



The Making of a Video

This past winter, Pet Pals supporters, Don and Sylvia White, offered a generous donation to fund a new project. After several discussions about our current needs, they were intrigued by the idea of creating a professional quality, promotional video to increase community awareness of our amazing Read to Rover therapy dog program and to attract new volunteers who may be inspired by this unique way to serve our community and to do it with their dog. After some research, we selected Erin and Casey Roberts of Inle Media Company to work with us and guide us through the process.

The planning has been intense but enlightening. The committee members working on this have gained an appreciation for all the details that



Interviewing a parent

go into making a short video—from crafting a story arc to wardrobe choices. The Roberts team sees some ways in which this project is somewhat different for them. Erin explains: “With some of our jobs we have to find a way to add emotion into the video, it’s clear that everyone involved with R2R has deep emotional connections to the program.” After visiting a school on Read to Rover day, they were impressed “to see first hand how much the kids really enjoy it!”

Filming is starting this week, as we put the finishing touches on this newsletter. There will be two full days of filming - one day at Chimacum Creek Primary School and one day at Salish Coast Elementary School. This includes filming reading sessions with the kids and other background shots. There will be interviews with teachers, administrators, volunteers, parents, and some of the kids who have experienced Read to Rover. The filming will yield hours of material to be boiled down to a short video.

We are eager to see the results! We will announce the completion of the video and how you can view it in an upcoming eNews. If you aren’t receiving our eNews by email, you can subscribe from our website.



Erin and Casey with Yogi

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Making of a Video	1	Day of the Big Test.....	5
From the President	2	Donors.....	6
Pet Pals is Grateful for Community Support.....	3	In honor of.....	7
Spay/Neuter Clinic Model Successes.....	3	In memory of... ..	7
Meet Read to Rover Dog, Jake.....	4	Rhody Festival Pet Parade Returns	8

WHO'S WHO IN OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN PET PALS

Board of Directors

Pam Kolacy, President
360-385-5694, pamkolacy@gmail.com
Carla Ellis, Vice President
360-385-3950, carla@cs.duke.edu
Kay Adamson, Treasurer
360-301-3682, kjadamson98368@gmail.com
Pat Swain, Secretary
360-301-9025, pwswain@gmail.com
Connie Graham
360-379-1798, connie@accmeals.com
Donna Geer
360-355-6123, donamgr@gmail.com
Kim Pratt
360-385-3852, jonah@olympus.net

Program Contacts

NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE: Carla Ellis

PETS TO PEOPLE: Lana O'Neill,
602-400-7890, oneilltm@aol.com

READ TO ROVER PROGRAM:
Port Townsend: Donna Geer, 360-355-6123
Chimacum: Carla Ellis, 360-385-3950 and
Kim Pratt, 360-385-3852
Quilcene: Alicia Johnsen, 360-765-2942

SPAY/NEUTER CLINICS:
Center Valley Animal Rescue, 360-765-0598
Humane Society of Jefferson County,
360-385-3292

Board of Advisors

Steve Gillard
Max Grover
Ken McBride
Ginny Messina
Kathleen Mitchell
Bob Podrat
Michelle Sandoval

Olympic Mountain Pet Pals is a 501(c)(3) (non-profit) organization whose mission is to prevent the birth of unwanted pets and community cats through our spay and neuter programs. We are funded by donations and grants.

For more information about Olympic Mountain Pet Pals, visit our website at www.ompetspals.org

From the President

Lions and tigers and bears, oh my! As Dorothy and Toto made their way through the dark forest of Oz, they were frightened by the thoughts of the things they might encounter. In the present world, we face war, pandemic, climate change and civil unrest – some pretty significant fears. So many problems and so much sadness, it is hard to know where to turn and how to help, especially when your own resources are limited. This can lead to difficult choices but some find that helping to control the small piece of your world that you can is a comfort. One way to do this is to support local organizations and charities to the best of your ability. When you give locally, you can see a definable impact – and everyone giving locally in their own neighborhood, city, or county – can add up to some major changes across the country and the world.

