

2009 Issue 1



THE AMERICAN COCKER SPANIEL CLUB OF CANADA

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A Message From the Editor

The first newsletter of the New Year. In this issue, you will find a few nice brags as folks start the New Year off with a bang and an interesting chiropractic article submitted by Pat Wick. There is some director news from Ontario South and New Brunswick/PEI.

If there are any errors or omissions please let me know so I can correct it immediately.

Chris Wagner, Newsletter Editor

REMINDER FOR ALL MEMBERS

AMERICAN COCKER SPANIEL CLUB OF CANADA - BY-LAWS

Article I MEMBERSHIP

Section 7 Membership dues shall be due on the 1st of January each year for the ensuing year. If they are not paid by March 31, the membership shall be deemed to have terminated. It shall be the duty of the Membership Secretary to prepare and send out a notice of annual renewal or arrange for such notice to be published in the Club's publication. Membership fees shall be decided by a majority vote at a regular meeting

When renewing your membership for 2009, please complete and include a Membership/Renewal Application when sending in your payment of \$20.00 made out to the American Cocker Spaniel Club of Canada. This helps me to keep up-to-date records on all the members. You can download the form from our website.

Please send your membership dues to:

Chris Wagner

34 Montana Cres

Kitchener, ON N2N 2R2

If your personal information has changed, please fill out the attached and mail it to Kelly Ladouceur,

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Change of Personal Information

Name:		
Address:		
City:	Province:	Postal Code:
Phone Number:	Email Address:	

News and Events

Upcoming events for Ontario South

Boosters - Saturday May 9 Sunday May 10 - Forest City Show Kennel Club Show in Simcoe ON

Sanction match - May 9 (all breed)- Forest City Kennel Club after best in show

Boosters - Saturday May 16 - Sunday May 17 - Kitchener Waterloo Kennel Club show in Kitchener ON (pending approval from the KW club)

In conjunction with -

South Western Ontario Sporting Dog Association (3 sets of points available in a 2 day show)

Regional Specialty Show - Saturday June 27

Regular classes - Kevin Flynn

Sweepstakes & junior handling - Ken Feller

Obedience - Susan Des Coates

Booster - Sunday June 28 - South Western Ontario Sporting Dog Association

Boosters - Saturday July 18 & Sunday July 19 - Hamilton Kennel Club - Rockton ON - (pending approval from the host club)

CGN test - Aug 8 (all breed) - Kilbride Kennel Club Show

News from New Brunswick/PEI

Being the sole ACSCC member in this Zone, I am always concerned that any Report from here is only about my dogs. At any rate, we continue to work with them at home, and also show regularly when I can. We have one girl to show this year, and the most we have had out in any one year is four.

We have a new litter at the moment - 3 blacks (1 male and 2 females) and 1 buff male, out of a Christopher Robin daughter bred to Kaplar boy. I am planning to keep one of the black girls.

The 'stress' at this time is the decision of the NBVMA, effective March 31, 2009 to refuse to crop, dock or remove dewclaws. There is no telling where this will go, but we are working at trying to get a compromise to give vets a choice to provide the service or not.

Dwain

BRAGS

At the Calgary show at the end of January I finished my first homebred champion Ennjoa Rachris Leaps N Bounds "Lizze" at the tender age of 11 months. This brown girl, like her father, really loves to show and I look forward to many more trips around the ring. Next for her, is working towards her US championship. Thanks to everyone along the way that have helped me to reach this milestone.

Joanne Downing

Ennjoa Cockers
Joanne Downing
Regina, SK, Canada
306-586-3792

I am very proud to announce my new Champions for 2008. Last spring Am Ch. Kesa N Whitsend's Best Buddy started his Canadian title after his coat had grown back. He finished easily in some shows at the age of 5½ years old. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sandy and Ken St-John of Kesa's cockers for letting me have Buddy here. He is a wonderful dog. Buddy arrived in Canada in the fall 2007. After her daddy had finished, Blanche, Can Ch Lanaudière Blanche Neige (Buddy/Ch.Lanaudiere Eagle Charm), hit the show ring. She got some nice wins. One of them was WB/BW at the Club des Épagneuls du Québec Specialty. In just few shows, Blanche had three BPIG, one at Cornwall kennel Club, another at The Club Canin Chomedey and another one at The United Kennel Club. I'm very proud of the first Buddy's champion.

At Lanaudière, we had another nice litter last July and we kept a girl. Her name is Lanaudière Pétunia, (Buddy/Lanaudière Eagle Classy). Pétunia will start in the ring in April. I hope to have some news next time about this nice puppy girl.

