



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati





A Letter from our President



Hello PPGC Members!

I hope everyone is having a great start to the new year!

Key to Promoting

[The key to promoting the human-animal bond is YOU!!!](#) It is the stellar work you do during your visits that sets Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati above the rest of the animal therapy teams. A good portion of the people who contact me about becoming volunteers are the result of your promotion of pet therapy. PPGC is the strongest pet therapy group in the TRI-State area. Thanks to all of YOU!!!! Please continue to promote what you believe in. If you have trading cards, please add PPGC name, email or phone number. Let us know if you need handouts or additional information. PPGC Phone: 513-788-1570, website : www.tpgcpets.org

Here is a summary of some of our efforts to meet the needs of the community and to grow our number of animal therapy teams while maintaining our high standards.

Evaluations:

Our Evaluators who support our three locations are:

Heather Hauser, Deb Newstrand, and Susan Schulte (new from Pet Partners of Central Ohio) are volunteering at St Elizabeth. Karen Howell and Karen Spradlin continue to support Mercy Anderson. I am supporting the evaluations at Bethesda North with Anne Hodapp who started in November of 2023.

Our key players on the Membership Team are Chairperson Kathryn Louis with our Team members Deb Bauer at St. E, Louise Nathanson and Shannon McGinnis at Mercy, Kathryn Louis, Susan Steinhardt and Amy Hudoba at Bethesda North.

We held 29 evaluation events and conducted 123 evaluations of animal therapy teams which included dogs, cats, and rabbits. At the end of 2023 we had 143 active members, an addition of 31 new teams from our previous year.

Workshops:

We held 5 handler workshops and trained 53 new handlers this year. Our instructors were Karen Spradlin, Karen Howell, Susan Steinhardt, Sharon Newman (new to our team in 2023) and me. We also added Mercy West as a new location to give Handler's Workshops.





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

A Letter from our President (continued)

Mini-Workshops / Promotional events:

We are continuing to do promotional Mini-Workshops ("Volunteer with Your Pet", "Benefits of Pet Therapy") at various hospitals and facilities associated with Mercy Health, St Elizabeth, Christ, and TriHealth. We are also participating in some Well Being /Health Fairs.

New in 2023, Trish Smith headed up our "PP Largest Pet Walk" at Summit Park in Blue Ash as part of the "Paws in the Park". TV station WLWT invited Trish and her dog Rosie for an interview to promote the event and animal therapy.

In 2024 we will need to continue to do more educational / promotional events at hospitals, businesses, clubs/organizations and educational facilities.

By the way, [you do not have to be a Pet Partner Instructor to give these talks](#). If you are interested in promoting pet therapy by giving presentations or in becoming an instructor or evaluator, please let me know. All educational material is provided.

Change in the Board of Directors

I have always told our board that our family's needs do come first. So as our families shift in their need of our time so must we shift in the time we spend volunteering. Sam Gingrich, who has been on the board in various capacities over the years, made a request to step down from the board. He will continue as a PPGC team with his dog Baxter to make visits. Thank you for all your hard work and your many contributions to PPGC.

Deborah Newstrand offered to replace Sam Gingrich as a PPGC Trustee. She was approved by the board at our last board meeting in January 2024 to serve his remaining term. Deb has been on the PPGC board before and we welcome her back.

Thanks to all of you!

I look forward to a great 2024.

Marilyn Edwards
President, PPGC





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Treasurer's Report



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

2nd Quarter

YTD

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 35,482.62	BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 27,303.87
Income	\$ 2,777.85	Income	\$ 13,256.15
Expenses	\$ 4,987.02	Expenses	\$ 7,286.57
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 33,273.45	ENDING BALANCE	\$ 33,273.45
INCOME		INCOME	
Dues/Membership	\$ 330.00	Dues/Membership	\$ 740.00
Donations	\$ 1,537.85	Donations	\$ 10,106.15
Evaluations	\$ 280.00	Evaluations	\$ 740.00
Shirts	\$ 160.00	Shirts	\$ 560.00
Workshops	\$ 470.00	Workshops	\$ 1,110.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 2,777.85	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 13,256.15
EXPENSES		EXPENSES	
AACR Reimbursements	\$ 115.00	AACR Reimbursements	\$ 230.00
Booth Fees		Booth Fees	\$ 125.00
Evaluations/ General/ Workshops	\$ 2,303.32	Evaluations/ General/ Workshops	\$ 3,254.23
Insurance		Insurance	\$ 980.00
Trust Fees		Trust Fees	\$ 50.00
Angel Pay		Angel Pay	\$ 50.00
Shirts	\$ 2,526.48	Shirts	\$ 2,526.48
Bank & PayPal Fees	\$ 42.22	Bank & PayPal Fees	\$ 70.86
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 4,987.02	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 7,286.57





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Susan's Musings



PPGC ID Badges

This past August, Pet Partners communicated to us that they would no longer be providing picture ID badges to members. The PPGC Board did not agree with this position as we believe having picture ID badges provide a level of credibility and professionalism as well as distinguishing us from other therapy groups.

