Mission
It is our mission to protect and care for homeless animals by placing them with loving foster families until compatible permanent homes can be found and to engage in benevolent and charitable activities to support this goal. We are dedicated to lowering the number of animals needlessly euthanized each year in our community by promoting the spaying and neutering of all companion animals and in educating the public on the importance of responsible animal guardianship.

Beliefs
At P.A.W.S. of Michigan we believe in the intrinsic value and sanctity of all animals and advocate for their humane, compassionate, and responsible treatment. We believe that our values, decisions, and conduct should reflect our mission and be a model for others in their care and treatment of animals.

Partnerships
Working in alliance with other rescue groups and animal welfare agencies we seek to develop a network of like-minded individuals who strive to eliminate animal suffering and create an animal-friendly community.

Who is P.A.W.S.
P.A.W.S. (Precious Animal Welfare Society of Michigan) is an all-volunteer group formed in August, 2007. It promotes the humane, compassionate, and responsible treatment of all animals. It is our mission to protect and care for homeless animals by placing them with loving foster families until compatible, permanent homes can be found and to engage in benevolent and charitable activities to support this goal.

Board Members:
President
Kris Jordan
Vice President
Eve Howell
Secretary
Erin McGill Beard
Treasurer
Karin Pigott
Directors at Large:
Velda Bohler
Donna Hall
Danita Machcinski

Foster Program
It is impossible to overstate the importance of the Foster Program. This program enables P.A.W.S. to greatly increase the number of animals rescued. It directly involves community members saving lives. P.A.W.S. covers all veterinary care for the fosters. For every foster home that is found, another animal’s life is saved.

The Goal of Foster Care
To care for a dog or cat in your home until an appropriate, permanent home is found. Being a foster fur parent helps prevent the euthanasia of adoptable dogs and cats and provides comfort and safety to animals that have endured hardships while waiting for their “forever homes.” It allows these animals, whom in most cases, have been in kennels or shelters for months, time to ‘debrief’ and become socialized in the home/family setting and enables P.A.W.S. to learn the individual personalities of these animals which ensures a wonderful match with the new permanent adopter.

Frequently Asked Questions
Does the foster parent have to pay for anything?
P.A.W.S. covers all veterinary costs for the fostered animals. All animals are checked by a veterinarian, given all necessary vaccinations and shots, spayed/neutered (if aged appropriate while in our care) and given flea, tick and worming preventative medicines.

I have a dog (or cat). Will the foster animal get along with him/her?
All animals are temperament tested prior to placement in foster care. We access each individual animal and consider the needs and situations of the foster home. Whether you have children, and/or other pets in the home, we strive to make an appropriate match between you and the foster animal.

If I fall in love with the foster animal can I keep him/her?
Although it is not P.A.W.S.’ goal to have fosters adopt the animals in their care, with the approval of the adoption coordinator, in some cases, you may permanently adopt and keep the animal, if you so desire.

How do I start the process of fostering an animal?
If you are interested in fostering an animal, please send an email to info@pawsofmichigan.com

Someone will get back to you. If you have any other questions, they can be answered at that time.
P.A.W.S. First Adopted Dog Member
This is Abby, our first canine member of P.A.W.S. She’s a 15-month-old lab/golden mix, and the faithful companion of Rob Dyszewski. Any companion animal can become a member of P.A.W.S. for only $5 a year, and the membership goes to help animals much less fortunate than they are.

About the Animals
All animals in our program have received age-appropriate vaccines, and are surgically sterilized if they are six months or older. All cats/kittens are tested for feline leukemia and FIV, and dogs are tested for heartworm if they are old enough. The adoption fees for our animals help defray the cost of these tests, surgeries and vaccinations, as well as any other required, veterinary services.

We also make it a point to foster “special needs” pets. We recently rescued Butters who has Parvo, and also a puppy with a fractured leg and demodex mange.

Visit Us At PetSmart
Come visit adoptable P.A.W.S. animals each Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the PetSmart store in Woodhaven at the corner of Allen and West roads.

