



September Members of the Month

Oakland County twins join group to help pets

By Jeanne Towar

At just ten years of age, the Tillander twins, Sloane and Will, are the youngest members of the newly formed Michigan Pet Alliance, a non-profit association representing Michigan



animal welfare organizations and pet advocates working together to speak with one voice for companion animals who cannot speak for themselves.

When asked why they wanted to join MPA, Sloane observed that “Animals deserve better than being put down because nobody wants them.”

Will added that MPA “would help shelters know how to care for animals.” They both agreed that they want to help by volunteering time and raising money for the new organization.

Sloane and her mom, Liz Tillander, began to do so a couple of years ago by holding a bake sale of homemade cookies, brownies and buckeyes. As cashier, Will took in nearly \$500 to donate to Detroit Dog Rescue “to help animals have a better life,” he said.

After a visit to the Humane Society of Huron Valley, the twins collected pet food and puppy blankets to donate to that shelter.

Sloane is already an accomplished artist who makes dogs and llamas out of baked clay. She hopes to sell the collectibles at MPA’s animal welfare conference next year and donate the proceeds to MPA.

The young animal lovers have three pets: Sparky, an Old English sheepdog; Scout, a briard; and Esperanza, a lizard gecko which lives in Sloane’s bedroom. The youngsters alternate weeks of responsibility for feeding and cleaning up after the dogs.

Will enjoys a special relationship with Sparky “because I don’t do things that make him uncomfortable,” he said. “Whenever I’m on the couch, he’s right next to me.”

“And on top of him,” Sloane added.

“I believe it’s important to teach children that you have to be responsible for keeping your pets safe and the community safe,” said dad Brett Tillander, President/CEO of Metro Detroit Youth Clubs. “Belonging to Michigan Pet Alliance will help them learn how to do that.”

“We are so happy to have the support of Will and Sloane for the Michigan Pet Alliance,” said Deborah Schutt, Chair of the MPA Board of Directors. “Membership is open to organizations, shelters, rescues, businesses, corporations, and individual animal welfare advocates like Will and Sloane.”

As seen in The Daily Tribune, Oakland Press and Macomb Daily.

Be one of the first 250



MPA will be sending the first 250 members a magnet to proudly display their membership. As Michigan’s first statewide pet advocate association, building our membership means increasing the volume of our voice for our furry family members. State laws governing pets are OUT OF DATE. Did you know that we are operating under the Dog Law of 1919? Together we will work with the legislature to institute 21st century laws to protect our companion animals.

[Join Now](#)

Webinar series kickoff Sept. 13th

The Michigan Pet Alliance Education & Training Committee invites you to join our LIVE kickoff of the upcoming webinar series on Monday, September 13th at 7pm ET.

We are here to serve you and want to know what topics you would like to see presented in the monthly series. What is relevant to you?



Join us LIVE via Zoom and you can add your voice to help our expert presenters deliver content that will allow you to give the companion animals in your care their best quality of life.

By joining us LIVE, you will meet our expert presenters, be able to ask questions and provide feedback on what topics are most relevant to you and your organization. We want your input! So chat with your team, put your thinking cap on, and come to the Zoom armed with ideas you would like to

see presented in our upcoming webinars.

Beginning in October, MPA will host monthly webinars providing education and training information that is up-to-date, scientifically sound, and designed to improve the lives of dogs and cats in your care.

BONUS!! MPA members who participate on Zoom will be entered to win fabulous prizes.

[Register](#)

About Michigan Pet Alliance

MPA Vision:

To achieve the best quality of life for Michigan's companion animals.

MPA Mission:

To work in collaboration and speak with a single voice to eliminate abuse and neglect of Michigan's companion animals and to save all healthy and treatable homeless companion animals through training, technical assistance, education, and advocacy.

For more information:

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