



DOLLY'S TRIBUTE

“Clumbers in Need” a Clumber Spaniel Rescue

Issue 3
August 2008



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

A year ago on August 1st, 2007, I lost Dolly and the Dollykins were born. Believe me when I tell you that I've cried tears of joy and tears of sadness this past year, but I feel blessed to be able to share my life with the four Dollykins known as Dozer Full of Promise, Worthy, Freedom Grace and Karma.

The story actually began the day that I had the chance to rescue



Roofus's mom, Sugar Doll Surama Z Rajslu (Dolly). I thought the angels were smiling down on me that day. My husband Edward gladly picked Dolly up along with three other puppy mill clumbers and brought them



to our home. I have never forgotten that night and I'm sure I never will, as it was one of the happiest times in my life. Roofus's mom was home, and she was safe, and she was never going to suffer again.

I strongly believe in faith and have found that it is easy to have faith when things are going smoothly or the way one thinks they should. It's when things don't go the way you planned that you find out if you have as much faith as you think you do.

Most of you know Dolly's story of how, unknown to me, she was pregnant when she arrived at my home and that we subsequently lost her during the c-section. To this day my heart still aches over her loss but I've come to accept that even something good can come out of something so tragically wrong. We started out with ten babies and we were only able to save four.

One by one we began to lose the puppies and each loss was devastating. I don't believe I ever felt as hopeless as I did then, first losing Dolly and then her babies, one by one was overwhelming. I was ready to throw in the towel and forget about rescuing Clumbers. The hurt was more than I could bear. And then when I had lost all faith, the angels swooped down and the four that were left began to thrive. They began to gain weight, they began to grow, and best of all they began to act like they wanted to live.

Those four survivors have

blessed my home in so many ways. Dozer Full of Promise, Worthy, Freedom Grace, and Karma have taught me more this past year than I've learned in a life time. They taught me never to give up hope and that even though things don't always go the way I think or hope they should, there is a reason for that. These four wonderful Clumbers think I hung the moon and I think they can do no wrong and I must admit my heart swells with pride just at the sight of them. I cannot describe the bond between the five of us and it grows stronger each day.

Dolly and her babies actually put Clumbers in Need on the map so to speak. So many wonderful people offered help and were there when we needed their support. The Dollykins brought people from all over the United States, Canada, Czech Republic, Hungary, Australia, Sweden, England, and Germany together. We all had one common goal and it was keeping these babies alive. Friendships were developed over four little Clumber orphans that probably never would have been formed. People learned to trust each other and to put their differences aside to pull together and "save" them. I have never seen such commitment as what I witnessed during the Dollykin saga.

Theirs was a tragic beginning but so much good has come from it. I still mourn losing Dolly, Little



Dolly, Destiny, Mercy, Merit, Kismet, and Patience and wonder "what if", but we all learn as we live that fretting over the past does nothing but stagnate the future. When I do have those feelings of sadness, all I have to do is take a look at the four little ones that Dolly left behind for me to care for and love, seeing them so healthy and happy, makes me realize that they are the result of what happens when people believe in each other.

Dozer Full of Promise, Worthy, Freedom Grace and Karma make every day



brighter and Dolly lives daily in them and I'm sure she is very proud of them as I know I am. I truly believe that they stand for everything that is good.

Happy birthday to all four of you and to Little Dolly, Destiny, Mercy, Kismet, and Patience who I'm sure are all playing with their sweet mama at the bridge. **Kim Smith McLendon**



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

When mom (Kim) called me over to sit with Dolly while she went to work, I didn't have a problem with that, but when I found out she had been sleeping in a kiddie pool for days, I thought she was losing her mind.

We kept waiting on Dolly to have her puppies and finally after complications, a c-section was scheduled and being I didn't think anything of it, I did not go to the vet. When I got the call from mom that she lost Dolly, I was in shock as I never in a million years thought we would lose her.

When I found out that we had ten puppies I almost died! I knew they did not stand much of a chance because they never got any of their mother's milk.

That was just the beginning. I learned more with these puppies in two months than I learned in three years doing rescue. We tried to bottle feed with the help from one of my fosters named Carol, who only does bottle babies. She showed us everything we needed to know about bottle feeding. The problem was they would not eat. This being my first litter of puppies (ever) I didn't know what to do. We waited several days to start tube feeding which was a mistake but I found out there was very little neonatal puppy care around here.

We got a surrogate mother who couldn't nurse and we later found out that she had been



Shortly after Kim started Clumbers in Need, when she and I were still trying to figure out if we could trust one another, I sent Kim this quote from Helen Keller:

"I am only one, but I am still one. I cannot do anything, but still I can do something. And just because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."

Little did I know how prophetic that quote was and how well Helen Keller's words would describe Kim's efforts to care for and save the

exposed to parvo. We had another scare.

Mom got online and we got help from all over the world. I talked to many people for hours, all of which I have never met. I really believe not a one of these puppies would have made it without their help.



Sally Day talked to me when everyone else in the world was asleep and she kept my spirits up when they were low.

Kathy McGriff was on call 24/7 to answer my questions and she shared freely all she knew about tube feeding. There were many others and I thank them all.

Every two hours for the first months we tube fed, ran IV's, cleaned and potty'd. We had liver problems, pneumonia, the parvo scare, just to name a few.

I wish I knew then what I know now. It was a long, hard fight, and we made mistakes, and we learned things. In the end we have four wonderful Clumbers that are very strong and healthy.

Happy birthday to all of you but especially Worthy who was my "boy" from the very beginning. He did not want to live but I was determined that he would. **Krystal Smith (mid-wife)**

orphan Dollykins.

