



Springer Tails

Mid-Atlantic English Springer Spaniel Rescue

PRESIDENTS CORNER

By Monica LaPolt

Editors Note: This is Part I of a Two Part series

The devastation that Hurricane Katrina wreaked on the Gulf Coast region and the resultant human and animal tragedy took the entire nation off guard. Many Americans questioned our national, state and local preparedness. A lesser number of Americans questioned their own preparedness. While some few took immediate steps to ready themselves for an emergency, most of us thought about it and did nothing more, called away by our day-to-day responsibilities. I would imagine that the sophisticated plan for most of us is that we would get in our cars and drive to a different location, admirable, but not nearly sufficient.

If you are reading this newsletter, the odds are that you have pets, at a minimum a dog, and perhaps other animals that live with you. What provisions have you made for them?

In all of your planning, remember many animals sense impending natural hazards, such as earthquakes and tornados, and do not behave in the same ways that they do ordinarily. You need to take this into account when planning as even the best-behaved, laid back, most loyal and trained dog can behave unpredictably in unfamiliar and frightening situations.

There are two most likely types of emergencies, those requiring that you flee your domicile such as fire, hurricane or flash flood and those requiring you to shelter in place such as a tornado.

One item you might consider getting for either type of emergency is an emergency weather band radio. It automatically turns itself on and emits a warning signal when the National Weather Service has issued a warning for your immediate area. The device operates on ordinary household current, with battery back up. The fact that it turns itself on when a warning has been issued means that it can awaken you at night to take immediate action - if you went to bed without suspecting that a natural hazard may be developing

In this issue, I will discuss recommendations for those emergencies that require fleeing your home. Please note though, the recommendations would be of benefit in any kind of emergency.

Prepare a grab box. A grab box should contain among other things, passports, photocopies of driver's licenses, pic-

tures of each family member and pet, pertinent medical information for you and your pets including rabies certificates, shot records and any information about chronic medical conditions of either humans or pets, microchip numbers and copies of your dog license, a week's worth of any daily medication taken by any family member or pet and doctor and veterinarian contact information. This is just a starting point for things that you would want to find in your Grab Box. You should determine what other things are necessary for your family if you are forced out of your home.

The Grab Box should be placed in a location that is easy to access, such as a front hall closet. It should be small enough that it can fit in a footwell of a car.

Make sure that all of your pets are microchipped. MAESSR has a microchip clinic at all of our picnics. As well, we are now chipping all of our foster dogs. Alternatively, your vet can microchip your pets. You are encouraged to put MAESSR as the secondary contact on all of your Springers.

Keep a set of leashes and collars by your front door. In the case of fire, if you need to move quickly, you do not want to be looking for leashes or letting your dogs out loose to save their lives.

Train your dogs to a good "car" command. Part of my emergency plan for a fire is to get my son and dogs into the car. I can then move us all safely away from the house and the danger. My dogs all know that "Car" is a clear command and will run to and jump into the car. Because I have worked at keeping car rides as a happy thing, they are more than willing to get in.

Plan a destination or several, where you can flee in case of emergency. Arrange these in advance and be sure that your friends or family are willing to accept you and your pets.

Make sure that every member of your family has the telephone number of a family member or friend who can be used as a central point of contact in case you are separated. This number should be in every cell phone and in your grab box.

Crate train your dogs! If you have to evacuate your home, you may find yourself in a circumstance where you need to crate your dog. Your dog will be stressed by the change in circumstance. It will be worse for him or her if he is not accustomed to a crate.

Please start now preparing you and your pets for any kind of emergency.

THE TRAINING CORNER

By Isabelle Chewning

CGC Challenge Met!

I'm thrilled to report that MAESSR's goal of five new Canine Good Citizens per picnic was not just met, it was exceeded! A total of 17 dogs passed their CGC tests at MAESSR picnics, and an additional five dogs passed at the Fredericksburg Dog Festival. This is not only a wonderful achievement for the 22 new CGCs and their families; it is also a tremendous statement about MAESSR's commitment to responsible dog ownership. Many, many thanks to all who worked so hard to prepare your dogs for the test, and to the MAESSR volunteers who conducted the tests.

