



# Shorewood Cocker Rescue

[www.cockerrescue.net](http://www.cockerrescue.net)

Holiday 2011

## Velvet's Miraculous Make-Over

*Dedicated dog lovers give Velvet a second chance at life.*

Shorewood first learned of Velvet in May of 2010 when she was in the care of a very small rescue with limited means in North Carolina. Her story is heartbreaking.



Velvet

Velvet's owner took her to the groomer on regular basis due to her horrible body odor. The groomer threatened to report the owner to the authorities due to Velvet's lack of medical attention.

We do not know why, but her owner refused to take her to the vet. One day, the owner told the groomer to just 'keep her'.

The groomer found an animal rescue. When the rescue got Velvet, she had lost all of her hair and her body was covered with thick scabs. She could barely see due to a green discharge coming from her eyes. A black tarry substance was coming out of her ears. Due to her extreme weight she had difficulty breathing and could barely walk. Velvet weighed 63 pounds. What an existence!

A very kind woman from the rescue started Velvet's treatment. She bathed her daily and scrubbed her body in an attempt to remove the scabs. Velvet's problems were extreme. This woman knew that she needed to get Velvet to someone with more knowledge of Cocker Spaniels and started asking around. This was when Shorewood entered the picture. "Would you be able take this dog?"

We needed to get Velvet to Wisconsin but she would not survive a long road trip. We needed a solution. What should we do? Think. Make phone calls. Send emails. Our contact in North Carolina contacted Pilots and Paws, a volunteer organization of pilots who fly shelter dogs to safety. The weather was a problem and our pilot did not want to fly her in the summer heat. These aren't jumbo jets with air conditioning and food service. Patience.

Finally the call came. On September 8, just a few days before the Wigglebutt Walk, Velvet boarded a tiny two-seater airplane in North Carolina. Velvet was on her way to Shorewood Cocker Rescue.

Hours later, I arrived at the Waukegan Illinois airport. The plane landed. There was no time for chatting. The pilot told me that Velvet could not walk. He carried Velvet to my van and put her inside. She looked like a hog. The stench was overwhelming. I began to doubt myself. How could I turn this creature into an adoptable dog?

The next day, I was up early. Today was a new day for Velvet. Top of the list? A simple thing, blood work at the vet, but how could I lift this girl into the van. Suddenly, I remembered some old under-utilized portable stairs getting dusty in the barn. After getting Velvet in the van, a light bulb went off in my head and I tossed the stairs into the back of the van. I would need them later to get Velvet back in the van and back home with me.

Our new schedule started when we got home. It was bath time and getting Velvet into the tub was a challenge. Eventually, I had her lathered with medicated shampoo when with a burst of energy, she suddenly jumped out of the tub. How was I going to get a slippery 63 pound cocker back in the tub? After a wet, wild, and well mannered play time, she resumed her day of beauty in my tiny bath tub spa. So much water in such a small space! That was the last bath Velvet had at home. From that day forward we went to the groomer twice a week for a bath. At home, I treated her ears with an old cocker staple, blue power and I treated her eyes with cyclosporine. This process went on for months, but Velvet's condition was improving.

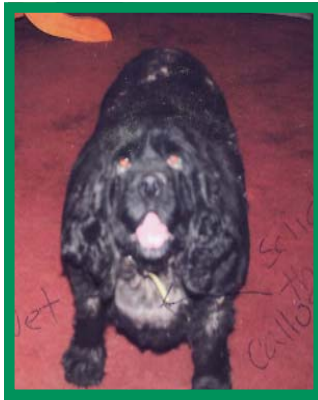
Our girl began to lose weight after being prescribed medication to treat her hyperthyroidism. The scabs started to fall off. Soon, she could climb the three steps into the house without help and trot around the yard. Her ears cleared up and we were able to reduce of the cyclosporine.



## Velvet's Transformation

She was 31 pounds lighter and had been transformed into a beautiful girl with a lovely black coat. This southern belle was finally ready for adoption. Velvet found her forever home in June of 2011.

Velvet's 'before and after' pictures hang on the wall of a North Carolina vet clinic. The pictures show everyone that miracles are still possible. With the help of so many dedicated animal



Velvet Before



Velvet After

lovers, Velvet has been given a second chance at life and a loving home. As the old saying goes "a picture is worth a thousand words". How many are two pictures worth?

