





A Letter from our President

Hello PPGC Members!

Spring is often considered a time of renewal and celebration!

Happy Spring

Proclamations:

What better way to greet spring than starting our celebrations of our 20th Anniversary of PPGC with the April event of National Therapy Animal Day? "Pet Partners created this day to raise awareness about the amazing impact you have as a volunteer with your pet in your community." I was thrilled to see the number of our teams who were so active in promoting and participating in this event by filling out the request and then meeting with so many of our local officials throughout Southwest Ohio and Northern Kentucky.

The Proclamations are another way to make a commitment to our communities and to have the community recognize and support April 30th as National Therapy Animal Day.

A special thanks to Trish Smith for tracking all these events and reporting back to Mary Margaret Callahan, Chief Mission Officer of Pet Partners. She was thrilled with all the work our community partners have contributed to this National Event.

Ohio - State of Ohio, Hamilton County Commissioner, Clermont County Commissioner, Clermont County Trustees, Warren County Commissioner, City of Montgomery, City of Mason.

Kentucky - Kenton County, City of Lexington, City of Covington, City of Villa Hills.

Group Photo:

Trish Smith also organized a kickoff to our anniversary with a group picture at Summit Park. As seen in the Newsletter's picture, it was beautiful day for our photo shoot.

Luncheon:

I hope you will come to celebrate our anniversary at the <u>annual luncheon on June 8th at Bethesda North</u>. Be sure to check for your EVITE and respond through your tpgcpets.org email address to make it easier on our event coordinators to track who will be attending. Come celebrate all our accomplishments to promoting the Human-Animal Bond.

Side notes:

We (Evaluators & Board) have been involved in helping our sister city of Lexington to develop their own community partner. This is a huge undertaking for Davis Dickens with UK Health Care and Kellie Banta (handler & studying to be an evaluator). This is Davis with her Pet Partner Mochi volunteering at UK Health Care.

My dog Frankie and I passed our evaluation! So happy to be joining the teams on their visits.

Warm Regards, Marilyn Edwards President, PPGC





Treasurer's Report



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

		FYE 6-3	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 Reimbursement	s \$	115.00	AACR Reimbursemen	ts \$	230.00
Booth Fees			Booth Fees	\$	125.00
Evaluations/ General/			Evaluations/ General,	′	
Workshops	\$	2,303.32	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



Susan's Musings

Hello fellow PPGC Members! I thought I would give you all an update on all the areas I have been engaged in for the last several months:

Funding/Grants

You may recall that last year we applied for a grant of \$7500 from the Good Shepherd Foundation of Ohio. We were awarded that grant with a focus on developing electronic evaluations, marketing and scholarships for recruiting. We have until next July to complete those efforts.

I was encouraged to apply for an additional grant from the same foundation this year and have done so asking for additional funds to support our technology efforts and recruiting.

We continue to support the efforts of students participating in the Magnified Giving Program. No grants have been awarded to us yet but there are still several outstanding inquiries.

Recruiting

Recruiting continues to be a challenge. As you know, we are in need of more teams to meet the increased demand from the community. We saw a 50% increase in requests in 2023! One outstanding example has been our work at Ronald McDonald House – in 2023 PPGC conducted 79 visits interacting with 1718 guests!

Please spread the word and encourage friends, family and neighbors to consider joining this wonderful community.

Emails

We are near complete compliance with members using their tpgcpets.org emails. We will no longer be sending notifications to members' personal emails.

Luncheon – 20th Anniversary!

Plan on joining us on June 8 for our 20 th Anniversary luncheon at Bethesda North Hospital. Evites were sent last week, check your tpgcpets.org emails!



Don't Miss It!



Saturday, June 8, 2024, 11:00 AM

Bethesda North Hospital, Golder 1, 10500 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati

HOSTED BY: Trish Smith, Karen Kennedy & Pamela Baird

If you have not received your Evite Invitation or have questions please contact Trish at Trish.smith@tpgcpets.org



Do You Have Your PPGC Shirt?



Men's and Women's Shirts Teal and Grey \$40-\$45

Available at all evaluations or contact:

Louise Nathanson 513-602-1102 Treasurer@tpgcpets.org







World's Largest Pet Walk 2024 Coming September 28



Saturday, September 28, 2024, is the 7th annual World's Largest Pet Walk presented by Wellness Pet Company. The World's Largest Pet Walk is an official Pet Partners walking event and signature fundraiser. This event is for everyone who wants to enjoy the health benefits of being active with pets, while also supporting Pet Partners!

