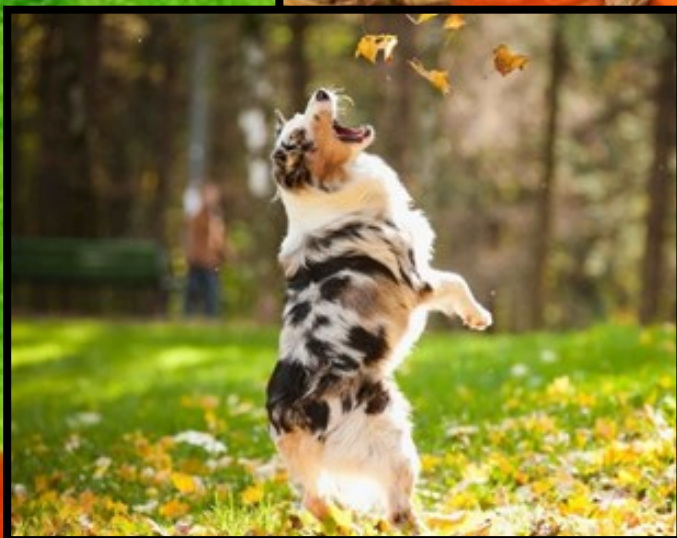




Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

A Letter from our President



Hello PPGC Members!

New Shirts have Arrived!!!!



Aegean Aqua & Charcoal Heather



Women's sizes: S-M-L-XL-1X-2X Colors: **Gray (Charcoal Heather) or Teal (Aegean Aqua),**

Men sizes: L-XL-1X-2X. Color: **Gray (Charcoal Heather)**

If you purchase from PPGC's supply with the PPGC LOGO, you will receive our discount from Lands' End. Cost will be \$45.

How to pick up your shirt orders?

They can be picked up at the monthly Evaluation events at Bethesda North, Mercy Anderson, or at St. Elizabeth Training Center. Contact Louise.Nathanson@tpgcpets.org for more information on placing and picking up your order.

Many of you, as I do, have shirts in Pet Partners' Brown, Gold or other colors which are fine to continue wearing. New shirts are not required. The gray and teal colors were chosen as a preference for PPGC branding.

New ID Badges

PPGC is requiring our handlers to have an ID badge that is worn during all PPGC visits. This can include your current Pet Partners ID badge even if the date has expired, the new PPGC's permanent badge, PP's permanent badge or your hospital ID badge. The cost of one permanent badge per handler will be covered by PPGC. Any additional badges will be the handler's responsibility. Ordering new badges will occur when you are up for your evaluation. You can order your vest or bandanas at any time with Raspberry Field.

The new ID cards will have no expiration dates. You may have a picture of you or you with your pet.

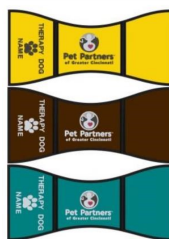


PPGC Animal Team Badge - Vertical



PPGC Animal Team Badge - Horizontal

Vest, Leash covers and collar bandanas are available through Raspberry Field (with a PPGC discount)



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati
Vest
\$24.00



PPGC BANDANA
\$11.20



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati
Leash Cover
\$12.00



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati
Collar Bandana
\$13.60



All the best,

Marilyn Edwards

President, Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Treasurer's Report



Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati dba Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati FYE 6/30/2024

1st Quarter

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 27,303.87
Income	\$ 10,478.30
Expenses	\$ 2,299.55
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 35,482.62

INCOME

Dues/Membership	\$ 410.00
Donations	\$ 8,568.30
Evaluations	\$ 460.00
Shirts	\$ 400.00
Workshops	\$ 640.00
Other/CC Refund	

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 10,478.30**

EXPENSES

AACR Reimbursements	\$ 115.00
Booth Fees	\$ 125.00
Evaluations/ General/ Workshops	\$ 950.91
Insurance	\$ 980.00
Trust Fees	\$ 50.00
Angel Pay	\$ 50.00
Shirts	\$-
Bank & PayPal Fees	\$ 28.64

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 2,299.55**





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Susan's Musings



Request for School Committee

In the Summer Newsletter I mentioned that one of my roles was to apply for and manage grants. Thanks to a friend of Trustee Sam Gingrich, we were encouraged to apply for a grant from the Good Shepherd Foundation of Ohio. This organization is primarily focused on serving individuals and groups with developmental disabilities.

