



Cavalier Communicator

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CKCSCSWMI

Officers/Board members

President: Bruce Clark, DVM

Vice President: CC Berg

Secretary: Elaine Dempster

Treasurer: Renee Healy

Newsletter : Vicki Clark

Pearl wins Best of Opposite Sex at Nationals



PEARL

AKC CH Blueheart Jewel of the Sea

CGC Delta Pet Partner CKCS

Sire: CH Wandris Showcase of Sumara

Dame: Kalidun Tripple Crown

Breeder/Owner: CC Berg

ACKCSC National Specialty

Date: 4/30/2009

Judge: Ken McDermott



Elaine Dempster Wins Universal Cavalier Photo Contest honors by Elaine Dempster

For those of you who know me and for those that don't, I have a lot of hobbies and a variety of interests, photography being one of them.

When digital cameras became affordable I bought one ...well at that time the

digital cameras didn't think nor focus very fast so last year I purchased a Nikon D40X, though I'd like it to be faster it can still do the trick. When shooting my Cavaliers I like to use a 55 - 200 zoom lens so I can get close without distracting

them. I also use a UV filter that helps the colors pop out. I make sure that I have a nice background...not too busy or cluttered. Most of the pictures on my web site are taken by me.

I recently sent in a few of

Elaine Dempster Wins Universal Cavalier photo honors by Elaine Dempster

my pictures to The Universal Cavalier Magazine photo contest and was awarded 1st place in two of the 4 different categories and 2 Honorable Mentions!

The judges were David McCullough of Australia (Caribelle Cavaliers), Steve Mynott of the UK (Honeybet Cavaliers), Michelle McDonald of Canada (artist and Pom breeder) and Anne Marie Rasmussen (Universal Cavalier Magazine). The Categories were Portraits, Cavaliers

in Action, Cavaliers with other Animals and Cavaliers with Children. Thank you Anne Marie for allowing the use

of the judges' critiques. You can see the Universal Cavalier Magazine at www.universalcavaliermagazine.com



Winning Portrait

Thank you for allowing me to share two of my favorite hobbies with you, Cavaliers and photography!

Elaine Dempster
Ada, Mi

WWW.CristalCavaliers.Com

* Steve Mynott is a professional iphotographer.

Read the judges critiques of each photo on page 6

*Three New AKC
Championships*

New AKC Champion:

CH Dansyn Toast with Cristal

Sire: CH Huntcrest Moon Doggie

Dam: CH Dansyn Show Stopper

Breeder/Owners: Elaine Dempster

Fred & Louise Becker



New AKC Champion:

CH Clamar Lady Amylia

Sire: CH Myrnac Barclay Braun

Dam: Brookhaven Royal Cinnamon

Breeder/Owners Bruce and Vicki Clark



New AKC Champion:

CH Brookhaven Enchanted Forest

Sire: En CH Pascavale Enchanted

Dam: Brookhaven Peggy Sue

Breeder: Paula Ayers, Brenda Martz

Owners Bruce and Vicki Clark



June meeting features West Michigan Therapy Dogs, Inc. Co-Founder by Susan Hooker

At our June meeting we were privileged to have Terrilynne Lyburner co-founder of West Michigan Therapy Dogs, Inc. give an overview of the program. WMTD is an organization of volunteers who take their own dogs to visit people at hospitals, nursing homes or other facilities. The dogs provide comfort and, for a few moments, take the patients' minds off their troubles. It is rewarding to hear the various stories about this interaction of animals with humans.

Terrilynne shared some of her own experiences and gave examples of the amazing ways that the dogs touch the patient's lives. It may be an instance where a patient who has not spoken a word will begin speaking when a dog visits his room. Or the comfort of simply petting a dog may unleash fond

memories.

There are also dogs who participate in animal assisted therapy along with the patient's physical therapist. It seems that a patient is more likely to do repetitive, often painful movements if it involves stroking a dog or feeding treats to the dog by opening their hands.

Also, a growing part of WMTD is the "Ruff Readers" program at area schools and public libraries. Children gain confidence in their reading ability as they practice reading aloud to the dogs. There is no criticism, ridicule or judgment from the dogs. They simply listen as the child reads (with a tail wag or two and possibly a few doggie kisses).