Sylvie D'Amboise
Lanaudière cockers

I would like to add a brag that Midas "MBIS BISS Am/Can Grand Champion Sjoblom's All That He Touches, CGN" had a grand time in Portland in January. Midas won the Black variety in the Specialty and on Saturday as well as taking Best of Opposite Sex the other two days (placing him in the ribbons all four days he was there)

Thanks

Val Mackie

Memorials

CH. DARIUSUNRISE SNICKER'N BANDIT CD

June 6, 1997 – February 1, 2009

It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that we announce the passing of our dear Snicker, on February 1, 2009, four months short of his 12th birthday.

Snicker gave us many firsts, he was the last of five puppies whelped on June 6, 1997, our first litter. Snicker was our first show dog, our first Conformation Champion, and our first Companion Dog obedience title holder.

Snicker had started his career as a show dog late, the day before his first birthday; he was entered as a Senior Puppy, and an Open Male for the rest of the show. On his first show he took Reserve Winners male. When Snicker first started in shows he was very timid, and many did not think he would ever get to the point that he would succeed in the show ring. Snicker somehow developed a brave heart and he move onward and upward, and he had this swagger to his step that showed amazing confidence. He went on to get several Winners Male, Best of Winners, and Best of Opposites Sex wins to complete his championship. He had a unique personality, everyone he met loved him. He had progressed to the point that he could enter a conformation ring with anyone as the handler and make a show of it, he was amazing. Although he did not much care for the conformation ring; he happily joined Lacey, his partner in crime, in several Brace entries for specialties that they won together. Snicker loved the obedience ring; he qualified in every trial he was entered in, which included 2 Highest in Trail, Highest Sporting Dog in Trail, a 4th in trail and top qualifying score for an Am. Cocker Spaniel in Specialty. Snicker also faired well in team obedience, again taking 1st place in competition... his mates were Dobermans and Shepherds.

Snicker was starting to work on his CDX in 2003 when his career was cut short. He and Lacey were in the 2x3 in our benching area, I was running an eye clinic and Richard was taking in some of our other dogs, someone attacked them with some kind of spray. Snicker protected Lacy though he gouged his chest with the water pail. Snicker was the most quiet dog in the benching area...all he ever did was sleep. I had to put all of my weight onto the water pail in order to put the hook back in place. Soon after this incident we found a problem with Snicker that ended his career.

He had become the best ambassador dog ...he loved being taken out of the 2x3 to meet the kids and their families. He was always a very happy dog no matter what happened to him . He loved to go onto the larger part of our yard and roll on his back on the grass with the warm sun shining down on him. He and Lacey would lay together underneath the coffee table noses together as they would listen to the television.

Snicker will be sadly missed by us and;

Patches – Speckled Diamond Leader (Dam-15), Rusty – Kisspaws Red Mahogany (Sire-13),

Lacey – CH. Windrif News At Dariusunrise (Mate & P.I.C.-8), Soolai – Dariusunrise Soolaimon (Get-5), and Chablis – Dariusunrise Rosemary's Wine (Get-5).

Also missing Snicker are; Pepper – Dariusunrise Holly Holy (-14 Months), Tanya – Dariusunrise Song Sung Blue (-14 Months), and Tango – Dariusunrise Playme (-14 Months).

He is sadly missed by everyone who knew him as he loved everyone he met as they loved him. We believe that the sign of a great dog is not the accomplishments in the ring but how they affect the lives of the people and dogs around them. Snicker was a great dog.

Sharon and Richard White
Dariusunrise Cockers

New Member Applicant

The following new applicant has applied for membership in the American Cocker Spaniel Club of Canada. If you have any objections, please forward in writing to the Secretary* with 30 days of publication of this Newsletter.

Lee (Leona) Pears
9227 East Saanich Road
North Saanich, BC V8L 1H6

**HOW DO I KNOW IF MY PET
NEEDS ADJUSTING?**

**A GUIDE TO CHIROPRACTIC CARE
FOR YOUR PET**



Waterloo North Chiropractic
Dr. Jennifer Heick
A4-550 Parkside Dr.
Waterloo, Ontario
N2L 5V4
519-746-3838

INTRODUCTION

Animal chiropractic care is a new and rapidly growing health field. However, because of being relatively new, most people are unsure as to when chiropractic is appropriate for their pet. Chiropractic care is a holistic approach to many health problems. It does not replace traditional veterinary medicine, but provides an alternative method of care. Chiropractic care is recommended for all pets. Proper spinal column function allows the body to work more effectively and stay healthy. This booklet is designed to help show you the benefits of chiropractic and to provide you with a checklist to know if your pet is in need of chiropractic adjustments.