We made the decision to contract with Raspberry Fields to provide permanent ID's to our members at PPGC's expense. Since August, many of you have either become a new member or renewed your membership but have not yet ordered your permanent ID. New ID's are to be purchased at the time of renewal, and instructions are provided at the end of your evaluation. If you have recently renewed and not yet ordered your ID check your email for recently sent instructions on how to do this.

TPGCPets Email

Thanks to everyone who has activated their TPGCPets email. We are close to 100% participation! We will no longer be sending communications to personal emails so be sure to check your tpgcpets.org accounts for visit requests, newsletters, luncheon invitations, etc.

Recruiting

As previously communicated in previous newsletters, one of my roles is focused on recruiting. I am happy to announce that we will be having an information session "Volunteering with Your Pet" for the first time at The Christ Hospital on Feb. 13 and another session at St. Elizabeth in early March.

Please spread the word to friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers that might be interested in this rewarding volunteer opportunity.

Susan Steinhardt, PPGC Board Ex-Officio

susan.steinhardt@tpgcpets.org





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

VOLUNTEERING WITH YOUR PET

Are you the proud owner of a lovable pet?

Thought of Being a Pet Therapy Volunteer?



Tracy & her Therapy Dog Skittles

The Christ Hospital is sponsoring
an information session on
“Volunteering with Your pet”

Feb. 13, 2024 at Noon

Classroom 8

ZOOM: <https://zoom.us> Meeting ID: 966 6338 8799

Passcode: 523991

RSVP: (513) 585-3877 OR

Madison.Kramer@thechristhospital.com

No need to groom and prep your fur-baby, your pet is *NOT* invited. This info session is just for you. Ask questions, get answers and learn what pet therapy volunteering is all about.

Don't have a dog? **Pet Partners** also registers *cats, birds, guinea pigs, rabbits, llamas and alpacas, horses, rats and pigs.*





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



Pet Partners



About Pet Partners Pet of the Year 2024

Does your dog stand out from the rest of the pack? Is your feline friend known for their amazing cat-itude? Perhaps your horse is ready to gallop into a new role? We have more than 100 pets competing in a six-week fundraising competition for the title of the 2024 Pet Partners Pet of the Year!

[Nominate Your Pet](#)

OR

[Nominate Someone Else's Pet](#)

This exciting fundraising competition is a perfect way to celebrate your best friend while supporting a great cause! Funds raised by pet candidates (with help from their favorite humans) will support the Pet Partners Therapy Animal Program. This amazing program brings unconditional love, happiness, and healing to millions of seniors, patients, veterans, and children in need all around the world each year.

The national title of **Pet Partners Pet of the Year** is awarded to the pet whose fundraising team raises the **most funds during the six-week competition**. The winner will be crowned at the close of the competition and awarded thousands of dollars in prizes for their efforts.

For more info go to <https://petpartners.org/events-fundraisers/poty/>



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☆☆ **Some New Members of DPGC** ☆☆

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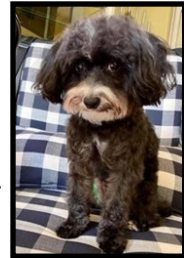



Holly, 1 years old, passed her Pet Partners test in October 2023 following in the pawprints of her sister Lucy. Lucy, 15 years old, passed her Delta, now Pet Partners, test in 2009 and every other year since then. Holly has followed Lucy as a volunteer for The Christ Hospital and St. Elizabeth's. As often happens with sisters, Holly had to share her Lucy's vest till her new vest came in January.

~ Joy

Elvis Is In The Building...

And...He is expressing his happiness by energetically wagging his tail with each person he meets! Elvis is a small, 9.3 pound Yorkie Poo with a gigantic, people-friendly, outgoing willingness to please. Upon entering any situation, he scans and works the room. My furry friend is a semi-curly, scruffy, black, non-shedding class clown with a white muzzle, a tad of white on his chest and white tips on his back paws with hair in total disarray, resembling the grinch finger tips...some hairs long, some hairs short. He can smell out the tiniest of bugs or crumbs, find it and eat it! Elvis wants eye contact with humans, seemingly to express his affection to every admirer, potential visitor and new friends, especially with kids. He **loves** his job and is **at-the-ready**. His paws reach out to hug the arm as if to say, "please don't go!" He's crazy cute and smitten with each willing participant. Elvis's treats of choice are Honey Nut Cheerios and...just one will do the trick. He's faithful and loyal, always watching...awaiting my reaction/response. It has been said that...



Because of our dog's joyfulness...Our own joy is increased.
It's no small gift.



~ **Karen Kennedy**



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Hi! My name is Jodie Jordan and my dog's name is Gypsy. Gypsy is a five-year-old Goldendoodle that looks more like a standard poodle. I work fulltime at Cincinnati Savings and Loan Company and have been in lending for 35+ years. I enjoy traveling, photography, animals, and volunteering (when I can).