Adoption Fees - CASH ONLY!
NOTE: Occasionally, fees may be higher than those listed, depending on the circumstances surrounding a particular animal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animals</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cats</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declawed Cats</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kittens</td>
<td>$75 plus refundable $25 spay/neuter deposit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Cats (8 years or older)</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dogs</td>
<td>$175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small breed dogs (less than 20 pounds)</td>
<td>$225</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puppies</td>
<td>$175 plus refundable $50 spay/neuter deposit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small breed puppies</td>
<td>$250 plus refundable $75 spay/neuter deposit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior dogs (7 years or older)</td>
<td>$85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior small breed dogs (9 yrs or older)</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wish List
Topping our wish list would be homes for all unwanted animals. We’re trying our best to make that a reality, but we could use your help with the following types of donations:

- Collapsible cages
- Pet carriers
- Dog/puppy and cat/kitten food
- KMR (milk replacement for kittens)
- Kitty litter
- Dog and cat beds
- Dog and cat toys
- Leashes and collars
- Folding tables
- EZ-Up tents
- Computer paper
- Monetary donations

What is the difference between a cat and a comma?
One has the paws before the claws and the other has the clause before the pause.
Meet Some Of Our Fur Babies
Who Would Love To Adopt You!

Emmett – The Exceptional Clown

Claire – All Dressed Up And Ready To Go!

I Am Your Cat . . .

“I am your cat, and I have a little something I’d like to whisper in your ear. I know that you humans lead busy lives. Some have to work, some have children to raise. It always seems like you are running here and there; often much too fast; often never noticing the truly grand things in life.

Look down at me now, while you sit there at your computer. See the way my eyes look at yours? They are slightly cloudy now. That comes with age. The gray hairs are beginning to ring my soft muzzle. You smile at me; I see love in your eyes. What do you see in mine? Do you see a spirit? A soul inside, who loves you as no other could in the world? A spirit that would forgive all trespasses of prior wrongdoing for just a simple moment of your time? That is all I ask. To slow down, if even for a few minutes to be with me.

So many times you have been saddened by the words you read on that screen, of others of my kind, passing. Sometimes we die young and oh so quickly, sometimes so suddenly it wrenches your heart out of your throat. Sometimes, we age so slowly before your eyes that you may not even seem to know until the very end, when we look at you with grizzled muzzles and cataract clouded eyes. Still the love is always there, even when we must take that long sleep, to run free in a distant land. I may not be here tomorrow; I may not be here next week.

Someday you will shed the water from your eyes, that humans have when deep grief fills their souls, and you will be angry at yourself that you did not have just “One more day” with me. Because I love you so; your sorrow touches my spirit and grieves me. We have NOW, together. So come, sit down here next to me, and look deep into my eyes. What do you see? If you look hard and deep enough we will talk, you and I, heart to heart. Come to me not as ‘alpha’ or as “owner” or even ‘Mom or Dad;’ come to me as a living soul and stroke my fur and let us look deep into one another’s eyes, and talk. I may tell you something about the fun of batting toys, or I may tell you something profound about myself, or even life in general.

You decided to have me in your life because you wanted a soul to share such things with. Someone very different from you, and here I am. I am a cat, but I am alive. I feel emotion, I feel physical senses, and I can revel in the differences of our spirits and souls. I do not think of you as a ‘Cat on two feet’ -- I know what you are. You are human, in all your quirkiness, and I love you still. Now, come sit with me. Enter my world, and let time slow down if only for 15 minutes. Look deep into my eyes, and whisper into my ears. Speak with your heart, with your joy, and I will know your true self. We may not have tomorrow, and life is oh so very short . . . !”

