



Fairfax Pets On Wheels Summer Update

Summer 2017

Pat Dutton is in the Volunteer Spotlight

Our volunteer spotlight is on long-time volunteer, Pat Dutton, who now visits at Golden Living - Sleepy Hollow with her "granddog" Lily.



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Save the Dates!

2017 is FPOW's 30th Anniversary!

When: September 10, 2017, Noon to 3:00 pm

Where: Barrel Oak Winery, Delaplane, VA

We have much to celebrate so mark your calendars now! FPOW Volunteers and one guest will be treated to great food, wine, and the company of other FPOW two-legged and four-legged volunteers. Additional guests can be invited at a minimal cost.

Stay tuned for details. Plan to celebrate with us then!

22nd Annual Paws for a Cause 3K Walk

When: Sunday, October 1, 2017
Registration opens at 11:00am. The Walk begins at 12:00/Noon

Where: Weber's Pet Supermarket, 11021 Lee Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22030

Bring your friends, family and pets for this wonderful 3K walk through the shady streets of Fairfax.

Pat started volunteering with FPOW in 2002 with her yellow lab, Annie, who visited for ten years, until she died of cancer at age 15-1/2. That same year, Pat's daughter, Becka, brought home a golden/lab mix puppy named Lily. Becka then whisked her off with her to graduate school. Lily later came to live with Pat and her husband and started as a FPOW volunteer when she was one year old. Lily, who is now four and a half years old is sweet, gentle and seems to know when someone needs extra love and comfort. She backs up beside a wheelchair so the resident can pet her more easily and her trick of rolling over gets a lot of laughs. She spreads unconditional love and acceptance with a smile and a wag of her plume tail. People tell her she's pretty and beautiful, but she doesn't let that go to her head.

Pat grew up near Richmond and has always lived in Virginia. Pat and her husband came to the area in 1972 because of her husband's job at the Washington Navy Yard. After teaching elementary school for a while and then a few years in government, she returned to teaching.

Pat has been teaching pre-school at church for 30+ years, now two days a week. Pat enjoys teaching children at her church, aerobic and Zumba exercise classes, and Spanish classes. Dave, now retired from federal government, does his part by making sure Lily is brushed before visits. The couple has a son and a daughter and enjoys traveling, gardening and trying to keep the hungry deer out of the flowers. Pat is friendly and outgoing. She enjoys meeting new people and is a greeter at her church.

Before Pat and Annie were part of FPOW, they used to visit her mother in a nursing home near Richmond, where Annie was a popular visitor. Later, Pat learned of FPOW through an ad in a paper and the team started visiting Sleepy Hollow

in memory of Pat's mother. It is a blessing for Pat to be able to bring happy thoughts and perhaps fond memories, to bring a little joy to others, while at the same time being able to show off her dog, and Lily gets extra pets and treats. A win-win-win for all.

Pat believes that FPOW is an outstanding organization, and she appreciates all the volunteers who make it so special. Pat has had the privilege of visiting with wonderful ladies and dogs — formerly Nancy McKay with Kacee and currently Carol Chapin with Hunter, now Rain, and Shelley Matthews with Sonny and Sadie — but she still remembers when she started it was just Annie and herself and she felt a bit isolated on her visits. For those who do not visit with others, the picnic is a way to connect with other volunteers and share visiting experiences, and Pat loves the pet-picture trading cards.



She wishes that more people with pets could join the program and share their pets. Pat enjoys participating in Speakers Bureau events, in order to encourage potential members to share their pets

and bring happiness to people who are often overlooked and forgotten. She has helped with FPOW Speakers Bureau tables at the National Capitol Cat Shows, the Vienna Art's Center, and Venture into Volunteering Fair.

Lily has a special leather leash — a gift from a FPOW picnic — which the team uses only for their visits. When Pat shows Lily the leash and says “We are going to visit,” she knows, get excited, and runs to the door. She knows she is going to see her friends. Lily loves the attention and the reward of extra treats isn't bad, either. As Pat drives to the facility, she tries to remember to say a prayer that the team can be a blessing to someone that day. And it never fails that at least one person, usually a resident, sometimes staff or visiting family member,

Thanks for the Memories

■ In memory of Grace, the beloved 11 year old Irish Setter of Susie and Bob Duvall, who passed away on April 24, 2017. Grace qualified as a Pet Partner Certified Therapy Dog while at Fairfax Hospital with Animal Assisted Care. She continued her therapy dog duties as a member of Reading with Rover at Jefferson/Houston Elementary, Alexandria, Virginia, and later with Paws for a Cause at the Fairfax County Public Library, Kings Park Branch. She was our special "Missy Grace" and will be greatly missed by both of us. From Susie and Bob Duvall

