



This year's Golden Paw recipient has been a STAF volunteer for more than 15 years!

She started out as a cleaner on a cat shift, but soon her mild-mannered and calm demeanor proved to serve our cats' well-being by way of her desire to become a Medicator. Her soft voice, gentle and therapeutic touch as well as her desire to provide a wonderful experience for every cat receiving their treatments, made her the effective Medicator trainer she is today. Over the years, this lovely lady has shared her techniques with many Medicators and has only served to keep both the kitty and caretaker calm at every turn. As she finishes providing meds and treatments, she always has a loving word or a giggle at the silliness of her furry patients.

She is often called upon to transport our kitties for their medical procedures, she has kindly driven for hours on rescue missions to bring cats to our shelter, and she is always willing to open her loving arms when it is time to send a kitty to heaven.

This wonderful volunteer has always been a team player and when the going has gotten tough, she has joined the brigade to create a smooth path for offering solutions! She has never shied away from a role in leadership, and she is incredibly vigilant regarding communications, follow up, as she has a head full of great judgment along with the cognizance of understanding so many different human perspectives.

She can manage relations with our management team, our medical team, our community, and has long-term relationships with many of our volunteers who know they can count on her for a caring encounter.

The cat management team is extremely grateful to her for doing an impeccable job ensuring that every med shift is covered amply, all while fielding phone calls, emails, and direct face to face inquiries from those who need help from STAF. Debora averages hundreds of communications annually, with those who are trying to place cats in need. Realizing that we cannot take them all, she is extremely well-versed in evaluating the circumstances and either passing along the requests to MMT, or she will offer several resources in the community for which a viable placement can be made. With all of us at STAF wanting to help every animal in need, this role as Intake Coordinator is truly one of the most difficult roles we face as an organization, 365 days of the year. This is the responsibility that we often hear all volunteers saying, "I could never do that job," yet, she does it with grace, composure, and vigilance, as every scenario is handled coming from a position of love and respect.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we celebrate this year's honoree, **Debora Hall-Bradley**, as the winner of the Golden Paw award! We hope we can spend so many more years together with Deb on our team, leading the way, as we need to save and serve so many precious lives!