



Second Quarter 2009

Imprints

A publication of NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue

Make Two Hearts Glad – Adopt A Homeless Collie!

Volume VIII Issue 1

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Dakota's Story – by Betty Hodgson

Dakota came to us from Athens, Ohio. He was at the county shelter and someone had contacted Almost Home Collie Rescue and wanted them to take him. They, in turn, contacted us to see if we could. They indicated he was limping and had been box trapped along with a half a dozen other stray dogs and the shelter was out of space. His age is estimated to be 5-6 years old.

We agreed to take Dakota. At the first meeting you could tell his left leg was severely damaged; it was crooked and he barely used it. In spite of his injury, he was very pleasant and sweet, seemingly happy to be cared for. He immediately got along with all of our dogs and quickly figured out how to go up and down stairs; his right leg and back legs were strong. He even seemed a little on the chubby side at 83 pounds.

Upon the initial examination it appeared the injury was a very old dislocation that had healed over. I cannot imagine the pain he suffered as it did.

At this point Dakota didn't appear to have too much pain when his leg was moved around, but putting weight on it was another matter so he didn't use the leg. The options were leave it as is, amputate the leg, or possibly fix or fuse the joint to minimize the pain and allow him better mobility. After getting an estimate from an Akron orthopedic surgeon of \$3,500 for a fusion of the joint (repair likely out of the question because of the age of the

injury), we decided to "shop around" a little to see what the going rate was for an elbow fusion. Checking several vet hospitals in the Cleveland area and another one in Akron, we found the going price for most estimated to be about \$2,500.

One of the veterinarians I spoke to willingly explained the entire procedure, what problems might be encountered, and how they would be addressed. This was Dr. Henderson at West Park Animal Hospital on Rocky River Drive in Cleveland. He understood our situation and offered to do this procedure for \$1,800 since we are a "rescue" organization. One of our members had several friends whose dogs had been through orthopedic surgery by Dr. Henderson and they were quite pleased, so we proceeded to move forward with Dakota's surgery.

Once the plate and screws were ordered, Dakota had the surgery and his elbow fused at 110° — the preferred angle for the joint to allow him to walk and easily lay down with it once healed. The surgery was performed on March 11. All of the cartilage at the joint had to be removed and the dislocated bone moved back where it belonged; tendons and muscles stretched

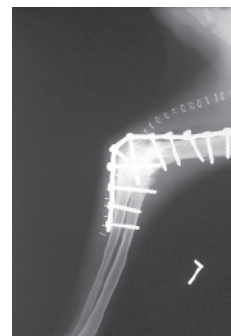
back out and bone graft material inserted. However, once into the surgery, the leg bones were soft at some locations so there was concern that the normal screws used for attaching the plate may not adequately hold. Therefore, Dr.

Henderson decided to keep Dakota and

See DAKOTA continued on page 2...



Lassie



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Imprints is a quarterly newsletter of NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue, Inc. The opinions expressed are those of the editor and contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the position or policies of NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue, Inc.

On the Web: www.neocr.org

Listing of available dogs can be found on:

www.petfinder.org
www.1888pets911.org/
www.1-800-save-a-pet.com

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Donations

We would like to thank *Mega Fluidline Products of Akron, Ohio*, and *Mr. Peter Newell* for donating the printing services for this newsletter.

Thanks to all of you who have supported our efforts, whether by monetary or goods donations, adoptions, memberships, fund raising or fostering! We couldn't do it without you!

We apologize if we overlooked anyone. If we did, drop the editor a note and we'll make mention of the oversight in our next issue. A listing of recent donors appears below.

List of Donors

January 1 – March 31, 2009

C. and Joe Arras

Sandra & Richard Baker
In memory of Lassie IV

Gloria Bickley

The Cleveland Collie Club

Jim & Rosemary Clinger

Patricia Clinger

Lisa A. Prouty-Corwin & Stan Corwin

Dave Evans

Sharon Hamrick

Evelyn Hynek

Peggy Jensen
In memory of Dorothy Eller's dog "Wink"

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In Memory of Millie & Joey

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In memory of Beau

Mike DiStefano
In memory of Marilyn DiStefano

Timothy & Gerri Newara

Lori C. & James Retter

Suzanne F. Smith

Margaret K. Stowoff

Daniel T. Sullivan

Mary Younglove



In our last issue of Imprints, we inadvertently ran the incorrect picture of Stella, beloved collie of Tom Hoadley & Cindy Lombardo, who crossed over the Rainbow Bridge last fall. Pictured here is Stella basking in the shade during a picnic at Tom & Cindy's home during the summer of 2008.

