



4<sup>th</sup> Quarter  
2008

# Springer Tails

## Mid-Atlantic English Springer Spaniel Rescue

### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Rick Gatlin  
The Holidays are Coming!

I apologize as Rita and I have been on the go constantly this quarter since her Dad's heart attack and quadruple bypass surgery. But I would like to give you some food for thought at this time of year.

There are many hard-working, conscientious, very caring people doing rescue all over America. I feel very strongly about rescue, as I know all of you do. We are approaching the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, when our thoughts turn more to celebration than the struggles of everyday life. Yes, we should celebrate: for the reasons behind these holidays, for our country, for our lives of freedom, and for the wonderful homes we have found for all the English Springer Spaniels we have rescued and adopted out.

So...if you are going to celebrate, what kind of gift-giving are you planning? Shop the MAESSR Marketplace, for certain! Kim Bolster has added so many wonderful items this year, and with the new website management, the Marketplace is easier than ever to use.

Don't need more clothing, books, magnets, bags, etc? There are other gifts that are great to give. First, consider giving a donation to MAESSR in your friends' name, or have someone give you a gift of donating to MAESSR in your name. Just fill out the donation area on the last page of this newsletter and send it in. We will acknowledge these gifts with a special card.

If not a monetary gift, how about giving your time? If you are located near MAESSR foster homes, call them up, ask if you could help them with their Springers to give them a break to do their shopping, go to a party, etc. Call your local shelter and offer your volunteer assistance to them as well. A helping hand is always appreciated.

MAESSR has had a spectacular year in 2008. We have greatly increased our volunteers – providing more foster homes, transports, interviewers, and public events to assist the increased number of Springers in need coming into Rescue. As we look forward to 2009 – we know economic challenges will be present but are so thankful for the strength of the MAESSR community, our adoptive families, volunteers, and supporters.

So, on behalf of MAESSR, the Board of Directors and all the Coordinators – thank you for all you do for MAESSR and all the very special dogs. Best wishes for a joyous and safe holiday season!

### SAVE THE DATE!

April 25 & 26, 2009 in Fairfax, VA  
MAESSR presents:

### The Language of Dogs

Join us for a seminar taught by Sarah Kalnajs BA CDBC CPDT - sponsored by MAESSR and funded by a grant from the Caroline McCoy Jones Private Foundation.

Day one is for all dog lovers, rescue volunteers and those employed in the care of dogs who are interested in understanding canine body language. You will learn to read those subtle signals in the context of the environment and learn how to communicate using your body in a way your dog will understand.

The second day is for foster families and MAESSR volunteers. Sarah will build on the information from day one and take our assessment skills to another level.

Detailed information will be on our web site soon!

For more information about Sarah Kalnajs go to her web site at [www.bluedogtraining.com](http://www.bluedogtraining.com). If you want to volunteer to help or have any questions contact Barb Bennett at [springerstwo@aol.com](mailto:springerstwo@aol.com).

# Home For The Holidays

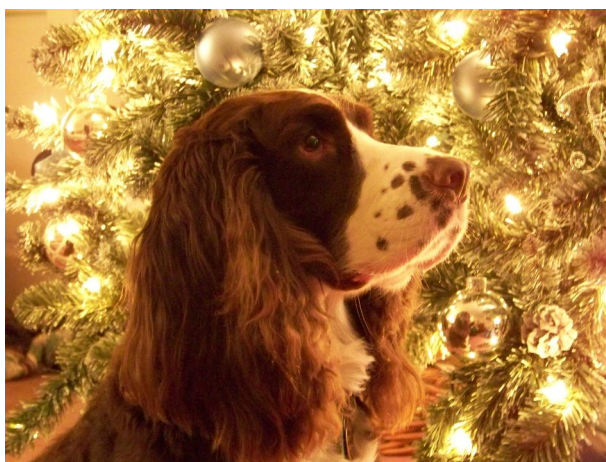
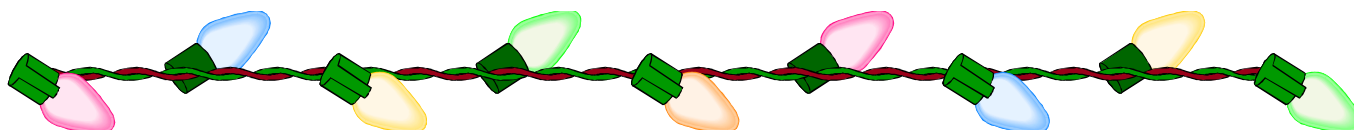
By Teri Wiley

