



# English Cocker Rescue News

March 2014

An e-newsletter for and about ECSCA Rescue

Published at least quarterly

Welcome to the Spring Edition of the English Cocker Rescue News! Even though many of us suffered through some unusual weather this winter, we are hopeful that spring is finally here. Our newsletter will bring you up-to-date information on tail wagging events, available rescue and re-homing dogs, new projects and any special needs.

## PAWS for Thought

Karen Kirby, Rescue Chair

It's time for me to put together my 2013 rescue committee report for our board members and thought I would share some of our stats here as well.

English Cocker Spaniel Health & Rescue Org, Inc. placed **28 dogs** last year! (One less than Rescue placed in 2012.) Of those, 13 dogs were true rescue situations coming from shelters or owner give-up situations. The other 15 dogs were placed via our **Breeder Rehome Program**. Rescue, as well as the adopters of those 15 rehoming dogs are so grateful for the breeders that worked with us to make these adoptions happen! Take for instance, Breeder Karen Fletcher Roth who recently placed Dottie (see page four) via the rehoming program, *"Thank you to the ECSCA rehoming group on finding the perfect home for Dottie. I think more breeders should take advantage of this wonderful program."*

We love the Rehoming Program because at any given time I have between 25 and 40 adoption applications from all over the US on our waiting list! If you compare that to the number of true rescue dogs we placed last year, you can see we have a huge deficit of dogs to place! Don't get me wrong, I am NOT complaining. I am so grateful that we don't compare to other breed rescues where it is nothing for them to do 28 placements and more a month than in a whole year!!!

### *Just in time for Spring...*

**We are now a 501c3! Your donations to English Cocker Rescue are now tax-deductible!**

BUT I also feel bad as we do lose some fabulous homes because we had nothing to place with them. I'm not talking about people that apply and two weeks or a month later, they've given up and adopted something else. I'm talking about those folks that are patient enough to wait 6 months, 1 year or longer!! In one particular case an applicant was on the wait list for over a year and we had neither a rescue nor a rehoming dog available. Someone alerted me to an ECS in a North Carolina shelter but they wouldn't release the dog to us. This applicant lives in Pennsylvania and when I alerted them to this dog, they made a whirlwind trip to NC to adopt this dog from the shelter!

It's true, rescue, didn't get a dime for matching the family up with this dog, but we DID get the satisfaction and pride of knowing that this family was able to join the ranks of our ECS family and knowing that the dog got a fantastic, committed, ECS loving home. And this is just another way we get our wonderful breed into wonderful homes!

So here's to hoping for more great matchups in 2014 and.....to wishing spring is right around the corner!!

*Karen*

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## Forever Home Tails

### Quinn



We are pleased to announce that young "Quinn" has found his permanent place with his new Mom and Dad and two EC brothers!!!! Quinn went to Chris and Linda with some behavioral issues and one eye. They have continued to try and understand how to work with Quinn and, thankfully, they have had the love and patience to make some incredible advancements in his behavior. Good Luck, Mighty Quinn!!!!

### Jack

Heartworm positive, matted and neglected, Jack the English Cocker Spaniel fieldbred came into Rescue in November 2012. Shortly before Christmas he was well enough to travel to his foster home in Kentucky, and he was adopted in February 2014. Now known as Mack, he has adapted very well to his new family, who shared the following:

"We had him at the Hilton Head beach, in a kennel, in a hotel and at a friend's home. In all cases he was fine and behaved nicely. He seems to be an excellent traveler, entering and settling into his carrier easily. Mack is genuinely friendly to other people and if we ask him to ignore other dogs when walking he does so. We have had him evaluated by both our vet and by our kennel's play group manager and he passed all tests with flying colors. He meets other dogs in a friendly fashion even if they are considerably bigger than he is. On the beach he played well, adjusted to waves and the water with no hesitation, and chased

his tennis ball ceaselessly. He played well with Bentley – a much bigger ridgeback."

