



**AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB, INC.**

# *Bulletin*

**VOLUME 58, NUMBER 3**

**SEPTEMBER, 2009**

## *'Life's A Beach' In California* *July 7-12*



**BEST OF BREED**  
**Kenwood's Lightning Rod**

SR42154301. 04-01-07. (ASCOB From Open class) Breeders, Dennis & Pamela Doyle. By Ch. Larmaro's Handsome Dancer x Ch. Kenwood's Lightning Bug. Dog. **Dennis & Pamela Doyle & Alfredo Chacin**. Mike Pitts, Agent



**BEST IN FUTURITY**  
**PBJ's Black Velvet Seduction**

SR51763803. 08/28/08. (Black) Breeders, Beate Pruitt. By Ch. Island-N-Sh-Bar's Ace In The Hole x B-Mac's Black Lady Bug. Bitch. **Beate Pruitt & Megan Pruitt**. Per Rismyhr, Agent

[see story on page 14](#)

## *President's Message*

I wanted to bring the membership up to speed on some ethics charges your Board has recently dealt with. ASC member Sharon Elliott filed charges against fellow ASC member Betty McClendon pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the ASC By-Laws concerning the neglected care of 32 cocker spaniels under Betty McClendon's ownership.

The charges were serious enough that the Board took jurisdiction and the entire ASC Board heard the charges at a hearing that was held on a telephone conference call July 30. I chaired the meeting. Although notified of the date, the accused did not participate.

The American Spaniel Club Board of Directors saw and heard the evidence and based on the testimony presented by Sharon

Elliott at the hearing; and we found that Betty McClendon did not act in the best interests of the breed or the Club by severely neglecting 32 cocker spaniels in her care. The findings of the Board were:

- Betty McClendon clearly engaged in conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the club and the breed as outlined in the bylaws

- Betty McClendon clearly did not adhere to the code of ethics of the American Spaniel Club in violation of her responsibilities as a member.

And so, because of these findings and the shocking severity of the evidence presented, the Board unanimously took the following actions.

[continued on page 2](#)

## President's Message, continued...

- Betty McClendon is immediately suspended from all privileges of the ASC for a period of six (6) months effective August 21, 2009 – this is the maximum we can suspend under the bylaws;

- Before the six months expire – and at the Annual Meeting in January, 2010 – and because of the severity of these actions, the Board will strongly recommend to the membership that they vote to expel Betty McClendon from membership in the American Spaniel Club. At the Annual Meeting, I as your President will again read the charges as well as the findings of the hearing and recommendations of the Board. If Betty chooses to be present, pursuant to the ASC by-laws, (Article VI, section 4), she may appear and speak on her own behalf but no additional evidence will be taken. The ASC membership will then vote by secret, written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of those present and voting at the Annual Meeting is necessary for expulsion. If Betty is not expelled, the suspension will continue for the rest of the period.

- Additionally, because of the severity of the offence, and the costs incurred by others in saving the afflicted cockers, and regardless of expulsion vote, the ASC Board imposes on Betty McClendon a fine of \$1000 per dog for the expenses incurred in caring for these neglected dogs to make them ready for adoption. Said fine totals \$32,000 and once paid, those monies are to be divided equally between the East Texas Cocker Spaniel Rescue group and the ASC Foundation, two key organizations instrumental in helping the animals in this case and others. This debt will remain on our records in perpetuity until paid. And, if ever in the future Betty would attempt to rejoin the club, and the fines remain unpaid, they would need to be reconciled before any consideration could or would be given to the application.

Finally, the ASC Board imposes a fine of \$30 for trophy donations pledged but not paid.

This hearing, the charges and the high fines we levied brings to a close this sad event for now – but we hope demonstrates the severity of the charges we found substantiated. This will then be further addressed at our meeting in January by the membership – but your Board for now has taken action on your behalf.

Speaking of January, it's now August, peak summer time here in the US....and I have to admit I'm a bit hot under the collar for other reasons. Caveat - these are my personal opinions and not that of the ASC.

I am fed up with the sheer lunacy of such organizations as Banfield Petsmart who suddenly says that after thoughtful consideration and research of medical studies, they will ban tail docking in their veterinary clinics. Are the two words Banfield-

Petsmart and research an oxymoron? I think it might be! But the point is that with more than 100 years of history of the docked Cocker Spaniel breed and with total ignorance of acceptable practices integral to defining and preserving breed character, enhancing good health and preventing injuries – they infer these procedures are cosmetic and unnecessary. What a total mischaracterization that clearly shows on their part a lack of respect and knowledge of history and the function of pure-bred dogs and the Cocker Spaniel in particular!!! In fact – of ALL Spaniels. Of course – the hallowed American Veterinarian Association came to the same ill informed conclusion.

This lunacy is spreading – and what can we do about it? Official ASC response is we can educate, inform, support the AKC, etc. Charlie's personal response? Let us not forget the most powerful force of all – the pocket book. Boycott Petsmart and any other organization that supports radical groups or any position that is subversive to pure bred dogs and cocker spaniels. And many of you have – and should continue to do so. It's not a battle – it's a war. And wars are won a battle at a time. Boycott – get your friends and customers to boycott. It's all about money – as we will never out spend the subversives like PETA. Corporations are money making organizations – it's not a bad thing – it is in fact a glorious thing. Let's use that power of the pocket book. I'll grant you – this issue is not as vital as a strong economy, good education or adequate health-care – or lets not forget world peace. But, it is symptomatic of extremists dictating their views into our lives. These animal rights organizations have a misguided agenda – and it's an agenda that could very well destroy what we know. To further paraphrase that quote from "Network" – we need to get mad as hell and we need to decide we are not going to take this any longer. Fight back. And based on the emails I received when I posted this and more on the ASC Yahoo Group – many of you are – and have and will continue to do so. Thank you – keep doing it – let's keep ourselves motivated!!!

Again, I'll give the legal caveat here that the above is not the official position of the American Spaniel Club – and I am not speaking in official capacity as President. Indeed, the ASC and I as President have been supportive of public education on tail docking – as witnessed by our letter to the AMVA and the public on the ASC website. This is just Charlie ranting as a 40 year fancier of cocker spaniels during the hot, humid days of summer. I hope it will stir your thoughts and actions – and join the fight in any way you can. Until next Bulletin, with some of the events of the past few months – I'm reminded of a saying not attributed to anyone – but I think so very true.

To err is human, to forgive, canine.



# WITHOUT EFFORT.

OUR APPRECIATION TO JUDGE, MR. JAMIE HUBBARD

BIS, BISS CH. HARTLINE'S TRUE TO BEAR

OWNED BY MELINDA HART, KALA BROWN, KAREN WEAVER, JERRY STERN  
BRED BY MELINDA HART - HARTLINE COCKERS - 734-485-3071 - HANDLED BY KALA BROWN - 810-691-8898

*Jeffrey Hanlin*  
© 2009



# BEST IN FUTURITY

*Lola*

Thank you, Judge Joan Stallard, for this incredibly prestigious win!

*Lola*

PBJ'S BLACK VELVET SEDUCTION



PBJ COCKERS - Jamey & Bea Pruitt  
Minden, Louisiana  
318 377-8949  
jamesprui@aol.com  
www.pbjcockers.com

Owned by Beate & Megan Pruitt.  
Bred by Beate Pruitt.  
Handled by Per Rismyhr.

Photo by Kit Rodwell. Ad design by Sorennorl © 2009



# BEST OF VARIETY

*Lily*

Thank you, Judge Mary Napper, for rewarding our young special with this incredible honor!

*Lily*

CH. PBJ'S GIMME ALL YOUR LOVIN



PBJ COCKERS - Jamey & Bea Pruitt  
Minden, Louisiana  
318 377-8949  
jamesprui@aol.com  
www.pbjcockers.com

Owned by Beate & Jamey Pruitt,  
Bred by Beate Pruitt, Jeff Wright & Per Rismyhr.  
Handled by Per Rismyhr.

Photo by Kit Rodwell. Ad design by Samamori © 2009



# KENWOOD COCKERS

## IT'S OFFICIAL!

**NUMBER ONE PRODUCING COCKER SPANIEL BITCH FOR 2008!**

## CH. KENWOODS HOLLY HOBBY



SIRE: CH. OVEROAKS RISING SON DAM: CH. KENWOODS ARABESQUE

Holly's champion offspring from her first litter include: Ch. Kenwoods Cosmic Fuzz; Ch. Kenwoods Winelight Vinology; Ch. Kenwoods Dream Girl; Ch. Kenwoods Pieces of A Dream, and Ch. Kenwoods Simple Logic, award of merit winner.

Thank You to our exclusive handler and friend, Joan Stallard, for making all of this possible.

Pam and Dennis Doyle  
**KENWOOD COCKERS**  
[www.kenwoodcockers.com](http://www.kenwoodcockers.com)  
[d Doyle@annarbor.org](mailto:d Doyle@annarbor.org)  
810-231-3998

# KENWOOD COCKERS

# **BEST OF BREED FROM THE OPEN CLASS AT AMERICAN COCKER SPANIEL NATIONAL SPECIALTY**

## **CH. KENWOOD'S LIGHTENING ROD**



**SIRE:**  
**CH. LARMARO'S**  
**HANDSOME DANCER**

**DAM:**  
**CH. KENWOOD'S**  
**LIGHTENING BUG**

**Owner:**  
**Alfredo Chacin**

**Breeder Co-Owner:**  
**KENWOOD**



"Joey," Standing or Moving he is quite a dog. Thank you to Mike and Linda Pitts for presenting him at the American Spaniel Club National Specialty Show for us. Also a big Thank You to Joan Stallard for guiding Joey to the capable hands of the Pitts. Special "Thank You" to judge Cindy Lane who awarded "Joey" Best of Breed from the Open Dog class and also to judge Jamie Hubbard, who did the same thing the preceeding week at the Cocker Spaniel Club of Detroit Specialty.

