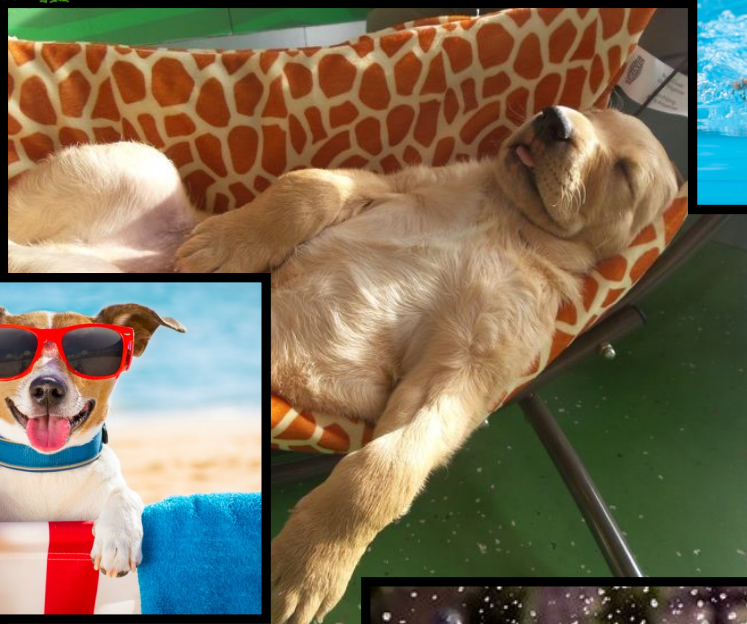




Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati







## *A Letter from our President*

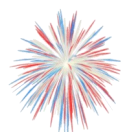
Hello PPGC Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for allowing me the opportunity to lead the PPGC Board of Directors. I would also like to thank Susan Steinhardt for her outstanding leadership for the past 5 years, as well as our other outgoing Board members of Barb Haintl, Karin Dyke and Sam Gingrich. They have moved our organization forward in several ways and allowed us all opportunities to serve so many individuals throughout our community.

I have had the opportunity to meet some of you at the luncheon as well as at evaluations over the past few months, but did want to give a bit of my background. I am a Physician Assistant (PA) and have practiced clinically in Cincinnati since 2001, when my husband and I relocated here from Indianapolis. I have worked in oncology, gastroenterology and solid organ transplant at UC and CCHMC, though in 2019, I transitioned full time to PA education at Mount St. Joseph University. Clinically, I now volunteer my time at the Good Sam Free Clinic in Price Hill. My dog, Mabel, and I visit the PA students at MSJ, Provision Living in Batavia, St. Ursula Academy, Terrace Park elementary and Fernside. We recently completed AACR training and joined the Pet Therapy Response Team that Larry Bennett has led. My daughter, Sophie, and her guinea pig, Melvin, join us at Provision where he has quite the following. 🐹 We live in the Anderson/Newtown area with my husband, Chad...and 4 chickens.

One of the primary goals of the Board remains recruiting new members. We continue to partner closely with our local Hospital systems (Mercy, TriHealth, and St. Elizabeth's) who have graciously allowed us to utilize space for information sessions, workshops and evaluations. We also want to maximize the impact of social media to showcase our teams and help with recruiting efforts. With the help of our Mount Notre Dame student who is completing her Capstone project w/ PPGC, we plan to start an Instagram account which will allow us to continue to share the work that our members are doing (along with our current Facebook page). Please forward photos or comments about your visits to any of the Board members or Tracy Kinney so that we can highlight you and your pet!

We continue to get a multitude of requests and I'm so appreciative to Heather Hauser for sharing these opportunities with our members and making sure that these requests are being met. Kathryn Louis has been instrumental in organizing a membership database and helping the organization move electronically, which is so beneficial to the Board and all of our members.







## *A Letter from our President (continued)*

The new Board of Directors met in July and will continue with quarterly in person meetings as well as monthly virtual meetings. As the new Board members settle into our roles, we felt more frequent meetings would be helpful, and I will have more updates to share for our next newsletter on the work we are doing. The new Board of Directors is listed below – please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us if you have any questions or concerns.