Gypsy really enjoys visiting places and going shopping with me to places she is allowed to go in. She loves to be dressed up with bows in her hair and her nails painted. She also loves being chased in the yard by the other dogs. She will steal the toy or ball from them and take off running so they will chase her.

We live in Colerain Township and I have been married to my husband, Kevin, for 30 years. We have two adult sons, 3 dogs and a tortoise.

Gypsy and I were certified through TDI (Therapy Dogs International) for dog therapy the week the pandemic started. We started visiting The Jewish the summer of 2022 and shortly after we started at Artis of Bridgetown Memory Care. We got involved with Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati when I came across their Facebook page and proceeded to be certified through them. We passed our certification in August, 2023 and have completed all the steps needed to start visiting places. We are starting with The Christ Hospital next month and will continue with the previous facilities we have been visiting. We are very excited to be with Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati and visiting new facilities when we can.



~ Jodie Jordan



A little over two years ago, I was on-line searching for a dog that was good with cats. I'd had to say good-bye to my Bearded Collie the past spring, and my heart was longing for another K9 companion. Having four cats, my next dog had to be a gentle, tolerant soul. After looking at dozens of dogs, I came upon a website for a shelter in Indiana and found myself staring into the face of an older female black Labrador mix with pleading eyes. I fell in love.

My intention was to only look at her, and then come home and make an informed decision, but once we met I didn't want to leave her there. Sage adjusted well to her new home, and to her feline house mates.

After we'd been together for a year, I began feeling that Sage was meant for more than just being my companion. Not long after, our local fire department invited all Township employees to meet several Therapy Teams from Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati who were visiting the fire house. After talking with people from the group, I was certain I'd found mine and Sage's calling.

After attending the Handler's Course, I knew Sage and I were in need of obedience training. So, I signed us up for a Beginner's Obedience course. Because I enjoyed learning and bonding with Sage, we went on to complete both Intermediate and Advanced Courses. I knew it wasn't necessary to pass the Pet Partners evaluation, but I wanted to feel as confident as possible as Sage's partner and handler. Sage was a champ, and we passed the evaluation with a Complex rating!

We are currently visiting at the Ronald McDonald House, and Sage and I enjoy the experience immensely. It is wonderful to see her interacting, and being a source of comfort, to both the children and families we meet.

I'm excited for our future, and to be able to participate in more visiting opportunities, and programs. I thank Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati for providing an opportunity for Sage and I to serve. In doing so, she and I have formed a stronger bond, and a fulfilling sense of purpose.

~ Kathleen Giblin



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

 * My name is Kellie, and this is my best girl, Sally! Sally *
 * came into our lives this year as the sweetest gift from 2 *
 * local veterinarians in Lexington, Kentucky. We lost our *
 * 2 sweetest pups within 6 months, both of whom were *
 * registered therapy dogs. Our sweet Malita had only *
 * just passed her test with PPGC, and our Moses was a *
 * therapy dog for 6 years. *
 * *****

* I love what pet therapy does for people - it brings *
 * smiles, conversations that don't involve sickness or *
 * sadness, and can change a day around! I have been *
 * on both the giving and receiving end of pet therapy, *
 * and know what a difference it can make. *
 * *****

* My sweet Sally was made for this work - she came to *
 * us perfect - she is happiest when surrounded by peo- *
 * ple and being loved on. She's one of those dogs who *
 * quite literally melts into you while you pet her. She has *
 * been such a gift to our family, healing our hearts, and I *
 * know she will take her role as 'therapy dog' on with *
 * such ease. Sally will primarily be serving at University *
 * of Kentucky hospital, where we hope to help grow the *
 * team of therapy dogs already working hard! *
 * *****



~ Kellie Banta



 * Dogs have been important to me since my child- *
 * hood, my dad was bipolar and my *
 * dog was my emotional support, as *
 * my mother was very involved with *
 * my dad's mental health. *
 * *****



* My dream for retirement was to *
 * have a therapy dog and make a *
 * difference in not only children's *
 * lives but also the forgotten sen- *
 * iors. I will be retiring next January *
 * after working as a paralegal for 48 years. *
 * *****

* I choose a golden doodle, Remi, she is two and I *
 * have been working with her since she was a pup *
 * training her and exposing her to everyone and eve- *
 * rything. *
 * *****

* As part of her training I started taking Remi to Three *
 * Rivers Nursing Home last year, twice a week, and *
 * the residents absolutely love Remi and we still visit *
 * twice a week. *
 * *****

* We are new with Pet Partners, passed in September *
 * and added on Christ Hospital once a week, we are *
 * going Monday to attend a reading group at a local *
 * school, now signing up for first responders and *
 * Ronald McDonald House. *
 * *****

* My goal is eventually get certified for disaster situa- *
 * tions. *
 * *****

* I love every minute I spend visiting with Remi and *
 * everyone with Pet Partners has been so kind work- *
 * ing with me and guiding me in the right direction. *
 * *****

* I have two adopted daughters from Korea, a biologi- *
 * cal son and five grandchildren. Lots of ups and *
 * downs but always with a dog by my side. *
 * *****

~ Dee Noth





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



My first encounter with Pet Partner Therapy Teams was in May and June of 2023 when my wife Fran was in Blue Ash Hospice. I remember the comfort the visits brought to us and observed it doing the same for others at that location.

