



Fairfax Pets On Wheels Spring Update

April 2011



Carla Graham is in the Volunteer Spotlight.

Carla came to the Washington, DC area from a small town of about 500 people in central Pennsylvania. She wanted to pursue better career opportunities. She worked mostly within the Department of Health and Human Services and retired from its Office for Civil Rights as an Equal Opportunity Specialist in 2006 with almost 40 years of service. Like most of her retired friends, she has been busier than ever. Carla has a grown son who lives in the area. She owns two dogs and a cat and they are all rescue pets. She enjoys working out at her fitness center, gardening, reading, keeping up with friends and doing small projects around her home.

Carla first learned about Fairfax Pets On Wheels from an ad in the Washington Post and thought it would be a great experience for her and her dog. Shortly after seeing that ad, she was having lunch at a restaurant close to her home and met Betty Nelbach, a long-time FPOW volunteer. Betty was wearing a Fairfax Pets on Wheels t-shirt and Carla expressed her interest in the program. Betty gave Carla a lot of information about FPOW. Carla decided then that after she retired, she would become an FPOW volunteer.

Carla began visiting at Arden Courts, Annandale in 2006 with her lab/chow mix, Val. Val was the first dog Carla owned and taught her compassion for all four-legged creatures! Carla's friends called Val the "gentle giant." She was a great therapy dog. When Val passed away in

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Save the Date!

21st Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

When: Sat., June 4, 2011 - 12-3 pm

Where: Picnic Pavillion @ Frying
Pan Park, 2739 West Ox Rd., Herndon

Register on-line at:
www.fpow.org/dates

All active volunteers are invited along with their FPOW certified pet volunteers and a guest.

On the agenda is the presentation of the Shauna and Latshaw awards and recognition for hours of service.

Catered picnic lunch from King Creole, Great Falls, VA.

Activities to include Pet Trading Cards, agility and rally courses, door prizes.

Come visit with other FPOW volunteers and join the fun! We hope to see you there!

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2008, Carla began visiting with Cheyenne. Cheyenne is a black Lab and Border Collie mix who is 11 years old. Cheyenne is very sweet and loves people. Cheyenne really enjoys the attention she receives when visiting with the residents. She especially loves to visit during snack time and spends a lot of time looking for leftovers on the floor. As long as there are treats involved, she will perform a few tricks. Her voracious appetite sometimes gets her into trouble. If Carla accidentally leaves any food within Cheyenne's reach, she is sure to devour it. Once she ate a pound of frozen ribs - lucky for Carla and Cheyenne the ribs were boneless.

Besides visiting with Cheyenne, Carla serves as a facility liaison for Arden Courts Annandale. She serves on the FPOW Board of Directors as a member-at-large and also volunteers one day each week in the Area Agency on Aging office conducting various administrative duties for FPOW. There is a sense of accomplishment doing administrative duties in the FPOW office where she helps get new volunteers into the program and updates records for current volunteers. The Fairfax Area Agency on Aging staff members are very helpful and friendly. She recently began assisting with the temperament testing for new volunteers and their pets.

Quite often, it's hard to develop relationships with the residents at Arden Courts because they all have some form of Alzheimer's disease. Our pet visits engage the residents in the moment, and they thoroughly enjoy hearing all about the pets. One day Carla, in her position as liaison, was conducting an on-site orientation with a new volunteer and her dog, an Italian Greyhound. One of the residents didn't seem too interested in the visit until she asked what breed the dog was. When we told her it was an Italian Greyhound, her face lit up and she said "I'm Italian too!" and proceeded to speak to the dog in Italian.

Carla finds the FPOW program very rewarding because visits always put smiles on the residents' faces and a lot of times they interact with Cheyenne more readily than with people. FPOW has a very dedicated group of volunteers and they work hard to ensure that every aspect of the program is successful. Carla has met a lot of wonderful people through this program and hopes to continue with the various volunteer duties with which she is involved.

Submitted by Madelynn Arnold



Great weather. Great people. Great dogs.

On March 19, FPOW sponsored a Canine Good Citizen test. Thirteen dogs and handlers participated. Eleven dogs passed with flying colors. Two other wonderful dogs went home to practice sits and downs.

The American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen program promotes responsible dog ownership. The CGC test evaluates dogs on 10 items that all well-mannered



Liz Breyer welcomes FPOW volunteer Jeanine Goldberg and Silver

dogs should know. We were delighted to have so many fabulous dogs and committed handlers join us for the test. We were especially happy to have two dogs who attempted the test last year (but needed more practice) come back and pass it this year.

