



USA THERAPY DOGS, INC.

Serving with Compassion and Pride

WISH LIST

The following items are needed for USA TD. If you can donate any of these much needed items please call Jarod Boyles 810-569-2506 to arrange for pick up.

Light weight banquette tables

2 - 8 foot

1 - card table— only light weight

4— light weight canvas tailgating type fold up chairs

Overhead projector to attach to lap top computer.

Table clothes Red, White or Blue to fit 6 ft. rectangular banquette tables

Generator - quiet running —low to medium output

Shelving made from wire—for storage unit

Lap Top Computer or external hard drive

Gift Certificate to Staples or office store for office supplies.

Donations for Raffles/Auctions for Fundraisers ongoing need.



Congratulations are in order for Nancy Hall and Q-Tip

Nancy Hall and Q-Tip earned their AKC Therapy Dog Patch by completing 50 visits that is required for the patch.

Thank you Nancy and Q-Tip for all your hard work and dedication to therapy dog work.



Just a reminder: The USA TD Veterinary Authorization form is the only form that will be acceptable for annual renewal. As you update your 2014 veterinary records and county dog license make sure that you keep your originals and make copies to send in with your annual USA Therapy Dog Renewal. The USA TD vet authorization form is downloadable from our website. Go to the forms tab at usatherapydogs.org. Please take a copy to your veterinarian's office to be filled out, signed, stamped and dated. USA TD annual renewal is June 2014. You will receive a reminder prior to the renewal date.



USA THERAPY DOGS, INC. Spring Class

Start Date: Classes will start Monday, February 24, 2014

Class Location:

Hadley Acres Obedient and Care

4013 Pratt Rd

Metamora, MI 48455

13 weeks total – we will meet 12 consecutive classes for instruction, last week is graduation

Time: First Class: 6:30 to 8:30

After First Class, Time: 7 pm to 8:30

Membership applications can be found on the USA TD website www.usatherapydogs.org

Go to the FORMS tab, print and fill out the following forms:

- I. Canine Information form
2. Vet Authorization/Vaccination form (must be signed by your vet) must use USA TD form
3. Membership application form

In addition to the forms please send in a copy of your

- I. Driver's License front and back
2. Current County Dog License

Send the completed forms and payment (see below for cost) to:

USA Therapy Dogs, Inc.

Attention: CLASS/Kathy Fridline

P.O. Box 100

Davison, MI 48423

Someone will contact the applicants for a prescreening

We request that all paper work is submitted by January 20, 2014 along with payment

Please make checks out to USA Therapy Dogs, Inc.

Cost:

\$185 for one handler and one dog

\$235 for two handles and one dog

NEEDED—FUNDRAISER COORDINATOR FOR USA THERAPY DOGS
Please call Diane Noblett to fulfill this position. 810-245-2459

**A BIG THANK YOU TO USA THERAPY DOGS, INC. NEW
EVENTS COORDINATING TEAM:**

1. Brenda Begley—Team Captain
2. Jennifer Jones
3. Kristine Oswald



STARS FOR VESTS

All Handler/Therapy Dog teams—if you submitted 15 or more visiting volunteer hours in 2013 and have not received your star because you were unable to attend the Christmas Party and Awards banquet please send me a self addressed and stamped 9 x 12 envelope. I will include the star and certificate for 2013. Please email me for my home address: dmnnoblett@charter.net. If you didn't turn in your hours for 2013, you can still email them to me or send them to USA TD post office box 100, Davison, MI 48423 and still be eligible for a star for your dog's vest. Also, remember that visiting with your therapy dog is mandatory to remain an active member. Please submit no later than January 31, 2014.

**AKC/THERAPY DOG
RECOGNITION
THERAPY DOG PATCH**



USA Therapy Dogs, Inc. is now a recognized Therapy Dog organization. The forms and guidelines have been emailed to all members for those who would like to earn an AKC Therapy Dog patch.

The visit log the AKC has a different format than the visit log for USA Therapy Dogs. AKC counts visits, USA TD counts hours. The same sheet can be used for both AKC visits and USA TD hours, just make sure the hours are stated on the form when sending to Diane Noblett at diane.noblett@yahoo.com. It is the Handlers responsibility to send in all the pertinent information to the AKC for their visits. All information is on the forms/guidelines.

You can see USA Therapy Dogs, Inc. listed on the AKC website at:

<http://www.akc.org/akctherapydog/organizations.cfm>

AWE..... PAW PAGE

FEATURING Teddy
Handler Sherrill Natzke



Per USA Therapy Dog Handler, Sherrill Natzke:

1- While my son was at UM Hospital for three months, Teddy worked there nearly every single day. He became quite well known and requested throughout the hospital. He is shown here in this pic with my son Eric on his last day there in the radiation department. Teddy loved working with patients but was highly requested by the staff in NICU and radiation.

