



PET PAL TALES

A newsletter for the volunteers, sponsors and friends of Therapy Pet Pals of Texas, Inc.

40th Anniversary Party

at **RR**
REUNION RANCH

Sunday, April 21st, 2024

**BBQ Meal, Cash Bar, Lawn Games,
and much much more!**

850 CR 255 Georgetown, TX



**TPPT is
celebrating 40
years of
volunteer
service in 2024!
We will be
hosting an
Anniversary
Celebration on
April 21, 2024
at The Reunion
Ranch in
Georgetown!**

INSIDE PET PAL TALES

Volunteer Awards.....	3
Pet Pals in Action.....	6
Awards Banquet Houston.....	7
Awards Banquet Austin.....	8
Foundations.....	9
Memorials/Honors.....	10
Individuals/Corporations.....	11

**2023 IN REVIEW
VOLUME XXXV**

PET PAL TALES is published by Therapy Pet Pals of Texas, Inc. for its volunteers, sponsors and friends. Therapy Pet Pals of Texas, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation sharing "unconditional love" through pet therapy.

Board of Directors

Thomas G. Bradfield, DVM, Chairman

Jason M. Gray, Esquire

Nancy J. Gray, Executive Director

James D. Lashmit, Secretary/Treasurer

James E. Payne, CPA

Director Emeritus, Megan S. Medica

Mission Statement

- ♥ Recruit and train volunteers for work in pet therapy, and promote the human/animal bond through pet visitation programs.
- ♥ Work with health care staff and medical professionals in various institutions where pet therapy programs would enhance the quality of life for the patients.
- ♥ Provide institutionalized patients an opportunity for bonding with pets through weekly visits.
- ♥ Promote and publicize pet therapy through workshops, seminars, lectures, and discussion groups in order to elevate public awareness on the importance of pet therapy.

Corporate Office

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TPPT'S 2023 VOLUNTEER REPORT

Last year our volunteers provided **5,420 HOURS** in loving service to their community! They traveled (at their own expense) **39,447** miles. Most important of all, Pet Pals were responsible for **70,704 SMILES** placed on the faces of the nursing home residents and hospital patients in some of the **70 healthcare facilities** we proudly serve!

TPPT takes great pride in the totality of our volunteers' commitments and their caring hearts. Because of them, there is an abundance of love and companionship in many Texas healthcare facilities. Our loving *Pet Pals* "spread sunshine" wherever they go and make many lonely hearts truly happy!





ANNUAL VOLUNTEER AWARDS



**CONGRATULATIONS TO TPPT'S
30 YEAR HONOREE!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO TPPT'S
25 YEAR HONOREES!**



**Tish Crahen
Houston**



**Ann Olsen
Austin**



**Tina Lucas
Austin**

CONGRATULATIONS TO TPPT'S 20 YEAR HONOREES!



**Nancy Holchak
Houston**



**Mary Horner
Houston**



**Mike Lucas
Austin**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO TPPT'S
15 YEAR HONOREE!**



**Ken Neavel
Austin**

**CONGRATULATION TO
TPPT'S 10 YEAR HONOREE!**



**David Ashley
Austin**

All of our inspired volunteers have demonstrated their dedication to TPPT by their incredible service records! They have been invaluable to TPPT's growth and success, and their devoted commitment to pet therapy is clearly obvious! These honorees serve TPPT in many diverse areas. They are enthusiastic Trainers, Q/T Class Evaluators and Special Events Committee members.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TPPT'S 5 YEAR HONOREES!



**Felix Boston
Austin**



**Elizabeth Gibson
Austin**



**Karan Brown
Houston**



Not pictured:
Peggy Granger
Houston

CONGRATULATIONS TO TPPT'S OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS!