To recap, folks at the June picnic in Walkersville, Maryland set the bar very high, producing seven new CGCs. MAESSR volunteers Kim Bolster and Debbie Lipscey conducted the Walkersville tests, assisted by Beth Reid. CGCs were awarded to Patti Dooley and Skylar; Cindy Reitz and Sage; Jackson Tate and Bailey; Lisa Roth and Que; Renee Weidman with Lucien and Asher; and Sue Lehman and Sadie.

Not to be outdone by the Marylanders, MAESSR families and friends at the July picnic in Langhorne, Pennsylvania stepped up to the plate and accepted MAESSR's CGC challenge. Kim Bolster and Debbie Lipscey again conducted the tests, assisted by Barb Bennett. Our five new CGCs from the Langhorne picnic were: Dave Lake and Buddy; Gail Erwin and Gambler; Jane Rheaume and Cody; John Collins and Cali; and Joan Moser and Paws.

Needless to say, the pressure was on for the Goochland picnic in September! Attendees at each of the two prior picnics had met MAESSR's CGC goal, and the Goochland crowd was rooting for their aspiring

CGCs. Despite the heat, and a wandering unleashed Labrador Retriever, the crowd was not disappointed, and five new CGCs were awarded. Evaluators Patti Dooley and Debbie Lipscey (assisted by Beth Reid) awarded CGCs to: Becky Thomas and Daphne; Angie Epling with Dede and Brock; Patti Dooley and Dollar; and Alicia Smith and Ricki.

Finally, MAESSR volunteers Patti Dooley and Debbie Lipscey conducted CGC tests at the Fredericksburg Dog Festival. CGCs were awarded to five dogs, including Koko Harkins, and Jonathan Abelson and Charlie B.

Congratulations to all who passed AKC's Canine Good Citizen Test! This is not an easy test for many dogs, and you should be very proud of your accomplishment. And I hope all the new CGCs were treated to an appropriate celebratory treat! Start training now as we will have the CGC Challenge at next year's picnics as well!

Training Triumphs: Spencer Tomko (Class of 2000) continues to train his parents, Buddy and Janet. He recently clearly communicated to



Proud Canine Good Citizen owners and friends from the Goochland picnic. From left: Angie Epling with Brock and Dede, Becky Thomas and Daphne and Patti Dooley with Dollar. Missing from the picture is Alicia Smith and Ricki.

Buddy that he needed to go out with a stare, a small low grr-ah, and a head toss towards the door. Buddy, delighted with this new communication, walked Spencer to the door; Spencer, in turn, gave Buddy a huge grin, and then did a "Road Runner" imitation to beat him back to the chair! Thankfully, he has parents who appreciate his creativity! ...**Moe II**, an older, neglected dog with many medical problems was adopted by Cathy and Jim Stevenson in 2004. He recently started training class, and his family reports that he now knows "sit," "come," and is walking well on his leash. An added benefit of Moe's

training is that his anxious behavior is also improving...Sue Baldwin-Way reports that **Kirby** (formerly Rocket, Class of 2005) continues to gain confidence. At first, he was reluctant to cross thresholds (which made going outside difficult!) or to tackle the stairs. Maizie (2000) has been instrumental in helping him overcome his fears; she recently ran up the stairs to him, then back down and repeated it several times – almost as if to say "you can do it, too!" Kirby



Successful Canine Good Citizens from the Langhorne Picnic: John Collins and Cali, Joan Moser and Paws, the Rheaume family and Cody, and Gail Erwin with Gambler. Missing from the picture is the Lake Family and Buddy.

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THE TRAINING CORNER

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"snuck" down timidly the first time, then spooked and bolted. A few minutes later he repeated the process. After an hour of sneak and spook, sneak and spook, sneak and spook, Kirby triumphantly announced his presence to Sue in her basement studio with a cold, wet nose!

...**Dasher's** (Dashiel, Class of 2003) big accomplishment this fall was to keep the entire family "de-stressed" when his mom, Katherine Long, got married. He was the perfect entertainer for all of his "grandparents" and other family and friends. Keeping everyone happy is Dasher's best trick! ...Kim Bolster's **Duncan** (Class of 2004) earned his first AKC Novice agility leg at a September trial in Gloucester, Virginia. Not only did he get a qualifying score, he placed third in his class. Way to go Duncan!