We couldn't have successfully orchestrated this event without the help of Sabine Arndt, Patty Kwapniewski, Debbie Zelten, Jeanine Goldberg, Carla Graham, Laurie Stone, Barbara Harding, Denise Elliott, and canine volunteers Tessa, Bicaline and Dolly.

Submitted by Liz Breyer



Thanks for the Memory

■ In memory of Bill Price who was a long time volunteer with FPOW. Bill loved his dogs and freely shared them with those who would greatly benefit from the experience. It was Bill who in the 1990s trained me to become a Temperament Evaluator for FPOW. I am forever grateful for the training. From Barbara Harding

■ In memory of Bill Price who was a gentlemen and touched many, many lives. A long time volunteer with both FPOW and Golden Retriever Rescue and Education and Training (GRREAT). He had a gift for pet therapy and I learned a lot volunteering at his side. From Kim Wilkerson

■ In memory of James Corbell who was a good friend who loved his dogs. I know of no better way to honor his memory than to make a contribution to your organization. From Donald Loden, DVM, Joplin, Missouri

■ In memory of K.C., beloved Cavalier King Charles Spaniel of Ruth and Bob Benker. He will be greatly missed. From Liz Butler, Vienna, Virginia

■ In memory of Docker, beloved 16 year old Dachshund of Joyce Delong. Docker was a rescue who enjoyed his life with Joyce to the fullest. From Susie and Bob Duvall.

■ In memory of C.J., beloved 16 plus year old Dachshund of Liz and Dick Rogers of Mineral, Virginia. C.J. was a well traveled dog who even had his own large motor home to take him around the United States. From Susie and Bob Duvall

■ In memory of Babe the beloved Short-Haired German Pointer of Jacquelyn Hunt. Babe crossed the Rainbow Bridge in March, 2011 at the age of 13. She was the source of much joy to Jacquelyn and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. From John Byrum and Bill Rivera

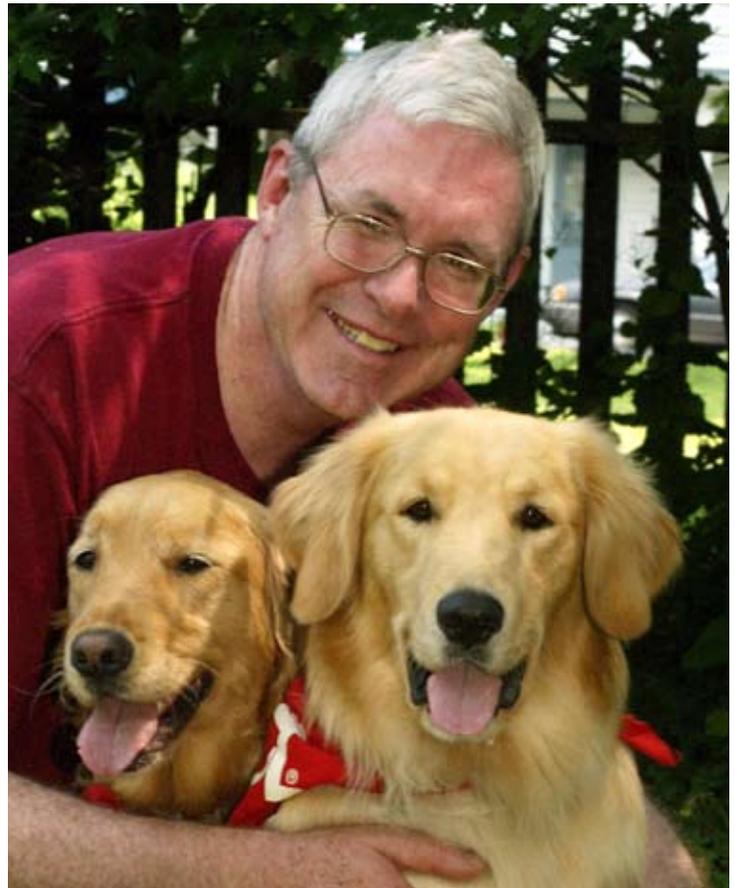
William Price IV “Bill” (June 27, 1945–Feb. 26, 2011)

Fairfax Pets On Wheels lost a devoted friend in February. After retiring from the Postal Service, Bill was a regular visitor at Burke Healthcare Center since March of 2001.

Bill volunteered alongside his wonderful Golden Retrievers Courtney, Cassidy, and Cody and logged hundreds of volunteer hours with FPOW. Bill also served FPOW in a multitude of ways including serving on the Board of Directors and as a Facility Liaison.

A very active volunteer and community advocate, Bill was also involved with the great work done by the Shriners and Golden Retriever Rescue Education and Training organization.

Bill leaves behind his wife Louise and two sons. Please keep them in your prayers.



