



President's Message

Dear membership,
We have accomplished so much this month that I barely have time to write this before it goes off to the presses.

We had a very successful LUA presentation at DCA this last week. Many many supportive people. A special thank you to all who attended and to Tracy Tempke

for all the wonderful informational material and the beautiful narration of our 15 minute LUA ring time. The NADA National Specialty is in the works. It will be held in beautiful Davis, CA on October 18,



Carol, Bob and Hannah



2008. Our judge will be Thomas Tracy (also an AKC sporting judge). After the show we will be having lunch and a guest speaker - Dr. Irv Krukenkamp! More info to follow.
Sincerely,
Carol Chase

Officers and Board Members

President	Carol Chase	fiacredals@aol.com
Vice President	Amy Marrich	amy@abbeyroadsdals.com
Corresponding Secretary	Marion Mitchell	dalcrazy@cybermesa.com
Recording Secretary	Corinne James	fsdals@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dana Carey	danascostumes@hotmail.com
	Board Member:	
	Denise Powell	wellbredK9s@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor

Carol Hunter
dalsncars@gmail.com
P.O. Box 382
Vernon AZ 85940
928-242-8464

Inside this issue:

LUA's at DCA by Denise Powell	2
Health Issues in the Dal, Corinne James	3
Meet your Board - Vice President Amy Marrich	3
Wheping box, studs, puppies and brags	4

Report on LUA's at DCA by Denise Powell

At the end of April many NADA members went to Ft Mitchell, Kentucky to participate in a presentation of UKC Dalmatians at the AKC Dalmatian club's National. The AKC Dal club (DCA) invited owners of UKC Dalmatians with low uric acid (LUA) to bring the dogs for their members to see. The recent discovery of the gene that controls uric acid levels in Dalmatians caused renewed interest in LUA Dalmatians. For the past two years, the AKC Dalmatian club (DCA) has been considering reversing its longstanding opposition to LUA Dalmatians.

Many NADA members own LUA Dalmatians and were invited to bring their dogs to Kentucky. NADA treasurer, Dana Carey and I flew from San Francisco to the Cincinnati airport which was a short way from Fort Mitchell, KY where the event was held. NADA's president Carol Chase flew in from Reno. Vice-president Amy Marrich and club member, Mary-Lynn Jensen drove from Florida. Soon to be NADA members, Bob Schaible, Sara Ledgerwood, Jonathan Bastasich brought their dogs. All in all ten UKC Dalmatians were there for AKC club members to see.

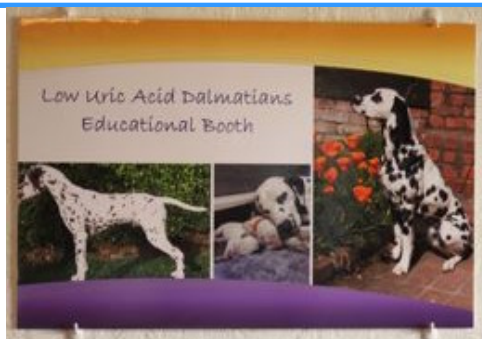


On Sunday, April 27th after the judging of AKC Dals finished, the ten UKC Dals were brought into the show ring. One by one, beginning with the youngest, seven month old Ch Fiacre's First and Foremost (Fiona) and ending with ten year old Ch Stocklore Top Spot (Topper) the dogs were called out of line, gaited around the ring before standing in the center as the announcer, Tracie Tepke, read a brief bio of the dog. The audience of about 140 was able to get a good look at a representative sample of LUA Dalmatians. In the following days, a number of people who at-



tended told me they were moved to tears during the presentation. The event was videoed by Irv Krukenkamp and DVDs will be available soon.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday DCA set up a booth where their club members could get pamphlets about the LUA project and information sheets about individual dogs and meet the dogs up close and personal. Tracie Tepke did an outstanding job of preparing material for the booth. In addition to the printed material, Carol Chase made a beautiful slide show set to music that was projected on a wall of the booth.



Normally, non-AKC dogs are not allowed at AKC events so DCA had to make special provisions for the UKC Dalmatians to be there. We were not allowed to bring our dogs on the show grounds except during the presentation on Sunday. The booth was set up just outside the show grounds and it was surrounded by a double set of barriers to keep AKC dogs separated from UKC dogs. We laughingly referred to the space between the barriers as the moat and put some toy alligators in there as a joke.

I don't know for sure how many people visited the booth during the



three days it was up, but it seemed like hundreds. The dogs enjoyed all the attention and the fact that so many visitors gave them treats.

On Sunday evening after the parade, NADA members and future members went to dinner together. We did not tell Bob Schaible in

(Continued on page 4)

Health Issues in the Dal by Corinne James

LUA Dalmatians, A Short Story

It has been known since the early twentieth century that the urine of purebred Dalmatians contained uric acid concentrations 6-10 times higher than the urine of other dogs. This higher concentration of uric acid is sufficient to cause the formation of crystals in Dalmatian urine samples which are refrigerated or left to stand at room temperature.

For some Dalmatians, crystals form while the urine is still in the bladder and, under the right conditions, the crystals coalesce to form larger solid particles which can inhibit or even completely block the flow of urine. Uric acid stones are round and smooth, so bitches, with short straight urethras, generally eventually pass stones silently. The urethra of the male dog is longer and turns a corner in the vicinity of the os penis bone, where even small solids may become lodged.

