

“Paws & Hearts”

Animal Assisted Therapy

Fed. Tax ID #91-2096569

Winter 2019

NEWSLETTER

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Richard Waxman

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“Paws & Hearts”

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“Lucky” & “Scruffy”

Waxman

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After a busy end to 2018 with our very successful 18th Annual Dog Walk-Fundraiser (more on this on page 2), we are already hard at work as we begin our 19th year of service.

We are gearing up for another year of visits, grant writing, bereavement group meetings, newsletters, and presentations around the valley. There is always something to do or some place to take Maddie and Bingo.

I'd like to take a moment to thank Danielle Barton, our former board member and BBVA Compass bank manager, for all of her years of dedication to our organization. Danielle has left the valley for a cooler climate but will keep in touch with us. We thank her for all of her help! On to 2019.....

Richard Waxman

Upcoming Events to Put on Your Calendars!

Pet Bereavement Support Group

Monthly Meetings

Second Wednesday of the month, 1 pm

19th Annual Dog Walk/Fundraiser

Saturday November 30th

Registration begins at 9 am, Walk at 10 am

Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/pawsandheartsorg

“Maddie’s” Views (“Lucky” & “Scruffy” in thought)

Uncle Drew takes Bingo and me on two visits per week, and in our final Facebook story from last year, two of his reports were featured. Let's repeat them here!

This week at Lucy Curci Maddie & Bingo had a new group of customers! Everyone thought they both were very special. Maddie was in heaven with four new gentlemen patients! Bingo of course was up on his special place, the ottoman, visiting with all the new arrivals. All the tech staff and doctors came in to visit with us. A very good visit!!!

At Brookdale on Friday Maddie and Bingo had an easy visit, with limited customers. Memory Care was rather quiet with only five residents, but the ladies were all smiling and anxious to visit. All of them wanted lap time from Maddie and she made herself feel right at home with everyone!

Bingo of course was a big hit in Assisted Living. He checked out the beauty parlor and physical therapy room and was up on many beds with customers who were eager to have a visit. Another lovely Friday morning!

“Maddie” Waxman

Highlights from Last Year's Annual Dog Walk/Fundraiser

We had the most amazing walk last year. We have so many people to thank who made the morning so special, so in no particular order, our sincere thanks to—

Our Board President Ginny Tillmannshofer for those amazing raffle baskets!
 One West Bank, and Kim Harth for our first corporate sponsorship!
 Randy Miller and Modern Woodmen for that matching donation!
 Dan McGrath for taking the microphone and playing host so expertly!
 Bryan Gallo & Thalia Hayden for that adorable commercial on KMIR!

And we can't forget.....

Our amazing Santa, Duane, who really was the most amazing Santa we've ever had!

And to all of the supporters who turned out for the event, thank you for your continued support!



Richard, Kim-One West Bank, Dan McGrath



Our own Karen Dorn, "Emerson" & Santa



We always have the most amazing raffle baskets of any fundraiser!



Richard and the matching donation from Modern Woodmen



DW PET CARE



Our Santa is a gentleman by the name of Duane Walters. He actually has his own in-home pet-sitting service in Cathedral City. From personal experience I can tell you that Duane provides a safe and very harmonious place for your dog. Give him a call for information 760-832-2327.

What it takes to be a Great Canine Ambassador

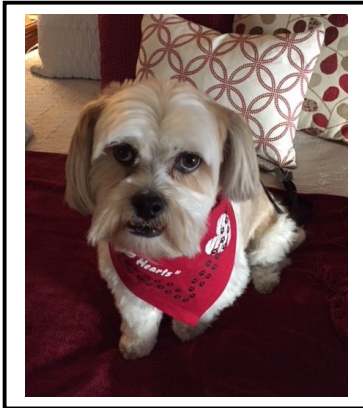
At "Paws & Hearts" we are always on the look-out for amazing dogs that have what it takes to become a great therapy dog. Many dogs pass the temperament test very easily, others don't.

