



Springer Tails

Mid-Atlantic English Springer Spaniel Rescue

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Rick Gatlin
Shelters

On a recent rescue mission to a Shenandoah Valley animal shelter, my attention was called to the words of Ghandi that are posted on the wall of the waiting room. These words read, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Although I have read these words many times as a dog owner long before I became active in rescue, I still find it rather ironic. An institution that is responsible for "sheltering" animals is also the institution that is responsible for their death. There is no such thing as a "no kill" public shelter. Companion animals standing behind bars waiting to be rescued or face certain death are a constant reminder that as a moral society we still have a long way to go. Shockingly, many shelters have a euthanasia rate of well over several thousand animals a year. Multiply that number by the thousands of shelters that exist in our country and the numbers are mind-boggling.

Beautiful, kind, gentle, and loving animals end up on death row because they are treated as expendable commodities. Old age, failing health, lack of time and even an animal's size are reasons owners give when they surrender their pets. Often, these animals are abused or neglected. Some of them have resulting behavioral problems that require only training and love. English Springer Spaniels are certainly not immune from these situations, as we are painfully aware. They rely on us, the MAESSR family, to help them and give them another chance to lead a better life.

Since I began volunteering my time in Springer rescue 5 years ago, I am constantly asked by friends, family and acquaintances alike why I feel so compelled to give so much of my time and energy to help homeless animals? If those who ask this question would accompany any of us to a shelter and gaze into the pathetic eyes of the dogs that are on the other side waiting for help, they would certainly understand why we do it and why MAESSR is so important.

Shelters depend on us to help reduce the numbers of dogs that are put to sleep yearly. Without our dedicated MAESSR volunteers, the euthanasia numbers would be even more staggering than they already are. So to those who inquire about why we spend our time, energy and money on these animals, I again quote Ghandi by saying, "We must be the change we wish to see".

I am absolutely sure that the work of MAESSR does make a difference. Since our beginning ten years ago, we have made life better for countless English Springer Spaniels directly through our rescue and adoption program and through our shelter, owner relinquishment/rescue programs. It is that knowledge that inspires all of us at MAESSR to continue the work of rescuing and finding loving responsible homes for needy Springers. If we as human beings are able to destroy the spirit and physical integrity of an animal by abuse, neglect and abandonment, we as human beings can also make a difference in the lives of these animals by providing them with medical care, socialization, love, training, and a new home.

If you are reading our newsletter online or in print for the first time, or if you are already a MAESSR family member, I invite you to help us in rebuilding the lives of animals in need by making a generous contribution to our cause, and by volunteering your time, or by adopting one of our Springers. Today's and tomorrow's needy dogs are depending on us. Please, let us not turn our backs on them.

As always, thanks to our MAESSR volunteers for another quarter of outstanding effort on behalf of the Springers!

Calendar of Events

June 7 – SpringerFest, South Park, South Park, PA (Pittsburgh area)
Contact: Pat Race (pat.race@comcast.net) or Linda Johnston (springerlove@comcast.net)

June 21 – SpringerFest, Three Lakes, Richmond, VA
Contact: Phyllis Cox (pws430@comcast.net)

September 6-7 – FidoFestival, USA, Salem County, NJ
Contact: Vicki Phillips (springerlane@gmail.com)

September 13 – SpringerFest, Downs Park, Pasadena MD
Contact: Kim Bolster (ess4x18@cs.com)

September 28 – Woofstock, Harrisburg, PA
Contact: Justina Vinci (justinavinci@comcast.net)

October 5 – Fredericksburg Dog Festival, Fredericksburg, VA
Contact: Kim Bolster (ess4x18@cs.com)

October 18 – SpringerFest, Little Buffalo, Newport, PA
Contact: Tammy Fisher (tnhorse@pa.net)

GO GREEN WITH MAESSR!

We can all make a difference helping the environment and can start by using re-usable MAESSR grocery bags!



