



KPETS

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

590 Centerville Road #107
Lancaster, PA 17601

888.68.KPETS
(888.685.7387)

**Purchase your
KPETS '09 Kalendars
while supplies last!**

**Online or contact
Jenny**

**events@kpets.org
Or call 888.68.kpets
888.685.7837**

KPETS Keynotes

Keeping Pet Therapy Volunteers Connected!

Bon Ton Community Days!

We've had two great Saturday's at Bon Ton Community Days. One in October and then this month on 11/8. We bombarded the store with quite a few of our teams. You'd think shoppers never saw dogs before! We sold over 100 booklets in the two two-hour periods.

Selling so many booklets allowed us to sell even more on November 15 in the store! Their *Donate \$5 - Get \$10* made is SOOOO easy to sell the booklets to busy shoppers.

Thanks to all the teams who came out and sold during the three time slots and to all of you who pounded the pavement to sell on your own.

Some of the teams who worked the mall were: Adella/Cadbury, Wendy/Lexi, Jenny/Maddy, Rick & Jenifer/Cory/Mollie/Truman, Karen/Sammy, Nancy/Gilly, Sarah/Kalley, Anita/Gracie and Mimi/Oliver. If I missed anyone I apologize. Please know your efforts are greatly appreciated! (It's my mind that's having trouble remembering everything.)

What this all means! We'll be getting a check from Bon Ton once they have all the sales tallied! We'll keep you posted!



Alternate Gift Fair

On November 22, KPETS will participating in another unique event!

Central Pennsylvania's First Alternative Gift Fair

*Are you looking for ways to eliminate the holiday stress?
Does the commercialism of the holiday season get you down?
Do you have more stuff than you know what to do with?*

The Alternative Gift Fair, "**Gifts that Give**" offers holiday shoppers an alternative to traditional gift giving and is a perfect way to get in the real spirit of the season. It is a way to find gifts that not only honor special people on your gift list but help others who are not on anyone's gift list.

Gifts are chosen to honor family and friends with donations to causes that fit their values while supporting the participating local & international non-profit organizations in a festive atmosphere. The Lancaster Fair will feature local food vendors that will provide an international flair as they are representative of many different countries.

Come on out and get into the spirit - the real spirit of Christmas! Look for our table there!



GIFTS THAT GIVE

Due to the holiday season - there will be no DECEMBER KEYNOTES

KPETS Recap

Event at Elizabethtown Senior Center

Amy Mahon, a graduate student in the Occupational Therapy Masters degree program at Elizabethtown College, did a presentation titled "Dog Ownership for Senior Citizens" at the Elizabethtown Senior Center on October 23rd. Because I work at the college and she knows both me and Murray, my basset hound therapy dog, she requested that we participate in her presentation.

The presentation started with a short lecture on the benefits that pet ownership can have for senior citizens: the 22 seniors in the audience agreed that companionship, exercise, and safety were benefits of dog ownership for older dog owners. She also spoke about organizations which specialize in matching seniors with dogs in need of homes. Amy used visual aids in her presentation: she had a large tri-fold board display of the best breeds for seniors: smaller, low maintenance breeds such as dachshunds, miniature schnauzers, and Boston Terriers topped her list. To reinforce the points she had made in her lecture, the group then participated in filling out a large crossword puzzle of dog breeds she had mounted on the wall. She finished with a bingo game using dog breeds- dog related prizes such as scratch pads and calendars were awarded to the winners.

I did a short introduction of me and Murray and KPETS before Amy's presentation started, and during her talk we circulated around the room and talked to everyone. We had a great time!

Both the E-town College OT Department and the Senior Center are now aware of KPETS, and may call on our organization for help in the future. *- Mary Gottfried*

Down on the Farm

KPETS was Down On The Farm at Halderman/Pope Farm in Palmyra on October 11, 2008.

This was a benefit for Operation SOS (support our soldiers) and The American Red Cross.

KPETS Therapy Dogs were a big hit and we are invited back in June, 2009. Gini was asked to go on live Radio 1510 AM to talk about what our dogs do and how others can get involved.