Dakota (continued from page 1)

order longer screws to replace some to ensure they would hold. He replaced some of the screws the following Tuesday and I was able to take Dakota home on Wednesday, March 18.



Dakota with Dr. Henderson at West Park Veterinary Hospital

Dakota is doing fantastic. Like before the surgery, he quickly learned to negotiate the stairs and navigate the yard when he needs to go out. He is as sweet as ever, and he should build up bone strength as time goes on. Poor boy also got neutered at the same time, but I am sure the pain meds help with that procedure as well (he was on morphine after the surgery). Dakota will go back the last week

of April for a new cast; he will need to be in the cast for 10-12 weeks. At 8 weeks, he will be x-rayed to see how the healing is going. I am very hopeful that he will do fine once he has healed and able to use the leg without pain. We may need to walk him slowly to get him to use the leg instead of hopping around three-legged (which he likely has done for years), but it will be a good feeling to know he will not be in pain when he does put some weight on it or use it to balance himself. I assume he will always walk a "little funny," but that is okay.

Our sincere thanks to Dr. Henderson for his surgical skill and commitment to helping Dakota and to the West Park Veterinary Hospital for helping with his recovery.



NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Hoadley at 1:30 p.m. at Cleveland All Breed Training Facility.

There were nine members present and one canine guest. Present were Bev Briggs, Dorothy Eller, Tom Hoadley, Melissa Johnston, Johanna Lance, Jon Lester, Judy Lester, Marian Maskow and Alan Spevak.

Treasurer's Report – Absent

Secretary's Report – Absent

OLD BUSINESS

Placement – Judy Lester stated that there were 40 collies placed last year and 2 so far this year.

Gift Wrapping – The gift wrapping project at Christmas generated about \$300.

Discussion followed about participating in gift wrapping this year. Is the exposure an effective use of members' time?

NEW BUSINESS

CaféPress – We are able to have bumper stickers, mugs/coffee cups, sweatshirts available for sale on their regular site with the same picture. On the administrative side of the CaféPress site, we can carry a wider assortment. There is a link from our NEOCR web site to the CaféPress web site (CafePress.com/NEOCR). Every item purchased generates money for the club.

2010 Calendar – We would like to get the photos together for the 2010 calendar by August. Marian will have instructions in the newsletter on how to submit the pictures.

Annual NEOCR Picnic & Reunion – Will be held Sunday, September 20, 2009.

Whine & Cheese Party – Tom will check to see if Peggy is available to coordinate the Auction. The event will be in honor of Joel with donations being accepted for the Collie Health

NEOCR 1st Quarter 2009 Treasurer's Report

Balance Forward, January 2, 2009	\$ 2,114.67
Deposits	
January 2 to March 31, 2009	\$ 9,867.97
Total	\$ 11,982.64
Expenses	
Medical expenses	\$ 8,386.61
Administrative and other...	
Café Press.....	\$374.90
Insurance.....	\$347.00
Pager.....	\$135.11
Bank returned items from previous deposits	\$125.00
Mutt Hutt for "Whine & Cheese" gathering May, 2009	\$105.00
Postage & Post Office boxes.....	\$185.75
Lorain County Dog Pound	\$29.00
Meeting Room	\$25.00
Bank Fees	\$ 7.00
Total Administrative and other expenses.....	\$ 1,333.76
Total Expenses	\$9,720.37
Balance March 31, 2009	\$2,262.27

Foundation. The date for the party is still undecided. Once a date has been set, Johanna will call the Mutt Hutt or Inn the Doghouse to see if their facility is available.

Elections – Judy made a motion to keep the Board as it stands with the exception of Leo Kenzik as Treasurer and Johanna Lance as Trustee. Motion was seconded by Bev Briggs. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bev Briggs and seconded by Judy Lester. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 2:34

Respectfully submitted, Johanna Lance

Farewell to Bobby – by Dan Sullivan

Three and one-half years ago, we sadly said goodbye to our constant companion of nearly 15 years – a Shepherd mix named Casey. It didn't take us long to realize how lonely our home was without Casey. Dan had always liked collies and so we did some internet searching and soon found the NEOCR site. We quickly became attracted to this poor guy described as, "Bobby is a 3-4 year old adult collie that has seen some tough times. He was very thin but gaining some weight now and his skin and coat (which is somewhat sparse for a collie) are improving daily. He just needs some TLC." But it was his picture that grabbed us. Hard to describe, but just seemed to plead, "Please adopt me!"