President:	Jen Garrett	(jen.garrett@tpgcpets.org)
Vice President:	Marilyn Edwards	(marilyn.edwards@tpgcpets.org)
Treasurer:	Sarah Schuck	(sarah.schuck@tpgcpets.org)
Secretary:	Julie Johnson	(julie.johnson@tpgcpets.org)
Trustees:	Heather Hauser	(heather.hauser@tpgcpets.org)
	Denise Sebastianelli	(denise.sebastianelli@tpgcpets.org)
	Karen Howell	(karen.howell@tpgcpets.org)
Ex-Officio:	Susan Steinhardt	(susan.steinhardt@tpgcpets.org)
	(non-voting position)	

Thank you all so much for your dedication to this organization and to the impact of pet therapy on the Cincinnati community. From our pets who listen to struggling readers to our pets who support first responders managing trauma calls...from our pets who provide comfort to patients in our local hospitals and hospice to our pets who allow employees an opportunity for stress relief from intense jobs...each and every one of our teams matters so much.

Again, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns – jen.garrett@tpgcpets.org or 513-886-7120. I look forward to meeting you over the coming months!

*Jen Garrett*

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

*As the new Board members are settling into their new roles and working through the transition, we will have an updated treasurer's report and further updates from the Board in the next newsletter.*







# Pet Partners



## AAAIP

Association of Animal-Assisted  
Intervention Professionals

### Association of Animal-Assisted Intervention Professionals (AAAIP)

## Pet Partners announces their new member organization for AAI Professionals



**Bringing together professionals from all disciplines to share knowledge and advance the field**

Join a network of professionals who are interested in the safe, ethical, and effective practice of animal-assisted interventions. Together we will develop standards of care, champion the well-being of the animals, and build a stronger future for AAI.

**[Join now to access resources and a community of AAI professionals >](#)**

### Serving the needs of all AAI Professionals

- Mental health professionals
- Occupational therapists
- Physical therapists
- School counselors and personnel
- Eldercare professionals
- Social workers
- Speech/language pathologists
- Therapy animal program coordinators
- Facility animal handlers
- Researchers/Behaviorists
- Animal trainers
- Anyone working with animals in a therapeutic setting

Go to <https://petpartners.org/resource/aaaip-faq> and <https://www.aaaiponline.org/> for more info.



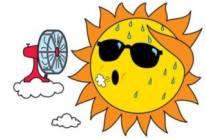


Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



## Keep Your Dog Cool

*From [pets.webmd.com](http://pets.webmd.com)*



Summer can mean lots of fun outside with your dog. But when the temps soar, take steps to protect your pet. Whether you take them for a walk down the street, a ride in the car, or just out in the yard to play, the heat can be hard on them. Here's how to keep your furry best friend safe.

**Never leave your dog in the car.** No, not even if you think you'll only be a few minutes. Even when it isn't that hot outside, the temp can soar inside a closed car. On an 85-degree day, it can reach 102 F within 10 minutes. And that's with a window cracked. After 30 minutes, it could be up to 120. Leave your dog at home, or go places where they can come with you.

**Keep your house cool.** If Fido's home alone, make sure they can truly chill. Leave the air conditioner on, and close the drapes. If you don't have AC, open the windows and turn on a fan. You may want to see if a cooling vest or mat can help.

**Watch when you exercise.** Limit when and how much you do when it's hot and humid. Take walks in the cooler part of the day -- the early morning and evening. And carry enough water for both of you.

**Check the pavement.** Before you head out for a walk, touch the pavement. If it's too hot for your hand, it's too hot for your dog's paw pads. Walk on the grass and stay off the asphalt. You also might want to try booties for your dog so their paws don't burn.

**Offer plenty of water and shade.** Don't leave your pooch alone outside for long. And when they are there, make sure they have shade and lots of fresh, cool water. Add ice cubes when you can. Trees are better than doghouses for shade. They let air flow through. Doghouses can trap the heat and make it worse. Think about a kiddie pool or a sprinkler to help your pal cool off in the yard.

**Make cool treats.** Help your canine chill from the inside out. For puppy ice pops, make ice cubes with tasty treats inside. Or fill and freeze a chew toy to make a chilly snack.

*Continued on next page*







## Keep Your Dog Cool

(continued)



**Keep an eye on the humidity, too.** When the air is full of moisture, your dog may not be able to pant enough to cool themselves off. That can raise their temperature, which can lead to heatstroke. Stay inside, and limit exercise, too.