After my wife's passing, I contacted Greater Cincinnati Pet Partners and started the process for my dog Ava and I to become a Therapy Team.

Ava is a nine-year-old Mini-Schnauzer (rescue) who loves everyone. I am fully retired after a career of over fifty-two years in Technology and Internal Audit.

The Pet Partner process was great and we learned a lot thanks to the great team of volunteers. Ava and I recently completed our mentoring sessions and have started visits. We are excited about this new chapter of our life and really appreciate all the wonderful support we have received along the way.

~ *Jim Lee*

Hello, I would like to introduce my best pawtner, Tucker (a beagle).

We rescued Tucker from a shelter when he was 5 1/2 months old. He came bounding out of the crate full of energy (barking!) and we weren't sure that he would be suited to us. But he won us over quickly and we took him home.

Now he is 3 years old and still very active but training has helped a great deal. He LOVES people and attention which is why I thought he would be a good therapy dog. We thankfully passed the evaluation and are excited to start!

We have completed the 1st mentor visit and are looking forward to our next visit. Since he is a medium size dog (too big for a lap and too small for those who cannot bend over), he will probably do well in a school or office environment.



~ *Patti Lehmann*





8 Ways to Keep Your Dog Warm

From AKC.org

Our Annual Publication of Winter Pet Safety

Snow, sleet, ice, and wind... there's a lot to prepare for when it comes to winter weather. Just like we're affected by the cold, our dogs are, too. Here are a few simple measures you can take to make sure your dog stays warm, happy, and healthy throughout the winter.

1. Limit Dog's Time Outside

Dogs can suffer from frostbite, especially on delicate earflaps and tail tips. In extreme cold, it's a good idea to keep dogs inside, with the exception of the heavy-coated northern breeds that thrive in low temperatures. If it's not possible to keep the dogs indoors, be aware of the major signs of frostbite, which include skin that appears white or blue.

2. Stay Indoors When Possible

Even a big fuzzy dog that lives indoors will need some time to acclimate to freezing temperatures. Short romps outside will help your dog's body get used to the change in the weather. Keep indoor activities fun with new indoor games. There are also dozens of indoor interactive dog games to give your dog a fun way to get both mental and physical exercise.

3. Bundle Your Dog Up

Sure, most dogs have their own coat, but you wouldn't want to go out in a blizzard in a light spring jacket. Make sure small, delicate, and short-haired dogs, even large ones like Greyhounds, have an appropriate winter wardrobe, including a sturdy winter coat and a fitted sweater.



4. Consider Your Dog's Age

Where climate is concerned, age is more than a number. Like humans, very young and very old dogs have a hard time regulating body temperature, so they have more extreme reactions to changes in weather. Romps in the snow may be too much for their more delicate constitutions. Keep the older dogs and the puppies indoors as much as possible.

5. Protect Your Dog's Paws

Look at the Iditarod sled-dog teams, and you'll notice that their paws are covered by booties. Mushers know that the race may be lost because of injuries and abrasions from running on ice. Even if your dog isn't dashing through 1,000 miles of frozen Alaskan wilderness, winter conditions can still do damage. Different retailers offer dog boots or paw protectors that work well to keep your pup's feet safe.

6. Invest in a Heated Dog Bed

Yes, heated dog beds are great! A heated dog bed can be a great option for dogs that tend to get chilly, including senior dogs. Look for one made specifically for dogs that also has an auto-shutoff.

7. Trim Foot Fuzz

Hair on the feet of long-haired dogs can form ice balls between pads and toes. Keep them well-trimmed, cutting the hair so that it is even with the surface of the foot.

8. Clean Your Dog's Feet

City streets are coated with deicing substances, such as sodium chloride (rock salt) and calcium chloride, which make sidewalks safe for pedestrians, but can damage paw pads. Make sure you wash off your dog's feet. Some people keep a bucket next to the door to rinse their dog's feet as soon as they come in from the cold. Use warm water and make sure to reach spots between the toes and pads. Some dogs will also need a paw balm or moisturizer for dry skin.



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



When Is It Too Cold For Your Pet To Be Outside?

Once the thermometer dips below 45 degrees Fahrenheit, it's time to start thinking about your pet's comfort level. As the temperature goes down, the risk goes up. And if the mercury plummets into the 20s, then pets can be at serious risk of frostbite and hypothermia if they're outside for any length of time.

