



COACHING Lines

MARCH 2012



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members of the Dalmatian Club of Southern New England.

It is with great passion and love for our amazing Dalmatians that I find myself here today, writing my first President's letter to the membership of the Dalmatian Club of Southern New England. Over 20 years have passed from the time I attended my first DCSNE meeting. I take on this challenge with excitement for the future and gratitude for those that have served before me. This year's officers and board members represent diversity, bringing to the table a balance in breed interests. This strength will lead our club into a very bright future.

The East coast and the membership of the DCSNE have brought forward some of the finest Dalmatians in History. To Name a few, Pauline and Helene Masaschi's amazing Samantha, Bob and Judy Rivard and Mrs. Walter Smith's lovely KC, Jackie Quinn's heroic Logan, Ed and Prue Stuhr's incomparable Brambles. More recently, Sara Pruyne, Linda McSherry, Sue MacMillan, Joan Eversole, Jeff Langevin and Bertha Little's stunning Daisy, Sara Pruyne's diverse Catrina and Corey, and Linda McSherry's outstanding Maeve. How honored I am to have been a witness to the above. How exciting to realize what the future is sure to bring.

2012 is full speed ahead. This addition of Coaching Lines is awesome! Thank you, editor Karen McNamara. Our specialty is on track to be an amazing event. Thank you show chairman, Normand Caton. Without Norm, I'm not sure what we would do. With many requests from the membership, our trophies have been changed. Thank you, Barbara Partridge and Prue Stuhr. This year, among our trophy offerings, are the beautiful Carson States cast metal club logo plates. Similar to those offered by our parent club, DCA, and produced by the same company. These trophies are a commemorative piece that will surely be a collectible for the future and highly desired. The deadline of April 1st for trophy donations is fast approaching. If you haven't done so already, please, please contribute. Without your generous donations we will not have trophies. The smallest donation will not be overlooked.

With the buzz among the membership over the possibility of relocating our specialty, I'd like to point out and remind the membership over and above everything that our current location on Cape Cod offers stability and consistency. This has huge value. I strongly urge the membership not to over look this stability and our lengthy relationship with the people of South Shore KC.

In closing, I'm looking forward to the possibility of Dalmatian performance demonstrations to be held at future DCSNE meetings.

Always the best,
Richard Baker,
Dalmatian club of Southern New England
President

SPECIALTY JUDGES

September 13, 2012 (Thurs) Cape Cod KC

September 14, 2012 (Fri) Specialty #1
Dalmatian Club of Southern New England
South Shore KC: E. Falmouth, MA
Conformation: Mr. John Cramer, Baldwin city, KS
Sweepstakes: Mr. Philip Capozzolo from Holtsville, NY

September 15, 2012(Sat) Specialty #2
Dalmatian Club of Southern New England
South Shore KC: E. Falmouth, MA
Conformation: Dr. Charles Garvin, Marion, Ohio
Sweepstakes: Ms Lynn Garvin, Marion, Ohio

September 16, 2012 (Sun) Supported entry
Conformation: TBA
Sweeps: Ms Naida Parker, Rochester, MA



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TROPHY FUND

Pauline had sent out a letter and form about trophy donations. If you are interested in donating please get your form back to her by April 15th otherwise the contribution will not make the premium list.

We had some wonderful trophies last year and I'm sure we would like to continue the tradition.

There are also loop leashes available for purchase. See the ad to the right.

I know I will be adding one to my collection because I find the loop leashes indispensable.

Loop leashes for Sale to benefit Trophy Fund
DCSNE name on each leash. Thickness is comfortable for leading.



Leashes are
6 feet long
and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch
thick

Leashes are \$20.00, cash or check: Choice of **Black** or **Red**
Purchase at meetings or shows. Check payable to:
Prudence G. Stuhr~340 Bigelow Street, Marlborough, MA 01752
508-485-7227

We have been getting good reports from people who have purchased a leash



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WHAT AGE CAN TRACK?