Everyone is anxiously waiting for the holiday season. Soon you will be running about, shopping, baking, and decorating. When you sit down to make out your Christmas card list, take an extra few minutes to recall these reminders from your pet:

1. Please keep my schedule consistent. Remember I need to eat, drink and be exercised. I like structure in my schedule.
2. Keep those electrical cords (for the candles in the windows, etc.) secured and out of my reach.
3. Christmas tree water and several holiday plants, such as poinsettias and holly berries are toxic.
4. Tinsel, ribbons, glass ornaments may look wonderful on that big tree, but not on my x-ray.
5. Please remember, my tail can't come off, but candles and hot things can be moved.
6. All those wonderful smells, that rich gravy, the sumptuous turkey (with all those bones), anything chocolate, certain fruits such as grapes and raisins, even coffee grounds...make me very ill. Please keep them out of reach.

7. Keep the trash bags and cans secure and out of my sight...even old things smell good to me!
8. Keep the garage floor and driveway clear of antifreeze that may have dripped from your holiday guest's cars. It smells sweet to me, but can lead to kidney failure.
9. Please remember to check my paws for salt used to clear your sidewalk or driveway too. In fact, I would love a pair of those doggie paws to keep my tootsies toasty. Please tell Santa!

The fall and winter months offer so many fun outdoor family activities. Be sure to include your pet. The air is crisp, a great day for picking out the perfect Christmas tree, take your dog(s) along for a romp. Perhaps the kids are home from college, looking for something to do or you have some vacation days coming up. How about including your dog in your nice long walk or sledding? Think of the fun and pictures you can take watching your dog push snow across the yard while building a snowman! Springer Spaniels *love* the outdoors and will join in with great joy and glee. Enjoy the holidays, enjoy your pet!



**Don't miss out!** Order your 2009 MAESSR Calendar now and share 2009 with some very special friends!

# 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](http://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

**Recycle Your Ink printing Cartridge with MAESSR** – Contact Ilonka ([raregirl@hotmail.com](mailto:raregirl@hotmail.com)) or mail your cartridges to the MAESSR PO Box 15354, Richmond, VA 23227. MAESSR will receive money for every cartridge recycled!

**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](http://www.Benevolink.com)



## Holiday Deal for Springer Tails readers!

Only for our readers and not available on the Internet! Buy the single dog Woody Ornament and pay only \$5.00 for the SpringerFest picnic shirt. See the back page for the Order Form. Get both items for \$22.00! This special deal is only available through December 31 and while quantities last.



See the back page of the newsletter or website to order this holiday sign!

## "Boot" Campaign

This year at Springer Nationals in Dallas, a campaign was initiated to support and help Springer Rescue's growing expenses. Utilizing the "Walk a Mile" theme, cowboy boots were used as donation collection points. MAESSR is proud to offer the "Walk a Mile" t-shirt in a yellow short sleeved and ash grey long sleeve shirts. The shirt will be available on the MAESSR website.



## WHO'S THAT VOLUNTEER?

By Linda Johnston

Deb Radanovic lives in Lancaster, Pennsylvania with her husband Greg, two teenage boys, Justin and Nick, and three MAESSR dogs – Rusty, Fritz, and Georgie.

Deb had many dogs growing up - German Sheppards, pointers, setters, and of course springers. Deb's dad would go to the SPCA and bring home a hunting prospect. The dogs he chose always turned out to be gun shy and so they became her dogs. Fred was her first ESS from the SPCA. He was a great dog and Deb's best friend. Fred went to the rainbow bridge at the age of 12. Years later, Debbie and Greg married and moved to Iowa. Greg travelled a lot and Deb was lonely, she had no family around and no pets to love, so she started looking in the local paper for another ESS. Deb found a local breeder and brought home a bouncing black and white female who was blind in one eye, they named her Queenie. She was their first baby and then shared her home with two baby boys.