Freedom [Grace], Karma, Promise [now Dozer], Worthy, Destiny, Mercy, Merit, Patience, Kismet, and little Dolly; four still with us, the others no doubt playing at the Rainbow Bridge under the watchful eyes of their mother. These Dollykins united a diverse group of people, who named them, prayed for them and continue to love them. Happy Birthday, little ones!! **Phyllis in West Virginia USA with Hadley (Clumber) and Bud-Bud (Cavalier)**

I remember well the time when Kim first rescued Dolly -- the joy of having her "home", and then the apprehension (maybe terror is the better word!!!) that came through when Kim realized that she was pregnant. I remember all the calm advice from Moira, some of the other breeders, and all who tried to reassure Kim that she **COULD DO THIS!!** I remember the pictures and stories of Kim getting in the wading pool with Dolly with Ed's pillow, and Kim reading her stories and feeding her ice cream--was it vanilla??

I remember Kim's excitement when it became clear that "this was the day". I have never checked my email as frequently as during the journey that began that fateful day. Oh, the roller coaster-- the joy of the puppies, the horror of Dolly's death, the realization that Kim had given Dolly the chance to know pure love in those days before she passed on, the abject fear of losing the puppies, the ups and downs-- there were so many days that I cried at my computer, and simply marveled at the strength and fortitude of Kim, Ed and Krystal.

The experience showed what a strong and loving community the internet can be, and I will always remember the urgent messages and phone calls to get the babies what they needed. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times", and now Kim has been rewarded with four gorgeous, sweet, smart and adored clumbers!! It was an event I will never forget. **Robin Leftwich**

The happy ending is that they will never be orphans again.

They are the luckiest four clumber kids in the whole world that have the best human mama there is! They were so little when Dolly passed I am sure to them that you will always be mama and Dolly will always be their guardian angel.

If you told them that they are orphans, I bet



they would say "what are you talking about we are not orphans because we have always had our mama Kim". They probably don't even know that they are dogs.

Happy birthday little ones.

Kris, Jasper, Audi, and Tilly



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

I remember all too well when Dolly tragically died. I remember the many frantic phone calls and cries for help as these babies suddenly had no mother to nurse on and to keep them warm. I remember the family's heartache as we lost several puppies during those first traumatic weeks of life. And, I remember the joy of making it through another week with the little ones who, against all odds, continued to hang on.

My personal memories are ones of more joy than heartbreak because I was lucky enough to work behind the scenes with Krystal and Kim. I was lucky enough to be able to reach them by phone and I got puppy updates on a regular basis. There were MANY people helping Kim and Krystal with the tube feeding, the sub-Q fluids, and the daily care of these fragile little ones. I am so grateful and so PROUD of everyone who helped, without criticism and judgment, in the daily struggle to keep these babies going. I will never forget this miracle and the way we all felt as we rounded many important bends in the road.

The naming of these babies was also an important day for me. I remember well that many in the Clumbers in Need family stepped forward to help give forever names to these little ones. I, for one, got to name Worthy. His name will forever have deep meaning to me. I love his



name. I love what it stands for. Worthy was worth the effort and he was worth his weight in gold. Worthy was, and is, validation that something very good can come from something very bad (Dolly's time in that mill). Worthy is a shining example of how anything can thrive in the arms of unconditional love. Worthy stands for patience, perseverance and faith. Worthy and his littermates stand for goodness and mercy and everything that is right in a troubled world.

So, their birthday (Aug 1) is a **VERY GOOD** day and a **VERY IMPORTANT** day. I applaud Kim and Krystal and I applaud our CIN family and the GOODNESS that surrounds everyone who helped keep these little ones alive. I celebrate LIFE, today, in a world where there is far too much loss and sadness. I love good and happy endings and I love the way this sad story now reads.

I believe that these little Dollykins brought **us** (this entire family) **together** in a way that we might not ever have known. We are who we are because we care and because we dare to love.

Happy Birthday, Little "Ones"!!!! I am so proud to speak your names and to be a small part of something so wonderful.

Aunt Sally and God Mama to my precious little boy, Worthy

I can't believe a year has gone by and that four, once fragile young Clumbers are thriving! Their lives are miracles



and testaments to what can happen when people are willing to shelve distrust and differences.

I did not know Kim when the Dolly crisis began. I am a Clumber person still uncomfortable with the idea of buying Clumbers from puppy millers and auctions, so I stood back and viewed Kim with great suspicion. Then I got a call from someone I trust utterly who described the heartbreak of the Dolly litter and they asked if I would guide Kim on tube-feeding.

Four days later, my phone rang. I believe one puppy had died. The others were struggling and Kim was full of worry and questions. We walked through the mechanics of tube-feeding in that call. The conversation led to a weeks-long vigil with Kim and her daughter Krystal, who I came to know as a very bright, energetic, and eternally sunny young woman who would move heaven and earth to help these puppies.



Dozer, Worthy, Freedom Grace, and Karma became a common concern a year ago. Since then, my suspicion of Kim has given way to respect. We still don't see exactly eye to eye on the fundamental question, but we don't have to. I have no doubt about Kim's passion or commitment for the Clumbers in her care or toward the breed overall. It is blessed to have such a die-hard advocate.

Kathy McGriff



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

Memories of Dolly

When Kim e-mailed me and asked me to write about the Dollykins I really had to do some searching back. It was nearly a year ago and I had been going through my own quandary at the time.

I remember Kim's post. She said she had been grooming Dolly and suddenly she noticed how pronounced Dolly's nipples were and since she often had her hands on the girl she wondered if she might be pregnant.



