

July-September 2004

*A quarterly publication for the members of the
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Central Ohio*



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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Central Ohio Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club celebrated our one year anniversary with a wonderful picnic on June 19, 2004 at the home of Pat and Tom Grice in Vandalia. The weather cooperated, and the 70 people and 50 cavaliers that turned out had a wonderful time socializing, playing fun games with the dogs, and eating. Pat Doty graciously played "judge" for a ring practice group, and the club was able to garner a few new members.

Speaking of "membership"; the club is up to over 65 members. We have many members from the Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Northern Kentucky area. The Board has met every two months over the last year to strategize events and plan the direction of the club. We plan to meet as a Board four times per year and plan four events for 2005. We hope those events will meet the needs of cavalier owners, breeders, and show exhibitors.

The club will be voting on and electing new officers for all positions at the end of 2004; and the officers and Board members need to come from the greater Columbus area. If you are interested in any of the positions of President, Vice –President, Membership Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and Board Member, please contact Jackie Harris who will be in charge of the Nominating Committee.

If you are getting this newsletter via email or snail mail, and have not joined the club yet, please send in the attached membership form with the fee. Newsletters will only go out in the future to members. Memberships will be renewed for 2005 starting in the fall of 2004. These membership renewal reminders will be sent out with your ballot to vote on officers and board members.

In addition, the website will be adding a "Breeder Referral" list with hyperlinks to MEMBER breeders who pay a small fee. The website has attracted many people interested in Cavalier spaniels, and this feature will expedite the referral process.

I urge any of you with cavaliers over two years of age to attend the health clinics in November in the Columbus area. The prices to see specialized vets are much reduced over what you would pay for an in office visit. Club members will have time preferences for the clinics. Hope to see you there.

Ellen Poti, President ndpoti@aol.com



The 2004 CKCSCCO Annual Picnic

Fun was had by all at the latest Club event at our June picnic. With over 70 people and 50 dogs, it was a day of fun and excitement for adults, children and Cavaliers. Food and laughs were a plenty. Special thanks to Pat & Tom Grice for all of her hard work and the donation of her home and yard for the picnic; Steve McElheny for being the ring leader for the games; and to Ellen & Norm Poti for all of their hard work organizing the merchandise table and all the other efforts made for our Club.

Congratulations to all event winners!!!!

As for the Club itself, we sold approximately \$300 of other miscellaneous items and gained five new members. As always, all club t-shirts and travel bags will be available for purchase at future club events.

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Teeth & Gum Care ***By: Patricia Grice, CKCSCCO Board Member***

Cavaliers need special attention to their teeth in order to avoid bad breath, tooth decay, tooth loss and possibly development of other health problems. Diseased gums and teeth can release bacteria into the blood stream and may play a part in some heart complications as well as affecting generalized health. Unfortunately Cavaliers tend to have small poorly rooted teeth that are susceptible to disease. There are ways to promote a healthy mouth.

- 1) **FOOD:** Feed a hard kibble rather than wet, semi moist or excessive/inappropriate table foods. Some premium brands now have product lines designed to help prevent tartar development. Iam's Eukanuba line of foods now promotes itself as having a

superior dental "defense" system. Science Diet has carried special biscuits for dental health. This not intended to be an all-inclusive list but ideas on available products. If you wonder which is best for your Cavalier check with your veterinarian.

- 2) TREATS: There are many products on the market designed to help teeth and breath. These items range from toys with fibers to "floss" the tooth surface, to grooved or bumpy surfaced rubber or nylon objects, to a whole array of tooth "healthful" edibles. I personally avoid very hard objects for fear of a cracked tooth. One product I have found to be very popular with the dogs is "Greenies". My dogs will wait by the cabinet on the chance they might be getting one. They are rather expensive for how quickly they are gobbled up but by buying in bulk through a catalog I have seen it as low as about \$0.36 per petite bone.
 - 3) BRUSHING: Brushing your dog's teeth regularly can make a big difference in tooth and gum health. Do NOT use human toothpaste. There are a variety of toothpastes on the market for dogs. I cannot say I have a favorite beyond preferring one with chlorhexidine for bacteria if I am seeing any bleeding or inflamed gums. I will also use either chlorhexidine dental wash or toothpaste if I am scaling the teeth as this may cause some gum bleeding. (One source of this is the Foster & Smith catalog). Brushing does NOT take the place of a visit to the vet for significant teeth and gum problems that have already affected the mouth. If started when your dog is young, they get use to the process and do not put up much fuss. The more regularly you brush the better (daily), but even weekly or monthly will have benefit. Dog toothbrushes can be found in all sizes and designs. They come as pretty standard looking brushes, ones that fit on your finger, abrasive pads on a handle, wipes, and multisided bristles (my favorite).
 - 4) SCALING: It is possible to use a dental tool to scale your dogs teeth in the event of minor tartar build up. Scalers are available through the catalogs. It is not a process that everyone will be interested in doing. Care must be taken to avoid gum damage by either an uncontrolled dog or careless operator.
 - 5) ADDITIVES: Several commercial products are available to add to your pet's water to help with teeth and breath. The best known among show people is Oxyfresh pet oral hygiene solution. To the best of my knowledge it is helpful and safe provided you remember to use it - the biggest problem in my house. There are usually distributors at the bigger shows or my bottle gives a web site (www.oxyfreshww.com) and phone number (800)223-73740.
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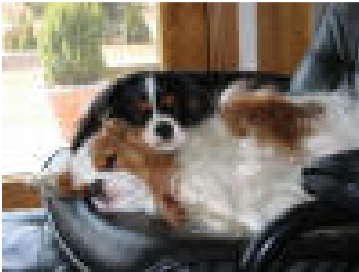
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer and participating in your Club events, please let us know. We always need people to help organize, run and assist our events. For example, our November event (which you will receive information for in the mail in the upcoming month or two) we will need helpers, runners and greeters. To help make our events a success we need the help of volunteers like YOU. Please contact Michelle Gerke, our Club's Secretary, at mgerkel@earthlink.net or 614.801.9701 to volunteer.

In addition, we need members to help our Nominating Committee for election of next years Board Members. If you would like to be on this nominating committee, or are interested in become a Board Member, please contact Jackie Harris at jharris@kingthompson.com.

Lastly, if there are any attorneys in our Club, we would appreciate your help legally adjusting the AKC's bylaws to fit the Ohio statues for our own club. Please contact Michelle Gerke to help us with our bylaws to fulfill our requirements to make the Club AKC recognized.

PICTURE REMINDER



Don't forget as members you can have your Cavaliers picture posted on the Club's website! Email attach your photos to our Board Member and Webmaster, Steve McElheny at steve@mcelheny.net with a caption you would like added to your photo.