When they moved back to Pennsylvania, Queenie was the one who taught the boys how to swim and fetch sticks out of the pond since she hated to get wet and running for exercise was too much work for her. She was very laid back and a true springer. After Queenie turned 13, the family started to think about another springer, knowing that their life would be empty without one. Their groomer suggested rescue, so Deb went online and found MAESSR.

Their first MAESSR dog was Rusty (2005) who is very smart and a workaholic. In late 2005 Deb enrolled Rusty in an agility class. He is now actively competing and has earned several titles. In 2005 Deb began doing transports for MAESSR. She wanted to give back to such a great organization, helping to give homeless dogs a new start in life.

Deb's next dog was Fritz, adopted in 2006. He is very much like their beloved Queenie. Fritz and Deb are registered with Delta Society Pet Partners. Deb wanted to share her love of her dogs with others, so she and Fritz make therapy visits to nursing and retirement homes, and reading programs with children who have special needs. Volunteering has deeply touched Deb's life and those they see every week.

This summer she was asked to join Barb Bennett on the MAESSR training/ behavior team helping families who adopted dogs but have questions or problems with their new family member. Deb also volunteered as the dog game coordinator for the MAESSR picnics at Langhorne, Pasadena, and Little Buffalo. She loves playing games with them, so watch out for 2009.

The bug has hit Deb and Greg again - they adopted their third dog in September, Georgie and she is a joy to the family. Deb's goal for her is therapy work. Deb says springers really are like potato chips, she needs a whole bag, not just one. One thing that springers have taught her is that life is too short to just sit around – let's go, go, go, we can crash on the couch later. She wants to express her joy to such a wonderful organization and thanks us for all her furry babies.

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## TRAINING TRIUMPHS!

Compiled by Barb Bennett



**Bailey** is officially a Senior Hunter. He is only the second ILP American Cocker to earn a SH title. These rescue dogs can compete with the best." ~ *Jean-Marie Tate*

**Frosty** (Class of '07) has learned her training well and is very attentive and wants to please. She earned her Canine Good Citizen certificate on 9/13/08 at the Pasadena Picnic. ~ *Candi Lynn*

**Keifer** (foster, '08) though deaf, and yearning to hear "Good Boy" has learned through sign language that "thumb's up" means Good Boy!! and wags his tail appropriately!! ~ *Keifer's foster mom*

**Chip** (foster '08) just completed the beginning obedience class at PetSmart. He loved it and did very well. ~ *Chip's foster mom*

**Reggie** (Class of '05) passed his Canine Good Citizen certificate at Little Buffalo picnic. ~ *Linda Johnston*

# A POEM FOR KEIFER & ALL SENIORS

## Here I Am...

Here I am in a home that I never knew  
But I know in this home, I am never blue.

In this home, I am loved and cared about  
I am never pushed away or ever left out.

Here I am getting all the love I never had  
So after all those loveless years, this is not so bad.

For in this home, my foster mom certainly does care  
And shows me more than my owners ever did dare.

Here I am getting food, getting lots of love  
One thing I never knew existed than from up above.

It may have taken lots of time to get me this far  
From once I was dropped off from my owner's car.

But now in my senior years I am a happy dog  
Going out everyday for my daily jog.

Here I am, I may be old and I have seen a lot  
But now I experience to have my favorite spot

I will move on from my home that I know now  
But in my mind I will never forget how

How my foster mom showed me so much more  
And certainly I will not forget that from what I knew  
before

So here I am happily living my senior years  
It may have taken so long, but I hold it dear.

Please remember senior dogs have a lot to give  
So keep us in mind to show you how we like to live.

For we will give you all we have and even more  
So here I am, waiting for you, for me to adore.

And to my foster mom, thank you for everything  
For without you, I'd have no song to sing.

*By Candi Lynn*

# 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.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Linda Johnston at [springerlove@comcast.net](mailto:springerlove@comcast.net), or simply complete the online volunteer application on our website.