My thought was would they have sold Kim a pregnant girl? So I wrote her back and suggested since Kim knew so little about Dolly that it was probably a false pregnancy. It is something I experienced many times with my cockers before spaying them. My own clumber girl went through horrendous false pregnancies. I honestly just dismissed the idea. But then I was concerned about my own girl. I also was concerned that she might be pregnant. Like Dolly, was she or wasn't she?

With Dolly, Kim took her to the vet and found out she was definitely having puppies. My case was not so clear.

Kim was told that Dolly had approximately two to three weeks based on the x-rays so I like everyone else waited day-by-day to see when she would whelp. Also although Kim was sure the puppies would be purebred I am sure many thoughts went through her mind. She had no information. For my own girl it was not clearly

obvious at all. Signs were there but size wasn't.

Kim e-mailed me to say that Dolly was what I called nesting but was not pushing. I shared my experience and told her to wait that she would start pushing. But I don't think Dolly ever did. Kim took her to the vet and was sent home again to wait. The vet told her if she hadn't had the puppies by the next morning to bring her in and they would perform a C-section.

The next day came and no puppies so a C-section was performed. The vet decided to spay her at the same time after delivering Dolly's ten puppies. Then came the dreadful post that Dolly had died just as they were finishing the surgery.

Kim was left with ten motherless puppies and the dreadful pain of losing Dolly.

I was hoping Kim could find a surrogate mother and did but the puppies would not nurse. For days I watched as Kim and Krystal tried to find a way to save the puppies and after many failed attempts at bottle feeding, Kim and Krystal (her daughter) decided to tube feed. During that time I watched daily and heard of the losses.

I became anxious about my own girl but then I did not know if she was pregnant or not. I booked an x-ray and on Aug 7th the day I was to take her in for the x-rays, she went in to labor.

Dolly had scared me. I had shared my story of Dolly with my vet and told her of my fears. Kim and Krystal struggled on and I felt helpless. There was nothing I could do for any of them. I heard their discouragement as they lost



puppy after puppy.

My phone rang early on the 8th of August and I found my vet whose name is also Kim saying I think we better deliver your puppies and not let this go on too much longer. Welkin had not gone into the second stage of labor either.

I followed Kim and Krystal's hourly struggle to keep their puppies going. I took Welkin to the clinic. We had two puppies and Welkin was loaded with milk. I sat wishing we could have Kim and Krystal's puppies closer. One of my puppies was born grey and gasping. I sat with her on my knee with blow by oxygen going on. I held her for more than three hours keeping her oxygenated. My mind kept flipping back to Kim and to Krystal and their



fight for Dolly's babies. I only had one puppy to tend to. They had many puppies and 24/7 care and no mom to turn the puppies over to. Their

care was relentless. I was fatigued beyond words but the thought of the two of them working over failing puppies kept me pushing for the survival of this baby. My husband bought the Oxygen cylinder and I already had



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

Memories of Dolly - cont...

the regulator. We took our baby home; she was 8 oz and the large male was 20 oz. I watched her pink up and then crash to grey again over and over.

I absorbed their strengths in the fight for this little girl. It was the two of them and their determination that made me push to save this baby. She did not suck well. Alan took the part of seeing she got some milk in her. As time went on she crashed less and pinked more. She could still not find a nipple on her own.

Kim and Krystal held out hope for four of their babies. I started to feel hope for my girl now called BabyBaby. Every time I felt tired and despaired I would think of Kim and Krystal's constant struggle. How could they carry on? I was struggling with one.

The admiration I held for them put them into Hero status in my eyes. The Dollykins who became the name for Dolly's babies, are special to me today and I was lucky enough to name one of them. Karma was named by me.

BabyBaby lived and thrives today. I wonder if she would have lived if it had not been for Kim, Krystal and Dolly.

Happy Birthday to the Dollykins.

Moira



The recent one year birthday celebration for the Dollykins was quite a landmark celebration.

Dolly their mother was rescued from a life as a producer in a puppy mill. During her rehabilitation process Dolly began to gain weight and after a trip to the Vet it was discovered that she was pregnant.

When the time came for the puppies to arrive it became evident to the Vets that the best course of action was a C-section, unfortunately Dolly did not make it through and passed on the table. Now Kim was faced with the sorrow of losing Dolly and ten puppies with no mother to feed them.

When we heard of her situation we called to give any advice that might help her save these little ones; it was a daunting task and Kim and her daughter worked feverishly to save them. The fact that there are four to celebrate their first birthday is a testament of love and dedication that Kim has for her mission, her passion, her work.

Since that time it has been fun to see them grow, Kim keeps in touch with photo's and it brings a broad smile to our face to see them so happy. Dozer, Worthy, Freedom Grace and Karma "Happy Birthday" and "Happy Life"

John & Naiza Woodlief



A Reading through Carole Dennis - Pet Communicator

Karma has a short message for humans but mostly what was picked up was information about her.

She really likes flowers and slow country walks and not to hurry. She wished she could spend more time outdoors because that's where she likes to be. She likes things to be routine and peaceful. She gets out of the way when they aren't.

She knows she is in the early stages of her journey. Hers is a journey of the heart and she doesn't know where that will take her physically.

She likes to be of physical comfort to others. Karma is sweet, soft, snuggly and independent. She will play by herself. She is giggly and playful and has a very light energy. She has a quiet nature about her.

Here is her message:

Humans need more solitary time 'just to be'. It's comfortable for us dogs just to be. You can 'just be' even when you're busy.

'Be' yourself. Bring your inner being along with you when you do stuff. Give it a dog name and become friends. In the company of yourself you can learn to just be.

