, Amy Hudoba, Marle Billman and Larry Bennett for your hours and hours of re-writing and review.

The next step is to update our Standing Rules, making sure they reflect the changes in Bylaws in how we operate going forward. Marilyn Edwards is taking the lead on this. We will publish these in the newsletter once approved by the PPGC Board.

Recruiting

Recruiting remains our number one priority. As I am sure you have all noticed, the visit requests never stop coming! Just when I thought we might have a lull for the summer months, Heather sends out a list for June with 18 events already!



A Letter from our President (continued)

This summer, we will again have a Mount Notre Dame student doing her capstone project with us. This young lady will be responsible for setting up information sessions at our partner hospitals (Bethesda North, St. Elizabeth, Mercy West and Mercy Anderson) as well as exploring opportunities at places like Bass Pro Shops, PetSmart, Pet People and the like.

Recall that proceeds from Magnified Giving Grants are being used to provide subsidies/scholarships to folks who attend an information session, complete an in-person workshop and successfully pass the PP evaluation. We are just seeing some new teams completing this program from our recruiting efforts last summer/fall.

Membership

Earlier this year, Betty McCord decided it was time to retire as membership chair. Betty has diligently kept track of our members for what seems like forever! Thank you, Betty, for what many times must have felt like a thankless job; to me, you have been invaluable in providing me with historic perspective, asking great questions on how best to manage membership issues and keeping our files up to date. Your persistence in tracking down acceptance letters and your dedication to being present at ALL evaluations at Bethesda North are truly appreciated.

Kathryn Louis has graciously stepped in as our new membership chair and has spent hours transferring our word documents and paper files into an electronic members database. Since COVID, updating membership files has become a much bigger job as many folks took the opportunity to retire, others moved to other states, many lost their pet partners. We have been working hard to confirm personal information, especially phone numbers and emails. However, adding new members to the database has become more streamlined and we are able to provide folks their “paperwork” electronically.

Replacement Vests/Polo Shirts

Our program to replace vests or bandanas for our pet partners and provide members with a new polo shirt with our new colors and PPGC logo is coming to a close. If you were a PPGC member prior to July 2021 and have not ordered a replacement vest or a polo shirt, please contact me ASAP at susan.steinhardt@tpgcpets.org.



**Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati
Treasurer's Report for February 2022 thru April 2022**

	Feb - Apr
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$22,096.57
Income	\$2,114.38
Expenses	<u>-\$1,530.22</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$22,680.73

INCOME (Deposits)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Workshops	\$960.00
Evaluation fees	\$595.00
Dues	\$270.00
Donations	\$213.38
Shirts	<u>\$76.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME (Deposits):	\$2,114.38

EXPENSES (Checks Written or Credit Card Charges)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General expenses & supplies	\$121.89
Evaluation expenses	\$143.64
Workshop expenses	\$388.64
Vests	\$840.00
PayPal fee	<u>\$36.05</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES (Checks Written or CC):	\$1,530.22



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



Congratulations to our New Board Members

Effective 7/1/2022!



President: Jen Garrett

Pet Partners member since 2018.

Dog Mabel, guinea pig Melvin.



Treasurer: Sarah Schuck

Pet Partners member since 2017.

Dog Rosie.



Secretary: Julie Johnson

Pet Partners member since 2021.

Dwarf bunny Alice.



Trustee: Heather Hauser

Pet Partners member since 2018.

Guinea pigs, Rapunzel, Belle, Olaf, and Jasmine, giant rabbit George.



Trustee: Denise Sebastianelli

Pet Partners member since 2017.

Dog Bo.





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Don't Miss It!

PET PARTNERS OF GREATER CINCINNATI LUNCHEON



MESSAGE FROM HOST

Fellow Pet Parents

We are so glad to bring back the PPGC Luncheon this year. It has been a long time since we have gotten together and seen old friends and make new ones.

We hope you will set aside a time in your busy lives to spend it with us this year.

We are so happy to have Raptor Rescue joining us at 1pm! They will bring some special guests and share how they help raptors in need. Can't wait!!

We will take this time to introduce our new board members. Sad to see some of our current board step down, but thankfully they will still be there for consult as we transition.

Also, we are excited to have the opportunity to be visited by Raptor Rescue. They will educate us on some of their feathered friends. Sounds like a good time!

We will also have continuous video loop of our fur family

Hope to see ya there!





Pet Partners

COVID-19 Policy and Resources Update

Pet Partners continues to endorse vaccination as well as masking when recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), or applicable local public health guidance. However, as of March 1, 2022, we have ended the COVID-19 vaccination expectation as an organization policy. The following articulates the current policy for therapy animal visitation and Pet Partners events. Please see <https://petpartners.org/covid-19-vaccination-policy> for more info.

