



COACHING LINES

Dalmatian Club of Southern New England

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Club Officers

President: **Richard Baker**

Vice President: **Donna Russo**

Treasurer: **Christine Ramalho**

Corresponding Secretary:
Carola Adams

Recording Secretary: **Prue Stuhr**

Board Members:

Tiana DiNola

Karen Blanchfield

Sara Bourque

Donna MacCallum

President's Letter

July 2019

Dear DCSNE Members,

Fourteen members attended the Dalmatian Club of America's National Specialty in Huron, OH. Inside these pages you will find more information about great success along with photos. In addition, we know that these people renewed friendships and talked with new friends from across the country.

Our Supported entry at Penobscot Valley Kennel Club in Cumberland, Maine went off without a hitch, in lovely weather, delivering wonderful, useful awards to the winners. Photos from our meeting will give you some visuals of the day.

Our Specialty plans for Friday, September 13, Saturday, September 14, and Supported Entry for Sunday, September 15th are underway. Again, we will be at the Cape Cod Fairgrounds in E. Falmouth, MA. We will be sponsoring a handling Clinic for the first time on Thursday, from 5:30-6:30PM for 30 people who want practice in a ring. The flyer is in this issue to give you more information. Dock Diving will again be offered, and this year it will be a regional qualifier for the finals in Florida. As usual, Obedience and Rally will be offered with member Nanci Hayes judging Obedience and Rally with Denise Lacroix. Our Friday Show will be dedicated to member and former President Anne J.A. Rojas who passed away last summer. We will also have Club meeting Friday after the judging. It looks to be a fine specialty, but we will need support. Please send Prue Stuhr an email pgstuhr@comcast.net offering what you can do to help. We look forward to seeing you on the Cape at the Cranberry Cluster of shows.

Yours truly,

Richard Baker

Member Bio: Susan Basius

My Life with Dalmatians: Kayleigh and Cali

By Susan Basius

29 years ago, in my first semester of college, I met Chelsea. Chelsea was owned by relatives and we spent many summers and weekends together. She was quirky, always sat on people she liked (whether they wanted her to or not) loved to eat really expensive shoes, had a thing for tennis balls, loved to swim and may have thrown up on my pillow once or twice--which I tried not to take personally. I had never met a dog quite like her. She kept things interesting and her spots were the coolest.

For college graduation, I just had to have a spotted dog of my own. Since I wasn't connected to any breeders, I had no idea where I would get a puppy. As luck would have it, I came across an ad in the Boston Globe that there were a few puppies available in New Hampshire. At the time, I had no idea how much that drive up to New Hampshire would impact my life.

We arrived at Richard Baker's house and met Soloflex, who was the gorgeous and massive sire of the pups. Richard had us meet a few of the pups. Then he brought up a tiny little girl and my heart melted.

Yes, she was the one! In the 15 years I was privileged to spend with Kayleigh, she taught me so much: patience, love, kindness, to trust people (but that it's also okay to not trust 100% of the people), enjoy the beach, run, play, naps are better with your four legged friend, never retrieve anything that you can get someone to retrieve for you and that life is short...way too short.

She was always my rock and we went through the best and worst times together, two marriages, one divorce and multiple moves locally and across the country. Wherever Kayleigh was always felt like home. We had an incredible bond and understood each other instinctively without the need for words. We looked out for each other cared for each other with our whole hearts. She was the kind of dog that sensed what you needed and came through without fail. I was blessed to have Kayleigh with me until a few weeks after my son was born. I'm absolutely convinced that she held out to not only meet him but to make sure I was going to be okay without her. I owe her so much and even though she's been gone for 10 years, I miss her every day.

My current girl Cali is also a Riverside Dal. She has all the wonderful qualities of my first Dalmatian and many more. She is sweet, regal, intelligent, snuggly, smiles with her whole body, loves her people and is a faithful companion to my son. She could play fetch and chase birds for hours. While we haven't competed in conformation, we have explored agility, lure coursing and dock diving. Cali seems to enjoy dock diving and I'm looking forward to working more with her this summer to reach her full potential and eventually compete.

