



Imprints

A publication of NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue

First Quarter 2009

Make Two Hearts Glad – Adopt A Homeless Collie!

Volume VIII Issue 1

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You Can Do It

— by Betty Hodgson

Fostering a Collie May Be One of the Best Things You Have Ever Done!

When we are out and about and tell people we rescue collies and foster 2-5 dogs along with our 10 dogs, they are always astounded and say, "I could never do that; I wouldn't be able to give them up," or, "It would be too traumatic for my dog or cat." Trust me — if we can do it...you can too!

What it all comes down to is that we cannot rescue some collies because the few foster homes we currently have are almost always full. While it may be hard to open your home to a strange dog, the majority of the collies and collie mixes we rescue are great dogs.

Sometimes there are issues, but we can help to work through them and move dogs to accommodate specific concerns. Most of the dogs we get just want some food and love. It is remarkable when new dogs come and learn, for possibly the first time in their life, they are living with people who really care about them. We have had collies that, after the first day or two, totally transformed from being somewhat fearful and timid to wanting to be near you and be petted or played with. Just the fact that they are allowed in the house, it's okay, and they get food is rewarding enough. But, it is that first lick on the face or hand says it all — "thanks for saving me."

Beau (see page 4) just came to us from a family who bought him as a pup and

stuck him in a pen behind their house and fed him once a day. He is now 7 years old going on 8 and just loves attention and being loved. He was never on a leash, so he needed some training. He never had anything other than the original puppy shots from the breeder in LaGrange, Ohio. He was heartworm positive, and three weeks into his treatment, he was doing very well. He housebroke quickly and is such a good boy. We feel thankful to be able to help Beau and know he will live out his life much happier eventually in his "forever" home with people who actually care about him.



You will fall in love with the foster pups — you cannot help it. And yes, you may cry when they leave. But, knowing these dogs have found a family of their own is a feeling that so much surpasses the hurt. We know in our hearts that they are forever grateful because, without us opening up our homes, they would have never had the chance at finding their family and a chance at a life they never knew existed.

So when you say "no" to fostering because you are afraid to get attached or fall in love, try to consider the cost it is to the dog... death in a kill shelter or a continued life at the end of a chain, or in a small pen, left alone, to spend each and every day outside, no matter the weather. Some are left with shelter; others are without shelter — alone, just waiting, for even one minute of the love you are capable of giving. That seems to be the more difficult choice.



Rocky, Bosco and the rest of the Younglove "kids"

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Listing of available dogs can be found on:

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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.

A special thanks to all those individuals and organizations who donated items to our 2008 Annual Collie Reunion Picnic silent and live auctions. Your thoughtfulness made our fundraising efforts a wonderful success! 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.

Thanks again to all of you who have supported our efforts, whether by donations, adoptions, memberships, fundraising or fostering! We couldn't do it without you! A listing of recent donors appears below.

List of Donors

Janet Benson — Parma, OH

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in memory of Luna

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2008 Annual Collie Reunion Picnic Donors

Special thanks to donors Janet Benson, Christine Vrooman, Kathleen Scheutzow, Sharon Hamrick, Peggy Jensen, Marian Maskow, Diane Luchin, Bonnie Harris, Marilyn McCarthy, Laurie Harwich & United Disability Services, Anita Silverman, Betty Hodgson & David Gray, Alan & Jeannette Spevak, Valerie Woodburn, Leo & Marilyn Kenzik, Kate Kenzik, Barnes Sewing Center, Jon & Judy Lester, Tom Hoadley & Cindy Lombardo, and all our auction bidders! Thanks to all of you we raised \$1,986 from the auctions, craft sales and collected dues!



Sarge: then and now

Could this special collie be your next family member?

Sarge came to us with the remains of a bad case of sarcoptic mange. He's now completely cleared up, and has become a soft, fluffy little bundle of attitude. He is 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.



*At right: Sarge as he first arrived in foster care.
Above: Sarge as he appears now, ready for adoption!*

A Special Note of Thanks...

A busy 2008 for rescue has finally drawn to a close, with 2009 looming in the future as, most likely, another busy year for us. At this time, it's important to take a moment to say thanks to all those who helped NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue make it through the past year.