Available at the website Marketplace and at the upcoming picnics, MAESSR is offering 13 x 13 x 5 non-woven polypropylene bags sporting the MAESSR logo "Open your Heart to Rescue". The bags come in aqua and khaki tan and are offered for \$2/\$6.00 or 4/\$10.00 which includes shipping. You can order yours with the form on the back page or through the website store.

Have you checked out the Affiliates (under Donate) page on the MAESSR website? We have added many new partners! Some offer as much as 50% of your sale total to MAESSR! Just remember you need to start your shopping at the store icon found on the MAESSR website, so MAESSR will get the benefit of your shopping! Keep checking back as we continue to add new partners.

NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE!

The 2008 Springerfest Picnic shirt!

Available in Salmon or Stone washed blue, this short sleeved shirt is a winner! Look for the matching hand painted ornament in the website store. You can order your SpringerFest Tour shirt using the order form on the back page of the newsletter!



WHO'S THAT VOLUNTEER?

By Linda Johnston

Mary Alcott Beach's initiation into the world of springers began when her son got a pup in 1993 who charmed everyone she met. Mary feels blessed in that she's always had dog(s) in every stage of her life and can't imagine life without one. When Mary lost her beloved dog in 1999, her son put her in contact with MAESSR and she adopted Winston II on July 24, 1999. Since then, she has become heavily involved with MAESSR and has adopted two more springers – Pepper and Rocky Dune (Class of '06).

Mary is very passionate about the work MAESSR does, and through this organization she has met some of the finest people she's ever known. Her friends like to tease her about "saving the world one Springer at a time", but when they're visiting and meet Miss Pepper and Rocky Dune, they understand her passion.

Mary has been married for 42 years to Lee, has 3 grown children, 8 (by publication date) grandchildren, 3 granddogs and is a lifetime resident of Virginia, currently residing in Williamsburg. During her career, she's taught elementary school music, private piano lessons, elementary school classroom grades pre-K, 2, 3, and 5. Now that she has retired from classroom teaching, she gives private piano lessons to 10 students.

In addition to her involvement with MAESSR (which includes conducting interviews, transporting, making photo albums, writing notes/cards in addition to newsletter articles, and serving on the Cookbook and Ways and Means committees), Mary also volunteers for the Heritage Humane Society and is involved in an education program for area schools, pre-school through grade 5. She also does monthly programs at two area nursing homes and this summer, she'll help start a day camp at the shelter for kids, ages 7-12.

Interests and Hobbies (other than grandkids and granddogs) include Bible study, tap dancing, bridge, knitting, writing, reading, and "beaching". Mary hopes to spend many more years with her MAESSR friends.....both the two-legged and four-legged ones!

MAESSR WELCOMES...

By Linda Johnston

MAESSR volunteers come from locations that we service all around the Mid-Atlantic region including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, District of Columbia, Delaware, Virginia and West Virginia.

We also have volunteers in South Carolina, North Carolina, Arizona, Minnesota, Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia and New York who, despite their remote locations, are able to help the organization accomplish our mission.

You too can be one of over 200 households that volunteer with MAESSR on a continuing basis, some of whom have been volunteers since our inception 10 years ago. If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Linda Johnston at springerlove@comcast.net, or simply complete the online volunteer application on our website.

Please join us in welcoming the following 23 new volunteers who have recently joined the MAESSR family:

- Allyson Zadlo – Ambler, PA
- Erin Frazier - Newport News, VA
- Elena Price – Palmyra, PA
- Myrna Herman - Meadowbrook, PA
- Noah Stevens - Emmaus, PA
- Jane E. Cheatham – Charleston, WV
- Roberta Reichwein – Davidsonville, MD
- Leah Watkins – Philadelphia, PA
- Robert Cherry – Blacksburg, VA
- Elizabeth Navickas – Hallstead, PA
- Kenneth Trietch – Hampton, VA
- Elizabeth Smith – Onancock, VA
- Edward Kelly - Royersford PA
- Carole Lotterer – Reisterstown, PA
- Bridget Harrington Ernst – Brick, NJ
- Shelby Brett – Lenhartsville, PA
- Tina Blackedge – Johnstown, PA
- Miriam Cromwell – Hudgins, VA
- Kim Winter – Syracuse, NY
- Ty Young – Sparks, MD
- Maggie Rotunda – Yardley, PA
- Erin McCormick – Dublin, VA
- Laura Harding – Harrisburg, PA

TRAINING TRIUMPHS!

