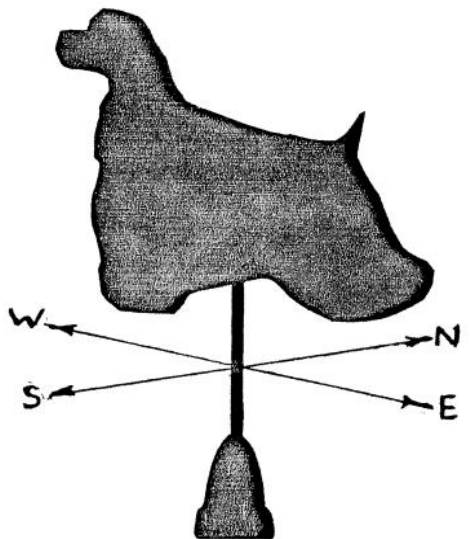


The American Cocker Spaniel Club
of Canada



NEWSLETTER

EDITORS; SUE HARRISON and LOIS PROCTOR.

July, 1984

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

WELCOME to the first edition of the AMERICAN COCKER SPANIEL CLUB OF CANADA newsletter. The object of this newsletter is to produce a medium to enlighten all participating members of the club and to keep them up to date on the action, participation, achievements, successes etc., of the club as a whole as well as individual members. A newsletter is an excellent medium for the voicing of personal views, whether favourable or unfavourable.

It is my belief and, based on past experience, a good newsletter contributes to no small extent in the promotion of goodwill and united efforts on the part of a club.

Any matter however small or seemingly unimportant which a member feels would be relative to further the betterment of this club and American Cocker Spaniels, as a whole, if submitted, will be published by the Editor without prejudice and I welcome all material toward this end.

Yours in Cockers

Jean M. Palmer.

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

To date we have 28 members across Canada with more applications on the way. We need your help to recruit members in order to have a strong united club. Please fill in the membership form and return to Lois Proctor. If you are already a member and know of someone that would be interested in joining, please pass along.

TREASURERS REPORT

As a new club we have a cash flow problem. Membership fees have covered secretarial expenses i.e stationery, postage, membership cards etc. However, we do need income! Perhaps members in your area would be interested in holding a sanction match or booster show in conjunction with a local all breed show in order to support the AMERICAN COCKER SPANIEL CLUB OF CANADA. Please contact Lois Proctor with any ideas or suggestions.

SUSAN HARRISON

TREASURER

CURRENT AFFAIRS

URGENT - Now is the time to speak up.

The majority of American Cocker breeders across Canada were adamantly opposed to the loss of the Variety distinctions within our breed. However, the opinion held by many non American Cocker exhibitors was that our Breed has an advantage in the Championship points department. We are not convinced that this is the fact, however, our success in having the motion rescinded last January does have a condition imposed by the C.K.C. Board of Directors.

The C.K.C. has requested that American Cocker Spaniel Clubs present their recommendations to the Board on this subject of eliminating extra points in the show ring without eliminating the Variety separation. This submission must be presented to the Board in January 1985.

We have an opportunity now to retain our hard won Variety separation while satisfying the C.K.C's demand.

The unity of American Cocker Breeders during the trying times was instrumental in our success, but the task will not be finished until we can finally prove to some C.K.C. directors that we are responsible and knowledgeable as far as our American Cockers are concerned.

We are requesting the breeder/exhibitors who have suggestions on this subject, send them to us and we will include them in our presentation to the Board. Suggestions should be equitable and feasible.

Two suggested solutions are --:

- 1) Cut off all Judging at Variety level and send three dogs to the group
- 2) Keep judging as is to the Breed level however, the Best of Breed & Best Best Opp. Sex dogs only take the highest Variety points not multiple dog points. (i.e. Black 1 point. Ascob 2 points. Parti 1 point. If Parti dog goes B.O.B he takes 2 points.)

Some directors have already stated that we are not equal to this task! It is up to us to prove otherwise and remove once and for all the uncertainty and confusion our breed has had to endure in recent years. Mail your replies to Lois Proctor - Sec.,

SHOULD WE BE CONCERNED???

In 1947 approximately 76,000 Cocker Spaniels were registered by the A.K.C. The nearest competition was the Beagle with 23,000.

In 1983, there were 92,836 Cockers registered by the A.K.C. putting the Breed once again at the top of the list!

SHOW INFORMATION

Please send upcoming Specialty Show or Booster Show information for you local Clubs and do not forget to send show results - we are all anxious to know how our cockers are doing.

September 16th, 1984. The Cocker Spaniel Club of Central Ontario Inc., is holding the Annual Specialty Show for American and English Cocker at Ballantrae Ont. Judges are Reg.Clases Mrs Beth Speicht
Sweeps Mrs.Joan Van Doornick-Thompson.

