



Spot Check

Monday, April 6th

Be a good neighbor.

Please be mindful of our hotel rules
and clean up after your dog.

Thank you.

Tuesday, April 7th Schedule

Conformation Classes

Regency ballroom

8:00 am, bitches

11:30 am, dogs

1:30 pm, veterans, stud dogs, brood bitches

DCAF Gala

5:30 pm

Brazilian "C" & "D" rooms

Top Twenty

7:00 pm

Brazilian "C" & "D" rooms

Un-hosted hospitality tables will remain in place

What is this?



... answer tomorrow

Addendum

Obedience

High In Trial

OTCH Montagues Vintage Sun Runner UDX3

(Vintage And Paisleys Valor CD NA

x Montague's SunRunner Rambler CDX RN)

Owner Becky A Luft

Open B, 197.5

Corrections

Agility

FAST (Fifteen and Send Time)

Novice B, 24"

1) Driftwood Maximum Overdrive (Ogle)

Score/Time: 61/22.96

Sweepstakes

Best Senior & Best in Sweepstakes

Z's Nspird Back In Black

(Ch Snowhill Rockstar Whirlwind Tour x Ch Splash's Nspird Over Z Moon)

Owners Kay Purchiss, Kevin W. O'Connell, Carrie Jordan

Best Junior in Sweepstakes

Spotlight Divine

(Ch Spotlights Ruffian x Ch Spotlight's Miss Congeniality)

Owner Connie Wagner

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Futurity

Judge – Ms. Elizabeth Hancock

Junior Dogs, 6 months and under 9 months

- 1) Spotlight's Storm Chaser (Wagner)
- 2) Daldorado Dotzinks Bond (Lawson)
- 3) Rockstar Phoenix Written In The Stars (Waldrop/Fisher)
- 4) Rockstar's Jewel Thief (Fisher)

Junior Dogs, 9 months and under 12 months

- 1) Kastle's Go Speed Racer (Squire-Reed)
- 2) Trinity N Tourmaline Forever Bayside (Fomon/Snyder/Bradley/Dreby)
- 3) Bottoms Up Tuckaway Big Spender (Randlett/Randlett/Previs)
- 4) JLS Dalaway Fire Of The Sun (Pogue/Soukup)

Senior Dogs, 12 months and under 15 months

- 1) Dakotas Potions Master (Benoit/Benoit)
- 2) South St Windjamer's And Bret D's Night And Day (Jennings/Zink)
- 3) Penwiper's Live Wire (DiMino)
- 4) South Street N Bayside's Dropkick Murphy's Law (Moore/Ketzner)

Senior Dogs, 15 months and under 24 months

- 1) Liberty's Shake Down The Thunder (Mooney/Brosseau)
- 2) Black Diamond's Where Art Thou (Sutor/Sutor)
- 3) Shamrock N S.xposur Rocket Man (Quinn/Garceau)
- 4) Angel's Nest Little Deuce Coupe (Gerzanics/Gerzanics)

Junior Bitches, 6 months and under 9 months

- 1) First Lady Of Ravin From PHD (Jones/Jones)
- 2) Spotlight Divine (Wagner)
- 3) Rancho Starcoach's Tin Lizzie (Goddard)
- 4) Spotlight's Mysterious (Ekle/Wagner/Bell)

Junior Bitches, 9 months and under 12 months

- 1) Choco Chip Ready To Run (Branaman)
- 2) Tuckaway Bottomsup N Oakwalds Hurley Girley (Hayton/Hayton/Randlett)
- 3) Ravin N Southstreets Bella The Ball (Jones/Jones)
- 4) Dalmino's Mata Hari (Finlayson)

Senior Bitches, 12 months and under 15 months

- 1) Tolair N Penwiper Hello Trouble (England)
- 2) South Street N Bayside's First Class Cricket (Moore/Swensen/Swensen)
- 3) Mt Bryton's Copa Cabana (Bartell/Bartell)
- 4) Sunnoaks St Florian Literatis Compass Rose (Sexton/Mauel)

Senior Bitches, 15 months and under 24 months

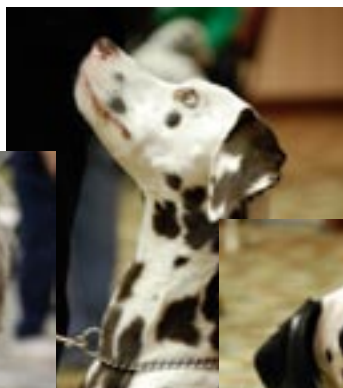
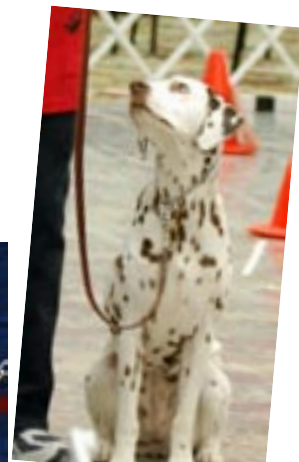
- 1) Black Diamond's Weeping Willow (Sutor/Sutor)
- 2) Rambler On My Mind (Nash/Nash)
- 3) Winston's Scarlet Rose (Carleton/Carleton)
- 4) Anticipation Acclamation (Truitt)