The website page <https://petpartners.org/covid-19-resources> is a summary of the resources created to help volunteers and facilities make decisions that are right for their circumstances based on the best available science and current practices. The page is updated periodically as the circumstances around COVID-19 evolve. Information provided on that page includes:

Resources for Volunteers

[CDC Guidance for Therapy Animal Handlers](#)

[Policies & Safety Guidelines for Pet Partners Volunteers](#)

[Animal-Related Engagement](#)

[Virtual And Alternative Visits](#)

[We Are All Ears: A Worldwide Reading Project](#)



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

**Pet Partners****World's Largest Pet Walk 2022****Coming September 24**

Therapy animal visits have seen changes and challenges over the past few years. But our mission remains the same.

Whether you walk, gallop, trot, or hop, the World's Largest Pet Walk is for you and your pets to enjoy together from at any time and in any location on Saturday, September 24. Walk whatever distance and path that feels right for you and your animal. Whether you gather some friends and family for a casual stroll around the block, lead a group walk at your workplace or community, or take a quiet hike with just you and your animal, we want to see you taking steps with your pets.

Your participation will support our Therapy Animal Program which brings unconditional love, happiness, and healing to millions of seniors, patients, veterans, and children in need.

This event is for everyone who wants to enjoy the health benefits of being active with pets, while also supporting Pet Partners! There is no registration fee to participate in the walk; however, we encourage you to set up your own fundraising page. Everyone - pets of all types, family members, friends, and colleagues -- is invited to come out and enjoy the day!

Go to <https://p2p.onecause.com/wlpw/home>, or <https://petpartners.org> and click on the Act tab for more info.



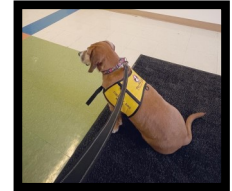


Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

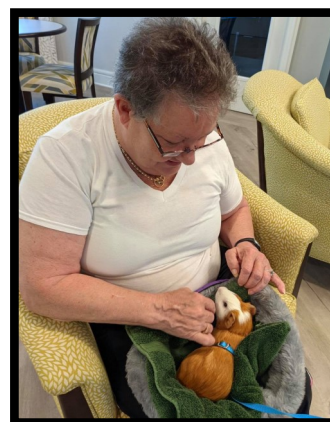
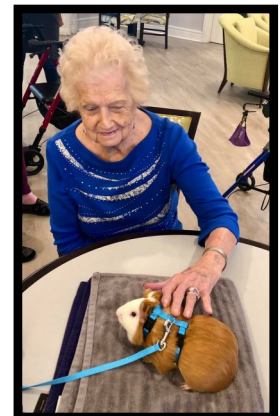
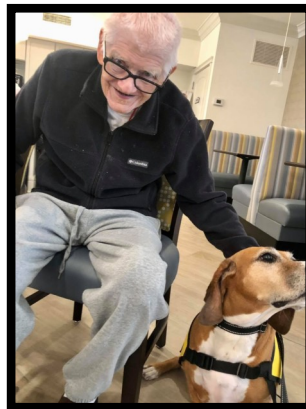


Mabel and I are going to Terrace Park elementary every month to hang out with the kids.

All of us (Mabel and I, and my daughter Sophie and the guinea pig, Melvin) go to Provision Living every month to spend time with the residents as well.



We have met some amazing people, who absolutely adore seeing a guinea pig with special needs (Melvin is blind with some other disabilities), as well as Mabel...who just loves everyone.



~ Jen Garrett





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Huge Demand for Therapy Pet Visits

PPGC has received a tremendous amount of new therapy pet visit requests this year. People in a diverse group of occupations and backgrounds increasingly recognize and embrace the positive impact of animal assisted therapy.

In addition to continuing the previously established visiting programs, in the period of March through May we have had 52 new requests from the following locations:

- 5 Hospitals and/or mental health facilities
- 7 Nursing homes and/or assisted living facilities
- 17 Schools (elementary through high schools)
- 5 Colleges
- 3 Health fairs
- 7 Businesses and other

These 52 requests consisted of a total need for 160 teams. In response, 67 teams attended, and many of the 67 teams went to multiple locations. While we congratulate those who answered these calls for help, we could certainly use more!

So if your schedule allows, please consider attending more therapy pet visits. Go to different sites and events to try them out. Those folks you visit will reap great benefits from it, as will you and your pet. And that's why we're all members of Pet Partners, right?

Finally, thank you Heather for your outstanding work of tirelessly fielding visit requests and sending the word out to our members. You're doing a fabulous job!



Pet Therapy Support Team (formerly Pet Therapy Response Team)

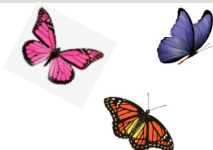
Larry Bennett continues to build a team of therapy teams to support emergency and first responder workers. In order to be dispatched to critical incidents, each team member must first attend Animal-Assisted Crisis Response (AACR) training from Pet Partners. For more info go to Petpartners.org and/or contact Larry Bennett at (513) 470-2744.

In the meantime, all teams are welcome to attend these upcoming stress relief events:

- May 16 (12 - 2 pm) – First Responder Mental Health Symposium, Marriott CVG Airport
- June 5 (7 pm) – Eastern Joint Fire & EMS District, Brown County
- July 20 (10 am) – Covington FD, Northern Kentucky
- Aug. 17 (10 am) – West Chester FD, Butler County



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



**“National Therapy Animal Day”
State of Ohio, 65th District
April 30, 2021**



Photo (from left): Dee Volante, Susan Steinhardt, Ohio State Representative Jean Schmidt, Karen Spradlin.