**Take care of at-risk dogs.** Be watchful if you have a snub-nosed pet like a pug or bulldog. Their smaller airways make it harder for them to release heat when they pant. It's also easy for old and overweight dogs, or those with heart and breathing problems, to get heatstroke.

**Groom your pet.** If your dog has long hair, get rid of any mats and tangles. It will help keep them cool. Don't shave or clip their coat before you talk to your vet or groomer. The extra fur that keeps them warm in winter may also keep them cool in summer.

**Visit your vet.** Keep his shots up to date, especially in summer. The parvovirus spreads in hot weather. And your dog probably spends more time outside, which means it's more likely they could come in contact with a critter that has rabies. Summer is high season for fleas, which spread many diseases, and mosquitoes, which carry heartworm. Get them on regular meds to prevent these pests.

**Watch for signs of overheating.** Your dog can't tell you when they don't feel well, so keep an eye out for heatstroke, which can have these symptoms:

- Heavy panting
- Heavy drooling
- Trouble breathing
- Rapid heartbeat
- Dark or red gums and tongue
- Dizziness
- Weakness
- Agitation

If you see any signs, get them to the vet right away.

© 2017 WebMD, LLC. All rights reserved.







## 2022 PPGC LUNCHEON A HUGE SUCCESS

*By Sharon Newman*

The annual PPGC Luncheon was another one for the books! The work that the many people who volunteered did to put on this event was phenomenal! Every turn revealed something special.

We were immediately greeted by a wonderful repeating slide show of pictures of our members and their pet partners. There were cookies in the shape of dog bones personalized with each attendee's name, poster boards filled with collages of pets, and a large number of hand made memory pillows in tribute to our recently departed furry friends. So much attention was given to details, down to a path down the outer hallway to the door made of cut paper paw prints with each handler's and pet's name written on them.



Susan

A delicious lunch was provided by LaRosa's. The proceedings were then officiated by our outgoing President, Susan Steinhardt. Many thanks and gifts of appreciation were given to outgoing board members, and our new Board of Directors was introduced.



Barb Haintl, Susan, Sam Gingrich



Susan gave a heartfelt tribute to our group's original founder, Glenna Mockbee. She presented Glenna with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a truly life-like stuffed dog that so resembled her recently departed fur baby that I half expected to see it jump up and lick her face! Susan's tribute was so touching that a copy is provided a following page.



Jen, Glenna, Susan





## 2022 PPGC LUNCHEON

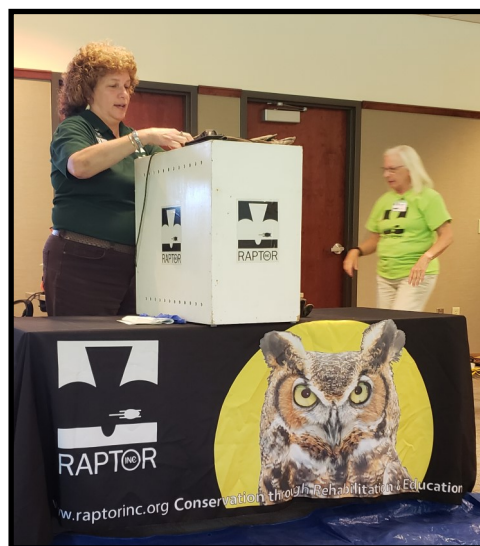
(continued)



Karen Howell

A raffle was held by the luncheon's organizer, Karen Howell, to give away many wonderful gift baskets.

And as if all this was not enough, we were treated to a fascinating presentation by two volunteers from Raptor, Inc., Gay Bullock and Mary Landis. They brought three birds currently in residence at their facility: The Turkey Vulture Earl, the Red Shouldered Hawk Ruby, and the Barn Owl Storm. We learned of these birds' history and care, and much more. They shared with us their mission and tireless work at rescuing and reintroducing raptors into the wild.



