

# THE DisPPatch

DENVER PET PARTNERS



September

2015

## Team of the Month

Congratulations to Paul Rogalla and Hayden!



I first saw Hayden in the parking lot of the Glendale Petsmart at one of their big adoption weekends in May of 2009. After having had a black retriever mix and a flat-coated retriever in my past, I had decided that I wasn't going to get another black dog, but I was going to adopt a golden retriever or yellow lab. However, once I saw him I could not resist at least taking him out of the cage and putting him on a leash. Hayden was confident that he had found the right person, and quickly persuaded me that he was the one. On our first trip home, I expected Hayden to be nervously excited, pacing in the back of the car and sticking his head out the window. He slept all the way home.

Read more of this touching story [here](#) or email [Paul](#).

## September Team Meeting

Saturday, September 12, 10AM - 12PM



Please join us at Denver Pet Partners' September Team Meeting. Family, friends, and registered Pet Partner therapy animals are

## New In This Issue

- September Team Meeting
- DU Learning Session
- Pet Partners' New Website
- Whole Foods Market Update
- Facility Spotlight: *Memory Care Programs*
- Book Recommendation

## Thank You Diana

For your dedication and hard work, you deserve the best retirement ever!



welcome to attend this special presentation from **David Haworth, CEO of the Morris Animal Foundation (MAF)**.

For more information on the Morris Animal Foundation, David Haworth or their Golden Retriever Lifetime Study please visit [here](#) or on [Facebook](#).

Space is limited, so RSVP early. Indicate number of guests and let us know if you plan to bring your registered animal partner. Evie can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions, contact [Marla Yetka](#) by phone or email.

## DU Learning Session

Tuesday, October 13, 6-9pm

Institute for  
Human · Animal  
Connection



UNIVERSITY of  
DENVER

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Save-the-date for our next learning session at Craig Hall with Professor Philip Tedeschi and the GSSW students at the University of Denver's Institute for Human-Animal Connection:

### **"Working in complex settings with children and adults with a wide range of trauma-disrupted histories"**

Agenda format to include formal academic learning session delivered by Philip, followed by breakout groups with students and faculty that will include role play and examples of specific methods for using AAT with vulnerable populations. This learning experience is highly recommended for teams working with at-risk individuals and in child welfare and family preservation settings. Registered therapy animals are welcome.

Evite will be sent out soon.

## Board Update

As you receive this newsletter, our Founder and Executive Director, Diana McQuarrie, begins her retirement of that position. I know all of you join me and the Denver Pet Partner Board in thanking Diana for her tireless and inspired service and in wishing her the very best of new adventures and undertakings, and hopefully a bit more time to relax.



Diana has set the bar for all of us who volunteer with DPP and we are fortunate that she is not leaving the organization completely. Diana will transition to the new role of Emeritus Executive Director, available to provide advice and counsel. She will also remain DPP's representative to the International Association of Human-Animal Interaction Organizations (IAHAIO), where she is a board member and member of its international task force establishing standards of best practice for AAI programs and practitioners.

So how will we move forward? Following research in nonprofit models, we have chosen to combine the positions of Board Chair and Executive Director during an 18-month transition period. Diana has seen this model work very successfully for IAHAIO, and I have just completed five years on the board of Colorado Healthcare Strategy & Management, which uses this model. I will be taking on Diana's work as Operation and Strategic Lead for Denver Pet Partners.

Thanks to previous work by Diana and the Board in creating an operational board structure, DPP already has skilled board members in place doing many of the tasks formerly done by the Executive Director. Among our dedicated board members are **Susan Horecki**, handling Programs and Client Relationships; **Marla Yetka**, our Director of Marketing and Communications; **Mandy Bell**, handling our Member Events, Program



*Professor Tedeschi with DPP therapy dogs, Hitch and Ceva at our last learning event.*

## Pet Partners' New Website



As a follow-up to an email that was sent to the DPP Membership by Sandy Langley, remember that all active DPP Therapy Teams must activate an account on the **new [Pet Partner website](#)**.

This must be done, (1) to ensure that your information from the old site transferred over to the new site; and (2) in order to renew your registration in the future, you will have to activate your account on the new site (best to do it now, to simplify for later).

Please continue to log your visits on the DENVER PET PARTNERS site as you have always done.

If you have any questions, please contact [Sandy](#).

Coordinator **Sandy Langley**, and many dedicated volunteers, including our Evaluation Team and Instructors, who help everything happen behind the scenes. **Ken McQuarrie** will continue his volunteer involvement as our Business Manager.

Each operational area has active, skilled Board Managers and all of our programs will go on as before. The Board and Diana set two key goals for the next 18 months. These include:

- To minimize disruptions to the current operation and sense of community support, avoiding any drastic change, and
- To take advantage of DPP's excellent board skills and leadership to strengthen the organization's membership and financial position while exploring future options.

To that end, we'll be moving ahead with our DPP branding study and all of our training, evaluations, and other programming. Two areas where we hope to expand are in enhanced member support and communication, and broader fundraising. More about this in upcoming newsletters.

Because we are such a reputable organization, we often hear from groups interested in collaboration. We promise to keep you informed of any such opportunities and to do our due diligence in fully exploring the pros and cons of any collaborative opportunities.

I would love to hear from you with your thoughts, comments, questions, and suggestions. Feel free to contact me at 303-819-8926 or [carollynnt@denverpetpartners.org](mailto:carollynnt@denverpetpartners.org).