# Harpo

JULY 2009  
COCKER SPANIEL  
NATIONAL SPECIALTY  
BEST STUD DOG IN SHOW



Thank you doesn't seem nearly enough to convey my joy, but THANK YOU, Judge Cindy Lane for awarding my heart of all heart dogs, Harpo - ASC BiFuturity, MBISS Ch. The Villa's Monkey Business, the honor of Best Stud Dog in Show at the National Specialty in Pomona. Harpo is pictured here with his two daughters:

**Ascob 1st Award of Merit Winner - Melody, Ch. Bayserenade's Mozart Melody**  
**Black Reserve Winners Bitch - Marlo, Ch. Bayserenade N Samamari's That Girl**

*Thank you, Anna Lee McKennon, for breeding these beautiful kids (a repeat litter is on the ground), and thanks to all those involved in their success (you all know who you are, VBG!!). And to Harpo's breeder, Steve Daggett, thank you for trusting me with this very special boy. There are no words to describe what he's brought to my life.*

# Harpo

ASC Best In Futurity & Multiple Best in Specialty Show winning  
**A/C CH. THE VILLA'S MONKEY BUSINESS**

Owned & handled by Stephanie Kaul. Bred by Steve Daggett.

Win photo by Kid Rodwell. Candid movement photo by Kelly Ladouceur, KLAD Cockers. Ad by Samamari © 2009





KLAD © 2009

Ch. Darkehaven's Apple of My Eye ex Ch. Sugarplum Spirit of the Dance



# RESERVE WINNERS BITCH

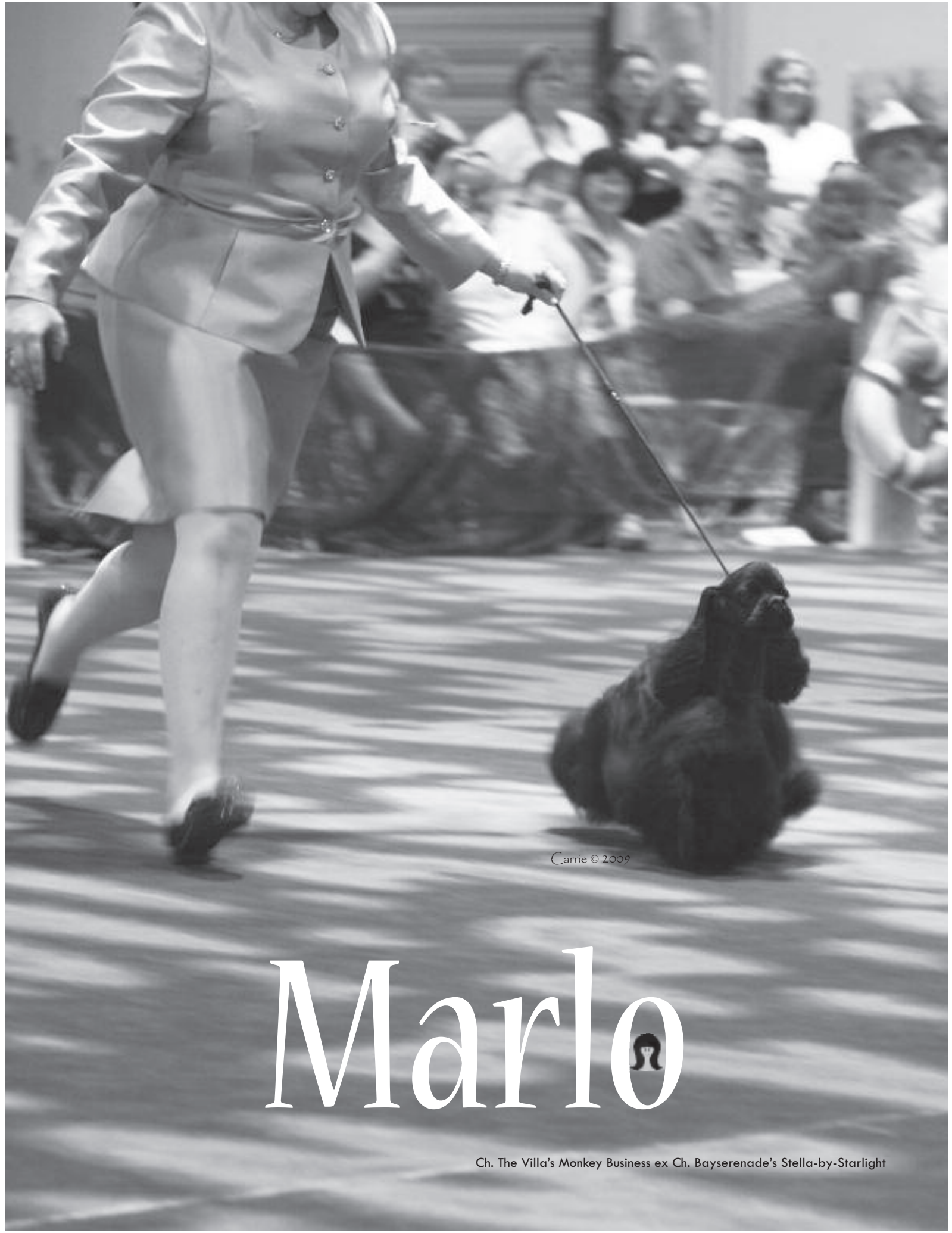
Thank you, Judge Robert Ennis, for recognizing Marlo amongst a group of highly deserving bitches. Marlo followed up ASC with back-to-back wins at the New Orleans cocker specialties to become a new champion!

 **Marlo** | CH. BAYSERENADE N SAMAMARI'S THAT GIRL

Owned by Aida Ramirez. Co-owned/handled by Stephanie Kaul.  
Bred by Anna Lee McKennon. Adored by David Sutliff.

Win photo by Kid Rodwell. Candid movement photo by Carrie Higuera, Hannon-Le Cocker. Ad by Samamari © 2009





Carrie © 2009

# Marlo



Ch. The Villa's Monkey Business ex Ch. Bayserenade's Stella-by-Starlight

# UP



## MBISS CH. SHAMAN'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT

(MBIS, MBISS CH. & LINE N CUTS BEYOND A DOUBT & CH. SHAMAN'S HURRICANE LILY)

# NUMBER ONE



**ALL VARIETIES**



# **‘Life’s A Beach’ In California**

## **July 2009 National Specialty Show Report**

**by Stephanie Kaul**

**show photos by Kitten Rodwell**

**A**s preparations began for the 33rd annual National Specialty in Pomona, the show committee strived to turn a fairgrounds building into a beach-front oasis complete with sand, sun, water, and a super hot car (did you check out that smokin’ red Corvette? Vroom, vroom!) – to truly make ‘Life A Beach’. This year’s national specialty was dedicated to the memory of Jason Harmon.

The National kicked off on Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, with the tracking competition at Prado Regional Park. There were nine entries under Judges Sally Ann Nesbit and Carolee Douglas. On Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, the ASC Board of Directors met at the Sheraton Inn & Suites (host hotel), and exhibitors from across the country moved into the Fairplex Building #9. Later that afternoon, exhibitors were treated to a fantastic welcome party complete with carving and dessert stations and a hosted bar.

Futurity judge, Mrs. Joan Stallard, kicked things off first Thursday morning with her entry of 49 puppies. Mrs. Stallard found her winners in short order with Best in Futurity honors going to the lovely 9-12 black bitch, PBJ’s Black Velvet Seduction (bred by Beate Pruitt, owned by Beate & Megan Pruitt, handled by Per Rismyhr). Best Opposite Sex to Best in Futurity honors went to the 6-9 ascob dog, Laurent’s Walk This Way (breeder/owner/handled by Laura Heidrich). Later that afternoon, Mrs. Stallard judged Cut-Down Sweepstakes, honoring the parti color dog, Ch. Loma Point’s Magic Mirror (bred by Charles & Jackie Rowe and Roger & Eleanore Phillips, owned by Charles & Jackie Rowe, handled by Dave Schneider) with the Best in Cut Down Sweeps nod, and awarding BOS to Best in Cut Down Sweeps to the black bitch, Ch. Cocoas N Nobu’s Island Magic (bred by Kathleen Vино & Lindy Bennett, owned by Karen Nobumoto, and handled by Stephanie Kaul). The first of three ASC 50/50 raffle winners was drawn, and the winner was – LEAH BERTAGNOLLI – congrats, Leah!

The much-anticipated ASC Boutique had its grand opening Friday morning at 9am, signified by the blinking doggy ‘Open’ sign in the window. At 10am, it was all about the guys with the beginning of regular class judging. First up was Judge Mary Napper with an entry of 19 parti color dogs. Mrs.



### **BEST OPPOSITE SEX TO BEST OF BREED CH Mei-Hardt’s It’s All About Grace**

**SN86127004. 08-09-01. Breeders, Jeanne Meister & Tracy Carroll. By CH TLc-N-K’s King Of Hearts x CH Mei-Hardi’s Solitaire NA. Stephanie McAlister. Bitch. ALSO BEST IN VETERAN SWEEPS**



### **BEST OPPOSITE SEX TO BEST IN FUTURITY Laurent’s Walk This Way**

**SR55430803. 11-10-08. Breeder, Laura Heidrich. By CH Twin Pines Handsome Kenwood x CH Laurents Cakewalk. Laura Heidrich. Dog**

# *Ch. Ward's Tribute To Annie*



(CH San Jo's Born To Win x CH Ward's Windwhisper)

Annie used some of that good pedigree of hers with that gorgeous movement to finish. Many thanks to judges that put her up. Then there is Mike and Linda Pitts. We appreciate their professional handling as always and thank them very much for their care for Annie.

**Breeders/Owners:**  
**Neville W. and John S. Ward**



**BEST IN CUT-DOWN SWEEPSTAKES  
CH Loma Point Magic Mirror**

**SR11321301.** 07-09-03. Breeders, Owner & Roger & Eleanor Phillips. By CH JPK's Terje's Hall of Fame x CH Westways Tri 'NTo Make Magic. **Charles R. & Jacquelyn Rowe.** Dog. Marshall David Schneider, PHA, Agent.



**BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX IN CUT-DOWN  
SWEEPSTAKES**

**CH Cocoas N' Nobu's Island Magic**

**SR32354303.** 12-10-05. Breeders, Kathleen Vino & Linda Bennett. By CH Brickett's Shot in the Dark x CH Toybox Duck'n Cover. **Karen Nobumoto.** Bitch. Stephanie Kaul, Agent.



**BOS TO BEST IN VETERAN SWEEPS  
CH Jaywyck's Tyme To Be Busy CDX RAE OA OAJ**

**SN67891301.** 06-11-99. Breeder, Owner. By CH Busy Being Bad at Advantage x CH Jaywyck's Tyme for Pipe Dreams CD. **Judith Wick Klepp.** Dog.



