

(WAYNESBORO, Ga) **January 26, 2009** - In 2009, Old Fella marches on. We will continue our work in rescue; spay/neuter promotion and humane education. But we wanted to take a second to tell you about just how far we've come.

**Rescues.** In 2008, Old Fella took in 211 dogs and cats, increasing the number of animals saved by nearly 30% over 2007. To accommodate our growth, we expanded our foster home network and purchased a transport van. The Old Fella van has allowed us to shuttle animals back and forth to low-cost spay/neuter clinics and to partner agencies who help us place our Old Fellas in forever homes. The van even made a trip to New England, taking 42 dogs on the 2008 Dixie Dogs Transport.



We took in surrendered pets from Burke County residents as well as animals sheltered at the City of Waynesboro animal control shelter, rescuing them in the nick of time. We also worked with [Save the Animals Rescue Society](#) and the [Humane Society of Statesboro and Bulloch County](#) to deliver rescued animals to forever homes.



**Spay/Neuter.** In 2008, Old Fella paid for 158 rabies vaccinations and for 154 spay/neuter surgeries. To achieve these numbers, we worked cooperatively with [CSRA Lifesaver](#), [Heartson Spay and Neuter Clinic](#), Burke County Animal Hospital, and South Pointe Animal Hospital.



In February 2008, at our request, the Mayor of Waynesboro signed a [Spay Day Proclamation](#), calling upon the citizens of Waynesboro to have their pets spayed or neutered. Old Fella worked to raise awareness of the spay/neuter solution by setting up a booth outside of the Waynesboro Wal-Mart. We distributed literature about the benefits of spay/neuter and recruited residents to have their pets undergo the surgery.



**Humane Education.** In 2008, Old Fella's Humane Education program reached an unprecedented 700 Burke County primary school children with spring and winter presentations. Our Old Fella's Kids learned about responsible pet ownership and the spay/neuter solution. We at Old Fella realize that the sufferings of unwanted, neglected and abused companion animals will only begin to cease when our children accept the rewards and challenges of making the world a better place for man's best friend!

**About Old Fella Burke County Animal Rescue:** The Mission of Old Fella Burke County Animal Rescue is to assist as many abandoned companion animals of Burke County, Georgia as possible. We strive to prevent cruelty to animals, to provide humane education materials to children and the general public, to promote early, aggressive spay/neuter programs and to increase the quality of life of unwanted and homeless animals by providing necessary care and seeking suitable homes through adoption, to work cooperatively with local, state and national rescue/shelter groups with similar objectives, to be "no kill" in philosophy, wherein euthanasia is performed only for medical necessity, as well as public safety, as determined by a veterinarian, and to never knowingly allow any animal in our care to undergo any experimentation or to release any animal for such experimentation.