



Fairfax Pets On Wheels Summer Update

July 2011



Picnic at Frying Pan Farm Park

Just as Frying Pan Farm Park is a haven for many animals including cows, pigs, chickens, goats, and horses, so too was it a special place for fifty dogs and two cats along with their human families and invited guests when FPOW held its annual volunteer appreciation party there on June 4, 2011. This year's event was a picnic as in many years past. The park which is itself celebrating fifty years of volunteerism and service to the community was a fitting place for honoring many canines, felines, and their partners who give so much to so many.

The sky was blue. The humidity was low. The temperature was perfect. Red, white, and blue tablecloths and balloons waved in the gentle breezes. It was a beautiful early June day.

The festivities began with an introduction by FPOW President Tracy Van Duston. Afterwards as the approximately one hundred and eleven people enjoyed fried chicken, barbeque, cold slaw, potato salad, baked beans, cookies, brownies, and other delicious edibles catered by King Creole of Great Falls, doggies and kitties were allowed special treats placed on the tables just for them. Meanwhile all guests could listen to great music with Michael Galvin as disc jockey. There was even some human and canine dancing accompanied by the appropriate dog tail wagging before and after the feast.

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Pics courtesy of Lori MacLain

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Rally On!

They came. They saw. They sat. They stayed. They circled, turned, sped up, slowed down, weaved, side-stepped, and jumped.

Over 20 dog and handler teams took on the Rally course at the picnic, and they all did a fabulous job!

A Rally course can contain from 10-20 stations. At each station the team has to perform a specified exercise. The higher you go in Rally,



the more challenging the exercises become. Our 11-station course contained mostly Novice level stations—sits, stays, various heeling exercises, and the like.

If you are interested in finding out more about Rally, go to www.akc.org/events/rally/ for AKC (American Kennel Club) Rally, or to www.apdt.com/rally/default.aspx for APDT (Association of Pet Dog Trainers) Rally.

To those of you who participated—great job! We hope to see the rest of you at our next Rally course.

Submitted by Liz Breyer



Besides the wonderful food, guests also participated in some fun filled activities. There were dog agility and race course exercises organized and led by Liz Breyer and her helpers. Dog and cat volunteers had their photographs taken by Paw Prints Photography for the always popular trading cards. Doggies could even splash in their own doggie pool. (Hopefully they had their photos taken before jumping in!)

The highlight of the day's program was the presentation by President Van Duston of volunteer awards for the calendar year of January through December, 2010. The first ones to be given were those for Hours of Service. Those who received Bronze Star Certificates for fifty to seventy four service hours were the following: Madelynn Arnold, Judith Chopp, Mariann Durante, Stecia Lansdell, Peggy Little, Jaclyn Neham, William Price, Richard Pruet, Robert Strahan, and Joan Wilson. Those receiving Silver Star Certificates for seventy to ninety nine service hours were as follows: Pete Barnes, Paula Burger, Lori Caplan, Alvin Doehring and Joseph Vinson.

Those who were given Gold Star Certificates for one hundred or more hours of service were as follows: Sabine Arndt, Kathryn Baker, Ruth Benker, Diane Bente, Elizabeth Breyer, Brian Bryson, Bonnie Burnham, John Byrum, Jill Davidson, Dee Norbert, Nikki Di Palma, Carla Graham, Patty Kwapniewski, Patricia Leader, Laurie Stone, Tracy Van Duston, Joan Violante, Debby Weinstein, Kim Wilkerson, and Deborah Zelten.

The awards ceremony culminated in the presentation of the Latshaw and Shauna Awards, the two most coveted awards in the FPOW organization.

This year there were three Latshaw honorees. The two individual Latshaw recipients were Patricia Leader, a volunteer at Cameron Glen Nursing Home, and Joan Violante, a volunteer at Mount Vernon Nursing Home. Emily Atkinson, Director of Activities at Iliff Nursing Home and Rehab Center, received the Corporate Latshaw Award. (The Latshaw Award for Excellence, established in 1990, honors Mrs. Mary Latshaw, an active volunteer in FPOW and its predecessor, Northern Virginia Visiting Pets.)

