

Glen Mills-Thornbury Rotary Club Donated 20 Animal Oxygen Masks

On Wednesday, July 19th the Glen Mills-Thornbury Rotary Club had a standing-room-only meeting with representatives from more than 20 Emergency Medical Services and Fire Companies in Delaware County. Club President Tony DiLeva presented each local EMS and Fire Company an animal oxygen mask kit consisting of three different sized oxygen masks for all size pets.

Many of EMS and Fire Companies did not have the proper size for cats and dogs rescued from fires.

As we have seen on the news, many owners go back into their homes to rescue a beloved pet and end up dying. With the oxygen masks, EMS and fire professionals who are trained to do so, can save beloved pets without risk to the owner!

Rotarian and veterinarian Dr Rose DiLeva, who owns the Animal Wellness Center in Chadds Ford, placed a donation jar in her office to start raising funds for the kits and tubing which cost around \$100 each. The Rotary Club contributed the rest to provide 20 sets to local EMS and Fire Companies. Among those present to receive the kits were EMS and fire officials from Haverford, Concordville, Brookhaven, Media, Tinicum, Prospect Park,



The Glen Mills-Thornbury Rotary Club made two special presentations to community groups at its July 19 meeting. The Club raised funds to purchase 20 animal oxygen masks to Delaware County Emergency Services and Fire Departments (at left) and presented a \$3,000 check to First Responders for the Delaware County Hero Scholarship Fund. The fund drive for the oxygen masks was begun by Rotarian Dr. Rose DiLeva, (second from right) a veterinarian, who set up a collection container in her Chadds Ford office to obtain the masks. The Club added funds for the project. Club president Tony DiLeva (third from right) distributed the oxygen masks to EMS and Fire Department representatives at the meeting. President DiLeva also presented the Hero Scholarship Fund check to representatives of the First Responders.

Radnor and Springfield. County Council members, among with Disaster Relief Officers, also attended the meeting.

The local departments expressed appreciation for the kits and said that they have used human masks when needed but it wasn't the proper fit for a cat or dog. They also brought their EMS vehicles and surrounded the Best Western where the meeting was held.

News Channels 6 and 10 were on hand to video the presentations which were shown on the news that afternoon and evening!! What a great way to showcase Rotary and an outstanding project that impacts so many!

The Glen Mills-Thornbury Rotary Club will continue to raise funds to purchase additional masks and reach out to other Clubs to donate them. As we all know our pets are our family and losing one of them to something that could have been prevented and or treated is not acceptable!!

The Rotary Club also presented a check for \$3000 to the First Responders for the "Hero Scholarship Fund," which provides scholarships for children of police, firefighters, and emergency Responders who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

*Submitted by Karen Mazzarella
Glen Mills-Thornbury Rotary Secretary*