Both my Dals have been a joy to be around. I am eternally grateful to Richard for these amazing girls and the countless memories and moments. My life has been enriched and can't imagine life without a Dal by my side.

Member Bio: Susan Basius



Opposite: Photos of Kayleigh



Opposite: Photo of Cali with her human family,

Below: Photos of Cali Dock Diving and in her Halloween Costume



Dalmatian Club of America National Specialty

2019 DCA Agility. A Mudder's Tale.

By Pam Devlin

Here in the Northeast, and perhaps much of the country, agility trials are largely held indoors. The chief reasons are the inconvenience of bad weather and the fear of difficult/dangerous footing. The consistency of conditions and relative safety of indoor trials are a good thing. Who doesn't like to avoid a course covered with snow? I appreciate a venue without direct sun and intense heat. I am a fan of air-conditioning in August.

Two years ago, an agility judge and fellow competitor who is part of my regular training circle lamented about this fact. She insisted that the experience of trialing outdoors was worth the pitfalls. She believed it was a more unique and memorable experience that went beyond Qs and brought people together. I didn't really get it then... but I do now. At our 2019 DCA this past May, there is not one of us running a dog who will forget the cold, the wind or the deep mud. The Qs were rare and well celebrated by all. Sportsmanship, support and comradery was in abundance. We were all soldiers in the same fight.

My trip to DCA was a two day affair. I split the drive so I would not have to be on the road more than 5 hours at a time. Though I have lived in the middle of nowhere for the last 20 plus years and everything is well over an hour from me, I was born and raised in New York City and don't particularly like to drive. I complained like a five year old about my travel to get there... until I met other teams who had been traveling from California, parts of Canada and the like. Teams that were on the road for 5 day just to get there. A very long and expensive trip for such tough conditions and more often than not, no Q.

This year- 2019, DCA was held at the beautiful Cedar Creek Resort in Huron Ohio. A wonderful venue with lovely lawns, blooming fruit trees and songbirds. Many places to walk dogs, wide open pens for safe exercise and off-lead play. A perfect place... unless you arrive during global warming's lingering visit. We missed the bulk of the rain but suffered the after effects. Cold temperatures- 47 degrees when the average is 72, piercing cold wind and deep mud from all the rain. The mud and the soft, soaked lawn became much worse as the trial continued. Constantly trampled on for two days, the footing was precarious. I was never so cold, muddy and wind burned. I was never so thrilled with my Qs or proud of my dog.

It is likely that a future DCA in this same local will choose to hold the agility trial at a nearby indoor facility. A good thing. Very practical and I would prefer a safer more stable environment, I mostly trial indoors for that very reason. I have trialed several times since our 2019 DCA and the venues have been indoors. I've had some great runs and Qs... but none stick in my mind the way the ones at 2019 DCA does. Those memories of friends met, friends made and Qs earned will be sweet forever.

Congratulations to all teams who braved the elements and ran in such challenging conditions- Nanci Hays and Arabella, Sandy Lajoie and Nova, Tod Hebert and Atty- with a 1st in premier jumpers and master standard/jumpers on Day 1, a 1st in premier standard/jumpers, time to beat and master standard/jumpers for DCA High in Trial in both, to Linda McSherry and Felicity- a 1st with a clean run in Novice B Jumpers on Day 1 and a 2nd in Novice B jumpers to earn the NAJ title on Day 2, to Sara Pruyne and Luu Luu- a 1st in Novice B Fast and 3rd in Open Standard. Pam Devlin and Dinah earned the Master Standard Bronze title on Day 1 with a 2nd place and a double Q in master standard/jumpers both in 2nd place on Day 2.

Dalmatian Club of America National Specialty

Members who attended the Huron, Ohio National Specialty in May, 2019 returned with memories, photos, awards, and stories to tell.



