



Shorewood Cocker News

Shorewood Cocker Rescue, Inc.

Volume 3, Issue 2 (Dec 2003)

Friends of Shorewood Cocker Rescue Board of Directors

If you're reading this newsletter, that means you are already a friend of Shorewood Cocker Rescue (SCR). Like many volunteer organizations, we cannot survive without the support of our friends. With your help, all dogs are spayed or neutered before they are adopted; all dogs are current on their shots; all dogs receive the veterinary care they need. And thanks to you, many dogs have received the homes they need. In short, our organization and the dogs in our care could not survive without your support.

As I write this message, we have over 25 dogs residing in foster homes. Nearly every day, we receive calls from area shelters in need of relieving overpopulation, or because they know that we may be able to give a special needs dog the help he or she needs. Many of our requests for help also come from dog owners who, for whatever reason, can no longer keep their pets. To the extent possible, we take these dogs.

SCR's mission essentially boils down to two goals: we would like to have the resources to take in every dog that comes to us, and we would like to find happy, healthy homes for each one of them.

We realize that we may never fully meet these objectives, but that doesn't mean we can't try! Our best chance to save more dogs is with the help of our friends. Through donations, volunteering and by telling others about us, you can help save more great dogs.

In addition to food and medical care, your generosity helps us provide other necessities, like treats, rawhides, beds, crates and toys. SCR offers a wide range of opportunities to volunteer. Our volunteers occupy booths and tables at rescue events, provide gift wrapping services at

local malls during the holidays, sell candy bars, etc. to raise money for SCR. They transport dogs to waiting homes, and many have opened up their own homes to provide foster care for dogs waiting for their new homes. We truly have a wonderful group of volunteers, but more help is always needed. With your continued help and support, we can make more progress toward meeting our goals.

On a side note, SCR has gone through some exciting changes over the last few years. We became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a board of directors in 2001 and have been fortunate to have a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers working with us each year. Some of these long-term volunteers have started to take on coordinator roles that really make a difference in organizing events, streamlining communication and utilizing resources. It's an exciting time in our all-volunteer run organization and our potential is limitless.

In conclusion, we'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy Holiday Season and a big thank you to the many people involved with Shorewood Cocker Rescue.

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An Opportunity Often Overlooked

By Karen Reinen

There are some very special cocker spaniels that are often overlooked in rescue, the older dogs, the precious seniors. Maybe their lifetime companion passed on before them. Maybe they were used to breeding many puppies to bring joy to the homes of many, and yet never had the loving home they deserved. Whatever the reason they lost their home, they still have those wonderful years to love someone.

I have adopted three senior dogs, and each one is so very special. Jolie was turned into a shelter after giving birth to many litters. She came into our home and right away started showing us what a joy an older dog can be. She appreciated every little thing we did for and with her. She was housebroken, very sweet and calm. No puppy stage to go through. Adopting her went so well, that next we took in Cookie. Her owner, an elderly woman, had passed away and poor Cookie who had been so very loved now

had no one to love her back. She joined our family when she was 15 years old and right away we fell in love with this calm, sweet little lady. She and Jolie became best of friends immediately. And now we have added Miss Ruby to our senior list. Her family had to give her up and she will be 10 years old in December. She is so sweet and so very smart, knows all the basic commands, plus she gives high-fives, and has the very best of manners.

When you adopt an older dog you know what the dog is like. Their temperament has already been shown, they already know a lot about life, and they do not need someone there every minute to train and entertain them. We have found this to be a real joy bringing these dear old cockers into our home. Next time you are thinking of adding a new dog to your family consider adopting a senior, they still have a lot of love to give.

MEET SHOREWOOD VOLUNTEER

Lynette Wirtz

Hi! My name is Lynette Wirtz, and I'm the Foster Care Coordinator for the rescue! It all started three years ago when I adopted Dandy from the rescue. He is the love of my life and is the best dog ever! He has attended several obedience courses in Madison, WI and is so smart. After adopting Dandy, who had had a very bad past, I was encouraged to become a volunteer. I did and this year became the Foster Care Coordinator in June 2003. I foster dogs too and Dandy is a big help with that. I also have a 5 year old black and tan tabby cat named Penny Lane. We also have a fish named Blue.