~~Author Unknown

Yesterday is history,
Tomorrow is a mystery,
Today is a gift.
That’s why we call it ‘the present’. Things will look up again.
Milestones for P.A.W.S.
The following milestones have happened since our first organizational meeting (August 27th) and through the end of 2007:

- Brought 85 animals into our program and found permanent new homes for 54 of them.
- Welcomed 56 humans and two canine members to the group.
- Chose group colors (royal blue and white) and created a logo (see first page of newsletter). The winning logo was designed by Billy Beard.
- Wrote a concrete set of bylaws, which was approved by the general membership.
- Elected a Board of Directors (voted for by the general membership).
- Approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.
- Set up a website and Petfinder site.
- Opened a website P.A.W.S. merchandise store and have P.A.W.S. shirts for the group, along with a new banner.
  
  http://www.cafepress.com/pawsofmi
- Received a huge amount of positive publicity in the press.

We should all be very proud of all we have accomplished! This shows we are a group of volunteers who are sincere and dedicated to one of the best animal rescue groups in existence.

A special thanks to Kim Skidmore for putting together the Form 1023 which was required to obtain our tax-exempt status. It is a long, complicated form, and many organizations are rejected the first time they apply because they missed some (large or small) detail. Kim got us approved on the first pass, and in record time. We are all very grateful, Kim!

Now that we have this status, we can apply for our solicitation license, which is the last major step in our required paperwork. We need a solicitation license to raise money in excess of $8,000.

A big thank you to everyone for everything you have done to get us to this point. We have a great team. Everyone brings different skills and contributes in different ways, and the strength of our collective effort is undeniable. We are looking forward to an exciting 2008 in which we will help many, many animals.

Before my morning coffee...

I might as well be a dog.

Calendar Of Events
February 2, 2008
First Annual P.A.W.S. Banquet
Come be a part of the very first banquet for P.A.W.S.. As we are all usually busy tending to our furry friends, this will be an evening for us all to just sit back and enjoy each other’s company while having a great meal. Spouses or guests are invited to join us, and we hope they do. The banquet will be held at Baldo’s, located at 20151 Telegraph Rd (Between King and Sibley roads) on Saturday, February 2. Cocktails begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Cost for the event is $20 per person. Please make your reservations by sending a check to P.A.W.S., P.O. Box 2184, Riverview, MI 48193 or bring your money to our next general membership meeting which is scheduled for January 22. You must have your reservation in no later than Tuesday, January 29. There will be no refunds after January 31. Please contact Eve at the following e-mail address if you have questions.
emhowell@aaamichigan.com

February 4, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.
Riverview City Council Meeting
The P.A.W.S. of Michigan Board members plan to attend the Riverview City Council meeting to introduce ourselves to them, as our group is incorporated in the City of Riverview, and we plan to have our major fundraiser in the City. The City has been extremely accommodating and has offered us much praise and support in our mission to help animals.

February 19, 2008 – 6:30 p.m.
Monthly Membership Meeting
Riverview City Hall – Activity Room B
Those interested in helping with PAWS In The Park should arrive at 6:00 p.m. for a brainstorming session regarding the event.

The monthly membership meetings are always the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the same room at the Riverview City Hall.

February 26, 2008 – 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Wendy’s, Woodhaven
Wendy’s of Woodhaven, 22052 Allen Road, will be donating 15% of their proceeds earned between 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. on February 26 to P.A.W.S.. We had a great turnout when we held this fundraiser for Pound Pals in December. We earned almost $200 from Wendy’s, plus nearly $200 in merchandise sales. February 26 is also national Spay Day USA, which is a large-scale event sponsored by the Humane Society of the United States designed to spay or neuter as many animals as possible. P.A.W.S. will be kicking off its new Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) in conjunction with Spay Day USA. Please join your fellow P.A.W.S.’ members and supporters at Wendy’s to commemorate this important day, as well as to raise much-needed funds for P.A.W.S..
Calendar Of Events (continued)

September 13, 2008
P.A.W.S. in the Park
Young Patriot’s Park, Riverview, Michigan. (More information to follow in next newsletter).

Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays
City of Wyandotte Animal Shelter
We have a crew of volunteers who goes to the Wyandotte pound on Mondays and Thursdays to clean cages and provide companionship to the animals. A Saturday crew is needed beginning at 9:00 a.m. If you are able to participate please e-mail us at info@P.A.W.S.ofmichigan.com. We are generally finished by 10:30 a.m. This is very rewarding and is a great way to directly help homeless animals.