At OMPP, our corner of the world is the welfare of pets and their families in Jefferson County. As shown in our annual report, we provided financial assistance for 577 spay/neuter surgeries for lower-income families and community cats in Jefferson County in 2021. This brings our total since 2002 to 8,793 animals (2,211 dogs and 6,005 cats). This means countless puppies and kittens were not brought into the world. These thousands of animals would have put a very serious strain on the local organizations that take in and house animals who have been abandoned or given up for adoption. With our new model of providing financial support to local spay/neuter clinics rather than individual clinic vouchers, the average cost to us for each procedure was reduced from \$126 to \$73.00.

Our therapy dogs are back at Salish Coast and Chimacum Creek schools, much to the delight of our volunteer teams and the second graders. We hope that this year

we can re-start our programs at local libraries and assisted living facilities. We ended the year on an exciting note, as supporters Don and Sylvia White presented us with a generous donation which will allow us to produce a professional quality video showcasing our Read to Rover program. Filming will be finished at the end of April and we are excited to see the end product which we'll use to highlight these amazing programs and attract more donors and volunteers.

You can see our full annual report for 2021 at our website www.ompetspals.org. Thanks, as always to you, our supporters – your kindness and caring mean the world to us and to all those who benefit from our services. It makes a big difference in our small world!



Pam Kolacy and her dog, Lucy



Photo credit: Deja Webster of
Deja View Photography

Pet Pals is Grateful for Community Support

Olympic Mountain Pet Pals Thanks These Local Businesses for Their Generous Contributions:

- **Lucky Dog Training Center**, owned by Georgia Towle, for therapy dog testing.
- **OlympusNet**, owned by Ned Schumann, for hosting our website.
- **Olympic Mailing Service**, owned by Caroline Stuckey, for handling the mailing of our newsletter.
- **Helmsman Financial** for help with our accounts.
- **Deja View Photography**, owned by Deja Webster, for providing photos of shelter dogs and cats for the newsletter.
- **The Gathering Place** for providing dog treats for Read to Rover.
- **PT Shirt Company**, owned by Frank Iuro, for supplying our Read to Rover tee shirts.

Spay/Neuter Clinic Model Successes

Over a year has gone by since we changed our spay/neuter financial assistance model from issuing vouchers for private veterinarians (which we determined was not sustainable in the long term) to providing financial support for clinics at the Humane Society of Jefferson County (HSJC) and Center Valley Animal Rescue (CVAR). We can now answer the question of whether this new model can be as successful in serving the needs of our community.

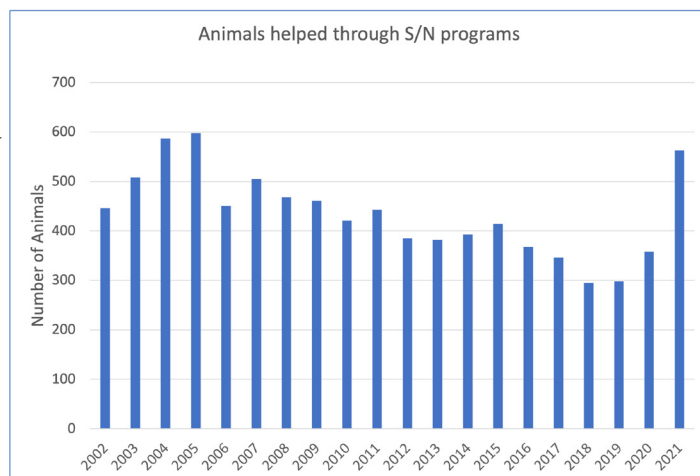
In OMPP's annual report, we present the numbers for 2021:

- We funded services for 577 animals, 172 dogs and 405 cats including community cats.
- The cost of spay/neuter services in 2021 was approximately \$42,134
- JCHS performed 310 procedures and CVAR performed 267 procedures.