We invite you and your pets to walk at any time and in any location on Saturday, September 28. Walk whatever distance and path that feels right for you and your animal. Whether you gather some friends and family for a casual stroll around the block, lead a group walk at your workplace or community, or take a quiet hike with just you and your animal, we want to see you taking steps with your pets.

Go to https://petpartners.org/events-fundraisers/wlpw for more info.



Some New Members of PPGC $\stackrel{\diamond}{\sim}$



Falkor, a Leonberger, and I live in Lexington, KY. We have been a canine partner team for 4 years and are a new team with Pet Partners! We are excited to continue volunteering with the University of KY Hospital Canine Therapy Team. I have been partnering with my German Shepherd Dog and 2 other Leonbergers for the past 9 years in counseling and therapy work, animal-assisted crisis response,



as well as bringing support and joy in libraries, schools, retirement facilities and other events. My furry gentle giants love lots of hugs and pets and are a joy to watch interact with the folks they visit!

~ Robin Fleischer



Pumpkin and I are excited to be new members of Pet Partners Greater Cincinnati Chapter! Pumpkin came to me as rescue kittens when he was just two weeks old after being found in a garden. It was apparent from the start that Pumpkin had a very laid back personality as his favorite activity was sitting in my lap to get pets, purring all the time. As he was so young

and needed bottle feeding every few hours he came to work with me, so Pump-kin was used to being out and about and meeting new people...students were always stopping by to visit with him...from an early age. My sister does therapy visits with her dog, Luna, and her work inspired me to look into getting Pumpkin certified as a therapy cat. I am grateful to the folks at PPGC who made our test-

ing experience so wonderful and been so supportive after! Pumpkin and I are enjoying our first official visits at a retirement community here in Oxford and are excited to expand our visits to the surrounding areas soon!



~ Carla Myers



There has been a sweet dog in my life since the day I was born and because of this, I have always known the unconditional love and joy they provide. It has been a goal of mine to share this with others, but life seemed too busy to take the time out to be a part of PPGC. I kept making excuses and literally the day when I was going to make a call to say I wouldn't be able to continue, I got a call from one of the PPGC representatives and off we went! Chance and I are so excited to be a part of this great group and share in such rewarding experiences.

My sweet boy Chance is 87 pounds of tail wagging love. His biggest thrill is walking into a room and looking around at all the people to love. He is a gentle giant and literally melts into anyone who wants to love on him. He patiently lays down and seems to smile as kids brush him and hug him. At our very first visit to an advanced therapy facility an aid to one of the adult patients told us that the woman who loved on Chance the most had been crying for the last few weeks. She stopped crying that day when she saw Chance and gave him so much love that he didn't want to leave her. I knew then that this was the 'job' for us.

We have visited advanced therapy centers, memory care facilities and although his love is unconditional, he seems to especially love visiting kids – special needs classes seem to be a great fit for us at this point. We are anxious to get more involved and look forward to meeting new friends and visiting more facilities.

~ Terri Daorn







Gaia (Guy-uh) is a 2 year old Newfoundland. She is a rescue from a local volunteer chapter of the Newfoundland Club of America. She was surrendered from a puppy mill operator who knew her mother was in trouble giving birth. Another volunteer and I drove through the night to get them vet care; 9 puppies and mom survived--we're all still in touch today.

I met Gaia the day she was born and fell in love. We had a special bond her entire rescue journey in foster care. When Gaia turned 9 weeks, she came home with my husband and I to join her two Saint Bernard brothers, completing our pack.

Gaia is a Canine Good Citizen and a Newfoundland breed ambassador. I knew from a very young age that she had the right temperament to do great things.

I work in Public Health and love serving my community. My husband is a Deputy Sheriff, and this has piqued my interest in the first responders therapy teams. But in true Newfoundland fashion, Gaia also has a



draw to children so we are open to various forms of therapy work.

My hobbies include anything to do with dog fancy: rescue, sports, conformation, you name it. I learned about Pet Partners from a friend in the organization. I was impressed by the standards Pet Partners holds teams to, and the range of opportunities available to teams. Dogs bring so much joy to my life and Gaia is such a treasure, I have to share her with others.

We're excited to see where this journey takes us!