After some e-mails back and forth, Betty Hodgson came out to do her home evaluation, and we were quickly scheduled to meet Bobby. We were very anxious and not quite sure what to expect. His foster mother brought him to work with her (at a local veterinarian's office). We took one look at him and decided to take him home!



We put him in the back seat of Carol's car, and I followed. I will never forget the look on his face as we pulled away to take him home, looking out the rear window as if to say, "I wonder where I'm going now?"

It became apparent that the description "seen some tough times" unfortunately was very true. In addition to the sparse coat, he had skin irritations (allergies), missing front teeth, a poorly healed broken rear leg, and a case of IBS. Frankly, this only caused us to love him more and be thankful that somehow he had found his way into our lives to give him

a "forever home." As with many strays, we later discovered that at one time Bobby was a few days from being euthanized. We are

thankful to the organization that pulled him out of that shelter and saved a life that brought so much love and companionship into our lives.

Through the next few months, Bobby presented us with many challenges. In addition to the IBS, we quickly found out that Bobby had "issues" with anyone coming into our home – he became very aggressive with anyone coming into our yard and/or house. So much so, that we became concerned that we may not be able to keep him. However, with the help of experts, we were able to overcome this problem. The ladies from "Bark Busters" spent several hours "training" us to be the "alpha" and then spent just a few minutes with Bobby! With a few techniques and several weeks of practice, he learned that we were in charge, not him. Bobby actually seemed relieved that he no longer had that responsibility. It was like night and day – our friends were shocked at the transformation. To this day, we still think that in his mind Bobby found his forever home with us (he had so many stops along the way in his short life), and he decided that he was not leaving.

These challenges were perhaps what made us love him so much. We still can't imagine the horrible traumas he must have endured before coming into our lives. In the last six to eight months, his IBS developed into a very acute case (he lost 12 pounds). He rarely had a "normal" day and was sick almost 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As time went on, he became weaker and weaker – to a point where he could barely stand up. At our wits end, we took him to a new vet who took an x-ray of his abdominal area to see if she could determine what was going on with his intestines. Much to our shock and dismay, the x-ray revealed there were more than 30 BB's lodged under his skin. It seems that somewhere along the line, Bobby had been shot with what appeared to be buckshot! Although this certainly wasn't the cause of his IBS, it only made us believe all the more that if any dog deserved a good home with lots of love and comfort, he did. We are so grateful that he chose us to provide that for him. Although we made some changes to his medication and food, his condition continued to deteriorate.

As with many who have been honored on these pages, Bobby's poor little body gave out on him, and on January 27, he crossed over the Rainbow Bridge. We will never forget our too few years with him, and will always be thankful that we had the opportunity to know and love him.

Buddy – His time with us was short but sweet – by Gloria Bickley

Buddy's presence in our lives was all too short. He was a stray dumped on the turnpike and was recovered from the shelter at Fremont, Ohio.

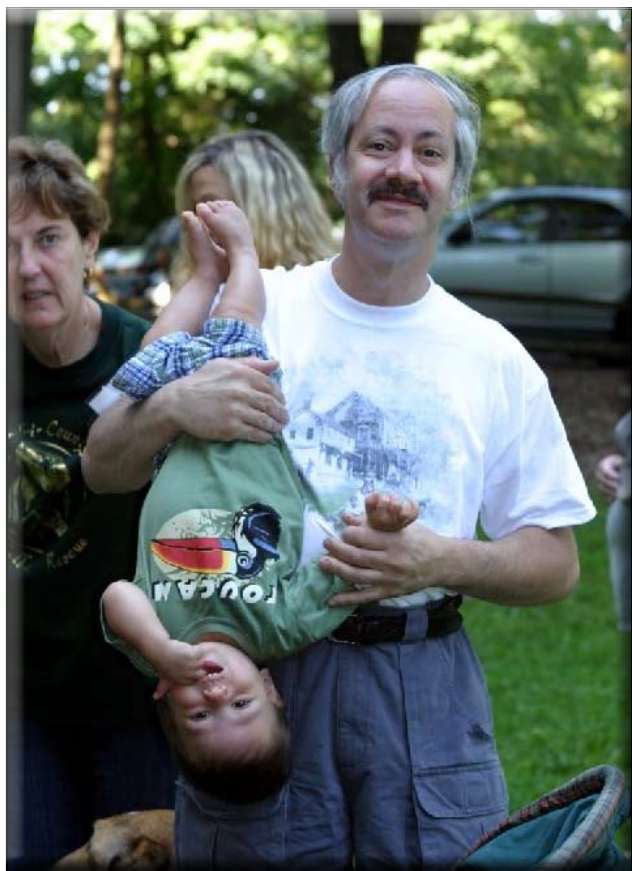
Buddy was very sweet, but x-rays showed he has compressed discs in his spine. He was very thin. He dragged his back feet such that the nails were worn down, but he seemed to be doing better. We were hoping as he got a little stronger, he would be able to walk more normally. The vet had him on a couple different medicines.