Please join us in welcoming the following 34 new volunteers who have recently joined the MAESSR family:

- Christine Cronenwett, Pittsburgh, PA
- Beverly Young – Bethlehem, PA
- Elissa Sherman – Bethlehem, PA
- Alexander Makai – Ewing, NJ
- M Susan Windisch – Clifton, VA
- Lis Bartolo – Verona, NJ
- Michelle Berkheiser – Middletown, PA
- Angela Nolan – Reading, PA
- Diane Tefel – Ashland, VA
- Ann Davis – Clinton, TN
- April Smith - Virginia Beach, VA
- Marcia Bell – Plainsboro, NJ
- Katherine Nicely – Richmond, VA
- Erin McCormick – Dublin, VA
- Rachel Smith – Bethlehem, PA
- Jenn McStravick – Wilmington, DE
- Judy Dashiell - Virginia Beach, VA
- Beth Quashnie – Greencastle, PA
- Debra Brookfield – Freemansburg, PA
- Kate Glass – Bluemont, VA
- Holly Fox – Gettysburg, PA
- Jennifer Ansbach - Forked River, NJ
- Karen Porter - West Chester, PA
- Eva Van Stratum – Aston, PA
- John and Karen Redman – Seaford, DE
- Karen and Michael Pettry – Morgantown, WV
- Denise Knoepfel - Roselle Park, NJ
- Karen Mitchel – Clayton, NJ
- Cathy Fitzgerald – Bowie, MD
- Sharon Gower – Girardville, PA
- Larry and Debbie Wagner – Union, NJ
- Charlotte Ball - Silver Spring, MD
- Nancy Lewis Owings – Mills, MD
- Stephanie Soltner – Atco, NJ



# FALL MAESSR EVENTS



Burlington Pet Expo



Pittsburgh Pet Expo



Little  
Buffalo  
Picnic



# Thank You!

## Gifts in Honor

Anne & Byron Bucher – Lucky IV  
Carol Harris - Max  
Carolyn Dieter – Freddy Prints  
Carrie Holt – Chessie & Baxter  
Catherine Gvozden - Bethany  
David Hornbach – Shannon, Buddy & Magic  
Dena Neff – Lisa Nuzzaci's birthday  
Faye Malarkey – Riley and all of his friends  
Genevieve & Melvin Race – Pat Race's birthday  
Joyce & Richard Walker - Mack  
Kenneth & Laura Knipmeyer - Ready  
Laurie Garrison - Duncan  
Nancy & Rick Bayard – Jane Davis for her assistance  
Noah Stevens – Maggie  
Ruth Watson – Scrapper & Bruce  
Sandy Meicht – Lisa Roth's birthday  
Scott Lincoln – His mother's birthday  
Sheryl & Dave Williams – Dakota  
Susan Adamovitz – Buddy  
Tracy & Jeffrey Coogle – Dusty III  
Tammy Allwein – Tucker  
The Quandrel Group Attn: Sue Snavelly – Winnie II

## Gifts in Memory

Kenneth & Laura Knipmeyer – Mocha  
Nancy & Rick Bayard – Brandywine  
Ruth Watson – Millie  
Susan Adamovitz - Elmer  
Beth & Tom Anderson – Marvel Thompson  
Carol & Lee Smith – Abby Jo  
Cheryl Harrison – Marvel Thompson  
Claudene & Robert Harkins – Pat O'Conner  
Companion Animal Hospital – Stophie Powell-Brangers & Willie Powell-Brangers  
Cynthia Miele - Marcy  
Debra Brookfield - Cheyenne  
Edna & Ralph Rinaldi - Mia  
Fran & Jay Fisher - Sophie  
Karen Kohl – Freckles Whalen  
Linda & Terry Johnston – Sophie Fisher & Sophie Powell-Brangers  
Linda & Terry Johnston – Jacko, Liberty, Riley & Mia  
Lisa Wilson – Shylo  
Lisa Wilson – Aboo  
Lynne & Ty Young – Samantha & Wheeler