"SPRINGER MISCHIEF" WINNERS

Thanks to everyone who bought tickets for the 2005 MAESSR Raffle Quilt, "Springer Mischief". A record breaking total of \$4,140 was raised for the dogs!

Congratulations to Betsy Murphy who will be hanging the quilt in her home! The Springer pillow (bonus prize) was won by Mary Jane Isenberg while Marianne Hill held the lucky ticket to win the Stained Glass Heart, also a bonus prize.

Very special thanks are extended to Barb Bennett and her national team of quilters. Quilters from Florida to Colorado helped with this year's project. Barb's team is unmatched in their skills and creativity!

Plans are underway for the 2006 design.... If you would like to help, please contact Barb Bennett at SpringersTwo@aol.com. We are always looking for quilters and crafters!

Thanks again for the tremendous support! Congratulations to Betsy, Mary Jane and Marianne!

SENIOR MOMENTS

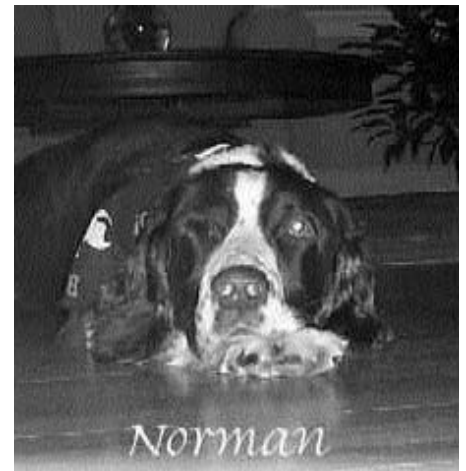
By Joan and Norman Cromwell

My last three years as a MAESSR dog have been so wonderful for me. Being placed in a home with a woman who had never owned a dog before completely worked to my advantage. I was able to train her that treats for every deed were mandatory. It was amazing, she would say "sit" and I would sit and sure enough a treat materialized. Sometimes I would just go sit and yes, she would pull a treat out of her pocket. The quality of the treats varied but my favorites came from a bakery called Dogma. I would do handstands for a treat from Dogma.

The other thing I have enjoyed is all the love I have gotten as a MAESSR dog. Being a rescue dog somehow made me special in the eyes of so many people. My mom would tell me about all the good wishes people would send my way. Even if she hadn't told me, I could feel that there was a whole community lifting me up.

From the outside looking in, perhaps my days seemed uneventful. But for me, having a warm bed or chair to snuggle in, regular meals, walks and lots of love made every day a great day for me. However, just to stir things up I would occasionally misbehave. Counter-surfing was one area where I exhibited exceptional skill. I know I told you about the eight New York strip steaks last summer but I didn't tell you about the 200 Christmas cookies in 2003, the lasagna in 2004, the countless loaves of bread, cookies, the party snacks, or the breakfast muffins. Yes, my mom would get mad but through it all, I knew she loved me. And seriously, she should have gotten a clue that I would scale any height for extra food.

My Springer sisters, Kelly and Tasha have also been a joy to me. It is so much fun to race them and always beat them. However, I must say that Tasha gives me a run for my money in beating me out the



door for our walks. I have loved laying in a pile with these girls. As many of you know, there is nothing better than Springer loving.

There have been so many things that I am grateful for in being a MAESSR dog. I am grateful for the countless volunteers who do so much to care for and place Springers. I will never forget riding in Heather's convertible or being loved by Teri Wiley and her family. I am also grateful to Billie Kerfoot for fostering me. Thank you to all of you.

And now it is time to say goodbye forever. I went to the bridge today and am sitting here with all the special MAESSR dogs that have gone before me. I am waiting here to give comfort and friendship to those who come after me. I am celebrating my life on earth as a MAESSR dog and ask that you do the same in my memory.

Editors Note: The staff of Springer Tails sends our deepest condolences and sympathies to Joan on Norman's passing.

Norman, you will be greatly missed by all that you have touched with your life, adventures, and antics. It is with further sadness that we report the passing of Norman's good friend, Tasha on November 7th. Both are playing together and sharing further escapades at the Bridge.

SPRINGER HEALTH

By Carol Getty, DVM

I hope everyone won't consider this a "cop out", but behavior is a very important aspect of veterinary medicine, so I feel justified in using this space to address this issue.