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A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

I have found it very difficult to write about that few weeks in July/August 2007 when the CIN family was brought together across the world through love, devotion, and lots of heartache.

Let me start by saying, Kim, Ed and Krystal proved themselves to be the most amazing people and I am very proud to call them my friends.

Where to start...

When I reflect on the wonder of these four gorgeous Dollykins, Worthy, Freedom Grace, Karma and Dozer, I am filled with mixed emotions and so many memories that have engraved so much on many hearts. The loss of Darling Dolly and the siblings was devastating but the friendships that emanated from those events were a gift.

Kim, Ed and Krystal gave their ALL to those puppies and no one could ever know what they really endured during that time. They were so brave and diligent in the care of the Dollykins but I believe it was their love and persistence that pulled the babies through.



The first I remember of Dolly was the very exciting news of her rescue and the joy and relief I felt for this young clumber. (after all...to be rescued by Kim...what could be better?)

Shortly after, a bomb dropped.

The first worrying email arrived. "My worst fears have been confirmed, Dolly is pregnant with eight to nine puppies," stated the terrified Kim. None of us could have been prepared for what the next few weeks would bring (least

of all, Kim and Krystal).

The impact of puppy mills in the USA was becoming way too evident to me. I learned very quickly how terrible this situation really is... something so terrible that it was far too devastating to even comprehend but an angel called Kim was doing all she could to rescue those in need.

There was only a week or so to prepare for the imminent birth and "boy oh boy" the CIN family got into the spirit very quickly, gathering information, choosing names, organizing necessary items etc, etc!!!!!!!!!!!!

The bond and mutual love between Dolly and Kim was becoming stronger by the minute and this could be felt across the world so... when Kim told us that she had slept with Dolly, in a kiddie wading pool ...it just seemed the normal thing to do.

We, the Clumbers in Need family were all praying and waiting anxiously when the news finally came... "Dolly didn't make it." I read this over and over in disbelief. There were tears streaming down my face, and my heart was filled with pain, firstly for Dolly who had already been through so much and was just learning about love and secondly for Kim. This was NOT the news we wanted.

Obviously Kim and Krystal didn't have time to grieve but had to jump into action to be the nominated mothers of Dolly's ten beautiful babies. That was, until a surrogate Mum was found in the precious Rose. Rose accepted the babies as her own but through no fault of her own this didn't work.

From then on, things seemed to go from bad to worse and I would dearly love to be focusing on how wonderful things were but the survival of the puppies seemed to be in jeopardy from the start. The news of the loss of the first two girls were sad and the next few weeks were endless. To this day I have no idea how Kim and Krys kept it together.



The lack of sleep, the grief and devastation of watching the puppies fading before their eyes was heartbreaking but these wonderful women, called upon the knowledge and skills, of many expert people to do the best job they could possibly do.



Finally, things started to improve and we were hearing about weight gain and stronger little pups. The final four, Worthy (I put him first as I remember clearly his battle to survive!), Freedom Grace, Karma, and last but definitely not least, Dozer had made it. I don't think anyone was game to say it out loud for quite a

while and now they have reached a milestone that couldn't be more special.

I mean that from the bottom of my heart. **So, HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE PRECIOUS DOLLYKINS AND MANY HAPPY RETURNS WITH LOTS OF LOVE AND HUGGLES FROM** Aunty Mausey and the furry and feathered ones.



There are no adequate words to explain the impact this experience had on my life. It was a 'roller coaster' ride. From the very tragic loss of Dolly and her seven beautiful clumber babies, came a circle of friends that sincerely care and spread love around the world in a way I have never experienced before.

So Kim, thank you for being who you are and doing what you do, it has made the world smaller.

Maureen





A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

The Dollykins story from 'outside the box'.

We had followed the rescue mission of the clumbers coming in to Kim's with great interest (especially the tripod gal). Kim was getting a new crew so we waited to hear the details of their arrival. Vet checks were in order, of course, in keeping with getting them back to 'normal' and then we got the news: Dolly was pregnant.

Kim said she had not planned on puppies and didn't want puppies, but it seemed as though Dolly would have her litter anyway as she was too far along to have them aborted. As I remember, the events unfolded this way:



An x-ray was done and a time frame of two to three weeks was given, but there was no way to know for certain when the puppies were due. Dolly's temperature had dropped (as we had said it would) but no puppies were produced. A 'wait and see' attitude was taken - while I sat here and bit nails, wanting some action to be taken quickly for Dolly and her kids, but that was out of my control. Kim took Dolly to the vet and he told her to bring her back in the next day if she hadn't had the puppies by then and he would do a C-section. I was a nervous wreck and she wasn't even mine! I received news from Kim later that day that Dolly had made it through the surgery but then they lost her. Since she did not have experience with raising orphans and was distressed about losing Dolly, Kim dropped the puppies off with someone who had experience raising orphans and left them with her.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, I am just an emotional wreck. First, pissed off because Dolly didn't have to die (I think Kim will remember that e-mail), then distraught over the fact that these puppies had no colostrum, no immunity, and were in a very much-weakened state anyway, and here she was exposing them to a world of God-knows-what infectious agents!

The day after Kim dropped the puppies off, she found a surrogate hound dog and went back and picked the puppies up. One of the puppies died that first night. Finding the surrogate did not go as planned as the puppies were too weak to eat so after many failed attempts at bottle feeding, tube feeding was suggested.