People who live in areas experiencing cold weather and winter storms need to take extra precautions to keep their animals safe. Pets left to fend for themselves in cold weather are susceptible to injury and death. Here are some simple tips from American Humane:

Be Prepared

Plan ahead and pay attention to cold-weather warnings.

Unless significant power outages are experienced, most cold-weather episodes and winter storms are "shelter in place" events, so pet care needs should be planned for in the home. Keep your pet preparedness kit well-stocked and ready — in a winter storm, you may not be able to leave your home for several days.

Leave your pets' coats a little longer in the winter to provide more warmth. That summer "short cut" from your groomer should be avoided during cold weather. If you have short-haired breeds, consider getting them a coat or sweater that covers them from neck to tail and around the abdomen.

Winter Pet Care

When you bathe your dogs in cold weather, make sure they are completely dry before taking them outside for a romp or walk.

When walking your dogs during bad weather, keep them on leash. It's easier for a dog to become lost in winter storm conditions — more dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season. (And don't forget to microchip and put ID tags on your dogs and cats!)

Leash your pets if you have frozen ponds, lakes or rivers nearby, as loose pets can break through ice and quickly succumb to hypothermia before trained ice-rescue personnel can arrive. Never try an ice rescue of a pet yourself — leave that to trained professionals.

When you are working on housebreaking your new puppy, remember that puppies are more susceptible to cold than are adult dogs. In cold conditions or bad weather, you may need to opt for paper training your new pet rather than taking the pup outside.

Keep your pets inside, both during the day and night. Just because they have fur doesn't mean they can withstand cold temperatures.

If dogs are left outside, they should have a draft-free shelter large enough to stand and turn around in, yet small enough to retain body heat. Use a layer of straw or other bedding material to help insulate them against the cold. Make sure the entrance to the shelter faces away from the direction of incoming wind and snow.

Keep your cats indoors. Cats can freeze in cold weather without shelter. Sometimes cats left outdoors in cold weather seek shelter and heat under the hoods of automobiles and are injured or killed when the ignition is turned on. Banging loudly on the hood of your car a few times before starting the engine will help avoid a tragic situation. (This is true for wild animals in cold weather as well).

When taking your pets out for a bathroom break, stay with them. If it's too cold for you to stand outside, it is probably also too cold for your pets.



Happiness At Home



Our new column featuring our handlers, their family, friends, and pets when not “at work”



Caitlyn Visscher, Millie, & Santa



Erin Donovan and Madigan at the Red River Gorge



Bo & Enzo (Denise & Frank Sebastianelli)



Moose at home (Sarah Zerhusen)

Dee Noth and Family





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

2023 Another Banner Year!

2023 Year in Review

64 visits to schools
57 visits to colleges
43 visits for people with disabilities
32 visits to businesses
30 visits to nursing homes
33 visits to other places

And these are just the visit requests that I receive. We also had countless visits to hospitals, nursing homes, Ronald McDonald House, and all of our first responder visits.

I would like to challenge everyone this year to try some different visits. If you normally do schools, maybe try a nursing home! Some dogs may start to get uncomfortable around a lot of kids, noise, and commotion as they get older, so you may need to make adjustments to your visits or change where you go altogether. You never know where you and your pet can make a big difference.

~ **Heather Hauser**

Vice President

Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Licensed Evaluator

Mentor Coordinator/Visit Coordinator

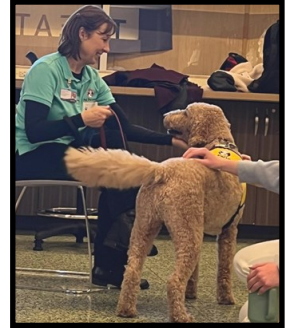




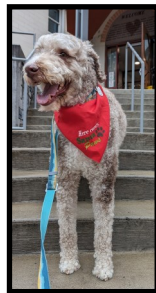
Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

St. Ursula Academy

Andrew & Max, Terry & Colby, Lisa & Camo, Barb & Tessa, Trish & Rosie



Moose was busy spreading Christmas cheer at P&G, Ronald McDonald House, and Marjorie P. Lee. He also graduated level two of scent work!



~ Sarah Zerhusen

Ronald McDonald House with Bengals players

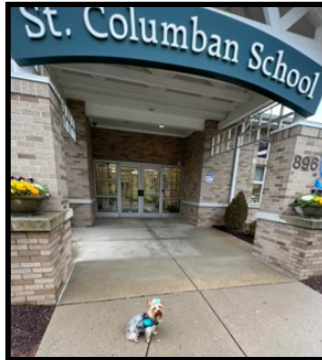




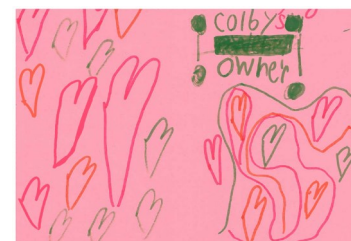
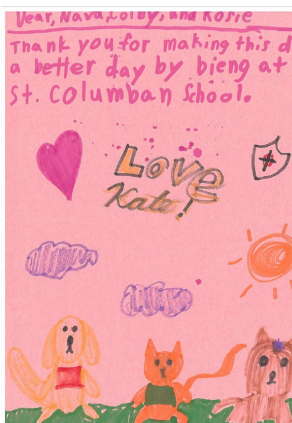
Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