Behavior may be one of the biggest reasons a Springer might find herself needing rescue.

In the twenty five years I have been around Springers, I have noticed they have a tendency to pick up everything they come across. Springer focused e-mail lists are full of stories of Springers "counter-surfing" to steal stuff. It could be your shoes, a toy, and many times it is items such as used Kleenex (I know, gross!) The problem then arises that a lot of dogs have never been taught how to properly give back the items they take. I can't tell you how many e-mails I get from people who have been bitten while trying to retrieve a stolen item from their dog.

How we react when our dogs take something can potentially cause problems down the road... or, you can use the episodes to strengthen certain aspects of training and actually make your dog a better companion.

Understanding why dogs take things can help you deal with the dog when a "theft" has occurred. They don't take things to punish us, or to "get back at us". They don't have any idea how much that pair of shoes was worth. The instinct to carry items is deeply ingrained in domesticated dogs. In Springers it was reinforced by selection in the formation of the breed to create a dog that would be a natural retriever. A side effect is that we have dogs that seem to want to pick up everything!

There are other reasons a dog will steal besides instinct to retrieve. In the following examples, punishment can make the problem worse.

Food stealers who bury their find may be insecure. Wild dogs bury food when the food supply is uncertain. If a dog steals food and wolfs it down, he's responding to a very strong positive reinforcement (he got to eat the food). A puppy may simply be looking for something to teethe on (what bet-

ter than leather sneakers?). Adult dogs that don't have appropriate chew toys may select something of yours. A dog may steal an item to engage you in play, just like they will do with each other. Or, for whatever reason, a dog may simply find something interesting and want a closer look.

The biggest mistake people make when they discover their dog has something forbidden is to chase the dog, corner it while yelling at it angrily, and try to force the item free of the dog's jaws. This may trigger the "fight or flight" survival instinct, and with nowhere to run to (he's cornered), the dog will have to fight. You may get bitten and will certainly damage the dog's temperament doing this. Another mistake is chasing the dog even if you don't yell or corner her. This turns into a game of "keep away" for the dog and short of cornering her you won't win.

Once they have the object back, many people then want to punish the dog. This, in effect, teaches the dog not to give the object back, and can make the dog more defensive. A defensive dog is more likely to bite the next time the situation arises.

Some people, upon arriving home to damaged property, want to punish the dog. All this does is makes the dog afraid of you. They aren't smart enough to figure out not to damage the property, but they are smart enough to connect that when property is damaged and the owner arrives that bad things happen to them.

It is far, far better to teach the dog properly how to respond when they have contraband items, make it into a fun game, and prevent damage from occurring. With puppies and new dogs, teach them the "Give and Take" Game. Use a dog biscuit and have a ready supply of really good treats. Offer the biscuit to the dog as you say, "Take". Don't let go of the biscuit! Then offer the dog one of the better treats as you say, "Give". As the dog opens his mouth to get the treat, remove the biscuit, give the treat and praise! Every now and then let the dog keep the biscuit and eat it. Done once a day with a puppy, you will have a grown up dog that will let you trade

anything he ever picks up. Over time you lose the need for a treat every time, because the expectation is there. So in an emergency (your dog just grabbed a slice of pizza!) you can use the "Give" command to get it back. This also teaches the dog it's OK to let you handle his mouth; reach in his mouth, etc.

If the dog steals something and is trying to initiate a game of "keep away", you can do one of two things. If the item is not valuable, you have lots of time, and the dog is somewhere safe (fenced yard) - you can ignore her. Eventually she will get bored and come back. The other option is instead of chasing her; turn and run the other way- get her to chase you. If you can, grab a more appropriate item (ball, toy, food) and get her interested in playing the "Give and Take" game as a trade. Make it fun, and you will also end up teaching a play retrieve.

Make sure your dog has plenty of appropriate toys. If the dog constantly steals items and chews them up, review the dog's chew toys- maybe he needs something better or more interesting to chew on. Rotate your dog's toys so that you have something "new" to give him.

If the dog continually destroys items where you are not at home, he needs to be confined in a safe area. A dog run, crate, or a smaller room are all possible ideas. Dog-proof the area the dog stays in - pick up your shoes, put food items out of reach, empty the trash can before you leave, or put a lock on your refrigerator.