Resigned to the fact that they were 'home' now, and that they were the responsibility of Kim and her daughter Krystal, they set about asking all sorts of advice about raising clumber orphans. Despite being massive and seemingly very sturdy as adults, clumber puppies are incredibly fragile creatures. By the grace of God and Internet clumber friends, these puppies would survive. It would be an adventure neither Kim, nor her daughter, nor those who offered help, would ever forget. I remember telling her that it is a 24/7 job fraught with sleeplessness, hard work, and incredible vet bills. While all of this is involved with a 'normal' clumber litter, too, these little guys were already far behind the eight ball given the unfortunate circumstances of their early days.

What followed were many, many e-mails seeking advice - some daily, some up-to-the-minute as everyone attempted to resolve the many crises

to do and it was up to Kim and her daughter to sort through and use what they deemed best at the time. Playing in the back of my mind, though, as I walked thru step-by-step tube feeding and 'pottying' was 'I just have to get my hands on those puppies - give them to me and I'll raise them.' That was impossible but I liken it to emergency management personnel who must direct and manage a crisis from a distance - one that may well involve their own family members.

Frustration, concern, heartache, but to some extent, relief because I was not the one to stay up 24/7, I was not the one who had to spend much of the day running sickly puppies to the vet and worrying over them (and worrying over how on earth I would ever pay off the bills that mounted steadily). I was not the one who would have to watch puppies die despite my best efforts, yet glad in some strange sense that I could help, but could also sleep overnight, could attend to my usual daily activities, all the while keeping prayers and love for these little ones and their caretakers at the forefront of my thoughts.

The heartaches had begun: first one, then another, then more puppies developed diarrhea, bleeding, and then faded, and died. While it would seem they had made it over the hardest hurdle - that of making it thru the first week - these puppies remained incredibly tiny and were not gaining weight as they should have been. Eventually only four still clung tenuously to life, but Kim and her daughter would not give up on them. I doubted they would ever be 'normal' if they did survive, but survive they did and look at them today! Milestones were celebrated along the way - weeks, then months, then recently an entire year! A birthday made all the more special by the rocky road they traveled to reach it. These four are affectionately known as 'the Dollykins' in honor of their mother who'd had such a hard road her entire life, yet was able to give them her very strength and life that her memory might go on.



Kim and her daughter have been through "clumber puppy raising hell" and I would imagine they have no desire to repeat it, yet they were enriched by the experience. Until one has been there he/she has no idea of the depths of compassion, the sheer bone-aching weariness, and forays into the financial abyss one is capable of. I am grateful to have been a very small part in the 'adventures of the Dollykins' and my hat is off to Kim, her daughter, and everyone else who helped in some way to bring them to the happy, healthy, handsome yearlings they are today.

Norma Simpson (crazy clumber mom for years and years)



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

"Friends are Angels with Wings"

When Kim asked me to write an article for the Clumbers in Need Dollykin's Edition I said I'd be honored.

As I sit at my keyboard I don't know where to start. Where DO YOU START when asked to write about a wonderful Lady who wears many hats and wears her heart on her sleeve? I was the Newsletter Editor for the Clumber Spaniel Club of Canada for years. Piece of cake so I thought. Now I'm sitting here with writers block and asking Kim to give me a few more days to put this together.

Here we go:

I first met Kim online last year when she was posting about the Clumbers she was rescuing. This is when she formed the group "Clumbers In Need". At this time she had Wendy (aka Lucy), Dudley and Roofus. And I thought, my gosh, this is one special gal so I kept reading and kept updated on what she was doing.

Kim's lovely three legged Lucy...Such a pretty little girl who reminded me of our Crissy. She looked so happy to be with Kim and her family

Rescue #1

Kim's husband Edward and daughter Krystal made the journey to rescue five Clumbers from Oklahoma. On May 15, 2007 these first rescues arrived at Kim's. It was wonderful to hear that Amos, Heidi, Freida (aka Joni), Hank and Gretchen, who became known as the "Oklahoma Five", all made it safely home. Heidi was the first Clumber from this group to be adopted and she went to her new family June 16, 2007.

Rescue #2

On June 19, 2007 four more Clumbers arrived. These Clumbers were sold at Auction and then put up for sale again and that's when Kim once again stepped in. Kim's husband Edward made this journey and brought home Spicy, Andy, Suzy and Dolly.

We were all huddled close to our PC's never knowing what was going to happen next. A sigh of relief could almost be heard through the wires when they all arrived home safely.

Now Kim had the job of grooming them all. Bathing and brushing wasn't enough as most of the Clumbers had mats so big (as Kim put it some the size of cantaloupes) that they were pulling the skin off the dogs. Being a dog groomer for many years I have seen some awfully neglected dogs in the shop. I also volunteered my time at the local Animal Control to do grooming for them, so I could relate to what she was saying.

On July 24, 2007 we were told that while grooming Dolly, Kim discovered that Dolly looked pregnant. Kim took her into the vet and was told there were approximately eight or nine puppies.

On July 28, 2007 Dolly started her nesting process. After four days of Kim sleeping in a wading pool that was to be the whelping box, still no puppies. That left many Clumbers in Need members waiting to hear what was happening. We were then told Dolly was fully dilated and that if nothing happened Kim was to take her in the next day to be induced. If that didn't work then a C-Section would be needed.

On August 1st, 2007 tragedy struck and we were all informed that Dolly didn't make it through the surgery. My heart dropped and tears flowed. Apparently she was carrying eleven puppies. There was one stillborn puppy and ten apparently healthy babies. Kim came home with Dolly to bury and with ten orphan puppies.



away. I decided to call her.

Then I heard Kim's desperate voice on the phone. What should she do? She thought she had let Dolly down but in truth had done everything for her. Thoughts of Dolly having puppies in a Puppy Mill where nobody cared was just an awful feeling. Dolly could have died as well as the pups and nobody would have been with her. Kim showed her love and compassion for the first time in her life. Dolly knew Kim would be with her. The tears were flowing as we both talked.