## General Gifts

Angela Epling – Princess Phyllis' vet expenses  
Anonymous  
Backwoods Country-Wanda Drake

Barbara Breeden  
Beth Schuster – Hollie's care  
Brian & Terri Griffin  
Carol Luchetti  
Carole & Gary Neifert – Hollie & Brownie's care  
Carole Alderman (multiple gifts)  
Catherine & Edward Stevens – Hollie's care  
Connie Elwell  
Craig Kuskie  
Dan Keppler – Hollie's vet expenses  
David Caris  
Debra Brookfield  
Debra Johnson (multiple gifts)  
Rick & Rita Gatlin (multiple gifts)  
Debra Paikoff  
Edna Rinaldi – Brownie's vet expenses  
Elizabeth Ricke – Brownie's vet expenses  
Genevieve Ryan  
George & Kathleen Ford – Hollie & Brownie's care  
Heather Young – Ben VI vet expenses  
Jackie Bielski – Hollie & Brownie's care  
Jane Schimek (multiple gifts)  
Jeffrey & Lynn Pratt  
Jennifer Secallus  
Jim & Beth Markle – Hollie & Brownie's care  
Julie Brangers – Brownie's care (multiple gifts)  
Julie Dyer (multiple gifts)  
Karen Dumin- Brownie's care  
Linda & Terry Johnston – Hollie & Brownie's care  
Lisa Nuzzaci (multiple gifts)  
Linda Lawlor (multiple gifts)  
Lynne Suhayda  
Maribeth Lawrence (multiple gifts)  
Mark Robinson  
Melissa Campbell  
Midway Animal Clinic – Discounted vet services for Riley's care  
Nancy Cawley (multiple gifts)  
Pat & Carl Pietriyk – Brownie's care  
Pat Race  
Paul Statler – Winnie II vet expenses  
Paula Knutson – Brownie's care  
Renee Ayers  
Robert & Margaret Robertson  
Sam & Paula Knutson  
Sherry Rohn Clancy (multiple gifts)  
State of the Art – Hollie & Brownie's care  
Susan Donley  
Vernon & Geraine Stocker – Puppy mill dogs' vet care

## Ukrops Golden Gifts

Thanks to everyone who donated their Ukrops Golden Gift receipts to MAESSR. MAESSR received \$230.80 from this Central Virginia grocery chain. We are most appreciative of Ukrops and those who donated the receipts. We look forward to March 2009 and the challenge to increase our total!

# A Reason to be Thankful

By Sanford, as told to Jennifer Ansbach



This is the season for giving thanks, I hear, so I wanted to take this opportunity to share with the MAESSR family how thankful I am. As a foster dog, I know the hardships of not having a family, and I hope the

other MAESSR dogs don't mind me speaking for them, too.

I'm Sanford. I live with a great foster mom in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, and since I arrived here in March, I have learned a lot about foster dogs and MAESSR volunteers.

Did you know that there are over 150 families who are willing to take us foster dogs in? About half of those currently have foster dogs or have had foster dogs within the last six months, and believe me, having a foster dog isn't always easy.

I came to my foster mom after spending a month in a shelter. Boy, did I need a bath! At first I was afraid of being with people, but my foster mom helped me learn more about people. They aren't so scary, after all. In fact, some are really fun to have around! Most foster parents have to clean us up and teach us about the right way to live with people: we learn to go outside and not have accidents in the house (Sorry, mom!). We learn about staying off furniture and counters and not looking for treasure in the trash cans. If teaching us this stuff makes it easier to get to forever home, then we are thankful for that.

Foster parents also make sure that we are healthy enough to go to a forever home. For me, this has meant trips to vet for different health issues. My foster mom really pays attention to me, and she always finds

way to make me more comfortable. I know that sometimes she would rather do other things than go to vet (I would—I'd rather cuddle!), but like lots of foster parents, she gives up her time and runs special dog errands for us. We are thankful for all the people who take care of our health problems, both big and small.

I would also like to say a big springer thank you to all the dogs who share their homes with us fosters. Sometimes they have to share toys and their people, and I know that can be hard. I can't wait until I have people of my own, so I can imagine how they feel. And sometimes foster dogs are kind of grumbly and don't want to share or play, and they still let us live with them.