It was a beautiful fall day to have our dogs out. Thank you to all that attended with their dogs to help set up, tear down and work the booth. *- Gini Swartzell*

Senior Day at the Masonic Home

October 9, 2008 was Senior Day at the Masonic Home in Elizabethtown, PA. This was the 3rd year that Gini and Trey set up an information booth where people could

ask questions about therapy dogs and receive a little therapy themselves.

Representative David S. Hickernell came by our booth and talked to me about Trey and what he does with KPETS as a therapy dog. *- Gini Swartzell*

Woofstock

KPETS was at Woofstock in Harrisburg, PA on September 28, 2008.

The weather wasn't in our favor but we had many people attend this huge event. It rained in the morning then the sun came out and it rained on and off through the day. It did stop raining long enough for Abby, Sophie and Tucker to be in the costume contest. Abby was a witch, Sophie was Diva Dog and Tucker was spray painted to look tie-dyed. Sophie won a prize for best dressed Diva Dog.

Thanks to all of you who volunteered to work the booth and for those who helped to set up and tear down. Thanks for coming out to help in the rain.

Muddy Creek Party

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church invited KPETS back for their second and final party for '08 for members over 80 years and widow/widowers.

After lunch, Rick and Jenifer Camauff/& Truman and Molly, Elaine and Tom Soderberg/ Lady Red, Marilyn and Bruce Mackey/ Buddy Bear and Karen Gerth/Sammy kept the folks awake as we did our usual little fun presentation. Introductions, guess the breeds, dogs with jobs and an explanation of KPETS were followed by the Peanut Butter Schleck (and EVERYONE knew what Schleck meant out there in Denver) and the treat toss game. Jenifer shared a cute little list of things all dog owners can relate to bring chuckles from many. To close we opened it up for question and answer time.

What a fun way to spend time with our pets and bring joy to a room full of sweet, appreciative, elderly people. Thanks teams for sharing your day with them.

KPETS Forum Update

Our forum could be a key source for us to connect with each other and facility representatives. Thank you all who have signed up.

The automatic registration process is being hit by spammers so new persons wanting to join will need to sign up on the forum the first time AND let me know that they have done so (kareng@kpets.org). That way I can find them in the MANY bogus accounts and validate them only. Thanks!

Forum is located at: <http://forum.kpets.org> or go to : www.kpets.org and click on *Konnections* and then *Forum*.

KPETS Recap

Farm City Day

Smidgen participated in Farm City Day at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg on October 3rd. Farm City Day is an annual event put on by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to bring inner city school kids, grades 2 – 5, out to see farm animals. The event takes place during the Keystone International Livestock Exhibition, so there is a variety of livestock available for the kids to enjoy.

Smidgen was there to teach the kids and teachers about including their animals in disaster planning. She showed off her emergency evacuation suitcase (it's bigger than her family's bag) which contains an extra collar and lead, photo and rabies tag/microchip information, food, toys, dishes, towels, poop bags, etc. Although Smidgen was officially representing the Pennsylvania State Animal Response Team (PASART), she was also representing KPETS.

We distributed KPETS brochures to adults who were asking questions and said that they have always wanted to do this with their dogs. So many people asked us how they can get started and how much training is involved, since Smidgen is so well behaved and calm. Huh! If they only knew how much time and effort it took to get a noise-sensitive, hyper boxer happy to go into a huge expo center with more than 400 kids in addition to cattle, pigs, sheep, horses, and chickens. If a dog has a love for people, it's so worth it. Isn't it wonderful that we are invited to participate in these events to educate kids and adults about the joys of responsible animal ownership?

Please take note of your dogs when they start telling you they have had enough of a visit. Smidgen lasted for 3 hours of hugs and kisses before she was overwhelmed and exhausted. It's easy to read your dog....if you watch carefully for signs. Smidgen put a paw on my lap and looked away from the kids who came up to her. That meant it was time to quit immediately. Don't make your dogs interact past their level of comfort. Learn what your dog is trying to tell you. Yawning, licking lips, looking away, and whining are all signals dogs use to show stress. Pay attention and you will have lots of fun together!

