



SUMMER
2002

Springer Tails

Mid-Atlantic English Springer Spaniel Rescue

President's Corner by Monica LaPolt

Big things are on the horizon for MAESSR. Our 501(c)3 application has been filed with the IRS. Hopefully as you read this, we will have received our letter of intent from the IRS. MAESSR has always been a non-profit corporation, but the 501(c)3 status will make many donations tax deductible and allow us to avail ourselves of more corporate charities as well as taking part in the Federal Matching Campaign.

To facilitate that process, we have undergone a transparent but valuable overhaul. For practical and fiscal reasons, we reincorporated in Pennsylvania. A working Board of Directors and Officers were named. The charter board members are: Donna Anzalone, Gale Blackmer, Kim Bolster, Debbie Lipcsey, Karen Ellery, Linda Foster and Monica La Polt. Board members are selected by the current board and serve on a rotating basis with two directors seats being filled each year. We hope in future years to add members from the Springer community in general as well as from our adoptive families.

Officers are as follow: Monica La Polt – President, Debbie Lipcsey and Kim Bolster - Vice Presidents, Gale Blackmer – Treasurer, and Linda Foster - Secretary. Officers serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors and are elected every year. To see a full copy of the incorporation papers go to: <http://www.maessr.org/incorporation.html>.

This is an exciting time for MAESSR. We are financially stable and hope to grow our capital fund with our new tax-deductible status. We anticipate that these new funds will allow us to offer more services to our dogs and adoptive families.

Expect a big announcement when our 501(c)3 application is approved. Until then - be safe, love your dogs and stay in touch.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 10 – “Raffle for Rhett”-Winners Drawing

Ticket information: D.Lipcsey (springerfarm@aol.com)

September 28 – Central Virginia Yard Sale, Richmond, VA

To donate items and help: K. Bolster (ess4x18@cs.com)

October 6 – Dog Festival, Fredericksburg, VA

MAESSR will have information table, selling merchandise, and conduct Canine Good Citizen Testing “Springer Splendor” Quilt Winners Drawing To help, sign up to have your dog tested, or buy quilt raffle tickets: K Bolster (ess4x18@cs.com)

October 13 – Rescue Fair, Peddlers Village, Lahaska, PA

MAESSR will have information table and merchandise To help: B. Bennett (SpringersTwo@aol.com)

October 19 – Halloween Parade / Dog Festival, Skippack, PA

MAESSR will have information table and merchandise To help: K.Bolster (ess4x18@cs.com)

NEW VOLUNTEERS

MAESSR is pleased to welcome the following individuals:

Betsie Arnold
Chadds Ford, PA

Geri and David Mackarevich,
Mount Penn, PA

Jackie Williams
New Cumberland, PA

Please contact Linda Foster by email at RescueEss@yahoo.com if you would like to find out more about volunteering with MAESSR.

What do Pepper, Hattie, Buster, Sonny, Remy and Cecil have in common?



Buster

These special dogs are all featured in the 2003 MAESSR calendar. Read their stories and share their owners joy and love. The calendar features a color cover and back and individual dog photographs and profiles for each month.

You can order your calendars from the order form found on the back of this newsletter or through the MAESSR website.



Sonny

A Springer Spaniel Named Jenny

By Marge Phillips

She has soft loving eyes of amber brown,
Sometimes she wrinkles her brow in a frown.
A beautiful coat; it's liver and white,
And always she's a most welcome sight.

She's always happy to see me come home,
No matter how long or where I have roamed.
With ball in her mouth and an all-over wiggle,
Her theatrics would make even a grouch giggle.

She watches me constantly to take her cue,
And she knows before I what next we'll do.
She's kind and patient and loving and sweet,
And she knows how to look to wheedle a treat!

A walk at noon and another at night,
She lets me know if I don't get it right.
And when she thinks some petting is due,
She talks with her paw so I know it too.

After dinner and walk at the end of each day,
She owns my life, though try as I may
To sit and read a good book or whatever,
She'll have none of that 'cause she's very clever.

For out comes the ball and her favorite stuffed toy,
And she can be boisterous or act very coy.
But one-on-one play is her just reward,
And of these games she is never bored.