It turned out Buddy had a degenerative condition where the gel around the nerves was gone; hence, his muscles were not getting signals from the brain (at least that is how the vet described Buddy's condition). He got worse over the past couple of weeks and he was once more taken to the vet. The vet indicated he would continue to get worse, and he had already become incontinent. The difficult decision was made to put Buddy down.

Buddy had a Heart of GOLD regardless of what he had been put through in his life. In the short time I was blessed to have him in my life, he worked his way so deep into my heart. NO one could have met him who would not have loved him. I did NOT want to let him go ! He was an Angel in a fur coat with an attitude to

match. It was out of that love, I had to let him go so he could be whole again. It was with great pain and sadness, I had to do what was best for Buddy.





In Memory...

Joel Rosenberg – by Tom Hoadley

This February brought with it the tragic news of the death of Joel Rosenberg, partner of Kathy Leenhouts and father of Forrest.

I first met Joel many years ago at the annual Gathering at Sunnybank, and happened to overhear him telling someone about the work he was doing on one of his Studebakers. As I've been a Studebaker driver for many years, I had to introduce myself and thus began a long acquaintance. In addition to seeing him every year in August, Cindy and I would also catch up to Joel at various Studebaker meets throughout the Midwest and always enjoyed swapping tales of collies and cars.

Cindy and I were both surprised, and pleased, to run into Kathy in South Bend during the 2007 International Meet of the Studebaker Drivers Club and delighted to find that she and Joel were a couple, now with an adorable son Forrest to keep Donald company.

Joel's untimely death also left behind his adored collie, Roddy, and step-collie Luke.

Please join us in extending our deepest sympathy to Kathy. Memorial contributions may be made to the Collie Health Foundation.

Grace Spevak – by Alan Spevak

Grace Spevak, mother of **Alan Spevak**, passed away this past March after a long battle with lung disease. Grace was 88 years old when she passed peacefully in the hospital. She is survived by her companion collies, Dalton and Toby, and her best buddy Shilo. Shilo was her very favorite, and he will miss her the most. She loved her Collies. Grace is also

survived by son Alan, his brother Tom, her daughter-in-law **Jeanette** (who she thought of as the daughter she never had), and a few aunts and uncles.

In passing...

Our sincere condolences are extended on the passing of...

🐾 **Buddy**, beloved foster collie of **Gloria Bickley**.

🐾 **Bobby**, beloved collie of **Dan & Carol Sullivan**.



Bobby

Other condolences...

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the following NEOCR members...

✿ **Alan & Jeanette Spevak** on the passing of Alan's mom, **Grace Spevak**.

✿ **Kathy Leenhouts** on the passing of her partner, **Joel Rosenberg**, father of **Forrest**.

Adoptions January – March 2009

Callie – Priscilla Shank, Warren, PA

Chase – John & Jeanette Singley, Tallmadge, OH

Cody III – Chad & Debbie Erwin, Barberton, OH

Crackers – Leo & Marilyn Kenzik, Elyria, OH

Jake (aka Marty) – Dan & Carol Sullivan, North Royalton, OH

Kayla – Keith & Christina Mathews, Wooster, OH

Patrick – Jim Smith, Parma Heights, OH

Rocky – Richard & Donna Marteeny, Poland, OH

Rusty – Ellen Moore, Rittman, OH

Lacie (aka Trixie) – Frank & Cindy Greene, Garfield Heights, OH

Sammy – Timothy & Gerri Newara, Harborcreek, PA

Valentine – Susan Pinzone & Jim Falkman, Stow OH

Vinnie – Laura Kolesar, Fairview Park, OH

Some of Our Available Collies



Copper

Collie

Size: Large
Age: Senior
Sex: Male

Copper is a beautiful sable and white male collie — very coppery colored, hence the name. He loves attention and is good with other dogs. He is housebroken and as is typical for the breed – a real attention hound and wants to be your companion. Copper is nine years old but active and playful.



Hobbs

Collie

Size: Large
Age: Senior
Sex: Male

What can you say about a collie that was starved but still is as sweet and trusting as can be — a



true collie temperament. Hobbs is about nine years old and in full weight now.

