



KPETS Keynotes

Our Mission:

KPETS is a non-profit organization established to promote Animal Assisted Therapy / Animal Assisted Activities (AAT/AAA) by recruiting, educating, uniting and coordinating volunteers with the facilities, social agencies and special-needs programs whose clients may benefit from the healing and rehabilitating effects of the animal/human bond. The unconditional love of our pets is shared with those of all ages and from all walks of life.

KPETS Board

- Karen Gerth
- Laura Whitman
- Bill Gerth
- Jim Martin
- Dr. Andrew Sloyer
- Art Amelio

590 Centerville Road #107
Lancaster, PA 17601
717.333.kpet (5738)
info@kpets.org

If you shop on the web, go to www.igive.com. Sign up, and choose KPETS as your cause. A percent of the cost of your order will be donated to KPETS. MANY stores to choose from!

KPETS Keynotes

Keeping Pet Therapy Volunteers Connected!

Lebanon VA Hospital Picnic VA Picnic



Lebanon VA Hospital Picnic

KPETS was invited to a picnic at Lebanon VA Hospital June 20, 2008. We took our therapy dogs around and mingled with the residents and let them visit with the dogs while they ate lunch. A few of our 4 legged friends got to taste some of the food while the residents slipped them a bite of hot dog or a lick of ice cream. After the residents ate lunch the VA Hospital invited KPETS teams to eat lunch so some of the dogs got another round of food (they didn't seem to mind - the dog's that is)!

It was interesting to hear which wars the residents fought in and where they were stationed at that time. I respect these men tremendously!

Tucker was pushed around in his famous stroller where he rides like a king. This time he allowed Sophie to ride with him. Sophie liked the stroller so much that her owner Cathy had to find Sophie a stroller of her own.

We all sat outside trying to fit in the picture while Bruce Mackey tried to get the teams and the dogs to pose for a KPETS KODAK Moment.

Thanks to the following for supporting these gentlemen at the VA Hospital:

Lynne Scherden/Meggie, Stacey Chubb/Hallie, Cindy Stewart/Jack, Cathy Farr/Sophie, Nancy Campbell/Holly, Bruce & Marilyn Mackey/Buddy Bear, Bill Townsend/Zoey and Gini Swartzell/Tucker

- Gini Swartzell



Lebanon VA Hospital Picnic

Our First Annual Appeal Letter

Our development team is working on finalizing our first annual appeal letter. If you haven't sent in your facility-specific info, please send the following data to annapp@kpets.org or to our mailing address if you don't have email. We really need accurate information to share with the facilities we are contacting. Thanks so much! This will help tremendously!

- 1 - list of all facilities you visit regularly
- 2 - how often you visit, weekly, monthly, 2 times a month, etc.
- 3 - Approx how many folks to you see when you go there
- 4 - If you go as a group, how many other teams go with you.

THANK YOU!

KPETS Recap

Camp USO

Linda Bunch and William Townsend were invited to attend Camp USO on June 16, 2008 at Camp Kenbrook.

When National Guard and other military parents living in civilian communities are mobilized, their children suddenly have unique needs for special support and services. These kids are known as "suddenly military". Teachers, friends and the rest of the community may see the "same old kid", but in reality their lives are turned upside down!

Many of their usual support systems may no longer be adequate. Extensive media coverage of on-going military operations creates daily anxiety. These "suddenly military" kids need to connect with other youth in similar situations. They seek friends and adults who can empathize and can help them cope with their new world.



Linda, "aka Merlin" and I, "aka Zoey", interacted with about 50 of the campers. Some of the campers were attending for the second year (another deployment or extended tour). This was my third camp and Linda's first. Merlin and Zoey enjoyed the experience and the campers loved Merlin, nice to see a "big" dog. All involved were tired after an 8 hour visit and a 3 hour ride, but

would not have missed it!

As an additional note, Linda and I have been invited to participate in a Camp in August for the parents and kids that have lost a parent in Iraq.

- William Townsend



Camp Star

KPETS was invited back a third year to Camp Star on June 19, 2008 at Messiah College.

The past two years we met the kids in the gym but this year we met outside by the covered bridge. What a beautiful evening it turned out to be concerning the weather.

