



# Rescue & News Report

January, 2025

*Dedicated to rescue, vet, & find homes for all adoptable cats & dogs, and prevent the overpopulation of unwanted animals.*

***Happy New Year to our HSV  
Animal Welfare League family!***

*2024 in the Rear View...*

*A look back from President Beverly Fitzpatrick*



## **What a year we've had!**

Some things never change, like the never-ending struggle to accommodate all the cats, kitten, dogs, and puppies that come our way for help.



Many with health issues to combat or just to find that forever home they so desperately want. And other times we've been given opportunities to explore new challenges for the organization that make us stronger and more able continue our mission.



### BEFORE & AFTER TREATMENTS



The relaunch of our vital Spay/Neuter clinic program has certainly been the highlight of the year.

It was not without growing pains, but the strong volunteer team lead by **Angela Nickols** took it all in stride and modified processes and procedures as quickly as they could and even some on the fly. The partnership with Good Shepherd in Eureka Springs utilizing Fido Fixers mobile unit and the Bissell Foundation for monetary support for the veterinary staff has made it all possible. And this team is just getting started as they explore even more efficiencies to move this effort into a more robust and expanding role in the fight against pet overpopulation.





We've had a few shakeups on the Board, but those things happen with an all-volunteer organization. Those that choose to serve are always at the whims of our personal situations and health. We will continue to encourage anyone who wishes to serve to consider doing so. To fit the needs of the AWL, two At Large Board of Directors positions were recently added. Two former BOD members volunteered to run and were appointed by the Board. **Melanie Marshall**, serves as our Volunteer Liaison, and **Beth Barrows**, as our Spay Neuter Liaison. It truly takes a Village to give the organization the strength it requires to carry on.

## Volunteers make all the difference!



## Volunteers are the often overlooked heroes of the AWL

Whether it's an Animal Care Worker or Cat Care Worker at the Adoption Center, a Cat Care Worker at the cat foster houses, Dog Walkers or Guest Relations, or the many souls that work in the background with Lily Alert, data support, membership information and many other roles, every volunteer is critical in their position to support the League's work. We've

had some of those unseen leave us this year and it's very apparent that what they did was vital and we scrambled to replace them. *(Pictured are volunteers Mary McCullough, Guest Relations; Michelle Alford and Marge Harvey, Dog Walkers; Connie Shoemaker and Angela Nickols, Spay-Neuter Clinics; Lynn Poole, Dog Walker; and Jill Jones, Cat Adoption Coordinator)*



### **Our financial position is strong**

Thanks to many generous supporters our financial summary shows us more than able to continue the many programs that touch the Village community. As we head into 2025, the challenge ahead will be addressing the cat/kitten foster homes. The model that has worked so well for us for years we've now recognized as not being sustainable. The Board subcommittee is working hard to develop the plan that will ease the burden.

So, whether you are a current volunteer or plan to become one, I thank you. If you are a member, I thank you. If you support us monetarily through contributions like Champions, I thank you. Most importantly, I thank you for caring as much about our mission as we on the Board do. Without you we couldn't do any of it.

**2025 will be a real challenge, but with your support  
we can make it happen.**

### **Record Setting Adoptions!**

Throughout December and before the recent snowstorm, there was a flurry of dog and cat adoptions at the AWL. Shelley Shepherd, Dog Adoption Coordinator reports that 19 dogs - the highest monthly total in



10 years - were adopted in December, and Cat Adoption Coordinator Jill Jones reports that 36 cats - a record total for 2024 - were also adopted. This was such wonderful news in so many ways. In preparation of the snowstorm, we only had to evacuate four cats and two dogs from the shelter to receive proper care while the roads were being cleared, plus a lot of the pets who were adopted had been at the shelter for a very long time or with unusual circumstances. Meet some of those lucky pets who were recently adopted:

## The Five Sisters

Found abandoned in a HSV church parking lot, five beautiful five month old gals were picked up by Animal Control Officer Payge Farewell and brought to us for care. The very frightened pups - named Tilly, Cherry, Fern, Peach and Olive - were treated for skin and hair loss issues, and put up for adoption when they were ready.



Shelley reports that despite all that the pups endured, "they are all very sweet, smart dogs and easy to train. Best of all, all five have phenomenal village families that adopted them. Two of them went to foster homes during the kennel floor renovations, but the families fell in love with the pups and adopted them." Pictured is aptly named

Lucky (formerly known as Tilly) with her new family.



## Samuel & Silas - 222 days at AWL

When their humans had to leave without them, these bonded cats came to the shelter and shared a quad kitty condo. Samuel and Silas became very popular with our Cat Care Workers, who gave them lots of petting, playtime and TLC throughout the 7 months they were at the shelter. Although they are missed, we're so glad they're together in their new, loving forever home!



## Spot - 297 days at AWL

After 9 months with us, Spot found his new family! He loves long walks, playing with his Jolly Ball and lots of snuggle time with everyone in the family. He made the long journey to Connecticut but it was worth every mile to finally find his forever home! Spot, you are going to bring so much joy and entertainment to your new



family.



## Theo - Home for the Holidays

Theo's new family is just thrilled with him and says he is just super! They also say all their neighbors in Country Club Village think he's great too, and quite the handsome gentleman! Theo was one of the adoptable dogs featured at the POA's Meet & Greet Event in December.