Congratulations to Mack!



## Auction for Rescue

**ATTENTION\*\*ATTENTION\*\*\*ATTENTION**

*SPECIAL ITEM OFFERED FOR EC RESCUE*

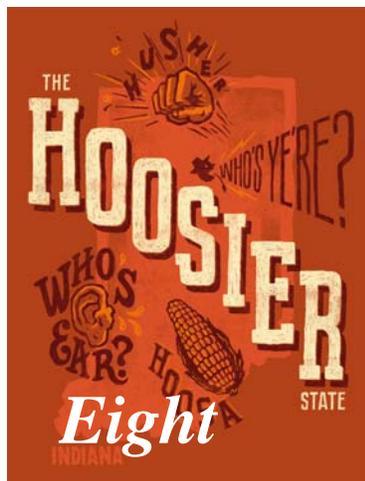
Through the generous donation of an EC fancier, we are happy to announce that a copy of *The English Cocker Spaniel in America* will be auctioned at this year's National!

The person who donated the book had two requirements.

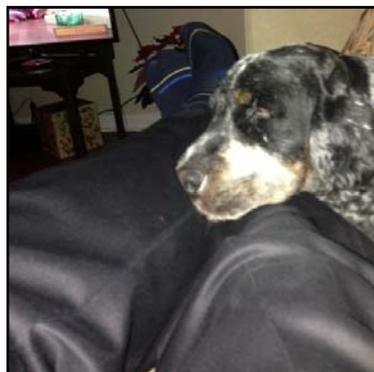
First is that the book be auctioned at the National and second that the proceeds be given to EC Rescue! The book has some wear, but is in, overall, good condition. The book was owned by Giralda Farms/A. Courtney and has her hand-written notes several places in the book! It is a true treasure!

You can find the bidding sheet at the Basket Raffle area.

Please bring your cash, check book or credit card and be ready to bid to win this wonderful addition to any EC fancier's collection!



We are happy to announce that since our last newsletter, **Gus**, one of the Hoosier 8, was adopted by his foster dad. Gus enjoys the couch and keeping an eye on all of the birds and squirrels that trespass across his yard...

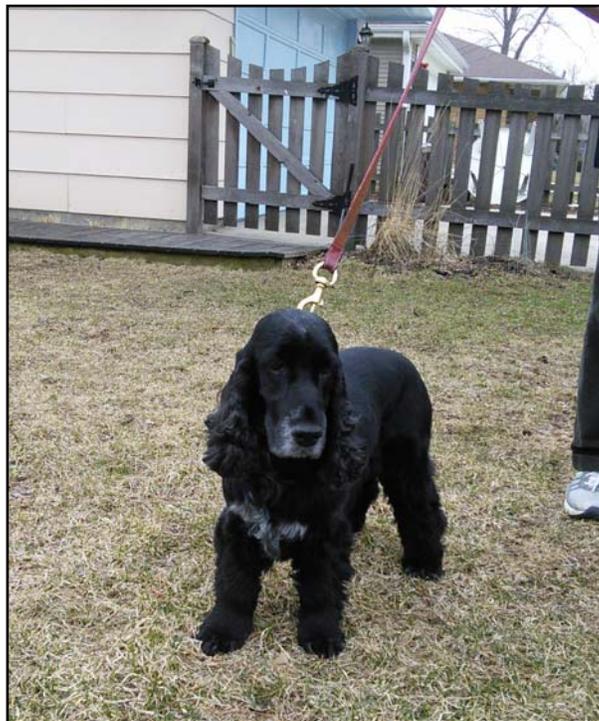


Another one of the Hoosier 8 boys, **John Henry**, is in the process of being adopted by his foster family!



## Available for Adoption

Several of the Hoosier 8 gang are still waiting for their Forever homes.



**Sophie**, pictured above, is a lovely seven year old girl who would love to make her home with a caring and patient family. Her foster parents have worked wonders with her in the last few months, and shared this profile of Sophie.