St. Columban School

Andrew & Max, Trish & Rosie, Terry & Colby, Terry & Nava

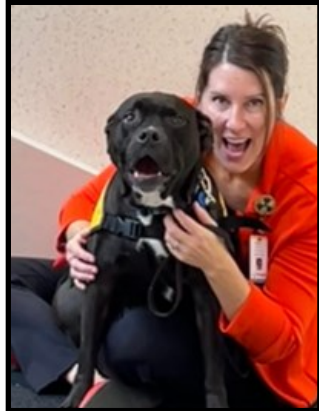


Cards of Thanks and Appreciation!

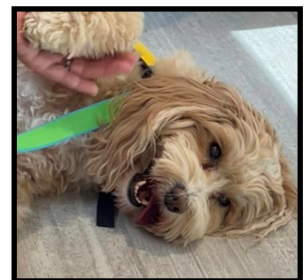


**Bethesda North Hospital****Christmas in the Village**

**Deb & Oliver, Trish & Rosie, Holly & Roger,
Shelia & Charlie**

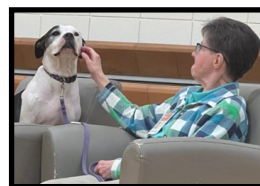
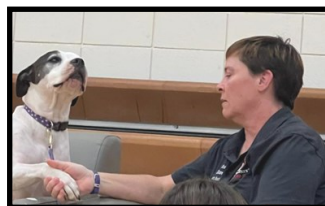
**University of Cincinnati School of Law**

Karen & Taco, Trish & Rosie, Cindy & Penny





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Procter & Gamble – Winton Hills**Sarah & Moose, Trish & Rosie, Sharon & Ella****Ursuline Academy****Tracy & Jeep, Maureen & Skittles, Elizabeth & Ozzy, Barb & Fiona, Trish & Rosie**



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

West Chester Safety Services Center**Sharon and Roxie, Jim and Ava, Barb and Bentley****Green Township Fire, Police, & Admin.**

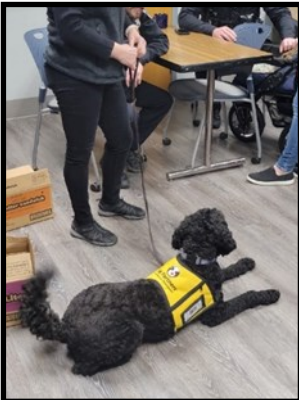
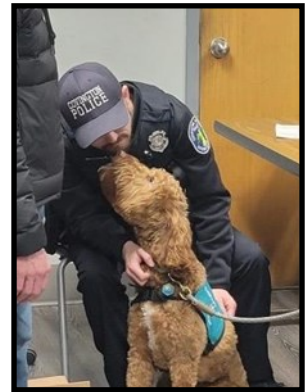
"This was the first time I've seen signs placed to show the pet therapy team where to go. Great visit!!"





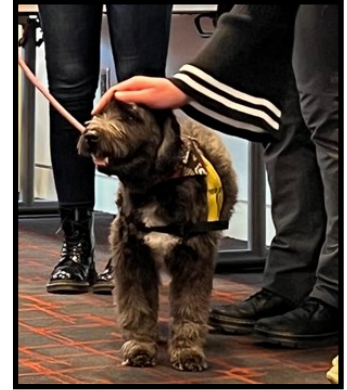
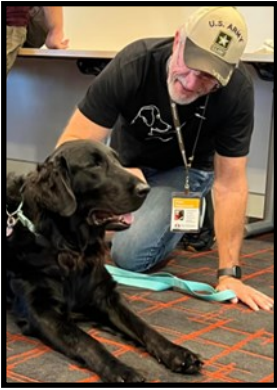
Covington Police Dept.

Dax, George, Remi, Nov, Maddy





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

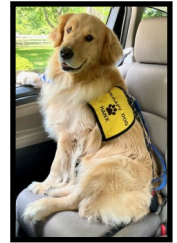
Puppies & Coffee – University of Cincinnati**Frank & Enzo, Trish & Rosie, Regina & Bentley****Tri Health Leadership Meeting****Trish & Rosie, Deb & Bailey**



Hank

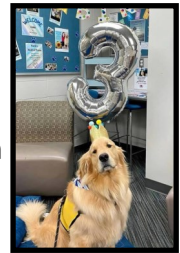


Hank is the love of our family's life! He is our first dog, and we cherish every second we get to spend with him. We all joke (and agree) that he is our favorite fifth child! Hank came into our lives as an eight-week-old puppy in June 2020. He had a sweet and gentle disposition from a young age, so pet therapy just seemed like a natural path for him. I used to be a teacher before having in schools felt like a great fit for us.



