

“Paws & Hearts”

Animal Assisted Therapy

Fed. Tax ID #91-2096569

SUMMER 2012

NEWSLETTER

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Virginia Tillmannshofer

Vice President:

Richard Waxman
Founder, Executive Dir.
“Paws & Hearts”

Founder:

“Lucky” Waxman

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Jack Poyfair, LVN
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Vista Cove at Rancho
Mirage

Bruce Hume

Executive Director’s Message

I’ve always maintained throughout my life that if you just worked hard and kept at it, no matter what, good things would eventually happen. This has certainly been evident for the first half of this year for “Paws & Hearts.”

The mail has brought us some really wonderful, surprise donations--the kind that make a *huge* difference in the grand scheme of things. It is especially gratifying that while I don’t know how a couple of the donations originated, the donors felt strongly enough about our organization and mission statement to sit down and write the check.

We’ve also been incredibly lucky to have been chosen as one of the 25 charities to share in the proceeds of Barry Manilow’s Holiday Concerts at the MacCallum Theatre this December. (More on this inside.)

Once again, we just keep plugging along, and so far this year the universe has been smiling down on us! *Please keep smiling!*

Richard Waxman

Upcoming Events to Put on Your Calendars!

**Annual Halloween Dog Costume Party
at Vista Cove at Rancho Mirage
Date to be announced**

**12th Annual Dog Walk/
Fundraiser
Saturday December 1st
Westin Mission Hills Resort**

**Barry Manilow Holiday Concerts at
The McCallum Theater**

“Paws & Hearts” 74-854 Velie Way, Ste. 7
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 836-1406 fax (760) 836-1426
E-Mail: Pawsandhearts@aol.com
Website: www.pawsandhearts.org

“Scruffy’s Views

As much as I never minded being Lucky’s second-banana, aka Ethel Mertz, I’m having a bit of an issue here playing second fiddle to this new dog, “Maddie.”

Okay, she is cute and adorable and surprisingly adept at our weekly visits to Eisenhower Medical Center, but I’m back to lying at the foot of the bed again, just looking handsome. Of course, I am the expert hand-kisser!

Really I’m right back where I belong! Dad seems to forget that I have been waggin’ my tail, going on visits, making presentations, and generally looking cute for eight years now and I’m getting a little tired. I am delighted that “Maddie” has come along and is garnering so much attention from staff and patients at Eisenhower. After only ten weeks, she gets why she is going and what’s expected of her when it comes to making the patients feel just a little better.

While I’ll never ever forget my older brother, “Lucky” and all that he taught me, it seems as though my job is done in passing on what “Lucky” taught me, because “Maddie” truly is “Lucky” on our visits! *If only she was as well behaved at home. Oy.....*

“Scruffy” Waxman

Highlighting our Incredible Volunteer Teams

We are going to start highlighting our incredible volunteer teams in every newsletter so that our readers can get to know the wonderful **Canine Ambassadors** and their human counterparts who go on visits each and every week. Our second spotlight shines on Ann and her West Highland Terrier, “Samie”.



“Samie” is a West Highland Terrier and she visits the Lucy Curci Radiation Department at Eisenhower Medical Center every Wednesday afternoon. I bathe her in the kitchen sink, followed by a cream rinse and a blow dry on the ironing board. She is excited as soon as she sees me putting on my “Paws & Hearts” volunteer shirt. She quivers with excitement when I tie her working-bandana around her neck. When we approach the intersection of Country Club and Bob Hope she gets very excited and starts squeaking because she just knows where she is headed.

We sit in the waiting room and every patient who walks in from the dressing room is welcomed. Many of them want her to jump on their laps and she *happily* obliges. If they ask her for a kiss, she will lick their face. Most patients talk about how they will miss all the visiting **Canine Ambassador** dogs when their treatments are over. Sometimes the patients tell me that this is their last week of treatment and when they say goodbye, I feel sad, but have a good feeling about what we have given them with the therapy dog visits through the many weeks of their treatments.

Ann M.



PRESENTS

**BARRY MANILOW'S
A GIFT OF LOVE**

To Benefit Local Charities

Barry Manilow is performing his Holiday Concerts benefiting local charities and "Paws & Hearts" is one of the very lucky charities chosen to participate. VIP tickets have been on sale since June 1st and can still be purchased by calling (310) 957-5788 or emailing: starz.bz/agiftoflove General tickets go on sale at the McCallum box office beginning October 1st. "Paws & Hearts" will share in all the money raised from ticket sales and we are very excited to be part of this wonderful event!

Please plan to attend one of the concerts and enjoy one of the greatest entertainers of our time!

DATES	12/11/12	Tuesday	8:00pm
	12/12/12	Wednesday	8:00pm
	12/14/12	Friday	8:00pm
	12/15/12	Saturday	8:00pm
	12/16/12	Sunday	8:00pm

LOCATION McCallum Theatre - 73000 Fred Waring Drive - Palm Desert CA 92260
(760) 340-2787.



