



Member Spotlight March 2024

LYN BENJAMIN

How Long have you a member?

20 plus years. I was an original member.

How many dogs do you have? What are their names?

2 currently, Tia Rose and Darby. These are my 3rd and 4th therapy dogs with the club. I started with Chloe who was the BEST! Then my sassy Maci.

Who is your therapy dog and what breed are they?

Both Tia and Darby are Mi-Ki's. Tia is 10 years old and Darby is 3 years old.

What is your favorite or most memorable therapy dog experience?

There have been so many of the years, but I think my favorite was at Churchill Elementary School where one student was non-verbal, low functioning, and confined to a wheelchair. She would absolutely light up when she saw Tia. Her favorite thing to do was to "push" her in the stroller. She had the biggest smile and was so happy!

Do you have any advice for new therapy dog teams?

Just enjoy your visits and know you have made someone's day a little brighter!

What facilities do you frequently visit with your therapy dog?

To many to list...school, libraries, nursing homes, Rush-Copley. I do them all with one dog or the other.

What are some of your hobbies or what do you like to do for fun?

I love to read and garden, but I'm not good at it. I enjoy my pool time in the summer as well as kayaking on the lake or river occasionally. And everyone knows I enjoy the Casino!



What do you and your therapy dog do for fun?

We do visits! We play in the yard, in the house, and go for short walks. Sometimes I take them for bike rides but I'm not sure that they are having "fun" but they are with me, so they are happy!

Tell us your favorite food, T.V. show, and song or music artist.

My favorite food is homemade lasagna, (best when made by my good friend, Dorothy). There are too many TV shows to list, I'm addicted. Chicago Med, Fire, PD and all the FBI series. I like many different kinds of music, except rap and super heavy metal. Lauren Daigle is one of my favorites as is Pink.

What is a random fun fact about you or your dog? OR is there anything you want to share with our community?

Too many fun facts to list because I'm such a "fun" person! Tia prefers people over other dogs and Darby prefers other dogs over people.