## Rowan - 7 Weeks at AWL

This sleeping beauty is one of the four cats that was to be evacuated from the shelter before the snowstorm. Concurrently, an application for his adoption came in, and his new family traveled from Little Rock before the storm and adopted him. This lucky fellow spent the snow storm in his new home.



**More Good Adoption News!** Remember the heartbreaking stories about Kane and Wilson, the seriously ill dog and cat that were featured on our holiday postcard? After they were lovingly nursed back to health, Kane found his forever home, but Wilson was still available for adoption. However, after receiving the postcard in the mail, a gentleman from HSV came to the shelter, became best buds with Wilson, and now shares his home with the handsome feline.

**Thank You!** We also want to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who generously contributed to our holiday appeal so we can continue our lifesaving work!



## **AWL Community Service by ASMSA Students**

To honor Martin Luther King Day, students at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts in Hot Springs engage in volunteer service at various Garland County non-profits. The AWL was asked to participate, and on MLK Day, four of their senior students travelled to the AWL to help at the Adoption Center. They received an orientation from Beverly Fitzpatrick and Animal Control Officers Jim Kull and Payge Farewell, and assisted Animal Care Workers Susan Senogles and Cathy Stiles.



*From left: Students Kris Torres, Kendyl Gorman, Leah Fouste, and Sage Torres with Susan Senogles and Cathy Stiles*





## **Golden Paws Society - AWL's Legacy Gift Program**

At this time of year, we receive many inquiries about various ways to set up planned giving for the AWL, and we are grateful to those generous supporters who have included the AWL in their estate plans. These plans may include gifts through a will or living trust, through retirement assets such as required IRA distributions, gifts through life insurance plans, or charitable gift annuities.

Legacy gifts to the AWL cost nothing today, and they are one of the most effective ways to ensure that the AWL can carry on its mission of saving lives far into the future. In 2026 we will be celebrating our 35th year of incorporation. We encourage you to talk with your financial advisor and/or attorney about these and other legacy gift possibilities. All gifts, both large and small, really do make a difference. For more information, click the Golden Paws Society link below, or call our Adoption Center at 501-915-9337, and we can send you more information.

[Golden Paws Society](#)

## **December Statistics**

**19 Dog Adoptions - 36 Cat Adoptions**

**1 HUG (Help Us Go) transfers to other  
rescue, no-kill animal shelters**

**11 Angel Fund requests**

**9,825 Animals Spayed/Neutered since 2007**

***(Note: Our first 2025 S/N Clinic will be held February 7 & 8 at  
the First Baptist Fellowship Hall in Mountain Pine.***

*All appointments are filled)*

**667 AWL Memberships**

**98 Champions\***

Carol Ralph is December's Champions drawing winner. She won \$490, and is graciously donating the money back to the AWL. We thank Carol for her generosity.

*\*Join AWL's Champions Program! Make a \$10 monthly pledge and become eligible to win a 50/50 raffle with a \$500 cap payout. Email [contactus@hsvawl.org](mailto:contactus@hsvawl.org) for more information or click the link to join:*

**Click to Join Champions**

## **AWL BY THE NUMBERS – YOUR 2024 IMPACT**

### **Life Saving:**

- 243 Cats and kittens that came into our care
- 231 Cats and kittens that went to loving homes (a small number were transferred to other rescues or sanctuary)
- 164 Dogs and puppies that came into our care
- 165 Dogs and puppies that went to loving homes (some were transferred to other no-kill rescues or sanctuaries)
- 94.5 % Live release rate (save rate) = number of animals that went into loving homes plus animals on hand at the end of the year divided by those on hand at the beginning of the year, plus those taken in. We take in some very vulnerable and sick animals; therefore, some do die in our care despite quality care and some must be humanely euthanized to end suffering

### **Adoptions:**

- 224 Total cats and kittens adopted from AWL
- 91 Total dogs and puppies adopted from AWL

### **HUG Program (Help Us Go)**

- 64 Dogs and puppies and 1 cat were transferred to partner rescues where an eager adopter was waiting to adopt them into their family

### **Sources of Animals:**



- 220 Animals from POA Animal Control
- 147 Animals through Community Animals
- 2 Animals in LAP Program (Looking Ahead for Pets)
- 81 Animals returned from prior adoptions, born in our care, other.

## Spay Neuter:

9,825 Animals Spayed or Neutered since 2007

Please note: some 2024 data is still being compiled; updated figures will be available on the statistics page of our website.

*Editor's note: Whoops! We apologize for the misspelling of Animal Control Officer Jim Kull's name, and Animal Care Worker Cathy Stiles name in the last edition.*

PETFINDER

ADOPTAPET

## Considering a new pet?

*Click the above links to see our adoptable cats and dogs.*

*For dog adoptions, call Shelley Shepherd at 314-520-8674*

*For cat adoptions call Jill Jones at 901-570-1430*

*An important message about unsubscribing to Constant Contact emails: We hope you enjoy receiving these newsletters, announcements, and our Lily Alerts about missing pets. Please note if you unsubscribe to any of these Constant Contacts, you will automatically be removed from all the Constant Contact email lists from the AWL. We were informed by Constant Contact that when requested, they're required to remove them.*





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The Adoption Center is  
currently open  
Mon - Tues - Thurs  
Fri - Sat from 12 -3 pm.  
We are closed Wed & Sun.  
(501) 915.9337

To report a lost or found  
pet, call POA Animal  
Control at (501) 922-6547



The HSVAWL is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

Hot Springs Village Animal Welfare League | 185 Cloaca Lane | Hot Springs Village, AR 71909 US

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