

# **“Paws & Hearts”**

**Animal Assisted Therapy**

A Non-Profit Organization

Fed. Tax ID # 91-2096569

Winter 2021

Hi Everyone:

I hope this newsletter finds everyone as happy as I am that 2020 is just about over. Don't we all want 2021 to be a thousand times better than this year? Maybe with the promise of vaccines, the virus will finally be controlled and our lives can return to a new normal.

This was supposed to be our big 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration year. Well, that didn't work out, but on the positive side, we are still around and hopefully we'll be back to visits sometime next year.

Our monthly Pet Loss Bereavement Group meetings started up again in August, and we've had participants attend every month for safe, socially-distanced, mask-wearing meetings. And right now, that personal contact and the ability to talk about the passing of a beloved companion animal is very important.

We are wishing all of our volunteers, supporters, and donors a very happy and safe rest of the Holiday Season. And if you are so inclined, a year-end donation would be very much appreciated.

We hope to continue our Pet Therapy visitation program next year and to make plans for our Annual Volunteer Luncheon and Annual Dog Walk.

All the best!

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Waxman" is positioned to the left of a blue ink paw print. The paw print is a simple, stylized representation of a dog's paw with four distinct toes and a larger pad.

Richard **“Lucky”, “Scruffy”, “Maddie” & “Bingo”** Waxman  
Director **“Founders” & “Ambassadors”**  
Encl.

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**NEWSLETTER**

## Board of Directors

### *President*

Virginia Tillmannshofer

### *Vice President*

Richard Waxman  
Executive Director  
“Paws & Hearts”

### *Founders*

“Lucky” & “Scruffy”  
Waxman

### *Secretary/Treasurer*

Valerie Zugates

### *Members at Large*

Drew Marefos  
Karen Gebala

The year is almost over, and I don't think there is anyone who isn't anxious to bid it farewell once and for all.

Somehow, we managed to survive month after month with little to do. Maddie and I made it our mission to be in the office three half-days per week because there was always mail, correspondence, and banking to take care of. And updating the Face book page was always a treat! Many of you have been very kind this year and sent in donations and lovely letters of support. Every card received meant an awful lot to me. They really helped to keep me in a positive mood and moving forward.

So, let's all plan on a much better 2021. Let's see if the new norm we all face will permit us to resume our much-needed Pet Therapy visits!

*Richard Waxman*

## **Upcoming Events to Put on Your Calendars!**

### ***Pet Bereavement Support Group***

#### ***Monthly Meetings***

***Second Wednesday of the month, 1 pm***

### **21st Annual Dog Walk/Fundraiser**

**Saturday, November 27, 2021**

### ***“Maddie’s” Views***

***(Lucky, Scruffy & Bingo in thought)***

Honest to God, (Oy, I sound so Jewish here!) having to spend 24/7 with Dad all these months is making me *meshooga* (crazy)! He follows me around the house all the time, and when he is reading, he has me glued to his side. If we can't all go back to work next year, I don't know what I'm going to do with him!

Seriously, many of the volunteers have sent in pics of their ***Canine Ambassadors*** lounging around the house so I know that all of us are going through the same thing.

I just want to be able to go back to the Lucy Curci Cancer Center on Wednesday mornings with Uncle Drew to visit the patients and the staff.

That ottoman does have my name on it after all, (and all the other amazing therapy dogs who visit!)

Please enjoy the rest of holidays safely.

***“Maddie” Waxman***

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*Here's looking ahead to 2021 from some of our Canine Ambassadors who are very anxious to get back to work!*

