

The oldest established pet sitting service in the country, the world, and possibly the universe...

SIT-A-PET...Celebrates 40 YEARS!!!

1980

- SIT-A-PET is born.
- Our first client in Washington, DC, was on August 15th.
- Communication device - landline telephone.

1981

- Debbie got stuck trying to crawl through a dog door.

1982

- SIT-A-PET services expanded into Virginia.
- The first pet sitter was hired.
- SIT-A-PET was registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

1983

- SIT-A-PET communication was expanded with Debbie's purchase of a car phone.

1984

- Clumping litter was invented.

1985

- SIT-A-PET proposed pet sitting services to The White House...to care for President Reagan's dog, **Lucky**.

1986

- SIT-A-Pet cared for it's **heaviest** client, a 250 pound pig.

1987

- Washington Business Journal, *Dogs of the Rich, Cats of the Powerful*, profiles SIT-A-PET.
- Services expanded into Maryland.

1989

- Washingtonian Magazine, First Best & Worst Edition, Best Pet Sitter, "Sit-A-Pet will come to your home while you are away and minister to your pet's every need!"
- The Washington Post, SIT-A-PET: A Photo Essay.
- Founding member of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters.

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1991

- The Arlington Journal referenced SIT-A-PET: "Tender loving care, for a price, my pet: Babysitting gets beastly in a new growth industry."

1993

- Hired the first DC manager.

1994

- SIT-A-PET cared for it's **coldest** client, a six foot long albino python snake named *Cookie*.

1995

- Debbie bought her house and dubbed it "The house that poop built"

1996

- At our annual staff party, we had a surprise visit from *Motorcat!*

1997

- In The Wall Street Journal article, *Animal Sitters Find Dog Days of Summer to be the Cat's Meow: Number of people in this industry multiplies like rabbits*, Debbie was mentioned in reference to women workers, "When it comes to pet sitting, women have the industry on a leash."

1998

- SIT-A-PET cared for its **stinkiest** client, a skunk whose name was *Odie*.

1999

- National Association of Professional Pet Sitters profiled Debbie who said, "NAPPS has made pet sitting a respectable occupation."
- Cats Magazine, "Experience Matters," Debbie recalled an incident in which repairmen sealed a cat in tiling when remodeling a bathroom.
- The New York Times featured an article, *For Babysitters Around Nation, New Year's Eve is the Best of Times*, which included, "Sit-A-Pet has a millenium policy..."

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2000

- World of Professional Pet Sitters, Debbie was invited to a birthday party to celebrate "20 Years with Barney and Dinah..." cats cared for by SIT-A-PET.
- SIT-A-PET was referenced in The Washington Post article, "Pet Sitters May be the Perfect Gift for Cats Kept Home During the Holidays."

2001

- First themed Annual Party: **UNITED WE SIT**, to *Celebrate Our Inalienable Right to Feed, Pet, Walk and Scoop!*

2002

- A website was created: *sitapet.com*.
- Buddy, the first Pet of the Month said, "When I want attention, computer time is over! Got that?!"
- Annual Party Theme: **PEACE**.

2003

- SIT-A-PET koozies advertised: "Your pet's poop and pee is our bread 'n butter."

2004

- Annual Party Theme: **ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO EAT**.

2005

- First manager was hired to service Maryland and Virginia.
- Annual Party Theme: **OUR MOST TENURED PET SITTERS**.

2006

- Annual Party Theme: **FAMOUS ANIMALS**.
- Washingtonian Magazine, Cats v. Dogs, Love Your Pet, included SIT-A-PET.

2007

- SIT-A-PET cups advertised: "We have a leg up on the competition!"

2008

- Annual Party Theme: **ANIMALS IN "LITTER"ATURE**.
- Washingtonian Magazine, Best of Issue: Pets, included SIT-A-PET.

2009

- Annual Party Theme: **THE FIRST EVER INAUGURAL FUR-BALL**.

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2010

- CAPITOL HILL RAG, **SIT-A-PET Celebrates 30 years on the Hill**, included *"What a wonderful way to earn a living - making pets happy!"*
- Annual Party Theme: **PET PEEVES.**

2011

- There was a surprise performance from an improvisational troupe at our annual staff party.

2012 (and every year since...)

- CITY PAPER BEST OF DC EDITION SIT-A-PET was voted the BEST PET SERVICE.

2014

- Annual Party Theme: **WINTER OLYMPICS** featured food from every continent.

2015

- Washingtonian Magazine, The Ultimate Pets Guide, included SIT-A-PET.
- Annual Party Theme: **ANIMAL BITES.**

2016

- Annual Party Theme: **CELEBRATING OUR ENVIRONMENTALISTS, NATURALISTS & CONSERVATIONISTS.**

2017

- Washingtonian Magazine, Top Pet Care, included SIT-A-PET.
- The Arlington Connection featured Arlene: "Pet Sitting for 30 years and Still Loves It."

2019

- The Golden Shovel was awarded to four Sooper Dooper Pooper Scoopers.
- Washingtonian Magazine, Top Pet Care, included SIT-A-PET .
- AWLA Newsletter featured SIT-A-PET, "It Takes a Village."

2020

- Bank account was established in 1980 and as of today 12,996 checks have been written!
- As of today, Debbie has slept in a SIT-A-PET T-shirt 4,562 nights!