Opposite: Pam Devlin and Dinah



Above: Tod Hebert and Atty were Agility High in Trial at two trials at the National Specialty in Huron, OH in May 2019 in very challenging muddy conditions.



Above: Tod Hebert's Atty and her National Specialty awards.

Dalmatian Club of America National Specialty



Opposite: Linda McSherry's Felicity and her National Specialty awards.



Opposite:
Sara Pruyne of Blackthorn Dalmatians reported that LuuLuu qualified in Novice FACT with a first place, and Agility Open Standard with a third place. Qualified in Beginner Novice for a second leg. Qualified in Rally Novice B with a perfect score and First place. Qualified in Rally Intermediate for a first leg. Qualified in Scent Work Novice B exteriors twice with placements, qualified in Novice Buried and qualified in Scent Work Advanced Containers. She is AKC/UKC CH LuuLuu RN TD NA NAJ NF SIN SCN SEN ACT I TKN. She qualified for the DCA Versatility award. She also passed her Tracking Dog Test the weekend before DCA in Maine.

Dalmatian Club of America National Specialty



Above:
Barbara Garceau's AJ expressing his unhappiness at the agility 'MUDFEST' DCA National, Huron, Ohio 2019.



Above:
Sandy Lajoie & Nova with their awards from the Huron, OH, National Specialty.



Above:
"First Place" Team obedience Jody Fraser with Nicky, Becky Luft with Hacker, Stephanie Podejko with Venus, Nanci Hayes with Arabella. Photo by Barbara Garceau,

DCA Triathlete and Versatility Awards 2019

Congratulations to the following members: Linda McSherry with Felicity; Sara Pruyne with LuuLuu; Jody Fraser with Mikey, and Sandy with Nova. They earned the **Triathlete Award**.

Nanci Hayes with Blizzard, Dancer, Arabella received the **Versatility award** at DCA this year
Blizzard, Dancer, Arabella

Dalmatian Club of America National Specialty



Opposite:
Christine Ramalho and her Mother, Mary at
the top 20.



Opposite: AOM Pam Devlin with Dinah

“I was in the previous #4 bitch flight showing daughter Felicity. I returned to crating thinking I had a bit of time but then I saw Ann Smith waving her arms to get my attention. So NOT! (hard when you are showing three is the same ring to time everything!). I ran to get Dinah and Charlie Garvin was very forgiving letting me gait on in after everyone else. A very thrilling moment with my most special girl!”. *Pam Devlin*

DCSNE June Meeting

June 1, 2019 meeting at Ladies Dog Club, Wrentham, MA

The Ladies Dog Show day was a lovely show location to have our Meeting. Vice President, Donna Russo led the meeting at our usual place on shady hill overlooking the show grounds.



Above:
Members Sara Bourque, Tiana DiNola with her dog Desmond, and Christine Ramalho.



Above:
Ed Stuhr with Donna Russo



Opposite:
Kathy Pendergast & Sabine Branch

DCSNE Supported Entry

June 22, 2019 Penobscot Valley KC Meeting

After the Dalmatian judging on a lovely warm June 22, 2019 in Cumberland Maine, President Richard Baker led the meeting with all of us sitting comfortably in Christine Ramalho's screen tent. We had 4 guests: Emmitt Johnson-Baker, Sarah Ettinger, Mary Ramalho, Ed Stuhr. Photos by Betty MacWilliams and Prue Stuhr.



Above:
Sarah Ettinger with her Dog Webster.



DCSNE Wins + Achievements



Opposite:

Dawn Eliot-Johnson's *JUNIOR* – is Lucas Legend's following the signs RN, NAP, NJP, CGC, TKR, He started his agility career last year in the 16-inch preferred classes now that he is 2 years old he is in his regular jump height of 20 inches and is going strong in his first weekend out with 7 first place placements. Junior was born deaf and learned to sit and down at 4 weeks old with sign language he showed me he was special at a very young age and hasn't let me down since. Junior is working on finishing his OAP, NFP, NA, NF, RA this year and many more after.