As an organization run entirely by volunteers (including the Board), we welcome your active involvement. We have a huge need for volunteers for a range of activities both short and long term. Please contact [Mandy Bell](#) if you'd like to become more active as a volunteer.

As always, thank you for everything you and your pet partner do for DPP and our community.

*Carol Lynn Tiegs*

# WHOLE FOODS MARKET

WFM-Colorado Blvd. in Glendale continues to support DPP through their reusable bag credit program which continues through the end of September. Special thanks to our teams for making our August 22nd in-store event a huge success with customers and staff. Our therapy dogs and mini horse "Duke" were a big hit.



## Facility Spotlight: Memory Care Programs

As the DPP Program Director I have had the great opportunity to participate in and observe many different types of Animal Assisted Interactions (AAI) and client populations. Each setting is unique and each visit has its own special purpose and we generally can see an impact that our animal partners have made on any given day. Most often, however, we don't know what happened after we left. Was there a lingering effect to the unconditional love that my partner brought that day?

## Save the Date

**September 12:** DPP Team Meeting w/ Guest Speaker, David Haworth, CEO of Morris Animal Foundation

**October 3:** [Handler Training Course](#)

**October 13:** DU Learning Session

**October 17-18:** [Team Evaluations](#)

**December 5:** DPP Member Appreciation & Holiday Party

## Book Recommendation



*Taking the Lead Without Jerking the Leash* is written by Aurora, Colorado based author Pat Blocker, owner of Peaceful Paws Dog Training, and Certified Professional Dog

Trainer with over 18 years of experience. She has a passion for helping people with their dogs through education and positive reinforcement based training.

Visit [peacefulpaws.net](http://peacefulpaws.net) for more information about Pat and her Therapy Dog Team Training Class which would be great for working with a new canine partner or "tune-ups" before renewal evaluations.

Order from Amazon Smile [here](#).

TAKING THE LEAD WITHOUT  
JERKING THE LEASH



THE ART OF MINDFUL  
DOG TRAINING

PAT BLOCKER, CPDT-KA

## Your Newsletter

Thanks to Aubree Goudy, Program Director at Brookedale Pinehurst Park, we have some answers to that question. Aubree is an active participant when the DPP Team visits and assists with resident interactions. These individuals live with the effects of dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Aubree documents the resident's reactions and demeanor during and after visits and shares her notes with the handler as well as residents' family members.



Aubree shares her personal impressions of what having a DPP Team means to the facility:

*“By putting his paw on their leg or his head on their lap he has engaged an intimacy that is incomparable to any human interaction. The human-animal team provides an experience that is a meaningful opportunity to the family members who love and care for their loved one. With the pictures, the stories, and renewed memories they get the satisfaction of seeing their family member happy.*

*The effects of the visit go far beyond an opportunity to reminisce, an intimate bond, or a family member's peace of mind. It affects the very core of the resident. We are trained here at Pinehurst to believe that an action is a need, not a behavior. When a resident is anxious, agitated, or depressed we must counteract that with whatever therapy is appropriate. Luckily, our pet partner is our own furry therapist. And while the residents may not remember his visit, their attitudes reflect peace, serenity, and joy. He gives the residents the happiness to dance and sing, he gives another the ability to smile, and another the ability to speak full sentences.*

*The effect goes past the resident all the way to our care staff. Happy*

What would you like to see in upcoming newsletters? Do you have a relevant news article, personal experience, or photo to share? We want your feedback to make this the best that it can be.

We appreciate the feedback that we have already received. Please continue to send your comments, stories, pictures, etc. to Angelina: [newsletter@denverpetpartners.org](mailto:newsletter@denverpetpartners.org).

## Contact Information

Not sure who to contact when you need help? Email [info@denverpetpartners.org](mailto:info@denverpetpartners.org) anytime and your message will be forwarded appropriately for response. Please allow 24-48 hours for reply.

[Susan Horecki](#) | 303-973-6116  
Teams, Facilities, Services

[Lisa Jonas](#) | 970-531-1357  
Membership

[Melissa Schreiber](#) | 303-917-9997  
Social Media (Facebook, LinkedIn)

[Marla Yetka](#) | 720-626-0414  
Marketing & Communications

[Mandy Bell](#) | 303-523-2355  
Fundraising & Grants

[Carol Lynn Tiegs](#) | 303-819-8926  
Chair

[Jim Saunders](#) | 303-794-3623  
Vice Chair

[Sandy Hung](#) | 858-736-1280  
Secretary

[Ed Exum](#) | 303-726-5046  
Treasurer

[Paul Rogalla](#) | 303-263-0140  
Volgistics (Timesheet & Hours)

[Sandy Langley](#) | 720-556-3434  
Program Coordinator

*The effect goes past the resident all the way to our care staff. Happy residents mean happy staff. They are able to have conversations, laugh, and entertain with ease rather than struggle to find what will make residents happy. When our team visits our facility it changes our whole day, it can change someone's life."*

Clearly the passion for AAI is present at Pinehurst as well as other facilities such as Metzler Memory Care, MorningStar, Bonaventure and others. It cannot be overstated the positive effect AAI can have on people who are suffering the loss of communication and sensory skills and the support of the staff that has their welfare and well being constantly in mind.

If you are interested in learning more about visiting with some of our older and more fragile clients, I will be happy to help you network with other DPP members and facilities!

*Susan Horecki*

[Ken McQuarrie](#) | 303-918-6114  
Business Manager

[Angelina Nicol](#) | 805-415-6475  
Newsletter Editor

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