How do these data compare with historical performance? Since we started in 2002, over 7,700 animals have been spayed or neutered with our help. As you can see from the graph, the 2021 results exceed all but a couple of our best years. In our last year with the private veterinary vouchers, we funded spay/neuter procedures for 358 animals at a cost of \$45,100. Funding the partners' clinics in 2021 served 577 animals at a cost of \$42,134. Thus, the average cost per procedure under our new model went from \$126 to \$73.00. More animals for less money!

Going forward, spay and neuter numbers are climbing at the clinics put on by our partners and supported by OMPP. In the first quarter of 2022, a total of 20 clinics were held and 158 surgeries were accomplished for lower-income Jefferson County residents. Many of these pets received low-cost vaccinations and micro-chips as well. We congratulate Jefferson County Humane Society and Center Valley Animal Rescue for their amazing commitment to keeping the pet population of our county in check and for assisting these responsible pet owners. Even at this pace, appointments are filled quickly. If you or someone you know has need of these services, register online at www.hsjc.org or call 360-385-3292 (Humane Society) or 360-765-0598 (Center Valley).

Your help is important to us as we continue to address this critical ongoing need in our community. Thank you for your support!



Our funded S/N clinics compared to S/N operations over previous years

Meet Read to Rover Dog, Jake

An Interview with Keri French

Jake is an 8 year old Golden Doodle which means one of his parents was a Golden Retriever and the other was a standard Poodle. Jake's nickname is "Snuggle Bug" and this is exactly why he enjoys Read to Rover so much. Besides being big (85 pounds) and very handsome, he has a friendly personality, a good natured, even temperament and loves people. He grew up in Iowa in a family with small children and was relinquished at the age of 16 months due to a change in his family's living situation. When we first met here on the Olympic Peninsula it was mutual love at first sight - he was the dog I had always dreamed of and we've been inseparable ever since. Do our dogs make us better people? I think they can and I aspire to be the person Jake thinks I am.

My previous Golden Retriever Murphy was a certified Therapy Dog through Delta Society and we volunteered in medical settings where I worked, so I was familiar with the magic that dogs can bring to us humans. It was clear to me almost immediately that Jake and Read to Rover would be a good and fun fit, especially with the obedience training and practice that he and I have worked on together. I'm an avid believer in dog obedience training which should more accurately be called human training as it teaches us humans the basic skills that make us better pack leaders, ensuring safety, good manners and enhancing that bond with love and positive reinforcement.

Jake and I have enjoyed 6 years with the second graders at Chimacum Creek Primary School on Friday mornings and it's an understatement to say that these young readers are not only a joyful hoot but it's very satisfying getting to know them over the school year as their reading improves by leaps and bounds. I especially treasure the effort and trust that these young readers bring to Jake every time they plop down next to him with their books of choice. I'm certain their parents would cringe if they knew the stories these kids share with Jake but my lips are sealed! We've run into previous readers years later around town and they lovingly remember Jake and assure me they're still reading like crazy.

Jake and I volunteer at our local community radio station KPTZ. Jake is my "secret weapon" with his winning good looks and personality. He brings out the best in most everyone we meet.

At home here in Port Townsend, ours is a blended pack: Jake's "sisters" include Zoe a 10 year old Lab Doodle, Tita a 3 year old Terrier Doodle who is also a Therapy Dog and Pippi their 12 year old manx cat. As you might guess there is never a dull



Jake (right) with pack members
Tita (left) and Zoe (middle)

or quiet moment in our home. I am truly blessed with their wonderful company plus all the fur, muddy paw prints and antics that go with them. Jake has a very long reach and proclivity for counter surfing. His latest counter steals include 3 raw eggs delicately lifted from the egg carton, a tube of lip balm, an apple and baggie full of Snickerdoodles. Admittedly these "crimes" do involve human error in product placement! All 3 of the dogs enjoy daily walks in our neighborhood, nearby woods and long romps on their favorite beach before blissfully passing out on a comfy couch or bed at home. Friends comment that my dogs are so lucky but I'm certain it's I who is the lucky one!