“Mardi Growl” Celebration at Cameron Glen

Just as in early December the Cameron Glen residents and their Fairfax Pets on Wheels friends celebrated the arrival of winter and the upcoming holiday season, so too in early March FPOW and Cameron Glen celebrated the (hopefully) soon arrival of spring with its associated special traditions.

Among the latter is Mardi Gras which--like many December festivals--has its origins in antiquity with ancient festivals. One of these was the Roman Saturnalia which celebrated the arrival of the new sun, i.e. the winter solstice. In those long ago days gifts were given, parades were held, homes were decorated, special foods were prepared, and there was general merriment with masques, music, and dancing. The Saturnalia tradition continued into Renaissance Europe when pre-Lenten

festivals were held. It is believed by many that the Mardi Gras celebration first came to North America in the late seventeenth century when the French king Louis XIV sent explorers who arrived in New Orleans and began to hold festivities on the day before Lent began. This day was known in French as Mardi Gras which means Fat Tuesday in English.

Of course Mardi Gras is now celebrated in cities and countries all over America and the world. Just this year a special Mardi Gras festival was celebrated at Cameron Glen. Its name is Mardi Growl.

The Mardi Growl celebration at Cameron Glen this March included many of the above mentioned traditions of Mardi Gras. Just as at the Fat Tuesday festivities parade participants give out glass beads to the spectators, so too did the FPOW volunteers give purple, green, and gold beads to residents as these special teams paraded throughout the long halls of Cameron Glen.



According to tradition, these Mardi Gras colors symbolize justice, faith, and power (an association, some say, to the legend of the three Magi--again connecting winter and spring celebrations for thousands of years). In the annals of folklore,

the gold beads especially bring good luck in the future to those who receive them. FPOW volunteers hope that this is true!

Also just as in the December photo party Cameron Glen pet volunteers were “in costume” with their Santa hats, so too these canine teams members were adorned with festive scarves for their Mardi Growl parade. Likewise the FPOW human partners dressed in



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their “costumes” with Santa hats in December and with masques and beads in March. Even Santa Claus of the winter celebration was not forgotten at the Mardi Growl.

Mardi Gras tradition includes a parade “King” who by many accounts was dressed as Santa Claus in some Fat Tuesday parades in the 1800’s, and also today many of these festivals include a “King Cake” covered with purple, green, and gold icing. To represent this traditional delicacy, FPOW’s own Kathi Baker, the event’s capable organizer, provided special delicious cake type cookies covered with green and multicolored frostings for the human parade revelers and yummy doggie treats for the canine participants. (One must assume that they were “yummy” as there were no “growls” of complaint to be heard at this Mardi Growl).

As shown in the photo, volunteers who participated (with the exception of Kathi Baker) in this special and very successful event were Kathi Baker and Abby, Bonnie Burnham and Cindy, Lucy Kerner and Susie, the Skowromski Family and Sasha, Sheila Consaul and Portia, Mary Portelly and Annie Belle, Kerry Horgan and Riley, Sandy Wu and Reese, and Peter Keeble and Tiggy.

This was a wonderful way for all of these teams to escape from the outside cold of a late winter’s afternoon and celebrate the (hopefully very soon) arrival of warm, sunny spring days. Even weeks later throughout Cameron Glen gold beads (still symbolizing that desired

good luck), along with green and purple ones can be seen everywhere as residents wear and display them as souvenirs of a joyous and fun filled event.

As with the December holiday photo party, it is hoped by all that Mardi Growl will be a highly anticipated and fun filled traditional event for years to come.

Submitted by: Bonnie Mayo Burnham



Don't Forget!

Have you mailed in your nomination forms yet?

Visit our web site at: www.fpow.org/awards to find nomination forms and details for the Mary Latshaw Award for Excellence and the Shauna Award.

Due Date May 13, 2011.

Fond Farewell

FPOW wishes to say a fond farewell to Tyrone Clay, long time Recreation Therapist in the Psychiatric Unit at Virginia Hospital Center, Arlington.

Tyrone retired at the end of 2010 and was feted with

Dates to remember

Reston Pet Fiesta - May 7, 2011, Reston Town Center.

Mary Latshaw Award nominations
Must be received by May 13, 2011.
Visit: www.fpow.org/awards

Shauna Award nominations **Must be received by May 13, 2011. Visit: www.fpow.org/awards**

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic - June 4, 2011. Frying Pan Park, Herndon. Free to FPOW volunteers and their guests. REGISTER ON LINE at: www.fpow.org/dates and scroll down to the listing for the picnic. Only FPOW approved pets may attend.

BOD Meeting at Leewood: June 6, 2011, 7:00 pm.

Newsletter Submission Deadline: June 30, 2011.

