



Same Song, New Verse— Foster Homes Needed

Over the past few months we tried to restrict intake to young dogs. We've managed to save the young ones but had to sacrifice a number of older dogs.

Once again we are facing a major crunch. Another of our boarding facilities is closing. We don't know if this is temporary or permanent, but we need to move seven dogs as soon as possible.

This has huge ramifications for our organization both in terms of expense and the number of dogs we can save. We are about to limit intake to young females who tend to get placed quickly.

Currently our foster homes are stretched to the limit—numerous homes have as many as six or more foster dogs plus their own dogs.

We would rather see dogs in foster homes for several reasons. First, Cocker Spaniels need the human contact. Second, it gives us a chance to evaluate personality and behavior as well as ascertain house-breaking. Third, if no dogs were in boarding it would save CSR at least \$3,000 a month, money that could be spent on veterinary care.



Can this dog be saved?

Our most pressing needs:

- ❖ Foster homes
- ❖ Boarding spots
- ❖ Money (for boarding and vet expenses)
- ❖ Help bathing & grooming dogs in boarding
- ❖ Adoptive homes

If you can help, e-mail cockerinfo@swbell.net or call the hotline at 713 208-1314 or come by an adoption. We would be happy to talk with you.

Without your help, Cocker Spaniels are going to lose their lives simply because there is no place for them to go.

The Fallback Plan

If foster homes cannot be developed quickly, we need to locate boarding facilities that:

(a) *can take dogs.* Participating boarding facilities allocate only a small number of spaces for rescue organizations because we don't pay full price.

(b) *can isolate dogs pulled directly from shelters.* These dogs may have been exposed to communicable disease in shelters. Isolation is important to protecting the health of other dogs in the boarding facility.

(c) *are willing to handle health issues.* This can range from keeping them quiet during heartworm treatment, isolating them through mange treatment or administering daily medications for ear, eye or skin problems.

(d) *keeps the dogs inside.* Otherwise they develop ear infections.

(e) *we can afford.* It costs between \$210 and \$300 a month to board a SINGLE dog for a month, so we need a facility with very reasonable rates.

(f) *preferably allow us to bathe and groom dogs on site.* Dogs need to be clean, not only for their own good, but in order to attend adoptions.

If you know of any boarding facilities definitely willing to help, please call 713 208-1314 or e-mail cockerinfo@swbell.net. Please be sure to leave the name and phone number of the boarding facility owner/manager and your own name and number as well.

Kismet is fate, fortune, luck or destiny.