Hank and I go for regular, twice-a-week, two-hour visits to Mount Notre Dame High School. We visit with over 40 students, faculty, and staff each day we visit. Students sign up to visit in groups of ~5 for 15-minute sessions. They visit at either their free bell or lunch block. We are always located in the same space that happens to be enclosed in glass. It is such a treat to see the students' faces light up when they spot him set up on his quilt ready for visitors!

Hank was treated to a surprise third birthday party at MND, including dog bone garland, a #3 balloon, Graeter's dog treats, some backyard toys, and a giant birthday card with hundreds of personal comments students wrote about their experience visiting Hank. I shed many a tear reading about how many lives he has brightened in his short time with these students.



Hank also visited the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur convent over the summer. We were also asked to visit a friend's wife at Bethesda North who had a setback after cancer surgery. I think our friend needed the visit as much as his wife did. Hank brought golden yellow flowers to the counselor at MND who organizes his visits and told her to think of her Golden buddy over the summer when she waters them. He brought sunshine to one of the office workers on her 70th birthday by popping in to say hello.

A huge highlight for Hank was having a "Hank" stuffed animal sold in the Mount Notre Dame bookstore in his honor. They sold out on the first day so they had to order more! He was so touched that so many students wanted their own personal Hank to love on and bring them comfort at home when they couldn't be with him at school.



I can't say enough wonderful things about how much I treasure my time as a pet therapist. When people ask me to explain what exactly I do, I usually respond, "It is magic. I witness little transformations take place right before my eyes. Hank brings peace and unconditional love to students who benefit from being reminded just how much they matter!"

~ *Lisa Jennings*

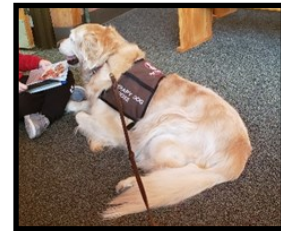
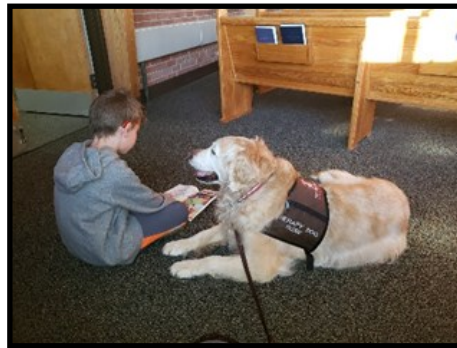
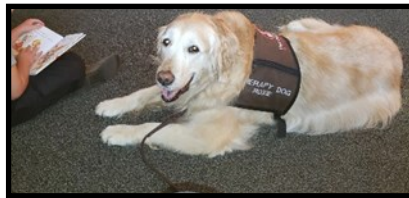




Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Whiz Kids Reading Tutoring Program, Goshen Methodist

Sharon Newman and Roxie



University of Cincinnati – Blue Ash

Terry & Nava, Trish & Rosie





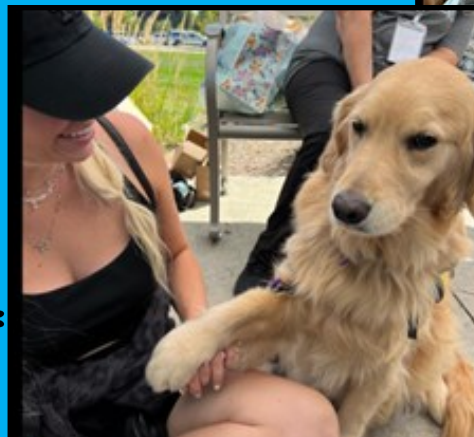
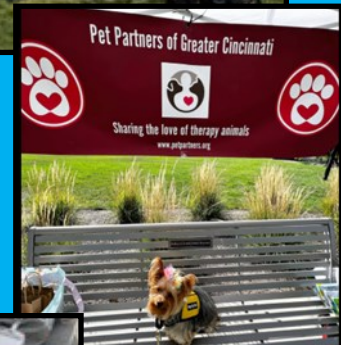
Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

World's Largest Pet Walk 2023

Great turnout and lots of fun!



Our chapter won "Sneaker Award" for the 2023 Social Super Star award
for top social media posts and Heather Hauser won an award for
Top Recruitment Leader – Team!





Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



A Bo and Enzo update

and



Thank You from Frank and Denise

As many of you were aware, Bo and Enzo were very ill with an upper respiratory infection last year, starting the end of November. Both ended up with pneumonia, Enzo with a collapsed lung and both were hospitalized. This situation was so scary, and we were in real danger of losing our boys. We want to thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts for all the thoughts, prayers and support. All the messages and calls truly helped get us through each day and night. We are so blessed to have so many people that love these boys.