Most of all, I am thankful for the over 300 volunteers who work behind the scenes finding us, getting us into foster care, letting the world know our stories, planning outings (I had a great time at the Maryland picnic!), checking out our forever homes, driving us to our new families, and making sure there is more money to do all these things.

I've seen lots of sad stories in my time here—puppies rescued from puppy mills (they were a little hard to take, hanging off my ears and using me as a trampoline—fortunately, my foster mom had a playpen for them!); Freckles, who was afraid of us after his owner was too sick to take care of him; Levi, whose owners couldn't take care of all their pets; Bella, whose family didn't realize how much energy a springer puppy has and gave her up; Georgie, my best friend, whose owners kept her in their kitchen and then gave her up; and my new friend Sheena, who came from a shelter and is still just a bouncy puppy.

More importantly, however, I have seen what being a foster parent means, as each of those dogs learned to be part of our foster pack and most of them now have families to call their own.

In this season of thankfulness, I am thankful for the friends I have made, the volunteers I haven't met, and most of all, the possibility that I could have my own home for the holidays.



# THE TRAINING CORNER

By Cindy Reitz

## Adopting a Dog – Making It Work

By Sue Asten & Deb Mickey – Reprinted with permission

Dog lovers everywhere dream of rescuing a dog from a bad situation and giving the dog a loving, permanent home. While our hearts are in the right place, we must keep in mind the upheaval the dog is experiencing. Below are some suggestions to help make this adoption a success:

- **Respect the dog's space.** Your new dog may not have a strong bond to humans and might not care yet for your hugs, pats, and kisses. Or, he may have been physically abused and sees any attempt to touch him as a threat. In time, your dog will find human company and touch desirable and will welcome the attention but, at first, resist forcing yourself on him - give the dog space and time when he first comes into your home.
- **"I am a survivor!"** These dogs don't consider themselves victims but survivors. All of us want to make it up to these dogs for the past treatment they received, but sometimes we are over indulgent or too lenient with these dogs. Dogs, like children, respect and can comply to fair, consistent and just expectations and rules. Resist thinking of them as victims and head off future problems by establishing fair and just expectations and humanely teach these expectations to the dog. Consistency with house rules is key. Don't ignore a certain behavior one time and then discipline it the next time.
- **Don't expect this dog to be like your previous dogs.** This dog won't come into your house knowing your house rules - he may not have any training at all. He might not even know his own name! If he was a stray or an outside dog, being inside a house may be strange and unsettling for him at first. Training him not to soil in your house and learning other house rules will take time and patience.
- **Try to find out as much as you can about his previous life.** With this knowledge you may better understand why he does what he does. Use this information in his training to help him feel at ease with his new life and with you.
- **Don't trust the dog.** By this we mean beware of giving him too much freedom too soon. When outside, keep the dog on a long line or a leash or only let him loose in areas where he can't run off. Never leave him outside unattended. Remember, he doesn't know you and he may try to run off to his old home even if it was undesirable in your eyes. Be aware he might try to jump a fence or dig under it. Restrict where he can go and what he can do in your home. As the trust grows between you, slowly give the dog more freedom.
- **The dog might not know what children are.** Be aware the dog might not have ever been around children or that children may have teased him in the past. Closely supervise both the dog and the children when they interact. This applies to the dog's interaction with the elderly as well.

Respecting the dog's space especially applies with children, and they must be taught to act responsibly and respectfully in regards to their new pet. Here's where crate training a dog can be very useful. Crate training the dog correctly teaches the dog that the crate is his "safe space" and children need to learn that when the dog goes into his crate he is "hands off" (please see additional literature about safely crate training your dog).
- **Build the dog's trust in you with humane training and treatment.** After having your new dog about a month, enroll both of you in a quality dog obedience school. Be sure the school's techniques are humane and motivational, not harsh. Even if your dog knows how to sit and lie down on command, working together in this obedience class will form a closer bond between the two of you.
- **Give the dog time.** Being adopted is a major upheaval in this dog's life. He has been removed from the only life he knew, no matter how horrible that might have been, and placed in an alien, strange world. Give the dog time to adjust and realize that this is his new home, he is loved, he will be taken care of, and he will not be abandoned again. It will take time for him to learn to trust you and form a bond with you and your family. This adjustment won't come quickly... it may take 6 months, it may take a year, but the time it takes is well worth the effort!