Our foster homes, as always, did yeoman's work providing safe and loving accommodations for the incoming dogs. Without these foster homes, no dogs would have a chance for a future — everyone's efforts are appreciated with special thanks to Gloria Bickley in Norwalk, and Betty Hodgson and David Gray in Medina, our always-crowded but always willing "arfanages."

Our members and friends stepped up to the plate again, with the generosity we've grown to depend on, making sure the funds were available to vet and care for the fosters. Our board was always ready with guidance when needed, and our Secretary-Treasurer, Peggy Jensen, kept us on a sound financial footing. Judy Lester worked hard to find new homes, screening applicants to make sure each dog's future would be bright.

Of course, you wouldn't even be reading this note if not for the work of our editor, Marian Maskow. In addition to putting out the best-looking newsletter I've ever seen, Marian also runs our web site, and has single-handedly created a variety of items on CaféPress whose purchase supports NEOCR, from cups to calendars to clothing. Check it all out at www.neocr.org!

I would be remiss, however, if I didn't single out one person who did more in 2008 to help collies and NEOCR than anyone else. From coordinating our foster homes to doing home checks, from working on intakes to transporting dogs literally thousands of miles throughout the year, Betty Hodgson was always there.

The collies of northeast Ohio, as well as all of us at NEOCR, owe Betty a debt of gratitude for, once again, being the volunteer "extraordinaire."

— Tom Hoadley

🐾 Adoptions 🐾

September – December 2008

- Amber — Holly Harvey, N. Olmsted, OH
- Anouk — Debra Mathews, Old Brooklyn, OH
- Bosco — Mary Younglove, Monroe, MI
- Brie — Amy Hoffman, Canal Fulton, OH
- Carmen — Laura & Jim Ahearn, Sterling Heights, MI
- Connor — Pat Cozzens, Chagrin Falls, OH
- Cosmo — Ed Plottke, Burton, OH
- Duke — Vanessa & Doug Kemp, N. Ridgeville, OH
- Lorna — Melissa Johnston, Garfield Heights, OH
- Mackey (Jack) — Laura & Jim Ahearn, Sterling Heights, MI
- Matt — Debbie VonGuntzen, Suffield, OH
- Miranda — Laurie Harwich, Canal Fulton
- TJ — Bob & Jeannie Leiter, Peninsula, OH
- Turner — David & Lillie Dean, Huron, OH

Some of Our Available Collies



Copper

Collie
Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Size: Large

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 eight years old but active and playful.

Cody III

Collie
Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Size: Large

Cody is about one year old and good with other dogs. He is friendly and has a good temperament. He is housebroken and, as seen on the web site, loves a good snooze.



Beau (BoBo)

Collie
Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Size: Large

Beau is quite the handsome, seven-year old boy. He was turned in by folks who had penned him out back since a puppy. He is very sweet and loving —

making up for lost time we think.

He plays well with other dogs and loves being part of a family — getting to be loved and feed routinely.



Hobbs

Collie
Sex: Male
Age: Senior
Size: Large

What can you say about a collie that was starved but still is as sweet and trusting as can be — a true collie temperament. We think he is about eight years old and in full weight now.

Hobbs is a great guy — 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.

Crackers

Collie / German Shepherd Mix
Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Size: Medium

Crackers is a sweet boy and anxious to please.

While not a pure-bred collie, he is a handsome fellow rescued from the Lorain County pound by our friend and supporter Sharon Hamrick. We're assisting with finding a forever home for this charming boy.



Sammy

Collie/Hound Mix
Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Size: Large

We are actually thinking about renaming Sammy to Joe Cool — now that he has shades. He is a nice temperament 5-6 year-old smooth collie mix. He loves people and toys. He can grump a little at other dogs that get in his space,

but he is NOT aggressive. He's just letting them know he is there. He shouldn't be with very small children or toddlers but would be fine with older children.

Grooming is a breeze with the smooth-coated dogs. He is housebroken and up-to-date on his shots and is heartworm negative. It doesn't get much better than Sammy.

Clancy

Collie/Golden Retriever Mix

Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Size: Medium

Clancy is very sweet and good with other dogs and likely wonderful with children based upon his temperament. He is about 3-5 years old and is housebroken.

He is quite interested in chasing small critters — like squirrels — so he will need to be secured. He has demonstrated the ability to go over a four-foot fence so he will need at least a five-foot or higher fence.



Brandy

Collie

Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Size: Large

Brandy came in to rescue when his previous caregiver passed away. He is seven or eight years old, but he acts like he's a puppy.