I am pleased to announce we have been awarded a grant for \$7500! Our proposed program - "Growing Our Future to Enhance the Human – Animal Bond in the Greater Cincinnati Community" is focused on recruiting. Specifically, our intent is to purchase tablets to facilitate evaluations using electronic score sheets, provide scholarships for workshops and evaluations and update our marketing materials.

While we were able to provide some amazing data on the number of individuals we have served with developmental disabilities, the Foundation asked if we could broaden our reach even further.

I am proposing that a small committee be formed with the intention of approaching our local school districts to increase awareness of how we can impact students through our therapy pet program, particularly those with special needs. I am looking for several people who are interested in working with schools who have some "marketing" skill to pull together handout material and who would be willing to contact superintendents and/or principals to explain our program. Please let me know if you have an interest in this area by sending me an email at susan.steinhardt@tpgcpets.org.

Technology to Support Membership

Our technology team, Kathryn and Kurt Louis, have been hard at work (mostly behind the scenes) developing and applying technology to help streamline our processes and help us collect and analyze data about our membership, our outreach (recruiting) and our client base (visits). Our long-term vision is to update our website to be more dynamic and offer a "members only" section.

The next step in that process is making the membership list available to members for PPGC use only, through access to Goggle Drive. There are instructions included in this newsletter to explain how to access this members list.

Stay tuned for future developments.

~ Susan Steinhardt





IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

SHARED GOOGLE DRIVE

We recently created a shared drive within our Google Workspace. We are going to use it to host a variety of documents that our members can access. It will host everything from previous copies of our newsletters to current ordering instructions for vests/badges/apparel, as well as helpful documents for those looking to learn more about Google Workspace.

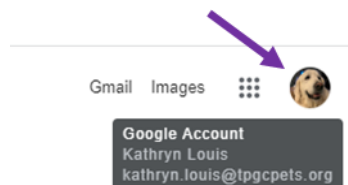
Here is the location of our Shared Member Google Drive: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/0ANnISAgYtDnnUk9PVA>

If you would like to see any information added to the drive, let anyone on our board know or someone from the membership team and we will work to ensure this space meets the needs of our membership community. For example, we heard from a number of members that they would like a member list, so there is a new folder on the drive that will host a membership list, updated monthly.

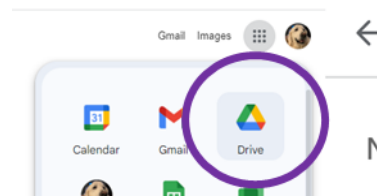
Please note that access to the drive is limited to our PPGC members. If you are trying to log into the drive while you are logged into a personal Gmail/Email account, you will get access denied. We will not be able to grant access to your personal Gmail/Email account(s).

Example:

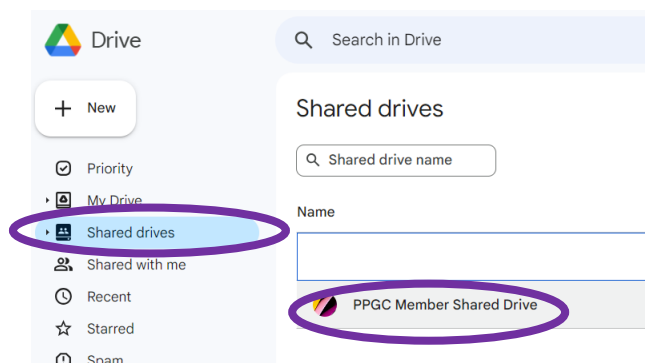
Make sure your account in the top right reflects your PPGC (tpgcpets.org) account.