One question people often ask is at what age do I start training or is my dog too old.

When do puppies start to use their nose? At about 1 minute old. Next time you are sitting in the whelping box, listen carefully and you will hear the puppies sniff their way to their mother. Want to know what nipple has the most milk? That nipple must smell the best, too. Take a couple of puppies, move them a foot from Mom, and see who is the first to find their way back. Tracking dogs in the making. When the puppies are playing, try hiding treats and bones. Puppies who know how to use their nose will quickly find all the hidden treats.

Dogs must be 6 months old to enter an AKC tracking test, but all dogs must be certified before you can submit an entry for a tracking test. More on how to certify later. There is no such minimum age for certification. I have heard of puppies certifying at as

young as 10 weeks. A local breeder of German Sheperd Dogs has her pups certified before they go to their performance homes.

pup. So – tracking fills a wonderful void of what to do while my pup grows up!

Actual tracking training can start at

Tracking is one sport where true teamwork comes into play, and the dog is the team leader. The owner is there for support,

There are many books dedicated to tracking, and I won't go into which ones are best. Like all things dog, there are as many ways to train a dog to track as there are trainers. My favorites for starting are "Try Tracking" by DCA member Caroline Krauss, and "Enthusiastic Tracking" by Sil Saunders. Both provide instruction plans and are fun and easy to read and follow.

Tracking is a sport that dogs of any age can do without stress on young or old dog joints. Dogs need to mature mentally to compete in obedience and physically before starting agility training. Most experts recommend that owners do not overly exercise puppies and young dogs, but wait until they are physically mature – usually around 18 months at least for most Dalmatians. Training for the show ring doesn't usually mentally challenge a

6 to 7 weeks. Dalmatians of any age are food motivated, and I start my baby tracks with lots of food.

And, how old is too old?

If your Dalmatians can still smell, they can learn to track.

The biggest obstacle for tracking the older dog is the owner. OWNERS who have trained their dogs in obedience or agility may take some retraining.

Tracking is one sport where true teamwork comes into play, and the dog is the team leader. The owner is there for support, but cannot tell the dog where the track goes, that is the dog's responsibility. Dogs trained for other events are very aware of the handler's body language, and the owner must consciously work at not sending any signals to the dog, or they run the risk of sending the dog off the track and on the wrong tangent. The dogs may have to learn to





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trust themselves. It is not unusual to see older dogs standing on the track wait for the handler to help them out. The handler will learn a whole new understanding of patience and letting the dog do all the problem solving. Then there is the thrill when the DOG understand he is the team leader and



where he lead, the handler will follow. Many years ago at the National Specialty in Colorado there was a brief Introduction to Tracking seminar held in the evening in a lot adjacent to the host hotel. The local training club was very against the use of food in tracking training. Of course they also had mainly Golden Retrievers and trained for obedience the “old fashioned” way without food. My Dals just didn’t seem to learn. Enter the seminar and the presenter saying, “They are Dalmatians. They work for food”. Bingo, sudden tracking dogs. I start young puppies at 8 weeks on a baby size harness, 8 foot leash and

LOTS of food and articles. What are articles? Socks, scarfs, bandanas, work gloves, any small piece of clothing that smells like you. Do not wash them ahead of time, the stinkier the better. Use food and praise to encourage that youngster to follow his nose and find things. Every effort is rewarded with praise. Tracking is hard mental work, so keep the lessons short and positive. Slowly add distance and age of the track. Read everything you can. During those cold winter months or blazing hot summer months when you are confined indoors is a great time to challenge those puppies to use their nose. There are lots of new ideas for “Nose Games”, but they all involve help you puppy to strength their scenting and discrimination skills.

I would love to hear stories about old dogs, and young dogs, tracking. I know that one of the successful Tracking Dogs last year were started young, and then went on to other things. Many years later she still remembered the game and succeeded in horrible weather conditions, showing that while their bodies might start to let them down, the nose keeps working just fine.