I as well as many others had gotten on the Clumber internet highway and passed along information as well as put the word out that Kim was looking for suggestions for different formulas. The Clumber Community was great. They rallied together and were very supportive of Kim's efforts. The thoughts and prayers as well as the support are what keep us going - I know this from my own personal experiences as well.

So many emails went back and forth as I kept people updated with the progress. Slowly one pup after another went to join Dolly. My heart sunk every time I heard of a loss. Poor Kim and her daughter Krystal. They took turns staying with the pups to make sure they were taken care of. Many, many suggestions were given and tried as to how to feed them and Kim and Krystal spent many long waking hours trying everything they could.

They even brought in a surrogate mother that didn't work out, and then as the last resource they tried tube feeding. Now if you have never tube feed a puppy it can be very scary, but these two exhausted, yet strong



There were many tears shed that day from around the globe.

My heart was breaking for her. What could I do? I was up here in Canada thousands of miles



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

"Friends are Angels with Wings" - Cont...

and determined ladies did it and the remaining puppies began to thrive. We all kept close watch on their progress. There were many ups and downs and near heart stoppers but there were also puppies that weren't about to give up.

The surviving four are known as the "Dollykins" in Memory of their Mother Dolly. They are Dozer, Worthy, Freedom Grace and Karma. All are thriving beautifully and growing into young ladies and gentlemen.

It has been a joy watching them grow through the photos that Kim has shared with the group. They may have lost their Mother but Dolly has left Kim a beautiful Legacy. Kim you have done a wonderful job raising these kids.

I remember Kim saying she read to Dolly while they both were in the whelping box waiting - Dolly knew Kim loved her.

Kim you certainly are a very special person. There is a saying, "Friends are Angels with Wings" we don't always see them but we know they are there. Dolly picked you to take care of her kids. She knew she could leave them in good hands. She lived a life in a puppy mill with no love or compassion but Dolly knew that you would be sure her kids would have lots of both. Dolly is looking down on you and if dogs smile she surely is. There may be times when you touch your left shoulder you will know she is sitting there with you. She will never leave you.



Kim has told me that I was the first voice she heard that tragic day and she couldn't believe someone from Canada would take the time to



call her.

Well, let me tell you that is the first time someone has called me Ma'am. I just wish I could have been closer.

So what do you say about this Lady. Kim if I could, I would hug you.

You will always be close to my heart as well as your furry kids. Ed and Krystal - you have one wonderful wife and mother. Hang on to her and don't ever let her go.

Thank you both for being so supportive and working so hard to make all this happen. I know it was a hard road for you both too.

Kim, I think Ed's a keeper (smiles). You are the best team going and I'm so glad I know you all.

When we see the pictures of your canine family looking so happy and enjoying their new found freedom it brings a smile to all of us. I'm sure we will be exchanging emails and phone calls for many years. It is people like all of you who touch our hearts.

One year ago, August 1st, 2008 marks the 1st Birthday of the "Dollykins".

HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY KIDS.. You have made both your momma's proud. We will enjoy watching you all grow.

Bless you all

Hugs all around & Clumber kisses to you all,

June Warren & The Braden Kids

Thunder Bay, Ontario Canada

I never realized just how much the Dollykins came to mean to us until now, when trying to sum it all up in a few words. Of course several words such as determination, perseverance, dedication, faith, love, and hope come to mind. All of these words could be defined by using the Dollykins' story.

We (members of the Clumbers in Need group) were cheerlead-

ers in the background each day hoping against hope they would make it one more day, each day growing a little stronger. Kim and her family were beyond belief for their work. All those folks near and far who so willingly offered help, advice, encouragement, support and love resulted in four little miracles.

I also feel the Dollykins' story cemented this group as an entity of its own. So many people were able to share the story of the pups' success through their ups and downs.

The biggest gift of all, though, is still Kim. To share this story with such an amazing person is wonderful and inspiring to all. She has always done what is best for the dogs and has provided a stellar example of what just one person can do. Dolly is looking down so proud and at peace.

Thank you Kim and happy birthday little ones

Martha Frost





A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

It is a difficult "task" to write about a very special "Time Lapse" so close to my heart. My recollection is one of both great sadness and frustration; however, those feelings are overshadowed by respect, love and joy for everyone involved in the Dollykins' story. It was very difficult to have experienced it as it unfolded from very far away as we are in Australia. I felt absolutely helpless....

In literal distance we were worlds apart but in our hearts and in spirit we "walked" every inch beside you and with you Kim. Our hearts beat as one, our minds of frustration were in frenzy, and the enormity of the situation was beyond description.....

Dolly and her 'Dollykins have impacted in so many ways in so many of our lives for the betterment of our lives and in the true meaning of love, trust and friendship....they have taught us all new levels of humility, faith and tolerance of the highest degree.

A continuing learning from this experience will carry us through the rest of our years; a very special legacy from Dolly herself I believe. This learning has no measure and will prosper and grow as Dolly's memory and the Dollykins make their mark in life.....

Some twelve months ago there was to be the start of a very special friendship forged amidst an unbelievable rally of "strangers" who would become a "family". This family was forged in a



time of both happiness for the four lives saved and in the tragedy and loss that affected each and every one of us globally so soon afterwards.....

Kim I hope you realize just what a wonderful, loving and sincerely devoted person you and your family are to have overcome such adversity with such love and grace.

Let me start from the beginning through my eyes so to speak. I learned about the rescue of several Clumber Spaniels by a very special lady, Kim, and her wonderful husband Edward. I like to think of them both as our Clumber Guardian Angels.