**BEST JUNIOR HANDLER  
Alyssa Weber**

Handling CH TEJAS AND RX SECRET TRADER. Breeders, Lisa Fullington & Ernie Domondon. By CH Mountview Trading Spaces x CH RX Secret of Gryffindor. Owner, Lisa Fullington & Alyssa Weber. Dog.



**BEST BRED-BY EXHIBITOR IN SHOW  
Che-Lee's Lookin To Play**

**SR48204202.** 12-26-07. Breeder, owner. By CH Detor N Bow K's Play By Play x CH Criterion Lookin Special. **Cheryl L. Brown.** Bitch.



**BEST STUD DOG  
CH The Villa's Monkey Business**

**SR05186704.** 12-04-02. Breeder, owner. By CH Darkhaven Apple of My Eye x CH Sugarplum Spirit of The Dance. **Stephanie Kaul.** Dog.

Napper chose the 9-12 puppy dog, Dal-Mar's Topaz Pistol (bred by Donna & Charles Harrington, owned by Debi Lampert-Rudman, handled by Tracy Lynn Carroll) as her Winners Dog, and the 12-18 mos dog, My-Ida-Ho N' Jems Go-Blue (bred and owned by Sharon Gerling & Emma Ross, handled by Sharon Gerling) as her Reserve Winners Dog. Next up for Friday judging was Judge Robert Ennis and his entry of 13 dogs. Mr. Ennis chose the 9-12 puppy dog, PBJ's Guns N Roses (bred by Beate Pruitt, owned by Judy Gabbard and Beate Pruitt, handled by Per Rismyhr) as his Winners Dog, and the 6-9 puppy dog, Silverhall Spectacular Bid (bred/owned/handled by Wilson and Bonnie Pike) as his Reserve Winners Dog. Last up in Friday's regular class judging was Judge Cindy Lane and her entry of 12 dogs. Mrs. Lane chose the open dog, Kenwood's Lightning Rod (bred/owned by Dennis & Pamela Doyle, owned by Alfredo Chacin, handled by Michael Pitts) as her Winners Dog, and the 9-12 puppy dog, Winelight's Soulful Strut (bred/owned by Jeannette Bruce, handled by Tracy Lynn Carroll) as her Reserve Winners Dog. The second of three ASC 50/50 raffle winners was drawn, and the winner was – DOUG MCFARLANE – congrats, Doug!

Friday evening was the Futurity party, hosted by Jamey & Bea Pruitt, in the tack room area. It was a time to eat, drink, and be merry as we all celebrated the wonderful win of their darling girl, Lola – PBJ's Black Velvet Seduction, and her Best in Futurity win!

Saturday was all about the girls! The morning kicked off with the judging of regular class bitches with Judge Cindy Lane and her entry of 18 ascob bitches. Mrs. Lane chose the 9-12 puppy bitch, Southern's She's Makin Waves (bred by Catherine Price, owned by Iris & Tiger Makin, handled by Marie Santos), as her Winners Bitch, and the open bitch, Dalin's Miss Divine (bred by Linda Donaldson, Kathryn & Ronald Smith, owned by Wilson & Bonnie Pike, handled by Per Rismyhr) as her Reserve Winners Bitch. Next up was Judge Mary Napper and her entry of 15 bitches. Mrs. Napper chose the 9-12 puppy bitch, Normandy N Alamara's Big City Show (bred/owned by Penny Hoover and Regina Beinhauer, handled by Linda Pitts) as her Winners Bitch, and the BBE bitch, Che-Lee's Lookin to Play (bred/owned/handled by Cheryl Brown) as her Reserve Winners Bitch. Last up was Judge Robert Ennis and his entry of 32 bitches. Mr. Ennis chose the open bitch, Silverhall Heavensent (bred/owned by Wilson & Bonnie Pike, handled by Bonnie Pike) as his Winners Bitch, and the open bitch, Bayserenade N Samamari's That Girl (bred by Anna Lee McKennon, owned by Aida Ramirez & Stephanie Kaul, handled by Stephanie Kaul) as his Reserve Winners Bitch. After the conclusion of Saturday's regular class judging, the Veteran Sweepstakes got under way under Judge Robert Ennis. He selected Ch. Mei-



**BEST BROOD BITCH  
CH Carousel Moon Lightning**

**SR19585405.** 05-20-04. Breeders, Julie Virostek. By CH A To Z's Moondoggie x CH Carousel Surely You Jest. **Debbie Roper.** Bitch



**ASCOB WINNERS BITCH  
Southern's She's Makin Waves**

**SR51681101.** 07-21-08. Breeder, Catherine Price. By CH Kesa's Sportster x CH Southern's Stars and Stripes. **Irish & Tiger Makin.** Marie Santos, Agent.



**BEST OPPOSITE SEX ASCOB  
CH Somerset's Sweet Talkin' Girl**

**SR44652302.** 08-25-07. Breeder, owner. By CH Coldry's Sweet Seduction x CH Somerset's High D' Ho. **Laurie Ferland.** Mike Pitts, Agent. Bitch



**AWARD OF MERIT ASCOB VARIETY  
CH Mei-Hardt's Shining Quasar**

**SR42159803.** 04-17-07. Breeder, Stephanie McAlister. By CH Foley's Hold Your Heart x CH Mei-Hardt's It's All About Grace. **Jeanne E. Meister & Stephanie McAlister.** Dog.





**AWARD OF MERIT ASCOB VARIETY  
CH Bayserenade's Mozart Melody**

**SR50330101.** 06-03-08. Breeder, Anna Lee McKennon. By CH The Villa's Monkey Business x CH Bayserenade StellaBy-Starlight. **Anna Lee McKennon & Lynne Hellmer.** Stephanie McAlister, Agent. Bitch.



**BLACK WINNERS DOG  
PBJ's Guns N Roses**

**SR51763802.** 08-28-08. Breeder, Beatte Pruitt. By CH Island-N-Sh-Bar's Ace In The Hole x B-Max's Black Lady Bug. **Judy Gabbard & Beate Pruitt.** Per Rismyhr, Agent. Dog.



**BLACK WINNERS BITCH  
Silverhall Heavensent**

**SR51170802.** 04-26-08. Breeder, owner. By CH Lehi n Brookwood Dream Police x CH Silverhall Seventh Heaven. **Wilson & Bonnie Pike.**



**BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX TO BLACK VARIETY  
CH Hartlines True To Bear**

**SR29107502.** 06-25-05. Breeder, Melinda Hart. By CH Hartlines Absolutely True x CH Hartlines Truly Yours. **M. Hart & K. Brown, K. Weaver & J. Stern.** Dog.



**AWARD OF MERIT BLACK VARIETY  
CH Silverhill Seductive**

**SR41202601.** 01-02-07. Breeder, owner. By CH Coldrys Sweet Seduction x CH Silverhall Seventh Heaven. **Wilson & Bonnie Pike.** Bitch.



**PARTI VARIETY  
CH PBJ's Gimme All Your Lovin**

**SR50042001.** 03-24-08. Breeders, Beate Pruitt & Per Rismyhr & Jeff Wright. By CH Ber-Lin's One More Time x CH Terje's Thumbelina. **Beate Pruitt & Jamey Pruitt.** Per Rismyhr, Agent. Bitch.

Hardt's It's All About Grace (bred by Jeannie Meister and Tracy Lynn Carroll, owned/handled by Stephanie McAlister) as his Best in Veteran Sweeps winner, and Ch. Jaywyck's Tyme to Be Busy CDX, RAE, OA, OAJ as his BOS to Best in Veteran Sweeps winner.

Saturday night was the Banquet Dinner and Memorial Walk. Custom-ordered votives were on the tables, cocker head glass pins were distributed to guests, and hand-crafted luminaries graced the event as exhibitors enjoyed a wonderful meal, a lovely memorial slideshow, and an auction of the original "Point of View" paintings, won by Gretchen Stone.

Sunday morning kicked off with the Black Variety under Judge Robert Ennis. First up was the Veteran Dog winner, Ch. Jaywyck's Tyme To Be Busy CDX RAE OA OAJ (see Veteran Sweeps info above for breeder/owner info), followed by the Veteran Bitch winner, Ch. Mei-Hardt's It's All About Grace. Mr. Ennis moved on to his Black Best of Variety competition with an entry of 30 specials. Mr. Ennis chose the Veteran Bitch, Ch. Mei-Hardt's It's All About Grace, as his Black Best of Variety winner; Ch. Hartline's True to Bear (bred by Melinda Hart, owned by Melinda Hart/Kala Brown/Karen Weaver/Jerry Stern, handled by Kala Brown) as his Best of Opposite Sex winner; Silverhall Heavensent as his Best of Winners; and Ch. Silverhall Seductive (bred/owned by Wilson & Bonnie Pike, handled by Wilson Pike) and Ch. Exl's Leather-N-Lace (bred/owned by Sandy Knaus and Jan Huml, handled by Jeff Wright) as his Award of Merit winners. The black variety was followed by the Parade of Titleholders – always a cherished event!

At noon on Sunday, tshirts went on sale for the 2010 National Specialty in Richmond, Virginia. Next up on Sunday's judging schedule was the Ascob Variety under Judge Cindy Lane. First up was the Field Trial Bitch winner, Carousels Mandolin Wind (bred by Geri Roy and Julie Virosteck, owned/handled by Gail Workman). Mrs. Lane moved on to her Ascob Best of Variety competition of 21 specials. Mrs. Lane chose her Winners Dog, Kenwood's Lightning Rod, as her Best of Winners and Best of Variety; Ch. Somerset's Sweet Talkin' Girl (bred/owned by Laurie Ferland, handled by Michael Pitts) as her Best of Opposite Sex winner; and Ch. Bayserenade's Mozart Melody (bred/owned by Anna Lee McKennon, co-owned by Lynne Hellmer, handled by Stephanie McAlister) and Ch. Mei-Hardt's Shining Quasar (bred/handled by Stephanie McAlister, owned by Jeanne Meister & Stephanie McAlister) as her Award of Merit winners. The Ascob variety was followed by the Stud Dog and Brood Bitch classes. Mrs. Lane chose Ch. The Villa's Monkey Business (bred by Steve Daggett, owned/handled by Stephanie Kaul) as her Ascob Best Stud Dog winner and Ch. Carousel Moon Lightning (bred by Julie Virosteck, owned/handled by Debbie Roper) as her Ascob Brood Bitch winner.



**BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX TO PARTI VARIETY  
CH Showcases Medicine Man**

**SR34044501.** 04-14-06. Breeders, Becky Rapoport & Carolyn Rogers. By CH Showcase Alamara Stroke O'Genius x CH Showcase Bewitched Bedazzled. Dr. Sarah Forbes & Becky Rapoport & C. Rogers. Dog.



**PARTI WINNERS DOG  
Dal-Mar's Topaz Pistol**

**SR53281205.** 08-27-08. Breeders, Donna & Charles Harrington. By CH Stylin N Dal-Mar's Probable Cause x CH DalMar's Regarding Olivia. Debra Lampert-Rudman. Tracy Lynn Carroll, Agent. Dog.



**PARTI WINNERS BITCH  
Normandy N Alamara's Big City Show**

**SR52249802.** 09-24-08. Breeder, owner. By CH Normandy n Detor's City Limits x CH Somerset's Her Name Is Lola. Penny Hoover & Regina Beinhauer. Linda Pitts, Agent. Bitch. Also Parti Award of Merit.



**AWARD OF MERIT PARTI VARIETY  
CH Jo-Bea's Rebecca For Rowingdale**

**SR37779102.** 07-13-06. Breeders, Henry C. & Bea Jones. By CH Loma Point Magic Mirror x CH Jo-Bea's Tristar. Charles R. & Jacquelyn Rowe. Marshall David Schneider, PHA, Agent. Bitch.

Next up was the Junior Showmanship competition under Judge Mary Napper. Mrs. Napper chose Alyssa Weber as her Best Junior Handler, showing Ch. Tejas and Rx Secret Trader (bred by Lisa Fullington and Ernie Domondon, owned by Lisa Fullington and Alyssa Weber).

The final variety of the day was the Parti Variety under Judge Mary Napper. First up was the Veteran Bitch winner, Ch. Terje's Thumbelina (bred/handled by Jeff Wright, owned by Beate Pruitt, Per Rismyhr, and Jeff Wright). Mrs. Napper moved on to her Parti Best of Variety competition of 19 specials. Mrs. Napper chose Ch. PBJ's Gimme All Your Lovin (bred by Beate Pruitt, Per Rismyhr & Jeff Wright, owned by Beate and Jamey Pruitt, handled by Per Rismyhr) as her Best of Variety winner; Ch. Showcase's Medicine Man (bred by Becky Rapoport and Carolyn Rogers, owned by Dr. Sarah Forbes, Becky Rapoport & Carolyn Rogers, handled by Lisa Arnett) as her Best Opposite Sex winner; Dal-Mar's Topaz Pistol as her Best of Winners; and Winners Bitch, Normandy N' Alamara's Big City Show, and Ch. Jo-Bea's Rebecca for Rowingdale (bred by Hap and Bea Jones, owned by Charles and Jackie Rowe, handled by Dave Schneider) as her Award of Merit winners. The Parti variety was followed by the Stud Dog class where Mrs. Napper chose Ch. Loma Point's Magic Mirror (see cut down sweeps for breeder/owner info) as her Parti Best Stud Dog winner.

Peggy Mundell of San Diego Cocker Rescue and Lynne Hellmer organized the incredible Parade of Rescue Dogs. I don't think any of us will forget the stories of the over 25 rescue dogs featured in this fabulous event.

Before the 'Bests' competitions began, the third and final ASC 50/50 raffle winner was drawn, and the winner was – JUDY BJELLAND – congrats, Judy! The 'Bests' competitions began under Judge Cindy Lane. Mrs. Lane chose the Ascob WD/BW/BOV winner, Kenwood's Lightning Rod, as her Best of Breed winner, and the Black BOV winner, Ch. Mei-Hardt's It's All About Grace, as her Best Opposite Sex to Best of Breed winner. For Best BBE in Show, Mrs. Lane chose the parti bitch, Che-Lee's Lookin to Play (bred/owned/handled by Cheryl Brown). For Best Field Trial Cocker in Show, Mrs. Lane chose the Ascob bitch, Carousels Mandolin Wind. For Best Stud Dog in Show, Mrs. Lane chose the Ascob dog, Ch. The Villa's Monkey Business, and for Best Brood Bitch in Show, Mrs. Lane chose the Ascob bitch, Ch. Carousel Moon Lightning.

The show ended with a fabulous farewell event with snacks and a hosted bar. Exhibitors took the opportunity to relax, chat with friends, go over specials, and pack up their tack areas.

# AGILITY



## **BAILEY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE MACH Buttonwood's I Love Lucy "Lucy"**

**Owner: Martha Gurney**



## **A.J. AWARD CH Charmary's Just Imagine "Lidia"**

**Owner: Sue Thomsen**

# OBEDIENCE

Saturday, July 11, 2009 (Judge Nancy Craig)



## HIGH SCORING CHAMPION OF RECORD CH Charmary Chat Line OA OAJ NF

#76 (Novice Class B). SR26598005. 05-16-05. Breeders, owners. By CH Ashwood Thrilling Opportunity x CH/MACH Omni's Imagination, VCD1. Owner, Elizabeth & Charles Doyle, III. Bitch, Spaniels (Cocker) Black.

# OBEDIENCE

Sunday, July 12, 2009 (Judge Curtis Cunningham)



## HIGH SCORING CHAMPION OF RECORD CH Charmary Chat Line OA OAJ NF

#76 (Novice Class B). SR26598005. 05-16-05. Breeders, owners. By CH Ashwood Thrilling Opportunity x CH/MACH Omni's Imagination, VCD1. Owner, Elizabeth & Charles Doyle, III. Bitch, Spaniels (Cocker) Black.



## HIGH SCORING IN TRIAL Reesha's Tedbear Magic RA TD

#77 (Novice Class B). ILPI57275. 03-23-06. Breeder, Marianne Dualt Vega. By Chewy x Kally. Owner, Debra & Terry Lewis. Bitch, Spaniels (Cocker) ASCOB.



## HIGHEST SCORING DOG IN REGULAR CLASSES

### Honey Bear VCD2 UD RE

(Open Class B). Owner, T Lewis/D Lewis. Spaniel (Cocker).



# AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB'S FIELD EVENTS

## July 2009 Summer National

by Marsha Linehan

### 2009 National Field Chairperson

ASC's '2009 National had a full array of Field Events, including a Working Dog Test, an Instinct Test and a Field Booth. Thanks go to the great job of the Field Committee, which includes Gail Workman, Bob Linehan and Sharon Pearson. Additional thanks to Doug McFarlane, Marleta McFarlane, Julie Virosteck and Quinn Ruvacava for the support of the ASC Summer National Committee. Without the help of each of the above individuals, the field events would not have occurred.

At the Working Dog test, which was held at Prado Dog Recreation Area, there were six entries, four Cockers and two English Cockers. The judges were Gail Workman and Bob Linehan, both AKC Hunt Test judges. It was lots of fun watching the cockers in the field. They all did a great job. Two Cockers and one English Cocker qualified for a Working Dog (WD) Title and one English Cocker qualified for a Working Dog Excellent (WDX) title. The Cockers who qualified for a WD title were Six of Seven CD, RA, NA, NAJ, SH and Dungarvan's Pupkin of Pudggee Ann, JH and the English Cocker who qualified for the WD title was CH Coaltown's Earle of Jordonka TD, CD, JH, RA. The English Cocker who qualified for a WDX title was Warrender's Ash-Throated Flycatcher, SH.

Upon completion of the Working Dog Test, Bob Linehan, a cocker enthusiast who loves hunting with his cockers, conducted an Instinct Test. There were eight cockers who participated in the Instinct Test, including two puppies. The cockers came

from all over the United States, including two from Canada. All of the cockers and owners gathered in a big circle. First the cockers were individually introduced to a feather lure on a pole, then a pigeon in a cage, then a pigeon with their wings locked and finally a wing-clipped pigeon. As the exercise progressed, it was fun to watch each cocker get more and more enthusiastic about the birds. The puppies had the time of their life, chasing the pigeons. New this year was the "Got Instinct" Participant button, which was given to everyone who came out to the field. Everyone, including the cockers, seem to really enjoy both the Working Dog and Instinct Test.

Lastly, we had a Field Booth exhibit at the show. The booth was located at a great location adjacent to the conformation ring. At the Field Booth, there were lots of photos of cockers in the field. The photos were displayed in a tri-fold that was entitled "Cockers... Showing They Truly are a Sporting Dog". We had lots of visitors to the booth who all expressed appreciation and excitement at seeing the photos of cockers hunting and doing what they were bred to do.

As Chairperson of the above events, it was fun and a real privilege to be able to help showcase the cocker in the field and to be part of introducing cockers to the field. I look forward to the continuation of the field activities at future Summer Nationals. Here's to a great year to each of our cockers and to ourselves, whether in the ring, out in the field or just with each other!



# Breeder Education

We had three Breeder Education events at the National in Pomona, CA. One was the Puppy Puzzle presented by Pat Hasting. This event was well attended. Pat gave a background on why structure was so important in picking the right puppy for your program whether that be field, agility, obedience or conformation events. She went over what one should look for before selecting that puppy. Lois Wilson, kindly, let Pat use her puppies that were 8 weeks old to evaluate. Pat Hastings also had a video and several books showing this technique.

The second event was on Cancer in Dogs. This was presented by Dr. Mona Rosenberg. She was very informative on the process that one needs to go through when dogs are diagnosed. There are several steps one needs to follow with the outcome being what is best for the dog.

The third event was a breeders' mentoring whereby longtime and successful breeders could sit ringside with a new person or one that just wants more information. I am sorry to say only one person took advantage of this. However, we were 100% successful since she was very positive about the knowledge she gained.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Gallant

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Sweepstakes  
Amber Grimm



For information contact  
Sue Nelson  
[sunnyckr@bellsouth.net](mailto:sunnyckr@bellsouth.net)

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# ASC NATIONAL TRACKING TEST JULY, 2009

*by Gail Workman*



Sitting in at my first ever committee meeting for the 2009 summer national I asked the question "why don't we have a tracking test at our national?" After all our cockers have wonderful tracking abilities; it comes so natural to them we should offer this test for the cocker fancy.

To my surprise Julie Virosteck and Doug McFarlane said yes, we could have a tracking test as long as we have someone to chair it. So I took on the job to start the ball rolling.

Since this was the first time ASC was offering a tracking test we had some hoops to jump through for AKC. We had to prove we had enough experience throughout the club to put on a tracking test. As we found out, there is a large core of members with tracking experience. This confirmed that a tracking test should be added to our national.

