

Capital City Cocker Club

Cocker Chatter

Volume 7 Issue 1

January/February 2003

Officers May 2002 - May 2003

President - Luann Chandler **Vice President** - Lloyd Alton
Treasurer - Dorothy Heindsmann
Secretary - Nancy Bean (703) 670-0816 e-mail Partispanl@aol.com

Next Board Meeting: Wed. 2/19 at 8:00 p.m. - Chesterbrook UMC, McLean, Va.

Next General Meeting: Wed. 2/19 following board meeting, approximately 8:15 p.m.

Inside this issue....

- 1. Brags**
- 2. Announcements**
- 3. CCCC Website**
- 4. 2002 Holiday Party Report**
- 5. President's New Year Message**

Brags

From Jean Sherrick: "Toby" finished his CD at Howard County in November with scores of 188 and 185.

From Joan Kasper: At the January ASC, our black puppy dog, Vista's Spirit of Love, placed 3rd in his 6-9 mos. Futurity class and was handled by Ryan Wolfe.

From Diane Kepley: Did you catch Diane Kepley and Melissa Frye on ESPN-2's "Sporting Dog Chronicles"? In the December show, Diane discussed the breed's history, temperament and ability to work in the field. The opening shots and Diane's description of the breed feature her ASCOB puppy bitch "Clarice" (Never Blue's Sweet Dreams). Diane also talked about the differences between English and American Cocker Spaniels. Melissa brought out her black and tan boy "Hunter" (Ch. Skyrocket's Upland Special) to demonstrate hunting in the field. There were cameo appearances by Hunter's black and tan puppies and by Diane's black dog "Jamie" (Westhaven's Show Stopper) and her black bitch "Bailey" (NorthYork It's Showtime). The program also included a field demonstration by an English Cocker trainer (Mike Gilpin) with field-bred Cockers imported from England. A veterinarian who discussed some of the eye problems associated with Cocker Spaniels rounded out the show.

From the Slagles: C'lestial's American Glory (9-11-01),(CH Julre's Untamed Heart X Desert Rose's Celestial Kiss) handled by Tom Dowell took Winner's Bitch for a 4 point major on Friday February 7th at the Speciality in Secaucus, NJ

*Brag*s (cont'd)

From Edie Allyn: On Oct. 19, 2002, "Spirit" earned her Master Agility Champion title at Mattaponi KC's Agility Trial. The journey took 3 ½ years, 120,000+ miles and untold thousands of dollars. We earned points in California, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Texas, North Carolina, and Ohio. There may be others. I never have to ask what I am doing any given weekend - I just look up what trial we are going to! To earn a MACH, a dog must earn 750 points, which represents one full second under course time the dog ran on. So, if the standard course time was 74 and your dog ran it in 64.6, you have earned 9 points. If you place 1st or 2nd, there is a multiplier of twice or 1.5, accordingly. Anyway, you also have to earn 20 "double Qs". That means you not only have to qualify on the Excellent Standard course, but you also have to qualify on the Excellent Jumpers course on the same day. Clear as mud, right? It is difficult.

Spirit became the 11th Cocker Spaniel in the country with the elusive title. Her mother - Trish Jackson's Ch. Pett's Southwest Breeze MH CD produced three litters. One litter produced a Breed Champion. One litter produced a Field Champion and one litter gave me Spirit - a newly crowned MACH. Spirit also placed 12th in the International Class 12" height at the AKC National Championships (in a field of around 100 or so.)

I am truly blessed to have been able to share the journey with all of its twists and turns and secrets hiding around the corners with the best dog in the world. Spirit is now on Agility sabbatical on Cape Cod - working toward her Master Hunter title.

From Nancy Bean: I am happy to announce that "Lacey" (U-ACHX, U-CDX EZ Back To Skool Saddle Shoe VCD2 CDX TD MX MXJ CGC TT) finished her Master Excellent Jumpers title on February 2. It took a lot of trials to garner the 10 required legs, but the end of the journey was worth the trip!

