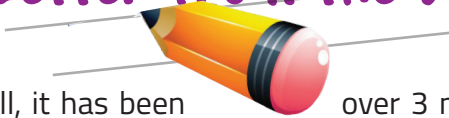


Letter from the Director.....



Well, it has been over 3 months since our visit hiatus started. I am sure you, such dedicated volunteers, are missing the visits as much as our facility friends are. Unfortunately, there is still not a target date for the visit hiatus to be lifted. Rest assured, we remain in contact with our facilities and we will let you know the moment there is any interest in reinstating visits. With that in mind, please let the office know if a facility contacts you directly asking for resumed visits. For everyone's safety, resuming visits needs to be a coordinated effort.

In the meantime, we are still trying to coordinate pet parades and will hopefully be expanding the ZOOM READ program. If you think your facility might be interested in a Pet Parade, just contact the office and we can coordinate it for you.

You might also want to consider working directly with your facility. Maybe they could support virtual visits. Maybe their residents would be interested in a pen pal arrangement. Just because we cannot be there physically, it doesn't mean we can't be there.

Thanks again for your patience during this difficult time. Please stay healthy and safe and don't hesitate to contact the office if we can be of any assistance.

Sharon Woodrum

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!



Name: Jean

My therapy pets...

Clementine is about 11 1/2 years old Bichon-Poodle mix. Abigail Rose is about 8 years old and probably a miniature poodle

Length of volunteer service...

Clementine and I are currently in our fifth year of volunteering and Abigail Rose and I are currently in our second year of volunteering.

What type of facilities do you visit...

In normal times we make three visits a week alternating weeks with the girls. One place is primarily memory care, but we also visit a few assisted living residents there. Another place is long term care with an occasional visit to a resident in rehab. And the third place is a small setting with residential care for seniors. We also occasionally do special events and enjoy these for a variety.

What we enjoy most about volunteering with PFL...

It is such a joy to share the sweet little dogs who love to be held/snuggled and stroked and to listen to the various residents' life stories and see the smiles on their faces. One of my favorite instances happened several years ago when Clementine and I walked in to see a sweet older woman in tears. I offered her a tissue and asked her if there was something that I could help her with and she responded that she just wanted someone to come. So we chatted for a few minutes. She was one who preferred to look at Clementine and occasionally stroke her rather than to hold her. In a few minutes the tears let up and she had a smile and told me she now couldn't even remember what she wanted when she was wanting someone to come. This woman ALWAYS expressed gratitude when we came to visit. And my heart is filled with so many more sweet stories like this one.

Thank you for Your Support.....

Breidenthal-Snyder Foundation	\$3,000
Helen S. Boylan Foundation	\$2,250
VCA Animal Hospital	\$260

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT! *continued*

Random fact(s) about myself and my girls...

As well as sharing life with my canine girls, I also love to ride my bicycle, do some patio gardening, play hand bells in an ensemble at church, sing in the choir at church, play my flute from the past, knit, and do counted cross stitch, and spend time with family and friends. I am a widow with four adult sons and six grandchildren.

Clementine came to me a little over 5 years ago in a re-homing situation where her original older parents could no longer properly care for her. She only weighs about 5 pounds, is quite timid, but still has a strong mind of her own.

We rescued Abigail Rose from a local shelter a little over two years ago. We were told someone found her as a stray and brought her to the shelter. I was looking for a small dog that didn't shed. Even though we don't know facts from her previous life, we do know she is pure joy to have in our family. All 10 pounds of her, love to snuggle and go for walks and go for bicycle rides (in our K9 Sports Sack). She meets life with a burst of enthusiasm as if to say, "Here I am world!"



BEST VOLUNTEER JOB EVER!!!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!



I am Patty

My therapy partner is Coconut, a miniature poodle, who is 9 years old.

We visit a care center in the memory care and rehab area. We also greet participants who come for senior services or care groups at an area church.

We enjoy meeting new people and making them smile, often the dog gives them a memory of pleasant times in the past to share with us.

Coconut likes to "dance" on her hind legs because the people react so positively.

COCONUT



Pet's On Parade



Thanks again to all the volunteers that showed up for the Garden Terrace Pet Parade and many more. Thankfully the weather cooperated and we were able to parade around the facility on a rare, cool, Kansas morning.



Do you want to participate in a Pet Parade? Keep an eye on your email. That is where we announce the events to solicit volunteer support.



PETS FOR LIFE SEEKS DIVERSITY

As you all know, COVID19 has not been the only headline discussion.. We have been paying attention and realize we too can do better. With this in mind, we will make a concerted effort to make Pets for Life a more diverse organization from the volunteer level, the executive level and the facilities we actively support. Together we can make this work and hopefully broaden our pet therapy footprint in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Message to Our Pets for Life Facilities

We miss visiting. We miss our friends. We miss all the smiling faces and allowing our pets to bring joy. We are sure you do to. If there is anything - a pet parade, virtual visits, pen pal program, - anything at all that we can do to help you bring joy to your residents at this time, just let us know.

We are here. We want to help.

Please call or email with any ideas or requests you may have.

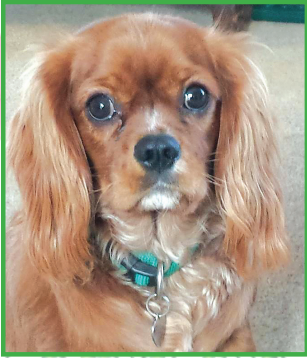
Pets for Life Office 816 363 3665

Email petsforlife@kcpetsforlife.com



He Will Be Missed

Rory, loved by Edwin Frownfelter



My most treasured memory of Rory's therapy time was when he was called in to visit a woman dying of cancer, in her last days or hours. He seemed to know exactly why he was there. He just sat or lay quietly next to her for half an hour, his attention never wavering from her. She couldn't move or speak, but she just gently brushed her hand over his ears for the longest time. He sat up and gazed into her face with what seemed to be an expression of care and compassion. Her family were moved to tears over how she reacted to him and how devoted to her he seemed to be.

ALSO MISSED:

Hunter, loved by Sue Fruth, former Pets for Life Volunteer.



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!

<http://www.kcpetsforlife.com>

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



<https://www.instagram.com/petsforlifekc/>