■ In memory of Haley beloved Yellow Labrador of Mary Duckett of Annandale, Virginia. She was 11 years old. Haley was

Mary's constant companion and even went with her to the farm on the Eastern Shore. From Susie and Bob Duvall

■ In memory of George, much loved English Setter of Janice Young. George was born in Australia and was adopted by Janice at three months. While they lived in Australia, George was a show dog. They were constant companions and George was on the plane with Janice when she immigrated to the United States. He died much too young at 8 years. Janice is making a time line of his life and experiences as a memorial to him. From Susie and Bob Duvall

■ In memory of Cindy, 16 year old Poodle of Bonnie and Andy Burnham. Cindy visited Sunrise Reston and Herndon Harbor. From Charlotte, Frank, and Darrell Lewis, Boca Ratan, FL.

Visit www.fpow.org/tribute to make an online memorial or tribute donation.

will say or do something to confirm their reason for doing visiting. Someone will say "Thank you for bringing your dog," or "You have made my day," and Pat can truthfully say, "You have made my day, too." As Carol and Shelley, the humans the team visits with, will attest, Pat finds it hard to leave when someone wants to pet Lily and/or talk more. She tries to transition out by saying, "Thank you for letting us visit." Still, it's hard to leave when you know how much this short visit means to someone.

While visiting with Annie, her first FPOW dog, Pat saw the parents of a resident. They had come from out of state to visit their son. The mother got down on her knees, hugged Annie, and then just sobbed as she buried her face in Annie's fur. It was an emotional time for everyone. On another visit with Annie, the team met a lady visiting a resident who was very afraid of dogs. Back in her home country her sister had died due to a dog bite. She told Pat that she wanted to get over her fear because her son wanted a dog. Pat said that she certainly respected her fear and told her that if she ever wanted to try, Pat would hold Annie very still for her to pet. To Pat's amazement, she came right over, petted

Annie, and told them that was the first time in her life she had ever touched a dog. Annie was used to being petted by people who were afraid, as Pat took her regularly to her pre-school class to help children who were afraid of dogs. One three year-old boy, who had been bitten by a neighbor dog, overcame his fear so much that when he turned four years old, he had his birthday party in Pat's backyard because he wanted Annie to be at his party.

Just last month Lily had an experience when a resident hugged her and just cried, her tears falling down on Lily's head. Pat said how humbling to think the team's visits could be the high point of someone's day. She has this dog at her home and can pet and love her any time she wants, and yet, each person they visit only gets to be with Lily for a few minutes.

Thanks to Pat, a long-time volunteer and her pets for devoting themselves to the residents of Golden Living-Sleepy Hollow. And also for taking time to help at Speakers Bureau events to get more people into the program to share their pets' love with the residents FPOW visits.

Winners: 11th Annual Photo Contest Theme: Pet/Owner Look Alike



HELP WANTED

As you know, FPOW is run entirely by its volunteers and needs your help in order to keep the program functioning optimally. Areas needing help include:

Special Events Coordination • Temperament Testing • Newsletter • Fund Raising
Board Membership • Photography • Graphic Arts • Website Administration

Any other talents that you might have for which you could contribute.
Please contact the hotline (703-324-5424) or dfspetsonwheels@fairfaxcounty.gov

Dates to Remember

Newsletter Deadline:
October 31, 2017.

New Volunteer Orientation
**5 July 2017
7:30PM
Providence Community Center 3001 Vaden Drive Fairfax, VA.**

FPOW's 30th Anniversary Party
**10 Sept 2017,
Noon - 3:00 pm
Barrel Oak Winery,
Delaplane, VA.**

Paws for a Cause 3K Walk
**1 October 2017
12:00/Noon
Weber's Pet Supermarket,
11021 Lee Hwy,
Fairfax, VA.**



Sunrise Sweethearts – Photo from left to right - Karen Beekman & Teddy, Margaret Clark & Miss Pixie, Mary Portelly & AnnieBelle, Edie Norton & Herschel, Denise Kloepfel & Sport, Kathi Baker & Jameson and Paula Burger & Maia.



Mardi Groul at Sunrise – Reston – Photo - Caption -- Margaret Clark & Miss Pixie, Joe Skowronski & Sasha, Larry Lukatch & Bailey, Paula Burger & Maia, Deb Boedicker & Murphy, front row - Kathi Baker & Jameson.



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., 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 nonemergency calls if you are an FPOW volunteer or currently in the pipeline. Someone will either act on your message or return your call if more information is required.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT FPOW NEWSLETTER: October 31, 2017

FAIRFAX PETS ON WHEELS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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. 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, #708

Fairfax, VA 22035-1104

(703) 324-5411

Email:

dfspetsonwheels@fairfaxcounty.gov



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