When you are assessing your dog's temperament in the hopes that he or she could become a visiting therapy dog, please consider the following:

- How friendly is my dog with total strangers?
- How well does my dog do in different settings, places that he or she doesn't go all the time?
- Does my dog enjoy being petted and massaged?
- When company comes to visit, does my dog think the company has come to see him or her? Are there suddenly toys brought out in the hopes that the company will start to play? Will my dog engage the company and not get bored easily?
- Does my dog listen to my verbal commands without hesitation?

These are qualities we look for when assessing your pooch!

Keep in mind, you and your dog will be going from room to room visiting patient after patient in bed. Your dog will be at the side of the bed, or on the bed visiting with the patients and must be engaging at all times. Please go to our website, www.pawsandhearts.org and watch the videos of Lucky & Scruffy at Eisenhower. If you think your dog is up to the task, we'd love to hear from you!



"Toby"



"Dunkin"



Nolan, Richard & "Maddie"



"Zoey"

Pet Bereavement Support Group

Our group meets the second Wednesday of every month, 1pm, at our office in Palm Desert. Each participant is asked to register on our website, www.pawsandhearts.org and to bring a photograph of their beloved dog or cat, (not on a cell phone.) The group is in its second year, and we have seen many faces from the valley come into the office and share love-stories of their beloved 4-legged companions.

It is our deepest wish that this support group is really helping those individuals who have recently lost their companion animal. We are here to help. Just give us a call.



Volunteer Stories

Many 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.

New Year's Day– Richard, "Maddie" & "Bingo": A year and a half ago I reported on Nolan, a young man whom Maddie and I visited a couple of times at Desert Regional Medical Center. Nolan had been the victim of a shooting, and he and Maddie had instant chemistry. We got to visit Nolan on two occasions before he was transferred home to the Bay Area for months of physical therapy. New Year's weekend Nolan was in the valley with his Mom and Aunt for a visit, and he has made remarkable progress. It was so good to see him again. He and Maddie visited, and even Bingo had a chance to get to know Nolan.

It is getting to know patients like Nolan that make this kind of work so very rewarding!

The Fountains at the Carlotta – Gayle & "Toby": Toby brought lots of happy smiles today! Toby was told that he made Kate's day very special. One patient said that no matter how bad you feel you can't help but smile when you see that dog! We met a lady in the lobby when we arrived and she exclaimed, "Oh my gosh, I thought I had the cutest dog in the world, but now that I see this one, I'm not so sure. He could make anyone feel better!"

Premier Health Care & Rehabilitation – Suze & "Dunkin": Not only did we go and see Dunkin's fan club today, Christmas, but we also went on our regular Saturday. Both were lovely visits although we did spend most of Saturday with Wayne. Today he was feeling much better and was so happy to see Dunkin. We made our usual stops and got to stop and make other residents smile. Must have been our timing today because more people were up and more alert today! Merry Christmas from my reindeer and me!

The Meadows – Cathy & "Zoey": Zoey visited with patients sitting around tables and on sofas. Then one of the patients wanted to walk, so we walked with her down the hallway. We met up with Judy, another patient who kept saying over and over that Zoey makes her heart feel good. She also wanted to walk with us. So we continued on. Then we met up with Boyd, who Zoey really likes. He had on a tee shirt with a picture of an old pick-up truck that said, "old guys rule." One of the staff was joking with him about his shirt and he told us about the old truck he used to have. He also wanted to walk back to his room, so he walked with us. We passed a couple of staff talking in the hallway and they commented how Zoey has a parade of friends. Zoey saw Misha, one of her favorites, sitting by herself and sleeping. Zoey went up and kissed her hand and Misha woke up with a big smile and said, "There is my baby."

Another lady, Barbara, who carries a stuffed tiger with her, held the tiger down for Zoey to see. Zoey kissed it on the nose, and Barbara got excited, and said she has to go get her fox because Zoey will love it. One of the men patients said Barbara has lots of stuffed animals. We walked on and met up with Barbara again, who now had the fox. Zoey went up to the fox and kissed it. Barbara said Zoey loves all her animals and if I want, Zoey can live in her room with them!

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 frail and special care cases that require the loving attention and affection that only a "four-legged" healer can provide.

2018 Annual Dog Walk

We just had to share a few more Santa Photos!

