

FROM THE OBG PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

So many highs, so many lows, but the highs make all the lows worthwhile. If I had to best describe my daily life as a dog rescuer, those are the words I would use. Consider the lows felt one day this past January when OBG first learned of the woman who had so many dogs she had to rehome that she could not even remember how many dogs she had. The temperatures outside were in the single digits that week, and all we at OBG could think about was how miserable and cold those poor dogs must be, living outside.

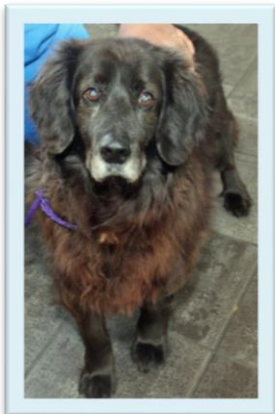
Fortunately, our volunteers rallied quickly, and within days we had a caravan of volunteers driving six hours to rescue sixteen dogs from this property. These are the dogs that we affectionately refer to as the "Sweet 16," and words cannot begin to describe the highs involved with saving so many dogs at once and giving them a chance to be "normal" happy dogs in loving homes.

I am fostering one of OBG's Sweet 16, Leroy, and seeing his progression from a frightened dog who wasn't quite sure what it meant to live indoors to a confident, playful, loving dog is, to me, what rescue is all about.

Leroy



Before



After



Mokey
And Her
Pups!



Then there's Mokey, one of our Sweet 16 who turned out to be pregnant and who recently gave birth to nine puppies. Sadly, only six of those puppies survived. All of the OBG community shared the sadness of Mokey's foster mom when we learned of the loss of OBG's littlest rescues, but we celebrate the excitement of the six surviving puppies who get stronger and stronger each day. The birth of these puppies brings the total number of dogs rescued from one home to TWENTY-TWO lives saved in one day. Talk about a good day of rescue work! Unfortunately, these rescues come with a hefty price tag, and we estimate that each of our "sweethearts" will cost OBG \$1,000 or more.

Not every rescue story is a big headline-grabbing story like that of the Sweet 16 or the birth of Mokey's puppies, but each story is important to the dog whose life has been saved.

There are those rescues that are just plain good for the soul and are why so many of us got involved with rescue. Six year-old Finnegan is one such rescue. Finnegan ended up at the animal shelter because of a neglect charge. He had been found in a crate lying in his own pee and poop with food thrown in with him. His coat was matted and covered with feces, so he had to be shaved down, in spite of the cold temperatures outside. The shelter told us that while he was very sweet and good with other dogs, they would be unable to adopt him out because of the horrendous condition of his ears, which are completely closed from infection and overflowing with pus.

Experience has taught us that a dog with severely infected ear canals can easily cost OBG \$4,000 or \$5,000 in surgery fees, so this was not an easy intake decision to make. Ultimately, we found we just could not say no to Finnegan. Any dog who is in such obvious pain and who comes from such a sad background but is still affectionate and friendly deserves a chance at a happy life. Don't you agree? Please help OBG save Finnegan from the daily pain he experiences from his ears by making a tax deductible donation today.



Finnegan



Finnegan's Ear Before Surgery

for survival. If OBG said no, he would be euthanized. I'm very happy to report that OBG accepted Lil Jon for intake, he has had a \$2,500 surgery to repair the fractured femur bone, and his prognosis is excellent. In fact, not only will this adorable little puppy survive, but we have every reason to believe that he will thrive. Can you help OBG pay for his medical bills by making a tax deductible donation?



Lil Jon



The stories above are just a few examples of the daily highs and lows of rescue life. Every day brings a new story, a new decision to make, and new dogs to save. At the end of the day, we are able to make the right decisions and help dogs like Lil Jon, Finnegan and the Sweet 16 only because of fabulous supporters like YOU. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for being there for the dogs of OBG.

Your Friend in Rescue,

Teresa A. Butler

Teresa A. Butler
OBG President

Thank You OBG Platinum Sponsors

Burke Centre Pet Sitting, Inc.
www.burkecentrepetsitting.com

Capital City Cocker Club, Inc.
www.capitalcitycockers.org

MFC Woodworking
www.mfcwoodworking.com

Quality Hill Coffee
www.qualityhillcoffee.com

Stephen L. Glasser, OD, PC
www.eyesightinsight.com

Unfortunately, rescue work takes a lot of money and our adoption fees cover only a small percentage of our annual medical bills. Even the youngest dogs sometimes come with a big price tag. Recently, a shelter called us about Lil Jon, a 5 month old puppy that had been surrendered by his owners because he had a broken leg, and they couldn't afford the surgery to repair the break. We knew that if we accepted Lil Jon for intake he would cost OBG thousands of dollars, but we were his only chance



SPRING FUND DRIVE



Spring 2014
PO Box 361
Newington, VA 22122
703 533-2373 (voice mail)
info@cockerspanielrescue.com



Hardy

Click on Rocket
to Donate!