He is very friendly and loves people and other dogs. Hobbs is laid back and just as easy going as it gets. He is a joy to have around.

He needs a home without many steps to get in and out. He can do steps when encouraged but prefers not to.



Mica

Collie Mix

Size: Medium
Age: Adult
Sex: Male

Mica is friendly and very affectionate — loves a belly rub and to just be petted. His age is estimated to be 6-8 years old. He is active and loves to play but settles down nicely when inside. He is crate-trained and doesn't fuss.

He would be a great only dog — get all the attention for himself. He would probably like that!



Brandy

Collie

Size: Large
Age: Adult
Sex: Male

Brandy came to us from Kentucky, where this 7-8 year old had been an outdoor dog. Like most outdoor collies, he's had a terrible time adjusting to being an indoor dog — it took him a whole 5 minutes! He is a sweetheart, who thinks he's 7 or 8 MONTHS old and can't understand why the other dogs in the pack are so dull!

Even though the picture doesn't show it, he also has very nice tipped ears, all the better to hear the food dish with.

All Brandy needs is a place to play, and people to love. Brandy is now affectionately called the Hamburglar!

Clancy

Collie/Golden Retriever Mix

Size: Medium

Age: Adult

Sex: Male

Clancy is great dog. He is very affectionate and knows basic commands. He is easy going and good with other dogs; he will likely be wonderful with children based upon his temperament. He is about 4-6 years old and is housebroken.

He sometimes like to intimidate squirrels, so he will need to be secured. When he is outside, he mostly hangs out under trees keeping them at bay.

Clancy has the best of the collie and the golden retriever or whatever other breed is in his DNA.



Sarge

Husky / Collie Mix

Size: Medium

Age: Adult

Sex: Male

Sarge is a soft, fluffy little bundle of attitude. He's a sweet and playful fellow who gets along with other dogs and cats, but because of an overly-protective nature at the food bowl, he'd probably do best in a home without small children. We believe Sarge is six or seven years old.



Roxy

Collie / German Shepherd Mix

Size: Medium

Age: Adult

Sex: Female

Roxy is an adult (4-6 years old), playful girl who gets along well



with other dogs. She is friendly and willing to learn.

Roxy is up to date with routine shots. She has already been house trained and altered.

Peanut

Collie/German Shepherd Mix

Size: Medium

Age: Adult

Sex: Female

Peanut is such a dear soul. She's very sweet even though her previous owners weren't very nice to her. She is fine with kids and dogs and happy to be loved and cared for. She will be someone's loyal companion if they give her a chance.

NOTE: All dogs are spayed or neutered and up to date on standard vaccinations (including Bordatella and Rabies).

A week in the life...

— by Betty Hodgson

Friday — Met woman from Wooster who pulled Callie — a collie mix (who turned out to be a Sheltie/Corgie mix weighing 70 pounds).

Saturday — Tom drove to Parkersburg, WV, Saturday to pick up Sammy (returned from owner) who I was to get at Dover and then take to another foster home on Sunday. The foster arrangements fell through, so I decided to keep Sammy.

On the way home from Dover, I stopped in Canton at the home of Barbara Kopatz's deceased son who had died mowing the yard last summer/fall. His two old collies have been kept there alone since — they are let out two times a day. Kemo was very old, thin, and arthritic. He could barely stand let alone walk; he was humped over and whining and shaking most of the time. Cricket was also old, very heavy (maybe 90-100 pounds), and coughing somewhat; It was very difficult to get her in my vehicle.

Saturday night — As it turned out, I had to take Kemo into to Metro and have him euthanized — he was suffering too much and it should have been done some time ago. The staff had to put a catheter in him, but it slipped out and the fluid got under his skin which burned, so he began howling. They finally found a vein in his back leg and got enough of the drug in that he expired.

Sunday — I took Cricket to Sandusky to meet Mary Younglove (foster home in Monroe, MI). Met her and got Cricket into her vehicle. Picked up Cody (a 13-month-old collie from Elyria) who had fleas. The owner had treated him with detergent and alcohol. As a result, his skin is dry and very red. Took Simon to visit a home in Bath; they agreed to foster him and see how

it goes — hopefully they will adopt him. Met Peggy at my place on her way back from taking Kayla to her new home in Wooster; she took Callie.