**“National Therapy Animal Day”
Clermont County, Ohio
April 30, 2022**



Photo (from left): Commissioner David Painter, Commissioner Bonnie Batchler, Karen Spradlin (with Baxter) and Commissioner Claire Corcoran.

WHEREAS, there are thousands of Pet Partners therapy animal teams serving in communities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners has designated April 30 as National Therapy Animal Day; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners therapy animal teams in the town of Cincinnati and surrounding counties play an essential role in improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners therapy animal teams make millions of visits per year in settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, schools and hospice; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners therapy animal teams interact with a variety of people in our community including veterans, seniors, patients, students facing literacy challenges, and those approaching end of life; and

WHEREAS, these exceptional therapy animals who partner with their human companions bring comfort and healing to those in need.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it proclaimed, that we, the Board of Clermont County Commissioners do hereby declare April 30, 2022 as

“National Therapy Animal Day”

in Clermont County, and encourage our citizens to celebrate our therapy animals and their human handlers. Further, we publicly salute the service of therapy animal teams in our community and across the nation.



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Some New Members of PPGC

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Hunk and I were evaluated in June of 2021, but we currently split our time between OH (Loveland) and FL (Sarasota). For 2022 we were here for April, and plan to be here Aug and Sept.



The Cincinnati group for Pet Partners is one of the strongest in the Country, I am told, as I am working to assist in setting up a similar group for The Suncoast area of FL.

~Linda Felix



I am Louise Nathanson and currently volunteering without a pet partner. I have been helping Karen S and Marilyn with evaluations. My hope is that my 10 month golden Nugget will become a Pet Partner I the next 6 months.

~Louise Nathanson





It's Flea & Tick Season Again!

From AKC.org

Flea Circus

Itching and scratching, redness, flaky skin, scabs, hot spots, hair loss. If your pet has an allergy to fleas, you may observe these uncomfortable symptoms and more if he has fleas. Also, fleas are the most common cause of tapeworms. Your pet will most likely chew at the spot where the fleabite is. Often this results in your dog swallowing the flea. Fleas carry the larvae of the tapeworm, and these larvae will mature into adult tapeworms inside your pet's intestines. Fleas have also been known to cause anemia from blood loss in very infested dogs.

Do Coyotes Attack Dogs? How to Protect Your Pet



With their habitats and food sources shrinking, coyotes are venturing closer to our neighborhoods and homes than we'd like. Here are some ways you can protect your dog from coyote attacks, both at home and while you're out enjoying nature.

Coyote Vests

Coyote vests are made for small dogs and have a Kevlar neck collar armed with 1-inch spikes and spikes down the back, making it hard for coyotes to get a bite.

Don't Leave Your Dog Outside Unsupervised

If you're not around to keep an eye on your dog, leave him indoors, especially if you don't have good fencing.

Coyote-Proof Fencing

Invest in one that's solid, at least 6-feet tall, and buried in the ground at least 18 inches, since coyotes are amazing diggers. At the top, you need to put something that will stop even the most athletic coyote. This could be barbed wire or a tube of PVC pipe (its slick, round shape makes it almost impossible for a coyote to grip). You can also create an overhang on the outside of the fence. You can install [coyote rollers](#), which are 4-foot aluminum rods that spin when a coyote tries to grip them, preventing an animal from climbing over. They aren't ugly to look at and are usually accepted by homeowners' associations.

Light up Your Yard at Night

Install motion-sensor lights that are pointed outside your fence line. That way, if a coyote does come around, the light will turn on before he gets into your yard. The light will make most coyotes turn back.

Pick up Poop

Your dog's feces can attract coyotes to your property, so keeping your yard or fields clear of poop can help lower the risk of attracting one. They will also eat fallen fruit, so picking up any windfalls is a good idea. Don't leave trash outside in bags and make sure all garbage can lids are secure and cannot be tipped over.

Coyote Protection on Walks

Keep your dog on leash, since most coyotes are wary of people and won't attack your dog if he's close to you. Bringing something along that makes a loud noise — a whistle, bell, horn, etc. — is another good way to scare off a lingering coyote.



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Board President	Susan Steinhardt
Board Vice President	Marilyn Edwards
Board Secretary	Karin Dyke
Board Treasurer	Barb Haintl
Trustees	Sam Gringrich
	Heather Hauser
	Karen Howell

Editor's Note

Spring has arrived with a bang...well, with many bangs and booms from thunderstorms. If your dog is like mine, he/she may be very frightened by the thunder. Roxie now wears a Thundershirt when such storms are upon us. It calms her enough that she is able to rest comfortably through the noise. It also helps when fireworks are set off nearby.

Enjoy this Spring season with all the beauty it has to offer, and have a safe and happy 4th of July.

~Sharon Newman



For More Info about Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati Visit our website: <https://www.tpgcpets.org/>