THE SPINAL COLUMN

The spinal column is a complex structure made up of bones, ligaments, muscles and nerves. The spine provides many crucial functions to the body.

The functions of the spine are:

1. Framework of support
2. Muscle attachment
3. Protection of the central nervous system
4. Protection of internal organs

The bones of the spinal column are called vertebrae. Each vertebra has a central canal through which the spinal cord passes. Nerves branch off the spinal cord and exit between the vertebrae to travel to the muscles and organs of the body. Numerous ligaments connect these vertebrae together into a jointed column. There are approximately 200 joints in the spinal column of your pet. Numerous muscles are attached to the vertebra enabling the spinal column to flex and bend.

WHAT IS A SUBLUXATION?

Chiropractors use the term SUBLUXATION to describe a specific problem or disease of the spinal column. A subluxation is defined as a misaligned vertebra that is "stuck" or unable to move correctly. When movement between two vertebrae is restricted, your pet will not have total flexibility of the spine. Stiffness, resistance and lack of ability results.

Subluxations also cause problems in the nervous system especially at areas where nerves exit between two vertebrae. Misaligned vertebrae cause problems in nerves by interfering with nerve transmissions. Nerves are the communication lines of the body carrying information back and forth between the brain and the cells. Subluxations may be

pictured as pinching off or altering that flow of information. Depending on the area and amount of nerve interference, problems may then develop in the body.

Every movement from simple wagging of the tail to sitting requires a constant synchronization of muscles in contraction and relaxation. If proper nerve messages to muscles are obstructed, this coordination will falter. Minor interference may only result in slight changes in performance. In high levels of competition, however, even these slight changes may affect performance success. Lack of muscle coordination can cause missteps resulting in damage to the joints and tendons of the legs. Nerve pressure can also result in pain. Pain prevents pets from working at optimum potential.

Subluxations in the spine may cause your pet to compensate in movement or posture. Your pet may attempt to avoid pain of a subluxation by shifting weight or by avoiding certain movements. When the spine is not functioning correctly in one area, stress is placed on other vertebral joints. Secondary subluxations can occur in other areas of the column, further complicating the problems of your pet.

Examples:

1. Pain in right sacroiliac joint causes your pet to shift forward onto left forelimb.
2. Pain at upper neck causes your pet to resist flexing at base of skull.

WHAT CAUSES SUBLUXATIONS?

Traumatic and stressful situations can occur daily, sustained vigorous exercises can also cause problems in the spinal column of your pet.

The following may cause subluxations:

1. **trauma:** fall, slips, missteps
2. **conformation traits:** creates predisposition to subluxations, such as a long back
3. **birth:** trauma during delivering causes initial misalignments in the soft and plastic spine of the newborn
4. **confinement:** constant confinement decreases balance and coordination. Your pet is not free to roll in natural attempt to loosen their back.
5. **performance type:** each type of use can affect pets in different ways; may predispose to subluxations from jumping, running, playing
6. **equipment:** poorly fitting collars, harnesses and coats may cause problems in the spine.
7. **age:** as your pets age, the spine will accumulate multiple large and small injuries and compensations.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF A SUBLUXATION?

Subluxations of the spinal column may produce many symptoms in your pet. The most common problem is pain. Pets in pain will compensate in gait or posture; and may resist or refuse to perform. Compensatory movements may cause other problems such as added stress on joints. The following is a list of symptoms that *may indicate pain from a subluxation*:

1. abnormal and varying posture when standing
2. discomfort when playing, jumping or running
3. evasions such as extending head and neck or hollowing back
4. development of unusual behavior patterns
5. facial expression of apprehension or pain
6. sensitivity to touch

Subluxations may cause *changes in muscle coordination and flexibility* that affect the performance ability of your pet. These symptoms may be:

1. lack of coordination in gaits
2. unusual, perhaps indefinable gait abnormalities which vary from limb to limb depending on gait
3. stiffness in lateral movements of neck or back
4. muscle atrophy
5. shortened stride in one or two limbs
6. inability to engage rear quarters
7. improper frame
8. decreased stride length
9. difficulty flexing the neck
10. lameness
11. not using the back in movement (leg movers)

Subluxations *may cause problems in the nerves* that supply other cells such as those of the skin, glands, and blood vessels. Some of the symptoms that result may be:

1. unusual body or tail rubbing
2. increased sensitivity to heat or cold
3. asymmetrical sweating or lack of sweating

HOW ARE SUBLUXATIONS CORRECTED?

When subluxations are identified in the spine, an animal chiropractor will attempt a correction of the misalignment. This is called an ADJUSTMENT. An adjustment is a short, rapid thrust onto a vertebra in the direction that will replace it into a normal position.