Compiled by Barb Bennett



Jerry (Jake XVII Class of '07) generally was well behaved with his new 2 year old brother, a lab mix named Buster. But just as in foster care, Jerry, at times, would get 'grumbly'. Buster being the inquisitive dog that he is would investigate and Jerry would not always respond kindly. While at daycare twice a week, they were seeing similar issues with Jerry. Looking to improve the situation, careful observations were made and a series of small changes were implemented over the next month. I'm happy to report that this has been a huge success. Jerry's grumbly behavior was primarily associated with food and is being managed by modifying our routine. Both dogs are put in separate rooms when they are fed. After each meal they both go to their crates, again in different rooms, for some down time. A similar routine is done at daycare. All of these simple changes have been easy to maintain and are very effective. Jerry and Buster are doing very well together; the work to dial in a routine has paid huge dividends. ~ *Noah Stevens*

Barnum (Class of '07) took a beginner's obedience class at PetSmart. His skill level was unknown but he proved to be a quick study. He did especially well with loose leash walking using an Easy Walk harness. Walking is now a joy! The piece de resistance however is that he comes when called, what a good boy he is! ~ *Becky Bouille*

Robin (Class of '04) is a wonderful trainer! She currently is helping Jennifer train for Disney's Minnie Marathon, a 15K. Lots of days are spent walking a good distance but she's always up for a good long walk. While Robin didn't get to do the actual marathon, she helped Jennifer train for her 5K and 15K medals along with Noah. Robin's personal training has improved. She's learned to sit up and beg (working on building up those abs) though she is still working on her Pilates training. ~ *Jennifer & Noah*

TJ (Class of '06) has learned spin, high five and speak using hand signals. This is in addition to basic obedience. He's still working on shaping the roll over (remember, he is 9 years old now!). Larry and I have also been working on supervised separation for the CGC and so far it's going well at the house – they have yet to venture into unfamiliar places. ~ *Angie Epling*

SPRING HAPPENINGS!

By Kim Bolster

MAESSR has been everywhere this Spring – letting others know of the joys of Springer Spaniels and Rescue! Outreach and education are an important part of MAESSR's mission and keeps the organization strong through volunteer recruitment, education/awareness and locating new adoptive families.

April 19th – LUCAS Paw Wow, Montclair, VA

Lisa Roth and Kim Bolster manned the MAESSR table at this Northern Virginia event. Assisted by dogs, Que and Donovan, the MAESSR table attracted good crowds and much interest. Supporting a MAESSR volunteer and foster home who is Executive Director of this spay/neuter assistance organization, MAESSR was proud to participate and assist in this fundraising by the lake!

April 20th - Owl Creek Veterinary Hospital Fun Day and Fair, Virginia Beach, VA

Carol and Charles Alderman assisted by Paige Martin, represented MAESSR at this first time event for MAESSR. The family day at the veterinary practice was well attended and much fun. Rain did not dampen the spirits or interest! Springers were well represented as even Dr. Ayre has one!

April 26th – Bark in the Park, Williamsburg, VA

Coordinated by Mary Beach, beautiful weather and large crowds shone on the Bark in the Park. Sponsored by the Heritage Humane Society, this event also included a pledge walk. Sales were very good and interest high. This is an annual event for MAESSR and the crowds grow every year. Thanks to Phyllis Cox, (and Bosco), Paige Martin, Judy Sutter, Kim Bolster (Donovan) and Lee Beach for their participation and assistance this year!

May 4th – DeBella Walk – Lansdale, PA

Vicki Phillips was the coordinator for this well attended event sponsored by a Philadelphia radio station. Sales were brisk, lots of questions asked by attendees, and many MAESSR dogs in attendance! Helping with the event were Dave and Carol Mumbauer (and Paddington), Frank Mellon (Holly), Tish Perosio and son (Sophie), Jim Bickel (Zachary), Noah Stephens (Jerry), Heather Young (Chloe) and Mike and Louise Perkins. This will definitely be an event for MAESSR next year!