- Nan Hanshaw-Roberts

Thanks Nan! We cannot stress that last paragraph enough! I learned the hard way with Cinda. I was so dense years ago. I finally realized it when she ran the other way when I opened the car door! Thanks again, Nan!

- Karen

Millersville Parade

On Saturday, November 1 KPETS took to the streets for the Millersville parade. Six teams enjoyed a two-mile walk on a beautiful fall day. While Kip was busy entertaining the parade watchers, each dog was busy giving out kisses to both children and adults.

A special thanks to Tim Longenecker for driving his truck to support the teams. Parades, along with other opportunities to introduce KPETS is a valuable way to spread the word about our work and the joy we share with all ages. Several parade watchers took our brochures to find out more about our organization. Thank you to all who took time to participate.

- Bev Butch

KPETS Mass Email System broken

We just realized the way we had been distributing bulk emails to everyone was not working correctly. So KPETS had to find a new way to distribute our emails to all our volunteers and interested parties. We are currently in the process of figuring out how this will work, so please be patient during this time of transition. If you know of someone who is not getting the newsletter or our pleas for help (and should be), please let me know (kareng@kpets.org). Thanks for your understanding and patience!

- Karen



This was sent to the Secretary of Agriculture...they had all kinds of livestock, and cute baby ducks for the kids to hold. Yet one child sent this letter.

KPETS Recap

No Assessments in December

There will be no Pre-assessment/Re-assessment Sessions held at Mennonite Home for the month of December. The room we use at the facility is booked for the holiday month. Besides, I think Wendy and Mary could use a well-deserved break too!

They'll be back in full swing the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in January. Thanks for your understanding!

More Talks for KPETS

On November 07, Bill Townsend did an educational presentation for KPETS at Tel Hai in Honeybrook for a group of professional therapists about the applications of AAT and KPETS.

Golden Hill Club invited KPETS to speak at their luncheon meeting on Thursday, November 13. Karen Gerth/Podley and Jenny Rule/Maddy showed the DVD, and explained about KPETS to the 50+ members attending. No one fell asleep but I think the part they enjoyed best was the meet-and-greet part as Pod and Maddy worked the crowd.

On Nov 18, Jenny Rule will do a presentation for Manheim Township Seniors.

Then Karen Gerth will be speaking to the Spiritual Life Committee at Brethren Village on November 18 and to a coop of puppy sitters on November 19 at Florentino's at the Lancaster Airport.

Susquehanna Rehab & Nursing Center

Susquehanna Rehab must really love us. KPETS was invited back again for a fun presentation on Friday, November 14. This was a week day and we only had a few teams to help with this event. But with teams like Nancy Houston/Gilly, Monical Danials/Molly and Trish Hess/Abby you know the residents had a great time!

Thanks all for finding the time to spread the joy!

NEW use for KPETS teams!

Jeannine Forsyth/Chloe and two Elizabethtown College Students (sorry, don't have their names) went to a fun event at Welsh Mountain Medical and Dental Center's Teddy Bear Clinic. Kip (one student w/student guide) and friends mingled and helped the story book tellers during this special event.

PLASTIC BAGS ARE DEADLY TO YOUR DOG!

(Forwarded by a concerned KPETS volunteer)

In honor of our precious Ella's memory, I am crusading an effort to let everyone know that this can and does happen and hopefully I can save someone else from the same agonizing pain!



Our 9-month old Sheltie puppy, Ella, suffered a tragic, sudden, senseless death this past Friday. She suffocated to death on a bag liner that was inside a box of Cheez-Its snack crackers. We were out for the evening and someone had left a box of Cheez-Its within Ella's reach. She put her head in the bag inside the box to get to the crackers. The bag came out of the box but she couldn't get the bag off of her head. We came home and found her dead from suffocation. It doesn't seem possible, that a dog couldn't get a bag off their head, but they can't.

I have since learned that this occurs more often than you would imagine. There was also a family whose 6-year-old Labrador got hold of a Doritos bag when they weren't looking. They found him dead with the bag over his head, having died the same way as Ella. I also learned from the man that is cremating Ella for us that he has had FIVE other dogs that have died like this in the PAST MONTH!