# DO YOU REMEMBER.....THE SPRINGER SIX-PACK?

## Then...Rural Eastern NC...June, 2006

No one knows exactly how, where or when the journey began, but a group of bedraggled Springer Spaniels arrived at a farm in eastern North Carolina. They are hungry, frightened and take shelter wherever they can find it. The gentleman who discovers them contacts veterinarians, shelters, and animal control offices in all nearby localities, but there is no ownership record of these dogs. MAESSR and its southern counterpart are contacted, and quick response begins. Two dogs go to the Southern Rescue, and six come to MAESSR. They are nicknamed the Springer Six-pack. Drivers, pilots from Springer Air, and foster homes spring into action!

\*\*\*Editors Note: We will update three of the dogs this issue and look for the remaining three dogs in the First Quarter 2009 of Springer Tails.



### Now...Letters from the Six-pack...November, 2008

**Gracie, now Princess Grace** - I was exhausted and frightened when I arrived at my foster home. A quick trip to the vet confirmed I was pregnant. I later gave birth to 8 healthy puppies which kept me and my foster family very busy!

After the puppies found new homes, it was time for me to find my own family. I found my way to Matt and Angela Barton and Jack, my Springer brother. I was named Princess Grace. Jack is also a MAESSR dog and we have become inseparable. We play chase, tug, and Jack is quite a counter surfer! Sometimes we go boating in our red life jackets or exploring Dad's property in our GPS jackets. I just love to run and snoop around the woods! My family is very proud of us. We are very grateful to

MAESSR for finding us a home where we can have so much fun, but our family says they are the lucky ones!

Flipper - One of my favorite things is playing Frisbee in the yard with D, but I'm still nervous on a leash and a little shy with strangers. My second chance at life is the GREATEST, and I am a very happy dog. I would like to thank all the nice folks who helped me find my way!



**Ervin, now Cody** - When I first got off the plane in Northern Virginia, I sat on the tarmac and refused to walk on a leash. I was horribly matted, dirty, smelly, and scared. Sudden movements, people, and children approaching quickly all scared me. My foster mom and resident Springers, helped me learn about love and trust. I began to gain confidence and was soon ready for my own home.



I now live with my forever mom and dad, the McGregors, and my pal, Sedona, an 8-year-old Golden Retriever. We live near State College, PA. My new name is Cody, and my forever home is in the country complete with a vegetable garden. I enjoy helping to pick tomatoes, and I'll gladly eat anything you toss my way. You should see me dance for a treat!

I'm still a traveling man, but now I travel in comfort and style. Sedona and I go RVing with Mom and Dad! I have been to Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, the Smokey Mountains in North Carolina, the beach in South Carolina, and I visited family in Colorado.

When I first arrived in July of 2006, I was very timid and would duck and run at loud noises, sudden movements, or the arrival of young children. I'm still a very submissive dog, but I'm feeling more secure every day. I've developed a little strut when Sedona and I are exploring outside. Mommy just loves watching me trot proudly down the fence line growling at something in the distance. I no longer need to wear a harness when walking or hiking, and nowadays I'll launch off the couch when someone picks up my leash! Mom and Dad say they could not have asked for a sweeter, gentler, or better-behaved dog!



**Flipper, now Keenan** - My brother and I were flown from New Bern, North Carolina to Northern Virginia. We smelled really bad, and we were filthy, dirty and very scared. At the airport I met my nice foster dad, and I was so frightened, he had to carry me to his car. At his home I met his four dogs and knew they'd be my friends. I weighed 50 lbs. when I arrived, but after my first grooming (shaving), I weighed 37 lbs. Boy, did I feel better! However, I had some health problems and needed a lot of TLC. I was scared of many things and had no idea how to play. One day my foster dad took me for a long ride to Pennsylvania. There I met a nice couple, Pat and Steve Clark, a sweet Cocker Spaniel, and two cats. They had come to meet me. In less than an hour it was clear that I should join their family...FOREVER!!!