Bedtime is another ritual, you see,
For she has to lie on the bed with me.
Her half of the bed she takes out of the middle,
Not enough room for me to her matters little.

But life with a Springer, I'm sure you'll agree,
Is so much richer for you and for me.
And aren't we lucky to be blessed with the love,
Of these beautiful animals sent from God above.

Marge is a member of the MAESSR email List and proud owner of a 13-year-old Springer named Jenny! She is an award winning poet and resides outside of Richmond, Virginia.

**Have you bought your tickets for
"Springer Splendor"? The October 6th
drawing is coming fast! Don't miss out
on this quilt celebrating Springers!**



The Training Corner

Is Your Dog a Canine Good Citizen?

By Isabelle Chewning

Does your dog have good manners? If so, he or she may be eligible for an American Kennel Club (AKC) award: the Canine Good Citizen award (CGC). And if not, you still have plenty of time to train before MAESSR conducts its third CGC Test on Sunday, October 6 at the Fredericksburg Virginia Dog Festival!

The CGC Program is a certification program designed to reward dogs that have good manners at home and in the community. All dogs that pass the CGC test receive a certificate from the AKC, and are automatically recorded in the AKC's Canine Good Citizen Archive. The CGC test is a ten (10) item test, with all tests performed on leash. Handlers may use praise and encouragement (but not food or toys) throughout the test. Examples of items in the test include: coming when called, staying in place, and accepting a friendly stranger. The Canine Good Citizen certification is usually a requirement of all dogs (and owners) considering therapy work. For a full description of the 10 items on the test, check the AKC website at www.akc.org, or contact me by email at ischewning@aol.com.

MAESSR's first CGC test was held at the Lancaster picnic in 2000. Last year, we administered the CGC test to 15 dogs at the Fredericksburg Dog Festival, and all proceeds from the \$10 fee went to MAESSR. The Dog Festival was a blast; MAESSR friend, dog trainer, and newspaper columnist, Sarah Ferrell was the Master of Ceremonies, and a good time was had by all (two-legged and four-legged).

So start practicing! Even if you can't join us in Fredericksburg, look for a CGC test in your area. Ask your obedience instructors and your dog friends where to take the CGC test. Or watch for local dog events; many offer the CGC. There's no better advertisement for rescue than showing off our well-mannered dogs, and what better way to show off than to participate in the AKC CGC Program!

Don't forget to send your training tips and ideas for future "Training Corner" columns to me, Isabelle Chewning, by email at ischewning@aol.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

In Honor of:

Betsy and Paul Murphy - One Year Anniversary of Sonny's adoption	
Jody and James Reitzes - One Year Anniversary of Dutch's adoption	
Erdean Bupp - Kelly Gribble who helped her when her car wouldn't start	
Bryan Beach - Mary Beach	Cindy Brassfield - Trevor
Giselle Fleming - Rhett	Jill Shroyer - Trevor
Barb Breeden- Trevor	Lois and Randy Boyer - Senior Springers
Maureen Reese - Trevor	Noella Bryden - Rudy and Duke
MJ Mintz - Rhett	Barbara Suddath - Suzy's Adoption
Lois and Randy Boyer - Rhett	Lisa and Scott Wegener - Boomer's Adoption
Joy Sarnelli - Trevor	Tim Day - Trevor (multiple donations)
Rob Pattison - Rhett	Denise Velegdan - Rhett
Adrienne Cermele - Rhett	Heather Young - Rhett and Poppy and the Puppies
Pat Wagner - Rhett	Sherry Rohn Clancy - Rhett
Mark Sather - Rhett	Edith Seese - Poppy
Susan Dyfek - Poppy	Kent and Kathy Nixon - Higgs and Brenna

In Memory of:

David Freese and Ben Glenn - Leo
Harold Fleming - Liza
Herb, Cathy and Bill Foltz - Mickey
Helen Poulos - Hallie and Blake
Gary Gazdick - George

Gifts:

Bette Kincaid	Harvey Gampel
Robin Resnick	Dave Sewter
Joy Sarnelli	Tom Clavin
Victoria Wood	Michael David Kerns
Cathie Dewey	Mary Jane Isenberg
Mary Grace Dorsey	Leonard Steele

www.maessr.org

ALUMNI NEWS

Class of 1999

◆ We adopted Hunter in September 1999 and we just wanted to tell everyone he's doing great. His previous two owners had let him languish in a crate, but he's a delightful young dog. Not a mean bone in his body, even after all he went through. Our neighbor says he has a "sweet and joyous" soul. He loves kids and especially loves to play hide and seek with our children and the neighborhood kids. Of course, he gives away all the hiding places by planting himself in front of the hiding kids and wagging his tail. So now he just gets to be "it" and chase everybody, which he does with great enthusiasm!

Hunter has a big yard and, since my husband works at home, there's always someone to play with him until our two children get home. In addition to pursuing every squirrel and leaf that dares to stray into his territory, Hunter gets several walks a day. He always accompanies us to our daughter's bus stop (at 6:30 AM...) and our son's as well (at a more human hour of 8:30). At any rate, we just wanted to report in on another MAESSR "success story".
~The Wendel Family

Class of 2000

◆ I just wanted to let you know how Dixie is doing. I adopted Dixie from MAESSR about 2 years ago. She'll be 10 in May but you'd never know it. She's pretty spry. We just got her two beds, one for upstairs and one for downstairs. What's that you say? You think she's spoiled? Who, her? Never!!!

Last Halloween, she was a ballerina, the Halloween before that she was a Southern Belle and this Halloween she's going to be a bumblebee. Her daddy (Dave, my boyfriend) picked out the bumblebee costume a few days after last Halloween. He saw another costume for her, a Lady Bug, but "didn't think that would go as well with her coloring as the Bumble Bee costume". This is the same man who, when we went to Cracker Barrel restaurant, saw a quilt with rabbits on it and wanted to buy it for Dixie, so we can tuck her in at night. I talked him out of it, explaining she did not need to be tucked in at a night; she's spoiled enough as it is. Woops! Did I say that? ~Mary Raymond

Class of 2001

◆ We have been enjoying Douglas so much. Just had him groomed again; he certainly is a handsome Springer and the groomers just love his disposition and personality! Couldn't believe that anyone would have given him up. We all still count our blessings and believe he was meant to become a part of our family. ~The Greer Family

Class of 2002

◆ This is an update on Rachel. She was found in West Virginia as a stray with a fractured hip. I adopted her three and half weeks ago. My sister and I drove from South Jersey to Virginia Beach to pick her up. Wow, what a bundle of energy!! She is a sweetheart, though, very affectionate and smart. We started obedience training and she is progressing quickly. Our biggest accomplishment so far, though, is she will finally sit, stay and wait for her food dish without spilling her water. The little things that make us happy! Anyway, looks like Rachel found her final home. Thanks to everyone who participated in her foster care. ~Tammy Liepe

◆ Woody and I bonded within 24 hours of meeting. He is exceedingly happy here. His energy expenditure must be incredible as his tail never stops wagging (it probably beats out the caloric intake he needs to keep his heart beating). He is very active and gets to play most of the day. I don't think he gets much daytime rest. He is very endearing, and I am thrilled to live with him. He has all the personality one expects of a Springer. Thank you. ~Dr. Norman Brenbridge

◆ After a sad departure from his brother Strider and the Abernathy's, Tully has settled in nicely. What a wonderful boy! He went to his first softball game and has learned to play fetch already, bringing the ball back 90% of the time! He's incredibly loving and fun and is a complete joy! Everyone who meets him says what a good, sweet, adorable boy he is! Thank you all!
~Heather and Tully Young

Open Your Heart to Rescue!