Jill Gunn
Austin



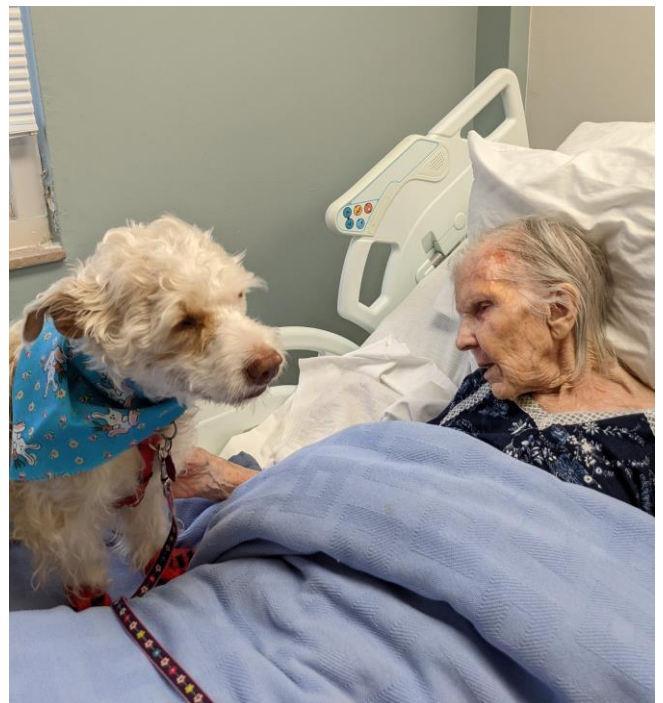
Marte Hersey
Houston

TPPT takes tremendous pride in presenting the **Outstanding Volunteer** awards to these two honorees. They have been truly amazing in their dedication to pet therapy. Not only have they gone that “extra mile”, they have gone many extra miles in service to their cherished friends in many nursing homes and hospitals.

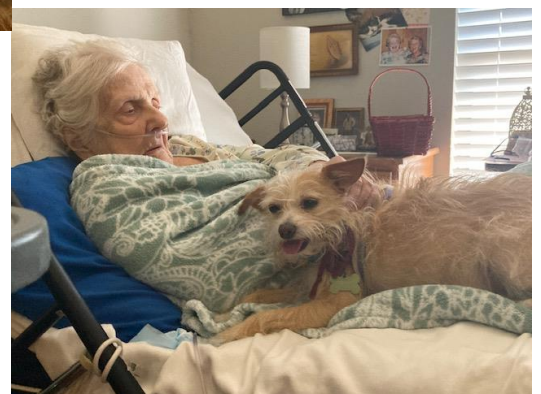
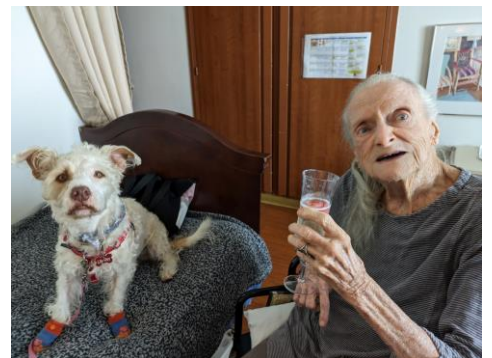
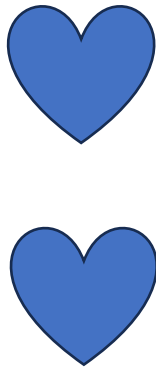
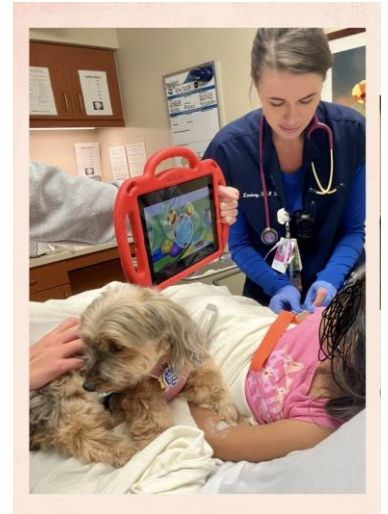
We congratulate **Jill** and **Marte** and sincerely **THANK** them for their loving and faithful service to TPPT!

Lily Rey & Marte Hersey

Lily Rey and I have visited the Meridian Healthcare Center for 4 years. From the start she and “Bill” (n the picture) became good friends. She would hop on her bed and snuggle in with her each visit. Although she enjoyed interacting with all of the residents, Bill was her favorite. Bill’s world was limited due to visual and hearing deficits, so she especially enjoyed Lily’s visits. When Bill died last year, I bypassed her old room during our next visit. As I walked Lily to the elevator to leave, she refused to get on it and instead pulled me back to Bill’s old room. There were a few pillows and linens left on the bed, so I let her jump on the bed. She carefully sniffed the bedding and the entire bed. Then she looked up at me and I said that Bill was gone. She jumped down and walked to the elevator. This gave me a new appreciation for our pets’ understanding of and dedication to pet therapy.