From there, you can click on the 9 dots to the left of your profile picture (or initials) for the available apps. Find the "Drive" app and click it.



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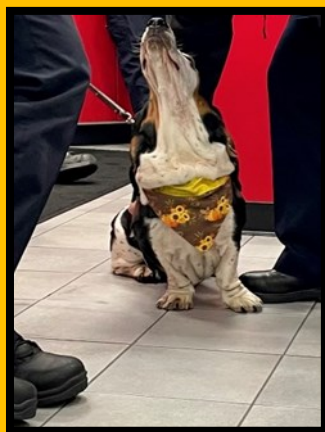




Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

CVG Airport Fire Dept. Finds Comfort

Pet Therapy Support Team members George, Aspen, Bettie Mae, and Celeste visited for three weeks to support those grieving the loss of one of their members to cancer. "The members of the fire department are forever grateful for your and your pet's time spent there with them this past month. They are still grieving, but you made a difference for them by showing up. And showing up. And continuing to show up." After the first visit, the shift knew they were coming and were so excited that they brought dog treats and bananas to share.





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Many Opportunities for Pet Therapy Support Team to Provide Stress Relief



Morgan Township FD, Kate & Muffy, Jo & Bettie Mae

Our Team provides "STRESS RELIEF" visits and "CRITICAL INCIDENT" responses for Fire, EMS, Police, Corrections and 911 Dispatchers. We are part of Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati and support the Tri-State Peer Support Team: <https://tsfirstresponderpst.org/>. If you are a registered Pet Partners team and would like to join us, contact Kenny Schroeder at Kenny.schroeder@tpgcpets.org.

Animal-Assisted Crisis Response (AACR) training is required for critical incident responses.



Goshen FD



Milford FD



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Hamilton County Coroner and Crime Lab



George



Aspen and Roxie





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Morgan Township Fire & Rescue Open House



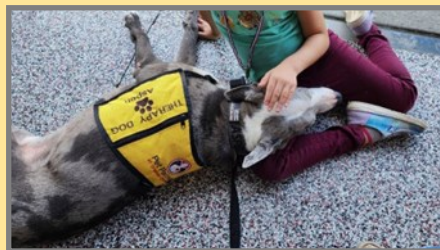
Madigan



Aspen



Eli

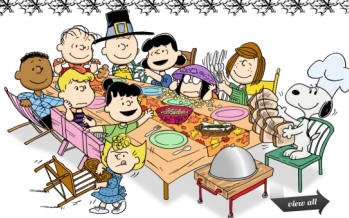


Madigan & Muffy





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



November and December bring us two cherished holidays that we all look forward to. A big part of them is food and drink: snacks while watching football, cocktails, a feast for dinner with a myriad of side dishes and desserts, and days of delicious left-overs. We want to share the goodness with our pets, but we must be very cognizant of what is safe and unsafe to keep them healthy and out of the emergency room.

Please review this list of the most common items and be vigilant with them around your dogs. Remember, the *UNSAFE* items are to be avoided alone or as an ingredient in something. And be sure to remind your guests, too, *before* they sit down for the big game and before the first bite! You don't want them "sharing" any goodies with your pooch, no matter how much they beg, or your dogs whine!

OK

SAFE



1. Turkey and chicken meat (if not seasoned)
2. Turkey and chicken skin (only if not seasoned and not basted with butter or fat)
3. Sweet potatoes (no seasoning)
4. Potatoes (boiled or baked with no butter, sour cream, salt, or pepper)
5. Green beans, carrots, corn, broccoli, cauliflower, zucchini (raw or cooked but with no seasoning or butter)
6. Pumpkin
7. Apples (cut out the core to remove seeds, which are toxic)
8. Eggs (cooked)
9. Popcorn (only air-popped, no butter or seasoning)



UNSAFE



1. Turkey or chicken bones
2. Ham
3. Gravy
4. Mashed potatoes
5. Creamed peas
6. Alcohol
7. Desserts with artificial sweeteners like xylitol
8. Chocolate, cookies, pies, sweets
9. Raisins and grapes
10. Onions, scallions, and garlic
11. Cranberry
12. Mushrooms
13. Nuts
14. Butters, oils, fatty meats
15. Snack chips with salt, spices, processed ingredients



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Harley to the Rescue

By Guest columnist Dauna Easley

Was it love at first sight? I'll let the reader decide.