This was the first time for me to be involved in this side of the national, I am normally an exhibitor. I now have a renewed respect for the committee and folks behind the scenes. They work so hard long before, during and after the national.

Once AKC gave permission to have a test, the excitement of having the first ASC tracking test affected the whole committee as we all worked as a team to get things done.

We found the perfect spot to have a test, 'Prado Regional Park,' an area that is natural and undeveloped. I was excited when I saw the grounds in March. I was warned that there would be foxtails in July and it would be hot! However, at every national we have our WD or hunt test in July. Our cockers trudge through the brush and brambles and those with coat work diligently to go over their dogs to remove fox-tails, burrs, stickers and whatever else they may have picked up. Those that do tracking or hunting, no matter what time of year, know the dangers of the sport, but they and the dogs love it enough that they are ready to care for their dogs properly. Certainly tracking folks have the same love of the sport of tracking. To keep our sporting dogs out of the field would be a tragedy for our breed.

We found our Judges quickly; our very own Carolee Douglas was very excited about the test and accepted the assignment right away, even waiving her judging fee. From San Diego Sally Nesbitt accepted the judging assignment.



With the judges in place and the support of the committee I was feeling pretty good about the upcoming event.

But wait!! There was so much more to do, I had never put together a Premium there is so much detail that goes into that and it must be just right for AKC and the ASC. Thank goodness for Kathy Watson and Julie Virosteck who jumped right on that one.

We all realized if I were to enter a dog I could not chair the event, I went from chair to committee member. Thanks goes to Marsha Linehan who stepped in to become chair and secretary, Marsha did an awesome job as she does with every event that she chairs.

Once the premiums were out I thought OK, we can relax, we were all set. But as a tracking exhibitor for many years I knew there was still plenty to do; from entry confirmation letters to catalogs, all had to be done and with the help of Kathy Watson, Julie Virosteck, Gail Workman and chair, Marsha Linehan, we were able to get it done in a timely manner.

The tracking community is a wonderful group of people. You will find this all across the country — tracking folk are totally committed to the sport and will go to great lengths to support it.

Our judges Sally Nesbitt and Carolee Douglas provided the equipment needed for plotting day and test day.

Betsy Iole (chief track layer) and Steve Herwig and Paula Herwig came all the way from Las Vegas to be track layers, ASC member Colleen Keough, from California, was also a track layer. Bob Linehan got drafted to be a driver for judges, track layers and exhibitors (what a trooper he was!). We had folks from Agility that had never seen a tracking test come help and support the test, folks from area tracking clubs come out to drive and lay tracks.

Gail Workman from Utah offered hospitality for plotting day.

Brenda McMangile was hospitality person for Test Day, she had a nice spread for some hungry folks. Committee members Julie Virosteck, Quinn Ruvacava, Doug McFarlane were all in attendance for our first ever tracking test.

Our test offered 8 Tracking dog entries, with 1 alternate track available the test filled up and we had 3 alternates.

continued on page 32

# Make Room For Danny

PART IV OF A SERIES - "THE MAKING OF A THERAPY DOG"

## *"The End is the Beginning"*

by Rosemary Maruish - Photos by Larry Monteith

This is the fourth, and final, in a series of articles on how to go about becoming a Therapy Dog Team, using my dog, Danny Boy, as an example. It is hoped that these articles will inspire other Cocker owners to do the same.

It has been over a year since Danny and I had started the journey to become a Certified Therapy Dog. But like any journey, there is an ending point, a crossroads to yet another journey. There have been twists and turns on this road, but finally we have made it to our destination...Therapy Dog Certification.

Weeks had passed after Danny had earned his Canine Good Citizen (CGC) title. I was anxious to move forward in getting him certified with Therapy Dog, Inc. (TDInc). There are many other wonderful national and local organizations doing this work. I had chosen TDInc because my first Therapy Dog, Bubba, and I were members. Having had a good relationship with them, I wanted Danny to be certified with them, too. Since there were only two Tester/Observers, (designated members that actually give out the test) in my area, I had to wait till one was available, for Danny and I to be tested.

Therapy Dog, Inc. requires their prospective members to take an Obedience and Temperament test, similar to the AKC Canine Good Citizens Test, (CGC). That's why I recommend anyone doing this work to take this test. It's a good evaluation to see if your dog is ready to be tested by a Therapy Dog group. Many local and national groups use a variation of this test for incoming members along with their own specific requirements. Our test also included doing three observed visits to any facility. The test primarily tries to gauge how the dog will react when meeting new people to see if he is too shy or aggressive. Similarly, the owner/handler is observed for how she interacts with people as well as keeping control of her dog at all times. The dog and its owner/handler are called a Therapy Dog Team.

On this hot August day we met up with TDInc member and Tester/Observer, Diane Pettis, at Greenwood Gardens Assisted Living facility, in Marietta, GA. After a sleepless night and a wet kitchen, from bathing Danny in the sink, we were up early and ready to go. I put the brush to Danny's hair, and a spiffy bandana around his neck. Our Irish friend from church, "Uncle Larry," was our driver and photographer. I felt like we had the luck of the Irish on our side!

Before we entered Greenwood Gardens, I had Danny Boy do his "business" outside. This is a must before entering any facility. A slip up here could disqualify you from passing, or if already a Therapy Dog team, a request by the facility management not to come back.



A 92-year-old resident surprises Danny with a biscuit.

As soon as we went through the front door, I had a good feeling about being there and passing the test. While we were waiting for Diane to arrive, we became acquainted with some of the residents in the lobby. A man near the door playing cards immediately noticed Danny and seemed to want to meet him. We went up to him and said, "Hello." He remarked on how nice looking Danny was. At first, Danny was shy about meeting him, but with some encouragement, he warmed up to him. That was a good sign. I knew he would do well but I didn't know what to expect afterwards. I just had to trust that all the socialization, meeting and greeting different people and dogs, would pay off.

When we met up with Diane, she seemed pleased at Danny's appearance especially noticed how clean he was. I was so pleased to hear that after the mess we made from Danny's bath in the kitchen. After we greeted each other, Diane placed her hand over all of Danny's body to get a reaction on how he would react when residents would do the same. A similar situation would be when a dog is being examined on a table by a vet. Then we were asked to walk up and down the hall so she could get a look on how I handled Danny walking slow, then fast, and around people. So far so good!

Diane finally led us to a resident's room where a 92-year-old man seemed to just be waiting for us. On his walls were pictures of all the dogs he ever owned and a painting of them



Rosemary and Danny Boy take a break with their  
TDInc Tester/Observer, Diane Pettis.

all together. He apologized for being old and not seeing or hearing too well. I then I introduced him to Larry. "If you think you're old, I want to meet a 75-year-old, youngster." His eyes lit up and we all had a good laugh about it! I placed Danny Boy on his lap and to our surprise, he reached in his pocket and pulled out a dog biscuit. He gave it to Danny. Danny quickly gobbled it down and then went looking for more. Diane told me he always keeps one in his pocket for his doggie visitors.

From there we went to the Alzheimer's' floor. We walked around the room till we sat down and visited a man in a wheel chair who seemed pleased to see us. I asked if he would like to visit with us. Danny sat on his lap, with me on the side sitting in a chair. The man started petting him and Danny enjoyed it. Another lady sitting on a couch appeared to be wanting to meet Danny as well. Danny and I then sat next to her. "Oooh, he's so pretty!" she said, and she too, lavished attention on him. By now, Danny was thinking this Therapy Dog thing wasn't bad at all! Still another lady who was watching us, wanted to meet Danny so I placed him on her lap and more of the same. After we said our good byes, we gathered our things to go downstairs. Diane gave me a few tips for the next visit before we left the floor. Then she praised us for a good job.

Finally, we went downstairs to the lobby and visited a group sitting on a variety of chairs and a couch. It reminded me of a wide open parlor and visiting room. Danny and I worked the crowd asking individuals if they wanted to meet him. One by one, I pulled up a chair along side the person requesting a visit. Again more comments on his good looks and questions about what kind of dog he was. I proudly told them, "An American Cocker Spaniel...parti color." I told him that he was a show dog as a pup, and how he came approximately 1,000 miles to me through a generous breeder in Oklahoma. They seemed to be impressed.

Soon our time at Greenwood was up and Diane, our Tester/Observer, gave us our "grades". We happily learned we passed all of the individual exercises with flying colors! Danny and I left filled with joy knowing we had done a good

job and had made a lot of people happy. The luck of the Irish was indeed on our side!

### The other two visits...

We met Diane at Greenwood Gardens for our next two visits. This time they were on a Sunday evening after the residents had eaten. Sunday was chosen because it happened to accommodate both our schedules. It was very quiet throughout the lobby. Diane told me that most go to bed after dinner. However, on the last visit we found our 92-year-old friend in the lobby just sitting alone. We went up to him and reminded him who we were. He was delighted to see Danny and have him back on his lap again. He apologized for not having a biscuit. I gave him one of my treats to give Danny. He gave it to him but asked us to come earlier so he could have one ready for Danny next time.

After we said our farewells, went to the Alzheimer's area. There we found a crowd watching TV. Both times Danny and I said our "Hellos" and sat down with residents who wanted to meet him. By this time, Danny knew what to expect. He visited several people. One man in a wheel chair, not the same one as last time, was delighted to hold him in his lap. After a while, Danny showed signs of restlessness so we excused ourselves and left. Diane advised me on how important it was to read a dog's body language. "Your dog's well being comes first", she told me.

After our last visit, Diane checked my paperwork to be sent in to TDInc., and gave me her evaluation. In her testing notes, she said that we would be "an asset to TDInc." I was thrilled! Diane noted in our last visit we had "very good manners and interacted well with the residents." I was happy to see that because from DAY 1, I had always taught and stressed manners to Danny. It paid off! Returning home, the second and third times, we stopped at McDonald's and gave Danny his reward. Our chauffeur for the last two visits, Mark, bought Danny a cup of soft ice cream which he ate up with sheer delight!

Yes, it was a long journey, but a very fulfilling one. Even with all the obstacles we encountered, I would still do it again. The thought of sharing my dog's love with others rejuvenates me. And while the long ride was over with, another was just starting. The end was just a new beginning of a whole new world bringing smiles to others. And I wouldn't have traded it for anything!

Next time, follow us to another facility where Danny Boy makes his first real visit as a Certified Therapy Dog.