Opposite:

Jody Fraser's *Mikey*

New title: June 29, 2019, Senior Barn Hunt (RATS), Jody and Mikey Fraser.



Above:

Mellisa MacWilliams *Monson* on 6-23-19 Ch Yankee Sebago & Patch Mt Miles To Go Monson got his first agility title NAJ at Collie Club of Maine Agility Trials held at Wasamski Spring Campground. Photo by Elizabeth MacWilliams.

DCSNE Wins + Achievements



Opposite:
Sara Pruyne and *Luuluu*

At the Maine show, on 6-22-19 LuuLuu qualified Rally Intermediate twice, once with a 2nd place, to finish that title. On Sunday 6-23-19 she moved up to Rally Advanced A and qualified with two 1st place awards. On Friday 6-21-19 she qualified in Agility Open Standard with a 2nd place to finish that title. Photo by Betty MacWilliams. She is now: AKC/UKC CH LUCAS LEGEND BLACKTHORN PATCHMT RIGHT ON TRACK TD



Opposite:
Sara Eastman and *Thriller*

Thriller and Sara competed in the ASCA (the Australian Shepherd Club of America) agility trials. They got their Novice Jumper and Novice Gambler titles, both with first place ribbons. They also earned points towards their Novice regular title, also with firsts. The event took place at All Dogs Gym in Manchester, NH, an Australian Shepherd Club of New England agility trial, sanctioned by ASCA.

