



Fairfax Pets On Wheels, Inc.

# Info from Fairfax Pets On Wheels

June 2023



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FPOW volunteers — along with their pet partners and guests — celebrated summer on June 4 at the 2023 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic at Frying Pan Park. It was a beautiful day filled with fun, tasty barbecue, awards & more!

## What a Great Picnic!



## Service Award Winners

### Hours of Service

**Bronze** (50–74 hours): Joe Ammann, Karen Beekman, Paula Burger, Theresa Carroll

**Silver** (75–99 hours): Jeanine Goldberg, Barbara Kuckenbecker, Jack Ledgerwood, Susan Ledgerwood

**Gold** (100+ hours): Madelynn Arnold, Kathryn Baker, Ruth Benker, Bonnie Burnham, Carla Graham, Wendy Mayer, Diane O'Brien, Paula Singleton



### Years of Service

**20 Years:** Kathryn Baker, Laurie Stone

**15 Years:** Nikki DiPalma, Jeanine Goldberg

**10 Years:** Kye Abboushi, Mary Kurtenbach, Susan Cash

**5 Years:** Irene Bleiweiss, Dawn Brown, Jill Burgard, Kathy Gallo, Kurt Kratch, Kristie Primmer, Elizabeth Wagner

## Thank You!

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



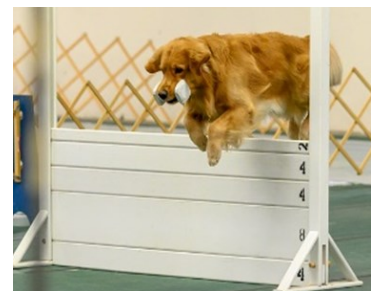
# FPOW's Temperament Testing Team

The temperament testers and their dog partners are great ambassadors for FPOW. They volunteer at our facilities, as well as help new volunteers on their journeys to successful volunteer careers. Each of these teams also has another side, as you will see below. Meet the dogs of the FPOW temperament testing team.

**Marvin** is a 6-year-old Golden Retriever who has been an FPOW volunteer



since he was 15 months old. He and owner Liz Breyer visit the residents at Vierra Falls Church and Lewinsville Adult Day Health Care Center. Liz says Marvin is the consummate gentleman. When not doing therapy work, he competes in American Kennel Club (AKC) Obedience and Rally.



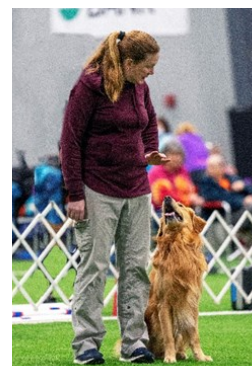
**Beaker**, a 3 1/2-year-old Golden Retriever, began visiting Burke Health &



Rehabilitation Center with owner Jeanine Goldberg in 2021. He provides lots of love to the

residents through his therapy work. An exemplary ambassador for his breed, Beaker, like Marvin, competes in AKC obedience and agility, but also gets his paws dirty in hunt tests.

Jeanine says that no matter what Beaker is doing, he always manages to give it his all and makes her look good in the process.

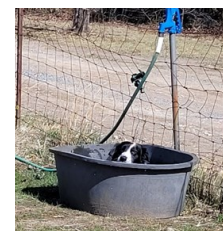


**Homer** is an 8-year-old Border Collie who comes from working sheep dog



lines. The saying goes "every working dog needs a job," and Homer started "working" with FPOW in 2021. His owner Barbara Kuckenbecker is fortunate to have friends with a farm where Homer can practice the sheep herding skills he was bred for. He

shows the same kindness to his flock that he shows to his friends at Vierra Falls Church and Lincolnia Adult Day Health Care Center, and is an all-around good boy.



# 2023 Award Winners



## Mary Latshaw Award

**Honoring volunteers who give of themselves through regular facility visits and entities that provide assistance and support.**

**Karen Beekman** — Since 2006, Karen has visited Sunrise Reston and Herndon Harbor Adult Day Health Care Center, first with her dog Teddy and now with Max. She has served on the FPOW board of directors and managed the procurement and sale of FPOW merchandise.

**Carol Chapin** — A volunteer since 2006, Carol has visited Annandale Healthcare Center with her dog Rain, and now with Matz. She is the long-time liaison at the facility, serves on the Speakers Bureau, and is also a cheerleader for the program when teaching obedience classes at PetSmart.

**Dr. Jordan Kocen** — When FPOW lost its long-time temperament testing venue, Dr. Kocen, graciously agreed to let FPOW use the training center at his Veterinary Holistic Center in Springfield free of charge, enabling FPOW evaluators to test more than 75 teams. For his generosity, Dr. Kocen is awarded the Corporate Latshaw Award.



## Shauna Award

**Recognizing pets that have made the most significant impact on residents of a facility.**

**Koa** is a big, easy-going Newfie who could easily be mistaken for a bear.

When Koa and his partner, Joe Ammann enter a room to visit, the resident's eyes light up, no matter how many times they



have met him before. Koa is a star attraction, a gentle giant, and a dog with soulful, caring eyes. Koa is a wonderful therapy dog who brings joy to many and is an outstanding ambassador for FPOW's mission to help lick loneliness.

**Star** has visited at the Virginian since 2016 with her partner Carol Aron. They were often invited by staff to participate in regularly scheduled visits in the Alzheimer unit, and residents were delighted by the German Short-haired Pointer's many tricks and calm demeanor. Carol was unable to continue in-person visits, but she and Star continued visiting on Zoom with the Adult Day Health Care participants. For Star's devotion to those FPOW serves, she is a Shauna award recipient.

**An Important Reminder:** To remain active, all FPOW volunteers are now required to complete the one-hour Adult Protective Services [Mandated Reporter Training](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/abuse/aps.cgi) (www.dss.virginia.gov/abuse/aps.cgi) **by Monday, August 21** and submit the certificate of completion to FPOW. If you have questions, contact the FPOW office.





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

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

Send all correspondence to:

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

Email: [dfspetsonwheels@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:dfspetsonwheels@fairfaxcounty.gov)