Jake snuggling at Read to Rover



Secret weapon

Day of the Big Test

By Cooper Geer

Sitting by my mom while she fills out paperwork, I look around the room and realize I'm not the only one who wants to be a Read to Rover dog. There are dogs everywhere. I can sense a little anxiety from the humans, but the dogs seem calm. After responding to a couple questions, the evaluator tells everyone in the room, "Congratulations, you all just passed the first item of the test, which is sitting quietly in the proximity of other dogs – just like what happens at a Read to Rover session." *Wow, we didn't even know the test had already begun!*

The evaluator reminds everyone that no treats are allowed during the test as she approaches the dog to my left. *Wait! What? No treats?* My mom whispers in my ear that I'll get my treats later, so I relax. Now I know why she left those bacon and cheese treats in the car.

"May I pet your dog?" the evaluator asks when it's my turn, and I stand as still as my mom stands tall, loving every minute of being petted and brushed, ears and feet examined, cuddled, and handled by a stranger. You would've thought my mom was the one being examined, the way she stared straight ahead, fingers clenched on the leash. *Relax, I got this.*

Next, we run through the basics – sit, down, come, stay – and I show off my skills. This is where I excel. *What, you want me to do that again?* I do them in quick succession and just in case the evaluator missed one, I do it again, in faster repetition, but this time I mix it up. *I can do this.*

"Walk around the path and follow the arrow, with the dog on a loose leash." I start walking, attempting a casual look, when my mom starts turning the corner way too early. I urge her back my direction when the evaluator calls out again, "No, follow the arrow. Pup had it right." We're only on step five and my mom's already nervous. I can smell her worry.

Breathe, I silently implore her. *Don't ruin this for me!* I really want to pass this therapy dog test so I can join the Read to Rover program. My mom wants it just as much as I do, maybe even more.

The next portion of the test is walking through a crowd of people and dogs, with all kinds of visual and audible distractions. I do this all the time, just walking in my neighborhood, so I puff out my chest and start strolling. I'm not worried, but when the clanging bell claps a little too loudly, my mom jumps, so I do too. We walk past the lady with the umbrella, and the guy in the walker, ignoring the green bouncing ball that crosses our path. I never liked the color green anyway. I even mosey past the treat someone threw on the floor. *I got bacon and cheese waiting in the car!*

Now it's on to the 'wait at the door threshold' command. I'm not a fan of this one but I can do it when I have to. "Would you prefer to go in or out of the door?" the evaluator asks. I look at my mom, thinking clearly, it's out, but she wants to go in, so I must go out just so I can come back in. Of course, I end up doing the wait command twice and get no extra credit. I'm starting to get antsy.

We forgot to do the meet and greet, so we walk back to the center of the room and wait for another pair to join us. "Walk past each other from opposite directions and shake hands when you reach the middle." I'm only supposed to show a casual interest in the other dog while they're shaking hands, which means look but don't go sniffing each other. No growling, no barking – you get the idea. Just pretend there's no dog in front of you. I stare straight ahead, ignoring the black dog trying to get my attention. *Not today, buddy, not today.*

When we get to our side of the room, my mom drops into the chair, exhausted but breathing a little easier. The test is done and we passed! The evaluator hands her the official certificate confirming I'm now a Certified Therapy Dog and my mom almost looks like she's going to cry from relief. We hurry outside with our coveted certificate before anyone changes their mind. Read to Rover – here we come!

This could have gone so many ways. During the test, I kept looking at the shiny red ball in the corner of the room. Good thing it wasn't on the floor when I was doing my distraction testing.



Cooper and his credentials

This is the list of 2021 donors from January through December..
The list of "In honor of" and "In memory of" gifts is current as of April 15, 2022.