FLY ME TO THE MOON WITH SPRING DONATIONS!

Dear OBG Supporters,

The pups of OBG are ready to fly to the moon!!

We are excited to launch this year's Spring Fund Drive with a goal of reaching the moon with dollar miles! It's only 238,000 miles to the moon, and every dollar donated buys 10 miles toward our goal.

In 2014 we want to give as many homeless pups as possible a trip to -- and over -- the moon, by rescuing them, giving them the medical and emotional care they need, and placing them in loving forever homes. To do so, we need your help!

YOU are our rescue co-pilots!

We are so very grateful for your donations to our winter campaign -- OBG has the most wonderful supporters! Alas, the number of dogs needing our help always manages to outstrip our funds. By now we have about exhausted the funds from the Holiday Drive and are bracing for the tough spring and summer months, which is when a great many dogs are dumped. OBG volunteers are busy throughout the year working to cover the dogs' medical and kenneling costs by holding local fundraising events, creating online drives, and applying for



Darcy is ready to fly!

grants. However, most important to carrying on our mission are the three major campaigns held during the year, of which the Spring Fund Drive is the first. (The Matching Fund Drive will be held in the summer months, and the Holiday Drive is in December.)

Hopes and dreams on board!

OBG is dedicated to fulfilling the hopes and dreams of every homeless cocker, cocker mix, and "honorary" cocker that finds itself in a shelter or no longer wanted by its owners. These dogs depend on all of us working together to send them over the moon and to their forever homes!

Watch the OBG website to see our progress to the moon!

3 EASY WAYS TO DONATE!

1. PayPal & Credit Card - click on any rocket.
2. Donate by check - use enclosed form.
3. Sign up for the GiFT program with a monthly donation - www.cockerspanielrescue.com



*Leo, Lezlee and
Crockett in the
Rocket!*

Click on Rocket
to Donate!

PLEASE DONATE NOW!

To launch our Spring Fund Drive, we are featuring four donor levels. Donations received between April 15 and May 15, 2014, will be eligible to receive an OBG recognition item that was donated by a generous sponsor. **This is not a gift –this is a way of expanding recognition for OBG.** Every time YOU use it, YOU will be sending a message that OBG is here to rescue pups. Please donate at the highest level possible!!



- **Donation of \$60.00 or higher** -- A luggage tag shaped like a puppy paw with OBG logo.
- **Donation of \$125.00 or higher** -- Collapsible travel pet bowl with OBG logo.
- **Donation of \$275.00 or higher** -- A sporty small travel bag proudly printed with the OBG logo.
- **Donation of \$500.00 or higher** -- All the above.

You can make a difference in the life of a homeless cocker or "honorary" cocker. OBG is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the IRS code, and as such your donation is tax-deductible as allowed by law.



YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE OBG SPRING DRIVE!

Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$500 I will receive all three donor level gifts.
- \$275 I will receive an OBG travel bag.
- \$125 I will receive an OBG travel bowl.
- \$60 I will receive an OBG luggage tag.
- \$25
- \$_____ No gifts, thanks.

**Binky
Wants To
Go To The
Moon!**



Click on Binky to Donate!

Your Name: _____

Address, City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Donation in: Honor of _____ Memory of _____

If you would like us to notify someone of your donation, please indicate:

Recipient's Name: _____

Recipient's Address: _____

WE GRATEFULLY ACCEPT DONATIONS VIA CHECK OR ONLINE!

CHECKS
 Payable to: OBG
 Mail to: OBG Cocker Rescue
 PO Box 511 | Newington, VA 22122

CREDIT CARD OR PAYPAL
 Visit our website:
www.cockerspanielrescue.com
 & click on Donate

GIVING FOR TOMORROW (GIFT)

Through our Giving For Tomorrow (GIFT) program, donors with a PayPal account can establish a monthly contribution to OBG.

This is a perfect way to help pay medical bills or kennel fees if you can't foster!

You can set up a Gift of \$15 - \$250 a month on our website. www.cockerspanielrescue.com

YES, I'LL GO GREEN!
 I want to save OBG mailing costs and receive the OBG Newsletters, President's Letters, and all other OBG correspondence via email.

Return this form or email gogreen@cockerspanielrescue.com and type Go Green in the subject line. It's that easy!

I want to volunteer; Please contact me.