Despite what we think, dogs lack the ability to plot things to our demise. Ninety percent of what they do wrong is our fault. With rescue dogs, it's a little harder because you don't get a manual detailing what previous owners may have done wrong, so you have to guess what might set off a particular dog. Human behavior is capable of ruining a perfectly fine dog. Hopefully these ideas may help you prevent injury and turn training challenges into fun for you and your dogs!

A Springer Thank You To Our Loving Friends

In Memory of:

MR. HOLMES CHORAL CLASS –
MR. HOLMES' DOG MOLLY
CAROLYN MONTAGUE – NANCY RANSOME
ICI GROUP SERVICES – LEGAL –
ROB PATTISON
DIANA WILLIAMS – RASCAL
MARION FLEMING – JOHN AND
JAMES FLEMING
KIM BOLSTER – HEATHER YOUNG'S HOMER
LINDA AND TERRY JOHNSTON – QUINCY
KIM BOLSTER – QUINCY JOHNSTON
DAVE SEWTER – NORMAN CROMWELL
ISABELLE AND BARRY CHEWNING –
NORMAN CROMWELL
KIM BOLSTER – NORMAN CROMWELL
BLUE RIDGE TRAINING CLUB – SAM
ANDERSON, BELOVED SPRINGER OF
TOM AND BETH ANDERSON
LINDA AND TERRY JOHNSTON – HOMER,
SPENCER AND QUINCY
LISA ROTH – NORMAN CROMWELL
DEBBIE AND BILL LIPSEY –
NORMAN CROMWELL

In Honor Of:

PATTI CRIPPS – MBNA VOLUNTEER SERVICE
RECOGNITION AWARD FOR HER WORK AS A
MAESSR VOLUNTEER
SHARON AND BILL HOLMES – LOUIE
LOIS BOYER – SAMMY AND KAYLIE
ROBERT AND ELIZABETH BOLSTER – SPUD
(BUDDY XIII -CLASS OF 2001)
ELIZABETH ROBINSON – ROSIE AND CAREY
DIANA WILLIAMS – LANCER
MARION FLEMING – SAM, MAGGIE
AND FRECKLES
G. KEITH AND SHARON SAMES – MAGGIE
WILLIAM AND ANNE HANNE – SWEENEY
TERRENCE AND LINDA DONAHUE – MARY
BETH IRVIN'S GRADUATION FROM PENN
STATE'S PHD PROGRAM
STEVEN AND JANICE LIDDIC – SAM, BETH
AND TOM ANDERSON
GEICO PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATION – SAM
KNUTSON'S CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES
LINDA ABRAMS – SENIOR SPRINGERS AND
MAESSR VOLUNTEERS
CHRISTINE VINT – VOLUNTEER
VICKI PHILLIPS
CAROLE ALDERMAN – NAPOLEON
BETSY AND PAUL MURPHY –
MAESSR VOLUNTEERS

Friends of Buddy:

CAROL SMITH
LISA ROTH
BARBARA BREEDEN
LD KEEN
CAROLE ALDERMAN
GABRIELLE SMITH
BARBARA CAMPBELL
RICK AND RITA GATLIN
SHERRY ROHN CLANCY
CARL LUCHETTI
LESLIE JACOBY
DAWN FLOYD
BETH WATSON
JANET SMITH
SHARON KEATING
PAT RACE
ELIZABETH ARNOLD
CALLIE GOULD
BARB NICKEL
TIM FREEH
CAROL VANDERWAY
GARY AT MAX PARTNERS
CRAIG HADDOW

Gifts

MEG OUNSWORTH STEERE
DEBORAH WASHKO
PAMELA KAYE
LAURA SKEY – FOR HEARTWORM MEDICINE
DELLA HODGES
PATRICIA VAUGHAN
LISA NUZZACI
TJ DAVIS AND BEATRICE MULLHOLLAND
DAVID BIELENBERG AND GREG TRIMBLE
WILL AND GWEN DEMAND
JOAN VON HERBULIS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Fostering

Of all the possible volunteer opportunities with MAESSR, perhaps the most challenging (and most rewarding) is fostering.

