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PILOTS TO THE RESCUE NEWS

February was a busy month for [Pilots To The Rescue](#), and we have our amazing crew of volunteer pilots and dedicated drivers to thank. In just over three weeks, we rescued 12 dogs and 32 cats, many of which were surrendered to an overcrowded shelter when their owners were evicted from their homes.

We are absolutely overjoyed to report that at least four of the dogs we rescued in February have since been adopted!

In this month's newsletter, you can meet some of the dogs and cats we rescued in February along with their new families. You can also learn a helpful tip for teaching your adopted dog how to stay calm during those dreaded visits to the groomer.

Thank you for your support in making these missions possible!

PTTR Rescues 32 Cats As Their Owners Face Eviction

On February 4th, our incredible driver, [Albert Picewicz](#), drove down from PTTR's home state of New Jersey to southwestern Virginia to **rescue 32 cats** from the [Wise County Humane Society](#). With his furry cargo in tow, Albert then drove to Meriden, Connecticut, where the cats were received by the Wise County Humane Society's rescue partner in the New England region.

Pictured below are two of Albert's lucky paw-ssengers: Ruby (left) and Willow (right).



Ruby and Willow were surrendered to the Wise County Humane Society when their former owners were evicted from their apartments. ☐ Unfortunately, this is a very common scenario in Wise County. Several of Albert's other paw-ssengers were also surrendered to the Wise County Humane Society when their owners faced eviction. In the case of Ruby and Willow, both owners were evicted for taking in homeless mamma cats with multiple kittens.

We are eternally grateful for the help of the Wise County Humane Society, which has taken in countless cats who were initially brought to other shelters but turned away due to overcrowding.

Four Dogs from Virginia Find New Homes in PA

On February 6th, Albert got behind the wheel of PTTR's Paw-ty van to drive down to Virginia once again, this time to the city of Galax. It was here where Albert picked up four dogs from the [Tazewell Animal Shelter](#): Jasper, Sampson, Yoda, and Chief. ☐ ☐ ☐ Albert then drove to Walnutport, Pennsylvania, where the dogs were received by [Red Rock Rescue, Inc.](#)

Thanks to Red Rock Rescue's adoption events, three of Albert's paw-ssengers are currently settling into their forever homes! Below, you can see Yoda (top) and Jasper (in the center of the bottom photo) relaxing in the arms of their new moms and dads!



Volunteer Spotlight: Dr. Marshall Lauer



This month, the spotlight goes to PTTR volunteer pilot and board-certified physician Dr. Marshall Lauer. It took just one flight lesson for Dr. Lauer to fall in love with flying about 10 years ago. He has since amassed more than 1,800 hours of flight time and served as a volunteer pilot for numerous nonprofit health and rescue organizations such as Angel Flight East and Patient Airlift Services (PALS). □ □ □ Dr. Lauer also currently contributes to the Civil Air Patrol as a major and he regularly helps young cadets build their aviation skills.

On February 9th, Dr. Lauer and his friend and fellow pilot, Rolf Wallin, helped coordinate a rescue of four dogs from North Carolina to New York. After Rolf Wallin flew the dogs to Maryland, Dr. Lauer handled the second leg of the journey in his PAD32 300, flying the dogs from Salisbury Regional Airport in Maryland to Republic Airport in Farmingdale, New York, where the dogs were received by [Long Road Home Rescue, Inc.](#)

Due to Rolf and Dr. Lauer's swift actions, all four dogs are currently settling into their forever homes!

In the coming years, Dr. Lauer aims to cut down on his time at his medical practice in order to participate in more PTTR rescues.



Adoption Tip of the Month □



Does your dog have a hard time staying calm at the groomer? ☹️ ❑ Welcome to the club! Don't worry, there are plenty of things you can do to calm your dog's nerves before your next grooming appointment.

First off, we must always remember that dogs can sense when humans are nervous or anxious. So, on the day of your grooming appointment, it's important to go about your day as normal. Your pet is also less likely to act up if they have less energy, so you should probably take your dog for a nice long walk right before the appointment. If your dog still seems to have a lot of energy after the walk, you may consider giving them a **calming treat** as well. Many pet parents purchased their first bags of calming treats for this exact purpose.

Your pet's behavior at the groomer is also influenced by your own behavior. When you get to the groomer, don't apologize to your dog or use nervous, sorrowful language when speaking to them. Instead, speak to them with enthusiasm and excitement. Your pet will feed off these positive vibes. After all, you're doing something nice for your dog by taking them to the groomer and keeping them healthy. You deserve to feel good about yourself, and confidence is contagious!

YOUR GIFT MAKES THESE MISSIONS POSSIBLE

Help Us Find a New Home for *Ruff Rider* ❑

Do you know anyone who's looking for a used plane that just so happens to be a piece of PTTR history?

One of our first planes - our beloved *Ruff Rider* - needs a new owner! This aircraft has flown countless rescue missions and made a real difference in so many lives. Before we say goodbye to *Ruff Rider*, she has just one more mission: helping



us secure our larger plane and enter the next chapter in our journey.

The quicker we can find a new owner for *Ruff Rider*, the sooner we can get our new plane up in the air and save 5 - 10x more lives in each mission.

We're counting on our community to spread the word about *Ruff Rider* and share her remarkable story on social media.

Ruff Rider is currently awaiting her new owner at Bartelt Aviation in Sturgis, Michigan. Like all of our planes, she is extremely well-maintained and in excellent condition. □ □ In terms of handling, any of our volunteer pilots can attest that *Ruff Rider* is easy to pilot and can be consistently relied upon to complete long distance flights without trouble on a regular basis.

If you know anyone who may be interested in purchasing *Ruff Rider*, send them this link: <http://tinyurl.com/3akmr8zp>



A few more basic facts about *Ruff Rider*:

- Year: 2006
- Manufacturer: PIPER
- Model: 6XT
- Serial Number: 3255043
- Registration #: N825X
- Condition: Used
- Total Time Since New: 1429 Hours
- Engine: 88 Hours Since Lycoming Factory Zero-Time Rebuilt Engine
- Avionics: Avidyne Entegra Glass Panel PFD / MFD, Dual Garmin 430W WAAS GPS
- Safety: Skywatch 497 Active Collision Avoidance, WX-500 Stormscope

We can't wait to see our community help us reach another important goal and showcase the incredible bond between animal lovers all over the U.S.! 🐾

Keep PTTR rated as a five-star non-profit! Take a few minutes and visit [Great Nonprofits](#) to share why you support our mission.



Pilots To The Rescue Inc

Average Rating

★★★★★ 14 reviews

2024 Mission Stats



5
Missions



6,481
Miles



102
Souls



19
Dogs



83
Cats

2024 Goal: **5000 Souls!**



Pilots To The Rescue (PTTR) is a non-profit, volunteer-driven, 501c3 public benefit aviation organization. PTTR's mission is to transport domestic and endangered animals as well as people at risk. PTTR supports its network of trained volunteer pilots so they can focus on their missions and do the greater good.

EIN: 47-3415146

I would love to hear from you!

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Platinum
Transparency
2024

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