Brandy just needs a place to play, and some people to love.



Tammy

Collie Mix

Sex: Female
Age: Adult
Size: Medium

Tammy is a 5-7 year old female collie mix. She is reliably housebroken and very loving and sweet. She does well with kids,

other dogs and cats, and is just a happy dog. Tammy would love a family of her own.

Tammy is being cross-posted for another rescue group, so please contact Carmela at K9angle@hughes.net for information about her.



Mica

Collie Mix
Medium
Adult
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 came to us very thin, and so he's still possessive with other dogs if they try to take his food.

He is missing a chunk out of his right ear — an old injury but it has been healed for years.



Tigger

Collie
Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Size: Large

Tigger is a very gentle boy — good with kids, dogs and cats. He is a little weak in his

back legs, so a place with lots of steps would not be good for him. Tigger is eight years old.

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

In Memory of Chelsea

Chelsea was adopted from TriCounty Collie Rescue on Mother's Day, 1997, when Dave and I were still married and before Donald was born. She was turned into rescue having belonged to an elderly couple who could no longer keep her because of the husband's illness. She was fostered by a family with three young children, so when she came to us, she roamed the house looking for children. She was ecstatic when we brought Donald home from the hospital in May 1998, after a three-month NICU stay.

Chelsea behaved like a little mother who constantly kept tabs on what everyone in the family was doing, right down to following us into the facilities! She also was not above a little mischief, having helped devour an entire bag of *Now & Later*® candy, wrappers and all, with our white collie, Teddy. Chelsea loved to play frisbee keep-away with our sable collie, Rocket. She never actually wanted to catch the frisbee, just keep it away. She also escaped from her crate at the 2004 CCA National and went to the announcer's table. Next thing we knew, Bernie was announcing over the PA that if no one came for her, he would take her home!



Chelsea was heartbroken when we lost Rocket and especially Teddy. She did not like being the only collie in the house. So we decided to adopt Luke to keep her company.

Chelsea was a very sensitive dog who was deeply affected by any stresses in the family, i.e., illness, job loss, moving, and marital discord. Unfortunately Chelsea had to put up with all of these. Through it all she was a loyal and comforting friend, especially to Donald as he adjusted to his parents' divorce.

Chelsea was in the autumn of her life as her family changed, and Joel and his collie Roddy became part of our lives. She was fortunate to welcome a new baby, Forrest, who struggled through the first year of his life since he was born very early. Unfortunately, she could not enjoy him as she did Donald when he was a baby. Luckily she could pass the job of watching the baby to Luke and Roddy.

A year ago, Chelsea was found to have nasal cancer. She was given several months to live. She was already having difficulty getting around. We did not want to put her through disfiguring surgery so we waited. She had another year with us! Sadly, the last few months of that year were extremely difficult. The cancer destroyed half of her nose, she could no longer walk, and she had to be fed by hand and carried outside. I could not have kept this level of care up by myself. Chelsea had a little extra time because of Joel's efforts which were above and beyond the call of duty. Soon we realized extra time was no longer quality time. I thought this time it would be easy to make that trip to the vet, but it wasn't.

Already a few months have gone by since Chelsea crossed the Rainbow Bridge. It hardly seems possible that yet another era of our lives is over. We thank all of you for making Chelsea so welcome at all NEOCR events. Attached is a picture of Chelsea and Donald from a year ago, shortly after her cancer diagnosis. I think this picture says it all, for it depicts the true heart of Chelsea.

In loving memory.

*Lesinki's Chelsea Glen CGC, CD, RN, TDI
December 2, 1993 – August 5, 2008*

*Kathryn and Donald Leenhouts, Joel and Forrest Rosenberg,
Luke and Roddy*



Payson

*June 29, 1996 - August 21, 2008
He was a dream come true.
Rest in peace, sweet angel.*

Millie & Joey – Betty Hodgson

Millie was the sweetest little eight-week old puppy. She came from the Wayne County Humane Society in 1994; she was being fostered by a vet tech working at my sister's (Barb Sommer's) vet's office. I came to see her and immediately fell in love with the little sheltie-border collie mix puppy. Millie was a well-behaved girl and very smart. She was easy to housebreak and seemed to know what I wanted. We would take her over to Granger Lake where she just loved to buzz the geese into the lake. Seeing this, I decided to take her to a herding instinct testing facility in Nova, Ohio. Unfortunately, Millie was afraid of the sheep (they are very savvy sheep), but I actually herded them very well. They told me she would do much better with geese or ducks — we already knew that. Hopefully she is in doggie heaven chasing those geese all over.