Make sure that **ALL PLASTIC BAGS AND BOXES WITH BAG LINERS IN THEM (chips, snack crackers, cookies, cereal, etc.) are WAY out of your pets reach!**
Anne Mackey, Charlotte, NC

Harpel's Pet Photos at Pet Headquarters

When: December 6th

Time: 10 am - 3 pm

Cost: \$25 (\$5 going to KPETS)

This is for a digital photo. Last year a lot of folks got 25 Christmas cards for \$25. OR you can get 1 8x10 or 2 5x7's.

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!

® **November 18**- Manheim Senior Center Presentation. KPETS will be putting on a fun/interactive presentation for Manheim Township Seniors at 1 pm. Join us to put on a great presentation with tricks, games and mingling.

® **November 22**. Alternative Gift Fair at Lancaster's Farm and Home Center, from 10-4pm. Need teams to set up on the 21st and then some to cover two-hour time slots on the 22nd and then to tear down.

December 6 @ Pet HQ. Harpels is doing the photos again. hours are 10-3. Cost is \$25 with \$5 going to KPETS. This is for a digital photo. last year alot of folks got 25 Christmas cards for \$25. Or it would get you 1 8x10, 2 5x7's.

® **Early December** Doggie Massages for KPETS dogs.

® **December 2** K-9's and cookies @ etown college

® **December 3** PSUCOM cameo will be covered by Cindy Wilson

December 5 Etown parade

January 10 Volunteer Round Table—Moveable Feast Mountville. RSVP to Carol at max1024@verizon.net or (717) 672-0166

Orientations:

December 13 - Lancaster

January 3 - York

February 8 - Palmyra

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.

Don't forget this holiday season when you do your holiday shopping on-line, do through www.IGive.com or www.GoodShop.com. We are a registered cause on both of them. Shop hundreds of stores and a portion of each purchase is donated to your favorite cause - KPETS!

AND did you know GoodSearch.com is a way to raise money for KPETS just by searching the internet! ! Now how easy is that! Choose your cause and use it instead of your regular search engine, and a penny for each search is donated to KPETS!!! Doesn't sound like much, but I sure search the internet a lot and every little bit helps!

Tell your friends!! Thanks everyone for your support!

This was sent in by a Delta Team who thought we may be interested. Thanks Barb!

Dear Pet Partners team, Are you thinking about adopting a dog?

Wanna pamper that pooch and get expert advice from some of the nation's top dog experts?

Sharp Entertainment is casting for an ambitious new project. Working with some of the best canine experts in the country, they'll transform a shelter dog's life into a Cinderella story, in ways you'll have to see to believe. The Happily Ever After? Once this dog has undergone his or her transformation, he or she will be introduced to their new family's home, which has been given a doggie make-over just for him or her.

We are looking for charismatic families, step families, singles and couples who have a unique, sentimental, or powerful reason to want to bring a dog into their lives. But above all else we are looking for families who have a lot of love to give, and are truly serious about giving a shelter or rescued dog a forever home.

If you think you are perfect for this show, email a brief description of why you should be chosen along with a photo and contact information to info@sharpentertainment.com.

Woofs!

Andrea Arden, CPDT - www.AndreaArden.com

Visit Requests - Teams needed!

HELP !! 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. Please consider filling one or more of these requests!

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.

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.

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.

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

Adult Daycare at Choices Rehab in Lancaster Methodist Church is looking for a team to visit weekly or bi-weekly, Mon. Tues. or Thurs. for any hour between 9-3.

Denver Nursing Home- would like weekly visits from cats or dogs. Some residents asked for cats. Contact is Nancy at 336-2213

Lancaster General Hospital. Teams needed for a variety of visits at a variety of days and times. 4 hour orientation is needed.

Greyson View- Adult daycare in Harrisburg (off of Derry Road.) contacted KPETS to start regular visits. She is looking for visits to start in the afternoon any day Monday through Friday.