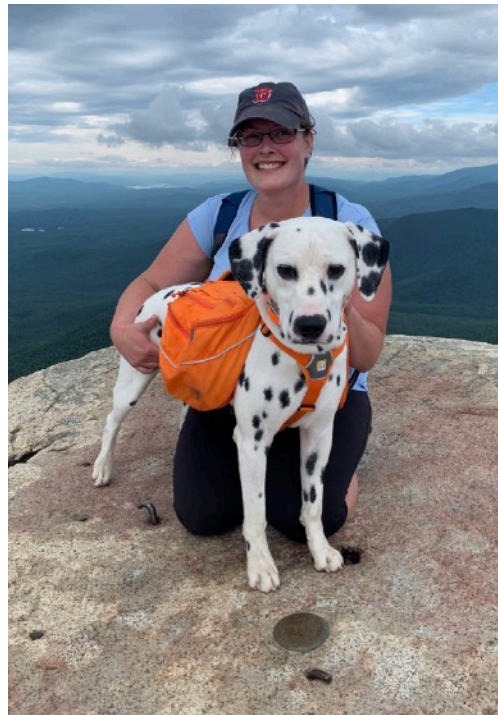


Above: Sara Pruyne's Clair +LuuLuu

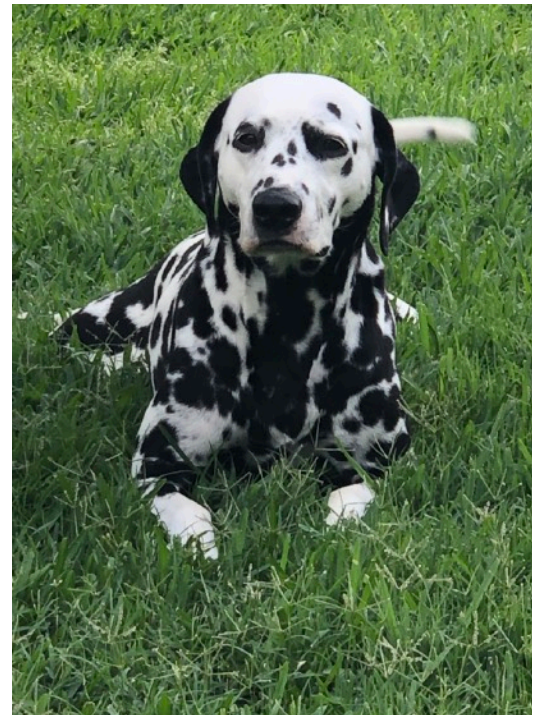
Summer Fun with Dals



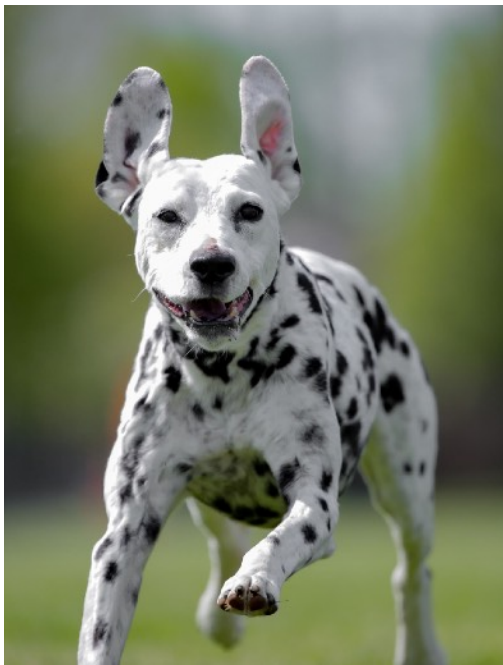
Above:
Dawn Eliot-Johnson + Fumi



Above:
Tiana DiNola + Desmond



Above:
Sabine Branch's Darcy enjoying the grass.



Opposite:
AJ received the TriAthlete award. GCH S.Xposur N Dynasty's Chasin Neon Rainbows CDX PCDX RAE CC CA BCAT DN TKN RATI RATO. He qualified in 5 events, obedience, rally, Fastcats, Barnhunt, and Scentwork. He is owned by Barbara and David Garceau and Jackie Quinn.



Opposite:
Melissa MacWilliam's Monson was a Dalmatian Ambassador in the Gorham, Maine Memorial Day Parade on May 27, 2019. Seventeen other Dogs of various breeds participated with the Saccarappa Obedience Club. Monson of course was loved by all.



COACHING LINES

Dalmatian Club of Southern New England

Contributors:



Prue Stuhr: Author, Editor and Curator for Coaching Lines.



Sara Bourque: Graphic Design & Layout

Upcoming Events:

Summer

- **Sept 9 *Meet the Breed*** at the Tractor Supply, in Scarborough. ME
- **September 13-15 2019 DCSNE Specialty** at The Cape Cod Fairgrounds Rte 151, 1220 Nathan S. Ellis Highway in East Falmouth, MA 02536
- **Thursday Sept.12** Cape Cod Show- regular show at 5:30PM DCSNE Sponsored handling Clinic ring 9. Sign up at Supers' tent between 10-2PM.
- **Friday Sept.13** 1st DCSNE Specialty dedicated to Anne J. A.Rojas Club meeting to follow Dalmatian judging.
- **Saturday Sept.14** 2nd DCSNE Specialty with our Raffle drawing about 3PM.
- **Sunday Sept. 15** Supported Entry

Fall

- **Sunday November 17** meeting at the Bolton Street Tavern, Marlborough, MA

Disclaimer: The editors have created the issue to the best of their knowledge with the help of reporters. If any information is incorrect, it was unintentional.



Dalmatian Club of Southern New England

Handling Clinic with the Professionals

Sponsored by The Dalmatian Club of Southern
New England

Open to all Breeds!

Date: Thursday, September 12, 2019

Location: Cape Cod Fairgrounds, Ring 9 (*ring for Dals, Bulldogs, etc.*)

Sign-up: at Superintendents tent between 10:00AM-1:00PM
for half hour time slots. *Limited to 30 Dogs.*

Trainers: Professional Handlers Rick and Jenny Krieger

Cost: \$10.00 which will be split by CCKC, SSKC and the DCSNE

Designed to give a novice handler, puppy or dog an opportunity to
have additional ring experience.

All observers are welcome!