PET PALS IN ACTION IN 2023!



TPPT 2023 Honors Banquet Houston



TPPT 2023 Honors Banquet Austin



FAITHFUL FOUNDATION FRIENDS

Therapy Pet Pals of Texas is blessed by the wonderful foundations that have been so generous in their support of our mission and goals. We take pride in listing those who donated in 2023.

The RWH Foundation has been a friend to TPPT since 2007. TPPT is blessed and deeply honored to continue receiving support from the RWH Foundation. We are grateful for their extremely generous gift in the amount of \$15,000! We are so thankful for their continued support for 16 years! **THANK YOU!**

The **Carl C. Anderson Sr. & Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation** is highly respected by TPPT as one of our very long-term valued foundations. In 2023, they honored us with a donation of \$5,000. **THANK YOU!**

The ForeSight Foundation of Austin has been a treasured friend of TPPT for **21 years!!** We are humbled and gratified by their faith and very generous grants to TPPT. Special thanks to Jennifer & Brooks Newbill who are devoted believers in pet therapy for their grant of \$5,000. **THANK YOU!**

The John Medica & Megan Salzman-Medica Charitable Fund has been an incredibly faithful supporter of TPPT for **25 years!!** Their loving gifts have been very generous and given continuously every year! We extend our heartfelt gratitude for their loving support and generous grant of \$5,000. **THANK YOU!**

The Medallion Foundation is a loyal and dedicated foundation in their funding of TPPT. We are grateful for their donation of \$5,000 and delighted by the continued faith and trust that is placed in our organization. **THANK YOU!**

The Ed Rachal Foundation of Corpus Christi has once again blessed TPPT with a generous donation of \$5,000. We cannot thank them enough for their continued support over the years. **THANK YOU!**

The Ray & June Smith Charitable Foundation has been a good friend and a caring supporter of TPPT. We are extremely thankful for their caring donation of \$5,000. Their generosity enables TPPT to continue sharing love and companionship with residents in healthcare facilities. **THANK YOU!**

The Donald D. Hammill Foundation has been a dedicated friend of TPPT since 2009. We are truly grateful for their donation of \$4,000. They are friends who recognize the many health benefits to be derived from our Pet Pal visits. **THANK YOU!**

The Lind Family Charitable Foundation have been dedicated and faithful supporters since 2005. They understand the significance of what a vital role pets play in adding quality of life to those people who are no longer able to have a pet of their own. We thank them for their donation of \$2,000. **THANK YOU!**

The Shomos Family Foundation, Ltd. We thank our friend and former Pet Pal volunteer, Monica Shomos, for her continued support. We are grateful to the Shomos Family Foundation for their donation of \$2,000. **THANK YOU!**

The Arnold Foundation has been giving TPPT their support for **21 years!** As one of our long-term supporting foundations, their friendship is a source of great pride to TPPT. We thank them for their generous grant of \$1,500. **THANK YOU!**

The David and Willa Grace Wynne Foundation of Houston has once again graciously honored TPPT's grant request. We are grateful for their donation of \$1,500 and their desire to help promote the vital need for pet therapy. **THANK YOU!**

The Abbott Foundation of Austin is a friend TPPT made in 2011. We thank them for validating our volunteer efforts with their faithful, caring gifts and their belief in TPPT's mission and goals. We are grateful for their donation of \$750. **THANK YOU!**

The R.H. & A.Q. Lawe Foundation is a long-term friend and supporter of TPPT. In 2023, they honored TPPT with a donation of \$750. **THANK YOU!**



MEMORIALS ~ DONATIONS MADE IN MEMORY OF...

