

“Paws & Hearts”

Animal Assisted Therapy

Fed. Tax ID #91-2096569

SPRING 2022

NEWSLETTER

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“Lucky” & “Scruffy”
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As I sit and write this next Newsletter, I am enjoying the much cooler temps we’ve experienced in the valley this winter. It is such a treat to wear trousers, my P & H’s sweatshirt, and have the furnace kick on in the office during the winter months which seem so short. Summer is not that far away!

In the last newsletter we were celebrating the fact that we had six volunteer teams back on visits. Sadly, due to Omicron those visits came to a halt, and as of this writing we have two **Canine Ambassadors** back at it. Obviously, I’d like to have all our teams back on visit, and hopefully that will happen over the next few months.

We are gearing up for our move to the Berger Building. I’d be lying if I didn’t share with you that I’ve been cleaning and packing since December! Drew and I cleared out the storage locker on December 24th, so we could save \$85.00 a month. We hauled all the stuff up the stairs, and trust me, for two old guys with bum knees it wasn’t easy!

Our bereavement groups continue to be well attended, and while the stories shared are usually heartbreaking, it is always the celebration of the animal’s life that end our talks, and that is always amazing to share!

By the Summer Issue we will be in our new office!! Can’t wait!

Richard Waxman

Upcoming Events to Put on Your Calendars!

Pet Bereavement Support Group

Monthly Meetings

Second Wednesday of the month, 1 pm

22nd Annual Dog Walk/Fundraiser

Saturday, November 26th, 2022

“Paws & Hearts” 74-133 El Paseo, Ste. 7
Palm Desert, CA 92260

(760) 836-1406 fax (760) 836-1426

E-Mail: Pawsandhearts@aol.com

Website: www.pawsandhearts.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pawsandheartsorg

“Terry’s” Views

(“Lucky”, “Scruffy”, “Maddie” & “Bingo” in thought)

So, for the last few months Dad has continued to train me. He is teaching me to be nice to the other dogs we meet on our walks. He also picks me up so the dog owners can say hello, while explaining to them that I am something called a therapy-dog in training.

A therapy-dog in training? Really? This sounds like work to me, and I didn’t sign on here to be put to work. My whole deal is to look cute, bark at passers-by, and chase the big cat around the house. Work? Hm, we’ll have to see about this!

And this is priceless-- a few weeks ago he took me to a women’s group at Sunrise Country Club for a presentation. He attempted to pass me off as this therapy-dog-in-training he keeps talking about! I have to admit I was well-behaved in Dad’s arms, but that vice-like grip he had on me probably had a lot to do with my good manners!

I actually listened to Dad, learned all about “Paws & Hearts”, was oohed and awed at by all the women in attendance, and am actually pretty psyched about becoming a therapy dog now! Who’d have think it???

“Terry” Waxman

Back in December we received an email from our pal Sharon at the Palm Springs Library. Sharon was originally the librarian at the Thousand Palms Library where we started the Paws to Read program over 20 years ago. That program that Sharon suggested holds a special place in my heart, and the memories from those reading sessions with the kids, when "Lucky" & "Scruffy" were young pups are very dear to me. We ran her email as a Facebook posting, but it needed to be memorialized in a Newsletter as well.

Hello Richard,

Wanted to share with you that I am retiring. This is my last week at the Library. It's been a great ride, but time to put the brakes on!

I want you to know how much I enjoyed and appreciated working with you. Paws to Read is definitely the most "dear-to-my-heart" library program I participated in over my 48-year career in schools and libraries. Knowing you, your volunteers, and all the canine friends was the highlight of my years in Thousand Palms. It is people like you that made my job easier and they are also the people I will miss most!

I believe you may have visited my Thousand Palms supervisor at a nursing facility this Fall. Barbara Bowie had a visitor from your organization that knew me. I'm thinking it could only have been you, as she said you knew me by name. What a small world we live in! I am so glad to know you continue to make a difference in people's lives. I know it's been a struggle managing through Covid, but also know how determined you are! (Maybe a bit stubborn?)

I am sad to say Barbara passed away yesterday, but you warmed her heart knowing she was a part of the Paws to Read program.

Thank you for being such a great person and allowing me to partner and bring Paws to Read to the Coachella Valley. I wish you well as your journey continues.

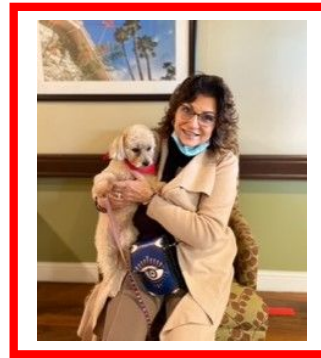
Take care and stay safe. All my love and best wishes--Sharon



Volunteer Stories

At the time of our Winter issue we had six volunteer teams making visits. Sadly because of Omicron we had to halt those visits. Currently we have two teams out there and while we've shared these stories on our Face-book page, they are very much worth reprinting in this newsletter! Hopefully by Summer we'll have many more stories to share.

Linda & "Chloe"-- Today Chloe and I Visited Bayshire Rehabilitation Center after it had been closed to us for several weeks due to the Omicron Virus. We were greeted by a new director named Carmen. She took over prior director, Andrea's position and has only been on the job for 2 weeks. After spending time getting to know her, we set out to greet the patients. Most of them were thrilled to see Chloe and couldn't wait to pet her. Several of the patients have animals of their own at home, so this was a real treat for them to be able to interact with Chloe. One lady actually broke down and cried because she had recently lost her little dog of 17 years, so being able to hold Chloe meant the world to her. Everyone we saw thanked us for our time and those that will be there for awhile look forward to our next visit.



Richard & "Terry"—Special Visit to *The Giving Circle* women's group at Sunrise Country Club. Last Thursday Dad put me in one of "Maddie's" old bandanas, (like I can't have my own already?) and off we went to make a presentation. We were met by a lovely group of women who invited us so they could learn about "**Paws & Hearts**." Dad & I explained to the women what an impact we've had on the valley for over 20 years with our pet therapy visits. The evening went incredibly well! We received some lovely donations from the women and hopefully a couple of new volunteers. And yours truly, was on his best behavior in Dad's arms. Wearing that bandana sure does make me feel professional! "Terry"



We need to send a special thank-you to all the donors who attended Barry Manilow's Gift of Love Concert V at the McCallum Theatre last December and to Barry himself for once again including us as one of the 25 lucky charities to receive a portion of the ticket sales.

This year we received a huge donation from Mr. Manilow, and we once again want to sincerely thank him, and to all of you who chose "Paws & Hearts" as your charity.

Later this Spring we will be relocating our office to the Berger Foundation building at the corner of Cook & Merle.



After 22 years of having to schlep upstairs to a second floor office, we will have a beautiful, newly remodeled ground-floor office with covered parking right at the door! We are so excited about this move.

Later this summer we will definitely have an Open House for all of our volunteers, donors, and friends from the valley.