~ Felicia Brugger



Hi. My name is Amie, and my therapy team "pup" is named Roxie. She is a seven-year-old goldendoodle. We adopted Roxie when she was two-years old, and she fit into our family immediately! She loves us unconditionally, and we are so thankful she came our way.



I work at Christian Village at Mason, a senior life plan community, and we often have therapy dogs come in to

visit our residents. A dog similar to Roxie came in one day, and I thought to myself how Roxie would and could give back in the same way, so we started school/training to complete the process! In February 2024, we became a certified therapy team

became a certified therapy team through Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati. We look forward to expanding our visits to other areas as well, adding Ronald McDonald House of Greater Cinci to our list!



It is a joy to see the smiles on people's faces when we walk in the room and how much love Roxie gives and also receives. She is a natural, and I am the lucky one to carry the job as her handler.

~ Amie Kocher







I was not looking to get another dog when the last one passed. No more kids in the house, no more dog hair, no more boarding issues...it sounded wonderful. But my daughter was insistent. Don't you need a dog to go hiking with? A smaller one than the labs we've always had, something that didn't shed as much?

I went to the League for Animal Welfare with my daughter and grandson. A black and white hound mix of no recognizable breed entered the room with his tail wagging, and a desire to meet everyone. He sealed it for the grandson when

he went right to the toy basket, picked out a toy and dropped in his lap. While they played fetch the facilitator explained he was about 3 years old, a stray from Pulaski County, Kentucky. His time on the road had left him very underweight, and he had just been neutered 6 days ago. Additionally, there were health issues he was still being treated for – both tickborne.

At this point the grandson declared "This is the dog, this is the dog grandma! And I even know his name! L-U-C-K-E-Y! Luckey. 'Cuz we're lucky we found him!" And just like that we had a dog.

Amazingly he still loves people. *All* people. We have yet to meet a person he doesn't want to greet. The idea of being a therapy dog came after taking him to assisted living to visit a relative. I did not realize how just the presence of a dog could make people's eyes light up. It made the dog light up too. He's never happier than when he has his head in someone's lap and is getting petted. I was eventually told that I couldn't come back *unless* I brought the dog.

We went thru the Pet Partners training, and so far have been managing to go to the Ronald McDonald House at least once a month. It's been wonderful so far. I am enjoying it as much as the dog is. My only regret is that since I still work I can't go to many of the requested visits. It's also a reminder that sometimes you don't get what you want. You get something better.

~ Jolene Esz







ACVO/Epicur National Service Animal Eye Exam Event

May 1 - 31, 2024

The ACVO/Epicur National Service Animal Eye Exam is a philanthropic event that provides free, ocular screening eye exams to qualified Service & Working Animals each May. These exams are provided by those members of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists who choose to participate and volunteer their time and resources. The program benefits formally trained working animals who selflessly care for us all. Approximately 8,000 eye exams are provided across America, Canada and Puerto Rico each May.

Roxie at The Animal Eye Institute, Cincinnati for her free eye exam.

Registration for the 2024 Event is closed. Keep an eye out for next year's event.

For more info, go to https://www.acvoeyeexam.org/

Amy's Crossover Volunteer Service

Amy Hudoba graduated from Miami Township's Citizens Police Academy on Nov 15, 2023 following a 10 week course. Congratulations Amy!

I enrolled because I wanted to learn more about what all our fabulous police men and women do every day to protect us. I learned so much and have an even greater respect for them. I feel all of us in our respective communities live in a bubble and are totally clueless how much they put their lives on the line for us on a daily basis and we don't thank them enough.

It is my hope and goal to be able to use Chipper as a pet therapy dog with some of the programs I'll be involved with going forward. I'll be talking with the leaders of our group about this potential as a member of the Alumni Association.





It's Flea & Tick Season Again!

From AKC.org

Flea Circus

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

Do Coyotes Attack Dogs? How to Protect Your Pet



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

Coyote Vests

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

Don't Leave Your Dog Outside Unsupervised

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

Coyote-Proof Fencing

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

Light up Your Yard at Night

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

Pick up Poop

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

Coyote Protection on Walks

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





Happiness At Home



Featuring our handlers, their family, friends, and pets when not "at work"

Hank Jennings was trying out his safety glasses for the solar eclipse before his mom made him retreat into the house!





LaVerne Ailman and the 3-way hug

Baxter (Karen Spradlin) is now 12 years old. When I rescued him he had been tied to a tree for 5 months. He only knew how to bark, walk around in circles and jump. He wouldn't focus on any person or thing. "Lights on, no one home".