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



Turkey Vulture "Earl"



Hawk "Ruby"



Barn Owl "Storm"





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

## 2022 PPGC LUNCHEON

*(continued)*

Finally, a sincere thanks of appreciation goes to all who worked so hard to make the day so very special for us all:



Karen Howell

*Luncheon Coordinator*

James Howell (Karen Howell's spouse)

*Assistant*

Nancy Halder and spouse Eric

*Assistants, Decorations*

Glenda Flaughner

*Assistant, Gift Basket*

Linda Hartmann

*Memory pillows*

Linda Hartmann

*Memory pillows*

Heather Hauser and spouse

*Assistants, Gift Basket*

Donna Helton

*Assistant, Gift Basket*

Arlene Martin

*Memory pillows*

Karen Spradlin

*Slide Show*

Karen Spradlin's son Scott

*Assistant, Gift Basket*

Dee Volante

*Assistant, Gift Basket*

Debbie Wheeler

*Assistant, Flower Placemats, Gift Basket*







Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

**GLENNA***By Susan Steinhardt*

I thought I'd start off my remarks today by acknowledging someone near and dear to our hearts, our founder, Glenna Mockbee.

Many of you may not know the history of our local organization. I have been told that Glenna began her journey into pet therapy in the late 1970's. The story goes that, as a volunteer, Glenna met a very ill patient at Jewish hospital who was a dog lover and requested to have a dog visit her in the hospital. Think about it – this was unheard of at that time. Glenna offered to bring one of her dogs to the hospital and to her surprise, she was given permission. And so it began, one woman's commitment to bring the love of pets to those in need.

In 2004, Glenna and a group of maybe 10 other handlers chose to become an affiliate of Delta Society (the forerunner to Pet Partners). Within a few years the group grew significantly. Glenna became a licensed evaluator and then a licensed instructor.

Requests for visits expanded from hospitals and hospice to schools, libraries, corporations and more. I think Glenna's proudest moment was when she got approval to begin a therapy pet program at the VA.

I met Glenna in 2014 when she evaluated Bailey and me. Betty McCord, our membership chair at the time, casually mentioned the group was looking for a newsletter editor and I blindly volunteered. That was when I began to interact with Glenna on a regular basis often brainstorming ideas for the group.

In 2017, she asked me to run for the Board. I agreed to throw my hat in the ring for the position of Vice President thinking that role had the least amount of work.

I did get elected and within 2 months found myself in the position of President as our previous president Bob Murray, chose to step down. That began Glenna's and my partnership of many years.

As you know, Glenna retired as Executive Director, Instructor and Evaluator in early 2020 just as the pandemic started. We have not been together as a community since then so I wanted to take the opportunity today to acknowledge the enormous contribution Glenna has made in developing and expanding pet therapy in greater Cincinnati.





I hope everyone is doing well and had a great holiday weekend.

My pup Domino and I have been lucky enough to meet many of you on visits and you all have wonderful, helpful dogs. I think what Pet Partners does is incredible. I never knew the power of these visits until Domino and I started going on them. The nursing home visits were especially gratifying for me and I also think Domino really enjoyed those.

That being said, it is time for Domino to retire. He is coming up on 15 years old and the years of hard playing and frisbee catching are catching up to him. He is still LOVES people and to interact with ANYONE but his mobility has really started to slow.

We would like to thank all of you. You all are doing a great thing here. Take care of your pups and give them the best life you can. They deserve it.

*~Robert Hudson*







**A Visit to Wilmington, OH by Jennifer Barnes, LaVerne Allman, and Larry Bennett was much appreciated by the Clinton County Emergency Management Agency:**

*"Thank you for taking time to achieve two items: (1) stress relief for some very overworked staff, and (2) helping me to become a bit more informed on how your org works. I'm in the process of conducting an annual review of our county Emergency Operations Plan and this experience will help to inform planning considerations."*



Clinton County Health Dept.