This account was written by Elaine Bauman, President of Shorewood Cocker Rescue who fostered and cared for Velvet during her miraculous make-over..

## A Note From The President



Normally when I write this I message I take the opportunity to reminisce over the happenings of the past year. My 2011 nearly ended in July when I had a farm related accident. I spent most of the fall either in the hospital or in physical therapy. As I grew older, I sometimes wondered about the future of Shorewood Cocker Rescue. I now know I no longer need to worry. Our volunteers stepped up and they didn't miss a beat. They continued to take in dogs, many from deplorable situations, and place them in wonderful homes. With the new Wisconsin dog law, they were buried in paper work. This sometimes required them to drive many additional miles to get the proper forms. A national shortage of the heartworm treatment drug required them to tap all their resources to save the lives of several Heartworm positive dogs. Foster homes stepped up and in many cases took an extra dog. In addition new foster homes were recruited. The Wigglebutt Walk was the most successful ever. I will end by saying, thank you to all our adoptive families for your support and a very special thanks to the Shorewood Volunteers for making MY 2011 a success. *Elaine Bauman*

## Scribbles . . . News From SCR Alumni

Lady Bug (Lady Di 101), accompanied by her parents, *Todd and Tammy Patteson of Rockford* traveled to Justice, IL to celebrated her birthday with foster mom Beverly Madarek. A seemingly delicious birthday cake was enjoyed by Lady Bug and her former foster brothers and sisters. Lady Bug was adopted on August 14th, 2010.



## Rhett Hopes To Find A Special Family To Take Him Home

Rhett is a very quiet 12 year old gentleman. He loves to find a warm, comfortable place to sleep his day way. He does like to lay on the kitchen floor and just watch all the action taking place in that room. Rhett is not that interested in toys but he will chew on a knuckle bone. He likes to lie on the floor beside his foster mom when she is on the computer or watching television.

Rhett has experienced some health issues in the past, but currently he is doing just fine. Rhett does have cataracts but they do not require treatment at this time. Rhett's does have vision.

This sweet boy finds himself homeless this holiday season through no fault of his own. Rhett is housetrained. He is sweet and he is lovable. This kindly old gent is looking for a home to live out the remainder of his days and a family to love who will return that love in kind. Perhaps, you are that family? Can you open your heart and home to Rhett? He will love you unconditionally and he will be your devoted companion.



Rhett - 12 yrs.



# Seniors Remain A Priority

It cannot be said often enough, Shorewood remains committed to rescuing senior cockers. Yes, we love them all; the young, the playful, the blind, the deaf and the old and gray. But it is the senior dogs that other rescue and shelters pass over that motivate us. Seniors make wonderful family companions. They are experienced in life. They are content with life's basics; food, a warm bed, medical care and someone to love who love them back.

Shorewood Cocker Rescue has placed twenty-four senior cockers into new, loving homes this year. That is 30% of all the dogs we have placed. Many of these seniors were left in shelters due to their owners passing away or moving into homes that do not allow pets. The average age of these cockers was 9 1/2 years, with the youngest age being 7 years and the oldest 14 years.

We continue to be thankful for our wonderful adopters who take these seniors in so they can have a terrific life. Anybody who has ever adopted a senior dog knows that the love they give you in return is a far greater reward than anything else. Shorewood would like to thank and recognize this years senior adopters.

Audrey - Dea Engelbrecht, Peoria, IL  
 Baily - Sandra & Robert Patterson, Pewaukee, WI  
 Beamer - Paul & Barbara Madsen, Greendale, WI  
 Buddy - Kathy and Ron Henricks, Crystal Lake, IL  
 Buffy - Jan Ruster, Beloit, WI  
 Buster - Candi Peterson, Glenview, IL  
 Candy - Jodie & Bill Mabin, Barneveld WI  
 Chance - James Heffron, Janesville, WI

Chloe - Elaine Zablotki, Chicago, IL  
 Curly - Linda Nelson, Waterford, WI  
 Darcy - Laurie Foell, Bloomington, MN  
 Destiny - Joe & Barb Sheehan, Sheboygan, WI  
 Isaac - Patricia Sullivan, Wheaton, IL  
 Mickey - Joanne Blandford, Glen Ellyn, IL  
 Paris - Richard & Helen Schaal, Mountain, WI  
 Pebbles - Kim Topcsewski, Waterford, WI