**Check out the new
MAESSR T-Shirt!
Get yours Today!**



**Introducing
MAESSR's 2003
Calendar**

**Ordering Information on back
panel of the newsletter.*

Special thanks to:

- Celie Florence and Jean Evanoff of Telltale Kennels for free grooming of Molly X while in foster care and for selling MAESSR merchandise
- Donna Thompson for donating coupons for free pet food for our foster homes
- Cindy Brassfield for her generous donation of a handcrafted and painted Springer table for the Raffle for Rhett

FREDERICKSBURG PICNIC



▲ Jackie Duarte and Heart

▼ Mary Baker and Annie



▼ Ruth and Tony Watson with Scrapper and Miss Millie at registration



The weather cooperated, the park was beautiful and the human and canine company exceptional! Many wonderful memories were taken from the MAESSR 2002 Virginia Picnic, held June 22, 2002 in Fredericksburg, Virginia. The picnic was attended by over 60 people and 32 dogs, with some families traveling over four hours each way to attend!

Hot dogs and hamburgers cooked perfectly by Bill Lipcese highlighted the menu. Springer and dog related raffle items donated by the attendees along with MAESSR merchandise provided shopping and browsing opportunities. The scrapbook, kept wonderfully updated by Mary Beach, provided enjoyment, laughs, and a sense of history.

The Parade of Rescue Dogs was an opportunity to reflect on the past lives of all the four footed attendees and on the value and need of Rescue and was enjoyed by all. The Volunteer introductions and recognition provided an opportunity to connect names and faces and thank the individuals who do so much to help the dogs and organization.

The afternoon excitement and fellowship built to a peak at the Dog Games. The “Best Costume” competition was fierce with a lot of very creative and humorous outfits. The dogs seemed to take it all in stride, enjoyed modeling their attire, accepting the applause and laughs. Tristan Bolster won the top prize, with his Wild West costume, complete with red cowboy hat, plastic guns and holsters. The “Best Pet Trick” and “Best Woo-woo-er” (vocalist) also drew acclaim. No one attending the picnic will forget the Tony Watson and Scrapper chorus or the heartwarming “pet trick” of having an exuberant 10-month-old puppy (brand new to rescue with obviously no training) sit down on command.

The Best Pet Trick contest went into overtime with Cassie Geckle and Chiba Abernathy facing off. Then it was on to the dog games, including the biscuit toss, heeling contests, and other fun that tested dog and owner teamwork. Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all participants!

As the picnic ended, there was a great sense of pride. Pride in the diversity and personality of the Springers present and the breed in general. Pride in an organization that has made a difference in so many dogs lives, and pride in ourselves for choosing to adopt or volunteer for these wonderful dogs.

Stay in Touch!

- Do you have anything you would like to submit for the newsletter? Any ideas or comments? Please email Kim at ESS4x18@cs.com
- If your email address has changed since your MAESSR adoption, please contact Monica LaPolt at mlapolt@starpower.net and let us know your new email address.
- Do you have an update for Alumni News? Please send it to Mary Beach; at spanielma@aol.com or to Mary's attention at the MAESSR P. O. Box address.



▲ Springers everywhere at the Dog Games ▼



Isabelle Chewning and Shadow ▲



▲ Randy and Lois Boyer with Sammy

Do You Remember?.....Darrin

By Mary Beach

Then....

Lancaster, Pennsylvania - Winter 2001. A sweet young stray is brought to a shelter. He's been hit by a car and has a severely broken leg. It is set with pins and MAESSR takes him in. Foster parents, Tracy and Kurt Fisher, find Darrin to be quite affectionate and lively, but the pins come out and the leg doesn't mend. An orthopedic specialist is consulted in hopes of setting the leg with plates, but it has been so badly crushed with so much muscle damage that the leg has to be amputated. Brave little Darrin recovers without a hitch and begins to run and play at last, delighted to finally be without pain!

The time comes for Darrin to go to his forever home with Gary Gazdick in Wilmington, Delaware. The little fellow is only 39 pounds and curls up in Gary's lap and shakes the entire trip home. He is welcomed by two Springer brothers, George and Max, and his new life begins!



Now.....

Wilmington, Delaware - Summer 2002. Gary writes that Darrin is a healthy, muscular 49 pounds and the word "walk" is not in his vocabulary. He LOVES to run...

"especially down hills, where he can really build up a head of steam." He'll run full speed to the end of the block and lie down on the sidewalk until his dad and Max catch up with him. Then he zooms off again down the next block! A neighborhood kid often says, "He just doesn't know he only has three legs!"