National Weather Service, Wilmington, OH



National Weather Service, Wilmington, OH

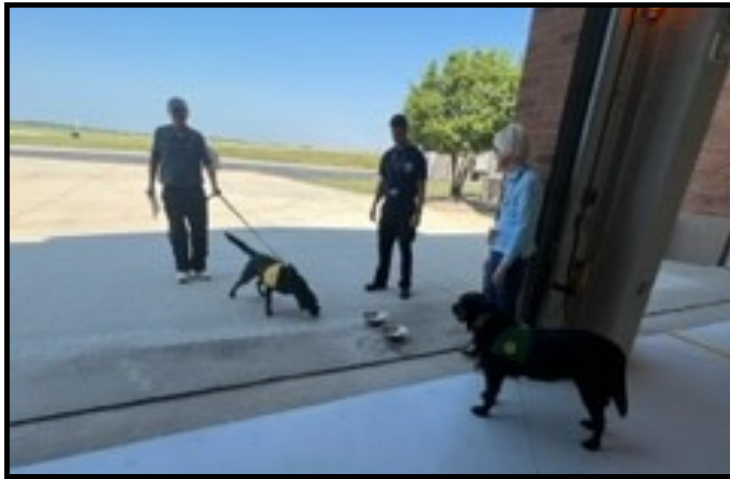






Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

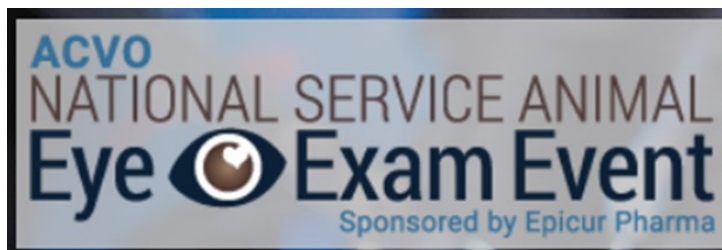
## Sheila Schroder and Sweetpea, Larry Bennett and Frye at the CVG Airport Fire Station







Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



Roxie, my 11 year-old golden retriever, participated in the ACVO National Service Animal Eye Exam Event on May 22. ACVO (American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists) organizes this annual event, which was on hiatus the last two years due to Covid. It is advertised as a service providing free eye exams for service and therapy dogs, but it is so much more.



We went to MedVet in Fairfax, OH, one of several locations you can pick from, on Sunday morning. Roxie was treated to a very thorough examination, not just of her eyes but by several specialists. She was seen by a DVM (veterinarian), cardiologist, orthopedist, and ophthalmologist. And it was all free of charge. The doctors and many staff members volunteered their time to provide this service. They were all very welcoming and loving towards Roxie, making it a truly enjoyable experience for her and me!

I strongly recommend that you take part in this event next year if it is offered again. You can read more about it on their website [acvoeyeexam.org](http://acvoeyeexam.org).



~ Sharon Newman

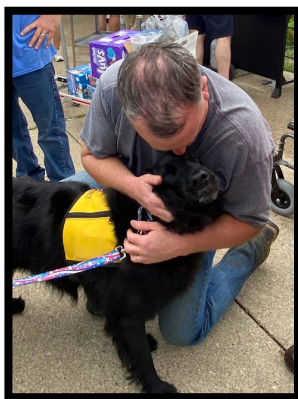




## Bo Brings Comfort to Tornado Victims and Responders

**Animal Assisted Crisis Response Team provides comfort to those affected by the devastating tornado in Goshen, Ohio**

Frank Sebastianelli and Bo have been a Therapy Dog team with Pet Partners since 2017. They love visiting a variety of events, but Bo's specialty has been his love for the Special Education kids at Kings High School. Recently, however, Frank and Bo began a new chapter in their Pet Partners career as a credentialed Animal Assisted Crisis Response (AACR) team in response to the tornado that hit Goshen, OH. Frank had completed his AACR training and was ready and willing to help when given the go ahead by the American Red Cross and the Superintendent of Goshen High School. Goshen High School became the command center and shelter for those affected by the tornado.



Frank and Bo spent time interacting and providing comfort to volunteers, first responders and victims of the tornado every day for the entire week the command center was in operation. Bo became a part of the Goshen community, providing a familiar and comforting face each day and receiving tons of hugs and pets. Although Bo is deaf, he still knew that everyone was calling out to him with "Hey Bo", "Bo's Back" and he sure knew they were all happy to see him. Bo gave those affected by the storm an outlet for their emotions, their hardship and perseverance. Our deaf boy heard their stories with his heart and brought much needed smiles to so many faces. Frank and Bo even made friends with the WLWT news team, who aired his story and helped spread the word on the importance of emotional support following a crisis and how Therapy Pets can help.

Frank was thankful he had received the AACR training to be able to respond to this crisis and assist this amazing community in their healing. If anyone is interested, please check out the AACR training on the Pet Partners website to learn how to become involved as we expand this program in the future.