---

If you are interested in doing this type of work with your Cocker, contact the "Big Three", as I call them, national Therapy Dog organizations:

THERAPY DOG INC: [www.TherapyDog.org](http://www.TherapyDog.org)

THERAPY DOG INTERNATIONAL: [www.tdi-dog.org](http://www.tdi-dog.org)

THE DELTA SOCIETY: [www.deltasociety.org](http://www.deltasociety.org)

continued on page 32



Getting to know you...Danny Boy and Rosemary  
make a new friend at Greenwood Gardens.

The advantages of membership are that insurance for our visit, in case of a mishap with your dog is provided, and having the camaraderie of other like minded Therapy Dog Teams joining you on visits.

Locally, you can contact your Humane Society or vet and ask if they know of a group nearby.

#### SPECIAL THANKS...

Goes out to everyone who has helped and supported me during Danny's training. I especially want to acknowledge the men from my church who gave me rides to training and testing venue; our groomer and our vet.

But the biggest thanks go out to Kristin Henley, K-tin Cockers, who saw my Memorial to my last Therapy Dog, Bubba, in the BULLETIN, and offered me Danny.

Jim Brickman had a song out called "The Gift" that reminds me of her generosity. A part of it goes:

"You saved my heart, from falling apart, You gave your love away, I'm thankful every day, Can't find the words to say, For "The Gift."

This certainly applies to Kristin. Without her there would still be a broken heart and no story to tell about this amazing Therapy Dog journey. It is hoped that another breeder will do likewise by giving one of their dogs, by placing one of their dogs, with a Therapy Dog person. You won't regret it knowing that you will make a whole community smile!

*Rosemary Maruish has 10 years experience as a Therapy Dog Owner/Handler and is a member of the ASC Therapy Dog Committee. She is a freelance writer and has a Masters in Journalism. Ms. Maruish has worked in Radio/TV News, public relations, and other media. If you have any questions about how to get started in Therapy Dog work, contact her at [rosebub2000@yahoo.com](mailto:rosebub2000@yahoo.com)*

We had 2 Cocker Spaniels Entered:

**Carousels Mandolin Wind CDX RA OA NAJ** (mandolin)

Sire: Ch. Crazy Q's Cause a Riot

Dam: Carousels Brass Ring

Breeder Geri Roy and Julie Virostck

Owner: Gail Workman

**GG Iron Water Luke one of Six** (Luke)

Sire: Madison's Black Land Rufus SH

Dam: Six of Seven CD RA NA NAJ SH

Breeder: Gail Workman

Owner: Sharon Pearson

Test day was a nice cool morning. Judges and tracklayers were already there and getting things underway before our draw at 6:00am. The first track was run immediately following the draw. All the tracks were run and we were done by noon, when we then enjoyed a very nice lunch provided by Brenda and gave out some well deserved ribbons.

We had 3 passes out of 9. The two cockers did a great job, but it would not be their day to pass.

The help and support for the first ASC tracking test was wonderful! It would not have happened without so much support from the show committee, judges and tracklayers. My heartfelt thanks to everyone involved who helped make the 2009 ASC National Tracking Test a success!! I participated in ASC's first tracking test and it went so well that our entire committee hopes that future national specialties committees will add the tracking test to their list of events and continue the tracking tradition we started.

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**Ch. Mountview's Trading Spaces**  
 K-Line's Platinum Plus  
 Ch. K-Line N Roadshow West Wind  
 K-Line's Wind In The Willows

Ch. Oz N Tailormade Magic Man  
 Ch. Tailormade In Your Wildest Dreams  
 Ch. Tailormade Pretty Thrilling  
**Ch. Tru-Luv's Great Expectations**  
 Malaysian Ch. St' James Tee Time  
 Ch. St' James Alice In Wonderland  
 Braz. Ch. St' James Hannah of Kaolin

*Inquiries for show homes invited...*



## VERSATILITY AWARD

The American Spaniel Club, Inc. will offer a Versatility Award to members in good standing who have a flushing spaniel achieving at least three titles at AKC authorized events in the following categories:

- Breed Conformation
- Obedience
- Field Trail
- Hunting Test
- Tracking
- Agility

Earning three titles out of the six listed is necessary — one title must be a conformation Championship, one title must be in either Obedience or Agility and one title must be in either Field, Hunting or Tracking. During the time the titles were earned, the flushing spaniel must have been owned by a member of the club. The award will be an engraved plaque. Only one plaque will be awarded if jointly owned.

To apply, members must submit a copy of the AKC registration papers, a copy of the AKC conformation Championship certificate, and a copy of two other AKC titles from the list to the Versatility Awards Chair by November 1. The award will be presented at the ASC Annual Meeting in January.

## PERFORMANCE VERSATILITY AWARD

The American Spaniel Club Inc. will offer a Performance Versatility Award to members in good standing who have a Flushing Spaniel achieving a Title of at an A.K.C. authorized event in the following categories: obedience, agility, field, hunting or tracking. Titles in three out of the five areas listed are necessary and one MUST be an obedience title, one MUST be an Agility title, and one MUST be either a Field title, a Hunting title or a Tracking title.

The award will be given to the member applying and submitting

- a. Copy of AKC Registration certificate
- b. Copy of AKC Obedience Title certificate
- c. Copy of AKC Agility Title certificate
- d. Copy of one other AKC Title certificate from list

During the period when two of the three Titles were achieved, the Flushing Spaniel must have been owned by a member(s) of the Club. Titles may not be transferred or included for the Versatility Award by a new owner-member. The award will be a plaque with a plate engraved with the name of the Flushing Spaniel and the three Titles with year of Title. Only one plaque will be awarded if jointly owned.

Copies of the AKC Registration and AKC Title Certificates must be submitted to the Versatility Awards Chair of the American Spaniel Club by November 1 each year. The Versatility award will be presented at the Annual Meeting in January.

### VERSATILITY AWARDS CHAIR

Suzanne Moskala, 16 Wood Pond Rd., Cornwall, NY 12518-1904

## AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB HALL OF FAME

The Hall of Fame is open to any former or current member of the American Spaniel Club who it is felt has made a significant contribution to the American Spaniel Club organization itself or to the Cocker Spaniel breed. Nominations are intended for people and not organizations or kennels. Nominations can be made for an individual or couple as appropriate.

Significant contribution is defined as one that is important and had profound impact in shaping the breed or the club as it is known today. Significant contributions go beyond the bounds of normal volunteerism, standards of ethics or animal husbandry and successful breeding programs.

It is the purpose of the Hall of Fame to capture for succeeding generations the memory of the extraordinary and not the ordinary.

### Nominations

Each year one new inductee can be granted to the Hall of Fame for Service to the Organization and one for Contribution to the Breed. Consideration for new inductees is granted on an annual basis, although new inductees are not necessarily granted annually.

By November 1 of each year the Archival Committee Chairperson will form a Hall of Fame (HOF) Committee and will be the non-voting chairperson of that committee. All past ASC Presidents are eligible and invited to participate on the HOF committee. The Committee is disbanded again after the Annual Meeting in January and then reformed the following October.

Nominations are made annually and unless otherwise noted, close on October 31 for that year. They come from two sources:

- Membership - ASC members may make nominations through a Petition for Consideration. The Petition is simply typed or written legibly on standard paper, and should state in sufficient detail the name of the individual and their significant contribution(s). The Petition should be sent to the ASC Secretary.
- The ASC Archival Committee - In the course of their archival and historical duties, the committee may discover and offer nominees for consideration in addition to those from the membership.

The Archival Chairperson, in the role as Chair of the HOF, will gather all nominations and submit them to the HOF Committee. The Archival Committee can make recommendations to the HOF Committee on the submitted list of candidates, but the HOF Committee with a simple approving majority vote makes the final decision.

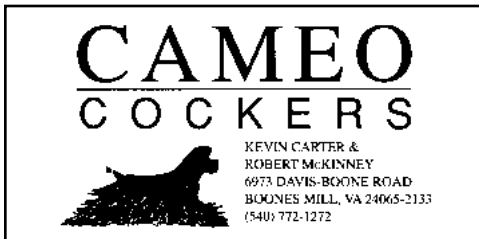
Any ASC Hall of Fame candidates, so nominated and voted in agreement for induction, are announced at the American Spaniel Club Annual Meeting.



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## Secretary's Notes.....

Kathy Patterson

**THANK YOU:** The Board wishes to thank Futurity judge Joan Stallard for the donation of her judging expense reimbursement to the Cocker Spaniel Rescue of East Texas.

**FUTURITY CHANGES:** Kevin Carter remains the Futurity Chair for January 2010 and is handling puppy enrollments for the January 2010 Futurity (DEADLINE, NOVEMBER 1, 2009. LATE ENROLLMENT DEADLINE DECEMBER 1, 2009.) Remember to enroll your puppies. The January Futurity winner will represent our breed in the "Best Flushing Spaniel in Sweepstakes/Futurity" on Friday evening.

Taking over as Futurity Chair for January 2011 is Debbie Knight. Forms and addresses for the January 2011 Futurity will be on the website in October.

There is no change in the July Futurity Chair; send your bitch nominations to Jim Fehring.

**JUDGES:** Because of declining entries, the Board has decided to have the membership continue to elect three judges for the Flushing Spaniel Show but only two judges will be elected for the National Specialty. At the National, one judge will judge dogs, one judge will judge bitches, and the person with the most votes will do intersex (Variety judging) and Bests.


**BALLOT FOR JANUARY 2011 JUDGES** will be included with the nominating committee reports and dues notices mailed next month.

**ZONE MEETING NOTICE:** Zone III Director, Nancy Gallant, is planning to hold zone meetings in conjunction with the Detroit CSC specialty and at the Skyline CSC shows.

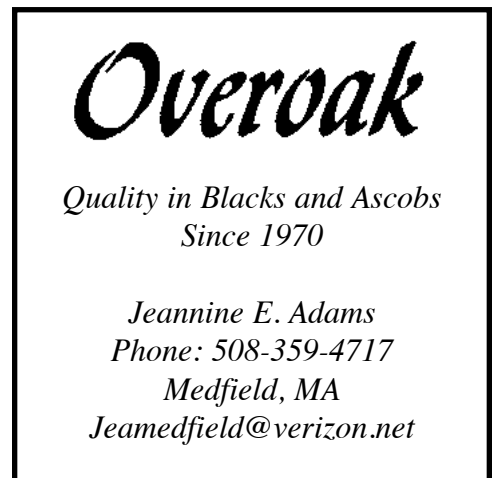
**BYLAWS CHANGES:** Several of the Bylaw changes adopted by the membership take effect this fall.