Past Events

Howl-O-Ween – October 20 and 21, 2007

Some of our P.A.W.S. Volunteers at the Howl-O-Ween Event

Child Safety Day - YMCA Southgate - October 27
Attendees were Diane Desrosiers, Judy Koths, Valerie Koths, Christine Proudlock, Sandy Roberts, and Peggy Vennebush who presented information on how to safely interact with animals. Several adoptable P.A.W.S. cats and dogs were available as well, and Fluffy the Clown (aka Sandy Roberts), entertained the kids. The show’s sponsor, New York Life, was very impressed by our group, our purpose, and how organized and informed we were.

America’s Family Pet Expo – November 16-18
P.A.W.S. represented themselves at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi for America’s Family Pet Expo. Volunteers found homes for 12 animals over the three-day event! The following volunteers participated: Joanna Bancroft, Velda Bohler, Linda Duval, Janet Fillinger, Melissa Gabel, Susie Gabel, Jennifer Galeski, Donna Hall, Kris Jordan, Valerie Koths, Lorraine Mlostek, Terra Muscat, Jennifer Palumbo, Karin Pigott, Christine Proudlock, Dawn Ransdell, Sharon Roberts and Steve Ross.

As you can see, this new group is on the move and have volunteers who show what P.A.W.S. is all about – during this same weekend – the Wyandotte Thanksgiving Parade took place, and P.A.W.S. was represented well for both of these major events. We are to be congratulated for such dedication and desire to prove this group is here to work for the good of the animals.

Several of our famous models (dogs) were in the fashion show. They included Amber, Bambi and Otis. The show’s groomer loved using Amber for her demonstration.

Wyandotte Christmas Parade – November 17
P.A.W.S.’ members and their families (including canine members) marched, carrying our brand new P.A.W.S. banner. The parade announcers read a part of our mission statement and talked about the work we do at the Wyandotte pound. It was a cold and rainy day, but marchers had a great time, and we hope to make this an annual event.

I promise I will be a good kitty if you come to visit me!
Past Events (continued)

**Gift Wrapping at Borders - November 23, 2007 and December 16, 2007**

We participated in two fundraising events at Borders in Dearborn. A scheduled third event was cancelled due to poor weather. The group brought in a total of $281.28 in tips for gift wrapping. We were joined on each shift by a cat and a dog, which brought a lot of people over to talk and increased the donations which were made. Thanks to the following wrappers:: Billy Beard, Erin McGill Beard, Amy Brown, Lana Golden, Eve Howell, Linda McGill, Jennifer Palumbo, Karin Pigott, Chrissy Romano, Jenny Romano, Jenny Van Sickle.

The following volunteers brought animals to the event:: Velda Bohler, Rob Dyszewski, Valerie Koths, Kris Jordan, Karin Pigott, Sharon Roberts, Chrissy Romano, Kim Skidmore, Mary Smith.

**Woodhaven Wendy’s Restaurant - December 4**

This event was held to support our sister organization, Pound Pals Downriver, which raises money to help spay and neuter and provide medical treatment for the animals at the Wyandotte pound. Fifteen percent of the restaurant proceeds between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. that evening, plus a silent auction of some NASCAR merchandise and sales of P.A.W.S. crafts earned Pound Pals $327. P.A.W.S. earned $72 from merchandise sales. Special thanks to Billy Beard, Erin McGill Beard, Diane Desrosiers, Eve Howell, Lorraine Mostek, and Kim Skidmore for their work in setting up and running the event.

**Memorial Elementary School Educational Event – January 7, 2008**

A group of volunteers attended an educational event for three kindergarten classes, teaching them about proper animal care and related issues. The volunteers included Diane Desrosiers, Kris Jordan, Erin McGill-Beard, Cindy Oakley and Billy/Fluffy, Peggy Vennenbush. This was the first event for our new education committee who hope to spend much more time in Downriver classrooms teaching children about proper care of and respect for animals. A special thank you to Karen Norris for hosting us. (See her letter below).