2- Teddy was requested to attend the annual Humane Society Ties & Tails Event that was held at The Flint Golf Club during our stay in Michigan. He worked the event like a pro and I was able to share information on

USA TD HANDLERS ~ ~ IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR DOG FEATURED IN THE USA THERAPY DOGS, INC NEWSLETTER ON THE NEW "AWE..... PAW PAGE" PLEASE SEND PICTURES OF YOUR THERAPY DOG AT WORK. NAMES OF RECEIPTS ARE NOT NECESSARY OR USED. PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A PHOTO RELEASE FORM AND HAVE THE RECEIPT OR RESPONSIBLE FAMILY MEMBER SIGN-ONE or TWO THERAPY DOG PER NEWSLETTER WILL BE FEATURED....Email to dmnoble@charter.net

FALL 2013 USA THERAPY DOGS GRADUATING CLASS



Front Row: Left to Right:

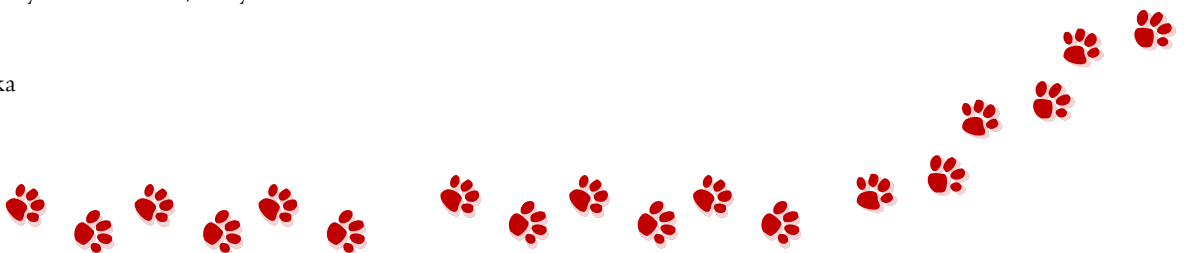
Phil Albert/Tessa, Beth Harries/Beamer, JoAnn Landoskey/Jasper, Virginia Cox/Belle, Darcelle Kirk/Bailey, Amy Fletcher/Sadie

Back Row: Left to Right:

Karen O'Nail/ Deuce, Christina Bessolo/Lola, Kathryn Dodson/Maeve, Jennifer Todd/Charger, Larry Cox, Karmen Angoli/Watson, Sandra Spencley/Riley, Carol Krause/Riley

3rd Row:

John Bessolo/Meika



10 Steps to Protect Your Pets During an Emergency

An emergency plan for your pets means a safer outcome in the event of a disaster.

By Doug Jimerson—Article came from Better Homes and Gardens Magazine

Disasters such as tornadoes, floods, and fires can occur without warning. That's why it's important for you to have an emergency plan in place for your furry family members before tragedy occurs. Here are 10 important tips you should follow to keep your pet safe during an unexpected emergency.

1. Microchip your pet. Make sure all your pets have microchips to help identify them in case they get separated from you. During a storm, for example, an open door or a broken gate is all that's needed for a frightened pet to run away. Your pet should also wear a secure collar with identification tags firmly attached.

2. Find alternative housing. Animals are often not allowed in public shelters. So, it's important for you to find an alternative that works for the entire family. Check with local hotels to find out which ones allow pets and put their phone numbers into your cell phone. That way, you can book at a moment's notice when trouble brews.

3. Own a crate for every pet. Make sure every animal in your family has its own crate for transportation and temporary shelter. You don't want to stuff Kitty into a pillowcase at the last minute to get your cat to safety. And, never try to squeeze all your animals into a single crate.

4. Document health records. Keep a file of all your animals' medical records in an easily accessible place so that you can grab them on your way out the door. Having your pets' medical records is important to prove that they are up to date on all their inoculations, particularly rabies and distemper.

5. Make a housing list. Contact friends and family who could temporarily house your pets in an emergency, especially if you can't find a pet-friendly shelter or hotel nearby. Talk to them about a plan to transport your pets to their care during difficult times.

6. Indicate pet ownership. Put an emergency pet alert sticker on a window of your home so that emergency workers will know there are animals inside. This is especially important in case disaster strikes when you aren't home and you are prohibited from reentering your neighborhood during the emergency.