We all started out by telling the kids about our dogs and what they do, where they visit and showed off a few tricks for them. Then we played our usual Peanut Butter Schleck game, which Trey and Foo won. We played a new game called Biscuit, Biscuit, Who Has the Biscuit. Cindy Wilson's Beagles Casey and Maggie won every time (it is strictly a Beagle's Game).



The rest of the evening we let the kid's pet the dogs, ask any questions they had about therapy dogs, and took some pictures with them.

Almost every dog sat on a kids lap (except Trey). Stacie Chubb's dog, Hallie sat on a little girl's lap and

started licking her face. Stacie was surprised at first because that is not Hallie's nature, but the little girl didn't mind and giggled while Hallie was giving her kisses.

Thanks to Cindy Wilson/Casey and Maggie, Lynne Scherden/Meggie, Stacey Chubb/Hallie, Carol Croft /Foo, and Gini Swartzell/Trey for sharing their dogs with the kids at Camp Star.

We've already been asked to save the date for next year's Camp Star!

- Gini Swartzell



Workplace Participation!

Each Friday, Angino & Rovner has Dress Down Day. One Friday per month is designated as our charity Friday and all employees, attorneys included, donate to a specific charity. Friday, June 27th, was KPETS Day at Angino & Rovner.

The law firm of Angino & Rovner is the oldest and largest personal injury law firm in Central Pennsylvania. Its modern history begins with Richard C. Angino in 1965. Not only are they dedicated to their clients, but also the community.

Once the email went out advising us of the event, Mrs. Angino sent me a personal note *"...And many thanks to you and the thousands of volunteers like you who do much for, and give your valuable time to, hundreds of charitable agencies. It's easy to write a check - and funds are necessary to make any charity work, but without the efforts and time of volunteers, not many of those dollars would go to research and direct assistance to those who need it. Thank you, Cindy."* Very touching! Wonderful folks to work with and for and I so much appreciate their generosity.

It would be awesome to see more workplaces participating and supporting us!
- Cindy Wilson

New Team Gets in the Groove

Caper and I, in our first official event as ambassadors, staffed the KPETS' information booth at the Manheim Brethren in Christ Community Days. In spite of it being a hot and humid day, complete with an afternoon thunderstorm, the event was well attended by crowds of all ages.

Caper had to turn on her charm to bring people over to the KPETS booth, as we had been assigned a spot next to the North Museum's traveling planetarium. We had to compete with a tour of the night sky inside a giant inflatable dome!

Luckily I had in my bag of tricks, a secret weapon... a small toy piano. So with my trusty clicker in hand, I proceeded to teach Caper to play the piano in front of the booth. Of course no one can resist a piano playing dog, well almost no one, and we were able to draw some of the crowds away from the planetarium.

Caper even managed to get a few laughs on her own when she tried to give the answer to a question that the North Museum's volunteer was asking the crowd. Caper obviously knew so she barked the answer when no one in the crowd could figure it out. Maybe some of you know... What is the brightest star in the night sky? Of course all of our canine friends know the answer, it's Sirius, the dog star! Needless to say we had loads of fun at the event and are looking forward to our next chance to talk to people about KPETS and all the great things we do!
- Karen Sage

Writing workshop a pet project

We sent out this story in its entirety via email earlier in the month as it was published in the Evening Sun, and a link will be available on-line at www.kpets.org/links soon.

About eight students took part in a writing workshop held at the New Oxford Area Library and hosted by Keystone Pet-Enhanced Therapy Services. KPETS, brought three animals to the workshop to help the children focus on their writing. Students worked together for two weeks to write a book, all while cuddling with Beamer, a Maine coon cat; Rosie, a collie; or Pippa, a Bernese mountain dog. Mary Merrell, Margie Smith and Sue Adams of KPETS hosted the workshop for young writers ranging from fourth to ninth grades.

As students learned the steps of writing their own book, the pets helped them maintain focus with their calming effect. They helped make learning fun and interesting, cuddling with kids as they developed characters and a plot, wrote and illustrated the story.