Missi Schulte, PPGC member, had been without a dog for almost two years after her last dog passed away. And life without a dog wasn't part of Missi's life plan. One day Missi saw a photo of Harley on the Animal Friends website. Something about Harley's face touched Missi. This dog looked nothing like Missi's previous dogs. Harley was her own breed...which is the polite way to say mutt. Missi called the shelter and talked to Taylor Schleidt about the dog. She learned the dog's name was Harley and she was a girl. Taylor invited Missi to come in and meet Harley. Missi adopted Harley on May 7, 2022. On that day Missi rescued Harley.

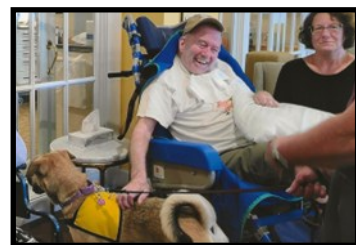
At first Harley barked...a lot...and loudly. Missi tactfully told her aunt, "I think Harley needs some socialization." She searched for a dog school and found Cinti K9. On their first night there, Harley barked so much Missi thought they might be invited to leave. Instead the trainer at the school, Mary Jo, showed her how to humanely discourage the barking, but it took awhile. Even on the night Harley was to "graduate" from Level One at dog school she was barking again. But by then Missi knew how to remind her to stop. And also Harley and Missi had bonded and Harley loved pleasing Missi more than anything else in the world. Missi was the first person Harley rescued.



But Harley wasn't finished rescuing people. There was a young boy named Ivan who frequently visited his grandparents in Missi's neighborhood. Sadly, Ivan lost his mother this year and he was spending even more time with his grandparents. One of Ivan's favorite times of the day

was when he saw Missi walking Harley. He always wanted to go along. He and Harley bonded and their threesome walks became a ritual. A couple of times Ivan even went to dog school with Harley and Missi. By then Harley was in advanced classes which included 30 minutes of obedience training and 30 minutes of agility. This delighted Ivan and brought some joyful moments back into his life.

While at dog school Missi became friends with another lady named Tracy. Tracy told Missi about Pet Partners and thought Harley would make a good therapy dog. Missi was close to her Grandma who passed away at age 96 in 2020. She vividly remembers how much her grandma loved having Missi bring her dog to visit at her home and also how much it lifted her spirits the few times there were therapy dogs who would visit her room when she was hospitalized. In memory of her Grandma, Missi wished she could use Harley to comfort others through their lonely or tough times.



And Harley wasn't finished rescuing people. She now has all the skills to rescue anyone and she loves it. She passed the Pet Partners evaluation with flying colors. Now Harley and Missi visit nursing homes, hospitals, schools, visiting anyone who needs a little rescuing.



On October 7th this year she and Missi went to Sawyer Point for the Alzheimers Walk. Even Rosie Red couldn't resist Harley's charms and had to stop and pet her.

Have you ever been afraid to adopt a pet from a pet shelter?

I wish you could see Harley and Missi out and about rescuing everyone.



 ★ **Meet our New Members** ★
 ★
 ★*****

I am a retired vet tech of 35 years. While I was working, I also owned and managed a farm where I boarded retired show horses. At my farm I owned many animals, including chickens, goats, donkeys, my own horse and a miniature cow. I also owned 7 whippets over 35 years.


After I retired I decided to do volunteer work and visited many nursing homes. It became clear to me that many of the residents in nursing care missed their home and the pets they owned and cared for in their lifetimes. So I decided to combine my love of animals with my interest in volunteering.

ROO is my 6 year old (retired from racing) Greyhound. He is a docile, sweet boy and loves people! I look forward to many years of spreading joy and bringing smiles to the faces of those we meet. I am fortunate and thankful to be part of the Pet Partners organization.

