



September 2026

The Pet-A-Pet Gazette

A Publication of The Pet-A-Pet Club, Inc.



Thanks for Brightening Someone's Day!

Volunteers Needed

Do you have friends with friendly pets? **Please tell them about the Pet-A-Pet Club.** Our waiting list is growing (see page 2), and we'd love to accommodate all of the facilities who need our services. **Please post our flyer** at businesses in your area (vets, groomers, pet stores, etc.). Flyer has been sent as a separate attachment.

Memorial



A very dedicated member of Pet-A-Pet passed away on July 7, 2026. Pat Mc Nulty was a coordinator of Pet-A-Pet Club for many years. She is shown below with her dog, Blue. We offer our condolences to her family and friends.



Board of Directors

We need members to step up to join the Board. Some of the current board members have held their positions for many years and are reaching the point in their lives where it is necessary to step down. If you would like to join the Board, please reply to the email from which this newsletter is sent. Please consider it. The continuation of the Club depends on a full Board. It's a minimal time commitment, but very worthwhile.

Newsletter Submissions

The next issue is planned for January. Please send your pictures, brags, memorials, articles of interest to Pet-A-Pet members, etc. to the email from which you received this newsletter. Your contributions make the editor's job easier and the newsletter more interesting.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue!

In This Issue

Member & Coordinator Info	2-3
Member Brags	4
Pet-A-Pet Dogs at the Library	5
Special Events	6-8
Volunteer Visits	9-12
Easy Dog Treat Recipe	13

Coordinators & Volunteers Needed



Let's brighten more days!

Please consider volunteering at another location. Some of the coordinators of facilities already on our schedule may need more teams for their visits.

Or become a coordinator at a facility of your own. There are many facilities in need of our services. Requests come in regularly. The list below is updated as of the publication date of this issue. If you are interested in coordinating visits with any of these locations, please contact Lisa or Dave Volker. See the Coordinator Corner for their contact information.

Mission Statement

The Pet-A-Pet Club, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the human-animal bond by sharing the many health benefits of time spent with animals.

Our volunteers, and their well-behaved pets, visit individuals who may not otherwise have access to animal companionship — bringing comfort, joy and connection through gentle and affectionate interactions.

Waiting List

Facility Name	City
Crystal Creek Assisted Living	Canton
Clawson Senior Center	Clawson
Program of All-Inclusive Care for Elderly	Clinton Township
Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern MI	Detroit
John D. Dingell VA Medical Center	Detroit
Early Talent Learning & Development/Ally	Detroit
Henry Ford Health	Detroit
National Heritage Academy	Detroit
Volunteers of America (homeless shelter)	Detroit
West Oaks Senior Care & Rehab Center	Detroit
American House	Grosse Pointe Farms
George Washington Carver Academy	Highland Park
Provision Living at Livonia	Livonia
Oakmont Livonia Senior Community	Livonia
Woodhaven Retirement Community	Livonia
American House	Livonia
Martha T Berry Medical Care	Mount Clemens
Serene Gardens	Rochester Hills
American House East 1	Roseville
Carriage Hill Assisted Living LLC	Shelby Township
PACE Southeast Michigan	Southfield
Pomeroy Skilled Nursing	Sterling Heights
Waltonwood at Lakeside	Sterling Heights



Coordinator Corner

Lisa & David Volker, our co-Directors of Coordinators are available to help you with any questions or issues and provide coordinator packets as needed.

Contact [Lisa](#) (248-884-4201) or [David](#).

If you have not done so yet, please send your Coordinator form to Lyn Ehrman.

Thank you
for your commitment to Pet-A-Pet!

AKC Therapy Dog Titles

Pet-A-Pet is approved as an organization whose members can apply for the AKC Therapy Dog title. The purpose of this program is to recognize AKC dogs and their owners who have given their time and helped people by volunteering as a therapy dog and owner team. The AKC Therapy Dog title (ThD) can be earned by dogs who have been certified by AKC recognized therapy dog organizations.

All dogs are eligible to earn the AKC Therapy Dog title, including purebreds and mixed breeds. To earn the AKC Therapy Dog title, dogs must be registered or listed with AKC and have a number in order to earn a title.

To earn the AKC Therapy Dog™ title, you and your dog must meet the following criteria:

1. The dog must be registered or listed with AKC.
2. Certified or registered by an AKC recognized national therapy dog organization.
3. Perform a minimum of 50 visits. (Novice title is available for 10 visits.)

Visits must be documented with time, date, location, and a signature of a staff person at the facility (e.g., school, hospital, etc.).

Volunteers are solely responsible for documentation of visits, registration with AKC and therapy organization and submission of application and fees to AKC.



The Pet-A-Pet Club does not provide certification for therapy dogs.

Therapy Dog Titles

AKC Therapy Dog Novice (THDN) Must have completed 10 visits.

AKC Therapy Dog (THD) Must have completed 50 visits.

AKC Therapy Dog Advanced (THDA) Must have completed 100 visits.

AKC Therapy Dog Excellent (THDX) Must have completed 200 visits.

AKC Therapy Dog Distinguished (THDD) Must have completed 400 visits.

For details on the program and requirements, please visit
www.akc.org/dogowner/training/therapy/index.cfm.

The AKC form to record your visits will be sent with this newsletter.