I thought the training would kill me...LOL But we have had ten wonderful years together and I hope to have more. He earned his Canine Good Citizen and his Canine Good Citizen Community as well as a Distinguished Therapy Dog award from the AKC.

Thank you, Baxter, for bring joy into my life and the lives of all people you meet.











Terri Daorn & Chance at The Advanced Therapy Center at Chesterwood, West Chester



Roxie (Sharon Newman) and Ava (Jim Lee) at West Chester Safety Services Center



Madigan and Aspen at Cincinnati Fraternal Order of Police.

Ella (Sharon Schmetzer) at the North central library of Cinci



The library Tales to Tails program is an excellent way for children or anyone, for that matter, to improve their reading skills. It is advertised on the library website and on social media. Some people come to the library specifically to read to Ella, while others just happen to see us and stop by. They are encouraged to choose a book and read it to Ella. Many choose books about dogs. Children who are shy about reading out loud will usually be persuaded with little encouragement to read directly to Ella. Ella really



enjoys the attention and will listen and lay quietly while the book is being read. We go once a week, and now children will ask "Where's the dog?" on days we aren't there. The Cincinnati library system has their own application and background check process. The visits are very rewarding. Ella and I love it and are glad to be a part of this program.

Madi (Erin Donvan) at the Findlay Market Opening Day Parade 3/28/24





UC Clermont College Campus

We had a wonderful time for destress exam week. Our handlers were:

Bo & Bella

Tracy Kinney and Ivy. Missi Schulte and Harley, Frank Sebastianelli and Bo, Sheri Yust and Bella, and Karen Spradlin and Baxter. Students and staff alike enjoyed our furbabies. Thank you, UC Clermont for having us!

















A Beautiful Bond

By Debra Bryant and Oliver, Member since 2021

Comprehensive Care Center right after passing our evaluation. I met Kathy on one of our first visits to the infusion center. She was battling cancer. She was sitting alone with her thoughts when Oliver & I entered. She lit up when she met him, as she was an animal lover. Oliver liked her right off as well. We talked about Oliver & how we came to be involved with Pet Partners. I explained that we came every Tuesday. She scheduled her treatments for Tuesday mornings after that, so that she could visit with Oliver. She always had treats waiting for him. She became so

much more than a patient to me. We became friends. Often she & I would go to lunch after her treatment.

We would sometimes just go for coffee when she was not feeling up to lunch. I gave her my phone number so that if she was feeling low, we would talk on the phone & "have our coffee together" over the phone. She called me up one day & said that she would very much like to see me and Oliver, but she was not scheduled for any treatment. I invited her to come over for coffee. She did just that. There were times

that I would call her & go to her house for coffee. Things started to go sour shortly after they discontinued her treatments because the treatments were wreaking havoc on her kidneys.

There were dialysis issues, frequent hospitalizations, depression, etc. She or her daughter would call me when she was hospitalized or in a bad way & Oliver & I were on our way. I knew the end was coming & tried to prepare myself for what was to come.

In mid March Kathy asked if Oliver & I would meet her at The Thomas Center for a scheduled doctor appointment. The appointment was to go over her recent scans & I think Kathy knew they were not going to be good. Oliver & I met Kathy & her daughter just before the appointment. They asked if I would go in with them.

We began visiting The Harold & Eugenia Thomas The doctor told Kathy that there was nothing more that could be done. She advised her to stop all dialysis & other medications. Her daughter & I both cried. Kathy did not say anything or look at anyone but Oliver. He knew something was not quite right & he stood in front of her, looking right into her eyes. After the appointment Kathy wanted to go to lunch. At lunch, Kathy had asked me if Oliver could be an honorary pall bearer at her funeral. She told me that the day she met him, she had just been told that she had about 2 years if she took chemo. The only bright spot on that day was Oliver. He had come bouncing in just when

she needed him. He had been there for her entire cancer journey and she wanted him to be with her when she was laid to rest.

I have never been more honored or humbled! I immediately said yes. Since we were at Cracker Barrel, she wanted to shop a little, so we went into the gift shop. I saw this planter that I thought was cute. Her daughter lured me away to look at something else, & Kathy purchased the planter. She told me that she wanted me to have it to remember her. We hugged & then we all went home.