The first day, the students came up with a story and brainstormed the plot. The story takes place in the library. The painting of a castle on the wall is actually a hologram in the story. It goes into a magical world. The librarians have been kidnapped and whisked off to this place. But, with the help of Beamer, Rosie and Pippa, the kids go to that land to rescue the librarians.

During the first week, the students broke off into small groups, each taking a page of the book. They used the plot points they developed to write and illustrate their own pages over a few days, bringing the story together. The dogs (and cat!) wandered around and visited each student during the two-hour session. They got plenty of attention as students contributed ideas and brainstormed the plot and characters.

The book has a sponsor to publish 50 copies, so watch for more details!! You need to add this original to your bookshelf!



Holiday Gift Alternative

KPETS will be participating in an Alternative Gift Fair! This is a great opportunity to purchase charitable gifts for folks on your holiday list as well as support your favorite non-profit organization!

The fair will be on November 22nd from 10-4 at the Lancaster Farm and Home show (off of Manheim Pike across from the Lyndon Diner).

KPETS gifts begin at 10 dollars. The Alternative Gift Fair gives folks a chance to put less emphasis on material gift giving and spending and gives shoppers the chance to visit a fun and festive holiday market where they can make donations in honor of family and friends in the true spirit of the season to a diverse collection of local, national, and international organizations with established track records of helping people, pets, and the environment.

Mark your calendars We hope to see you there!



Bow Wow Brown Bag Bingo !

Our biggest annual fund-raiser, the Bow Wow Brown Bag Bingo will be held Sunday, August 31st. Event starts at 7 pm doors, open at 6 pm.

Things we'll need to make this event successful:

- Volunteers around noon for about 2 hours setting up the room and decorating.
- KPETS teams around 5:30pm to assist at the event. Selling the bingo cards, selling raffle tickets, selling 50/50 tickets, working the bake sale/food venue, mingling with your therapy dog, clean up and miscellaneous items.
- Pre-selling raffle chances for two tickets to the Dover Downs NASCAR event including two tickets, bus trip, and two-night stay locally before and after the race. They are \$5 a chance or 5 for \$20. This is something husbands can help sell.
- Items to sell at the bake sale
- Solicit businesses in the Lancaster, York area for donations or sponsorship. I have produced request letters to assist you with this process.

I'll let you know other things as I remember them. People interested can email me at ahouck@embarqmail.com or call me at 717 572-8579.

- Adella Houck

Health Warning

Can something as common as chewing gum be toxic? The answer is yes. According to the Animal Poison Control Center, last year they managed over 170 sick pets after eating products containing Xylitol.

Xylitol is a sugar-alcohol sweetener found in sugar-free human food products such as chewing gum, candy, baked goods as well as other products. Dogs that eat significant amounts can develop a sudden drop in blood sugar, which can cause weakness, lethargy, loss of coordination, collapse and seizures.

Symptoms can begin in as little as 30 minutes and last hours. It is recommended that pets that experience symptoms be taken to a veterinarian or local emergency clinic for evaluation. Treatment may include hospitalization and intravenous fluids with dextrose supplementation. Some pets can remain symptomatic and may maintain a low blood sugar for several hours.



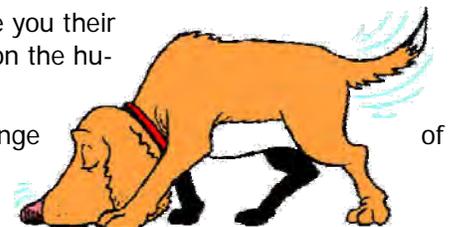
Education Corner - Know Your Pet!

Doggy Dictionary

DROOL: A liquid which, when combined with sad eyes, forces humans to give you their food. To do this properly you must sit as close as you can and get the drool on the human.

SMIFF: A social custom used to greet other dogs, similar to the human exchange business cards.

More Doggy Dictionary words in upcoming issues



of

What's Coming Up?

Join the fun!

To sign up to help with events or if you have any questions, contact Jenny Rule at events@kpets.org or (717) 808-0143 or the contact listed for that specific event! Come enjoy the fun! Get involved!

® **July 14th - Camp Lady Bug** Presentation near E-Town. Most likely in the morning- A 45 minute fun presentation for special needs children. Last year it was a lot of fun!!!