Joey was a very special foster dog — so special that David made it clear that "he wasn't leaving our house." What a great, kind collie indeed. He came to us in April 2006 from the Lake County shelter and was completely shaved — he looked kind of like a pink goat. But he had that "Joey face" that we all still refer to when we see a collie with a kind, teddy-bear face. Joey was allowed to roam

around the shelter offices because he was so gentle and friendly. He was old when we got him and mostly deaf, but he loved being in the house just taking a nap on a lounge chair, regular chair, dog bed, or any other soft spot he could find. Collies just don't get any nicer than Joey.



Stella – Tom Hoadley & Cindy Lombardo

In early December of 2002, Cindy and I were contacted by a breeder in eastern Ohio asking us to take in a young female that she had "taken on trade" from a woman who came to her for a smaller dog. The woman's young children had named the dog Cella-Bootay (go figure), but Mom had decided that her energy level, as well as her noise level, were too much to handle. The breeder, with dogs of her own (including one who disliked the young collie), also did not want to be a permanent home. Cindy and I made the trek from Orrville to New Waterford one chilly Saturday to pick up this soon-to-be renamed little girl who was bursting with energy (and charm).

We hear a lot of excuses from relinquishers trying to get rid of a dog, but in this case, the breeder was completely honest. This was one noisy dog! As we put her in the car she seemed to be a bit nervous, so Cindy decided to sit in the back seat with her. It took all of 30 seconds for the dog to put her head in Cindy's lap and start to fall asleep. It took at least another 30 seconds for us to decide that this was not going to be a foster dog at all.

Of course, we couldn't continue to call her Cella-Bootay. It was not only a silly name, but the only references I ever found to it were less than polite (at least the second part). We decided to stick with something that sounded similar so that she wouldn't have to learn a completely new name. Thus, we settled on "Stella." It turned out to be the perfect name, too. For the rest of her all-too-short life, she chose to never respond to our first command (request), nor

our second one. It was only when her name was screamed at the top of your lungs that she would respond, at which point she was obedience personified. Consequently, we spent the next six years perfecting our Marlon Brando impersonations.

Because of Stella's loud and excitable nature, she was never a dog that I chose to take with me, with one major exception. At work, she was not only well-behaved, but quickly became an office favorite. At home, she personified exuberance and playfulness, as well as a sweet and loving disposition. While she could turn a Nylabone® into crumbs in under ten minutes, she never destroyed anything around the house, and had impeccable house-training manners. As we are often a foster of last resort for the Methuselah contingent, it was nice to know that she could be depended upon to be polite to her elders.

As she was the youngest collie in our pack, it was quite a surprise when I got a phone call at work one day this last August from our house-sitter, to tell me that something was wrong with Stella. The symptoms Gared described sounded like bloat might be a possibility. I arranged to meet them at our veterinarian's, and headed out from Akron to Dover as fast as I could. When the vet opened the door of the exam room 45 minutes later, out bounded the lovable knucklehead I had left that morning. A series of radiographs and blood work had revealed nothing, leaving us with the probable diagnosis of seizures.

A regime of monitoring began, timing the duration of those seizures we actually could witness. They were still relatively short, with a brief refractory time, and it seemed that she was doing so well that it wasn't even necessary to begin drug therapy. While we don't know how many episodes she may have had when no one was at home, she seemed to be doing pretty well. In late September when we left for a week in Canada, her health was only a minor concern. It was a shock when, on the fourth day of our trip, our house-sitter left a message that we received as we checked into the bed-and-breakfast for the night.

Stella had another seizure that morning, not a long one, but her last one. She never really came out of it. Our beloved little girl was gone, leaving us when we couldn't even be there to say good-bye. Never again would I yell, at the top of my voice, "Stella! SHUT UP!" Her bark, once so annoying, was now silenced forever. So much life and personality in such a small (for a collie at least) package, the hole she left is enormous. I'll probably never watch *A Streetcar Named Desire* again.