Working closely with our Dog Intake Coordinator, Foster Home Coordinator, and a team of Foster Home Mentors, MAESSR foster families take in Springers who need temporary foster care before they can be adopted out to new homes. In addition to taking care of the physical needs of the dogs (including veterinary care), foster families are responsible for putting dogs through their paces, seeing what they like and dislike, and testing their limits. You also get the joy of having a Springer to shower lots of love and affection on while helping him to learn to trust and adjust to a new life.

MAESSR covers all veterinary costs for our foster dogs, including spaying/neutering, vaccinations, flea and tick preventatives, and other medical care. Dogs are generally in foster care for 2-6 weeks, depending upon their health and readiness to go to their permanent homes.

MAESSR supplies all new foster families with a detailed handbook and a wealth of knowledge from over 150 volunteers who are ready and willing to help answer any questions or assist you with common problems and training issues.

If you'd like more information or would like to volunteer, please contact me, Linda Foster (yes, that's really my name!), and I'll be happy to explain the fostering process to you in more detail. You can reach me at rescuees@yahoo.com.

GET YOUR MAESSR MOUSE PAD!



www.maessr.org

AN INVITATION TO JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER FAMILY.....

Have you been thinking about becoming a MAESSR volunteer? At MAESSR, our members are not your typical volunteers. We are a family – a family of Springer lovers and enthusiasts from all over the Mid-Atlantic region united in promoting the joys of the Springers and helping stray, neglected and unwanted Springers find loving new families. We invite you to share in the happiness and satisfaction we all enjoy in finding new homes for countless special Springers.

We continue to need volunteers to assist in a variety of ways, including fostering, helping with transports, interviewing applicants, conducting home visits, assisting with fundraising and outreach, and supporting other vital roles.

If you're interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities within our organization, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Linda Foster, at rescuees@yahoo.com, or simply complete the on-line volunteer application on our website.

Please join us in welcoming the following new volunteers to our family:

Annette Adams,
Manchester, PA

Celeste Beley,
Baden, PA

Christine DePhillipo,
Glassboro, NJ

Janet Greenblatt,
Germantown, MD

Jacqueline Hasting,
Kendall Park, NJ

Richard Hoppe,
Washington, DC

Liz & Jamie Larson,
Bel Air, MD

Joan Moser
Lansdale, PA

Debra Paikoff,
Holland, PA

Gary Redmore,
Sarver, PA

Mary Beth & Barry Smith,
New Market, MD



Skylar Dooley and Que Roth model the very popular selling bonnets at the Fredericksburg Dog Festival in early October.

LOVE ON THE RUN

(TRANSPORT!)

Two MAESSR volunteers took the phrase "Open Your Heart to Rescue" literally. While working a MAESSR transport, Dave Eccles and Judy Bennett met. Judy remembers commenting to herself on Dave's eyes but thought no more of it. Of course, that was until they met up shortly thereafter at a MAESSR picnic.

After spending the better part of the picnic talking to Dave, Judy knew it was more than his eyes. Dave wholeheartedly agreed. After courting for a while, the couple wed this Spring. This is MAESSR's first wedding and we are quite pleased that we played a very small part in bringing these two together. We all wish them many, many years of love and happiness.



Need a holiday gift for someone?

Consider donating to MAESSR in their name. MAESSR will acknowledge the donation with a special card. See the back page for the form.



DO YOU REMEMBER... DAPHNE?

Then...

Louisa, Virginia...April, 2004

A black and white female Springer is found as a stray and brought to the county shelter. The workers note that she is very sweet and keeps her cage clean. They name her Daphne and notify MAESSR of her arrival. When plans are made for a volunteer to pick her up, the shelter worker says, "Did anyone tell you she might be pregnant?" When the volunteer gets Daphne, she is covered with hundreds of ticks, is very large due to her pregnancy. But Daphne is delighted to out of the shelter!

When Daphne is checked by her foster mom it's easy to see that she has lived outside her entire life. Her hair is matted and filthy, covered with years of ground-in dirt. Her foster mother expertly clips away every bit of her hair and removes all the ticks. It doesn't take long for Daphne to decide that living inside is wonderful! She has a delightful disposition and is great with small children. She indicates that she has been hungry most of her very hard life. Her vet check reveals that her pregnancy is not as advanced as it looks, but it seems she has given birth to many litters in her life of about five years. Sadly, testing reveals she has heartworms, and she begins treatments even before the puppies are born.