Initially there had been several rescues. Among them was the gorgeous little girl "Dolly", who together with the others quickly won our hearts. It soon became obvious that Dolly was in whelp which was subsequently confirmed by the Vet.

Kim had never bred dogs and was completely unaware that Dolly was pregnant when she had initiated Dolly's rescue.

Not only was Kim unaware of Dolly's pregnancy, but Kim was totally unprepared as to what she needed to have on hand for the whelping and care of newborn puppies.

It was a very scary and worrying time for Kim and all the Clumbers in Need family to put it mildly. Fortunately Kim's very willing daughter, Krystal, stepped up to aid her mother through what was to become a heart-breaking and exhausting time that nobody could possibly have foreseen. Kim herself was ingenious in a

"make do" fashion and utilized everything she had in preparation for Dolly and her babies. It was quite amazing what Kim put together in such a micro short time.

All too soon the fateful day arrived. A desperately worried and exhausted Kim had to take Dolly to her Vet for emergency treatment after Dolly had labored without progress throughout the previous night.



A c-section was scheduled and performed and the Dollykins were delivered safely, but their beautiful mumma Dolly was tragically lost post surgically. This was a loss that both shattered and shocked us all but none more than Kim. Darling Dolly had passed to Rainbow Bridge and had left her precious babies behind...It was devastating.

Soon a very generous and devoted foster Mum in a Coonhound named Rose came to love and nurse the "Dollykins" who was only too willing to oblige - God love her.

Again another tragedy/glitch was to unfold as all of Rose's puppies but one had died from Parvo virus and so the Dollykins were now at the optimum risk once more. Again enormous heartache and concern followed for Kim and the family as one precious puppy after another weakened and lost its life. It was then decided the safest bet for raising the puppies was to hand feed them



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

milk formula.

Many babies were reclaimed to heaven to be with their mumma Dolly amid all the tears and pain of everyone involved and it was soon ascertained that the only way to save the last four Dollykins was through tube feeding because they were too frail and weak to suck a bottle. The devotion and selflessness of Krystal in adopting that task and in her "sterling" execution of it for an extended time was amazing and got the Dollykins to the solid food stage where their survival rate was so much higher and easier.



It was such a long, slow, process and seemingly for every step forward at times they took two back. However, with the strength and determination of Krystal and Kim, plus the prayers from all of us pleading with God, four of the Dollykins made it through.

Their own self doubts and blame were understandable but certainly not warranted or worthy of our thoughts and I feel sure Dolly would be so very proud of them as her babies and all that has come about is through their being.

There were many, many, "potholes" along the way in the Dollykins first weeks to cause much concern to Kim and Krystal as the Dollykins were susceptible to everything. However, as

weeks turned into months, those little troopers showed us all just what they and the folk of McLendon Land were made of and we all rejoiced once more.

Today we have just sung the praises of our miracles in seeing the `Dollykins` reach their very first birthday. A Day to behold with unashamed delight...one smothered in the great love of these "littleuns". Love not only from their guardian angels Krystal, Kim and Edward but also from their numerous "Aunts and Uncles" who love them so dearly and who believed in the power of prayer and in the mem-

ory of their darling little Mumma who gave her life so that they might live while taking her share home to Rainbow Bridge. They too are remembered with much love at this time, tinged with a sadness of what may have been, but entrusting that the good Lord knows best.....

I send BIG cuddles and love up to you and the tiny Angels beside you Dolly as they celebrate their first birthday with you.

Dolly you spent such a tiny time frame with us on earth but sweetheart you were such a blessing and you will forever remain in our hearts and minds as we help (from afar) watch over your very precious Dollykin babies you left in Kim's earthly care.

HAPPY, HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY DOLLYKINS...

Aussie Aunty Lyn & your Funny Farm "cousins" XOXOXO

A Reading through Carole Dennis - Pet Communicator

Freedom Grace is the shy/inquisitive one but never forthright in her inquisitiveness.

She says she likes her name and that it stands for who she is.

She says her heart is free and with that freedom comes a feeling of grace.

I asked if she had any messages for Humans.

Here is her message.

Eternal wisdom is within us all. It comes from the very core of our being. Our bodies don't really matter. What matters is the Spirit within. What we don't understand is a humans preoccupation with their bodies. Their bodies are not who they are and their focus is all wrong because of this. We can see who they are even if they can't. When we react to a human it is the inner being we are seeing - not the outer shell.

Humans can be very mixed up because they are not in alignment with themselves. You can't know your purpose until you know yourself. Your inside self.

Anything else you'd like to share?

Sometimes just sitting is good. There is plenty to watch around here. Nobody gets forgotten.

I like talking (barking) when Mom listens. I want her to understand my language and my voice. I know she can. She can pick out my bark from all the others. I'm really talking to her when I bark. She needs to answer. I'm not always asking for things. I'm telling her stuff too. Please listen. Someday it could be important.





A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

A Reading through Carole Dennis - Pet Communicator

Worthy is expressive. His ears perked right up when I tuned into him. He is sharp, fast. When he gets onto a scent he is completely focused and will follow it until it peters out (or you make him turn around). He likes to observe. He has a great zest for life and absolutely loves it here. He really enjoys taking everything in. Every day is satisfactory to him. What message do you have for humans?



Love unconditionally.

It's what you're here for.

Each journey is different, each experience is different and whether it is good or bad when you reflect on what you've learned each time, it will be how to better love unconditionally. It's how you can best help yourselves and others.

Be strong in your convictions to love and believe in yourselves. I am here as guardian and to show by example.

Is there anything else?