May 4th – Chester County SPCA Walk for Paws, West Caln, PA

MAESSR again participated in this well attended event that included a fair and pledge walk. Justina Vinci organized the event and was supported by Candi Lynn, Pat Carpenter, Joan Moser, Ally Zadlo, Jen and Mark Hattersly and Bill Herbert. Many people stopped to find out more about MAESSR and ask questions.

Special thanks to all of those who donated their time to help at these events! Watch the website and newsletter calendar as well as the email lists for upcoming events and plan on joining in the fun!

Celebrate Life.....



the Springer Spaniel way!!

DO YOU REMEMBER XUXU?

By Mary Beach

Then.....Pittsburgh, PAJanuary, 2006

Four very sick 7-week-old puppies are brought to a vet by a breeder. They are known only as “April’s pups”, and they are dangerously ill with Parvo. The breeder says he can’t afford to treat them. MAESSR is contacted and agrees to do everything possible to help them recover and find them loving homes. The veterinarian and staff work hard to pull all these little ones through. Sadly, one pup does not survive.

Two of them respond to antibiotics and fluid IVs and are soon able to go to a foster home where they receive the rest of their treatment and lots of love. One little girl remains ill and stays at the vet’s. According to the staff, she “dies three times”, not eating for seven days. But she is named Xuxa which means “queen” in Portuguese and is pronounced “Shoo Sha”, and after a while she begins to recover from the Parvo and other ailments such as intestinal worms. In several months she is well enough to be spayed and move on to her foster home or “castle” with Geri Mackarevich where she learns about loving, playing, eating, and all the good things in life!



When it is time for Xuxa to go to her forever home, she is taken to meet her new family—Mom, Dad, and 2-year-old Springer, Bo—at a doggie park in New Jersey. It’s a happy meeting for all!

Now...Plainsboro, NJ...June, 2008

Xuxa is lively and healthy now! She enjoys life in the household of Jacqueline Hasting. She and her brother Bo have become good buddies. In fact, her mom says Bo has settled down a bit with the company of a sister. There are also four cats in the home, and all live together peacefully.

Bo and Xuxa enjoy frequent romps in a nearby dog park where they often play with some other MAESSR dogs. Xuxa tends to cling to her mom around other folks and unfamiliar dogs. She’s a typical Velcro dog, but with Bo close by, she’s a bit more confident and social. She loves to bring a toy or present of some kind to greet people who come to the door. Her greatest talent is carrying THREE toys in her mouth at once!

Few residual effects from the Parvo and months of recovery are noticeable now. Xuxa eats well, has gained a good amount of weight, and doesn’t mind going to the vet. Her future is bright. Soon she and her family will move into a new home, and after a while they’ll welcome a new sister-- one with two legs!

Surely Xuxa agrees that her name is perfect, for after all she’s endured, she is at last living the charmed life of a queen!

THANK YOU

Gifts in Honor

David & Mary Snidow - Lola
Tom & Kay Strickler - Walker
Susan Ross - Kruger
Patricia Dopman - Pierot
Frances, Jay, Lauren & Mina Fisher – 2nd Anniversary of Remi's adoption
James & Helene Nitterour – Sam & Kelly
Mary Ann McNulty – Matthew, Tyler & Zakary's 4th Birthday
MeadWestvaco Foundation – Kim Bolster's volunteer activities
Kent & Kathy Nixon – Sparky and all MAESSR volunteers
Andrea Franzini – Michael Inguillo's Birthday
Christine & Michael Gromadzyn – Vicki Phillips' Birthday
Sue Campos – Liz Watson & Normy
Leslie Jacoby – Art Jacoby's Birthday
Dennis & Brenda Oldroyd - MAESSR Volunteers
Amy Markle – Bentley, Chunky & Nelson

