

COLLIE NEWS

Goodbye and welcome to others

By Lee More

I can't tell you how much I hate to leave SWCR after all these years, but I have to.

I've been a caregiver for my husband, who has Lewy Body Dementia, for several years. It's a cruel disease, dementia plus the motor symptoms of Parkinson's.

I can no longer take care of him by myself. He's too big, I'm too small, and I'll be 75 in July. So, later this year, we'll be moving with our three dogs to my daughter's home in Los Angeles.

I'll miss the many colleagues and collies, adopters and readers, I came to know well. And the great joy of saving the dogs and making their new families happy.

I helped found this group in 2002, which was 891 rescued collies ago. Others will break the 1,000 mark, including our newly appointed newsletter editor and support staff, our new treasurer and our new database manager.

Let's start with the newsletter. Your new editor is **Maryanne Coppinger**, who's been part of our collie family for years.

Maryanne was born and raised in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, but was drawn to life in

the wilderness through Girl Scout adventures. She served as an Army Journalist, worked in the telecom industry, has an MA in English education and graduated from a well-regarded culinary school.

She adored collies for decades before she finally adopted from SWCR; they've stolen her heart.

Maryanne relocated to the quiet wild lands of southern New Mexico, where her home office is painted pink.

She's also a wonderful writer, down-to-earth and funny.

Her team includes two SWCR board members, **Arlene Starkey** and **Kathy Wallis**, as advisers, and **Brenda Proffitt** in Albuquerque, an SWCR adopter and volunteer for years, as copy editor.

SWCR's new treasurer, **Bill Ferrell**, has unbeatable qualifications: He's a newly retired IRS investigator, dedicated to helping shelties and collies for most of his life, and is a longtime board member based in Phoenix.

Our new database manager, **Beverly White**, was one of our first adopters, in 2003. She used databases at her job in Amarillo, TX. Now retired, she's rescued and rehabbed several SWCR collies with huge medical problems.

Tim Groll, yet again, for his heroic driving — all the way from Alamogordo, NM to San Antonio, TX, to meet a collie mix being driven east from a crowded, high-kill shelter in Laredo, TX. It was 12-hour drive one-way, dodging tornados, and totaled 1,261 miles round-trip.

Heartfelt thanks to ...



Lisa Miller, in Amarillo, has volunteered for SWCR since 2003. When she learned that Collie (now Ava) needed to come into rescue, she drove 135 miles south, picked her up, returned home and set off for Albuquerque, where she arrived in time to hand Collie over to Damon, her new foster. It was a 558-mile day, one-way.



Quite a few collies attended the annual Celtic Festival last month in Rio Rancho, NM. Among them were the three beauties above: from left, **Molly**, adopted from DFW Collie Rescue in Texas by Candi and Rich Sanchez, longtime SWCR adopters and volunteers; **Max** from Juarez, Mexico (SWCR Class of 2018), adopted by SWCR's Anne Embry; and tri youngster **Myst**, adopted by SWCR's Arlene Starkey from Rainshade Collies, now in Boise, ID.

Help! Trudy is in pain and needs surgery

In late April we rescued a young collie mix girl from the Hobbs, NM shelter. Wendi and Kevin, her fosters in Alamogordo, named her Trudy. They soon became concerned about the way she moves. Her back end sways when she walks; when she plays or tries to run, she often falls and seems sore the next day.

X-rays revealed the extent of her problems. Her hip "sockets" are open semicircles. The femoral bone isn't even seated, and her right hip has two protrusions that look like bone spurs. Already, at less than a year old, she has arthritis.

Do you know how it feels when bone grates on bone? The pain is intense and debilitating.

We don't know whether Trudy's condition is the result of a birth defect or some early accident.

We do know that without help, Trudy will feel this pain every day for as long as she lives.

So please, if you can, help this sweet girl. Dr. James Koschmann, an excellent surgeon and founder of Crossroads Animal Hospital in El Paso, has agreed to do the two femoral head ostectomies on her hips, one very soon, the other after she's recovered. Estimated cost: \$600-\$700 for each surgery.



Here's Trudy and an X-ray image of her left hip. The long bone of the femur, with its rounded head, is supposed to fit into the hip socket. Instead it's grating on bone above the socket. Her other hip is almost as bad. No wonder she's in such pain!

YES, I WANT TO SAVE A COLLIE!

I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE \$ _____ to bail a collie out of a shelter, groom a matted collie, spay/neuter a collie, or pay a collie's vet bills.

I WOULD LIKE TO FOSTER a collie at home. I have a fenced yard and a lot of love to give!

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