~Jan Donahoe



Hello, my name is Lisa Kappesser and meet my buddy, Camo. He is a 5-year-old male Goldendoodle. Camo is short for Camouflage which was the design of his collar when we welcomed him into our home at 8 weeks old. He was a curious pup when we chose him and he continues to show this trait wherever we go. Camo enjoys riding in the car, exploring new surroundings, and greeting others. He loves his walks and fetching a ball. He is such a loveable and happy dog that I felt he would be a good therapy dog and could spread much comfort and joy to others as he does for us.

 Camo is so friendly and active that I was not sure if we would pass the evaluation, but I am very happy we did. We have just begun our visits to the Ronald McDonald House and look forward to adding additional places for visits.

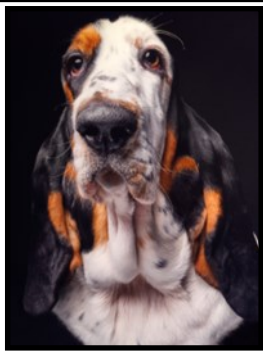
My background is a licensed social worker in which I counseled children and families in out-patient and school settings. I then worked as a career and executive coach, helping others define their career paths and improve their leadership. I have always had a strong love for animals. I was a volunteer at the Cincinnati Zoo as well as at Circle Tail, an organization that trains service dogs. I now look forward to joining my interests to be a therapy team for Pet Partners!

~ *Lisa Kappesser*





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



I have had four previous therapy Bassets, Chloe, Rain, Seti and Troi, now all sadly deceased. Following Troi's untimely passing in 2022, I began to look for another therapy dog prospect. Unfortunately, Seti and Troi's breeder, Ellen Ferguson, did not have a litter planned. She referred

me to another reputable breeder, Sandra Marquez-Ovando, who happened to have a litter on the ground.

I contacted Sandrita and discussed what I wanted to do with the pup as far as competition and therapy dog volunteer work. She had just the recommendation from the litter. In September of 2022, I made the trip to Florida to pick up baby Celeste. Sandrita said that Celeste's sire had also been a therapy dog with a great temperament as well as being a multi-champion in the show ring.

I began introducing Celeste to new experiences as soon as she was fully vaccinated. She began obedience classes at the dog training club I belong to, as well as going to stores and parks. She has traveled to shows where she has learned to be crated, deal with loud environments and stay in hotels. Celeste has earned two AKC titles in Scent Work and Rally and has been pointed in the breed ring. In July, 2023, she tested with Pet Partners with a predictable rating. Celeste and I have begun visits at St. Elizabeth Hospital and stress-relief functions. I'm sure her breeder will be proud!



~ Terri Ralenkotter

Rain and I became a registered team with Pet Partners in January 2023. We have been a therapy team since May 2019 but with another organization. We always enjoyed the visits however I knew there was a better organization out there for us and I'm thankful I found Pet Partners.



My husband and I got Rain, a Shetland Sheepdog, back in April 2017 from a local breeder. Immediately, we started puppy school and obedience classes. She completed her Canine Good Citizen exam later that year. She has always had such a fun and outgoing personality which I knew would make her a perfect therapy dog.

We currently volunteer at Mercy Hospital, St. Elizabeth Hospital, a local accounting firm and a construction company. My goal is to begin visits at the Clermont County Juvenile Detention Center, Hamilton County Coroner and Crime Laboratory (where I work) and eventually train to become an Animal-Assisted Crisis Response team.

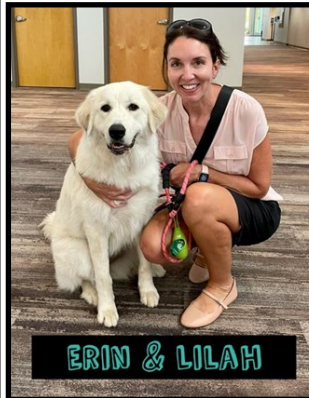
When Rain isn't bringing smiles to and getting butt scratches from those she visits, she loves to play with her human toddler brother, "herd" giant balls around the backyard, and go for boat rides. We look forward to meeting all the other teams and continuing to spread love with Pet Partners.