7. Take photos. Make sure you have an up-to-date, clear photo of each of your pets. This will help identify your cat or dog if it becomes lost or gets picked up by animal control. It's also smart to have a photo of yourself taken with your pets to help prove ownership.

8. Create an emergency kit for your pets. The kit should contain at least three days worth of food and water, as well as litter pans, litter, leashes, and any medicine your pet requires.

9. Don't depend on animal shelters. Don't assume your local animal shelter will be able to house your pets during an emergency. Animal shelters are not boarding facilities and are generally overwhelmed during times of crisis with their own animals.

10. Don't leave a pet behind. Never leave your pet behind during an emergency. During Hurricane Katrina, for example, many owners left their pets to fend for themselves, assuming they'd be back to take care of them quickly. Yet, the disaster lasted much longer than anticipated and abandoned pets began to run out of food and water. Your pets are your responsibility, so keep your entire family together throughout the disaster. With early planning, you and your pets can stay safe and together.



REQUEST FOR THERAPY DOGS

Hands of Hope Childcare Center in Pontiac has requested USA Therapy Dogs to come and visit children at the Center. The children have had therapy dogs in the past that have greatly benefitted from the visits. The children open up to the dogs tell their stories, read, feel safe and find comfort with therapy dogs. Many of the children come from negative environments, needing to rebuild trust and confidence.

USA Therapy Dog teams, if you feel like you can help these children please contact director, Jodie Slongo at 248-334-2187 ext. 1301

Head Start in Lapeer is looking for therapy dogs to visit with children in the Head Start program. Commitment would be every Thursday morning for 1 hour during the school year. Please contact Diane Noblett at 810-245-2459 if interested. Visits start January 16, 2014

Stonegate Health Care Facility in Lapeer to visit seniors. This is a small, beautiful and less than a year old facility, very comfortable visits. Seniors gather in the lounge area to welcome and visit the dogs, also there are two other areas in the building, one is physical therapy and the other is the Alzheimer's wing that welcome the handler/dog teams. Currently there is a small group visiting, but with the start of the school year some of our handler's schedules have changed. Visits are one hour. If you are interested in visiting Contact Diane Noblett at 810-245-2459.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Please submit your hours at the end of each month. Please tally up the hours by month. Visitation logs are mailed out at the end of each month. They are all same if you would like to just make copies or print off several at a time. You could email Diane for a visitation log if needed: dmnobbett@charter.net. Remember to have your visitation log signed by the contact person at the location. **15 visiting hours a year is required to remain in "active" status with USA Therapy Dogs, Please refer to the Policies and Procedures Manual for details.** If you would like to receive another PPM send Diane Noblett an email for the request. For home visits, with pre-approval please use my name for the CONTACT person's name.

Volunteer Awards Program—Change in 2014

There will not longer be a Volunteer Awards Program starting in 2014. Hours will still need to be submitted at the end of every month. There will be awards given at the end of the year, not necessarily for hours.

Total Hours for 2013: 2,947

Total Hours for 2012: 1,662

Great job visiting!! We had 1,285 more hours in 2013 than in 2012. Congratulations!!!

USA THERAPY DOGS, INC. STAFF MEMBERS

President: Jarod Boyles
Vice President: Diane Noblett
Secretary: Kathy Fridline
Treasurer: Brenda Begley
Lead Trainer: Daphne Stover
Lead Medical Officer: Ann Bruno
Events Coordinating Team: Brenda Begley, Kristine Oswald & Jennifer Jones
Communications Coordinator: Diane Noblett
Fundraiser Coordinator: VACANT
Marketing Coordinator: Delena Austin



AKC Program—Canine Partners Randall Trudell

USA Therapy Dog member, Randall Trudell signed up for a new program through the AKC called Canine Partners. It will allow our members that have mixed breed dogs, rescue dogs and rare breeds to participate in AKC Rally, Agility, obedience trails and Coursing Ability Tests. For every USA TD member that signs up Randall will receive \$10 that he will donate to USA TD. This is a very easy and fun way to earn money for USA TD. Please check out the website for more information how you can enroll in this program.

<http://classic.akc.org/mixed-breeds/index.cfm>

WE ARE IN NEED OF ASSISTANT TRAINERS. THERE WILL BE AN ASSISTANT TRAINERS WORKSHOP AT HADLEY ACRES OBEDIENCE AND CARE TRAINING FACILITY ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2014 FROM 10 AM TO NOON. PLEASE CONTACT DIANE NOBLETT FOR QUESTIONNAIRE, SHE WILL EMAIL IT TO YOU. dmnoblett@charter.net