**FISCAL YEAR:** The Club's fiscal year is changing and will run October 1 to September 30 beginning this October.

**BOARD TERMS:** Beginning this year, the nominating committees will propose Board candidates for multi-year terms. Officers, Zone Directors and Alternate Zone Directors will be nominated for two year terms and Directors At Large for three year terms. There is still a three term limit for Officers and a six year limit for all Board members.



**NOEMANDEY**  
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## Treasurer's Report

8/25/09

### Unrestricted Funds:

Checking Account	\$60,052.29
Money Market	30,800.38
Surplus Cash	11,453.71

Total Unrestricted: \$102,306.38

### Restricted Funds:

PMT's	\$102,794.04
CD's	93,360.18

Total Restricted: \$196,154.22



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# Congratulations



## New Life Members



Hannu Palonen  
Jerry & Leslie Clark  
Deborah Knight  
Brenda Hamm  
John Robert Lewis, Jr.  
Sharon Reed  
Rick Sigers  
Carolyn Calkins  
Charlene Wooldridge  
Harriet Patrick  
Clyde & Barbara Shaw  
Mark & Donna Smith

## New Members...Welcome!

Please welcome these new members  
to the American Spaniel Club family:

Diana Burke  
Gia Coppi  
Linda Honsperger  
Mary Howard  
Mark & Carol Lovell  
Candace Omatsu  
Patricia Petraglia  
Victor Rosado  
Jerry Stern  
Sheila Vessar  
Sandra Weber  
Ryan Wolfe

## In Memoriam



*The Club notes, with sadness, the passing of  
the following members:*

Alice Barnes Life Member, Connecticut	Ruth Baumgartner Life Member, Kentucky
Jason Harmon Texas	Jack Kamps Maryland

## NOMINATING COMMITTEES

At the July meeting, the Board appointed national and zone nominating committees. Those contact information is on the ASC Home Page.

### National Committee

Bettie Campbell, chair/Jane Harmon, alternate  
Dale Ward/Beth Williams, alternate  
Melinda Hart/Bobbie Kolehouse, alternate  
Stephanie Kaul/Marleta McFarlane, alternate  
Cara Burgess/Adri Grimes, alternate

### Zone I

April Stitch - chair  
Judi Kline  
Debbie Knight  
Carol Papp - alternate

### Zone III

Lisa Arnett - chair  
Rita Crowe  
Susan Gray  
Joan Stallard - alternate

### Zone II

Kevin Carter - chair  
Tiina Blue  
Carol Yates  
Neville - alternate

### Zone IV

Brenda McManigle, chair  
Tracy Carroll  
Jerry Moon  
Marie Santos - alternate

### Zone V

Erika Swanson-Sapp - chair  
Sharon Elliott  
James Pruitt  
Lindy Beeson - alternate



**TROPHY PLEDGE FORM**  
**ANNUAL FLUSHING SPANIEL SHOW - JANUARY 2010**

<b>BEST IN SHOW</b>	<b>\$175.00</b> _____
<b>BEST COCKER</b>	<b>125.00</b> _____
<b>BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR</b>	<b>100.00</b> _____
<b>BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR COCKER</b>	<b>100.00</b> _____
<b>BEST BRACE IN SHOW</b>	<b>50.00</b> _____
<b>BEST JUNIOR</b>	<b>50.00</b> <u>Pledged</u> _____

**PLEASE SPECIFY YOUR VARIETY**  
**REGULAR CLASSES**

<b>Best of Variety</b>	<b>\$125.00</b> _____
<b>BOS to Best of Variety</b>	<b>100.00</b> _____
<b>Best of Winners</b>	<b>75.00</b> <u>Pledged – ASCOB</u> _____
<b>Winners Dog /Bitch</b>	<b>60.00</b> _____
<b>Reserve Winners Dog/Bitch</b>	<b>50.00</b> _____
<b>Best Bred By Exhibitor</b>	<b>60.00</b> <u>Pledged – ASCOB</u> _____

**FUTURITY**

<b>Best in Futurity</b>	<b>\$150.00</b> <u>Pledged</u> _____
<b>BOS to Best in Futurity</b>	<b>125.00</b> _____
<b>Best of Variety</b>	<b>100.00</b> _____
<b>BOS to Best of Variety</b>	<b>75.00</b> _____

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP**

**All trophies have been pledged.**

**ROSETTES/MEDALLIONS**

<b>Rosettes (1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> per class)</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b> _____
<b>Medallions (1<sup>st</sup> place only per class)</b>	<b>10.00</b> _____

**GENERAL TROPHY FUND**

**Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be used for Trophies, Medallions and Rosettes.**  
**Donors to the General Fund will be acknowledged in the catalog.**  
**PRINT YOUR NAME/S as they should appear in the catalog.**

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**ADDRESS**\_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE**\_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL**\_\_\_\_\_  
**AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$**\_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to The American Spaniel Club, Inc. (U.S. funds only) and mail with this form to: Mrs. Joy Stevens, 20 North Hill Drive, Lynnfield, MA. 01940.**

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Oklahoma City, OK 73170-3628  
405-692-1866  
bowersjr@swbell.net

## January 2010 Performance Raffle

### To: All Performance Exhibitors

I need your help putting together a great raffle table focused specifically to Performance needs. Please consider donating an item from the list of suggestions below.

- Different size and textured dumbbells
- Clean Run Gift Certificate
- J&J Gift Certificate
- Harness - long line tracking
- Books - *Hup* by James Spencer or *Urban Gundog*
- Spaniel Whistle with Lanyard
- Bumper - Field Dog
- Crate Fans
- Soft Sided Crate
- Travel water bowls or pails
- Flexi Leads
- K9 Kool Coat (Made of the same lightweight material used for the horses before and after racing)  
<http://www.horseworks.com/inc/sdetail/181>
- Crate pads
- Lightweight throw covers
- American Express, Visa gift cards
- snoods
- MBF, Rau Gift Certificates
- AKC website dog.com

You are not limited to these suggested items. Bring whatever you want that relates to Obedience, Rally and Agility. Your donations can be brought to the show. Please drop me an email and let me know what to expect. Let's make our first performance raffle the hit of the show!

Thanks for your help.

Olga K. Evelyn  
Amunique\_1@sbcglobal.net

# TOP PRODUCERS FOR 2009

Compiled by Dr. Margaret Saari, DVM, co-chair Top Dog Committee

## TOP SIRES:

1. Ch. Coldry's Sweet Seduction (Black) 8 chs;
2. Ch. Kaplar's Lord of the Dance (B&T) 5 chs;

## SIRES of three champions each:

- Ch. Afterglow Dick Dastardly (AI) B&T;
- Ch. Ber-Lin's One More Time (B&W);
- Ch. Detor N Bow-K's Play By Play (B&W);
- Ch. Hartline's Ben Jam In (Black);
- Ch. Kebec's Californian Trader (Buff);
- Ch. K-Line N Cutts Beyond A Doubt(Brown);
- Ch. Luzana's Look N Tri-If-Fic (Tri);
- Ch. Lydgate Rise N Shine (buff);
- Ch. Overoak Rising Son (buff);
- Ch. Pioneer's Wishes Do Come True (B&W);
- Ch. San Jo's Born To Win (Tri);
- Ch. Toybox Ruff Ryder (B&T).

## TOP DAMS:

1. Ch. Terje's Thumbelina (B&W 4 chs;
2. Ch. Caroling's All That Jazz(Red) 3 chs;
2. Ch. Casablanca's Thrilling Indecretion (Blk) 3 chs;
2. Ch. Nickleby's Eye Candy (buff) 3 chs.

## DAMS of two champions:

- Ch. Ashwood Days of Wine N Roses (Red);
- Ch. Bracon's Dark Angel(Blk);
- Bricketts Forever Ruby Tuesday(Tri);
- Ch. Criterion Lookin Special (Tri);
- Ch. Foley's Surprise By Design (Buff);
- Ch. Hartline Spring Bean (Brown);
- Ch. Hood's Heirloom (Tri);
- Ch. Javalin's Around The Horn(Tri);
- Ch. Jetset Paris(Blk);

- Ch. Kaplar N Must Do's Nightingale (Blk);
- Ch. Lehi's Tarot Card (Blk);
- Ch. Lydgate Lookin For Trouble (Buff);
- Ch. Micadee's Impress Me(Buff);
- Pioneer's Jilly Good Time(B&W);
- Ramalex Bruma at Kala (blk);
- R-Dreams Moody's Spice of Life (Tri);
- Ch. Roc'n-K's Trouble A Brewin(R&W);
- San Jo's Hide N Seek AX,MXJ (Tri);
- St'James Gucci Chic (buff);
- Ch. Storybook Perchance To Dream(Red);
- Ch. Trinity's Shine Your Light (Buff);
- Ch. Tri Pod's Sweet Georgia Brown (Brown&W).

## BREEDERS:

1. Judi Kline (K-Line) 6 champions;
2. Harriet Kamps 5 chs all co-bred);
2. Beatte Pruitt (Pbj's) 5 chs, 4 co-bred;
2. Jeff Wright (Terje) 5 chs, 4 co-bred);
3. Per Rismyhr 4 chs, all co-bred);
3. Donna Harrington (Dal Mar) 4 chs, all co-bred);
- Fred Hyer(Hyer Luv) 4 chs, 2 co-bred);
- Barbara Junior (Classic) 4 chs;
- Julie Turner-Hayes (Julre) 4 chs.

## BREEDERS OF THREE CHAMPIONS:

- Linda Bennett (Toybox);
- Judy Bjelland(Loma Point) all co-bred);
- Cheryl Brown (Che Lee) one co-bred);
- Judy Cole (pioneer) 2 co-bred);
- Charlotte Hanson(Truly Yours);
- Laura Henson (Kaplar) all co-bred);
- Linda Moore (Casablanca);
- Mary Walker & John Eggers (Nickleby).

## Send dog ads to Julie Hoskins at DPI

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**Send checks (payable to AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB),  
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**ALL information must arrive BY THE DEADLINE,  
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**Email questions to: [julie@dpimad.com](mailto:julie@dpimad.com)**

# TOP WINNING COCKERS FIRST HALF 2009

Compiled by Dr. Margaret Saari, DVM - Based on Shows from January 1 - June 30, 2009

## BLACKS:

1. Ch. EXL's Leather N Lace(Bitch) 9451 points;  
owners: Sandy Knaus & Jan Huml;
2. Ch. Bracon's Leapin Lily Pads(bitch) 5959 points;  
owner Heather Sullivan;
3. Ch. Hartline's True To Bear 2588 points;  
owners: Melinda Hart, Kala Brown; Karen Weaver & Jeremy Stern;
4. Ch. K-J's Othello 1854 points  
owners James & Kay Pruitt;
5. Ch. TI's On The Ball 970 points  
owner Terry Procnar.

