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First Pet by The Associated Press

Revealing photographs celebrate the poignant connection between pets and presidents and allow a gratifying glimpse behind the politics that animal lovers and history buffs alike will appreciate.

“While pets are certainly not into politics, it is certain that presidents are into pets, and it is one similar interest that crosses all party lines and unites a common cause: the public’s fascination with pets and the presidency.” ~ Excerpt from the Introduction to *First Pet* by Claire McLean, founder and director of the Presidential Pet Museum

First Pet is a collection of words and photographs documenting U.S. presidents and their pets. Drawn from the AP’s voluminous photo library and its online photo archive of more than seven million images, the more than 120 or so photographs included in *First Pet* are “the best of the best” and memorialize the special relationship of presidents and their pets over the years.

In her introduction to the book, Claire McLean, founder and director of the Presidential Pet Museum, notes that “Our presidents show goodness of heart during their private and personal moments with the animals with which they have bonded.” She adds, “If you doubt that White House pets have a powerful impact on the public, consider that the American Kennel Club’s surges in breed registration closely track the types of breeds in the White House.”

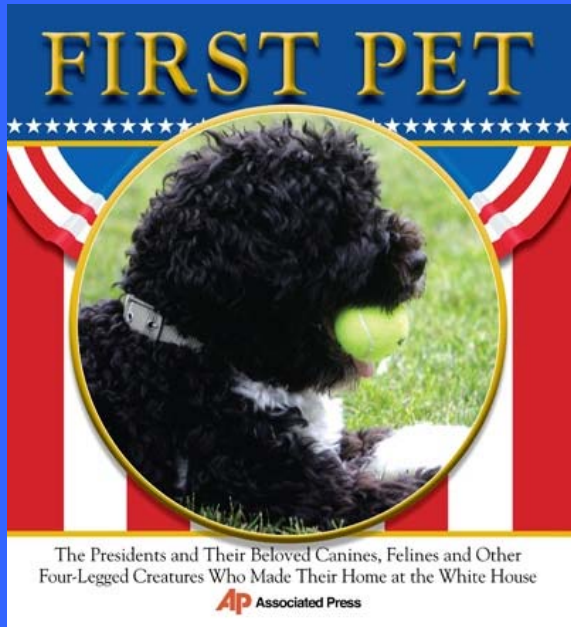
Whether iconic or unknown, all these photographs share a fascination with the first family’s pets. From FDR and his Scottie Fala, to Richard Nixon and his cocker spaniel Checkers, to the Clintons’ cat Socks, as well as some of the more obscure pets the White House has hosted such as sheep, goats, raccoons, and even hummingbirds, this album highlights our presidents and their pets in a way that appeals to animal lovers, regardless of party affiliation.

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For Presidential Pet Museum Information, contact Claire McLean at 410-266-1484.

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First Pet by The Associated Press with an Introduction by Claire McLean; Nonfiction; \$15.00; ISBN: 978-0-9841927-0-0



First Pet

**By The Associated Press
with an Introduction by
Founder and Director of the
Presidential Pet Museum
Claire McLean**

Nonfiction; \$15.00

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