Monday — Took Jamey to holistic vet in Northfield, and then took Cody to my regular vet to treat his severe case of tapeworms. He also received his rabies and heartworm check. I called Joanne Dugan, who agreed to get Cody Tuesday evening and take him to Midpark to be neutered on Thursday. He will be boarded there until next Tuesday. Then I spoke to Melissa Johnston (who has Lorna), who agreed to work with Joanne and get Cody into foster care. This will probably happen next Saturday. Melissa Stacho was interested in meeting Cody and would likely adopt him, if Melissa Johnston can part with him!

I received a call from Mary Younglove, who had Cricket at the vet. Cricket needed oxygen overnight and antibiotics for possible pneumonia (or it could be cancer). Then I received another call from Mary: Cricket was at the emergency room and they wanted \$1,000-\$1,500 for overnight stay with blood work, radiology, oxygen, and antibiotics. Her prognosis was not good at her age, so Tom, Leo and I agreed to have her euthanized.

On the schedule for Tuesday — Take Cody to meet Joanne.

***Editor's note:** While the above article captures more than a typical week in the life of a rescue volunteer, it is a reflection of how it sometimes goes for those in rescue. It represents the numerous responsibilities volunteers are called upon to do. That being said, **this is why we need your help!** Not only do we need foster homes, but we need volunteers to transport dogs from one location to another. We need other volunteers to help with home visitation checks before we place our rescues and ensure we've made a "forever home" match between new owners and their dogs. Consider, if you can, all that went into a dog you may have adopted or rescued; perhaps you can repay this kindness by volunteering a few hours of your time.*

Woofs & Waggles go out to...

Jon and Judy Lester are finally grandparents! Felix Falco Plouck, named after his great, great grandfather, arrived



Saturday, March 7, at 9:00 p.m. He weighed in at 7 lbs. 9 oz. and is a healthy baby boy. Congratulations Jon and Judy and to the proud parents, Rex and Tracy!

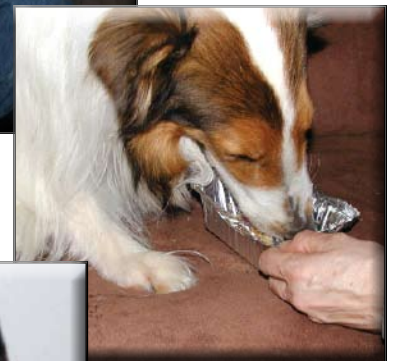
Toby turns 2! Toby, beloved collie **Alan & Jeanette Spevak**, turned two years old on February 16. As the pictures (above right) show, Toby certainly enjoyed his birthday party. Toby is seen here blowing out his birthday candle and then enjoying his cake!

Congratulations Darlene Reese and Annie (pictured at right) on passing your Delta Therapy Dog test!

Annie has come a long way from being rescued to now being able to give back to her people and do a little "rescuing" of her own.



Toby celebrating his second birthday!



Darlene Reese and Annie are together here after passing their Delta Therapy Dog test. Way to go Darlene & Annie!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our web site at www.neocr.org for more information and links to the following events...

- ✍ Next NEOCR Board Meeting will be held on **Sunday, August 9, 2009 – 1:00-3:30 p.m.** at the home of David Gray & Betty Hodgson, 178 Waterside Dr. Medina, Ohio. Those wishing to enjoy a bite to eat can bring a dish to share.
- ✍ **The 5th Annual Paws 4 A Cause "Adopt-A-Thon"** will be held on **Saturday, May 16, 2009**, at the Cleveland Metroparks Polo Grounds in Hunting Valley from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For an event flyer, visit http://www.neocr.org/NEOCR_UpcomingEvents.htm.
- ✍ **Lake Farm Park Working Dog Weekend** will be held **Saturday & Sunday, June 13-14, 2009**, at Lake Farmpark in Kirtland, Ohio. For more info, visit <http://www.lakemetroparks.com/select-park/farmpark.shtml>.

✍ **A Century of Wonder — The Annual Gathering at Sunnybank**, will be held **August 15-16, 2009**. Join the Collie Health Organization this year as they celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Albert Payson Terhune's purchase of the wisteria-draped Sunnybank House and experience the wonder-filled magic of "The Place." One hundred years ago, APT made Sunnybank his own. This year come and make it yours! Visit www.CollieHealth.org for more information.

✍ The **Quailcrest Family of Friends Dog Walk** will be held on **Saturday, September 19, 2009**, at Quailcrest Farm in Wooster, Ohio. This event benefits dog and cat rescues of Ohio.

✍ The **2009 NEOCR Annual Collie Reunion & Pot Luck Picnic** is scheduled for **Sunday, September 20, 2009, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** This event, featuring silent and live auctions and lots of great food, will be held at Hubbard Valley Park in Medina County, Ohio. Stay tuned for more details about this great fund raising event!

NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue, Inc.

Invites You and Your Dog to a

Whine & Cheese Party

Sunday, May 31, 2009

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

located at

The Mutt Hutt

2603 Scranton Road

Cleveland, Ohio

www.TheMuttHutt.com

*Admittance for this fund-raising event
is \$10.00 per person (dogs are free)
payable at the door.*

*Space is limited
so please R.S.V.P. soon!*

*Phone ~ (216) 625-3647 to leave a message
or e-mail ~ judy6139@sbcglobal.net*

*We recommend our guests bring along
a chair or two for their seating comfort.*

*Come enjoy and partake of
Wine • Cheese • Appetizers • Desserts
Bushels of great food and wine!*

*A special Silent Auction will be held
to benefit our dogs
waiting for their forever homes.*

*Lots of romping and play time for dogs!
Fun and socializing for everyone!*



From the Scrapbook Gallery...

Pictured here... Row 1: Charlie (formerly Sammy) with his news owners, Tim & Gerri Newara; Todd lounging in the Piper/Proctor home. Row 2: Christina Matthews' pals Kalya and Angel; Callie with her new owner, Pricilla Shank. Bottom: Group after-shot of the collies and their owners who participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade this year in Akron, Ohio.



Happy Tail Updates

Greetings! It's Major writing again to say Hello to everyone. I've been a busy dog since the last time I wrote. Hope everyone's holidays were enjoyable. Mine were dog-gone good. Lots of presents and treats from Mom and our friends. Santa sure does love The Dog.

So, let me tell you all the latest news. Mom bought us another house, so we moved in September. That was a lot of work. Everyday we'd move boxes and stuff that Mom could carry. My job was to check out the new house and yard and make sure that the folks in this new neighborhood knew that I HAD ARRIVED. Then the BIG DAY came. A bunch of Mom's friends from work helped us move all the big stuff. I had a little trouble getting used to being in a new house, but with Mom's help, I've finally adjusted. Now that we've been here awhile, I'm liking it. I miss my dog friends from the old house and really do not like the dog next door here at the new house. I'm an alpha male and proud of it. SHE thinks she's an alpha female, so we do a lot of barking and running back and forth at the fence. I'm just letting her know that I am the king. Of course, Mom's not real thrilled that I'm terrorizing the new neighbors, but I think it's pretty cool.

So let me tell you about my new digs. My yard is huge with lots of trees. My old yard was nice-sized, but this yard is amazing. It wraps around the house and I can hide from Mom, so we play the dog version of hide and seek. I have two (count 'em, two) decks to lay on and survey my domain. There's another collie that lives down the street, but I haven't met him/her yet. Our house is cool, too. It's twice the size of our old house so I have lots of room to run around. I have toys in every room, and Mom says it's like an obstacle course. You can see me here in my favorite chair. THIS is the life.



Since we've moved, we've had lots of visitors, which I like, but I don't like them moving around the house. I've become VERY protective of Mom, so don't get too close. Mom comes home for lunch several times a week now, so that is really cool, too.

Mom says that since we have a bigger yard and house, that means I now have even more jobs. We have more yard to take care of and lots more flowers to smell and, of course, to mark as my own. That usually

I'm writing to you because while I've been very happy at 4596 Olentangy Blvd, and while Wayne and Dave have been (for the most part) very kind to me, I have a slight complaint about a rule they insist on enforcing. I am only allowed to use one pillow at a time on the king-sized bed. As you can see from the photo on the previous page, there are more pillows available, and my comfort and relaxation would be much enhanced if I were able to use them in any combination I saw fit.

I know this is perhaps a minor issue, but I would appreciate your addressing it (in a diplomatic way, of course) with either Dave or Wayne as soon as you're able.

Thank you for your attention to this message, and give my regards to the boys at the ranch!

Shane's Loyal Toddler (AKA: Todd, Toad, Toddie-Boy/Toddie Boy)

Well, you can take Crackers off of the web site now. Marilyn and I have decided to adopt him after having fostered him for 6 months. He's become one of the pack. It's taken awhile, but he has snuck into our hearts. When we walk into a room where he is sleeping, he doesn't even wake up. So we know he's become comfortable living here!

Leo & Marilyn Kenzik

gets me the, "Major, get away from that" response. Right now I am loving the snow. I really like laying out and playing outside. Mom comes outside with me sometimes and we play in the snow. Too bad for Mom that she can't run as good in the snow as I can. I take full advantage of that, let me tell you.