This year's Shauna Award was presented to Lucy

Leader, a pure bred English lab and Cameron Glen volunteer canine partner of Pat Leader. (The Shauna Award, established in 1993, honors Shauna Marie Salisbury, much loved Irish setter of Susie and Bob Duvall.)

As the lovely afternoon of activities ended, everyone agreed that it had been a wonderful picnic with perfect weather, great food, good music, and fun filled activities--just a glorious event for all. Many thanks go to Kathi Baker, her committee, and to all the others who helped to plan such a special event.

Submitted by: Bonnie Mayo Burnham



LUCY 2011 Shauna Winner



Lucy, a black Labrador, is proudly owned by Patricia Leader and visits at Cameron Glen since Oct 2008. Lucy has never met a resident that she didn't like and she eagerly goes for visiting weekly. She has learned to rest her head on the beds of those residents unable to reach her, and she patiently stands beside wheelchairs while residents enjoy her company. She can boast about having some of the softest ears around and gets many compliments on them. This special dog has made a big impact on the lives of residents, volunteers, and staff at their facility in Reston. Congratulations Lucy!

Latshaw Winner: Joan Violante

Joan was nominated for the Latshaw award for her superior support of the other volunteers at her facility and her devotion to the FPOW mission. She has been helpful and supportive and continues to motivate and lead by example. Joan also exhibits extraordinary patience with residents and a warm welcoming manner that makes everyone she meets feel very special. Joan volunteers with



Thanks for the Memory

■ In memory of Katie, beloved 12 year old dog of Pat and Marilyn Maguire of Fairfax. Katie was a “Shelter Dog” who was rescued when she was six. She will be greatly missed by her family. From Susie and Bob Duvall.

■ In memory of Rascal and Miyagi Thompson, beloved pets of the Thompson Family of Marshall, Virginia, who were “brothers in mischief”. From Bev Fletcher, Arlington, Virginia

To make a tax deductible donation to the FPOW Memory Book in someone’s memory or honor, please send your check with brief letter to the FPOW address listed on the back of this newsletter (including pet/person’s name, to whom you wish acknowledgement mailed, and a brief detail of the occasion). Your memorial will be permanently entered into the FPOW Memory Book, an acknowledgement will be sent, and the announcement will appear in a future edition of our newsletter.

Lincoln at Mount Vernon Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. She has been a FPOW volunteer since 2006 and has served as facility liaison, as well as being on the Speakers Bureau, and on the Board of Directors.



Latshaw Winner: Patricia Leader

Patricia was nominated for her continuous infectious smile and ability to improve the morale of the residents she visits.

She has done weekly visits since 2008. Patricia and Lucy have logged over 100 hours of service in the past two years. Patricia and Lucy visit at Cameron Glen Nursing Center where countless residents and staff look forward to their visits. In addition, Patricia serves on the Speakers Bureau and the Board of Directors.

Latshaw Winner: Emily Atkinson

Emily Atkinson is the Director of Activities for Iliff Nursing

and Rehabilitation Center.

Emily has provided extraordinary support to FPOW for more than eight years. She has always valued all the FPOW volunteers at Iliff and has welcomed them as part of the resident care team. Over the years she has contacted the facility liaison whenever a resident’s health began to fail or when a resident passed away. This communication keeps the bonds strong between volunteers, residents, and the facility. Iliff and the FPOW volunteers there, thanks to Emily’s help, have often been featured in FPOW promotional/media events.

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These events involve a tremendous amount of work and effort which Emily has always taken on with a smile and an eagerness to make each event successful. Emily has always made sure that Iliff supports and sponsors our annual fund raiser, Paws For A Cause. Emily's dedication to providing her residents with wonderful experiences is evidenced by the way she deals with her volunteers – FPOW-

Iliff volunteers are most fortunate to have Emily.