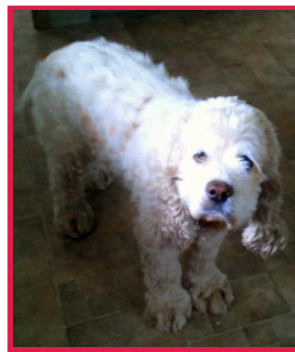
Prince - Lynn Nie, Green Bay, WI  
 Sara - Ted Warshafsky, Milwaukee, WI  
 Sasha - Peggy Fit, Cedar Rapids, IA  
 Shady - Steve & Lynne Turnquist, Fulton, IL  
 Shawano - Molly Nezgoda, Ladysmith, WI  
 Stootsie - John & Kristine Utzig, Libertyville, IL  
 Susie - Allen & Virginia Brown, Milton, WI  
 Sweetie - Anna & David Sanders, Appleton, WI

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

These wonderful seniors are waiting for their forever home this holiday season. Could you be Santa for one of these seniors?



**Rocky - 6-8 yrs.**  
 A gentle companion who loves to snuggle.



**Libby - 9 yrs.**  
 Loves to cuddle and walks well on a leash.



**Sugar - 7 yrs.**  
 A sweet girl who is crate and housetrained.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- I am interested in becoming a foster parent.
- I am interested in helping transport.
- I am interest in helping SCR in another way.



**Please mail your donation to:**  
**Donna Pflugsten, Shorewood Cocker Rescue**  
**1100 Erie Street, Janesville, WI 53545**

Your generous donation will help us provide care for homeless Cockers.



**Maddy - 5-7 yrs.**  
 A beautiful girl who loves to please.

## Shorewood Cocker Rescue Yahoo List

Join the Shorewood Cocker Rescue List and share your views with other friends of the rescue. There will be news of Shorewood happenings, events and dog talk. It will be a chance for you to share your dog stories and photos as well as exchange ideas with other cocker owners.

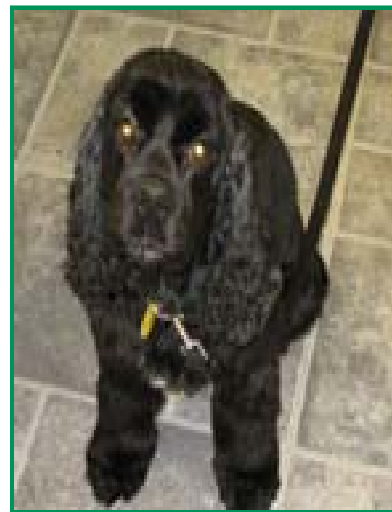
This list will not be open to the general public so you will need to request membership. To do so, email Elaine at [elaine@cockerrescue.com](mailto:elaine@cockerrescue.com).

### Shorewood Tip...

If you treat your cockers eyes with medication in ointment form, run the tube under warm water for 20 seconds and it will liquefy. It is much easier to apply this way.

### Come See Us

If you are interested in adopting, we welcome you to come meet our cocker spaniels at any of our events. We have several rescue events scheduled for 2012 throughout Illinois and Wisconsin. Please, consult our website for a schedule of date and times.



**Radar - 7 yrs.**  
Likes the outdoors and sitting in your lap.

*Help Shorewood as you shop online this holiday season!  
Every cent counts.*



Shop at over 680 fine stores at [igive.com](http://igive.com) and select SCR as your charity of choice. Up to 26% of each online purchase goes directly to your charity.



US Bones is a great friend of Shorewood. By clicking the Rewards Fundraising a portion of your purchase is donated to Shorewood. US Bones has more than just bones. They also have items for you cat.

The mission of Shorewood Cocker Rescue, Inc. is to assist homeless Cocker spaniels find permanent homes with responsible, loving families. We spay or neuter all Cocker spaniels prior to placement and check references on all adopters. We make every effort to carefully match each Cocker spaniel with the right family to maximize the adoption's success." SCR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

*Shorewood Cocker Rescue  
P.O. Box 584  
Twin Lakes, Wi 53181*



*Seasons Greetings!*