Symptoms of partial urinary blockage are painful urination, a weak stream and blood in the urine. Dogs with complete urinary blockage will be in considerable distress. Complete blockage will result in death if the blockage is not removed quickly.

The percentage of Dals for whom stones are a veterinary problem is unknown; estimates range from ~3% to ~25%. At the DCA National Specialty in 2005 and 2006, Dr. Suzanne Hughes preformed ultrasound exams of the bladders of 377 Dalmatians (173 females and 202 males). 71% of the males examined had solid material in their bladders, 40.6% of the male dogs had solid particles of 1 mm or greater diameter. Only 25% of the females showed solid material in the bladder; approximately 13% of the bitches harbored calculi greater than 1 mm in diameter.

Environmental factors can reduce the probability of stone formation in

Dalmatians and knowledgeable owners manage their dogs to minimize the concentration of urinary uric acid by encouraging water consumption and feeding a diet low in purine containing proteins. They also ensure the dog has frequent access to the outdoors so that uric acid does not sit in the bladder for extend periods. Some owners provide distilled water for their Dalmatians to eliminate minerals that may be a factor in the crystallization of uric acid in the urine. Some also monitor the pH of the dog's urine since uric acid is more apt to crystallize under acidic conditions. Dogs who have previously formed stones may be treated with allopurinol, which also reduces the concentration of uric acid in the urine.

Environmental control and medical treatment do not eliminate stone formation for some Dalmatians.

PART TWO NEXT MONTH

Meet the Board: Vice President Amy Marrich

A love of horses brought me to Dalmatians as I looked for a dog that could go to the barn without fear of him chasing the horses and getting kicked. Buggy and I took conformation, obedience, agility and even tracking classes though we only got to a few conformation and obedience classes before I graduated ending our show careers pretty much as quickly as it had started. He wasn't the easiest dog in the world, but he was everything I could have hoped for in a fiercely loyal and protective black spotted package.

Eight years later a liver spotted boy would come into our lives when a friend called to say a litter of puppies had been bought from a drug dealer in Miami and I should come by the clinic to check them out. I couldn't not save one, so a liver boy named Pooh came home with us. My introduction to urate stones occurred less then a year later when Pooh blocked and



Amy and Ziggy

had a urethrostomy.

When Buggy started getting old I began the search for a puppy and what would be my new show dog. That puppy was my first Champion, CD(AKC and UKC), RD, NA, NAJ as well as being the first Dalmatian to earn RAE, unfortunately he too would

(Continued on page 4)

NADA

NORTH AMERICAN DALMATIAN ASSOCIATION

Dedicated to the promotion of the sound healthy Dalmatian
An ancient breed with much to offer;
in obedience, agility, conformation
and as a family companion

The NADA National Specialty
will be Oct 18, 2008 in (or
around) Davis, CA. Judge will
be Tom Tracy.
More info to follow

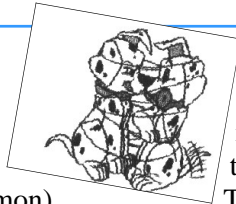
(AMY) Continued from page 3)

be a stone former as well and was neutered just prior to his second birthday.

Despite these two heartbreaks my love of dalmatians never tarnished and a week before Buggy passed over the rainbow bridge Ziggy was born. Ziggy earned his UKC championship and has so far earned CD, RD and RE titles and has started training for a CDX while we compete in agility. Always the first to reach the door to go with me, Ziggy fills that role that first brought me to the breed going to the barn every weekend and acting as an ambassador with all the lesson kids and their parents.

When the opportunity became available to participate in the Heritage project my now husband agreed to that forbidden fourth dog and Cubby made his way to South Florida. What does the future hold? Well we're hoping for lots more letters on the backend of the older boys' names and letters on both sides of the little liver boy from California!

Whelping Box, Puppies, Studs and Brags



mon).

met some really nice people. Also learned a lot for our upcoming specialty.

Carol Chase brags, in two days (and 4 shows), Fiona racked up enough points to be a UKC CH. She is now Multiple Breed Best In Show CH Fiacre's First and Foremost (6 The other 3 shows she was Reserve BIS. Lots of fun and

LUA's at DCA (Continued from page 2)

advance, but he was the guest of honor at the dinner. Sara Ledgerwood had secretly contacted Bob's wife, Cathy, and she drove over from Indiana to be there when



NADA president, Carol Chase presented Bob with a plaque in appreciation for his 35 years of dedication to improving Dalmatian health.

We had intended to have a NADA meeting at the restaurant after the award festivities but they tend to roll up the sidewalks early in that part of Kentucky and the restaurant shooed us out around 9 o'clock. So we had our meeting back at the hotel.

There were only two things on the agenda - voting on changes to the Bylaws and approving new members. The proposed changes to the Bylaws had been discussed by NADA members for some time in advance of the meeting so little discussion was needed before voting on each of the proposed changes. The following people submitted applications before the meeting Lesley Beals, Irv Krukenkamp, June Krukenkamp, Terry Mitchell, Tracie Tepke, Dennis Trout and Karen Trout. Their applications were approved at the meeting as well as three other applications submitted that evening from Sherry Cornwell, Sara Ledgerwood and John Montany. Those three are all longtime Dalmatian owners known by a number members who were at the meeting.

NADA is still a very small club and our members are scattered all across the country. Opportunities for us to get together in person are rare. I really enjoyed seeing so many members in Kentucky and look forward to our next gathering in California in October.