*Strengths* -- she is sweet, sensitive, smart and athletic. While her responses to common verbal commands is a work in progress, I think she has the capability to learn more with an experienced, devoted owner. As you know, Sophie is very quiet, shy, and fearful of most things outside of our controlled environment. She has rarely exercised her vocal cords. Sophie does not have "resource guard" issues with food or her immediate surroundings. She has gotten annoyed at younger dogs who were overly playful and did not understand Sophie was not interested in play. doesn't seem to mind well balanced guest dogs, but I get the sense she would rather be an only dog in a forever home. Sophie is housetrained

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## Available for Adoption

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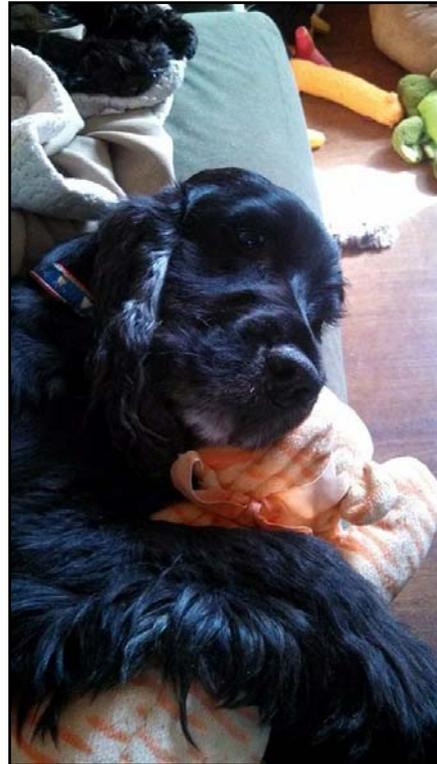
with the exception of setbacks due to separation anxiety. When we leave the house, we keep Sophie in the kitchen/dining room area, gated off from the rest of the house. When we return, we take Sophie outside to dissipate nervous energy and relieve herself. This seems to help avoid accidents.

*Weaknesses* -- Sophie is not a crate-trained dog; the crate represents anxiety for her. If a prospective owner is strong on crating, I would believe it would not be good for Sophie's mental state. Sophie is comfortable on the bed where she sleeps soundly through the night. Sophie has become very attached to me (the foster dad) and I am not sure why. While my wife is around this house just as much, provides Sophie meals, takes her out and plays with her, she definitely is focused on me. When I depart the house, she will remain on guard, watching out the window, stressfully pacing around waiting for my return. If someone feels Sophie will be a good addition to a large family, they may be disappointed with how she decides to fit in. I think this behavior can be modified but it may take time, effort and patience. She probably would be better suited to someone who is home most of the time and would not leave her alone too much. I don't want someone to have high expectations to think this is a bubbly, extroverted personality. Sophie is reserved and guarded. She is going to warm up on her terms when trust is established.

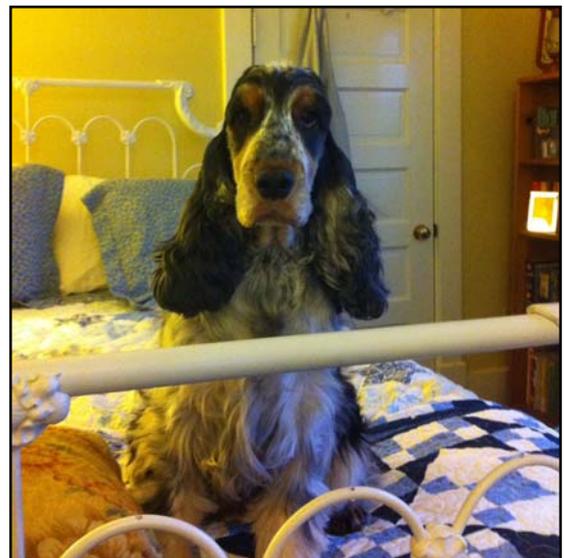
For more information on Sophie (who is located in Illinois), please contact Janie-Rice Brother at [kyecsrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:kyecsrescue@yahoo.com) or Karen Kirby at [fencerow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fencerow@sbcglobal.net)

