



President's message

I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone involved in the newly reorganized North American Dalmatian Club. We have barely been operating a month and we have a newsletter, a website, and a fall specialty show in the works. We also have many people eager to support our efforts to build a club that embraces the Dalmatian and the people who love it.

Since April is DCA month, I would like to focus our membership on the goals of our LUA National Exhibit. My hope is that the DCA membership will be as impressed with our dogs and our mission as I was when

the project was first explained to me. Our goal in Kentucky is education. The people and dogs there are all ambassadors for this project. Talk to the membership about your dogs and your devotion to the project. I know many of you (along with myself) are eager for AKC recognition, but that is not the focus of this exhibit. Our focus is the health of the breed and the continuation of the LUA lines for that purpose.

We have a lot of work to do, but we are a good group, with a good mission. I can't wait to meet everyone and their dogs. See you in Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Carol L. Chase
North American
Dalmatian Association
President

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Getting Started in UKC Events

Welcome to the wide, wild world of dog shows. If you've never shown a dog before, but think you might like to, UKC shows are a great place to start. If you've been showing in AKC events, take a deeeeeeeep breath and relax. UKC events are a whole lotta fun and much more laid back!

So, how to get started? If your pup came from a UKC litter and has already been registered, you're ready to go. If you haven't sent in the registration application – do it! Then all you need to do is to decide which events you want to do with your Dal – conformation, agility, obedience, weight pull, retrieving? There's a lot to choose from. One of the great things about UKC events is that they'll allow just about any breed to play, even if it is not an event was originally intended for your breed. Glenys Keith's Norton (U-CDX U-AChX U-WP U-GrCh AKC Ch Glendale's Biker Boy Norton CDX OAP NAJP NA NAJ NAC NJC) was the first Dalmatian to ever earn a UKC Weight Pull title. Boy weren't those American Pit Bull Terriers surprised!?

If your Dal came from an AKC litter, it is very easy to cross register them in UKC. If you're fast approaching a UKC event (like in less than 3 weeks), you can get a **Temporary Listing Number** to use to identify your dog

until a formal UKC registration has been completed. Temporary Listing Numbers are good for 60 days. You can get one by calling UKC (269-343-9020) with a credit card number and some basic information from your dog's AKC papers. Or you can apply for a TL on-line at .

To keep any points or "legs" that your dog earns while competing under a TL, you must apply for UKC registration. If you do not do so within the 60 days following the issuing of the TL, you run the risk of losing them. You can pay an additional fee above and beyond the registration fee to regain those points or "legs" but it is so easy to apply that there is no excuse to have to do this. To register and AKC Dal with UKC, you'll need to complete the UKC registration form (downloadable at) and return it with a photocopy of your Dal's AKC registration certificate. You will need to fill in your Dal's pedigree on the application form, but it is *not necessary* to send a certified pedigree.

OK! Now You're UKC Registered, Now What?

To find UKC events in your area, visit the UKC website at . You'll find a complete listing of all the UKC events there including conformation, agility, obedience, weight pull, terrier races, total dog (conformation & obedience at

the same show), dog sport (protection work), merit club (all-breed stakes based on titled offspring) and total junior (junior handlers participating in multiple events with their dogs). You can search by event, by state or by date.

Don't find Dals listed in the breeds included? NO PROBLEM! One of the other nice things about UKC events is that they can be modified as the need arises. If there is a show near you that does not list Dals as one of the breeds being judge, contact the event secretary. Very often, they'll add Dalmatians to their list. If no one in your area has been showing Dals in UKC events, they may not realize there is an interest. But once you do start going, be prepared for lots of interest in your spotted friends.

Just Found An Event THIS Weekend?

Again, very often NO PROBLEM! Many UKC events allow day of entry (with a slightly higher entry fee). UKC shows are generally smaller and self-superintended and so have greater flexibility.

Next month – A look at UKC obedience and how to prepare.

A few Editor comments:

If you have a litter planned, a stud, or any kind of brag please let me know. I would love to add it to the newsletter. I also need any web addresses you would like to see listed monthly in the newsletter.

Any subject you would like to see covered? Clip art or pictures you can share

for the newsletter. Anyone interested in doing a column? Jokes and dog humor are also welcome.

This is just the second issue and hopefully it will improve with age—as all of us have ;-).

We still need a better name for the newsletter.

My first Dal was a year old male when I was six. You can't beat this breed and I plan on dedicating this newsletter to all the Dals's I have loved.

Health Issues by Corinne James

Dizzy Dogs

Peripheral Vestibular Syndrome is not a Dalmatian problem; it can affect any dog. I am writing about it because the onset can be alarming and panicked owners may opt to euthanize dogs who might have recovered. When our 14 yr old Dal developed this problem a month ago, I was glad that I had read about it sometime in the last couple of years. I hope this reminder will help someone else.

Your elderly dog gets up from a nap, staggering and tilting his head to one side. When you look closely, you see his eyes darting rapidly back and forth. He falls and seems unable to get up. He may circle or

even roll over and over. He may also vomit.

The vestibular apparatus, located in the middle ear, is responsible for balance, equilibrium and posture. Tiny hairs cells in the middle ear are bathed in fluid and communicate movements of the head to the brain and brain stem. The brain and brain stem, in turn, coordinate the limbs, neck, torso and eyes with the information from the middle ear.