**Miscellaneous Fundraisers**

P.A.W.S. earned $448 from our candle sales’ fundraiser! A special thank you to Danita Machcinski for organizing this fundraiser.

**P.A.W.S Apparel**

If you are interested in ordering official P.A.W.S of Michigan merchandise – please go to: http://www.cafepress.com/pawsofmich

You will find a huge array of apparel, children’s wear, stuffed animals, pet tee shirts and many other gifts with the official P.A.W.S. logo on them.

**Pennies For P.A.W.S.**

P.A.W.S. of Michigan is registered with GoodSearch and GoodShop, and we can easily raise money for our group using these two sites. GoodSearch is an internet search engine powered by Yahoo. Instead of using the search engine you’d normally use, use GoodSearch. Each time you search, P.A.W.S. gets a penny! It doesn’t sound like much, but it can quickly add up to hundreds of dollars, just for doing something most of us do every day.

Here’s how it works. Go to http://www.goodsearch.com. In the middle of the screen there’s a field that says “Who Do You GoodSearch For?” Enter PAWS of Michigan (no periods in PAWS) and click on Verify. It should fill in the name “P.A.W.S. of Michigan – Precious Animal Welfare Society (Riverview, MI).” Make sure you have the right P.A.W.S. group – there are several registered with GoodSearch. Now every search you execute will generate a penny for P.A.W.S.! To execute a search, just type your search criteria in the “search” box at the top of the panel. It’s that easy to earn money to help the animals!

Please use the site honestly. As long as you use GoodSearch just as you would any other search engine, it’s never a problem. Fraudulent searching includes, but is not limited to, repeated manual clicks, the use of use of robots or other automated query tools, etc. This will result in the user being blocked from the site and/or the charity being de-listed. While not expressly prohibited, searches to URL’s (i.e., search terms ending in .com, .org, .net, .edu), searches to sites for which the URL is well known such as HotMail, ESPN, MySpace, Facebook, GMail, AOL, etc., and searches for stock quotes will not count toward a nonprofit’s total searches and revenue.

GoodShop allows you to shop online at your popular retailers and designate a percentage of the sales to go to P.A.W.S. Go to http://www.goodshop.com. You can register our charity using the same method described above. Then, just click on your favorite retailer, and start shopping to benefit P.A.W.S.. The percentage of donation made to P.A.W.S. varies by individual retailer and is listed under each retailer’s name.
Miscellaneous Fundraisers (continued)
Please take advantage often of these easy ways to help P.A.W.S. earn money, and please pass this email on to everyone in your address book. The more people searching and shopping for P.A.W.S., the more money we make.

Petfinder Sweepstakes
There is a sweepstakes on petfinder.com where we can win $5,000. All volunteers can enter once each day on behalf of their rescue group.

Please visit http://www.petfinder.com/admin, and click on Oust Sweepstakes (under “Features”). The name of our organization is P.A.W.S. of Michigan (with the periods). Drawings are held once a month each month between now and June, so this is a long-term sweepstakes. $5,000 is a lot of money for P.A.W.S., so please try to remember to enter every day to help us.

The World’s Smartest Dog
As a butcher is shooing a dog from his shop, he sees $10 and a note in his mouth, reading: “10 lamb chops, please.”

Amazed, he takes the money, puts a bag of chops in the dog’s mouth, and quickly closes the shop. He follows the dog and watches him wait for a green light, look both ways, and trot across the road to a bus stop. The dog checks the timetable and sits on the bench. When a bus arrives, he walks around to the front and looks at the number, then boards the bus. The butcher follows, dumbstruck.

As the bus travels out into the suburbs, the dog takes in the scenery. After awhile he stands on his back paws to push the “stop” button, then the butcher follows him off.