® **July 21st** from 10-11am- **Hildebrant** in Mount Joy. KPETS teams will be putting on a fun presentation for about 24 kids ranging in age from 5-9.

® **July 28th** from 10:30-11:30- **Oswego Village** outside of Columbia. KPETS teams will be putting on a fun presentation for 26 kids ranging in age from 6-13 yrs.

® **August 13 and 14th** from 6-9pm. **York Revolution Mascot Olympics**. The York Revolution has invited KIP to represent KPETS in the Mascot Olympics/games. We would need someone to wear the KIP costume and compete in the games.

® **August 31st** Bow Wow Brown Bag Bingo at Circle M Campground at Outdoor World on 741 between Millersville and Lancaster. (see story on page 3 for more details.)

® **September 20th** from 11-4- The 4th **Annual Whoopie Pie Festival** at Hershey Farm Restaurant and Inn in Strasburg. Come and enjoy some whoopie pies dressed in your KPETS attire with your KPETS pet and promote KPETS.

September 21st from 10-6- **The Amos Herr Community Fair** in Landisville. KPETS will be putting on a fun presentation for the community as well as having an info booth. We need teams to help with the presentation and staff the booth.

October 18th Furry Friends Mutt Mixer.

® **October 24th and 31st** Costume Show at Outdoor World.

® **October 25th** from 12:45-1:15- **Muddy Creed Lutheran Church** in Denver is having a birthday party for 80+ members. KPETS will be putting on a fun/interactive presentation.

® **November 22nd** from 10-4- **Alternative Gift Fair**. KPETS will be participating in an Alternative Gift Fair! This is a great opportunity to purchase charitable gifts for folks on your holiday list as well as support your favorite non-profit organization! The fair will be on November 22nd from 10-4 at the Lancaster Farm and Home show (off of Manheim Pike across from the Lyndon Diner). KPETS gifts begin at 10 dollars. The Alternative Gift Fair gives folks a chance to put less emphasis on material gift giving and spending and gives shoppers the chance to visit a fun and festive holiday market where they can make donations in honor of family and friends in the true spirit of the season to a diverse collection of local, national, and international organizations with established track records of helping people, pets, and the environment.

Orientations:

July 5 - York area

July 13 - Orientation. 1 - 4 pm. Pet HQ, Palmyra.

August 9 - Orientation. 9 am till noon. Brethren Village

Be sure to check www.kpets.org on the KPETS Kalendar page for additional updates!

® Note: Due to insurance purposes, events designated ® are only open to REGISTERED therapy teams (KPETS, Delta, TD Inc. etc.) OR teams who have taken KPETS Orientation and are working on evaluations.

Want to connect with other KPETS volunteers!

Our forum could be a key source for us to connect with each other and facility representatives. It is new and may seem a little scary, but you can't break anything. Honest! We are all learning as we go.

Go to www.kpets.org and click on *Konnections* and then *Forum*. Just click on 'register' and then wait until we 'validate' you. It's for KPETS teams and facilities only. You'll get an email notifying you're registered and all set to go. Then come back and start connecting! If you have any ideas you think will make it better, let us know! See you on the forum!

Visit Requests - Teams needed!

As you can see our list of requests is growing and growing. Word is getting out how wonderful pet therapy is for folks in these types of settings. And now there is gaining interest for more diverse types of visits. Even if you can do once a month someplace, each volunteer's commitment is so valuable. We all know how much it means to those we connect with. Thanks so much!

For any event that does not have a direct contact name included: contact Jenny Rule at 717-808-0143 or events@kpets.org for additional information and details.

This is the kind of thing we can start posting in the Forum. Once we all get our feet wet, we'll make the facilities aware of it and let them join in and post and communicate directly with you! So check out the forum. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to let us know! (<http://forum.kpets.org>)

Legend: * - indicates new requests, or no visits as of yet

No * - indicates ongoing request

Choices Rehab and Adult Day Care in Lancaster United Methodist Church. Special needs Adult Day Care program is looking for team(s) to visit Monday, Tuesday or Thursday any hour between 9 and 3, weekly or bi-weekly.