About Midge – Joe & Phyllis Pepoy

Four years ago from May 2008, we lost our first collie dog from NEOCR. It was through Ben we became acquainted with collie rescue and made friends with the saintly Dorothy Eller. My wife, however, always wanted to see what a blue merle collie looked like. One day, Dorothy called the house and said she had a blue merle that was ready to be adopted, and she wanted to show her to us. Phyllis, naturally, said yes, and a short while later, Dorothy came to our house with Midge. Midge came to stay, finding her forever home with us.



Pictured above: Midge in her favorite hallway spot

One morning, after several rough and sleepless nights, Midge was diagnosed with incurable problems causing her pain and suffering, beyond the palliative abilities of her medications. Earlier in 2008, I wrote a tribute to our other female collie, Sassy (see *Imprints*, June, 2008). I never thought I would be writing a tribute about another of our collies so soon, but Midge has joined Sassy and so many of our previous pets across the Rainbow Bridge. As most collie rescue friends, we will surely have quite a gathering to greet us when it is our turn to cross over that Bridge.

Midge was bred in Cambridge, Ohio and was supposedly of championship stock. She was the “pick of the litter,” but she had collie-eye syndrome in her left eye, and her good eye was malformed. Her owner confined her to a shed and underfed her to the point where she ate stones and pebbles to quiet the ache in her stomach. Dorothy Eller relates how she went to Cambridge to pick up a dog being handled for a friend by Midge’s breeder. The story is well known about the abuse of Midge’s litter mates and how those who survived had to be destroyed. Dorothy shared how Midge was next door with her co-owner who decided to surrender Midge at the same time as she was not willing to work with Midge claiming she had mange. Through the efforts of NEOCR, Midge grew healthy enough to be adoptable.

In the early formative stages, Midge apparently had little human bonding. When we decided to adopt her we had to go through several interesting challenges. One evening, after about two weeks with us, she came into the kitchen and lay down on a rug and gave out a contented

sound. I remarked to Phyllis, “She’s home.” And so it was for the next almost twelve years.

It may have been her poor eyesight or the early abuse, but Midge was always “different.” She didn’t play much and almost never ran. Yet, she seemed to be quite regal and was mostly quite aloof. She was always the “mother” figure to our other collies and our collie “wanna be” miniature schnauzers. Children, even babies, excited her, and she had to play with them. Even in her last days, racked by arthritis, she quickly moved to seek out the little ones following, we think, the sound of their voices. A friend of Phyllis has a grandchild who is an albino and who suffers from severe vision problems. He and Midge had developed their own bond, and he had been known to have hugged her and consoled her by saying, “I know how you feel, Midge. I have vision problems myself.”

Midge had her own spaces. We have a short hallway leading to the garage where Midge lay over the in the floor heating/cooling vent pipe. She enjoyed the warmth in the winter and the air conditioning in the summer. Otherwise, she claimed the floor in our bedroom. Midge found security in corners and tight spaces right up to the end. She seemed to need the security and assurance of a wall, a bedrail, a doggie bed, a piece of furniture or whatever.

It has been said that dogs have owners but cats have staff. Midge, I think, is the exception to this rule. We mostly felt we were her caregivers, never her owners. Even our other dogs looked after her, too, telling us with barks and snorts and nudges that Midge needed attention or to go outside etc. Two weeks before she died, we acquired a new collie – an eighteen-month old male, Ghost Rider (aka Ryder), who took it upon himself to be her protector. He must have sensed distress as he joined her often in the bedroom and checked on her frequently to see how she was doing. One would not think animals know enough about other animals to be concerned, but Ryder taught us they do.

Midge was loved by us and our other dogs. In her own way she reciprocated. We will miss her greatly. She had her own ways, her own personality, her own style. She was one of a kind, and we were fortunate to have had her with us for so long.



*Pictured here:
“Tudey”*

Ghost Rider’s breeder called us on October 3, 2008. We had seen a litter born this past August by Ghost Rider’s mother. The breeder had just returned after having the pups physicals done and shared with us the sad news that two of the pups have collie eye and are blind in one eye. Knowing about our experience with Midge, she asked if we would possibly be interested in one of those pups. That weekend we added Little Miss Attitudey (“Tudey” for short) to our family. Perhaps Midge is urging this new endeavor on us so we won’t miss her too much.

Happy Tail Updates

Lorna's New Pack – by Melissa Johnston

Lorna came to us in the middle of September, 2008. We were told she was very nervous, shy, skittish and afraid of loud noises. The description was right on all accounts. My only stipulation with accepting Lorna was that she had to get along with Elizabeth, my Corgi, and the cats, Frank and Bonnie. Well, the first month was rough. She was afraid of everything — especially the cats!