The symptoms listed in the first paragraph are an indication of an inflammation or other disturbance in the vestibular apparatus or in the nerves that carry the information from there to the brain.

The most common problem in dogs is Peripheral Vestibular Syndrome, which occurs in middle-aged and older dogs. It may also be referred to as Old Dog Vestibular Syndrome. Peripheral Vestibular Syndrome may be caused by an infection in the middle ear or it may be idiopathic – meaning no cause can be identified. While there is no need to panic, dogs with Vestibular symptoms should be examined by a veterinarian.

Infections of the middle ear are suspected if there is an infection in the outer ear or a history of such infections. Vestibular problems caused by infections should resolve with antibiotic treatment.

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Meet the Board; President Carol Chase

My story is like many of yours. I started in 1979 with a pet Dalmatian named MS Dixie CD. "Dixie" was a hardheaded, obnoxious, irritating, and an overly vocal pest. She drove me to learn all I could about animal behavior and communication. With this knowledge I received a BS in Animal Behavior/Communication and Psychology. Little did I know then, that this exact knowledge, many years later, would save my son from the silences of Autism.

My second dog, Ch Fiacre's Hot Toddy CD, single handedly, introduced me to the person who is now my husband (of 21 years). He walked across a crowded convention

center, not to see me, but to see my dog! He was later attracted to me too (thank God) but the dog was his initial motive. There is no one more perfect for me. I now teach Middle School Science and Computers (hmmm do you think Animal Behavior comes in handy there?) I enjoy getting

away to dog shows to just relax with my dogs and my friends. I have had many great show dogs; multiple group winners, multiple sweepstakes winners, BISS winners, DCA BOS, WD, AOM winners, and on and on but



Carol and LUA Fiona

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Whelping Box, Puppies and Studs—BRAGS

Amy's Jammy, Ch Anticipation Celebration CD RAE RD NAJ NA NF won a Top Spot Award - Novice Standard #8 and Novice Jumpers #9



Carol Chase's "Gibson", Ch Fiacre's Calling Card CD RN was number 4 sire for 2007!! And has earned a Top Spot Award.

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Health Issues

There is no treatment for dogs with Idiopathic Peripheral Vestibular Syndrome, but the good news is the symptoms in most dogs begin to resolve within a few days and a complete or near-complete recovery should occur within a few weeks. It is not clear if the dog gets better or becomes accustomed to being dizzy.

Anti-nausea medication can help dogs that seem "sea-sick". Most dogs are content to lie still until symptoms resolve. If symptoms are severe or the dog is agitated, a mild sedative may be prescribed. Some vets will hospitalize affected dogs, providing IV sedation and fluids.

Owners should provide the dog with a safe place where they will not be injured if they fall. It may be necessary to hand-feed and water dogs with vestibular symptoms because they will be unable to manage the fine motor control required for eating and drinking. You may need to support the dog during trips outside using a sling under the abdomen.

If improvement is not evident within a few days to a week, another call to the veterinarian is in order. X-rays or other imaging of the middle ear may be helpful to look for abnormalities not evident in an examination of the external ear. There are more serious, less common causes that can underlie vestibular symptoms, including brain tumors and blood clots, that your vet may consider.

Some dogs do not recover entirely and may have residual symptoms like a persistent head tilt. This probably will bother the owner more than the dog since the dogs do not seem to notice.

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Carol Chase

friends are what makes it fun. When people ask me, "Why a Dalmatian?," I say because they provide light in my life. They are pure happiness and they can transmit that happiness to others. See, you just smiled.

Carol Chase Healy Fiacre Dalmatians

NADA

NORTH AMERICAN DALMATIAN

Dedicated to the promotion of the sound healthy Dalmatian
An ancient breed with much to offer; in obedience, agility, conforma-

A National is planned for the near future. Info will be posted here as soon as plans are made.

There are some great web pages with more info about our ambitious project:

www.dalmatianheritage.com

www.ukcdogs.com

nadals.org

A Little Humor, or not

The Heeling Test

Please have your Novice dog choose the correct answers

Heel on lead means

- A) Walk kinda behind your handler, always staying out of peripheral vision.
- B) Have fun playing, this may include biting the lead, pants, or a playful nip to the heel of your handler.
- C) This is really a towing exercise. Either tow your handler or be towed by them.
- D) All of the above.

Figure Eight is for

- A) Making friends with the posts.
- B) Your last chance to play with the lead.
- C) A good time to practice those Stays.
- D) All of the above.

The Stand for Exam is for

- A) Licking the judge.
- B) Sleeping.
- C) Checking out the audience and finding new folks you want to meet.
- D) All of the above.

Heel Free means

- A) Sniff until something interests you then wander away from your handler.

- B) Time to meet those friendly people you had your eye on during the Stand.
- C) Time to show your potential for Utility and do a "Go Out".
- D) All of the above.

Recall means

- A) Hummmmm I don't recall what this means better just sit here.
- B) Run as fast as you can to your handler and jump on them.
- C) Run to that spot that smelled so interesting and proceed to check it out.
- D) Alternate all of the above responses.

Finish?

- A) I'm almost finished.

Stays are for

- A) Twitching to freak out your handler.
- B) Licking your parts. Like you are a guest on the Howard Stern Show.
- C) This is a play time. I guess I better get it started.
- D) Just pick one or two of the above.

CD means

- A) Nothing
- B) Creative Dog
- C) Confused Dog
- D) Clueless Dog

via Showdals-L