Heartland Hospice: opportunities 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 volunteer's convenience. Contact Pauline Goulet, Vol Coordinator at 717-240-0018 or e-mail her at: 4675officestaff19@hcr-manorcare.com.

Keystone Drop-in-Center in Lancaster is looking for a KPETS team for regular visits for special needs folks.
St Joe's, Reading - inpatient mental health OT/activities is looking for regular visits. Contact Debbie Moser at 610-208-4680

Odyssey Heath Care in Camp Hill Mechanicsburg area. Gini looked into doing hospice work

United Zion Retirement Community- Jessica Kistler at 626-2071 ext. 1006. Looking for visits the 1st Wednesdays of the month.

Ephrata Area- Request for teams for a group home for 2 mentally challenged men. Looking for about an hour visit in the evening once every other week on a Tues, Wed or Thurs.

Heinz-Menaker Senior Center in the Harrisburg Area is looking for a team to visit during the day twice a month. 1824 N. 4th Street, Harrisburg.

Lutheran Home in Gettysburg. Regular visits needed for 62+ folks waiting for pet visits.

Manor Care in Lancaster is looking for a team to visit on a regular basis.

The Meadows in Lancaster, behind WGAL is looking for teams to visit on a regular basis to their Dementia unit. They are fairly flexible with visitation times.

New just in 11/16/08 **Lancaster area Hospice Patient in private home.**

Doggie Dictionary

LEAN: Every good dog's response to the command "sit!," especially if your person is dressed for an evening out. Incredibly effective before black-tie events.

BUMP: The best way to get your human's attention when they are drinking a fresh cup of coffee or tea.

KPETS Key Konnectors

Volunteer Roundtable Planner:

Roundtable Breakfast every second Saturday of ODD number months!

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 Karen to get set up with a phone buddy to keep you informed between newsletters. (888.68.kpets = 888.687.57387). Bobbie Sayer had been doing this but will be out for a while. Please keep her in your prayers!

Orientation Follow-up Guide:

Guiding volunteers through the registration process once orientation has been completed. Nicole Byers - welcome@kpets.org and Gini Swartzell - ginis@kpets.org

Membership Files: Michele Emenheiser and Erin Jackson maintain new and existing registered KPETS volunteers. Contact them at: membership@kpets.org

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 McDaniel 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 - Adella Houck, Erin Jackson and Jackie Diffenderffer. To help out on this committee, please contact Adella Houck at ahouck@embarqmail.com.

DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS

If you have web-access, you can submit your 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). You change your password once you log in. You can also see a list of your hours. If you cannot log in, contact Karen.

For those without internet access, please mail completed forms 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
Palmyra	Tammy Sickles	717-832-0348	or	dogtrainingisfun@aol.com
Ephrata	Karen Sage	717-859-3044	or	ssdrsr@ptd.net

Prayers for Bobbie Sayer (Syreeta's Mom)

Bobbie Sayer has been with KPETS pretty much from day 2 and has been one very busy lady doing visits. From Hershey Med Center or Masonic Homes in ETown to Colonial Lodge in Denver - travel time and distance never seemed seem to matter or hold her back when it came to serving others. She's always been there to help staff booths and participate in our fun presentations. Now it's our turn to help her.

Due to Bobbie's heath challenge right now, a family member requested our help and asked you contact Bobbie directly as she works full-time and could not very well coordinate the efforts. Some ideas are: Going along for the medical treatments at Women's and Babies in Lancaster, provide meals, Visiting, walking her pups, phone support. Bobbie lives in the Ephrata area. Her address is: 1130 Pleasant View Road, Ephrata PA 17522. Her number is: 717-733-0929. We serve so many folks we don't even know with our pets. Let's try to find some time to help someone who has been so generous and gracious in giving of herself.

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
NO SESSIONS IN DECEMBER!

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!

Submit your **newsletter stories** to Lori at keynotes@kpets.org.

If you would like to be removed from this mailing, please contact us at info@kpets.org or 888.68.kpets.



KPETS - Keystone Pet Enhanced
Therapy Services
590 Centerville Road #107
Lancaster, PA 17601