Lucky Waxman Memorial Fund

Karen Gebala	\$50.00	Peg Bonda	25.00
Adrienne Stuart	20.00	Syree Gibbs	100.00
Jane R. Deah	25.00	Dyan Flyzik	50.00
Inge Fullerton	25.00	Diana Finnegan	25.00
Adrienne L. Burnell	100.00	Anonymous	20.00
Maxine Fitzpatrick	25.00	Donni Jean Prince	25.00
Bruce Hume	100.00	Ingrid Walker	30.00
Kathleen Widney	25.00	Carol J. Kockerhans	25.00
Patti Keylin	25.00	Rita Steffen-Susman	200.00
Chris McGuire	100.00	Valerie Zugates	100.00
Dawn Suggs	100.00	Lois Leiter	30.00
Mary Panesar	100.00	Drew Marefos	50.00
Carla B. Howard	75.00	Ann Rule	50.00
Phyllis Harkins	50.00	Ginny Tillmannshofer	100.00
Ann Kelley	50.00	Greg Phelps	100.00
Gail Richards	25.00	Anonymous	1,000.00
Ruth Beschloss	100.00	Tish Gobble	100.00
James Harp	100.00	Carol A. Gunther	200.00
Clay Pettet & Gene Zaks	50.00	Janet B. Miller	25.00
Ralph Ruder	100.00		

Thank you all for your very generous donations in "Lucky's" memory. This list keeps growing and every note received and the sentiments expressed are sincerely appreciated.

Here's Maddie!

Introducing Eisenhower's
Newest Four-Legged Volunteer
(reprinted with permission)

After the passing of Canine Ambassador "Lucky", Richard Waxman (Lucky's owner and Founder of "Paws & Hearts") had no intention of finding a replacement. However, during Thanksgiving weekend 2011, Richard visited a two-day pet adoption event in Rancho Mirage. As he passed cage after cage trying hard not to look, he noticed a tiny, eight-month-old puppy whose eyes immediately caught his attention. After a futile attempt to say, "No", Richard gave in and Maddie made her way into his life and into the Eisenhower family.



In March, Richard took Maddie on her first visit to the hospital with her partner Scruffy, (Lucky's former assistant.) Rambunctious and frisky at home, he wanted to see if Maddie could adapt to the surroundings of a hospital. "She was nothing like the dog she is at home," says Richard. "It was as if she had visited Eisenhower for years. She was gentle from the start, taking Scruffy's lead, watching what to do and was incredible with the patients and staff."

As for Scruffy, Richard says, "He is thrilled to reprise his role as *co-star*. He just loves to sit in the secondary position and let little Maddie do all the kissing stuff."

Volunteer Stories

A few of our readers have asked where our Volunteer Stories come from. Our volunteer teams visit their assigned facility each and every week and part of their commitment is to email into our office a weekly report, complete with their visitation story. Some day, these stories along with photographs will be turned into a book because the stories are heart-warming and the patients/clients we visit truly treasure their weekly visit.

California Nursing & Rehabilitation Jonathan & "Zoe": We were a little early and many of the residents were in the activity room. They were close to the end of the session so we waited and joined them when they were finished. "Zoe" was wheeled around on one of the chairs so she could visit most of them and she really enjoyed the whole episode. We saw a new resident that was in for dialysis treatment. She was blind and had to visualize "Zoe" with her hands-she was so happy with the visit. "Zoe" laid down next to her so she could get a good picture in her mind. She was going to be there twice a week for treatments and wants to make sure we find her next Tuesday! *Lovely, lovely story of Animal Assisted Therapy at its very best!*

Eisenhower, Lucy Curci Cancer Center Jean & "Buffy": I made it to Lucy Curci through the heat and hot pavement, but was relieved when we got inside the building. I tried to run fast but my Mom cannot run or walk too fast. I had a good visit as every one was glad to see me! I got to run and play with an older man which was great fun! My Mom told everyone we will continue to visit them on Thursday's as long as it will not be too hot on my paws. I am too big and too heavy to be carried! "Buffy"

Santa Fe Assisted Living Facility, Yucca Valley Cathy & "Pedro": We visited on Saturday and "Pedro" gets better each time! He and Joey, one of the clients dogs are getting to know each other. Had a good visit in the Alzheimer's section—everyone just loved "Pedro", he did his tricks for the residents and is getting to know them all!

Desert Cove Cathy & "Zoey": This was "Zoey's" first visit and the first visit at this new *boutique assisted living* facility in Indio. Upon entering one of the residents came up to "Zoey" and his eyes just lit up. He told us that he had a Standard Poodle for 17 years. As we were leaving he told me to be sure to keep her because she was really special!

"Zoey" visited another man in his room. Upon entering, the staff person told him he had a visitor. He said he was really sick, but then he saw "Zoey" and she put her front paws on the bed and this brought a big smile to the residents face. "Zoey" kissed his hand and arm, and the resident talked to her. He told me to be sure and come back next week and visit! *Again, Animal Assisted Therapy working wonders!*

Eisenhower Medical Center Richard, "Scruffy" & "Maddie": It has been almost 3 months since "Maddie" started going on visits and she is quite the champ. It is almost as if dear "Lucky's" soul is in her little body. Many lovely rooms today, but the best was one 5-year old boy who just lit right up when the guys came into his room. As I put the dogs on the bed the little boy began asking lots of questions about the dogs. "Scruffy" did his usual thing of kissing the boys hand, and "Maddie", instead of standing up kissing, sensed the boy wasn't feeling good and decided to snuggle very gently along his side and allowed him to stroke her. The mother was most appreciative of the visit!

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.

Our 12th Annual Dog Walk/Fundraiser

It is never too early to mark your calendars for our Annual Dog Walk/Fundraiser, Saturday Dec. 1st.

Will any of us who attended (or worked) our last dog walk, forget those horrific winds we had to endure? The winds may have been blowing, but we still had a very good turn-out and everyone enjoyed a very brisk walk to keep warm! Let's all pray for a calmer day this year.

As always the Westin Mission Hills in Rancho Mirage is hosting our event. We've started planning this event a little earlier in the year and will have more pet-related vendors in attendance.

As always we will offer our complimentary buffet breakfast and our spectacular raffle.

Don't forget to save up your loose change and turn it in at registration time. For every loose bag of change donated you will be given an extra raffle ticket!