Darrin's night vision is poor due to the accident, and he listens to Gary's voice for guidance. The only concessions made relate to jumping, and Darrin has a special carpeted two-step stool to help him get on and off the bed. Now that the older dog, George, has passed away, Darrin has become dominant dog and guards the house. When he hears something at night he climbs on the bed and barks in Gary's ear. After a pat and an OK, everyone goes back to sleep!

ESSENTIALS! Applications and Interviews

By Teri Wiley

Ever wonder how many applications it takes to keep MAESSR volunteers busy? January through April 2002, our interview team processed over 40 applications each month. That's almost 10 applications every week! Phew! Our interviewers "sprung into action" and came back for more. Here's how we go about it.

Most of you are familiar with our on-line application form, but we also receive requests via phone and from other Springer rescue groups. Applications received on-line are automatically sent to me and the applicant will receive an electronic acknowledgement within 24 hours. Each application is reviewed for geographic location (PA, MD, VA, DC, W.VA, DE, and parts of NJ), completeness, and any issues that need to be addressed prior to assigning a volunteer. For example, if someone intends to keep their new dog outside without supervision, an email is sent to request clarification on their intentions. When all the inquiries have been satisfied, I will assign an available volunteer that resides in the same state as the applicant. Karen Ellery, in Minneapolis, MN (yup, she really lives there), is copied on this email. Karen is the MAESSR Application Coordinator and keeps track of each applicant and interview, from assignment to placement.

I then send another email directly to the applicant with a copy to the assigned interviewer. Each applicant is asked to contact the assigned interviewer with a time and date to discuss the adoption process and their application. Now the fun begins! Ever try to hookup with a person quickly, when we are all busy working as well as volunteering, taking care of pets, family etc.? The interview team works to contact the applicant within 10 days and will contact them twice by email and once by phone before considering the applicant not interested.

The applicant will call the MAESSR interviewer and the interview usually takes from 30 minutes to over an hour depending on the questions asked by the applicant and their knowledge of Springers. This is a great way to educate "first time dog owners". It's usually a fun conversation, as people want to share their experiences and talk about their pets. If you enjoy talking to people about Springers, this is the job for you! We ask over 65 questions, including family, home environment, other pets, care of their new Springer, discipline and even what happens when they go on vacation! Folks take it in stride and seem to enjoy the time, giving us lots and lots of information to aid us in finding just the right dog for them. The more information we have - the better match we can make.

Once the interview is complete, we ask for references. People without pets are asked for two personal references (not family members) while pet owners supply information about their vet. Upon receipt of all references, the interviewer sends Karen Ellery a detailed summary of the interview and references. A "hard copy" of the interview and signed references is mailed to MAESSR for safekeeping. The application materials are reviewed and the applicant is then contacted regarding approval.

Approvals take approximately one week or less, but the wait for their beloved new Springer currently is 1 to 2 months. When the right dog fits the right family, the Adoption Coordinator will email the approved family and "offer" them a specific dog. Families are encouraged to call our foster homes, visit and play with their new Springers before making the final decision. When it's a match, one of our WONDERFUL dogs goes to his forever home, and that's what it's all about!!!!



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Monica La Polt - Adoption Coordinator - mlapolt@starpower.net
 Linda Foster - Volunteer Coordinator - rescueess@yahoo.com
 Gale Blackmer - Financial Coordinator - gcbdog@yahoo.com
 Karen Ellery - Applications Coordinator - kellery@faegre.com
 Kim Bolster - Fundraising Coordinator and Newsletter Editor - ess4x18@cs.com
 Debbie Lipcsey - Dog Intake Coordinator - springerfarm@aol.com
 Dave Sewter - Transport Coordinator - zoothockey@aol.com
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MAESSR appreciates and needs your financial support. Your donation will be used to rescue and care for English Springer Spaniels in the Mid - Atlantic region. Please mail your donation to the address below. Thank you for your generosity.

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\$ 10 \$20 \$30 \$40 \$50 Other: _____

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	QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS	\$ 5.00 EACH
TOTAL \$		

Ship To: _____



Calendars

Check out our MAESSR dogs at their best!

Notecard Sets

8 cards in each set - 2 of each design.