Dogs of all sizes, from Yorkie terriers to Great Danes, may participate after

successfully passing the therapy dog training classes. The 7 week classes are held several times a year in Grand Rapids at Spectrum Health Rehab and Nursing (aka Kent Community Hospital) on Fulton Street. The dogs must first be pre-screened to see if their temperament & obedience will allow them to adapt to unfamiliar and unexpected settings (i.e. how will the dog react riding an elevator, or to the beeps, sounds, alarms and tubing of medical equipment)? Visit the website at wmtd.clubexpress.com for more information about the classes.

We thank Terrilynne (along with her dogs Captain Nemo & Dexter) for her passion and dedication as she helps others by "making a difference....one wag at a time".

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One Wag at a Time!*

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Classes: 750 Fuller NE, Ste. 1113
P. O. Box 2533
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
Fax: 616.363.7080
Email: info@wmtd.org
Phone: 616.726.1256

Annual Meeting: News and New Officers

August is the time for our Annual meeting. C.C. Berg hosted the meeting at her home in Grand Rapids. The weather didn't cooperate for an outside meeting but the rain stopped just long enough for a group picture. New officers were elected for a two year period. Bruce Clark, DVM was elected president and C.C. Berg will be vice president. Elaine Dempster and Renee Healy will remain in their positions as secretary and treasurer respectively. Vicki Clark will remain on the board and will edit the newsletter for the next two years. Joy Smith was named membership chair. Alice Dunn is rescue chair. And Susan Pouncey is public education chair.



Notification was received from AKC regarding the club's application for recognition. The bylaws will require some amending to more closely match those of the parent club. A letter from the president will be coming soon to outline the changes with a vote scheduled on these changes ten-

tatively scheduled for the October meeting. Once changes have been accepted, the club will be able to move forward. A fund raising raffle was held for a wonder wheelie. The prize was won by Casey Halsted seen above with her precious cavalier Princess.

AKC Accepts club application



Why I am in a dog club?

By C C Berg

I went to church on a Sunday in May and sat next to my sister-in-law. She is an avid runner and has placed in prestigious races. She has a son who was a top diver in Michigan, a son who was being scouted as a pitcher in high school and her husband is a highly competitive surgeon. So when I told her that it was one of the highlights of my life when my dog won Best of Opposite at the Nationals I guess I expected some understanding and congratulations. Instead, she gave me a look and said, "You are kidding, right?"

My daughter sitting on the other side of me just rolled her eyes and said, "No, she loves her dogs more than her kids." I started in dogs at the age of 4 when I used to bark at my mother while she did the laundry. I dragged my younger brother around by a "leash" and my favorite book was "Blue's Broken Heart" about a dog who lost his best friend.

In High School, my dream was to own a kennel of Dobermans and until my children were older, I still had that dream. I read everything I could get my hands on for two years every night before going to sleep before getting my first Doberman.



I met my mentor in 1998 and got my first Doberman in 2001. At the time she was being shown, I saw my first Cavalier who was also being shown by my handler. Ch. Rattlebridge Masterpeice (Ruebens) was the dog I fell in love with and he set the picture in my head.

I was determined to have a cavalier so I could show my own dogs. Ten years and 3 show dogs (not finished) later, I achieved my dream to have a homebred champion. Pearl was my first homebred, a singleton and my first champion. I thought I had arrived. I decided then to go to the Nationals because at my rate, it might be another ten years before I would have something else to bring. Never in my wildest dreams did I think she would win.

We went into the ring that day and I knew she would love it. I had seen enough dogs ruined by the pressure of their competitive owners and their dogs just didn't like the ring and I had determined that would never happen to her. It had been my goal with her from the first time on the table to her win at the nationals to make it fun. And Fun it was!

When we went to the Nationals, I had a goal. I wanted to make the cut. If so, I would get the t-shirt they give out. When I went in with all the beautiful Champions (especially the males), at first I choked up and was about to panic, then I thought, "Pearl loves this, I love this, just go out there!"

When the judge separated the females to judge, I looked around and thought, "Hmm, my girl is pretty competitive." I heard the voice of my mentor, "Never stop showing as long as you are in the ring." So that is what I did. And Pearl never let down once! When he pulled her out and lined her up with the male, my heart was in my throat but I still kept showing. When he made the final call, I burst into tears and never quit crying all the way around the ring with the ribbon. And Pearl still was showing.

