

The National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS) was founded in 1989 by a small group of pet sitters. Four years later, NAPPS incorporated as a nonprofit membership organization in order to provide support and serve as a voice for the expanding industry.

As the association grew, NAPPS services and benefits increased, raising the organization's standards of excellence. Membership now hovers around 2,200 pet sitters nationwide. NAPPS continues to flourish and grow, proudly expanding opportunities and services offered to professional pet caretakers and pet parents alike.

Timeline of milestones and accomplishments:

1989: The National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS) founded

1993: NAPPS incorporated as a nonprofit membership organization; certification program begins; toll free number serves as a pet sitter referral system

1999: Largest annual meeting in NAPPS history

2001: Membership climbs to over 1,800

2002: NAPPS contracts with Association Headquarters, a company specializing in the management of nonprofit associations (this relationship crucial for providing a high standard of service to current members as nationwide membership continues to grow)

2003: New mission statement adopted; strong committee structure of volunteers developed; educational opportunities and member benefits enhanced

2005: Mentoring teleconferences and virtual library added; disaster preparedness program begins

2006: Presents for Pets project begins; Business of the Year program started for recognizing outstanding business leaders within the organization

2008: Membership tops 2,200

2012: Governance in Excellence curriculum developed for Board of Directors

2013: NAPPS University established consisting of Pet Sitter Education and Resources for Pet Parents, Pet Parent Membership with benefits specific to pet parents and the first offered in the industry; new web site launched