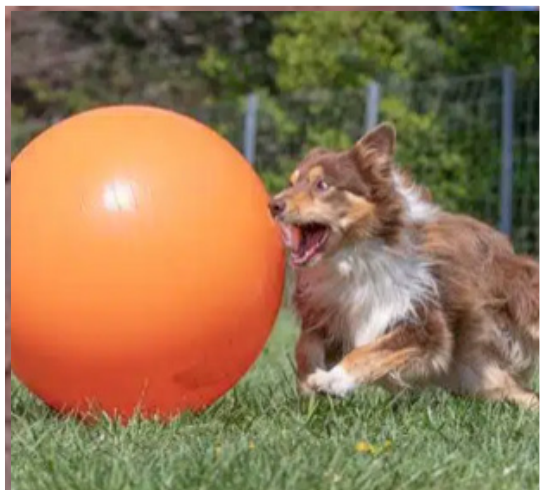


THE HYDRANT

The Monthly Bulletin
for Members of
Intermountain Therapy Animals

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Are you current with ITA?

NOTE: The ITA office will be **CLOSED** on **Thursday, June 19th** in honor of **Juneteenth**.

Membership Dues:

Individual \$99
Family \$150

How to Pay:

Pay online at therapyanimals.org/ita-members-only/
OR call the office with a credit card (801-272-3439),
request a PayPal invoice, or send a check to
PO Box 17201, SLC, UT 84117

Update your Contact Information:

If your contact info remains the same, you can simply make your payment. If any of your contact info has changed, please let us know by responding to this email or you can use the membership renewal application on our website (using the link above).

If you are not planning on renewing your membership, please let us know so that we don't send more notices.

ITA MEMORY



In December 2018, Salt Lake Magazine did a very nice piece about ITA and our work, highlighted with this photo of ten of our dogs. It's still online, in case you missed it!



OUT AND ABOUT



ABOVE LEFT: Teams at Grandparents Day in Murray Park in April: Patti Keith & Bella, Angie Burgess & Glitter, Eileen Ambrose & Kevin, Patti Meldrum & Finn, and Peggy Chudd & Gus. **ABOVE RIGHT:** At Skyline High School on April 28th: Patti Meldrum & Finn (sorry the photographer only got half of this team!), Peggy Chudd & Gus, and Tad Morley & Rusty.

BELOW: Jiffy Pop, partner of Andrea Storey of Ogden, surely must have set a record at the recent Sheltie National, held in Greeley, Colorado. Among approximately 1,000 competing Shelties, here is what he won:

3rd place - All Around Sheltie

1st Place - Standard Agility

2nd Place - Fast Agility

4th Place- Rally

3rd Place - Obedience

Completed his Herding Title in just 3 minutes, 1 second

4th Place - Confirmation

Andrea says, "With him only being 4 and this being his first Sheltie National, we were completely shocked and thrilled with how he did. Not bad for a little farm dog from Utah!"



LEAVING EARTH



Oceana (Oshie), partner of Sarah Christensen

(Salt Lake City, UT)

Oshie was 9 years old. She and Sarah joined ITA in June of 2023. Sarah told us: "I have some sad news - Oceana collapsed yesterday morning, and after a visit with the vet, they found that she had a splenic mass and pericardial effusion. She went downhill very quickly and we made the tough choice to put her to sleep earlier today, on April 30th. Please let the other staff members know of my appreciation for their kindness and the wonderful service experiences Oshie and I had with ITA."



Reese, partner of Anita Sjoblom

(Mesquite, NV)

Reese died on May 18th. She was born on October 1, 2013 and was Anita's partner since the moment she became eligible. She was a darling girl who loved her therapy job. Anita herself joined ITA in May of 1998, and currently serves as the leader of our Southern Utah chapter.



Churchill, partner of Melora Wood

(Sandy, UT)

Churchill was born January 1, 2014, and became Melora's ITA partner in June of 2017. He retired in 2024 due to advancing old age challenges, and his legs finally gave out for the last time on May 14th. Melora has had several partners, having been part of ITA since February of 2010.

Nikki, partner of Carol Prince

(Taylorsville, UT)

Nikki died on Memorial Day, May 26th, after a sudden and mysterious infection that affected her liver and kidneys. Nikki was a Keeshound/border collie mix, born in 2015 and eventually adopted by Carol. She became Carol's newest partner in September of 2019 and worked mostly at Primary Children's in recent years. She was a happy and easygoing girl who enjoyed everybody and everything. Carol, too, has had several partners, joining ITA in November of 2008 and volunteering ever since.



APPRECIATION



Flathead Valley, Montana, ITA member Ricardo Fernandez (center, in the red shirt holding the check) decided to raise some money for ITA. He asked everyone in the physical therapy class he was teaching at Flathead Valley Community College (FVCC) to donate their fees, and ended up sending us 9 checks adding to \$1,750! We were thrilled beyond words—it is the biggest “individual fundraising campaign” that anyone has ever done for us! Endless thanks to Ricardo, his wife Gina (also a team), and his colleagues and their generosity! NOTE: The other ITA team (at right) who participated is Julie Robertson & Soli. Julie is also a professor at FVCC.

Hi ITA,

I just wanted to thank you so much again for having your teams come to our event!! The turnout was amazing, and every time I looked at a student’s face, they always had a huge smile while petting your dogs. It was an amazing experience, and I hope you know that your organization brought so much happiness to our school. It was absolutely incredible!! We will definitely be recommending you guys!!! Thank you so much again!!

– Ava Szajnuk
Skyline High School
RISE Ambassador
Activities Committee Leader

Hi Tera,

Thought you would like to know ITA therapy dogs received a shoutout in the Park City School District Special Ed newsletter for our participation in the PCSD Transition Fair Event on April 3rd.

Fun event. I talked with a couple other participating agency reps that were there—Peace House and Bridge 21—who both expressed interest in having a few ITA therapy teams visit so don’t be surprised if they reach out in the near future.

– Kathy Yankton