Best Junior & Best in Futurity Choco Chip Ready To Run

(Cranbrooke's Special Delivery x Choco Chip This One For The Girls)
Owner Rosie Branaman

Best Senior in Futurity Black Diamond's Weeping Willow

(Proctor's Dappled Doppler x Patchmt's Jazzin It Up)
Owners Debbie & Adrian Sutor



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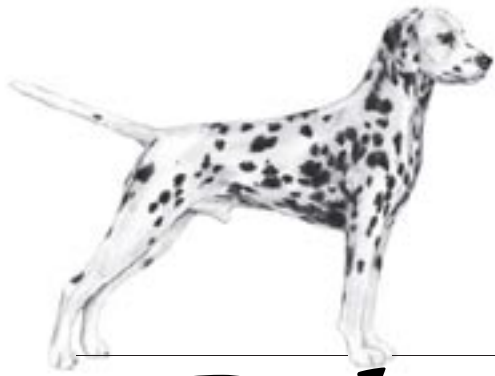
Club member and artist, Darcy Best will paint a custom watercolor from a photo of your choice.

Live auction bidding will take place at the Top 20.

Another auction will take place on-line in May. Check the DCAF website for details - www.dcaf.org

Happy Bidding!

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PURINA Pro Club

Dalmatian Update

DCA National Special Edition

BAER Hearing Tests Help to Identify Deafness in Dalmatians

Dalmatians are one of more than 89 breeds reported to have congenital deafness. Among the tools breeders can use to identify unilaterally or bilaterally deaf dogs and thus select against deafness is the BAER hearing test.

Brainstem auditory evoked response (BAER) hearing tests can be used in puppies as early as 5 weeks of age. Identifying bilaterally deaf puppies, or those that are deaf in both ears, is helpful in preventing their placement into pet homes. Importantly, breeders can use the knowledge to reduce deafness

in their bloodline. After all, breeding two hearing dogs can produce deaf dogs, but breeding a unilaterally deaf dog, those that are deaf in one ear, produces increased numbers of deaf dogs.

To help educate Dalmatian breeders and owners on the importance of BAER testing, the Dalmatian Club of America (DCA) published "A Primer for BAER Hearing Testing" two years ago. The brochure explains BAER testing and provides illustrations of BAER tracings, showing examples of bilateral and unilateral hearing puppies. It is available online at www.thedca.org/baerprimer.html.

George Strain, Ph.D., professor of neuroscience at Louisiana State University, estimates that 29.9 percent of Dalmatians suffer from deafness in one or both ears. The genetics causing deafness in Dalmatians is not entirely known, but it is believed to be due to the suppression of melanocytes, or pigment-producing cells necessary to the health of the stria vascularis, the vascular bed lining the outer wall of the cochlear duct.

Strain's research over the past 20 years has found that as the stria vascularis degenerates, this destroys the cochlear sensory hair cells necessary for hearing. These nerve cells cannot be regenerated, so deafness results. Deafness occurs between 3 and 4 weeks of age, which is why BAER hearing testing is not recommended before 5 to 6 weeks of age.

"We think there is an important correlation between coat color phenotype and hearing," Strain says. "If you end up without melanocytes in the ear, there is a change in the chemical composition of the fluids of the ear that are important in the transmission of sound signals to the brain to activate hearing."

"Deafness is linked to piebald, the gene that produces white skin and hair. The piebald gene has been identified and partially sequenced. Since that gene is linked to deafness in Dalmatians, as well as other dog breeds that carry the gene, we are perhaps closer to finding the genetic cause for deafness." ■

The BAER Hearing Test

Brainstem auditory evoked response (BAER) hearing tests are usually performed without sedatives and are painless for dogs. Each ear is tested individually, and the test is completed in 10 to 15 minutes. The test detects electrical activity in the cochlea, a curled structure that contains a component organ of hearing, and the auditory pathways of the brain.

The owner or veterinary assistant holds a puppy while a small set of electrodes is inserted under the skin of the scalp and a small foam-covered earphone is placed on one ear.

The computer generates a stimulus click that enters the ear through the earphone and the brain's electrical response to the stimulus is measured through the electrodes. Several hundred clicks are rapidly produced and the computer averages the brain's electrical responses to these stimuli, producing a tracing that shows the hearing pattern or response waveform.

A hearing ear produces a waveform of peaks and valleys that indicates a puppy is able to hear with that ear. The cochlear nerve produces the first peak and later peaks are produced within the brain. If both ears produce the peak-and-valley waveform, the puppy is able to hear bilaterally, or with both ears.

A flat line, or a line without clearly defined peaks and valleys, indicates that the ear being tested is nonfunctional and the puppy is deaf in that ear, or hears unilaterally. If the graph line is flat for both ears, the puppy is bilaterally deaf. A puppy that tests as normal can lose its hearing later in life, but such losses are not genetic and do not impact its suitability for breeding.