



It Doesn't Get Any Butter Than This!



**THE BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL**  
THERAPY DOGS, INC.

*Thanksgiving Newsletter from June Golden and the  
B&BTD Team*

To all our Members of Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dogs,

As we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, we want to extend our sincere gratitude to each and every one of you. We have so much to thank you for!

Your dedication, kindness, and the joy you bring through your wonderful therapy dogs make an incredible difference to so many children and adults of all ages.

We are so grateful to you for sharing your time and compassion, spreading happiness, and creating moments of comfort for those in need. Your volunteer work makes our world better and exemplifies the true spirit of giving and community.

We think of all of you as our B&BTD family. So at this time, we wish all of you, your dear families and friends, and wonderful therapy dogs a Thanksgiving holiday filled with love, laughter, and paws-itive vibes. May your days be as

bright and beautiful as the smiles you inspire.

With deepest appreciation,

June and the B&B team (Helen, Jonathan, Kara, Laura, Lorna and Mary)

**The information below is for ALL members.  
Please read carefully. Contact the B&BTD Office  
if you have questions. Thank you!**



**Fiona and her friend Daisy attend a party at the Sarasota  
County Courthouse for National Adoption Day  
(Thanks to member and evaluator Lu Ann Topp for  
posting on our Facebook page)**

### **Great Non-Profits – We did it!**

GreatNonprofits is a registered US-based non-profit organization with a website where donors, volunteers, and clients can review and share their personal experiences with charitable organizations. It's a platform for stories and feedback about non-profits, submitted by those who have experienced the organization's work first-hand. It's a way for people to learn about the reputability of nonprofit organizations to decide where to volunteer and/or donate.

We are excited that B&BTD is rated as one of the 2024 Top Non-Profits – due to the wonderful comments and stories from all of you! Thank you so much for helping us achieve this status. It is the second year in a row that B&B received a top rating! Check out the site to read the comments, and feel free to add your own thoughts. <https://greatnonprofits.org/org/bright->

We are so proud to have earned the Great Non-Profit badge!

## Renewing Your Membership

About two months prior to your renewal date (date is on your ID badge), B&BTD will mail each handler an individual renewal form for each therapy dog team. (A team is one handler and one dog.)

To help speed up the process, please mail us back the renewal form signed with your original (ink on paper) signature. An email copy or photocopy will not be accepted so please do not email the form. Hard copies are required for each individual handler and dog. We do not accept electronic payments so please include a check or money order with your form and updated Rabies and DHLPP vaccination records. We also accept copies of medical records by email and fax.

Please allow sufficient time for us to process your membership renewal. We process renewals on a first come, first served basis when they arrive by mail and when we have all the required documentation.



### **The devil made me do it!**

Bullet is quite the attraction in his Halloween costume at the Walton Rehabilitation Hospital! (Thanks to member Lynn Ealey for sharing the photo on Facebook)

## **Making the Commitment to a Scheduled Visit – Your Visit Really Matters!**

Facilities count on our members and B&BTD to make their events and visits successful. Facilities make plans, arrange logistics, and announce to their clients, patients and/or children that therapy dogs will be visiting. If the visit is to a private home, the individual and his/her family are happily expecting a visit from a therapy dog. If you cancel at the last moment, or worse - just do not show up, people are disappointed and upset.

Additionally, cancelling often ruins the event, which is planned over the expectation that therapy dogs will be there. Just imagine a library reading program where a dog is expected for the children. The kids and their families are there – but no therapy dog to read to!

Please do not commit to a visit if you are unsure whether you can be there. If your plans change at any time, it is imperative that you contact the facility or private home contact in advance to let them know. Cancelling at the last moment is unacceptable, unless it's an emergency for you. No shows are not OK under any circumstances.

On the flip side, please do not make a visit unless you have a confirmed date and time with the facility, event contact or family member. Please do not just show up unannounced. It's necessary to confirm that you will be there, and the contact person is expecting you.

Our office receives complaints from time to time about members not showing up, and also about members showing up unannounced or without confirming the visit. We want to impress upon everyone how much a visit from a B&BTD therapy dog team means. All of you represent B&BTD when you visit and our reputation depends on you.

Your visit with your therapy dog truly makes a difference to others! Thank you for helping to maintain B&BTD's standing as a trustworthy and reliable organization whose members keep their commitments and follow B&BTD guidelines.

## **"Giving Tuesday" is Coming! Ask your facilities to donate to B&BTD**

Tuesday, December 3 is "Giving Tuesday" – an opportunity for people everywhere to use their individual power of generosity to support their communities. All of you - our members and your wonderful therapy dogs - do so much for others in hundreds of facilities and homes throughout the US. And you do so at absolutely no cost to the facilities because you care about giving back to those in need.

If you feel comfortable, please encourage the places you volunteer to think of B&BTD on Giving Tuesday. We are a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization and donations play an important role in keeping Bright & Beautiful running. They can use the [Donate link on our website](#). Thank you for helping us!

## **Homemade Dog Treats – a tasty treat for the holidays!**

### **Ingredients:**

- 2 cups of oats (old fashioned, 1-minute oats, or instant), plus more if needed – see step 3

- 1 medium ripe bananas
- ½ cup peanut butter – must be a safe brand with no artificial sweeteners or ingredients

**Instructions:**

- Preheat oven to 300 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
- Add the oats to a food processor and grind until they reach a fine powder. (Can also use a blender.) Add the bananas and peanut butter and blend until a sticky dough is formed.
- Remove from the food processor and roll out on a lightly floured surface. (Use whole wheat flour, more ground oats, or another dog-safe flour). Use a heart-shaped cookie cutter to cut out the treats. (You could use any cookie cutter, or just cut them into squares with a knife or pizza cutter).
- Lay the treats on the prepared baking sheet and bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until the treats are puffed up a bit, dry and dark brown on the bottoms. (They will still feel soft when first removed from the oven).
- Let cool completely before giving one to your pup. Treats will get a bit firmer once they are cool but will still be a slightly softer dog treat.
- Store in an air-tight container at room temperature for up to 1 week, in the refrigerator for up to two weeks. Can also store in the freezer, which makes them firmer and makes them stay fresh a long time.



Simba is calming travelers at the Detroit Metro Airport Dogs Pet Therapy Program (thanks to member Kim Watson for posting the photo on Facebook)

**Please support us!**

Shop on the B&BTD website! The Members Only section of the site uses the password: dogbones (all lower case).

And your donations to B&BTD are always welcome!

**Donate to  
B&BTD!**

**Shop at the B&BTD**

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## Maintain Your Membership!

Store

As a non-profit organization, we depend on the continued support of our members. Please maintain your membership by renewing on time. We mail you a renewal form about two months or so before your expiration date, so contact our office if you don't receive it.

If you do not renew before your membership expiration date, **you have one year from your expiration date to renew without needing to retest with your dog.** After that, you and your dog need to retake the B&BTD therapy dog test and join as a new member.

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Therapy Dogs, Inc.**  
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**THE BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL  
THERAPY DOGS, INC.**

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