

Info from Fairfax Pets On Wheels



Fairfax Pets On Wheels, Inc

March 2023

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Reopening the Memory Book

Once upon a time — in an FPOW long, long ago — a clever volunteer (no one recalls exactly who) came

up with the idea of the Memory Book, a place where beloved pets or people could be honored and remembered with a donation to Fairfax Pets On Wheels.

For many years, longtime volunteer Susie Duvall was the dedicated keeper of the FPOW Memory Book. She was a Latshaw Award winner and her dog Shauna was the namesake for the Shauna Award recognizing outstanding FPOW pet volunteers. Susie passed away in January, and FPOW has decided to reinstate the Memory Book in honor of everything she did for our program.

Anyone can make a donation to remember or honor a person or pet. The tribute will be entered into the Memory Book and their memories will also be

mentioned in a FPOW newsletter. If the donor wishes, a picture may also accompany the donation and be published on the FPOW website. Donors will receive an acknowledgment of their taxdeductible gift to

Thanks for the Memory

Just before Christmas, Pat Dutton lost her wonderful visiting partner, Lily. She was the kind of sweet soul that was loved by all who met her, human or canine. With her beautiful Golden Retriever looks and kind eyes, she was so present with anyone she visited. She had special friends who



cried out "Lily!" the second they spotted her. She will be greatly missed by Pat and family and everyone at Annandale Healthcare Center.

FPOW, and the family of the person or pet will also be notified of the donation.



To make a Memory Book donation, visit <u>fpow.org/donate</u> or mail a check to Fairfax Pets On Wheels at the address on the last page of the newsletter.

All-volunteer Fairfax Pets On Wheels, Inc. connects pets with residents of long-term care facilities in Fairfax County. Visit fpow.org or call (703) 324-5424



The Far Reach of FPOW

Denise Kloeppel and her canine partner, Sport joined FPOW in 2017 and made regular visits to Dulles Health and Rehab Center, Herndon Senior Center, and Reston Sunrise. In 2022, Denise and Sport moved to Southport, N.C., and Denise announced at the Holiday Zoom Party that she and Sport were finding ways to use their FPOW experience in their new home.



For their first few months, Sport was unemployed and missed his visits and volunteer duties. Denise was fortunate to find an organization willing to re-certify Sport as a therapy pet so they could work at the NOVANT Hospital in nearby Boliva. With his experience as a FPOW volunteer, Sport successfully completed his certification and started duties in November, bringing the same joy to hospital patients and staff as he had to those in FPOW facilities. Now,

Denise and Sport also volunteer at the hospital's nursing facility, and Denise credits their experience with FPOW as the sole reason that she and Sport can now share the power of the human-animal bond in North Carolina.

She and Sport will be missed by their FPOW friends, but it is heartwarming to know that the experience gained with our program can make a difference wherever our volunteers go.

FPOW in the Community

FPOW placed an ad in the popular Top Docs issue of Northern Virginia Magazine in February. Ads are also scheduled for NoVA magazine's June, July, and October issues.





Ira Smallwood of the Combined

Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area welcomed FPOW Ambassadors Joe Ammann and Koa to the DOD's

Defense Contract Audit Agency CFC event at Ft. Belvoir.

In January, FPOW sent posters to more than 200 veterinary hospitals, pet-related businesses, and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Providence District Supervisor Dalia Palchik even posted it on her Facebook page.



Have you seen FPOW's poster somewhere or info on social media? Please tell us so we can share it with everyone!

Are You and Your Pet Still in Good Standing?



Volunteers and their pets who have not visited a FPOW facility for one year or longer are not authorized to participate in any FPOW pet therapy activity. This requirement was waived during the COVID pandemic, but we have now returned to regular visits at most of our facilities and are returning to FPOW's normal operating procedures.

Questions? Leave a message on the FPOW Hotline (703-324-5424) or send an email to <u>dfspetsonwheels@fairfaxc</u> <u>ounty.gov.</u> If you have not visited for 12 months or longer, you will be notified. To be reinstated you must:

By April 15

- Send an up-to-date health certificate for your pet;
- Submit your COVID vaccination record to the FPOW office; and
- Have an onsite re-orientation at the facility of your choice.

After April 15

- Submit an up-to-date health certificate for your pet;
- Schedule a temperament test for your pet;
- Submit your COVID vaccination record to the FPOW office; and
- Have an onsite orientation at the facility of your choice.

FPOW Needs You!

From one-off small projects to ongoing ones, there's lots to do to keep FPOW humming along. As an all-volunteer organization, we need everyone's involvement. For example...

- Planning for our June Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
- Newsletter writing and design help
- Updating our website and social media posts
- Fundraising, data entry, media monitoring, and more

If you no longer have a pet in the program — and even if you do — your help and talents are needed to make sure our organization stays on top of its game. Please call or send an email and let us know what you'd like to do to ensure FPOW continues licking loneliness.





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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).

Letters to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. Letters must be signed, but if requested, your name will be withheld.

Send all correspondence to:

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