Delivery day is a busy one for Daphne and her foster family. She delivers eleven healthy pups of various colors and shapes. After about two weeks Daphne and her pups need to move to another foster home where she can care for her pups and then complete her heartworm treatment and spaying. Amazing things happen when you're a part of MAESSR! One day Daphne and her eleven pups are whisked away by MAESSR volunteers and airplane pilots, the Goodhands. They are flown to Pennsylvania to stay with Jane Davis and her family in

Fleetwood. By now, the MAESSR community is all a-buzz about Daphne and the pups that are all named for Greek gods and goddesses. They thrive in the loving care of the Davis family. After a while the pups go to their forever homes, and the sole focus is on getting Daphne healthy and ready to find her forever home.

Meanwhile, in Pleasant Gap, PA two newlyweds who have been approved to adopt are watching the website daily, fascinated with Daphne's story. One day an email comes asking them if they'd like to adopt Daphne. YES! They would! Daphne is at last on her way to her forever home on October 20, 2004.

Now...

Pleasant Gap, PA...October, 2005

What a wonderful life Daphne now enjoys! She lives with Josh and Becky Thomas, a snuggly bunny rabbit and a little kitten. She loves them all! She now knows how to play with toys — something she never knew about in her previous life. Her favorites are Nylabones and soft, stuffed ones. She also is quite skilled at snitching food, delighted to know there's always plenty on hand.

For a spell, Daphne went to work with her mom at a pet store. She charmed all the customers and enjoyed meeting all the people. Extremely well socialized, she enjoys hanging out at home with the other pets. She takes on the role of mother for the little kitten. They curl up together and groom each other. She and the bunny are buddies also, and she lets it climb up on her!

Daphne enjoys many successes in obedience training. She holds honors from basic obedience and also a Canine Good Citizen (CGC) designation earned at the MAESSR picnic in Virginia. She is a beautiful dog, famous and appreciated by all who know her story. Daphne adores her parents and is faithful on or off leash, never letting them out of her



Daphne giving MAESSR a big smile at the 2005 Goochland Picnic

sight. She enjoys doggie companionship with her "grandmother's" Springer and a Basset Hound from the pet store, and she loves small children. Daphne spreads her charm and affection when she visits a nursing home and a hospital. Plans are being made for her to take more classes so she can continue to bring happiness to others.

When you look at Daphne today, it seems she is saying with all her heart and wagging tail, "Thank you, MAESSR! You turned my life around and I'll forever make you proud!"

SPRINGER KISSES AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Special thanks to:

** Isabelle and Barry Chewing who financially sponsored the Canine Good Citizen certificate for everyone who passed the CGC at the MAESSR picnics!*

** Nylabone – who donated two cases of product for our foster dogs!*

** Ukrops Grocery Store and their Golden Gifts program - and to all of those in Central Virginia who gave their certificates to MAESSR - \$82.40 was raised for the dogs!*

MEMORIES FROM THE LANGHORNE AND GOOCHLAND



PICNICS 2005



THE MAESSR MARKETPLACE HOLIDAY SPECIALS!!

Order \$75 or more in merchandise – get a free Springer note pad & sale price on magazine! Great stocking stuffers!!



Holiday Cards – 2/\$12
15 cards w/envelopes



Quilt Cards - \$9.00
10 notes w/envelopes



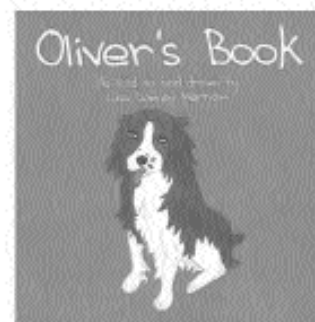
2006 Calendar - \$15.00



Magazine - \$10.00
Wonderful reading!