Lou Magel

By Mary Horner

"Maddi"

Pet Pal of Teddi Jackson

By Mary Horner

"Sonny"

Pet Pal of Lorie Schlichte

By TPPT Office Staff

Joyce Schechter

By TPPT Office Staff

Harry Selig

Renee Fleishman

Erin Winston

Alan Potash

Edith Dochen

Cecilia Burke

Ed Astrich Photography

Martha Hare

Michael Abrams

Susan Broockman

Kathy Grosch

"Spanky"

Pet Pal of Martha Temple

By TPPT Office Staff

Maggie Delamore

By Kay, Tom & "Ben

Crenshaw" Neslage

"Gigi"

Pet Pal of Jennifer Carr

By TPPT Office Staff

"Ben Crenshaw"

Pet Pal of Kay Neslage

"Luna"

Pet Pal of Susan Smith

By TPPT Office Staff

Steve Laux

By Jane Adams

"Cooper"

Devoted companion of
the Nordgrin Family

By Joy Parker

Mary Icenhower

By James Root

Sherry & Bill Hyman

"Hunter"

Much-loved dog of

Cindy Biral

By Jane Adams

"Scamp"

Beloved dog of

Lee Martin

By Jane Adams

Evelyn Bovier

By Tish Crahen

"Ruby"

Pet Pal of Jim & Karen

Brewer

By TPPT Office Staff

"Tex"

Pet Pal of Kathleen

Crowley

"Deere"

Beloved companion of

Brenda Beaver

By Peggy & Gerald Lively

Lianne Nagel

By Sheryl Poore

Vincent McConnell

Beloved son & brother of

Mary Baker and Peggy

McConnell

By Jane Adams

"Monty"

Precious dog of Marsha &

Keven Connelly

By Peggy & Gerald Lively

"Dexter Jean"

By Harriet Hoffman

Dick & Lou Magel

By Sherree Davis

HONORS ~ DONATIONS MADE IN HONOR OF....

Ann & Jim Root

By Karen & Les Benedict

Elizabeth Metting

By Terry B. Metting

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

- ♦ Mariam Barberena
- ♦ Jeff Bell
- ♦ Gretchen & Darron Blackburn
- ♦ Roy Blum
- ♦ Marla Brickley
- ♦ Marilou Cantoni
- ♦ Debbie Conner
- ♦ Tish Crahen
- ♦ Reychel Demetriou
- ♦ Joan Eurey
- ♦ Lesa Favreau
- ♦ Roxanne Ferreiro
- ♦ Helen Gaw
- ♦ Elizabeth Gibson
- ♦ Mike & Nancy Gray
- ♦ Adele Hanson
- ♦ David & Jo Nell Harlow
- ♦ Mary Horner
- ♦ Julie Humble
- ♦ Mary H. & Don Johnson
- ♦ Cassanda Kahler
- ♦ Patti McGraw
- ♦ Patty Moran
- ♦ Katie Ann Prescott
- ♦ Mary Schani
- ♦ Patty & Clif Steed
- ♦ Ana Sweeney
- ♦ Nedy West
- ♦ Mark White



CORPORATE & BUSINESS SPONSORS

AT&T • Dell • ExxonMobil Foundation •
Flatfile • Hearts & Paws • Healthy Pets • IBM
• Kendra Scott • Lake Travis Chamber of
Commerce • Macy's • Microsoft • National
Instruments • New York Life • The Oasis •
State House Printing • WellSky Foundation
• Westlake Animal Hospital

Newsletter submissions:

We are delighted to receive Pet Pal pictures for our newsletter! Also, if you would like to submit a short story (or just a paragraph), send it, along with an appropriate picture, for publishing in the next edition of **PET PAL TALES**.

Website additions:

TPPT has space for the addition of many more pictures on our website! If you want to share a picture of your Pet Pal "volunteering", send it to the TPPT office and we will be happy to publish it on our website:
www.therapypetpals.org.

PET PAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

No matter how many new volunteers TPPT certifies each year, there can never be enough to fill all the healthcare facilities!

We urge our Pet Pal members to share the joy and rewards of being a volunteer. Ask your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to visit our website and view the pictures there. They will see the happiness pets give and want to be part of such a heart-warming experience!



THANK YOU, JUDY & STEVE RUNYAN!

The beautiful awards, which are proudly displayed by TPPT's Outstanding Volunteers, were designed and donated by **Judy and Steve Runyan**. Tony Leonard had donated these very special awards every year for 16 years, until his death in 2006. His daughter, Judy, vowed to keep his legacy alive and, along with her husband Steve, has continued making the wonderful **Tony Awards** since then! They continue to honor us with their talent, generosity and loving dedication to TPPT!