DONORS

Townsend Bay Property
Management
Teri Ann Adams
Kay Adamson
Debra Andrews
Carol Baker
Lesla Barnes
Will and Patricia Barrett
Donna and James Bodkin
Jennifer Brinch
Laurie Calderhead
Marcia Coleman
Ellen and Larry Crockett
Claudia Davis
Jan Davis
Alberdina de Boer
Karen and Tony DeLorenzo
Linda Dennis
Jim and Debbie Dodd
Christine Doyle and Jeffrey
Covert
Grace Dumenil
Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd
Lisa Enarson and Randy
Kraxberger
John and Donna English
Mel and Erica Epling
Frances and Jeffrey Fawcett
Susanne Feller and Toni Davison
Arthur Fine and Mickey Forbes
Sandra Flaherty
Patricia Foster
Keri French
Margo and Ron Garton
Donna and Mike Geer
Sam and Lilianne Glast

Jody Glaubman
Robert Goldberg
Amy and Steve Grace
Sandy Guinup
Sharon Gyovai
Philip Hallin
Cheryl Halverson
Marcia Jones Hartshorn
Kim and Phillip Henry
Carolyn and Larry Hess
LaVerne Hicks
Steve and Patty Hill
Janice Hodge
Emily Diane Holmes and Vern
Barnett
Maria Holtgrave
Amy and Ahren Howard
Kathryn and Thomas Howard
Maureen Huff and Karen Crouse
Diane and Clinton Hurd
Carol Hurley
Deborah and Rick Jahnke
Linda Jeannotte
Janell Jelliffe
Priscilla Jensen
Laura Joshel
Sydney Keegan
Jane Kilburn
Mary Kippenhan
Sheryl and Kenneth Klock
Pam and Keith Kolacy
Dave and Anne Krabill
Jane Krabill
Joel and Rose-Ellen Leonard
Cynthia and Joseph Lesh
Kathy Long and Thomas Speer
Polly and Terry Lyle
Dick Lynn
Joyce Malloy

Linda Martin and Mike
Cornforth
Bonnie Masi
Staci Matthes
Ken and Cindy McBride
Brigid McCarthy
Barbara McColgan
Lois McFeely
Susan and Andy McGregor
Selden McKee
Phil and Marian Meany
Ginny and Mark Messina
Susann Meyer and John
Raymond
Carolynn Moody
Hugh Musser and Nina Pascoe
Ingrid Musson
Robin Ornelas
Linnea Patrick
Audrey Pedersen
Christina Pivarnik
Bob Podrat
Kim and Erik Pratt
Laura Reutter
Catharine Robinson
Susan and Mort Robinson
Sally Rodgers
Pamela Rogge and Ted
Barkhoefer
Laura and Bernard Rosenberg
Rhonda and Steve Scharf
Nancy Jo and Richard Schneider
Jan Schroeder
Violet Schroeder
Ned Schumann
Sara Schwagler
Scion Associates
Linda Scott
Carol and David Self



Photo credit: Deja Webster of
Deja View Photography

Jeanne Shold
Andree Siu and Russell Johnson
Patti Smith
Sandy and Sherry Snider
Katrina Spear
Nancy and Ray Steinberg
Lynne Teveliet
Elizabeth Thompson
Linda Thompson
Cathy and Steve Tucker
Laura Tucker and Hank Walker
John Watts
Melody Sky Weaver and James
Weaver
Shelly Webb
Don and Sylvia White
Helen G Williams
Shirley and George Williams
Nancy Wyatt
Kathleen Young

The Lucky Dog Training Center
"Train, Don't Complain!"



Georgia Towle
360.732.0908
www.theluckydogtraining.com

581 Ole Torkelson Rd
Chimacum, WA 98325

Lulu's B & B For Dogs



Exclusive resort for small dogs
Loving care in private home
Exercise and play time, good food, fun walks, no
cages or kennels.

www.lulusfordogs.com
360-301-5151



IN HONOR OF...