Nurse Barkley – by Lea-Ann Vajda & Barkley

I have been home recuperating from knee surgery since July and he has been my 24/7 nurse.

Wherever I go or move to during the day or night, he is right there to be by me.

Even when I am doing my physical therapy he is right next to the bed. It's really something how dogs sense when you don't feel right or something is bothering you.

I'm happy to say that now as part of my exercises I have to walk a few times a day, so walking around Barkley's big yard with him,

Slowly she began to calm down and was able to be walked with everyone. You see, Bonnie and Elizabeth walk together all the time. So now Lorna has joined in, and everyone in the neighborhood knows us as the family with the little dog, the big dog and cat.

Lorna has been fully accepted into the pack. She loves to walk or really run. As my pet sitter says, "She smiles at me!" Lorna just lights up with happiness and health.



and then walking around the neighborhood at night with him again, has really perked us both up.

Although Barkley is about 11 years old now and has a sore back paw from an injury, he doesn't let it slow him down or stop him from thinking he's a puppy at times. Thank God he's so attentive to me and has such a warm personality with everyone. He's so low maintenance that I think he does more for me than I do for him at

times. That makes the time I've been cooped up a lot calmer and content.

We did have a scare a few months ago when he licked a puddle that had some antifreeze in it. But he did 100% okay with his treatment as we caught before it did damage to him. His Vets at Broadview Animal Hospital worked diligently and quickly to make sure he was okay and took every precaution with his care.

I don't know what I would have done if he had not recovered from that scare.

He's truly my boy and the most loving Collie I have ever had.

Lassie's First Summer – by Robin Lawson

Lassie, a broken-down, old, massively overweight, arthritic Rough Collie, rescued, fostered, and adopted with the help and encouragement of Northeast Ohio Collie Rescue, has been transformed. You may remember a little of her story in the last two issues of *Imprints*. Her story of transformation started in mid-March of 2008 and continues.

This past summer, Lassie had many firsts. She rode in a golf cart, on a ferry to an island, on a float in a parade, and by car to Kentucky. She got to walk around the Kentucky State Capital, the Kentucky Horse Park, South Bass Island, several State Parks, and Hocking Hills. She became a terrific camper who was an instant ambassador at each campground she visited. When her new Mom took her to stores, Mom never got any shopping done. They were constantly surrounded as everyone fell in love with Lassie. (Mom saved a lot of money, which was better used for dog toys.)

Lassie has accumulated more than 50 documented Therapy Dog visits. She has an informal "Fan Club" that makes sure they show up when Lassie is scheduled to be at the Library or at a community event. She also has been requested specifically by Hospice patients. That's pretty good for a previously untrained, outside dog. Old dogs can learn new tricks!

By the end of October, Lassie had lost almost 40 pounds and is approaching her correct weight. She has begun to run, wrestle, leap, and play more like other senior collies. She walks through fields every morning before the sun comes up, and in the evening after it's gone down. She plays ball in the yard and wrestles in the house

with the other dog. Sometimes she even sleeps in the middle of a king size bed in true collie fashion.

Lassie's new Mom kept her original name, but wasn't pleased with the lack of imagination. At the parade, as Lassie rode on the float, people noticed her and called out pointing, "Look, it's Lassie." Lassie stood wagging her tail and smiled as though to say, "Wow, they all know me. Hi, yes, it's me." Lassie's new Mom now loves her name because she knows Lassie loves everyone knowing her. When people say, "Hi Lassie," they always enjoy being told, "Yes, that's her name."

Elegant, old, arthritic Lassie even protected her new Mom when she was threatened by another dog. Lassie, without a bark or a growl, merely placed her body sideways between the aggressive dog and her Mom. She has decided her new Mom is worth keeping. Lassie has truly come home.



Lassie relaxes on vacation with Galley, the Portuguese Water Dog (above) and with her new "dad" (at right).



From the Scrapbook Gallery...



Duke with Doug & Vanessa Kemp



Grandson, Charlie, with two of his best friends. Atticus Bentley and Laird are happy and healthy, a real joy. The "boys" had a friendly reunion with Dusty on an evening walk one weekend. Collies know their own!

