

“Paws & Hearts”

Animal Assisted Therapy

A Non-Profit Organization

Fed. Tax ID # 91-2096569

Early Fall 2020

Hi Everyone:

You'll notice that the Fall Newsletter is only one page, and the Dog Walk Registration Form and return donation envelope are not in this mailing. Here's why: We have postponed our 20th Annual Celebration Dog Walk Fundraiser until next year. This is just not the time to bring 200 + people together. Nor is it the time to be asking our volunteers to ask their friends for donations. So many people are out of work, and we just don't want to add to anyone's stress. Let's aim for Saturday November 27, 2021 for that special pancake breakfast walk! Also with no visits since March, there is little to report on, except that we are anxiously awaiting the time when we can all go back to our assigned facilities.

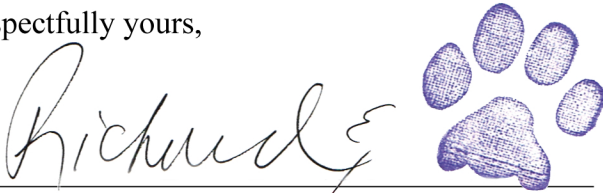
By now all of our volunteers and followers know how “Bingo” was brutally destroyed on Monday, June 8 by a vicious dog in our community. Thankfully, “Maddie” wasn't touched, but what happened to “Bingo” will never leave my mind.

To say that 2020 has been a tough year for everyone on the planet would be an understatement, but challenging times just make us stronger.....so we've always been told.

So, here is my suggestion to all of you. When making plans for Thanksgiving and for the holidays, no matter whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukah, or Kwanzaa, take what you would have donated to ***“Paws & Hearts”*** and spend it at a local business that really needs your money, or better yet, make a donation to your local food bank.

Whatever you do this fall and winter season, just stay safe!

Respectfully yours,



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

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FALL 2020

NEWSLETTER

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Richard Waxman

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“Lucky” & “Scruffy”

Waxman

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It is with a very heavy heart that I write the Fall Newsletter this year. Most of our volunteers, donors, and followers know that on June 8th my little “Bingo” was brutally and savagely attacked by a neighbor’s dog. “Bingo” did not survive the mauling, and “Maddie” and I have not set foot out the door to walk in our gated community since. The thoughtlessness of the homeowner still astounds me. I can stay as mad as I want, but nothing will ever bring Bad Boy Bingo back.

The Board has decided to postpone this year’s dog walk. It isn’t socially responsible to even consider bringing 200 people together, and we wouldn’t feel right asking volunteers to raise donations when so many people have been financially affected by the virus. Also, there was no way I was going to call local businesses for donations for the raffle and gift baskets. So just a very short newsletter.

Let’s all pray that 2021 is a better year for the planet!

Richard Waxman

Upcoming Events to Put on Your Calendars!

Pet Bereavement Support Group

Monthly Meetings

Second Wednesday of the month, 1 pm

Will restart this fall season

20th Annual Dog Walk/Fundraiser

Post-poned until 2021

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

What a lousy time for Dad to ask me to write my quarterly column for the Newsletter. I am honestly not in the mood to put paw to keyboard, but I need to talk about my buddy “Bingo.”

Horrible thing that happened at 5:30 that Monday morning. I know Dad feels responsible for not saving “Bingo,” but it all happened so fast that there was nothing Dad could have done.

Since that time Dad has been overly affectionate and attentive to me. He gave me a bunch of new stuffed toys, and I get to pick whatever side I want when I’m cuddling beside him on the sofa. And now I can really stretch out in bed, and “Bingo” isn’t kicking me, sleeping on me, or squeezing in beside Dad. However, after 2+ years of trying to train the little guy, I was just getting used to having him around. I really do miss him.

Life would be better for me if I could go back to my weekly visits. I see Uncle Drew all the time because I get to run around his backyard every single morning, but I want to go back to work to keep “Bingo’s” memory alive.

“Maddie” Waxman

"Bingo" His Story

"Bingo" was not even three years old on June 8th when his little life was cut short because of an irresponsible neighbor. To help heal I need to focus on his all-too-short time on this planet and what he meant to Maddie and me, as well as to the community he served with his therapy visits.

To say that "Bingo" was the most challenging pup I'd ever tried to train was an understatement. He just would not grow out of puppyhood, and he did everything he could to test my patience. There were a few times he was headed back to the shelter, but they turned into drop-off's at Duane's Pet Sitting Service. Every time "Bingo" came back from Duane's he was a bit more grown up, and after five or six visits I remember him looking at me very intently as if to say, "Okay, I get it, don't send me away again, I'll behave myself," and he did. The chewing stopped, the barking calmed down, and he just became the dog I always hoped he would be.

One thing was always the same, he was amazing on visits. From the first time I took him to Desert Regional Medical Center, his enthusiasm and his instant affection for patients shone right through. Although he had a hard time sitting in one spot on the bed for very long, his ability to look deep into a patient's eyes, and to give a big kiss if requested was amazing. "Bingo" truly was born to be a great therapy dog. Uncle Drew took him with "Maddie" every Wednesday morning to the Lucy Curci Cancer Center and the patients and staff truly loved him.

A few pictures of "Bingo" in action. *"Bingo" you have no idea how much I miss you!*
"Maddie" and I will never forget you--