~ Shelby Caldwell





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



We adopted Lilah from the National Great Pyrenees Rescue in July 2022 when she was 3 months old. Her parents were working guard dogs, but she had been abandoned with her siblings on a farm in Kentucky. Fortunately, all 5 sweet pups were rescued and placed with an amazing foster in Michigan when they were just a few weeks old.

As soon as she was old enough, we began socializing her as much as possible and noticed immediately that her calm, sweet demeanor drew people in and made people happy. I have so many stories about strangers that she impacted but I'll just share one: when Lilah was about 6 months old a woman at a restaurant asked if she could give her a hug and then sat on the ground quietly with her for quite a while, remembering her own dog that had recently crossed the rainbow bridge. Lilah waited patiently, accepting the hugs and pets, and seeming to listen closely to the stories the woman shared about her own dog. Eventually the woman thanked Lilah for her time (she barely spoke to me; it was all Lilah!) and moved on. It seemed clear that Lilah had a true gift and a service to offer. She is truly a natural therapy dog!

Lilah has done some obedience training and passed the CGC test and is now, at 18 months old, ready to begin working with Pet Partners. We are looking forward to visiting hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and more. Lilah absolutely thrives in crowds so I was pleased that she passed her evaluation with a 'complex' rating so that she can do what she does best -- meet LOTS of people!

~ **Erin DeWitt-Miller**

Several years ago, my 2 greyhounds were registered pet therapy dogs. Sadly, they passed away in 2019 and I was left without my therapy partners. In 2021, I adopted a retired racing greyhound who I thought would be perfect for the job. After the pandemic, we started training in obedience and socialization. I heard about your organization from a friend who with her dog had recently passed the Pet Partners evaluation process, so I decided this was the group I wanted to be involved with. Ella passed her Canine Good Citizen test so I thought we could take the next step by going through the handler training and evaluation process. We passed! As a recent retiree, I was ready and Ella is always ready to go on an adventure. She is a party girl who loves to visit and spread her love to anyone that wants it. We hope to spend many years visiting many types of places.

~ **Sharon Schmetzer**





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



Eli and Courtney are a new pet partner team as of May 2023 and looking forward to becoming involved in the AACR team. Can you “spot” me?

~ **Courtney Ladd**



Boone is a Grand Champion and has rally titles.

I have been a member of Pet Partners since 2018 and became an evaluator in 2021. I joined Pet Partners of Central Ohio and visited at The Ohio State University and OhioHealth in the neurology infusion suites and Oncology. I was previously a member of TDI and did many visits at events across Central Ohio.

I have two Golden Retrievers registered with Pet Partners. Since moving back to NKY in 2022, we currently visit at St. Elizabeth. They love their therapy visits!



Xavier holds titles in obedience and rally.

We look forward to becoming more involved with Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati.

~ **Susan Schulte Hara**



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Our Teams are Out and About!

I'm often asked if Rosie is happy being a therapy dog. I often wonder that too, then I look at photos after an event and see her smiling....question answered!



Visit at Fidelity Investments with Muffy, Dax, Enzo, Fava, Rosie & Dasani. We had a huge turnout and many employees said it was the best part of their day!





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Hither and Yon!

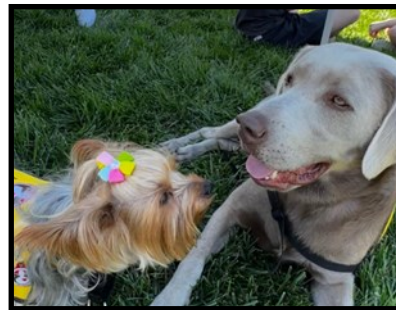
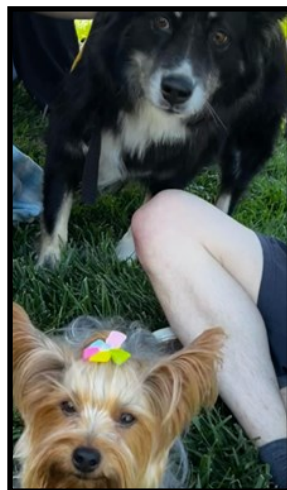


Robbyn & Phinley, Sue & Gunnar,
Trish & Rosie at Warren County ESC.