Scholarship Applications Deadline: July 31, 2011. For more information and forms, visit: www.fpow.org/scholarship

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

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

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

dinner at the Sunflower Restaurant in Falls Church by FPOW volunteers Madelynn Arnold, Margie Linn, and Carole Peeler.



Joining in the fun were FPOW Founder Kim Wilkerson and her husband Mark, and Bruce Arnold. Tyrone was one of the staff members at Arlington Hospital (as VHC was known then) when Kim started Northern Virginia Visiting Pets (as FPOW was known then) over 24 years ago.

There have been numerous volunteer teams who visited at VHC but the one constant has been Tyrone's helpful and friendly presence. We wish him well in his retirement, and have learned that he is helping out in the unit on a limited, part-time basis when he is needed to help fill-in to help other staff members. All the best Tyrone!

Join the FPOW Merchandise Committee

FPOW is forming a Merchandise Committee to help sell a variety of merchandise at events such as the monthly new volunteer team Behavior Evaluations.

The Evaluations are held one evening each month usually on a Wednesday at the Leewood Healthcare Center at 7120 Braddock Road in Annandale.

This is a great opportunity to sell FPOW merchandise to new volunteers and their pets. All proceeds from the merchandise sales are used to support the organization.

Please contact Laurie Stone at lstone@fairfaxcounty.gov if you are interested in joining the merchandise committee.

Rally at the Picnic!

Get out your leash and tune up your dog. We're doing Rally at the picnic. Rally is a super fun dog event--a course of exercises for you and your dog to do together.

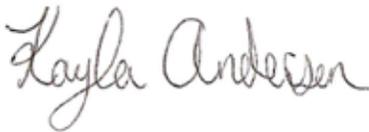
Lots more details at the picnic or visit: www.akc.org/events/rally for more info.

1-31-11

Dear FPOW Directors,

I just wanted to thank you again for selecting me for the Fairfax Pets on Wheels Kim Wilkerson Founder's Award Scholarship for 2010. Currently, I am in my graduating semester from the Veterinary Technology Program at Northern Virginia Community College. I have applied to and was accepted by Troy University where I plan to achieve a bachelor's degree. The scholarship helped me pay for all my books and a portion of my educational tuition at Northern Virginia Community College. I am truly grateful for your support and financial assistance. After graduating from Northern Virginia Community College, I plan to continue learning by specializing in emergency critical care and animal behavior in hopes to better benefit the veterinary field and provide excellent nursing care for animals in need. In addition to, receiving a bachelor's degree from Troy University. FPOW has truly inspired me to begin training my own pets so they can provide happiness and comfort to others. Again, thank you for the scholarship and all the happiness you provide to others.

Sincerely,



Kayla Anderson



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Name:		Address:			
City & State:		Phone Number & Email:			
Merchandise	Price	Size	Color	Quantity	Total
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Lanyards	\$5	N/A	Blue		
Xmas Tree Balls (no mail)	\$10	Ball	White w/Blue Lettering		
Coffee Cups (no mail)	\$10	16 oz.	Navy w/White Lettering		
Backpacks	\$10	N/A	Black		
License Plate Frame	\$2 for 5	6 3/8" x 12 1/4"	Blue w/White Lettering		
Note Cards (8/pkg.)	\$5	N/A	2 ea 4 different designs		
Water Bottles	\$3	Regular	Blue w/FPOW logo		
Leads	\$12 \$15	1' x 5/8", 2' x 1/2" 2' x 3/4"	Leather		
Leashes -Embossed w/FPOW	\$10	Thin or Wide	Leather (6' w/ring to make 4')		
Sweatshirts	\$15	S,M,L, XL	Burgundy, Hunter Green		
Long Sleeve T-Shirt	\$14	S, M, L, XL	Royal Blue, Heather Blue, Crimson		
V-Neck Short Sleeve T-shirt (Ladies)	\$14	S, M, L	Caribbean Blue		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10/\$14	S, M, L, XL	Royal Blue		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10/\$14	S, M, L, XL	Red		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L, XL	Black		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	XL	Light Gray w/White Lettering		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L, XL	White w/Black Lettering		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L, XL	Gray w/Black Lettering		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L, XL	Indigo Blue		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L, XL	Burgundy		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L	Chestnut (Light Brown)		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L, XL	Teal		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L, XL	Light Green w/Dark Green Lettering		
Short Sleeve T-shirt	\$10	S, M, L	Spruce Green		
Polo Shirts (men/ladies)	\$20	M, L, XL	White or Blue (please circle)		
Denim Shirts (men or ladies) (please circle)	\$35	S, M, L	SLEEVE LENGTH SHORT or LONG (please circle)		
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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.

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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

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