I would love to receive requests for information in future articles. Have a particular problem? Please feel free to drop me an email – I love to talk all things tracking. My email is spotme@megalink.net.

Sara Pruyne



Hide their favorite toy and have them search to find it. Have a child hide and play “Hide and Seek”.



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DCSNE MEMBERS RECEIVED AWARDS ON JANUARY 29, 2012 (TITLES ACHIEVED ARE IN BOLD)

Plaques were presented to:

Barbara & Dave Garceau

CH Southern Exposure Abby of Bedlam CDX, RE, **NF, RD**

GCH S.Xposur N Dynastys Chasin Neon Rainbows CD, **RE**

CH Shamrock N S.Xposur Annemae CD, **RE**

Pauline Masaschi

CH Canal-Side's Gianna of Manchester

Sandra Lajoie & Karen McNamara

CH Upton's Highland Hurrah

(Sandy & Karen opted to donate the cost of their plaque to DCSNE's trophy fund instead of receiving a plaque).

DCSNE BREEDER'S AWARDS: CERTIFICATES PRESENTED (TITLES ACHIEVED IS IN BOLD)

BARBARA & DAVID GARCEAU

- GCH S.Xposur N Dynasty's Chasin Neon Rainbows CD **RE CGC**
- CH Shamrock N S.Xposur AnnEMae CD **RE**
- CH Southern Exposure Abby of Bedlam CDX RE **NF RD**

Carol Langford

- CC's Gemini Dream **CGC**
- Delia Girl **CGC**

Pauline and Steven Caton

- CRESTLAN'S SOLAR ECLIPSE **CGC**
- CRESTLAN'S WE MET IN BROOKLYN **CGC**
- CRESTLAN STAR'S MISS PIXIE OF NORTH ANDOVER **CGC**

PAULINE MASASCHI & HELENE MASASCHI

- **CH** Canal-Sides Gianna of Manchester
- **GCH** Monarch 'N Canal-Sides Prophecy

Linda McSherry

- **CT** CH Patch MT's About Time CD RE OA NA VCD1 **VST ***
- CH Blackthorn's Violet of Patch MT OAJ NA **TDX**
- **CH** Patch MT's Legend in Time **RN TDX**



*Special mention of Maeve's two titles: She is one of 7 Dalmatians who achieved a Champion Tracker title. She did this by passing her Variable Surface Tracking (VST) in 2011. In earlier years she passed her Tracking Dog (TD) and her Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX). Congratulations to Maeve and Linda for this exceptional achievement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL FOR YOUR FINE WORK!

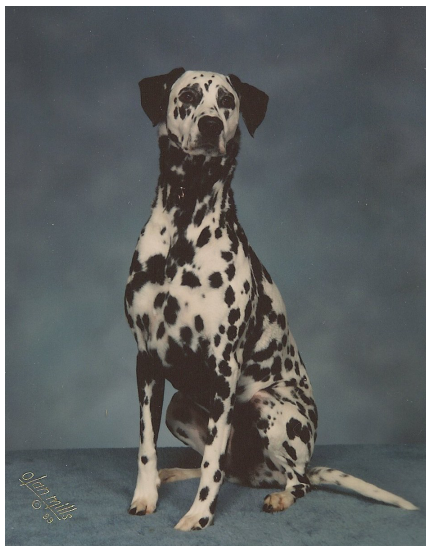


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The Versatile Sara Pruyne

My husband Don and I live in Greenwood Maine. We both served over 20 years in the U.S. Navy and served both overseas and at various bases on the east coast. We fell in love with Western Maine and have lived in our current house, a 100 year old farm house on 50 acres of fields and woods, for over 15 years.