## ASCOBS:

1. Ch. Somerset's Sweet Talkin' Girl 2729 points  
owner Laurie Ferland;
2. Ch. Carbert Arikara Magic Touch 1925 points;  
owners Carole Shute & Patti Nazarko;
3. Ch. Shaman's No Doubt About It 1632 points;  
owners: Joann Stamm & Jim Fehring;
4. Ch. Quasar N Sherwood's Odd Couple 1454 points  
owned by Brian & Marie Santos & Stephanie McAlister;
5. Ch. Mei Hardt's Shining Quasar 976 points;  
Owners Jeanne Meister & Stephanie McAlister

## PARTIS:

1. Ch. Windsor's 18K Rolls Royce 818 points;  
owners: Judy Bjelland & Terry Kelso;
2. Ch. San Jo's Born To Win 585 points;  
owner Sandy Bell;
3. Ch. Showcase Medicine Man 514 points;  
owners: Dr. Sara Forbes; Becky Rappaport & Carol Rogers;

4. Ch. Showcase On Board For One More (Bitch) 427 points;  
owners: Debbie Swier & John McNelly;
5. Ch. Mario's Grand Slam Playa 394 points;  
owners: Jeffrey Hanlin, Mark & Pamela Ragusa.

## BREED BASIS (NOTE- includes BB wins at specialties)

### BLACKS

1. Ch. Bracon's Leapin Lily Pads 496 points;
2. Ch. EXL's Leather N Lace 352 points;
3. Ch. Hillside's Black Miracle 272 points;  
owners: Xiomara & Richard Larson;
4. Ch. Micadee's My Two Sense 207 points  
owner: Catherine Fennelly;
5. Ch. Shanz Island Calypso 177 points;  
owner: Donald Harris.

### ASCOBS:

1. Ch. Shaman's No Doubt About It 633 points
2. Ch. Quasar N Sherwood's Odd Couple 254 points;
3. Ch. Somerset's Sweet Talkin' Girl(Bitch) 252 points;
4. Ch. Creekridge Quarterback Sneak 241 points owners:  
C. Bredenbeck & L. Rosenhammer;
5. Ch. Carbert Arikara Magic Touch 204 points;

### PARTIS:

1. Ch. Showcase Medicine Man 322 points;
2. Ch. Windsor's 18K Rolls Royce 311 points;
3. Ch. Showcase On Board For One More (bitch) 277 points;
4. Ch. Nosowea's Navy Seal 232 points;  
owner Joann Thorp;
5. Ch. Blkwater's Hunkrdown My Heart 188 points;  
owners Nancy Virden & Michelle Walls

## AGILITY TOP 5 through JULY 17th

Compiled by Dr. Jeannie Grim, DVM, co-chair, Top Dog Committee

	Points	DoubleQ's	Score
1. MACH5 Tell-Tail's Tri To Imagine	2564	24	2804
2. MACH4 Anastasia My Satilla Bar-Bax	1512	13	1642
3. Tell-Tail's Tri N Catch Me MX, MXJ	1164	16	1324
4. MACH Oreo Punkie XF	1113	10	1213
5. MACH Tell-Tail's Mad About You	874	28	1154



# The Health Corner

## Blue Power Ear Cleaner

*The good, the bad, and the ugly about this popular home made ear cleaner.*

*By Joan M. Beck*

*Updated October 2008*

**Submitted by Carolee Douglas; reprinted with permission**

Blue Power Ear Cleaner (also known as Blue Voodoo Ear Cleaner and Gentian Violet Ear Cleaner) is a very popular home made remedy for keeping canine ears clean and infection free. Lots of Internet web sites tout its benefits, and it is frequently mentioned on dog-related chat groups. Most advocates of this treatment say it's great, almost magic for treating ear infections, few if any mention how or why the preparation works and if it is safe for our canine friends. Being a natural skeptic of anything advertised as "magic," I decided a little research was in order. Here is what I discovered:

### *The Formula*

There are several recipes for Gentian Violet based ear cleaners on the web. The following recipe seems to be the most popular and based on my research the safest and most effective formulation:

- 2 cups (1 pt.) 70% Isopropyl alcohol (don't use the 91% solution, it is too strong for use in an ear cleaner and can physically burn the delicate ear tissues)
- 4 level Tablespoons boric acid powder (although formula achieves the proper pH with 2 tablespoons of Boric Acid and works just as well from what I can see)
- 16 drops of 1% gentian violet solution OR 8 drops of 2% gentian violet solution. (Order from your local pharmacist)

For best results, place two cups of isopropyl alcohol in a Pyrex measuring cup and heat until luke-warm in the microwave (heat 20-30 seconds at a time, stir and then test the temperature with your finger). Do not heat to a boil. Alcohol can explode when very hot. The reason to warm the alcohol is that it helps the boric acid powder dissolve in the liquid. This recipe calls for a very saturated concentration of boric acid compared to the amount of alcohol. If you don't heat the alcohol first, then you tend to get boric acid crystals settling out at the bottom of your bottle. Boric acid crystals in suspension (particles floating in the liquid) are less effective for altering the pH of the ear canal than boric acid in solution (particles dissolved in liquid). After mixing the boric acid and alcohol, then add the gentian violet. Be sure to place newspapers under the area where you are working. Gentian violet is a strong aniline dye and permanently stains, especially in its concentrated form. I have found that adding one drop of liquid dish soap to this warm purple mixture helps make this

mixture work even better because the soap helps break down the surface tension of the earwax so the alcohol can dissolve it. Adding more than one drop of soap starts to change the pH of the solution and reduces its effectiveness.

If you are not into mixing chemicals in your kitchen, or your dog cannot tolerate alcohol based ear cleaners, then the following alternate formula suggested by Carol Getty, DVM may be helpful. Carol discovered that adding 16 drops of 1% gentian violet solution OR 8 drops of 2% gentian violet solution to the commercial, alcohol-free, ear solution "OtiCalm" (by DVM) seems to work as well as the traditional formula and is especially useful in younger dogs.

It is recommended that this product be used once or twice a day for two weeks to fight ear infections, then twice a month afterwards to prevent overgrowth of the microbes that cause infection. If your dog produces a lot of earwax and needs more frequent ear cleaning, you might consider alternating the use of this formula with a commercially available ear cleaning formula so long as the commercial ear cleaner also acidifies the ear.

### *The Good-Why it Works*

In case you are wondering why this formula works, here is the scoop. Gentian violet is a fairly powerful antiseptic. Antiseptics are agents that destroy or inhibit the growth and development of microorganisms in or on living tissue. Unlike antibiotics that act selectively on a specific target, antiseptics have multiple targets and a broader spectrum of activity. Gentian Violet was quite popular prior to World War II, especially in veterinary use. It is particularly good at killing fungus like yeast and Staphylococcus bacteria, both big culprits in ear infections. For it to truly work, the solution needs to be in contact with the fungus or bacteria for a minimum of sixty seconds. So filling the ear canal and massaging it around for a minute is a good idea. I suggest you warm the solution slightly as you would a baby bottle in a warm water bath to make it more comfortable for the dog and to help the alcohol (also an antiseptic) dissolve the wax build-up. **Be sure to test the temperature on your own wrist before pouring it into the ear canal.** The boric acid in the recipe helps to acidify the pH of the ear canal making it an inhospitable environment for nasty beasties to grow back.

### *The Bad-Some of the Dangers*

Now why, if this stuff is so great, don't we see commercial preparations of this formula? One reason is that **Gentian Violet is a mild carcinogen** (cancer causing agent). Studies at the National Center for Toxicological Research (and similar studies listed below) have shown Gentian Violet to be a thyroid and liver carcinogen for laboratory animals like rats, mice and rabbits. Another reason is that Gentian Violet is toxic to the sensitive cilia cells of the inner ear. **If some of the solution happens to seep through a perforated eardrum it can cause a debilitating and permanent dizziness or deafness. If your dog has a perforated eardrum or a middle ear infection, do not use this product until the eardrum has healed and the middle ear infection is resolved.** A third consideration is its reported effects on the fetus. **Pregnant ani-**

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**mals in the Gentian Violet studies showed fetal abnormalities including those to the musculoskeletal and urogenital systems. Gentian violet also affected fertility and was deemed the cause of a high rate of post-implantation mortality (either death or reabsorption of the fetus).**

These risk factors make the product a potential liability for large-scale commercial production where injury to people or pets often results in lawsuits. The FDA has banned its use as a food preservative and discourages its use in human medical and veterinary preparations designed for chronic (every day) use although the agency seems to have no problem with occasional use.

**Note 2008: A small company now offers a commercial preparation of this formula sold under the Liquid Health label. The product is called "Liquid Health K-9 Ear Solutions" and may be found on the web. This product differed from the conventional recipe in that it also contains colloidal silver as an additional antiseptic.**

### *The Ugly-More is Not Better*

Please don't use more gentian violet than is recommended in the formula. Antiseptics, like Gentian Violet, have been found to be toxic not only to bacteria and fungus, but also to cells essential to the wound healing process, such as fibroblasts, keratinocytes, and leukocytes. However, this cell toxicity appears to be concentration dependent. In other words, in low (recommended) concentrations, antiseptics like Gentian Violet retain their antibacterial and anti fungal activity, but they don't end up killing off beneficial cells.

### *The Moral of the Story*

When used properly this is a good ear cleaner/disinfectant. It has been reported to stop some ear infections when all other treatments have failed. Given the research studies, especially the cancer studies, it may not be advisable to use this as your dog's only ear cleaner, but it is a good product to get ears back under control. The fetal death and abnormality studies suggest that it is not advisable to use this product on a pregnant or lactating bitch. The risks of fetal abnormality are just too high. Colloidal silver preparations and non-staining iodine compounds work almost as well as Gentian violet preparations and have been shown to be very safe. Many commercial preparations are also very good and very safe. Look for those that do not contain chlorhexidine (also can cause birth defects) and state that the product leaves the ear acidified to discourage re-growth of bacteria and yeast.

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Many questions can be answered by looking on the ASC web site:

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