Volunteer Spotlight: Charlie Viall

FPOW Volunteer Charlie Viall has a thing for German Shepherds. He has owned four of the “impressive animals” since encountering and working with them as a Bomb Technician in Vietnam. His last two Shepards, Sandy and Bella, have served as FPOW volunteers. He also volunteers his time with the German Shepherd Rescue League.

Charlie served in the U.S. Army for 31 years, retiring eighteen years ago as a Colonel. Ten years ago, he accompanied his wife to Germany, where she was serving the Department of the Army as a Civilian Human Resources Director. While stationed in Germany, he adopted Sandy, a “native” German shepherd.

Sandy returned state-side with the Vialls and was an instant success as a therapy dog at Commonwealth. She visited at Commonwealth for seven and a half years and also visited at Walter Reed and the Old Soldiers Home as a Therapy Dog with PAL -- People Animal Love.

The final two years of her life, Sandy was handicapped as a wearer of “Wheels” – an animal wheelchair that enabled her to walk in a steadfast pace. When Sandy died, Charlie became involved with the German Shepherd Rescue League where he ultimately adopted Bella, a fun-loving, gregarious female Shepherd.



Bella passed her temperament test last October at the tender age of eight months. She and Charlie have been visiting at Commonwealth on a weekly basis ever since. Charlie and Bella enjoy the ability to see many of the same patients during each visit but also share their enthusiasm with those patients who complete rehabilitation at the facility. Charlie has been involved with other dog visiting programs but truly appreciates the flexibility that Fairfax Pets on Wheels offers in that visiting times are not limited and that volunteers do not have to visit as teams or in groups.

Charlie and Bella continue to be involved with the German Shepherd Rescue and they support the organization by assisting at their local adoption events. While at these events, Charlie takes advantage of the opportunity to pass out information advertising FPOW in order to solicit new volunteer interest.

The Vialls have it on good authority that when Bella attends these events she brags to her fellow shepherds that she is a “star” in the Fairfax Pets on Wheels program and that they should join her in this worthwhile

volunteer effort. Bella is a great representative of her breed at these adoption events, where she assists in helping other German Shepherds find their “forever homes.”

Charlie advises other volunteer teams to keep working with their pet to socialize them to many new situations, the earlier the better to have them

become canine good citizens. Charlie tries to continue teaching Bella something new so she can display her skills during her FPOW visits, and receive one of her favorite biscuits and a verbal praise as a reward. One of Bella's recent accomplishments is bringing in the newspaper in the morning.

Charlie and Bella would like to continue their visiting and perhaps expand to add another facility to their schedule where they would be a welcome addition to the FPOW volunteer teams at that facility.

Submitted by Madelynn Arnold





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Upon receipt of application, request for residency will be reviewed and may be recommended for consideration by the Admissions Committee of The Board of Directors.



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DiPalma & Sophie, Jackie Nelham, Pat Leader & Lucy, and Christine and Eric Stout & Henry.

I am looking for help at the National Cat Show!

I am looking for volunteers to work alongside FPOW speakers' bureau members for morning and afternoon shifts staffing an informational table for FPOW. Volunteering at our table will allow you FREE admission to the event. Hundreds of beautiful cats, tons of great people and animal shopping, plus

you'll get to spend time with other terrific FPOW volunteers and help recruit needed volunteers.

Saturday and Sunday shifts available September 10 & 11 at the Chantilly EXPO Center.

If you are interested please contact Kim Wilkerson by e-mail: mwilkerson@juno.com

6th Annual Pet Photo Contest

Theme: "CHILLIN" -- Share with us your favorite photos featuring your pet "Chillin."

Four gift certificate prize levels and four honorable mentions.

Send your digital Pet Photos to (Note: One E Mail per photo entry please) fpowphotocontest@cox.net before 9/7/11. No professional photography please.