AseraCare Hospice is seeking pet therapists to share their certified pets with terminally ill patients in facilities in Lancaster/Lebanon. Orientations on requirements are offered on a continuous basis around the area. Please contact the volunteer coordinator at patricia_henry@aseracare.com or 1-888-262-8545 for more information. Visitations are completely around your schedule once or twice a month.

Compassionate Care Hospice - Contact Aubrey Smith at (717) 203-7104 or smith9900@comcast.net. Minimal one-hour orientation will be set up at your convenience - even before or after a visit. Looking for teams in the Honeybrook or Christiana area in Lancaster/Chester county, Masonic Village, Middletown Home, and Jewish Home, Hbg.

Evergreen Estates and SouthernCare Hospice - Lancaster, PA: 1st Saturday each month at 10 a.m. Contact Anita at gyanwolfe@dejazzd.com or 717-627-0478. Or contact SouthernCare Hospice, Karen Getz at 717-285-0177.

***Good Samaritan Health System Hospice** - Please contact Tracy Johnsen, Volunteer Coordinator at (717) 270-7672 or tjohnsen@gshleb.org. A mandatory hospice training at the volunteer's leisure is required.

***Greyson View Adult Day Care** - Derry Street Harrisburg.

***Havre De Grace, MD**—Day program for at -risk teens is looking for a team or two to come during the day. Summer between 9—noon, school year between 9—3. This is a lot of fun. We have teams going to a similar program in Elkton with great feedback.

Heartland Hospice has patients in seven counties from Harrisburg/Hershey down through Chambersburg/Waynesboro. Visits could be in: nursing home, assisted living, apartment or private home. Hospice volunteer training done at the convenience of the volunteer. Contact Sharon Funk, Volunteer Coordinator at 717-240-0018 or e-mail her at: 4675officestaff19@hcr-manorcare.com.

***Keystone Drop-In Center** - a place for adults with mental illness to gather in order to socialize and work on their recovery. Open Monday through Friday from 9am-3pm. A monthly or even bi-monthly visit would be great. Contact Genevieve Kelly at 717-397-9379 or gkelly@keystonehumanservices.org

Lancashire Hall - Lancaster: Contact Kelly McIntyre, activities director - KMcIntyre10@comcast.net or 569-3211x 228

Lancaster General Hospital - additional hospital orientation required. Contact Phyllis Paules 717-544-5005 or ppaules2@LancasterGeneral.org

***Lancaster House South**— Looking for teams to come twice a month in the evening to their rec room for some fun! They hope to motivate some of the tenants to come out and mingle with others and just to brighten their day. So if we can find a few teams to commit to this, they would be so grateful. If interested, contact Jenny at events@kpets.org. Then we'll figure out what day would work best for those interested.

***Lancaster Regional Medical Center** - Adult Day Care, Lanc. Flexible times available. Contact Crystal Reese 291-8055. (3rd floor rehab center every other week from 630-715; The behavioral health unit every other week from 6-7; and Adult day services program for 45 minutes once a month during a mutually agreed time.

Lebanon Teams Cedar Haven, Lebanon Valley Home, Manor Care, Hearthstone Nursing, and Stonebridge. Please contact Sylvia at 717-865-2385 or sylvia_flinchbaugh@yahoo.com

Odyssey Health Care—need teams to visit at Royalton in Mechanicsburg . Contact Gini Swartzell @ 717-732-5772 or vpompoo@aol.com

***PAI** - East Pete, day program for mentally/physically challenged. Would love to have pet visits on a regular basis (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly)! between 8:30 am & 3:30 pm. Contact Joan Clawser @ jclawser@paipartners.org or 519-6740.