Just two days later, her family knew she was slipping away as she slipped in and out of consciousness. They called Oliver & I to come & be with her for a while. I put him in bed with her and placed her hand upon him. He lay right there with her for quite awhile, never once indicating he wanted to leave. Finally we said goodbye & left so that her family could be with her.

We lost Kathy April 4th 2024. Oliver was an honorary pallbearer. He led the casket from the funeral home to the hearse. They placed my car third in line, right behind the immediate family. We led the casket right to her final resting place.

I miss my friend, but I know she is at peace. I hope when I arrive in heaven one day that Kathy has my coffee ready!

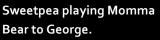
We will have a lot to catch up on!



Fort Mitchell Fire Department Helping out at the Health and Wellnes Training Class













Rosie at Serene Suites, Blue Ash





Rosie at Hospice of Cincinnati, Blue Ash





Rosie and Dax at Covington Police Department









Milford Fire Department Amanda & Aspen, Trish & Rosie, Karen & Elvis

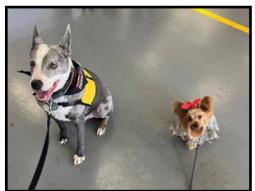














Hope Week at Deerfield Jr./Sr. High School Trish & Rosie, Felicia & Gaia











"National Therapy Animal Day" April 30, 2022 Clermont County, Ohio





Karen Spradlin and Baxter, Maureen Goddard and Skittles, Tracy Kinney and Jeep, and Commissioners.

Posted on the Clermont County webpage:

What a 'furtastic' day! Clermont County Commissioners designated April 30, 2024, as 'National Therapy Animal Day' in Clermont County.

National Therapy Animal Day is a day dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the work of therapy animals and their handlers who provide comfort, support, and companionship to people in various settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and disaster areas.

Thanks Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati for allowing us to meet Baxter, Skittles & Jeep.



"National Therapy Animal Day" April 30, 2024 Union Township, Clermont County





Tracy Kinney and Jeep, Maureen Goddard and Skittles, Karen Spradlin and Baxter with Trustees John Becker (holding the Proclamation) and Joe Dills.





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







Thalia and I met in July of 2016. She was found roaming the streets and brought into an animal shelter. I had been searching for a dog for about a year. I saw her face on the website and told myself I needed to meet her. When she was brought in for the meet and greet, she came right up to me and placed her head on my lap. As they say, the rest was history.

Thalia was loving, carefree, and loved people. She became a therapy dog because I saw how connected she was to me while going through some of the toughest situations, including a divorce after being married for 17 years. Thalia took every new adventure in stride. She didn't always trust the new home at first. But she was never very far from me. She loved her therapy work; she could sense from the doorway of a patient who needed her or wanted to be left alone. Her greatest work was when we visited sexual assault and domestic violence survivors. Because of her work the Ohio Department of Health created a protocol for having therapy dogs in during an exam.

One of my favorite memories of her was when we were attending an exam. The most difficult part for most survivors is when pictures are being taken, and evidence is being collected. This survivor began to sob. I asked if she wanted me to stop the exam and she told me "No, I can do this." She cried through the whole thing with me giving reassurance the whole time. When we finished the exam, Thalia got up from the corner she was laying in, came over and laid her head in the survivor's lap. At that moment, the survivor was able to smile and describe the rest of her encounter while petting Thalia the whole time. The transformation and the support Thalia provided was incredible for me to witness.

I am so blessed that Thalia rescued me. She was my pup, and I was her human. I miss her breathing in the house, and I miss the sassiness she conveyed through her facial expressions, the whole time loving the world. Thank you for allowing me to share my precious girl!

Thank you so much.

~ Karina Rodriguez





Board President Marilyn Edwards

Board Vice President Heather Hauser

Board Secretary Debbie Bauer

Board Treasurer Louise Nathanson

Trustees Deborah Newstrand

Denise Sebastianelli

Lora Wynn

Executive Director Susan Steinhardt

F ditor's Note

The beauty of Spring is upon us. It's a time to enjoy the outdoors with friends, family, and our furry friends. Roxie turns 13 yrs old this month, and she still frolics in the back yard and loves going "visiting" after 12 years of therapy work! I am very grateful to have her so healthy and in my life.



I apologize for the extreme length of this issue; I just couldn't bring myself to leave out any of the great items submitted by all of you. I look forward to seeing you at PPGC's 20th Anniversary Luncheon. It's a true reason to celebrate!

Have a safe and happy 4th of July.

~Sharon Newman