Gifts in Memory

Kim Bolster – Cindy Brassfield's Sage
Debbie & Bill Lipscey – “Lily” Harkins & “Cody” Morris
Bertram Tauman – Molly
Denise Gwinn – Elsie Baylis
Ruth Watson – Miss Millie
Debbie & Bill Lipscey – “Dede” Epling & “Zackery” O’Neill
Liliane Schuster – “Sage” Brassfield
Jane Nuzzaci – Karen Graney
Howard Robertson – Chester
Vernon & Geraine Stocker – Spt, Bandit & Chauncy
Beth Watson – Lucy
Doug & Jane Tribull – Chelsea & Alex
TJ Davis – James & Rachel Davis
Julie Feibush – Molly
Carol Hails – Katie & Corrie
Ann Puchany – Charles Edward Walker
Linda & Terri Johnston – “Dede” Epling, “Zackery” O’Neill & “Lucy” Watson
Rachel Murray - Chauncey
Kent & Kathy Nixon – Higgins
Susan & William Henn – William Morris
Fran Hrastar – Barbara A. Kummel, DVM
Vicki Phillips – Iris Hawk-Phillips

General Gifts

Patrick Irving
Debra Johnson (multiple gifts)
Jeremy & Amanda Cox
Linwood & Gleema Donald
Melissa & William Campbell (multiple gifts)
Sherry Rohn Clancy (multiple gifts)
Jane Schimek (multiple gifts)
Dr. Ann Ayre
Ken Trietch
Elise Passentino
Lisa Nuzzaci (multiple gifts)
Earl & Beth Duzey (multiple gifts)
Randy & Lois Boyer
Debra Johnson (multiple gifts)
Ellen Wycoski
Corwyn Alvarez
David & Kathleen Hartzok
Carol Alderman
Tracy Yeager
Karl Malessa
Dena Neff c/o Lisa Nuzzaci
Jane Cheatom
Monica LaPolt
Pam & Jerry Bordwick
Charles & Jean Grutzius
Kathy Shannon
Rick & Rita Gatlin (multiple gifts)
Lynne Burgoon
Tom & Dorothy Scanlan
Pat Alberta
Linda & Terri Johnston
Geoff & Megan Roswick
Nancy Cawley (multiple gifts)
Douglas & Rona Flagle
Lani Frank
FJ & Mary Barnes
Jennifer Bencks
Carolyn Dieter

HOW YOU CAN HELP MAESSR...

Igive.com – Register MAESSR as your charity and shop through the Igive.com website

Employer Matching Gifts – Will your employer match donations to non-profit organizations? Ask at the Human Resources Department. If so, your donation to MAESSR will be matched by your employer or doubled!

Goodsearch.com - Search the Internet by using www.Goodsearch.com – designate MAESSR (spell out words to find us!) and we will get money every time you use this search engine.

Donate to MAESSR to honor a friend's birthday, wedding anniversary or special occasion. Don't need any more “stuff”? Ask your friends to donate to MAESSR in your name. Their gift will be acknowledged and you will receive notification as well.

Buy merchandise from the MAESSR Marketplace – Need a gift for a friend? Lots of wonderful items that help the dogs when you buy!

Shop MAESSR Affiliates found on the MAESSR website – MAESSR will get a percentage of your purchase

Gift of stock- Similar to a cash donation.....please contact us further if interested in donating stock.

Tell everyone about Rescue....many volunteers and adoptive families find us through word of mouth.

Benevolink – Register MAESSR as your charity and shop Benevolink partners through the Benevolink website.
www.Benevolink.com

THE TRAINING CORNER

By Cindy Reitz

Some Thoughts On Aggression

Living with an aggressive dog can be a challenge at best. It must first be determined what type of aggression you are dealing with. Is it fear based? Does Freckles need stronger leadership? Is she lacking confidence? Are there specific triggers that cause her to bite? Is the behavior predictable? With desensitization and training, it is possible to rehabilitate many of these dogs, or at least modify their behavior to a more manageable level.

Unfortunately, this is not always the case. If there are too many triggers, if the behavior is completely unpredictable, if the dog is not 'wired' properly, or if the safety of others, both 2- and 4-legged cannot be guaranteed, rehabilitation may not be an option. We then must consider total management of the dog and her environment, or even the heart-wrenching possibility of euthanasia.