Announcements

1. The AKC sanctioned agility match held on Nov. 23 was a rousing success. Everyone who came and helped had a great time and managed to keep warm. Many thanks to all who came and helped out and to those who helped in the substantial planning job - Katie Knepley, Edie Allyn, Felicia Mazur, and Joanne Dzenkowski. Beth Slagle even came though she was sick - just to make sure we had refreshments and lunch. That was over and above the call of duty! As a result of the successful match, the AKC granted us a license to hold all-breed AKC agility trials. We are currently trying to plan our first weekend of trials. We are currently negotiating with a horse arena for its use - probably in November 2003. We will keep you updated. Thanks, Nancy
2. The premium list has been turned in to MB-F for preparation for our May 2003 Specialty Shows and Obedience Trial. Don't forget to let Bill Gorodner know if you have an ad for the catalog and/or would like to repeat your ad from last year. The sooner you let him know, the better - as May will come quickly.
3. We would like to welcome a new member - Noreen Dunlap from Gore, Va. Welcome, Noreen!

CCCC Website

The new club web site, <http://www.capitalcitycockers.org> was launched on November 7th. If you wish your kennel name listed, your web site listed, have links or books to add, or have any other comments, suggestions, or gripes, email me at jim.slagle@erols.com or admin@capitalcitycockers.org.

The goal is to make our site the BEST Cocker site out there and a reference point for anyone interested in the American Cocker Spaniel.

Jim Slagle

2002 Holiday Party Report

Bill Gorodner

On December 14th, the doors of Tallymark were thrown open by Luann and Bill for all to enjoy hospitality and holiday cheer. To put it mildly, 'twas a groaning board full of goodies that reflected the talents and cheeriness of the membership. At first, the group nibbled and talked, then we really ate and as always, the highlight was the rollicking good time of the gift exchange game. The faux grinchiness, which is untypical of the Yule season is always OK during this game as it prolongs it! Finally, after everyone was sated by his or her gift, the game was over and again we nibbled and gossiped. And as we said to one and all "good night", the hope was that next Yule - y'all will be there.

President's New Year Message

Luann Chandler

The following is from a letter I received from my brother and his wife in lieu of a Christmas card. It occurred to me that this is an outlook we all could live by, whether in the context of the "dog world" or otherwise. I don't have a name to credit with the author of this, but we can enjoy and learn from it anyway.

A Philosophy professor stood before his class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks about 2" in diameter.

He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was. So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles, of course, rolled into the open areas between the rocks. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor picked of a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He then asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with an unanimous yes.

The professor then produced two cans of beer from under the table and proceeded to pour their entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand.

The students laughed. "Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The rocks are the important things - your family, your partner, your health, your children - things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else. The small stuff."

If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Hug your cocker (I took a little license here) ." There will always be time to work, clean the house, give a dinner party and fix the disposal. Take care of the rocks first - the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the beer represented. The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem , there's always room for a couple of beers."

My glass is raised to wish each of you in our "cockerdom", a happy and successful New Year and may all of your successes come from rocks and all your failures come from sand.

Luann

Don't forget.....

CCCC Specialty Show and Obedience Trial.....Friday May 16, 2003
CCCC Specialty Show (with Mattaponi KC Show).....Saturday May 17, 2003

- **Please let Lloyd know if you can help out at the Specialty Show. We can use your help!**
- **Also, let Nancy know if you can steward in the obedience trial. She needs your help, too.**
- **Make sure to let Bill know if you will be submitting an ad for the catalog.**

2003 CCCC All-Breed Agility Trials

Plans are being made for the maiden voyage of CCCC All-Breed Agility Trials. We are negotiating for an indoor horse arena site in the Dale City, Va. area for the weekend of Nov. 15-16, 2003. We are hoping to acquire this site and date, which will both need to be approved by AKC after we submit formal application. We will need your help at trial time (and maybe beforehand, too!), as a lot of manpower will make the difference in holding successful trials. As members found out at the match, novices can be trained! Help us further our club goals by pitching in - and thanks in advance for your support. This annual activity will be just what the doctor ordered for our club treasury, which really needs a shot in the arm!

Thanks...! from Nancy Bean and the Agility Committee.