Bella, beloved kitty of Maria Holtgrave
Maria Holtgrave

Christina Pivarnik
Jane Kilburn

Jane Krabill and her pets
Dave and Anne Krabill

Janie, beloved dog of Cameron and Roger McPherson
Sandy Guinup

Momo Gould and Kitty Grant
Melody Sky Weaver

Violet for her 96th birthday
Jan Schroeder

IN MEMORY OF...

Abner, beloved cat of Jim and Carole Marshall
John and Donna English

Austin, Katie and Stella Ronan's beloved dog Georgia
Maggie Smith

Barbara McClary, a Corgi lover and good neighbor
Nancy Wyatt

Bobby, beloved dog of Kathy and Steve Minta
Bonnie Masi

Buttercup, my beloved cat
Carol Baker

Catharine Robinson's beloved cat Charlie
Pam and Keith Kolacy

Catherine McNabb
Jan Schroeder
Linnea Patrick
Catharine Robinson

Connie Jump, our amazing Read to Rover team member at CCP
Kim Pratt
Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd

Diablo, beloved cat of Nancy Grant
Melody Sky Weaver

Dottie, beloved Chimacum Read to Rover dog of Michael Everett
Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd

Emma, sweet kitty of Kay Young
Linnea Patrick

Franna, beloved dog of Maggie Smith
Donna and James Bodkin

Gabe Ornelas
Robin Ornelas

Jack, beloved dog of John and Carolyn Watts
Ken and Relva Clow

Kate Schumann
Cathy and Steve Tucker
Mel and Erica Epling
Araya Sol

Kitty Yum Yum, beloved cat of Kathi Johnson
Melody Sky Weaver

Kitty, beloved cat of Jan Jacobson
Melody Sky Weaver

Kitty, beloved cat of Nancy Grant
Melody Sky Weaver

Pat Swain's Lily, Read to Rover dog extraordinaire and beloved companion
Pamela Rogge and Ted Barkhoefer
Pam and Keith Kolacy
Maggie Smith
Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd

Lily, my sweet cat
Lois McFeely

Lizzie, most loving and wonderful dog of Mark and Denise Miller
Nancy Wyatt

Lucas, loving best friend and lap buddy of Steve and Cheryl Petrick
Nancy Wyatt

My beloved pet Harry (the JRT)
Meemie Sullivan



Photo credit: Deja Webster of
Deja View Photography

Momo, beloved dog of Shilah Gould
Melody Sky Weaver

Pearl, beloved dog of Cate Comerford and Stephanie Savel
Will and Patricia Barrett

My beloved cats Raven and Charlie Mingus
Priscilla Jensen

Rags and Scout, beloved dogs of Sheila Lauder
Joanna Sanders

Our beloved horse Jasmine
Rhonda and Steve Scharf

Rhonda Scharf's beloved horse, Jasmine
Debra Andrews

Ruby and Bella, our beloved pets
Frances and Jeffrey Fawcett

Steve and Irma Davison's beloved dog Winslow
Maggie Smith

Tom and Kathy Howard's precious kitty Lucy
Amy and Ahren Howard

Remembering Our Pets

Losing a beloved pet can be devastating but it helps to know that others care about your loss. Contributing a memorial gift to Olympic Mountain Pet Pals in honor of a friend's dear companion both expresses your sympathy and helps local animals. When we receive a gift in memory or in honor of a pet or person, we acknowledge that gift to the family with a personalized Olympic Mountain Pet Pals card. Please include the name of the pet or person to be remembered and the name and address of the person who should be notified of your donation when you make your contribution. Your kindness will be greatly appreciated.

Rhody Festival Pet Parade Returns

On Thursday May 19, 2022, the place to be is Lawrence Street in Uptown Port Townsend for the Rhody Festival Pet Parade. The Read to Rover teams are planning to revive our tradition of marching together in the parade along with some of our second grade readers. The parade begins at 4:30 pm. We hope to see many of our supporters there to cheer us on.

**Recalling our last
Pet Parade in 2019**



NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OLYMPIC MAILING
SERVICES