***York Area** - Three young ladies group home in York area just off S. Queen. Late afternoon or evenings or weekends, Contact Meredith Dahl at mere9184@gmail.com

KPETS Key Konnectors

Volunteer Roundtable Planner:

Carol Johnston 717-672-0166 or max1024@verizon.net. Volunteer Round Tables are held every SECOND Saturday of odd numbered months at 9 a.m. at Moveable Feast in Mountville. (Carl was having pc problems)

Phone Buddy Coordinator:

If you do not have email, contact Bobbie to get set up with a phone buddy to keep you informed between newsletters. Bobbie Sayer 717-733-0929 or jsayer@dejazzd.com

Orientation Follow-up Guide:

Guiding volunteers through the registration process once orientation has been completed. BJ Shollenberger 717-397-9384 or bjshollen@juno.com or Gini Swartzell 717-732-5772 or vpompoo@aol.com

Membership Files: Andy and Linda Euclide maintain new and existing registered KPETS volunteers. Contact them at: membership@kpets.org or 717-355-5232

Events Coordinators:

Coordinating and staffing KPETS events AND visits - Jenny Rule 717-808-0143 or events@kpets.org and Gini Swartzell 717- 732-5772 or vpompoo@aol.com

Pre-assessment Testers: Wendy McKelvy 717-285-9719 or training@kpets.org and Mary Merrell 717-259-8759 or marym@kpets.org. 2nd and 4th Tuesday at Mennonite Home, Lancaster. Or by appointment with Laura Whitman, (Palmyra) 717-378-9993 / lauraw@kpets.org; Bill Townsend (Oxford) 610-932-4401 / wptownsendoxford@yahoo.com or Mary Merrell (York) 717-259-8759 / marym@kpets.org

KPETS Keynotes Editor - Lori Reed has been helping get the Keynotes published each month. Please, if you staff an event or have any good therapy stories to share, please send them to her at keynotes@kpets.org.

Safety Assurance Leader - Wendy McKelvy. Any questionable pet behavior observed should be reported immediately to Wendy at training@kpets.org or 717-285-9719

Development Coordination - Jackie Diffenderffer and Adella Houck. To help out on this committee, please contact Jackie at jdiddy@verizon.net or Adella Houck at ahouck@embarqmail.com

DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS on-line at www.kpets.org/volunteers. Each member should be set up with user name of first initial and last name (ex. Kgerth) and the initial password being the last four digits of your phone number (unless I typed it in wrong). Please change your password once you log in. You can also see a list of your hours. For those without internet access, please mail them to the KPETS address and we will enter them. THANKS SO MUCH!

KPETS Team Evaluators for On-Site Supervised Visits	Etown	Laura Whitman	717-368-9993	or	lauraw@kpets.org
	Lanc	Wendy McKelvy	717-285-9719	or	training@kpets.org
	Lanc	Jody Rosser	717-725-4522	or	jrosser@lnpnews.com
	Lanc	Leanne Spurlin	717-898-6418	or	lspurlin28@yahoo.com
	Oxford	Bill Townsend	610-932-4401	or	wptownsendoxford@yahoo.com
	York	Mary Merrell	717-259-8759	or	marym@kpets.org
	York	Margie Smith	717- 624-4742	or	margiesracking@earthlink.net
	Hbg	Cindy Wilson	717-589-3734	or	beaglemomma5@embarqmail.com
	Hbg	Denise Prociuous	717-834-5694	or	dprociuous@sutliff.net
	Etown	Tammy Sickles	717-832-0348	or	dogtrainingisfun@aol.com
Ephrata	Karen Sage	717-859-3044	or	ssdsr@ptd.net	

No Email??

If you don't have email, and are not receiving calls from a phone buddy occasionally, be sure to contact Bobbie and let her know (717-733-0929). She'll hook you up with someone to keep you posted of opportunities that come out via email between newsletters.

OR—If you are willing to BE a phone buddy to one or two people to help keep them informed of emails that come out between newsletters, let Bobbie know this too. (jsayer@dejazzd.com). We just don't want anyone to miss out on anything. Help us keep KPETS teams connected! Thanks!

Reminders:

Please submit all your KPETS volunteer hours on-line at www.kpets.org/volunteers.

Is your pet due to be re-assessed? Contact Wendy at training@kpets.org

Go to <http://forum.kpets.org> to get konnected with other KPETS folks on our on-line forum! Let's use this cool tool to stay connected!

If you would like to be removed from this mailing, please contact us at info@kpets.org or 717.333.5738.



Share Your Therapy Story & Pics !!

Send them to

Keynotes@kpets.org!

We'd all love hearing what you and your pet are up to!



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