People always ask me if I'm nuts, but when I say no, then they ask if I ever get attached to my foster dogs. Sure, sometimes you do, but it is so rewarding of an experience to help them to get over their fears and go on to get wonderful homes where they will be pampered like Dandy for the rest of their lives. I've also never adopted one of my fosters. I can help a lot more dogs by fostering than I can by adopting! In my opinion adopting a rescued dog is the best thing you could possibly do. My mother always says she feels bad for when I have human children because they will probably be jealous of my Dandy!

If you are interested in receiving more information on becoming a foster home, please email me at Lynette@cockerrescue.com.



RESCUE EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

DogFest 2003



Shorewood alumni came to visit and socialize with the other pooches at DogFest in Madison



Recent adopters stopped by to give us updates on their new family members.



Shorewood Volunteers Kathy, Lynette, Jenifer and Danielle pose with Buffy, Bogie, Bosco and Casey outside of the Rescue Parade ring.



Jenifer takes Bosco around the ring to introduce him to the crowd.

RESCUE T-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS SHOW YOUR SUPPORT



Country light blue sweatshirt

T-shirts and sweatshirts featuring the SCR logo and web site are available for order. Choose t-shirts in light blue, coral, mint, purple, or country light blue; sweatshirts are available in country light blue only. All shirts feature black lettering. Sizes are M, L or XL and XXL, but the sweatshirts are more generously sized. Rescue apparel is available at rescue events or through the mail (depending on availability).

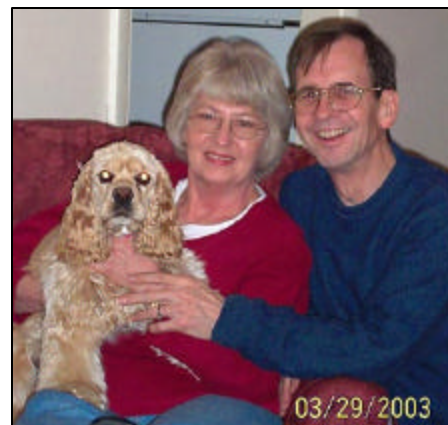
- T-shirts are \$10.00 each
- Sweatshirts are \$20.00 each

Email sue@cockerrescue.com to place an order by mail. Shipping is \$3.95 extra. Otherwise, come to a scheduled rescue event to buy a shirt and meet some of our volunteers and adoptable dogs. See you soon! :-)

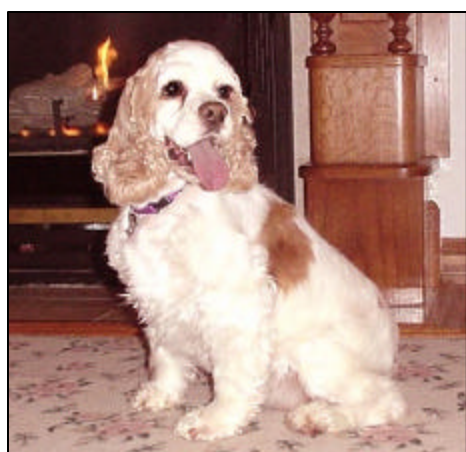
Adoption Updates

COOPER (Adopted October 2002)

Cooper came to the rescue from a shelter in WI and was soon adopted to his new home. This active boy obviously loves to cuddle with his new family. Thanks also to Cooper's new family for volunteering with the rescue. It's much appreciated.



WINNIE (Adopted June 2003)



Winnie's New Family: "Winnie is so sweet and loveable. She is almost glued to my side. When you left Friday, Winnie howled for both of you. She was very unsure of us. We spent the rest of the day loving her to bits. She is very good going outside. Loves her treats when she comes in. Is getting stronger on the stair climbing. Doesn't quite get the hang of all her new toys yet. Winnie says thanks for bringing me home."

REESES (Adopted September 2003)

Volunteers Travis & Angie had this to report after Reeses' placement visit: "Reeses' new family was so excited to get him. The kids were waiting in the yard for us to pull up with their new family member. We really think that Reeses is going to be very happy at his new home!"



TOBY (Adopted October 2003)



Volunteers Shawn & Jean has this to report after Toby's placement visit: "Toby has a great new home surrounded by trees and is even on the lake. We were able to find the house by the balloons hanging off the mailbox that read "Toby". Toby will have a very active lifestyle by getting to travel south for the winter and during the summer, gets to be the captain of their boat."