

Little Dogs
Rock!

Beagle

A Howling Good Time



by
Duncan Searl

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by Duncan Searl

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BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

Credits

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Publisher: Kenn Goin

Senior Editor: Lisa Wiseman

Creative Director: Spencer Brinker

Photo Researcher: Amy Dunleavy

Design: Dawn Beard Creative

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Searl, Duncan.

Beagle : a howling good time / by Duncan Searl.

p. cm. (Little dogs rock!)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-749-9 (library binding)

ISBN-10: 1-59716-749-5 (library binding)

1. Beagle (Dog breed) —Juvenile literature. I. Title.

SF429.B3S43 2009

636.753'7—dc22

2008037016

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For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 101 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6R, New York, New York 10003. Printed in the United States of America.

10987654321

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A Nose for Trouble

Travelers rushed through Miami International Airport. Before they could board their flights, their bags had to be examined by security officers.

Suddenly, a worker named Trouble sat down in front of a suitcase. He didn't like what he had just discovered.



▲ Trouble at work at Miami International Airport in 2004

Trouble is a beagle and one of the airport's most important **employees**. As the top dog in the **Beagle Brigade**, Trouble's sharp nose doesn't miss a thing when sniffing a suitcase.

Why is Trouble at the airport? Sometimes people bring **illegal** fruits and plants into the United States. Insects in those items can cause diseases and ruin crops. Trouble can smell these bugs—even when they are hidden inside luggage.



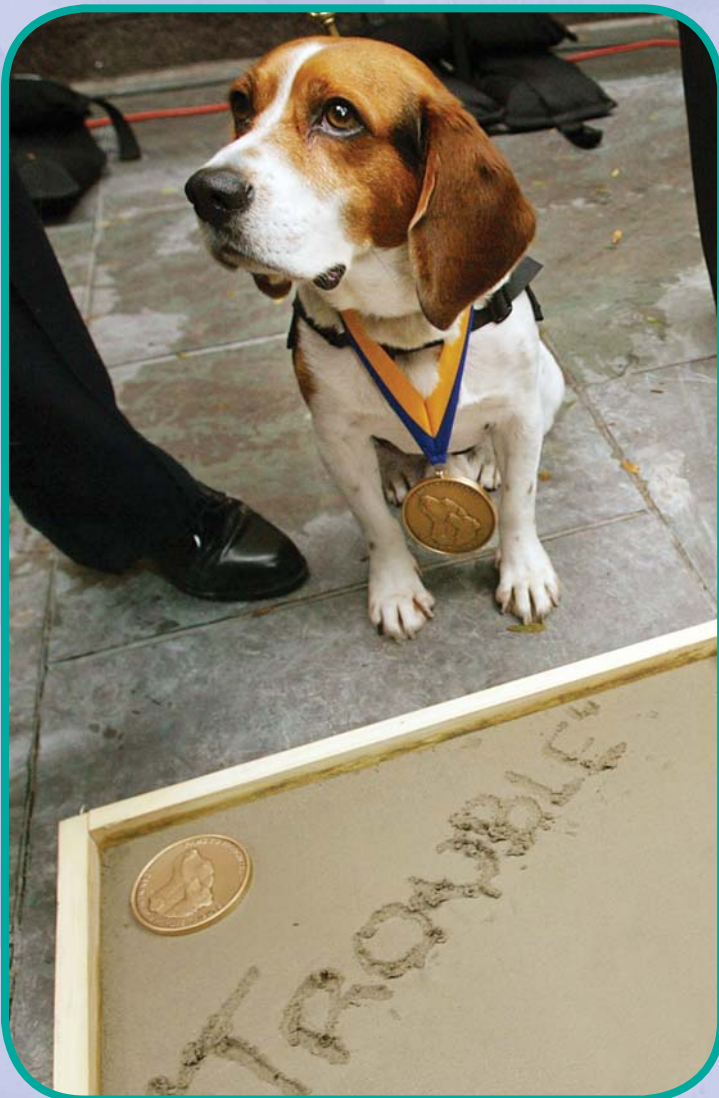
▲ Mantis, another member of the Beagle Brigade, alerts his handler to a suspicious suitcase.

Scientists estimate that a beagle's sense of smell is 1,000 times stronger than a human's.



A Canine Hero

When Trouble sat down after sniffing the suitcase, it was a signal to his **handler**, Sherrie Ann Keblish, that something was wrong. She **seized** the bag and discovered that the fruit inside contained **Mediterranean fruit flies**. If those flies got loose, they could destroy Florida's orange groves!



▲ A Mediterranean fruit fly

In 1997, Florida spent \$25 million trying to get rid of Mediterranean fruit flies near the city of Tampa Bay.

▲ Before Trouble joined the Beagle Brigade, he was homeless and living in an animal shelter.

Protecting the nation's food supply is all in a day's work for Trouble. During his first five years on the job, this friendly little beagle discovered 1,800 dangerous fruits, plants, and meats.

Trouble has been rewarded for his good work. In 2004, this sharp-nosed beagle was voted one of the top **service dogs** in the Canine World Heroes contest sponsored by Pedigree Food for Dogs. He was even honored with a medal at a ceremony in New York City.



◀ Trouble and his handler, Sherrie Ann Keblish, are shown at the Canine World Heroes ceremony. As part of Trouble's prize, he got his paw prints imprinted in concrete.

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About the Author

Duncan Searl is a writer and editor who lives in New York State.
He is the author of many books for young readers.



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Beagle

A Howling Good Time

Before travelers at Miami International Airport could board their flights, airport workers had to examine their bags. Everyone was rushing about, except for a worker named Trouble. He calmly walked along, carefully sniffing each suitcase. Suddenly, he sat down next to a bag. He'd smelled something coming from it that he didn't like. What important discovery had Trouble made that would help protect his home state of Florida?

Look inside to learn more about Trouble and other amazing beagles—as well as surprising facts about the little dog's history, its physical appearance, and its personality. You'll also discover what every beagle owner knows—that even though these dogs look small, in their own minds they're large and in charge!

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Chihuahua
Señor Tiny

Dachshund
The Hot Dogger

Jack Russell Terrier
Bundle of Energy

Pomeranian
Pom Pom Ado

Pug
What a Mug!

Toy Poodle
Oodles of Fun

Yorkshire Terrier
Tiny but Tough

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

www.bearportpublishing.com

ISBN-10: 1-59716-749-5
ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-749-9



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