The good news is, they are doing great and after more than two long months off from therapy visits, we are happy to say both boys are back at work!! Bo went back to work like a pro and Enzo went back more exuberant than ever!!



We will never know what the exact cause was of the infection. All we know is that it was a viral infection that turned into a secondary bacterial infection. Luckily, this did not become widespread in our area, as it did in other parts of the country. Upper respiratory infections always increase in the winter months, and we always need to be vigilant with quick treatment of symptoms and be a little extra cautious when interacting with other dogs during these months. We are so relieved that Bo and Enzo are back to good health and the no others were affected by their illness.

Again, THANK YOU ALL, for the love and support of Bo and Enzo. We are so grateful to be part of this wonderful Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati community.

~ Frank and Denise Sebastianelli



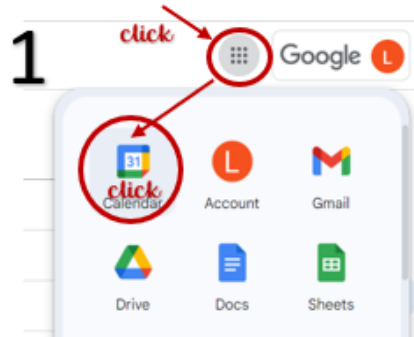


Event Gmail Calendar Got You Flummoxed?



How to reduce calendar notification activity.

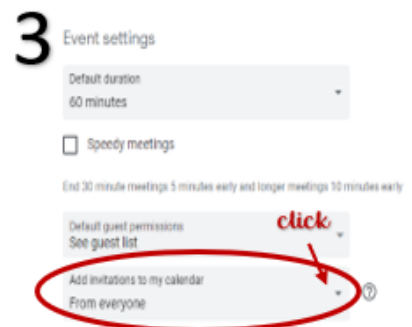
Log into your account. Go to your calendar.



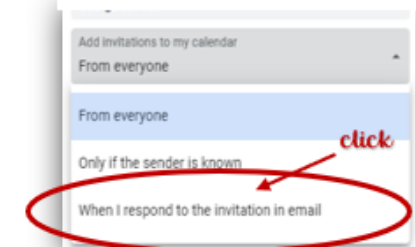
Find the gear at the top and then go to the settings.



Scroll down to "Event settings". Find "Add invitations to my calendar."



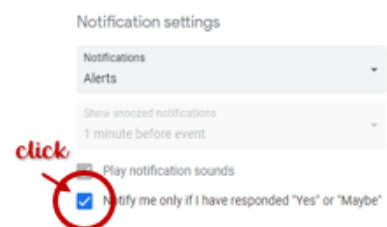
4 From the drop-down options, select "When I respond to the invitation in email."



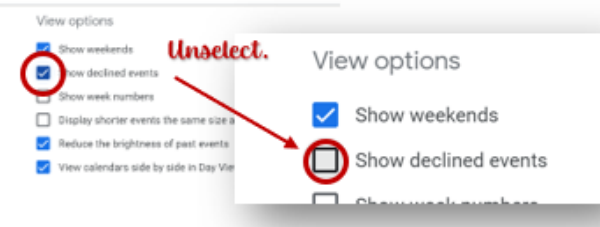
5 Select OK for the changes to take effect.



6 Scroll down to "Notification settings" and select the "Notify me only if I have responded "Yes" or "Maybe"."



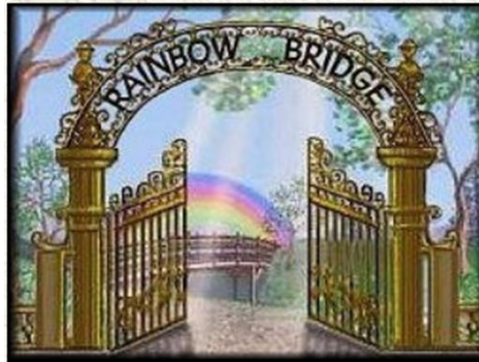
7 Scroll down to "View options" and unselect "Show declined events".



If you still have questions, contact Kathryn at Kathryn.louis@tpgcpets.org



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati



Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor. Those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent. His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together...

Author unknown.



Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati

Board President	Marilyn Edwards
Board Vice President	Heather Hauser
Board Secretary	Debbie Bauer
Board Treasurer	Louise Nathanson
Trustees	Deborah Newstrand
	Denise Sebastianelli
	Lora Wynn
Ex-Officio	Susan Steinhardt

Editor's Note

Wow, our organization has so many wonderful members, so many volunteers helping to run things, and bestows so much help, caring, and love to those we visit that it's astounding! We've logged 260 visits in 2023 in response to formal requests. The actual number of visits is much higher than that with weekly or monthly repeats plus others that don't come through the system. It's so heartwarming to see so much shared love and compassion.

Thank you to everyone who submitted stories and photos. I asked and you responded in a big way! I am so very proud to be affiliated with PPGC.

~Sharon Newman