– Peg and Mike Partington



Daphne has settled in Chicago very nicely. She enjoys trips to the beach and to the dog parks and her many, many long walks. She is quite spoiled! She seems to have gotten over her shyness and is very happy. She definitely makes her presence known along our fence line and keeps her family very safe. She loves wading and chasing her dog sister and dog cousins. We just wanted to let you know how well she is doing.

– Sharon Parrish



Jack (Mackey) with Laura and Jim Ahearn



Our family has been blessed with the addition of Ginger, who came to live with us in July. She is perfect for our family and fit it like she had always lived here. She gets along so well with our other collie and our little pug. She loves to be petted and is always with us. She loves to go for walks in the Metroparks, and everyone stops to pet her. She passed her Delta test for a therapy dog with flying colors. She will be a therapy dog at Fairview Hospital where she will spend time with Tim. She is so good and her temperament is sweet. She is an awesome dog, and we are truly blessed that she came into our lives.

– Sue & Tim Guarino

\$\$ TREASURY REPORT \$\$

During the transition of records to our new, acting, treasurer, a full report is unavailable. A report will be included in the next issue of *Imprints*. Our balance, as of this edition of *Imprints*, is \$ 6,697.62.

In passing...

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

-  *Bonnie*, beloved collie of *John & Dot Schubert*
-  *Connie*, beloved collie of *Dot Schubert*
-  *Chelsea*, beloved collie of *the Leenhouts family*.
-  *Lassie (IV)*, beloved collie of *Richard & Sandi Baker*
-  *Mackey (Jack)*, beloved collie of *Laura & Jim Ahearn*
-  *Midge*, beloved collie of *Joe and Phyllis Pepoy*.
-  *Millie & Joey*, beloved dogs of *Betty Hodgson & David Gray*.
-  *Payson*, beloved collie of *Lou & Kathy George*
-  *Stella*, beloved collie of *Tom Hoadley & Cindy Lombardo*



Pictured here are (l to r) Betty Hodgson and Marian Maskow with Roscoe and Linus at the AlterPet Tree of Life tree lighting ceremony this past December.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

 **NEOCR Board Meeting — Sunday, February 8, 2009 – 12:00-3:30 p.m.** at Cleveland All Breed, 210 Hayes Drive, Suite B, Cleveland, Ohio, 44131. For directions, visit www.cabtc.org.

 As the new year quickly passes, we'd like to remind you to save the date for **Saturday, May 16, 2009**. This will be the date of the fifth annual **PAWS-4-A-Cause** adoptathon, held at the Cleveland MetroParks, South Chagrin Reservation Polo Fields. To register for the walk connected with the event visit the group's web site at www.pawsohio.org. NEOCR has a table at this event. If you are interested in staffing the booth, contact Judy Lester at judy6139@sbcglobal.net.

GIFT WRAPPING RESULTS

Northeast Ohio Collie Rescue would like to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who took time this year during the busy holiday season to wrap gifts at Borders and Barnes & Noble Bookstores.

The total donations collected this year was \$370.15. All of this money will go directly to help with expenses for the rescue collies we help.

And a big thank you goes to Phyllis Pepoy for the great job she did this year by setting up the wrapping dates, making all the phone calls back and forth, and dealing with the many public relations managers at the bookstores. That portion is the bulk of this project and is a huge undertaking. So THANK YOU, Phyllis!!!
— Judy Lester

Membership Renewal and Mailing List Update

We hope you enjoy receiving and reading this newsletter which contains the latest information about the NEOCR dogs available for adoption, updates about placements, and general news from our extended collie family. Thank you for sharing your photos and stories with us!

If you have not renewed your **annual membership** in the last year and wish to do so, please fill out and return the form below with payment of \$20.00. **Please make checks payable to NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue.** You may use a photocopy of the form if you prefer not to remove the page from the newsletter. You can also use Acrobat Reader® to fill out and save the completed form.

Filling out this form also updates your **mailing list participation** and ensures that you receive the newsletter in the preferred format — U.S. Mail and/or email of an electronic PDF. Should you elect to discontinue your participation, please indicate that information below. This action will help us better budget our postage and printing expenses. Thanks for your participation!

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Return to: NorthEast Ohio Collie Rescue Membership
PO Box 1594, Elyria, OH 44036-1594

Or email to: thoadley@megafluidline.com





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Elyria, Ohio 44036-1594