We live in an unpredictable world. What if a toddler broke away from Mom and ran squealing up to Freckles, or perhaps worse, ran away from her? What would happen in the veterinary office if a puppy bounced into her space? How safe is a youngster who may climb over your fence to retrieve a stray ball? Would a group of cyclists riding past Freckles be safe if the snap on her leash broke? If a human exhibited these behaviors, would he be permitted to live free in society?

Here then, are the hard questions you must ask yourself. Can you provide Freckles with a quality life while still ensuring the safety of others? Can you keep her in your home and yard and still provide sufficient

stimulation to maintain her happiness? Can she get enough exercise in your yard, or do you have access to a safe and secure place for her to run and play? Is your fence high enough and secure enough to insure that she won't get out and others won't get in unless invited? Will you need a privacy fence so people don't poke fingers through, or do other things to arouse or antagonize her?

Are you willing to keep your doors locked at all times to prevent family and friends from walking into your home unexpectedly? Are you willing to keep her in another room behind a locked door when you have company that may not be Freckles-safe? Can you be strong enough to say 'No' to visiting friends and family when they say 'Freckles wouldn't bite *us*. We want to see her!'

Can veterinary and grooming appointments be scheduled after hours to avoid contact with other dogs? Where will Freckles stay when you must go out of town? It's unlikely that she'll be able to accompany you on vacations. Who can safely care for her? Are you considering children in the future? Are there grandchildren who visit? How long are you willing to live this way?

I've had personal experience living with, and attempting to manage aggression. Jake, a wonderful loving German shepherd, was our first dog. That was the side of his personality he shared with my family and a few select friends. To others, he was an unpredictable flying fury. He loved

to intimidate... stalking, then charging and barking ferociously at anyone he thought he could spook. Despite much work with professionals and all efforts to modify this behavior, we were unsuccessful. There was no doubt that Jake would eventually maul someone, and it was recommended that we 'put our boy down'. We couldn't bear the thought of this, and continued to 'manage' the situation to the best of our ability. This became increasingly difficult as his aggressive tendencies escalated.

The day came when, unprovoked, Jake put teeth on our three year old son's face and we were forced to follow through with the inevitable. Jake was euthanized. The memory still brings tears to my eyes. It was the single most difficult thing I've ever done. It was, however, the right decision, and the only responsible decision we could have made. It was not until Jake was gone that we realized just how stressful our lives had been. Being 'on guard' 24 hours a day is exhausting.

I have learned much since then. I can only imagine how unhappy these dogs must be living with their unnatural urges and impulses. Dealing with the reactions of their human family after an incident cannot be pleasant. Thankfully I've had to recommend this to clients no more than a handful of times in the past twenty years. As difficult as it is for us, I believe that euthanasia is sometimes the kindest, most loving gift we can give an aggressive dog.

MAESSR MEMORIES – Part I

By Kim Bolster

As part of the MAESSR ten year anniversary celebrations, a special shirt has been designed. The shirt features a number of MAESSR dogs that have been placed over the ten years. Each story is unique and highlights the difference that MAESSR has made --saving one dog at a time. The stories below are a tribute to the many volunteers, families and friends of MAESSR who provide the time, energy, and financial resources to assist these dogs in their time of need.

I'd like to introduce you to some of these dogs starting on the top left and working down the left side:

1998 MAESSR 2008

MID-ATLANTIC ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL RESCUE



10 YEARS - MAKING MEMORIES - MENDING LIVES

Boomer – Living a life tied to a tree and heartworm positive, neighbors of Boomer's owners intervened and were able to turn over Boomer to MAESSR's care for medical treatment and adoption.

Cody – Due to a change in his family's living arrangements, Cody found a safe haven with MAESSR until he was matched with his new home.

Shadow – Six months old, Shadow was languishing at a shelter with severe hip dysplasia. MAESSR fostered him, paid for his bilateral hip repair surgeries, and he has subsequently gone on to compete in agility trials!