*Continued on next page*







## Bo Brings Comfort to Tornado Victims and Responders

(continued)

Here is the transcript of the News Story from WLWT Channel 5:

### **Therapy dog 'Bo' welcome relief for residents in tornado-stricken Goshen Township** **GOSHEN, Ohio**

*In tornado-stricken Goshen, relief arrived in the form of a four-legged friend. Bo is a deaf 7-year-old flat coat retriever with a knack for making people smile through his welcoming presence and calm demeanor. "He's just so loving," said Frank Sebastianelli, Therapy Dog Owner.*

*Frank Sebastianelli is his owner. He's a retired Secret Service agent who began training Bo to help out in situations like this one. Bo's been meeting folks who have lost most everything and bringing them peace. "It's like they just kind of start melting. It's like they forget about their problems for a few seconds and most of them tell me about their dogs at home and how they're reacting to all this," said Sebastianelli.*

*The EF2 tornado that ripped through this town has brought people together from the "Incredible efforts from people to give back to people that need something and coming together as one big warrior family," said Darrell Edwards, Superintendent of Goshen Local Schools. But the superintendent of Goshen local Darrell Edwards also recognizes the need to take care of the whole person. "He's been up here two days now cruising the campus now seeing people I think we need to care for people's physical health but people's mental health," said Edwards.*

*People are assisting each other with food, shelter and cleanup. But sometimes what you need most is a best friend. "Dogs are just amazing and they give a lot of comfort in times like this," said Phil Tudor, Goshen resident.*

*Bo is not the only therapy dog in the family. He recently got a little brother: 11-month-old Enzo who is another flat coat retriever who's training as well.*







Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

\*\*\*\*\*  
 ★ **UPCOMING VISIT OPPORTUNITIES** ★  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**August 15****11:00 - 11:45**

Arbors at Milford Assisted Living

Small group of adults, some who are medically fragile.

5900 Meadow Creek Dr.

Milford, OH 45150

**August 17****10:00 - 11:00**

West Chester Fire Dept.

Stress Relief

9119 Cincinnati Dayton Rd.

West Chester, OH 45069

**August 18****10:00 - 11:00**

Wyoming High School

Back to school welcome visit

106 Pendery Ave

Cincinnati, OH 45215

**August 23****10:00 - 11:30**

Metzcor

Adults with disabilities day program. Heather has been twice now and loves it; the staff and the people are so sweet and grateful for our visits.

2859 Boudinot Ave.

Cincinnati, OH 45238

**August 26****11:00 - 1:00**

Mount St. Joseph University

Welcome Day

5701 Delhi Rd

Cincinnati, OH 45233

**September 1****12:00 - 1:30**

JET Education Center

Reading program for kids pre-k-2nd grade

150 West Main St

Batavia, OH 45103

**September 8****10:00 - 11:00**

Wyoming High School

106 Pendery Ave

Cincinnati, OH 45215

**September 14, 21****Time TBD**

Fidelity Investments

Welcoming employees back into the office

Covington, KY

**September 28****10:00 - 11:00**

Norwood Fire Dept.

Stress Relief

4725 Montgomery Rd. (near Victory Park)

Cincinnati, OH 45212

**October 1****10:00 - 11:00**

Miami Township Fire Dept.

Stress Relief

5888 McPicken Dr.

Milford, OH 45150

**October 19****10:00 - 11:00**

Deerfield Township Fire Dept.

Stress Relief

3435 US-22

Loveland, OH 45140

*For more info or to sign up, contact:***Heather Hauser:** [heather.hauser@tpgc.org](mailto:heather.hauser@tpgc.org)**Larry Bennett:** [bennettlt@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:bennettlt@ucmail.uc.edu), (513) 470-2744.





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Board President	Jen Garrett
Board Vice President	Marilyn Edwards
Board Secretary	Julie Johnson
Board Treasurer	Sarah Schuck
Trustees	Heather Hauser
	Karen Howell
	Denise Sebastianelli
Ex-Officio	Susan Steinhardt

## Editor's Note

This summer has certainly been an eventful one. July 4th brought the new Ohio law that permits private citizens to use fireworks on their own property. My neighborhood was a cacophony of explosions that Roxie, and I'm sure many of your pets, was not happy about. A severe storm two days later brought tornados to Goshen and Loveland. Then severe storms flooded hundreds of people out of their homes in S/E Kentucky. Our hearts go out to those who suffered damage from these disastrous events.



Now we settle into the quiet and lazy Dog Days of Summer...the buzz of cicadas, the serenade of tree frogs, and the sparkle of fireflies at night.

Enjoy those cookouts and days at the pool or lake!

~Sharon Newman