That is where the people in our club come in. Fellow club members are our cheerleaders, mentors, sounding boards, they are our shoulders to cry on, and everything in between. They get it. And they share our JOY.

Thank you fellow members for sharing my joy,

Humbly, CC Berg

Elaine Dempster Wins Universal Cavalier Photo Contest honors cont.

Cavalier Portraits

First Prize



David McCullough of Australia

1st: The most attractive Blenheim – the one I would frame and have on my wall. A beautifully presented subject in a really lovely background. Whilst I personally would have liked a "cleaner" head shot – without the grass, there was no denying this photo 1st place.

Michelle McDonald of Canada

1st: This picture was nicely framed, putting the Blenheim dog amidst the green grass. For me, what pulled this photo out of the ordinary was the long blades of grass between the camera lens and the dog. Not enough to obscure the subject, but adding enough visual interest to "take it up a notch".

Steve Mynott of the UK

1st: By far the biggest section with over 100 entries and all three finalists appeared in my original shortlist. In first place is an attractive Blenheim which appears to have been groomed ready for the shot as all good portrait photographers would. The composition of the photo is good as there is much to look at yet your eyes keep returning to the main subject. The different shades of green complement the brown and white of the Cavalier. A strong contender for overall winner in my opinion but my eyes keep getting drawn to the two wisps' of grass above the right eye, if only they could have been in a slightly different position.

Cavalier With Other Animals First Prize



David's critique:

1st: One of my favourites !!! I love this photo of the "sleeping buddies". They look so peaceful, snuggled up together after a hard day.

Michelle's critique:

1st: These guys are serious friends-the Exotic Shorthair has its' paw draped over the Blenheim pups' shoulder. The quilting of the blanket they are sleeping on adds a nice contrasting texture to that of the fur of both cat and pup. A shot that could never be "staged"!!!

Steve's critique:

1st: Caught off guard two contented friends. With such a large expanse of white in the bedding and the white of the Blenheim the photographer has managed the balance as these areas can so easily go out of focus and get over exposed with the light being too bright. So despite the subject matter being slightly too high up the photo, it scored extra points with me for technical detail.

Cavalier in Action



David's Award of Merit

"A lovely beach shot – having had a swim now frolicking in the sand."

Anne Marie's Honourable Mention.

"My first thought on seeing this picture was "oh dear into the bath with you" but it is a great shot of a dog running full out on the beach. The colours and details of the sand and water are very crisp and clear and create interest in this action shot."



About Our Organization...Our objectives are:

- (a) to encourage and promote quality in breeding of pure-bred Cavalier King Charles Spaniels and do everything possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.**
- (b) to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel shall be judged.**
- (c) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience and agility trials.**
- (d) to conduct sanctioned matches, specialty shows and obedience and agility trials under the rules and Regulations of the American Kennel Club.**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Next Meeting: The next scheduled club meeting will be hosted by Alice Dunn on October 1, at 6:00 pm. The topic will be grooming your neutered pet. Watch your e-mail for details.

Kalamazoo Kennel Club Canine Health Day: Saturday, Oct. 10th; 10 AM to 3 PM at the Kalamazoo Kennel Club Activity Center, 1249 West D Ave., Kalamazoo. This event included AKC Canine Good Citizenship (CGC) testing, Eye Cerf by Harriet Davidson, DVM; OFA Heart Certification by William Brown, DVM; Massage Therapist, used equipment sale, photographer, engraved dog tags and much more. Free Admission. Contact Mary Ann Massey at 269-381-5643 for more information.

Presidents Message :

Bruce Clark, DVM

As the new president of our club, I want to say thanks. I am honored to be selected and pledge to work hard to move our club forward. I'd like to acknowledge the excellent efforts of past presidents Kathy Yonkers and CC Berg, the board of directors and the many hard working, devoted

members of our club. As mentioned elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter, we are completing the last details required for our club to be recognized and accredited by AKC. As we move forward, I invite everyone to help make the club an enjoyable experience. Please take time to talk to me and

the board members about ideas you have for activities, fund raisers, and anything else consistent with the objectives of our club. It is my sincere hope that we can continue to promote and protect our wonderful breed and have a lot of fun doing it.

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