

## **P.A.W.S.**

Pets Are Working Saints.

A pet facilitated therapy program sponsored by Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church  
August, 2009

**Michael** of the National 211Connect Volunteer Information and Health Services called your coordinator on March 5<sup>th</sup>. He was requesting contacting information for PAWS. His information caused him to believe it was an organization with business hours and a staff. He asked how to list a contact name and number in case they got a call. After explaining our volunteer nature, he accepted listing the PAWS website for a computer contact and Frazer's phone number for telephone contacts. Michael works locally and provided the first 211 experience for your coordinator.

Doug,

My Blue Doberman Zoey is in P.A.W.S. My son is trying to find a home for his AKC neutered 2 year old male large Black and Tan Doberman. He is not a therapy dog but he would be great friend for one person with no children or other animals. I would appreciate it if you would let me know if anyone would be interested in him. He is up to date on shots, heart worm, micro chipped and free to a good home to someone that can spend time with him and love him. I don't want to bring him to the Animal Shelter.

Thanks,

Nancy Ransburgh

**Doug**, I thank you for always including me in the PAWS emails. I wanted you to know I have a new puppy, Taylor, as of one week ago. She has not had all her shots as of yet, but I will do PAWS training after she matures a bit. She is a fast learner. I don't know what she is other than cute as can be. I am the lady who had the very sick golden retriever, Hope, who died 12/29/08. Has been difficult time, but Taylor is going to help me a lot and has already. I have sent Frances a note a Easter Seals about the items needed for therapy room at Easter Seals. You are doing and have been doing a great job with PAWS and I thank you. I had a dog, Micah, in the first program under Carol Taylor. She starts great programs and gets them rolling. She was in charge when Hope was in the program, but I had to quit due to physical problem. I look forward to being in the program again. I took Hope to Crowne Nursing Home to see a friend and she was such a big hit. She was so beautiful and sweet and the ladies loved when I drove up with her in the car. Take care and I will be in touch when Taylor has some training and can pass Therapy Test. I think she will be great. M J LYERLY



**Wednesday, August 05, 2009**

**JACKSON HOSPITAL**

Mary Jane "M.J." Lyerly – Surgery – 8:00/10:00 am

**Temperament Testing**, May 17 was a rainy day. This was the second evaluation for the year and the weather may have kept some from participating. However, Linda Miller coordinated the activity and was supported by Joyce Miller, Sandra Townsend, Dr. Jim Jordan, Debbie Forbus, Brandi Merrill, Mary Wilson and Doug Lunsford stopped by to offer encouragement. The two teams that applied and passed were a mother and daughter. Janey Masterson and daughter Jennifer Griggs each completed their observation visit prior to testing and were immediately ready to visit. Janey had her first visit planned five days after completing her test. Both mother and daughter are involved in a variety of pet/animal related activities in the greater Montgomery area. Congratulations.



**Janey Masterson w/ Robbie**



**Jennifer Griggs w/ Jake**



**Wednesday, August 05, 2009**

**DEATHS**

\*Myrtice Bartlett – Mother of Carl (Aneta) Bartlett  
Visitation will be Wed.(5/20) at the First United  
Methodist Church of Roanoke, AL from 10:00-Noon  
With the funeral following at 2:00 pm.  
Virginia (George)Mason – Mother of Brenda (Conrad)  
Jackson, Grandmother of Michael (**Erin**) Jackson,  
Grandmother of Brian Jackson.

*Erin is one of our newer members*

**AMBUCS** is a non-profit service organization dedicated to creating mobility and independence for people with disabilities. The Montgomery River Region Friends of AMBUCS wish to help by providing therapeutic tricycles. Therapists are able to fit disabled children and adults on these special tricycles at Baptist Medical Center East, which is a demo site for AMBUCSA AmTrykes. A special “fun day” was conducted at the Montgomery Therapeutic Recreation Center on June 6<sup>th</sup>. There were special activities, decorations and food. You may have seen some coverage on a local TV station. PAWS was invited to participate in this exciting activity. PAWS invited other pet therapy groups in the area. It was great to share this opportunity among animals from PAWS, TDI (Therapy Dogs International), and TDI (Therapy Dogs Inc.) & Dogs on Call. AMBUCS gave permission to print photographs. For me, it seems impossible to participate and get photographs of all pet teams. I wish I had a better variety and I am sorry that I did not photograph everyone. Thank all of you who participated.





Thanks to Leanne Cornwell for the invitation to participate.

The activity was on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. I received an e-mail that night. One child had bonded with Lilly, the dog brought by Frances McGowin of Therapy Dogs Inc. and the Easter Seals Program. The child was having a cast on Monday or Tuesday of the next week and requested Lilly be present. What a multiplier God supplied to an original effort.

*Doug,*

*What a huge success your PAWS organization was at our bike rodeo on June 6th. I just received a phone call from one of the therapist who has an unusual request. One of the children who comes to the therapy center will be having some casting done on his legs either Monday or Tuesday. His mom has asked if Lilly? I believe that is the dogs name could come to the hospital when he is there to calm him down. Unfortunately it has to be this dog. I have infoed Brenda this e-mail and would appreciate if you could respond to her as she is the one who needs the information.*

*Anything you can do to help would be greatly appreciated. Leanne Cornwell  
Montgomery River Region Friends of AMBUCS*



Frances McGowin w/ Lilly

**Your coordinator** received a phone call from a young person who attends Frazer and was interested in PAWS. This did not turn into an in depth conversation but a suggestion to visit the webpage may produce a future member.

