

December 2011

Dear CAWL Supporter,



Just in case you didn't know, this is what it is like to be rescued. Marco, the cat, came to CAWL with his brother Polo. He was not unhappy at CAWL but as you can plainly see, he is so much happier in his new home with his now best friend Kaylee. In order to make these happy endings, we need your support. We receive no funding from the state or county and survive with the hard work of a dedicated all volunteer staff, and supporters like you. Our goal, with this winter appeal letter is to raise \$15,000. In this special season of giving, will you join the CAWL pets, who give their unconditional love, and the CAWL volunteers who give their time and hearts, and give what you

can? Your help will ensure our success for another year and save hundreds of homeless cats and dogs.

CAWL is very proud of the fact that we continue to operate and grow with an entirely volunteer staff. It is more than amazing that so many give so much. Duties include the actual rescue work, the daily care giving activities to feed the animals and to clean in the dog and cat areas, dog walking, office work, adoption counseling, cleaning and maintaining the adoption center inside and out, and much more.

Our records show that as of 11-09-11, at least 381 cats, dogs, kittens and puppies have been adopted this year so far. If you do the math, that is about 37 adoptions per month (over 1 each and every day of the year).

This letter includes a couple of examples of specific rescues and what they have meant to the animals and the people who are the lucky adopters.

In this magical season of giving, Calvert Animal Welfare League is grateful for all that has been given by the wonderful and generous community that we serve. On behalf of all the animals we've saved, and all that we hope to save, thank you for considering a 100% tax deductible gift to Calvert Animal Welfare League. Please complete the form at the end of this letter and return it to CAWL in the enclosed envelope with your gift. Alternatively, you can go to our web site, [www.cawlrescue.org](http://www.cawlrescue.org) to make a secure gift through PayPal. Gifts postmarked by December 31<sup>st</sup> can be deducted from 2011 taxes.

Sincerely,

*Janette Petersen*

Janette Petersen  
President, CAWL

## STORIES THAT MAKE ONE HAPPY TO BE PART OF CAWL

### Charlotte, A Shy Beagle That Inspired Us All by Barbara Scanlan, Canine Manager



When I think about the last year at CAWL and all the animals that have passed through our doors and are now in happy homes, I cannot think of one that stood out as much as Charlotte, a very shy Beagle momma that came to us in January of 2011. Found as a pregnant stray, Charlotte gave birth to 6 healthy puppies. When no one claimed her, we took her and her pups in and soon found homes for all. Charlotte's new parents were excited to get her and religiously took her out for walks on a leash. But, one day shortly after they had adopted Charlotte, she slipped her lead and because she was so scared, she ran off with leash in tow. Hours were spent looking for her to no avail. We were called the next morning and made plans to help in the search. Before we began our search, the Animal Control truck showed up at our doorstep with a Beagle in tow that they had picked up from the local animal emergency hospital that morning. It was Charlotte; she had been found on the road in freezing temperatures, having been hit by a car the night before. The initial x-rays taken revealed nothing, but Charlotte was unable to move. She was paralyzed. Worried about her, we called our vet and got the first appointment for the evening and carried her in on the bed she had laid on at our center, afraid to move her. Charlotte could only look at us unable to even move her neck as we assured her that we would help her as much as we could. At first, there was little hope given, but leaving her at the vet, he told us he would do all he could. Taking more x-rays revealed that Charlotte had a spinal cord injury and fractured ribs. There was no more the vet could do to help her as only time would tell how she would progress. So I took Charlotte home laying her down on a blanket in the back of my SUV. When I got home I was surprised and happy to see her sitting up on her front elbows. I knew then, that this girl was a fighter and was not going to give up. I carried her in and set up a pen for her. Each day, I carried her outside and was thrilled when she started to get up on her own. In Charlotte's mind, she was able to walk, but her body was not. It never stopped her from trying and it took her less than 2 months to recover and each trial from her being able to sit up, to standing, to walking, although wobbly, and then to running again was recorded on video and gave us all some happy moments. Most of all, the last video I sent to our members and volunteers was titled "Charlotte is an Inspiration." In this last video of her recovery, Charlotte ran! She ran with much enthusiasm, happy and although wobbly, she ran! She became such an inspiration to us and showed us how much we can learn when it comes to our canine companions and what they can show us about living life and how to not ever let go of what you know you can do. Don't let anyone ever stop you from being yourself, from living your dream and most of all; we should all live to inspire others, just like Charlotte.



### Special Cats by Bonnie Riley



Many of the cats that come into the care of CAWL have a story that tears at your heart. However, there are a few that really stand out. One of the best examples is **Ziggy**, a little orange and white kitten who was found *sitting on the side of the Capital Beltway*. How did he get there? We don't know but a kind driver noticed him and stopped to pick him up. It was an absolute miracle that Ziggy was not killed or injured. Instead he came into our care as a totally loving kitten full of purrs and playfulness. **Duke**, a teeny gray kitten about 5 weeks old was found peeking out of the bushes on Duke Street, Prince Frederick near Route 4. His four little paws were all bloody and his nails were shredded, possibly from trying to get out of a storm drain. A concerned family happened to see him and immediately brought him to us. We assumed he was feral but we were wrong. After his bath, which was so needed, he lay wrapped up in a towel and proceeded to start – you guessed it – an incessant purr. He figured he was finally free of the agony he had been through in his short life. And finally there is **Sunday Rose**. She was left at CAWL's doorstep in a cardboard box with holes cut into the sides so she could breathe. By the time CAWL's volunteers arrived at the center, Sunday Rose had clawed her way out of the box and it was empty. Fortunately, we left some food out for her and when she came to eat we were able to pick her up and bring her inside. Sunday Rose is a very sweet and affectionate adult cat that will crawl into your lap when you sit on the floor. We noticed that she seemed to be in pain and could plainly see that her tail was broken. When we took her to the vet, we found that she had suffered a traumatic injury, probably from a fall of several feet. Her leg had been broken and a vertebra in her lower back was fractured. She will recover but the injuries have caused her to develop arthritis and she will most likely never be able to be very active. That, of course, doesn't mean she wouldn't be a loving pet especially for a quiet home. Please help CAWL support these sweet cats who didn't have much of a chance before they came to us but now are sure to find a loving home of their own.



**THE ADOPTED DOGS AND CATS OF 2011 RAISE THEIR PAWS TO YOUR GENEROSITY – THANK YOU!!**

I support the ongoing work done by the Calvert Animal Welfare League to save homeless dogs and cats and I wish to make a donation to CAWL in the following amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_