Your e-mail entry MUST include:

- 1-your name
- 2-pet's name
- 3-phone number

(Continued on next page)

Reston Pet Fiesta

On a bright and warm Saturday, May 7, members of the FPOW Speakers' Bureau and FPOW volunteers from Cameron Glen staffed the FPOW Information Booth at the Reston Pet Fiesta. Located in front of the Stage, FPOW volunteers, 2-legged and 4-legged, got to interact with hundreds of folks who had come out to enjoy the day's events while listening to the bands a-rocking

and a-rolling. Many thanks to Kathi and Dan Baker accompanied by Abby, Judy Mitnick, Patty Kwapniewski & Dolly, Bonnie Burham & Cindy, Joan Violante, John Byrum, Sheila Consul & Portia, Dick Pruitt & Biscuit, Candia Hudson & Nikita, Nikki



Dates to remember

Photo Contest Deadline September 7, 2011 (see details pg 6)

BOD Meeting at Leewood: September 12, 2011, 7:00 pm.

Annual Meeting at Leewood: September 12, 2011, 8:00 pm

Newsletter Deadline: September 30, 2011

PAWS FOR A CAUSE: October 2, 2011, Weber's Pet Supermarket, Fairfax Noon.

BOD Meeting at Leewood: December 5, 2011, 7:00 pm.

Newsletter Deadline: December 30, 2011

Enter as many different photos as you like but please send each entry in a separate e-mail.

Winners will be announced on 9/12/11 at The Annual Meeting & showcased on our FPOW web site (www.fpow.org).

Older Americans Month

The Board of Supervisors proclaimed May 2011 as Older Americans Month and endorsed this year's nationwide theme "Older Americans: Connecting the Community."



The proclamation, passed on April 26, acknowledged the work of volunteers who serve the county's older adults, and particularly those who support the programs of the Department of Family Services, which includes FPOW, the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services and the Health Department.

Tena Bluhm, chairman of the Commission on Aging, received the proclamation from the board on April 26, 2011, along with a large group of enthusiastic volunteers.



Following the proclamation, Volunteer Solutions staff and staff from other county departments held a breakfast reception for volunteers.

To see photos of our wonderful volunteers, some who have volunteered for over 30 years, visit: www.flickr.com/photos/fairfaxcounty/sets/ and scroll down to Older Americans Month.



Submitted by Ruth Reagan

See you at the
Rain or Shine! Fairfax Pets on Wheels
Paws for a Cause 3K Walk!

October 2, 2011 at 12:00 pm

Starting at:

Weber's Pet Supermarket
11021 Lee Highway
Fairfax VA • (703) 385-3766

**Register
online at:
www.tiny.cc/walk2011
or visit
www.fpow.org**



Are A Breed Apart

Fairfax Pets On Wheels, Inc.
Fairfax Area Agency On Aging
12011 Government Center Parkway, # 708
Fairfax, VA 22035-1104



Fairfax Pets
on Wheels, Inc

Fairfax Pets On Wheels, Inc. is a volunteer program working with the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, 12011 Government Center Parkway, #708, Fairfax, VA 22035-1104. FPOW Volunteer Hotline: (703) 324-5424. Visit: www.fpow.org
Please use the FPOW Hotline number for non-emergency calls if you are a FPOW volunteer or one who is currently in the pipeline. Someone will either act upon your message or return your call if more information is required.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT FPOW NEWSLETTER: September 30, 2011

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EDITORIAL POLICY

This is your newsletter. Fairfax Pets On Wheels, Inc. volunteers may contribute articles for publication. Articles will be reviewed by the editors. We reserve the right to edit any item submitted for publication. We cannot guarantee the return of documents or photos (if used). Because Fairfax Pets On Wheels, Inc., is under the sponsorship of the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, the FPOW Newsletter must be approved by the FAAA prior to publication. In addition, Letters to the Editor are welcome and encouraged. Letters must be signed but, if requested, your name will be withheld.

All correspondence should be directed to:

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging

Attention: FPOW Newsletter

12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 708

Fairfax, VA 22035-1104

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