Chiropractic is very specific and adjustments are made on vertebra directly. Jerking on legs or tails is not a chiropractic adjustment. An examination before the adjustment will identify all the subluxations of the spinal column.

An adjustment uses a controlled force. The joints of the spine are moveable and if the correct angle is used, the adjustment is relatively easy and of low force. Animal chiropractors may also manipulate the joints of the legs, as well as the jaw.

Chiropractic is a diverse field and there are many different types of techniques that are used. Most veterinary chiropractors will use only their hands to adjust the vertebra of pets. This is possible by using leverage on vertebra that are distinctive in size and shape. Some doctors use a small impacting device, called an activator, to move the vertebra. The device is effective due its specificity and speed. Some individuals use mallets that are struck onto pads over the vertebra. This technique can be effective if used by skilled individuals but can create more problems if used by the unskilled.

The adjustment releases the "stuck" vertebra and restores alignment thus eliminating nerve pressure. The bodies can then repair tissues and restore function.

The most common misunderstanding concerning chiropractic care is why several adjustments may be needed. The purpose of an adjustment is to realign the spine. The muscles and ligaments of the pet must be able to maintain the correct spinal alignment i.e.: When an orthodontist works to straighten teeth, he applies a rigid brace directly to the teeth. Chiropractors cannot do this for the spine. Several adjustments may be needed until the body accepts and maintains the correct alignment. Most pets will show significant improvement in one to four adjustments. However, chronic spinal problems take longer to respond. Pets that are basically, sound with a conformation suited to the desired performance, will respond quickly to adjustments and maintain spinal alignment longer.

DOES YOUR PET HAVE SUBLUXATIONS?

CHECKLIST:

Chiropractors are trained to locate and correct subluxations. However, trainers or owners may check to see if their pets have problems with the spinal column. If you answer "No" to any of the following questions, chiropractic care is most likely necessary for your pet.

General Appearance and Posture

Look at your pet while they are sitting, standing and lying down.

- | YES | NO |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Does your pet look comfortable in all positions? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Do they stand with even weight on all legs? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Is their back straight from ears to tail? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Is their head straight (no tilt or rotation)? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Is there no hump or sway in his or her back? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Do they sit square (not off to the side)? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Do they always lie on both sides comfortably? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Do they hold their tail straight (not to one side)? |
| YES | NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Do they stand square (one leg isn't forward or back or pulled up under them)? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Is their buttocks level (one side isn't higher than the other)? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Are their hocks at proper height (not closer to the ground than they should be)? |

Palpation

Feel all over your pet's body.

- | YES | NO |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Do they feel relaxed and at ease through the procedure? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Do they not flinch or pull away when you touch a certain spot? Is there no pain? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Does your pet like to be petted or scratched all over (not more or less so in certain areas)? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Do the muscles on one side of the body match the other side in tone and symmetry? (Muscles should be firm without being too hard or too soft. Muscles should not be painful to moderate pressure of palpation). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Palpate down the spine for prominent deviations - are there no bumps? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Compare the two prominences at the top of the hips - are they level? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Apply moderate downward pressure on the back. Does the back flex and dip? |

Gait and Performance

Watch your pet walking, trotting and running.

- | YES | NO | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are the gaits even and free in movement? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are there no signs of lameness? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Is there no the head bob due to pain? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are the gaits free (not shortened-lack of stride length)? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Can they bend on turning? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are they lifting their paws? |

Range of Motion

The pet should move freely in all ranges of motion with no tension.

- | YES | NO | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Can your pet bend its head to touch their belly? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does each leg move freely frontwards, backwards, side to side? |

HOW TO CHOOSE AN ANIMAL CHIROPRACTOR

How do you choose a practitioner if you believe that your pet may benefit from the services of an animal chiropractor? Always have your veterinarian examine the pet first to determine if problems exist that require medical or surgical attention.

THE CERTIFIED ANIMAL CHIROPRACTOR

The American Veterinary Chiropractic Association trains and certifies chiropractors and veterinarians in the art and science of animal adjusting. Animal chiropractors with this advanced training are able to accept animal cases with concurrent veterinary care.

When selecting an animal chiropractor for your pet, be wary of exaggerated claims. Performance pets often have many problems and much compensation. Some problems are permanent and some diseases are progressive despite the best health care. Have realistic expectations. Do not expect that the animal chiropractor will solve long standing or multiple problems with one adjustment. Healing takes time.

For more information on animal chiropractic and certified animal chiropractors please write or call:

American Veterinary Chiropractic Association - AVCA
avcdoctors.com