*We visited with many students,
most were non verbal, some were
blind &/or deaf and we were told
they all live in skilled facilities.
Though they couldn't communicate
traditionally, their smiles said it all!*



University of Cincinnati, Pups n Pops with Rosie, Max, Rex & Aspen.



The pups and humans enjoyed popsicles from Pure Pops. Rex liked his so much he had 3! One student shared with me that he was a freshman and was really struggling to adjust to college life. He missed his family, friends and his Yorkie. He made a bee line for us and sat with us for a very long time. He said he was participating in counseling to cope and said our visit helped more than counseling!



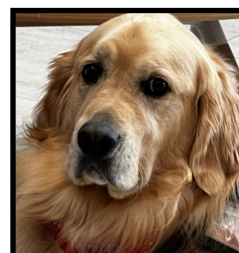


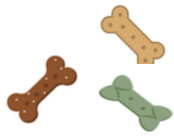
Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

All Around the Town!

Ronald McDonald House with Heather & George, Jen & Popcorn, Trish & Rosie.

We visited with many families who have been at RMH for a long time. All were missing their families and pets. Little Leah shown below shared with me that her dog Lillie would not wear hair accessories. We had a long talk about pom poms and how I keep Rosie's bows, barrettes and poms in her hair. Her mother thanked us all for bringing such joy to her daughter.





Cheddar Treats

Ingredients

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 cup all-purpose flour | 1 tablespoon butter, softened |
| 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese | 1/3 cup whole milk |

1. In a small bowl, combine flour and cheese. Stir in butter until combined. Gradually add milk just until moistened. Turn onto a lightly floured surface; knead 8-10 times.
2. Roll dough into a 12x9-in. rectangle; cut into 3x1-in. strips or with a bone shaped cutter. Place on ungreased baking sheets.
3. Bake at 350° for 15 minutes or until golden brown. Let stand in the oven with the door slightly open until cooled completely.
4. Store in an airtight container.

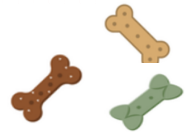
From www.tasteofhome.com

Taste
of Home

3-Ingredient Treats

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup sliced apples, pears, peaches, or carrots (peeled & sliced)
- 1/2 peanut butter
- 2 cups old-fashioned oats



1. Put apples in small saucepan with 2 tablespoons water. Cover and cook on low-med heat 10-15 minutes, till soft enough to mash.
2. Mash apples with fork to applesauce consistency. Lumps are OK.
3. Pour into large bowl. Add peanut butter and oats, stir till combined. Should be thick and sticky.
4. Roll small amounts into "meatballs", 1 tbsp for large dogs, 1 tsp for small dogs. If too sticky, put in refrigerator for 15 minutes.
5. Place on baking sheets covered with parchment paper. Bake at 350° for 15 minutes till firm.

From www.tasteofhome.com

Taste
of Home



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Board President	Marilyn Edwards
Board Vice President	Heather Hauser
Board Secretary	Debbie Bauer
Board Treasurer	Louise Nathanson
Trustees	Sam Gingrich
	Denise Sebastianelli
	Lora Wynn
Executive Director	Susan Steinhardt

Editor's Note

The beauty of Autumn is upon us once again. Be sure to stop now and then and admire the Fall colors that surround us. We now have more football and basketball games than anyone could want. And there is no shortage of Christmas movies on TV, to get you in the mood for things to come.

Best of all, Autumn means the beginning of warm gatherings with two-legged and four-legged family and friends for the holidays. Enjoy!



~Sharon Newman