The dog runs up to a house and drops his bag on the stoop. He goes back down the path, takes a big run, and throws himself—Whap!—against the door. He does this again and again. No answer. So he jumps on a wall, walks around the garden, beats his head against a window, jumps off, and waits at the front door. A big guy opens it and yells at the dog.

The butcher runs up screams at the guy: “What in the world are you doing? This dog’s a genius!” The owner responds, “Genius? I don’t think so. It’s the second time this week he’s forgotten his key!”

P.A.W.S. was recently the subject of a very nice Detroit Free Press Article.

Please go to the following link to see the article:

Donations to P.A.W.S.
Types of Contributions:
$_______ In Honor Of ______________________
$_______ In Memory Of ______________________
$_______ Special Contribution
$_______ SNAP (Spay/Neuter Assistance Program)

Goods and Services (Recent Contributors to P.A.W.S.)
Dr. Mohammed Fakhruldin – Animal Care Hospital
Steve & Maureen Barr
Jackie Kovalchik
Jim Evans
Dr. Carol McKee
Southpointe Veterinary Hospital

Monetary Donations
Eve Russell
Elaine Hayes
Kaley Faber
Jennifer Romano
Anne & Louie Gmoser
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Crudo
Susan Misener
Barb Drabkowski
Alicia L. Price
Stella Izzo
Sue & Dave Krieger
Margaret Harmatuk - In Honor of Expected New Grandchild.
P.A.W.S. Membership - In Memory of Robert Parker, Jr.
Founding Members
This is a list of our founding members who joined P.A.W.S. on August 27, 2007, at our first official meeting.

Billy & Erin Beard
Velda Bohler
Amy Brown
Marie Burbo
Linda Duval
Janet Fillinger
Jerry, Frank & Lana Golden
Donna Hall
Eve Howell
Kris Jordan
Valerie & Judy Koths
Danita Machcinski
Devon McGill
Lorraine Mlostek
Karin Pigott
Christine Proudluck
Sandra Roberts
Chrissy Romano
Kim Skidmore

Our Newest Members
Following is a list of our newest members who joined after our initial meeting on August 27, 2007.

Individual Membership
Joanna Bancroft
Ray Cendrowski
Diane Desrosiers
Bonnie Gasior
Dianne Paul
Jennifer Romano
Mark Schick
Carol Moxlow
Cindy Oakley
Carol Parker
Jay Jordan
Linda K. Lee
Robin McGinnis
Angela Mills

Family Membership
Jenny Linne and Family
Sharon, Kevin & Carly Roberts
Mary, Greg, Brandon & Carter Smith
Jennifer & Frankie Palumbo
Jeff, Karin, Jonathan & Nicholas Pigott

Youth Membership
Kaley Faber
Robert Dyszewski

Senior Membership
Nadine Ritz
Kathleen Sawicki

Mane Supporter
Silver Membership
Robert Dyszewski
Kathleen Sawicki

Membership Application

Name________________________________________
Address_____________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
Phone_______________________________________
Email______________________________________

Membership Levels

______ Individual Membership

______ Family Membership

______ Youth Membership (15 and under)

______ Senior Membership (60 and over)

______ Supporter

______ Tail Wagger's Club

______ Business/Corporate

______ Pet (Name of Pet _____________)

Lessons To Learn From A Dog . . .

Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.

Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.

When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.

When it's in your best interest, practice obedience.

Let others know when they've invaded your territory.

Take naps and stretch before rising.

Run, romp and play daily.

Eat with gusto and enthusiasm.

Be loyal.

Never pretend to be something you're not.

If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.

Thrive on attention and let people touch you.

Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.

On hot days, drink lots of water and lay under a shady tree.

When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.

No matter how often you're scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing and pout . . . run right back and make friends.

Bond with your pack.

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk . . . and always, always, always . . .

When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently . . . they may squeeze you so hard your tongue pops out!

Membership entitles you to voting privileges within the group as well as a copy of the quarterly newsletter.

If mailing your membership fee, please mail to:

P.A.W.S. of Michigan
P. O. Box 2184
Riverview, Michigan 48193

(Volunteer at Walled Lake Expo)