**New Contact:** Troy Palmer, Cokesbury UMC, Pensacola, Fl. called on 5-2-09 with interest in starting a program similar to PAWS. He was provided with information and asked to stay in touch as his effort took root and grew.

**The Montgomery Biscuits** baseball team sponsored a “Bark In The Park” activity during one game. Dog owners were invited to bring their dogs and there was a walk around the park scheduled prior to the game. PAWS members and other pet therapy teams were planning to attend. However, rain and lightning caused your coordinator to stay home. Therefore there is no report on the success of the opportunity.

**That Animal Group (TAG)** continues to grow. The new e-mail address is [tag36106@hotmail.com](mailto:tag36106@hotmail.com) and they now have tax exempt status. Their pet food bank opened on June 24<sup>th</sup> and is already serving dogs and cats. Jane Nichols, who is a former PAWS coordinator, is conducting monthly pet loss grief therapy from Dalraida UMC. They now publish a periodic newsletter. If you are interested in joining their organization or offering any support, please contact them via e-mail.

Good Morning Mr. Smith,

Hope you are doing well. I wanted to let you know that I will not be able to visit South Haven tomorrow. My dog, Bandit, has got a skin allergy on his back, and honestly it looks horrible. It is not contagious, but he is very bothered by it, and it may be more of a distraction.

Just wanted to let you know, but I will plan to visit next month.

Have a good day!

Lori Lawrence

*Visiting presents many problems. The volunteer cannot be sick because disease may be spread among at risk persons. The animal may be sick or injured. Family situations often cause conflicts. Add bathing and grooming the animal to fitting into a limited schedule and that adds another level of difficulty. I thank all of you for accepting the challenge and making the system work. I will add my/Jake's recent problems to this newsletter.*

Doug,

This is Janey Masterson from PAWS. A friend sent me this message & in trying to help this little dog with a home, I thought maybe you could put the word out so that's why I sent it on to you. Poor little guy!

Janey

----- Begin forwarded message -----

Subject: Jack Russell terrier free to a good home...

Date: 6/19/09 1:23:07 PM

From: "Marcia Chambliss"

One of my neighbors has a 1-year old Jack Russell terrier that needs a loving home. He's housebroken but not neutered. He's a full Jack Russell but not registered. They are having problems with their older dogs not accepting him so they asked me to spread the word that he's available to a good home. They are also going to include his kennel as that's where he goes every night, promptly at 8:30! He sounds like a great dog so if you or anyone you know of is looking for a Jack Russell, please let me know and I'll get you in touch with my neighbor.

#### **Follow-up from a previous newsletter:**

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**From:** Cathryn Bray

Doug,

I am FINALLY getting this ministry of the ground. I have the liability insurance cleared through the church. I have gone through you paperwork from you website and would like to tweak it a bit to use it for our program if that is okay with you.

I have quite a bit of interest, some good volunteers for all areas. . . ie; a vet, temperament trainer , couple of dog trainers, a groomer and loving volunteers and animals.

I am going to try to launch it in August with a training and temperament training session. With visits starting in September.

Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

Cathy

Cathy,

You are welcome to use, or tweak and use any of our material. I know you are excited and that God will bless your ministry. When you stabilize and refine your process, we could probably get some tips from you that would improve our program. I would always be interested in information on your progress. We are now posting our newsletters on our website. However, they are very slow to load. If you want to view them, I suggest downloading them first. Good luck and stay in touch.

Doug

**Temporarily missing visits:** Your coordinator, Doug, and Jake have been missing for a while. Jake had an aneurism in one ear. It was caused from shaking his head/flapping his ears in reaction to itching ears. While his inner ears were being treated, he wore a device that prevented his ear from flapping and causing further damage to the blood vessel. The photograph shows him in an embarrassing pose. Treatment also kept his outer ear and surrounding area greasy and unattractive.



Remember earlier when Jake lost visiting time because of surgery for removal of a growth on his side?



Just as this was near healing, Jake's right front leg became swollen about twice its normal size. An initial diagnosis by the vet was snake bite. However, an unusual amount of infection suggested some trauma. Healing has been slow and you will see some of the treatment in the photographs. Just think of the challenge to keep the leg bandaged and free from gnawing and scratching when it is uncovered. Add multiple pills twice a day just for more fun. All of this followed my five week struggle with a respiratory problem that limited much of my social activity. Sharing my problem makes it seem easier. When he heals and his hair grows back, we will be back on the visiting trail.



**Wednesday, August 05, 2009**

**DEATHS**

\*Barbara Lesinger – Mother of Lex (Cynthia) Lesinger

There will be a Celebration of Life gathering with the Family at Fairhope Park in Fairhope, AL from 4-8pm On Fri.

**BAPTIST EAST**

\*Ann McCreary – Surgery – 11:00/1:00 (Mother of Jacque (Doug) Lunsford)

**P.A.W.S.**  
 Pets Are Working Saints  
 Douglas Smith, Volunteer Coordinator  
 — dsmith1@elmore.rr.com

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... A Ministry of:  
 Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church  
 8000 Atlanta Highway  
 Montgomery, AL 36117  
 (334) 272-8622  
 www.frazerumc.org/paws

**Douglas A. Smith**

535 Albritton Ln  
 Wetumpka, AL 36093

Phone: 334 514-6187  
 e-mail: dsmith1@elmore.rr.com



**PRAY and VISIT**