We have this really neat kitchen, so Mom does a lot of cooking. I am lovin' it. Got my place to hang out. Mom likes to cook, so she's always making something. And since she's the klutz that she is, I don't get too far away as there is always something good that I have to rescue from the floor. Another one of my jobs.

The evenings are nice. After Mom gets home from work and does her daily chores, like feeding me and the cats and other stuff, then we go into the living room "to relax for the evening." First thing Mom does is sit in MY chair, so I join her. This is the part where she tells me what a good job I did today taking care of the house and the kitties while she was gone and what a good dog I am. I let her hug and kiss me. Get all that mushy stuff over with so we can play. Then I jump down and run get a toy. She'll say, "Mom's tired Maj. Can't we play in a little while and give Mom a chance to rest?" Nope, no ma'am, that's not happening. It's the dog's time. I don't give up that easy. After I throw the toy at her and jump on her a few times, she caves and we play. After we've played, I jump up next to her and lay down and we spend the rest of the evening together in MY chair. Of course Mom can't sit still for long, so I have to keep moving when Mom wants to sit back down in MY chair. Sometimes I stretch out across her lap, just to let her know that it's still MY chair. You'd think that by now, she'd figure that out. Sometimes she'll go sit on the couch or the other chair, which then instantly becomes MINE also and I HAVE to sit there with her.

We were busy this past summer, too. We went to a car show at Mill Hollow Park. There were cars and people everywhere. I met lots of new people and dogs there. Then we went to Oberlin for their yearly dog event. Looked for NEOCR to say "hi," but I didn't get to see them. Had fun, though, and Mom says we'll go again. I am looking forward to summer 'cause I know we'll be doing lots more fun stuff.

I am so glad that Mom understands me. I love and trust her, but not so much other people. Even Mom's friends that I've seen lots of times, I just am not sure that someone won't try to hurt me. I know Mom will protect me, but I still have that "it's every dog for themselves" mentality in my head. Mom doesn't know the things that have happened to me before, but she understands that I can only trust someone that has proven themselves to me. That someone is her. I love my Mom and best of all, my Mom loves me.

Till next time...

Love, Major

Recently while walking our boys we ran into the Zipperts and Dusty. While the three dogs had a friendly reunion, we humans chatted and expressed our mutual gratitude to Collie Rescue for our good fortune. So once again, Peg and I would like to tell you how grateful we are to your wonderful organization and to you personally for bringing Atticus Bentley and Laird into our lives. They are our constant companions and such a joy. (We must hug and kiss them fifty times a day!). My mother, the collie lady who died too young, would have loved them and said that they have "soul."

While Aubrey and Axel were still hale and hearty at age eleven plus, Peg and I, knowing that they wouldn't live forever, often asked each other how any future collies could ever live up to our memories of them after they were gone. Atticus and Laird have done so.

Hoping all is well with you and yours. Best regards,

Peg and Mike Partington

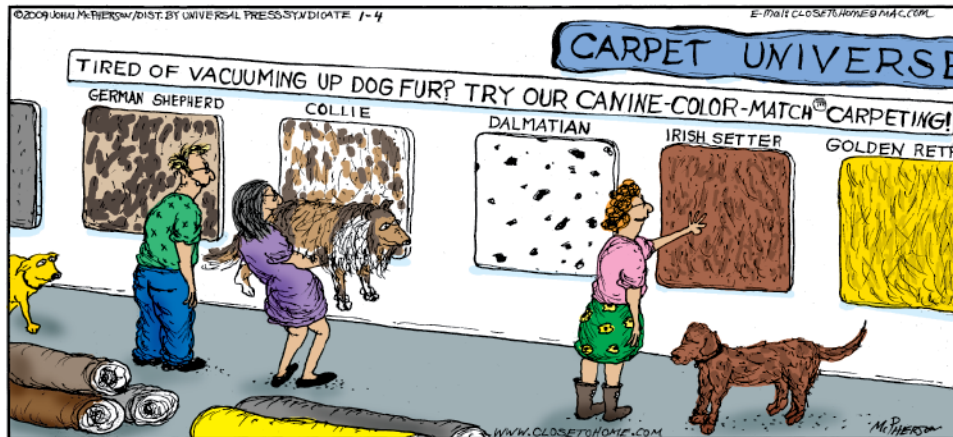
P.S. As I write this note, Atticus is head-bumping my arm and Laird is resting his muzzle on my knee.



In Memory of Millie & Joey

CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN MCPHERSON



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