

"Paws & Hearts"

Animal Assisted Therapy

Fed. Tax ID #91-2096569



FALL 2026 NEWSLETTER

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Writing the Fall Newsletter in the dead of summer makes me dream of cooler temps and Halloween. I'm trying to envision Halloween decorations and pumpkins to put me in a fall mood. Kinda tough when today it is 118 degrees! Hurry up Fall!

Everyone knows that for the last five years our office has been in the Berger Charitable Building. Only non-profits have offices here, and as I've come to know some of our neighbors, I hear stories about their challenges with fund-raising and volunteers. I've always been so proud of our team of volunteers-both 2-legged and 4-legged. Volunteers are the back-bone of non-profits, and in my view **"Paws & Hearts"** has always attracted the very best volunteers in town. A few of our volunteers have been with us for so many years, and have had dogs in succession volunteering. Donations keep the rent and bills paid, but it is a strong volunteer core that keeps us all humming along.

Back in the Spring I was at the DMV office and as always was wearing my volunteer shirt. I was at the counter taking care of business with an agent, and an older man pushing his walker came over, interrupted, and said, "These guys are great! I've been visited more times in the hospital by these therapy dogs, and they were a God-send to my recovery!" I was so touched by this!! Thank you volunteers, both 2-legged and 4-legged!!

- Richard Waxman

UPCOMING EVENTS

To Put on Your Calendars!

PET BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Monthly Meetings
1st & 3rd Wednesday
of the Month

VOLUNTEER BOOK CLUB

Last Wednesday of the Month 1:00pm

"TERRY'S" VIEWS

("Lucky", "Scruffy", "Maddie" & "Bingo"
in thought)



Another summer and Dad has made me endure trips to the office and our twice-monthly visits to Amber House. While I'm glad that Dad hits the pre-start on our car to start it cooling down, how come the front seats are the only ones that are air conditioned? I have rear air conditioning in the back, but I think cooler leather on my cute tooshy would make my work life much easier!

Dad and I have had a busy summer. We've been working away at the office, going on visits, writing newsletters, answering the phone, and talking to potential volunteers about joining our group. All in all the summer has flown by.

But for me, the adorable 4-legged Junior Executive that I am, my favorite part of the summer has been the visits Dad takes me on to the two Amber Homes in Palm Desert. I truly love visiting with the residents and having them fuss over me.

Just being able to make these seniors smile, talk to me, and in most cases give me a kiss or two is so rewarding!

 "Terry" Waxman

"Paws & Hearts"

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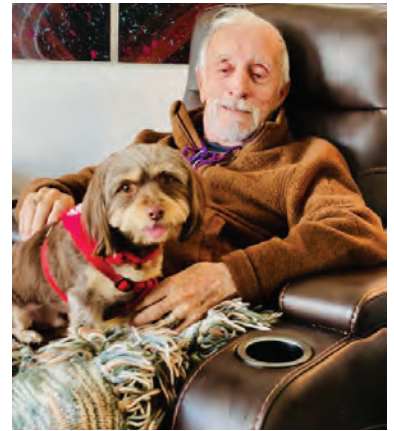
Fall Fundraiser

Every year at this time we ask our donors, supporters, and volunteers to make a one-time yearly donation. For many years we hosted our Dog Walk/Fundraiser and asked our volunteers to solicit donations. All we ask now is for everyone to please send in their yearly donation.

Let's face it, all of us make donations, whether to the Palm Springs Animal Shelter or one of our local food banks. And you know that after your donation you are bombarded with donation requests via mail, email, text messages, etc. I don't believe in that and have never done it. All I ask is that everyone who volunteers for us and supports us makes a one-time yearly donation. Really simple. Just click here www.pawsandhearts.org and click the **Donate Now** button at the top right, you'll be directed to our Paypal method of donation.

For those of you who aren't volunteers, take a look at some of the pictures below from this year's visits. This is where your dollars go...to keep our program humming along.

My sincere thank you!



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"Paws & Hearts" is a leader in the field of "Animal Assisted Therapy" (AAT) and it is our mission to enrich the lives of the frail and special care cases that require the loving attention and affection that only a 'four-legged' healer can provide.

~ Volunteer Stories ~

This is one of the items in the Newsletters that I love to include because it gives all of our readers a chance to really understand how special these Pet Therapy visits are not only to the patients/clients we see, but to the Volunteers themselves.



"CHLOE" & LINDA

Bayshire, Rancho Mirage

Today Chloe and I had a good visit at Bayshire. We saw several patients who were thrilled to see her. This one lady had been waiting for us to come into her room and when we entered she held out her arms and immediately grabbed Chloe and started petting and kissing her. Come to find out she had a dog at home named Chloe and it was the same breed as my little girl. What are the odds???

"BAILEY" & MONA

Monterey Palms, Palm Desert

Bailey met numerous people in the hallways. She moves from one wheel-chair to another, as her name is called. The woman who came into Monterey Palms paralyzed from the neck down was sitting up in her bed! At first, she could not move her arm to pet Bailey. Last week she could pet Bailey and today Bailey could jump on her bed because she sat up. She said Sunday is ice cream day, & Monday is Bailey Day! Monday is her favorite day of the week! And she had the best visit with Bailey this morning!



"OLLIE" & KAREN

Atria, Palm Desert

(Karen has been a volunteer with us for over 20 years now. She has a new/senior pup who has just started with us. Here is their first report!)

Ollie was a hit from the start. We met Betty sitting outside and she adored Ollie saying he was a sweet soul. We laughed about men etc. and she is looking forward to our next visit. While talking with her, Christine and her dog Joey came along. Ollie was laissez faire after meeting Joey, and Betty observed that Ollie was intelligent. We met Carol in the lobby who enjoyed petting him. We found Danny, Kristin's assistant, playing cards with 4 residents. We interacted and laughed about Ollie putting on a hat and joining them. Once game was over Danny took us around to the rooms to meet others.

Josephine loves her doggy time and we vowed to return. Kay full of energy and eager to chat. Lois waiting for her son to visit but enjoyed our visit. Met several more ladies in the hallway who couldn't get enough of petting Ollie who was as calm as could be. We are looking forward to our next visit!





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42-600 Cook Street, Ste. 207
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Palm Desert, CA 92211

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

As we featured the *Canine Ambassadors* who visit the Comprehensive Cancer Center in the Summer issue, let's have a look at the rest of our 4-legged team! Of course my guy "Terry" has to be front and center because it took so damn long to turn him into a therapy dog!