I like to be present among all the dogs. I want to be able to go in and out at will.

(I see a sunny screened door and this is what he wants to go in and out of by himself.) He likes it there and he also says he likes water.

A Reading through Carole Dennis - Pet Communicator

Dozer is very friendly and outgoing.

He is calm and attentive with a very pleasing personality. He is not anxious and always has a friendly reaction. He's not highly excitable, but likes to be physical.

He said: I like to network. I have certain places I like to be every day to check up on things. I like running and exercise and to feel physically tired at the end of the day. I hope I'm big and strong enough so people depend on me. I want that. My life is about helping people feel good by having me in their lives.

Even if they don't hear me talking to them with their ears they are still listening and feeling with their hearts and when our visit is over I know they feel better and look forward to the next time I visit.

Dozer was very excited when he was talking about how much he loves people. He will remain close to the same people all his life and by being a part of their lives he will bring them all together as one. (but there is always room for new friends too)

Here is his message:

Take it as it comes. What's the hurry?

The joy is in the moment. Feel everything you can. It's fun to share with others and I like when people are open with me and show their feelings. It's good to feel companionship and a bond with people.



Carole Dennis ~ Pet Communicator

www.voices for the animals.com



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE - CONTINUED...

MANY THANKS TO . . .

My husband Edward for never saying “no” when asked to pick up another rescue

All the wonderful members of Clumbers in Need who continue to support me and my mission

All the wonderful members of Clumbers in Need who made Edward feel special on his birthday - for without him I couldn't do what I do

All the wonderful members of Clumbers in Need who sent me and Edward to see Reo Speedwagon for my birthday

For all the birthday cards and/or gifts sent to the Dollykins in honor of their special day

Kris Woodington who keeps the Clumbers in Need website up to date and is always willing to lend a helping hand

All the wonderful members of Clumbers in Need who sponsors a Clumber and sends them gifts and/or gift certificates

Carole Dennis who not only donates her talents as a pet communicator but helps me tremendously

MVDr. Zuzana Navelkova for providing support and pedigree information for the Clumbers from the Czech Republic

Andrea Vertesi for providing support and pedigree information for the Clumbers from Hungary

Dr. Mark Wysocki, Dr. Coin and staff at Avery's Creek Pet Hospital

Dr. Doug Elledge and staff at Redwood Animal Hospital

Pine Cone Hill for their generous donation of towels, rugs, bath mats, throws, etc. They will really come in handy with winter coming on.

All the managers at SuperPetz

Petz Supermarket for making sure they have plenty of Natural Balance Fish & Sweet Potato in stock for me

Dr Roe Froman for being available to help answer questions about new rescues

Carrie Tyrone for keeping up with member info

Traci & John who adopted Heidi and love her more and more every day

Barbara & Mike who adopted Hank and love him just as much as I do, if not more

Katie & Steve who adopted Joni and loves her with all their heart and goes to great length to make me feel better about missing her

Those of you who have made donations just because you care

Those of you who have visited our new website and let us know how you like it

All the amazing people who contributed their “stories” for this special edition

My daughter Krystal who helps me with housework when otherwise it just wouldn't get done

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joni (aka Frieda) one of the first rescues went to live with her new family in July 2008 and her happy ending will be shared in the next newsletter.

Two new Clumbers, a female and a male, were rescued in August. The female is a four year old Hungarian Clumber and the male is a four year old Slovakian Clumber. Please visit the website at www.clumbersinneed.com to read their stories.

The second rescue calendar for Clumbers in Need is in the works. To purchase the 2009 calendar, shop our online store at: www.cafepress.com/clumbersinneed. The calendar features (11) new Clumber Spaniels rescued by Clumbers in Need.

We had our first Clumber visitors at McLendon Land on Saturday, August the 27th. The Clumbers were wonderful and the visitors were a delight.

For copies of previous issues of Dolly's Tribute, please contact Kim Smith McLendon at

clumbersinneed@yahoo.com

For information regarding the Clumbers that are available for adoption, please visit www.clumbersinneed.petfinder.com or

visit our website at www.clumbersinneed.com

Clumbers in Need is located in Fairview, North Carolina



CLUMBERS IN NEED

A Clumber Spaniel Rescue



Our MISSION is to rescue Clumbers from puppy mills and uncaring backyard breeders that have put our Clumber friends in unhealthy and unwanted situations of neglect and abuse. Clumbers In Need will purchase Clumbers if it is deemed the only way to get them out of an unsafe situation. We give them an opportunity to live in a healthier and happier, environment where they are loved and cared for as family members. We feel that every clumber deserves a quality life regardless of their unlucky beginnings.

As a general policy, Clumbers in Need does not take owner surrenders. If contacted about an owner surrender, the owners will be referred to the Clumber Spaniel Club of America (CSCA) rescue. Clumbers in Need does not pull from shelters and will also refer shelter rescues to CSCA rescue.

Our intent is to focus solely on what is best for the dog and be the voice for our Clumber angels that are not able to speak for themselves.

Briefly, by way of background, Clumbers in Need is a private rescue group operated by me (Kim Smith McLendon) with help from my husband and children as well as many members of the "Clumbers in Need" rescue group.

As a private rescue, I determine which dogs Clumbers in Need will attempt to rescue. I do what I do for the Clumbers as a personal choice and am committed to those I rescue and those needing rescued. The very first Clumbers rescued were bought with donations and my husband and I made up the difference using personal funds. Since then, the majority of costs associated with Clumbers in Need have also come from personal funds.

Join the "Clumbers in Need" yahoo online chat group
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ClumbersinNeed>



CLUMBERS IN NEED

Website: www.clumbersinneed.com

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