Like so many other pet people, we fell on Dalmatians by chance. When we were stationed at the Naval Air Facility on the Lajes Islands, Azores, Portugal neighbors had a litter of Dalmatian puppies. I had been raised with dogs and my husband was a farm boy, so we just had to have a puppy. Panda was not registered, deaf, had seizures and most likely a stone former due to UTI infections her whole life. She lived to be over 9, and was the perfect running partner.



Once we were stationed in Key West I decided I wanted a Dal to show. Who hadn't watched Westminster and been

drawn in? So we went shopping. We still hadn't even thought to connect with a breeder. I was afraid they would just turn me down anyway. So, we found a kennel that just happened to have several litters available at the same time – and they even had dogs that could be shown in the ring! So, we bought Crystal and they threw in Cheeca for free – since she was deaf and we knew how to handle that! When we then transferred to Brunswick Maine I signed up for dog classes with Casco Bay Dog Training Club. Those classes led to some life time friendships and an addiction to performance events. Crystal went on to become Blackthorn Crystal of TPF's CDX RD Can CD and Cheeca became Blackthorn Cheeca Am/Can CD.

All my subsequent Dalmatians have been show AND performance Dals. They are:
CH Windlane Showcap Panda CDX Can CD RD; Am/Can CH Blackthorn Cosmic Stardust CDX RD NA; CH Alfredrich Jackson's Candygirl CD; CH Glen Oaks Paisley Pep Talk – taken way too young in life.

My current stars are: CT BISS CH PatchMt C Pepper N Paisley OA OAJ OJP RD RE CPC PAC Canadian TDX AG.N AG.N.J; CT GCH Blackthorn Coreopis of PatchMt OA NAJ RN Canadian CH TDX; GCH PatchMt Spring Thyme at Blackthorn TD. My resident "old" man at almost 15 is BIS Can CH Blackthorn Snowood Saturn RA – co-owned with Meg Hennessey. I continue to compete in performance titles and think all Dalmatians should have an active and involved life outside the show ring. I feel sorry for show dogs who are

done showing and then left home while



the owner moves on to the next show dog. Carina and Corey are amongst a very elite set of Dalmatian to be Champion Trackers and Champions of Record. Add in the agility titles and they become even more special. Corey is the first Champion Tracker and Grand Champion of any AKC breed – a true honor.

Tracking is my passion. I am currently the Chair of the Dalmatian Club of America's Tracking Committee and a regular contributor of tracking articles to the Spotter. I also compete in AKC agility events, but due to limited access to training facilities those titles are slower to happen on my dogs.

Finally, I own one registered Paint horse. Roxie is a great trail horse and we have put in many miles over the mountainside with my Dalmatians at our side. Road trials continue to be in our future.

I am a breeder on a very limited basis, having only done 4 breedings in



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over 25 years with Dalmatians. To have had such great success with those litters is a dream come true. All litters have produced at least one champion, all sires and dams have been AKC champions with health clearances.

In Carina's only litter she produced: BIS BISS Am/Can Ch Daisy* – the #1 Dalmatian for 2009, DCA Top Twenty winner and BOS at the National; Am/Can Ch Violet TDX OAJ NA Canadian TD; Am/Can Ch Corey CT OA NAJ RN; Ch Ghost RE TDI working on agility titles and Ch Tango RE OA OAJ ASCA CD.

We continue to plan our breedings to incorporate great working lines with breed winners. All dogs and bitches used in our breeding program have their CHIC number – proving our intention to work towards improving the breed. We want versatile Dalmatians with stable temperaments who can do it all!

Photos: Panda, Crystal, *Daisy was AKA Tulip, as a puppy, Sara on Roxie with Carina, Corey in the field (photo by Dawn Eliot-Johnson).