Holiday Sweatshirt - \$30.00
Only available in Large, XLarge



Oliver's Book - \$15.00
Signed by author

**** Specials are only available with this Order Form and by mail. Deadline to order for holiday delivery is December 4. ***See other items for sale on the MAESSR website!*

Mail to: MAESSR, PO Box 15354, Richmond, VA 23227

Quantity	Item	Price (inc. shipping)	Total
	Holiday Cards	2 sets for \$12.00	
	2006 Calendar	\$15.00 each	
	Quilt Note Cards	\$9.00	
	Oliver's Book	\$15.00	
	MAESSR Cookbook	\$18.00	
	Holiday Sweatshirt	\$30.00	
	Size: L, XL Color: L/W, B/W		
	Springer Magazine	\$10.00(\$7.00)	
	Magnetic Pad	\$6.00 (free!)	

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RALLY TO RESCUE!!!

Purina Rally to Rescue Program Strengthens MAESSR'S Outreach Program

MAESSR is very proud and pleased to have been accepted in the Purina Rally to Rescue Program. This is a wonderful nationwide program to support and endorse animal rescue organizations.

To date, Purina Rescue to Rally has provided our foster homes with 1000 pounds of Purina ProPlan food. It has strengthened our outreach program by supplying an EZ-Up canopy, sidewalk message boards, as well as banners for public events. T-shirts, dog bowls, adoption kits and fundraising dog collars have also been provided to MAESSR at no cost.

Watch for more updates on how Purina and Rescue to Rally is helping MAESSR!



MAESSR's table at the Fredericksburg Dog Festival. The Purina Rescue to Rally Program provided the canopy for shade and sign board for information.

Join, Shop and Give to MAESSR!

MAESSR has recently joined Benevolink, an innovative program that gives you an easy way to support MAESSR without taking money out of your pocket. Through Benevolink, you shop for the things you want with over 200 brand name retailers and generate a donation to MAESSR. Retailers including Orvis, Entirely Pets, Barnes and Noble, Best Buy, Bass Pro Shops, Harry and David as well as many other popular retailers, contribute a percentage of every dollar you spend to MAESSR. There is no cost to you or to MAESSR!

How does it work?

1. You must join through www.benevolink.com or telephone (1-800-556-GIVE). You then link your registration with MAESSR (we are Mid Atlantic English Springer Spaniel Rescue - no hyphen). You will get an email once a quarter reminding you to direct the funds to the charity of your choice (MAESSR!).

2. For MAESSR to realize the donation, you

need to access the retailer through the Benevolink website.

For those in the Central Virginia area, Ukrops has joined with Benevolink. So, please go to www.Benevolink.com or call 1-800-556-GIVE and have your Valued Customer Card linked to MAESSR. Then, when you shop at Ukrops, MAESSR will receive a donation on certain items purchased. This is replacing their Golden Gifts program but will be year round donations!

Thank you for your support and participation! Any questions, please contact Kim at ess4x18@cs.com.





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 Linda Foster - Volunteer Coordinator - rescueess@yahoo.com
 Gale Blackmer - Financial Coordinator - windy1421@worldnet.att.net
 Sue Geckle - Applications Coordinator - sgeckle@excite.com
 Kathleen O'Neill - Applications Coordinator - oneill@princeton.edu
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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.

Please accept my donation in the amount of:

\$ 25 \$40 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other: _____

MY DONATION IS:

IN HONOR OF: _____ IN HONOR OF: _____

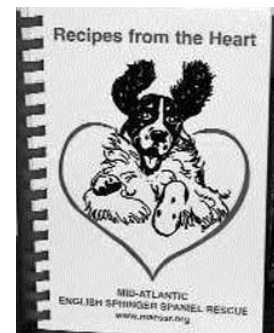
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NAME AND ADDRESS: _____

Please enclose this slip with your check made payable to MAESSR
 Mail To: MAESSR, P.O. Box 15354, Richmond, VA 23227



Quantity of Items	Cost Includes Shipping	
_____ Mouse Pad		\$11.50
_____ Open Your Heart T-Shirt	S M L XL	\$17.25
_____ Open Your Heart T-Shirt	XXL	\$19.25
_____ Open Your Heart T-Shirt	XXXL	\$20.25
_____ Transport T-Shirt	S M L XL	\$17.25
_____ Transport T-Shirt	XXL	\$19.25
_____ Transport T-Shirt	XXXL	\$20.25
_____ Cookbook		\$18.00/2-\$34.00
_____ 2006 Calendar		\$ 6.50
_____ Embroidered Tote Bag		\$28.00
	Total \$	_____

Ship To: _____