Tracey and Xuxa – Taken to the vet by their "breeder", these young pups were diagnosed with the Parvo virus. The owner requested they be put down but the vet contacted MAESSR who took them into foster care and ensured they received the medical care needed to treat the illness. A full recovery was made by all three pups!

Sadie – Purchased as a puppy, her first owner soon realized an apartment was not the place for a lively Springer puppy and relinquished her to MAESSR's care.

Mason – A senior, Mason's owner passed away and family members were going to shoot him until a Good Samaritan intervened and contacted MAESSR. Mason lived his last days, well cared for and in a loving home.

Homer – A senior, Homer was relinquished when his owners had a second child and felt they no longer had time to deal with his separation anxiety or spend time with him.

Tristan – Found as a stray, Tristan was hours away from being put down at a county shelter when MAESSR raced to his rescue.

The shirt is available at the website Marketplace and at the picnics. It is available in various styles; sweatshirt, crew neck t-shirt and V-neck t-shirt. We also will have limited number of mouse pads in the design. Next issue – the rest of the stories!!!



SENIOR MOMENTS

By Missy Cromwell

In 2004, I became separated from my family. I looked and looked and looked but I could not find them. I ended up as a stray at a shelter in New York. A MAESSR volunteer saw me in the shelter and helped a friend named Vinnie adopt me. Vinnie took great care of me and loved me a lot. He took me everywhere with him. Unfortunately, Vinnie fell on hard times and could not keep me so in the Spring of 2007, Vinnie gave me to MAESSR.

Vicki Phillips groomed me and cared for me for a little while. Anyone who knows Vicki knows what a loving hand she has with all dogs but Springer's in particular. I left Vicki and then went to stay with Mike and Louise Perkins. Mike and Louise took care of me for most of the summer. They were so good to me. Just to be sure I never got hungry, they would leave loaves of bread on the counter for me to eat and all kinds of other good treats. I am not sure I was able to convey to Mike and Louise how much I enjoyed all the food they left on the counter for me each day.

Right after Labor day, I moved to my forever home in Washington, DC. I did my best to remain aloof at first. I had moved around a bit over the last few years and I just wasn't sure that this was really it if you know what I mean. In short order, I began to feel like perhaps this really was my forever home. I went to the day spa and got a fancy show cut. I even got a brown and pink polka dot collar. At the risk of sounding immodest, I look so sharp in that collar; it matches my fur beautifully. It didn't take long for my new mom to start taking me places. I especially liked to go to Scot and Ed's for Sunday dinner. I would usually do my cute and adorable look and manage to get some crackers or a piece of meat or something. Have you figured out that I am a bit food motivated?

Early this year, my mom was told that my kidney disease was getting worse. The doctor put me on a special diet but I hated it. I stopped eating and lost eight pounds. Finally my mom and the vet had a talk and they decided that it was time to do things my way. Boy oh boy, if I thought I had it good before, you would not believe how much the scales tipped in my favor. Every morning my mom would cook me a special breakfast and every night she would make me a special dinner. I have never eaten so well. And everyone really started to pour on the love. I just got so much attention from everyone. My condition even began to improve for awhile.

Unfortunately, the tide turned against me in mid-April. I began to feel poorly again and stopped eating. There were several trips to the vet but ultimately we all knew it was time for me to say goodbye and on May 5th I crossed over to the bridge to join all of the MAESSR dogs before me. I left this earth knowing that as a MAESSR dog I was loved not by just my family but by the extended MAESSR family who works hard every day to ensure that no Springer goes unloved. I am so grateful to all the people who helped me get to my forever home be it for a ride or for their loving care. I thank you all for your love, your financial support, your time and your commitment to English Springer Spaniels. My life was better because of the work that all of you do every day to help homeless Springers and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.



Central Virginia – remember to donate your Ukrops Golden Gifts to MAESSR. Look for your certificates in the mail and send them to MAESSR, PO Box 15354, Richmond, VA 23227.