Sara Pruyne

www.blackthorndalmatians.com

CT Ch PatchMtn C Pepper N Paisley RE
OA OAJ OAP NIP NF RD CPC PAC CAN TDX
AG AGNJ BISS CT GCh Blackthorn Coreo-
pis of PatchMt RN NA NAJ Canadian CH
& TDX BIS Can Ch Blackthorn Snowood
Saturn RA Am/Can Ch Patch Mt Spring
Thyme at Blackthorn TD



ROXIE AND CARINA



COREY PHOTO BY DAWN ELLIOT JOHNSON



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Member Wins & Achievements December 10- March 5, 2012

Geri Rosen

Heegee's Autumn Splendor, (fondly called Autumn) bred Geri Rosen Carrie Collier & owned by Geri Rosen started her show career on 1/16/12 by going Winners Bitch & Best Opposite Sex, for her first point, at the Pasco Florida KC, Brooksville, FL, under Judge Dr. Robert Indeglia.

1/18/12, Autumn earns her second point by going Winners Bitch & Best of Winners at the Manatee KC, Brooksville, FL, under Judge Nikki Rigsbee.

On 1/21/12, Autumn goes Winners Bitch for a 3 point MAJOR, at the Clearwater KC, Brooksville, FL, under Judge Dr. J. Donald Jones.

On 2/5/12, at the Great Barrington KC, Springfield, MA, Autumn goes Reserve Winners Bitch to a 4 point Major, under Judge Kenneth Falconi.

Karen McNamara

Ch Upton's Highland Hurrah "Tipper" passed her CGC test on 2/6/2012. For anyone who thinks dog shows might not be a good environment for dogs. The experiences she had traveling to dog shows was invaluable towards her CGC. The other dogs in the class had a more difficult time with the greeting, grooming and being left alone with strangers although I have to admit we did have trouble with the down! But as Rick Krieger said "what show dog knows down"!

Linda McSherry

CT AM/CAN CH Patch Mountain's About Time AM/CAN CD, VCD1 RE, NAI, OA (Maeve) earned her third and final leg to earn her Agility Excellent Title with a second place at the Bull Mastiff Agility Trial in Amherst New Hampshire on January 12, 2012.

AM/CAN CH Blackthorn's Violet of Patch MT TDX, NA, OAJ (Violet) earned her third and final leg for her Agility Open Title with a 2nd place at the Tartan Gordon Setter Club Agility Trial, February 4/20 /12.

Pauline Masaschi

12/10/11 Eastern Dog Club Canal Side's Ciao Bella (Bella) owned by Lesley Sorenson & P & H Masaschi WB - judge: Marie Falconeer 1 pt

12/12/11 - Eastern Dog Club - Providence, BOB: GCH Mondarch N'Canal-Prophecy (Garth) Judge: Michael Dachel

12/12/12 - Canal Side's Ciao Bella (Bella) WB Judge Michael Dachel 1 pt.

1/13/12 Greater Lowell K.C. Canal Side's Imperator -(Barnsby) owned by P & H Masaschi and Dana Bannastini W.D. & BOW 2 pts

1/14/12 Fitchburg, MA GR CH Monarch N'Canal-Side's Prophecy (Garth) owned by P & H Masaschi - handled by Lesley Ann Potts - BOS

Prue & Ed Stuhr & Richard Baker

1/14/12 Riverside's Ticket to Ride: (RS High X RS Tache) Breeder: Richard Baker. Owner: Prudence & Edgar Stuhr & Richard Baker. Shown by Rick Baker Judge: Bradley Jenkins WB/BOW/BBE Gr1 (4 pts)

2/5/12 Riverside's Ticket to Ride (RS High Rise X RS Tache) Breeder: Richard Baker; Owner: Prudence & Edgar Stuhr & Richard Baker. Judge Kenneth Falconi WB (4pts)

Ronnie Schoelzel

At the Nutmeg Border Collie Agility Trial in Hamden, CT March 2, 3, 4, Tango did indeed have some brags. He finished his Open JWW title and is moving up to Excellent A JWW. He also qualified in Time 2 Beat one day.