Also in foster care in Illinois and waiting for a forever home is Jase, who has many of the same issues as Sophie. His foster mom shared the following about Jase: He is doing pretty good with the routines but once something changes the routine we have to back up and build again. He is so sweet and tries to be so good. Since the weather is improving and we've had a few days where the sliding door can be left open, he is having a blast running in and out and playing in the yard. Jase

loves to have toys thrown around (He does not bring them back but we have tons in the yard so it's fun).” For more information on Jase (who is located in Illinois), please contact Janie-Rice Brother at [kyecsrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:kyecsrescue@yahoo.com)



## Rehomed!



Dottie, pictured above, was recently placed through our Breeder Rehome Program by her breeder, Karen Fletcher Roth, makes her home now in Kentucky with Janie-Rice Brother and her new brother, a class of 2010 Rescue dog, Benjamin.

## The Faces of Rescue

The ECSCA Rescue board members are scattered across the US and work closely with English Cocker in need throughout the country. Upcoming newsletters will introduce you to some of our board members, so you can get to know them better and understand what they do for Rescue.

**Susan Dobson**, Foster Coordinator



My heart has been captured by English Cocker since 1982! One little liver roan pup came into my life and I was hooked. I also began showing in conformation in the early 80's. I have finished several EC's to their Championships. The highlight of my showing was finishing one of my bitches who I owner-handled and bred. I continue to show in the conformation arena and, currently, have a red pup that is beginning her show career!

The bonus you get with EC's is the people they introduce you to! Most of my long time, dear friends also have EC's. Like the breed, EC persons are wonderful, warm, merry and loving. The love for this breed is much deeper than just the show ring. Being involved with EC Rescue, I am constantly reminded how dedicated people are to the breed and what they are willing to do to ensure they are in a safe, nurturing environment. Such a small, powerful breed with a HUGE impact on the lives of all those who are blessed to be touched by each EC paw.

## Rescue: It Takes a Village

Although rescue is all about the dogs – it wouldn't be possible without the people. From our dedicated foster homes, to individuals who help transport or screen potential homes, ECSCA Rescue works because of the two-legged creatures behind the scenes, dedicating their time and effort to help this wonderful breed. Just about everyone who helps with rescue also has a “day” job, and juggles rescue duties with the demands of a busy life.

We are still seeking to fill two positions – the hours are flexible and the rewards are great – who can resist the happy face of an English Cocker secure in their forever home?

**Fund Raising Coordinator** – Volunteer needed! Rescue needs to have ongoing fund raisers and regular income so that we can continue to save lives. This person will need to have creative ideas to generate events as well as plan and implement those events.

**Foster Home Recruiter** – Volunteer needed! (position is NOT a Foster Coordinator) The foster recruiter will work directly with the Foster Coordinators to find foster homes for the dogs we take in.

\*\*Contact Karen Kirby at fencerow@sbcglobal.net if interested.\*\*

### *ECSCA Rescue Team*

**Karen Kirby**, ECSCA Rescue Chair, fencerow@sbcglobal.net

**Janie-Rice Brother**, ECSCA Rescue Foster Coordinator, jrbrother@gmail.com

**Susan Dobson**, ECSCA Rescue Foster Coordinator, tdobson@ameritech.net

**Kathy Hughes**, ECSCA Rescue Transport Coordinator, Kathhughes@verizon.net

**Elaine Kilbourn**, ECSCA Rescue Reference Coordinator, ekilbourn@aol.com

**Karen Spurlin**, ECSCA Treasurer, auldsodecs@gmail.com

Susan Wilder, ECSCA Rescue Foster Coordinator, sawbytheday@verizon.net