- Please be sure to let MAESSR know if you move. Not only do you keep getting the Springer Tails, but you help dogs by not wasting postage money! The last two newsletter mailings had 210 newsletters returned to MAESSR!
- Springer Tails is always available by email so consider not getting it by mail and reading or printing from on line. Just send an email to ess4x18@cs.com and your name will be removed from the master mailing list. An email is always sent advising when the newsletter is available on line.

RECYCLING



Most of us have inkjet printers at home or work. Next time when you have an empty cartridge, don't throw it away. Just put it in a Ziploc bag or the original cartridge box and bring it to any MAESSR event. Cartridges with a print head are qualified for payment – these include most of Hewlett Packard, Lexmark, Compac, Canon, Dell, Brother and Apple. Cartridges without a print head (such as Epson) do not qualify. You can also get empties from friends, neighbors and small businesses. The potential is huge! And, as an added bonus – if you bring cartridges to any MAESSR picnic, you will receive one raffle ticket for each cartridge. If you have any questions, please contact Ilonka Dazevedo at raregirl@hotmail.com.



Springerfest 2008!

The 2008 MAESSR SpringerFests are coming fast! There will be five picnics this year – as far south as Richmond and as far west as Pittsburgh! Make plans to attend at least one!

The picnics are a wonderful time to meet fellow Springer fans, MAESSR families and volunteers. Dog games, special speakers, Rescue Parade, lots of Springer merchandise, and friendship all are a part of the picnics.

Should you have any questions, please see the Calendar of Events within this issue which shows the contact person for each picnic. Hope to see you there!



SPRINGERFEST 2008 !!!!

Number Attending	Picnic	Date	\$10.00 a person	Volunteer & family \$8.00 a person	Total
	South Park, Pittsburgh, PA	June 7, 2008			
	Three Lakes, Richmond, VA	June 21, 2008			
	Downs Park, Pasadena, MD	September 13, 2008			
	Little Buffalo, Newport, PA	October 18, 2008			

Check enclosed, made payable to MAESSR

Name _____
 Email Address: _____
 Phone if no email address: _____

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

I would love to help at the picnic:	
Will bring a raffle	_____
Set up or Clean Up	_____
Registration	_____
However you need me!	_____



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P.O. Box 15354
Richmond, VA 23227
springerrescue@yahoo.com
(301)362-0423

Rick Gatlin – President – soloess@newhopetel.net
Linda Johnston – Volunteer Coordinator – springerlove@comcast.net
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Kathleen O’Neill – Applications Coordinator – oneill@princeton.edu
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Debbie Lipsey – Dog Intake Coordinator – springerfarm@aol.com
Heather Young – Dog Intake Coordinator – youngh19066@yahoo.com
Joe Harkins – Transport Coordinator – jharkins@comcast.net
Angie Epling – Owner Relinquishment Coordinator – BrocksPalace@aol.com
Stephanie Donofrio – Petfinder Updates – edonofrio@aol.com

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QUANTITY OF ITEMS		COST INCLUDES SHIPPING
_____	2008 PICNIC T-SHIRT - SALMON	S M L XL / XXL \$12.50 / \$14.00
_____	2008 PICNIC T-SHIRT – STONE BLUE	M L XL / XXL \$12.50 / \$14.00
_____	TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY CREW NECK T-SHIRT	S M L XL / XXL \$17.50 / \$19.50
_____	TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY V-NECK T-SHIRT	S M L XL / XXL \$18.50 / \$20.50
_____	TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY SWEATSHIRT	S M L XL XXL \$30.00
_____	RE-USABLE GROCERY BAGS	2/\$6.00 4/\$10.00
_____	EMBROIDERED TOTE BAG	\$28.00
_____	MAGNETIC NOTEPAD	\$ 5.50
		TOTAL: \$ _____

SHIP TO: _____

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 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$125 Other: _____

MY DONATION IS:

GIFT IN HONOR OF: _____ GIFT IN HONOR OF: _____

GIFT IN MEMORY OF: _____ GIFT IN HONOR OF: _____

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MY NAME AND ADDRESS: _____

MY NAME AND ADDRESS: _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: _____

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