

Pets for Life



7240 Wornall Road • Kansas City MO 64114

816.363.3665 • www.kcpetsforlife.com

Celebrating our Amazing Volunteers!!!



Our annual Pets for Life Volunteer Appreciation Party was held on Saturday, October 20 at the Sylvester Powell Community Center in Mission, Kansas. The room was full of our wonderful volunteer teams, their families, and guests. There were gift bags for all volunteers and pets.

Each pet received a special blessing from Kathy O'Dowd, Co-leader of the Pet Ministry and Congregational Care Minister at The Church of the Resurrection. Each pet also received a St. Francis of Assisi Holy Card with a special prayer and medal for their collar.



Everyone enjoyed an Italian Feast Luncheon prepared by Plaza Caterers.....

- Bruschetta
- Caesar Salad
- Seasonal Vegetali – Rosemary Potatoes
- Penne Tomato Basilico
- Chicken Spendini
- Cream Puffs and Cannolies



A HUGE THANK YOU

to Board Member,
Joni Roeseler for donating this delicious buffet for all those attending.

A special thank you to our Master of Ceremonies,
Board Member Steve Barrett and Nicole Lenz
from the Junior League event photographer for helping with our special event.

Pets for Life, Inc. Advocacy Award

In September, 1984, Pets for Life, Inc. was created when Bill and Harriett Snyder filed its Articles of Incorporation with the Kansas Secretary of State in Topeka. Later that fall, the Snyders started making limited visits with a handful of "volunteers." Today, Pets for Life has over 220 volunteer teams making approximately 115,000 contacts annually while visiting more than 185 facilities throughout the greater Kansas City Area.

As our organization enters its 35th year of existence, its Board of Directors felt it appropriate to create the "Pets for Life, Inc. Advocacy Award" to honor those who have displayed exemplary governance, financial support or volunteerism towards Pets for Life's mission. A plaque, showing the honorees and their induction year, is permanently and proudly displayed in the main lobby of KC Veterinary Care's, 7240 Wornall Road building, home of our headquarters since 1984.

The three inaugural inductees of the Pets for Life Advocacy Award were announced at last month's Volunteer Appreciation Pet Party. Appropriately, the first on the plaque are our founders, Bill and Harriett Snyder. Without the Snyders' vision and determination that also included funding its start-up costs, Pets for Life would not exist today. They drafted our initial by-laws and organized a governing board of directors that included their veterinarian Dan Hecker. These directors, at the mandate of Chairwoman Harriett Snyder, became Pets for Life's first volunteers, and Dan Hecker not only donated office space for the fledgling non-profit, but also "loaned-out" eligible pets from his clinic to make the initial visits.....so started Pets for Life.



The second Advocacy Award was presented to **Joe and Judy Roetheli**. Dog lovers, the Roethelis grew their successful Kansas City based pet treat and food company "Greenies" into the 8th largest in the industry worldwide.

As a result of their success, they created the Roetheli Lil' Red Foundation to care for the welfare, guidance and success of diverse groups, including the elderly, the needy, entrepreneurs and pets. For more than two decades, the Roethelis and their Lil' Red Foundation have been gracious donors and friends of Pets for Life. Our growth is directly attributed to their exemplary support throughout the years.

In receiving the Advocacy Award, Dr. Joe Roetheli acknowledged and thanked the Pets for Life volunteers for making Pets for Life the organization it is today..... and he's right.

The third inaugural recipient goes to another team....our Pets for Life volunteer team, **Jim Schope and his Sheltie, Bobby.**



We all know the story of how Jim Schope's Sheltie, Bobby, was stolen from his home. After being missing for close to a month, on a tip from a stranger, he was found in some woods close to where Jim lives. It was a miraculous reunion.

What you may not know, is that every month for three years, Jim and Bobby have been making close to 30 regularly scheduled facility Pets for Life visits each month. This is in addition to participating in numerous events and often acting as the distraction team for the Volunteer Team Evaluations.

This is why we wish to bestow the Pets for Life Advocacy Award on **Jim Schope and Bobby** in appreciation.



Service Awards



**30 Year Service Award
John McGee**



**20 Year Service Award
Joni Roeseler**



**15 Year Service Award
Kathryn Pieper**



10 Year Service Award

Kathy Swift and Marty Letourneau with Donna Amato, President. Also, Kim Clevenger, Margaret Bathke, Julie Legg, and Eileen Krause



5 Year Service Award

Marty Lovejoy, Sue Freshman, Amy Campbell and Anita Boyer with Donna Amato, President. Also, Patti Person, Mark Cummings, Ann Westerman, Karen Stevens, Cindy Blakemore, Lori Mick, Debbie Lopez, Barb Greenhagen, Nancy Green, Mary Martin, and Rachel Collins





Thank you

to all of our
WONDERFUL
sponsors!!!

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Remember our New email address is:
petsforlife@kcpetsforlife.com

This year's Volunteer Appreciation Pet Party was organized and planned by the following people.....

Donna Amato
Judy Thomasson
Sharon Wilson
Cindy Cowherd
Jim Schope
Mary Buford
Joni Roeseler
Sharon Woodrum



Thank you for a
GREAT afternoon!!!

REMEMBER....

Our annual luncheon is to celebrate YOU our wonderful volunteers. Do you have any suggestions to make our annual party even more successful? Would you like to be part of the planning committee? If so, just contact the office and let them know!

Don't forget to like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Pets-for-Life-Inc. We post lots of fun PFL updates and trivia, and occasionally we have giveaways! Stay in the loop, join us on Facebook!



We are now on Instagram. Further information will be coming soon.



<http://www.kcpetsforlife.com>

Pets For Life, Inc., Executive Committee: Donna Amato, President; Judy Thomasson, Vice President; Marty Letourneau, Secretary; John McGee, Treasurer; Jack Sladkey, Joni Roeseler, Pets For Life Staff; Sharon Woodrum, Program Director; Mary Gorman Volunteer Coordinator.

Pets For Life newsletter is published quarterly in Kansas City, Missouri, by Pets For Life, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation: all donations are tax deductible. Pets For Life, receives no government funding and relies solely on your gifts and donations. Additional copies of our newsletter are available by calling us or contacting our web-site.

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Pictures



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