Wow, life here in my forever home is wonderful! My new name is Keenan, and I have a spaniel brother, Casey, whom I really love. I help him a lot because he is very old. I like sleeping in the sun with my feline sibling, Shadow, and I've learned to tolerate the family's feline snob, Cleo. One of my favorite things is playing Frisbee in the yard with Dad, but I'm still nervous on a leash and a little shy with strangers. My second chance at life is the GREATEST, and I am a very happy dog. I would like to thank all the nice folks who helped me find my way!



## 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER MAESSR EVENTS

By Kim Bolster

It has been a very busy fall for MAESSR public events as we continue to work to get the word out about MAESSR, our work, dogs and volunteer opportunities. A very special thank you to all those listed below who participated in these very important events. It is very rare that we do not have an increase in applications or volunteer interest following participation in public events. Watch the website calendar or newsletter for 2009 opportunities to help with events!

### **Mutt Strut- Suffolk, Virginia**

Coordinator - Paige Martin  
Barb Moseler  
The Stupka Family

### **Furry Friends Fest – Bethlehem, Pennsylvania**

Coordinator - Candi Lynn  
Ally Zadlo  
Elizabeth Cunningham  
Fisher family

### **Cranberry Festival, Chatsworth, New Jersey**

Coordinator – Vicki Phillips  
Richard and Joyce Walker  
Frank Mellon  
The Lake family  
Cindy Weller  
Mario Tibbrine  
John and Lois LeVicchi  
Heather Young

### **Tour de Tailwaggers, Burlington, North Carolina**

Alice Fisher

### **SPCA Dog Walk, Norfolk, Virginia**

Coordinator - Paige Martin  
Carole Alderman  
Judy Dashiell  
April Smith

### **Bark in the Park, Chesapeake, Virginia**

Coordinator - Paige Martin  
Carole Alderman  
Marsha Orr  
April Smith

### **Fredericksburg Dog Festival, Fredericksburg, Virginia**

Coordinator – Kim Bolster  
Lisa Roth  
Julie Brangers

### **Burlington Pet Expo**

Coordinator - Vicki Phillips  
Frank Mellon  
Karen Peale  
Kathleen O'Neill  
John LeVicchi

### **Pittsburgh Pet Expo, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

Coordinators – Pat Race and Linda Johnston  
Pat Alberta  
Robbie Pierce  
Pam Walker  
Donna Stayduhar



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(301)362-0423**

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Linda Johnston – Volunteer Coordinator – [springerlove@comcast.net](mailto:springerlove@comcast.net)  
Gale Blackmer – Financial Coordinator – [windy1421@verizon.net](mailto:windy1421@verizon.net)  
Sue Geckle – Applications Coordinator – [maessrapps@yahoo.com](mailto:maessrapps@yahoo.com)  
Kathleen O’Neill – Applications Coordinator – [oneill@princeton.edu](mailto:oneill@princeton.edu)  
Kim Bolster – Fundraising Coordinator – [ess4x18@cs.com](mailto:ess4x18@cs.com)  
Ilonka D’Azevedo – Newsletter Editor – [raregirl@hotmail.com](mailto:raregirl@hotmail.com)  
Debbie Lipsey – Dog Intake Coordinator – [springerfarm@aol.com](mailto:springerfarm@aol.com)  
Heather Young – Dog Intake Coordinator – [young19066@yahoo.com](mailto:young19066@yahoo.com)  
Joe Harkins – Transport Coordinator – [jhharkins@comcast.net](mailto:jhharkins@comcast.net)  
Angie Epling – Owner Relinquishment Coordinator – [BrocksPalace@aol.com](mailto:BrocksPalace@aol.com)  
Stephanie Donofrio – Petfinder Updates – [edonofrio@aol.com](mailto:edonofrio@aol.com)

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_____ TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY SWEATSHIRT	S M L XL XXL \$30.00
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