Show Sec., Mrs.J.M.Palmer.
Box 2367,Stn.B. Richmond Hill,Ont. L4E 1A5

Oct.20th,1984. Mid-West Cocker Spaniel Club of Canada. Specialty Show for American & English Cocker Spaniels in Edmonton, Alberta. For more information contact Mrs. Theresa McDonald,
12010 - 104th St.
Edmonton,Alberta T5G 2L4 (403) 479-0051

Dec.16th, 1984. The American Cocker Spaniel Club of Canada is holding its first Booster show in conjunction with the Credit Valley All Breed Championship Shows in Toronto. Judg to be confirmed. Trophies by donation.

GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME

Hyperthermia, or heat stroke, occurs in a dog that has too much heat retained in his body. Prevention is so easy and could save your dog's life. However, if you suspect your dog has heat stroke, the first thing to do is cool him as quickly as possible. Wet him down; soak him in cold water; turn a fan on him and put ice cubes on his tongue and nose. A cool water enema will lower the internal body temperature. Veterinary care will be necessary if these emergency procedures do not work and you may still lose your dog. Prevent it! Summertime also is the time of year that weed killers, slug bait, rat poisons and other toxic chemicals are being used. Be aware of the consequences to your dogs if their environment becomes contaminated and use all precautions. Better still, learn to live with the weeds around your kennel area. A light spray of insect repellent on your dog's back will keep Mosquitoes and Black Flies from becoming too bothersome.

THOUGHTS ON TRAINING

1. Pups are incapable of learning during the first three weeks.
2. Pups learn rapidly from three to seven weeks and become socialized with dogs during this period.
3. Pups weaned and removed from contact with dogs at four weeks do not socialize with dogs and do not enjoy the company of other dogs.
4. Dominance and a social order develop rapidly after seven weeks with the largest males being dominant or, where males are absent, the noisiest and most active females, not necessarily the largest, being dominant.
5. With some breeds it is impossible to grow more than two pups together since the pup lowest in the social order may be ill treated.
6. Some socializing with humans and training (whistle training and table training) should be done during the three to seven week period.
7. Pups should be weaned and separated from other dogs at seven to eight weeks for best training results.

THOUGHTS ON TRAINING cont'

8. Pups allowed the company of their mother or litter mates after seven weeks are difficult to train.
9. Play training (lead, sit, stay, come and retrieve) should be practised for fifteen minutes daily during the seven to twelve week period.
10. Serious training should be carried out during the twelve to sixteen week period.
11. Training can be started before the sixteenth week, the earlier the better.
12. After sixteen weeks of age, pups who have not previously socialized with people are difficult or impossible to train.
13. Dogs have been bred for specific instinctive traits(trailing, pointing, herding) so puppies should be selected for type, breed or class, depending on their ultimate use.
14. Pups may be partially self trained (herding, pointing) but those with early basic training and proper socialization with humans are capable of much better training.

LAST LAUGH DEPARTMENT.

A new Kennel boy was hired by a breeder and seemd to be learning the system very well. The boy was asked if he could breed Betsy to Jack; did he understand how to handle the dogs etc. "Oh Yes!" was the answer. The breeder went about his other chores until he heard a shout from the kennel. "I got them together all right, now how do I get them apart."

The next News Letter will be out in October. Send us show wins, new litters local news or letters of concern. DEADLIN SEPT.15th, 1984. This newsletter is for the members, Write us and let us know what you would like to see included. All information to Lois Proctor.

Dear Fellow Member:

The primary functions of the American Cocker Spaniel Club of Canada are the protection and improvement of American Cocker in Canada. The word "protection" covers a wide area; from guarding against the type of threat which occurred in 1983 by the Dog Show Council; to encouraging newcomers to the breed; and to sharing our collective knowledge and expertise with all members.

The idea of a National Club for American Cocker has probably been discussed by many breeders over the years, however, the recent conflict with the C.K.C. served as the catalyst to bring the idea to a reality.

The Club is in its infancy and will likely have "growing pains" during the formative period. This developmental stage will require patience and flexibility from all of us. Our first priority is building our membership. To be truly "National" we must have members from all provinces; from these members will come the future officers of the Club. For the duration of our membership campaign, we are waiving the "proposed by" requirement on the membership application. All members should encourage other "Cocker people" to consider membership.

The time has come for the "National" to be financially independent and from a practical point of view, membership fees are necessary to cover costs incurred in printing and mailing.

A newsletter will be our means of communication across Canada and is in the first phase of development. If you have any suggestions or information which would be suitable for the newsletter, please feel free to contact the Club secretary. We are all very painfully aware that our breed has problems, from juvenile cataracts to Hip Dysplasia to "Pet Shop Cocker". Perhaps the Club will be able to open lines of communication to find solutions to some of our problems.

I can visualize a strong, united Club which represents the desire of American Cocker breeders to control the future path of our chosen breed.

I welcome you, and together, we will become one voice on behalf of our beloved Cocker.

Sincerely,



Jean Falmer,
President.