Kroger Community Rewards

Kroger Community Rewards is a free program that lets the Pet-A-Pet Club earn needed money each quarter based on registered customers' purchases.

Register your **Kroger Plus Card** account online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com and follow the instructions. The Pet-A-Pet Club's **NPO number** is **TX120**. Those without internet may call 1-877-745-7444 to sign up. Then just use your Kroger Plus card (or enter your alternate ID) each time you shop.

Please consider these **benefits**:

- Pet-A-Pet Club earns donations based on all purchases (even gift cards).
- You earn gasoline discounts at Kroger and Shell stations.
- It's easy and costs you nothing!
- Annual re-enrollment is automatic.

Please tell your family and friends how they can support the Pet-A-Pet Club.



Member Brags

Bowser



Diane Peers is proud to share that **Bowser** has earned his AKC Therapy Dog title and official certificate. Congratulations to Diane and Bowser!

Marvin



This is Marvin's 269th Pet-A-Pet Visit. This was at the Clinton Macomb South Library. (09/14/26). He has been volunteering for 11 years and has brightened the days of many at nursing homes, schools, and libraries. He loves going to "work."

-Lee Ann Bartley

Reading with Pet-A-Pet Dogs at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library



PAWS for Reading at the South Branch

Fall 2026

Children of all ages can read to a therapy dog and practice their reading skills in an enjoyable and relaxed atmosphere. No registration is required.

PAWs for Reading is on the **second Monday** of the month at **6:30 pm**.

The library will be closed on **Oct. 12**, so there will be no PAWS for Reading program in **October**.

PAWS for Reading will be on the following dates this Fall:

Sept. 14 at 6:30 p.m. – **Marvin**

Nov. 9 at 6:30 p.m. – **Tessa**

Dec. 14 at 6:30 pm — **Koya**



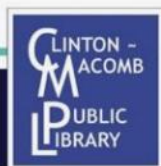
Marvin



Tessa



Koya



Clinton-Macomb Public Library

Inspire. Create. Dream. Learn.



Special Events

We did a visit to Cleary University in Howell MI on Aug 25th. Clarisse and Barnaby went room to room with administrators from the school to visit with students who had just moved into their dorms and started classes. Each student was checked on to see if they needed anything and to spend some time with a therapy dog. Some of the students



are away from home for the first time and were a bit homesick or missing their own pets back home.

Pictured is Clarisse in the commons area and room side with one of the admins and several students.

Lisa and David Volker



"You won't find a more effective antidepressant."

New Baltimore Memorial Day Parade



Waving to our friends
from the Veterans Home as we go by



The weather was beautiful as the community gathered for a respectful tribute to our fallen soldiers



Volunteer Visits



Diane & Bowser, Jan & Duffy, Cindy & Daisy, Rochelle & Howie have a fun visit at the Michigan Veteran Homes

Welcome to our newest volunteer team Rochelle & Howie. Howie is 5 years old Newfoundland Doodle, who previously visited terminal patients at Rochelle's husband's job. That positive response is why Rochelle joined Pet A Pet Club



I have participated for probably the last decade at the hospital in Southfield under Karen Zylman. I started with Torque and Stella and occasionally Chloe would join in. It was the perfect combination of entertainment and sweetness! Torque knew a ton of tricks and loved to interact with the patience while the Cavaliers just looked adorable and wanted snuggles! Here is the picture of the three of them!!



Next up is my new guy, Stoic. He's been doing therapy work for years but I acquired him last fall. He absolutely love visiting with people and has the softest head you ever pet!!!

Maria Lacombe

Volunteer Visits

We had a Special Request visit at The Americal House Somerset. Koya, Daisy and Bowser delivered the best kind of medicine with lots of smiles, hugs & kisses.



Volunteer Visits

These pictures are from the September 20th Pet Therapy session at Providence Hospital in Southfield. The dogs are Sagan the black Lab (Jim Brozovich), Stoic the brindle dog (Maria LaCombe) and Lucky the shih tzu (Denise McQueen).

Submitted by Jim Brozovich



Volunteer Visits

Poster advising Therapy Dog Visits at Oakland Family Services



Left, right and below left:
Sagan (Jim Brozovich)
at Storypoint Novi



Sagan at Ascension Hospital
in Southfield

Easy Treats for Dogs

allrecipes

Sweet Potato Chews for Dogs

So simple to make and dogs love them! Treat your furry friend to a few. Store in the fridge for 1 week or freeze.

Submitted by **Bren** |

Cook Time: 2 hrs 30 mins

Total Time: 2 hrs 30 mins

Servings: 36

Yield: 36 chews



Ingredients

1 large sweet potato, peeled

Directions

Step 1

Preheat the oven to 250 degrees F (120 degrees C). Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper.

Step 2

Cut sweet potato into 1/4-inch slices crosswise and cut larger slices in half. Place slices on the prepared baking sheet.

Step 3

Bake in the preheated oven for 1 hour. Turn slices over and bake for 1 1/2 hours more. Turn oven off and leave chews in the oven until completely cooled.

Nutrition Facts

Per serving: 11 calories; total carbohydrate 3g; dietary fiber 0g; total sugars 1g; protein 0g; vitamin c 0mg ; sodium 7mg; calcium 4mg; iron 0mg; potassium 43mg