

DKC Newsletter  
January 2002

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# Durham Kennel Club Newsletter

## Inside this Issue

- 1** Cavalier King Charles Spaniel: Dog of the Month  
January Meeting
- 2** DKC Membership Meeting  
Breed Referral  
Conformation Class  
December Obedience Trials  
Awards  
Stewards  
2002 Yard Sale
- 3** Pets Can Catch Dangerous Infections  
**UPCOMING EVENTS**
- 4** Conformation Show Reports  
Performance Show Reports  
AKC Litter Registration

**Q** Qui me amat, amet  
**u** et canem meum.  
**o** (Love me, love my  
**t** dog.)  
**e** *St. Bernard, "Sermo Primus" (A.D. 1150)*

<b>Eds</b>	<p><b>Terri Toohil &amp; Joanna Burley</b></p> <p>(919) 471-8303 (phone) (919) 620-0558 (fax) ttoohil@duke.edu</p>
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### Cavalier King Charles Spaniel: Dog of the Month

The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, a member of the Toy Group, is an active, graceful, well-balanced toy spaniel, very gay and free in action; fearless and sporting in character, yet at the same time gentle and affectionate. He should be considered a sporting toy dog rather than a lap dog.



The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is not to be confused with the English Toy Spaniel (domed head, short upturned muzzle and slightly undershot bite) which is also in the Toy Group.

The dog registered by the AKC as the English Toy Spaniel is called the King Charles Spaniel in England. To confuse matters further, one variety of the AKC English Toy Spaniel is called the "King Charles and Ruby." The other variety is the "Blenheim and Prince Charles."

**Background:** The Cavalier of today is the dog one sees in many paintings of the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. During the later half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the breed became virtually extinct having been bred down to the smaller English Toy Spaniel. In 1926, Roswell Eldridge, an American visiting England, was shocked to find none of the dogs he had seen in the paintings of Gainsborough, Van Dyke, Titian and Goya. He offered a cash prize for 3 consecutive years at Crufts to the dog most like the old type. With this incentive, breeders achieved a rebirth of the Cavalier by using long – faced culls from the short-faced litters.

The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel was approved by the AKC on **January 10, 1995 (Effective date: April 30, 1995).**

**Show Ring:** Natural appearance with no trimming, sculpting or artificial alteration is essential to breed type.

The Cavalier comes in four colors: Blenheim (chestnut red and white), Tricolor (white, black and tan), Black and Tan, and Ruby (a solid, deep red). The height is 12 to 13 in. at the withers; and the weight is between 13 and 18 pounds. A small, well balanced dog within these weights is desirable, but slight variations are permissible. The proportion of the body approaches squareness with a scissors bite preferred.

**Breeding and Whelping:** The whelps weigh from 5 to 8 oz. with an average litter of from 4 to 5 puppies. Docking is optional. Pregnancy and whelping are generally trouble free.

**Breed Disqualifications:** Bad temper, nervousness or meanness.

**Faults:** Light eyes, undershot mouths, crooked jaws, pale noses, weak pasterns, cowhocks and gay tails.

**Recognized Problems: Luxated patella** occurs in this breed. Studies seem to show some indication of **canine heart valve incompetence** and **epileptic manifestations.**

**Old Age:** The average life span is 13 to 15 years.

*From: Ross D. Clark, DVM & Joan R. Stainer. Medical and Genetic Aspects of Purebred Dogs; AKC. The Complete Dog Book (18th ed.) and the AKC web site.*

## January Meeting

**FOOD:** Our January meeting will be held on Monday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>. Do plan to attend and bring a dish for our potluck dinner. The club will provide beverages. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

**PROGRAM:** The guest speaker will be Dr. Kathryn Settle from the Sanford Animal Hospital. Dr. Settle is well known to many of our members for her knowledge and experience in canine reproduction. Dr. Settle will address matters concerning AI and chilled and frozen semen. Dr. Settle is always a welcome guest at our club and all of our members (and guests) are urged to attend.

## DKC Membership Meeting

There was no meeting in December. That is the month of our Holiday Party.

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## Breed Referral

Nancy Adams is now doing Breeder Referral. Please let Nancy know if you would like to have your name on her list.

**Nancy Adams 919-967-3002**

[nrceadams@nc.rr.com](mailto:nrceadams@nc.rr.com)

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## Conformation Class

We will offer a beginner show handling class, starting February 14, and running for 6 weeks. The cost is \$50.

To register call

**Betty McAllister at 528 2649, after 6 PM, or e-mail**

[cockers@mindspring.com](mailto:cockers@mindspring.com)

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## DECEMBER OBEDIENCE TRIALS

The DKC December Obedience Trials were held Dec 15-16. They were a huge success!

This year we filled (and had to turn people away) for the Utility classes, almost filled the Open classes, and almost filled the Novice B class both days. Overall, we had about 100 dogs show each day. Many of the participants had also entered in previous years. The fact that people keep coming back is a sign that DKC puts on a quality trial and is certainly something we all should be proud of.

This large of an event takes a lot of work. I would like to particularly thank the following people: Nicki Camera and IAMS for sponsoring

this event and providing some fantastic trophies, Shirley Sanders for doing a great job as Trial Secretary (there is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to make the day of the trial look so effortless), Denise McDonald and MF Davis for working so hard to get a wealth of trophies and for keeping all of the "who's eligible for what" straight, Sally Glei for working the phones to get stewards (Dan Herald has sent us a letter complimenting us on the excellent stewarding), Cathy Fogel, Lisa Roberts, and Joyce McHenry for the concessions (not only for the tasty food, but for all of the work cleaning the kitchen), George, Jeff, Richard, and Mary for all the help with setting up Wednesday and Friday, Liza Williams for taking care of the grounds and equipment, ALL THE STEWARDS (too numerous to name) for making the trial go so smoothly. I apologize for anyone I missed.

## Tracy Fletcher

2001 DKC Obedience Trial Chair

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## Obedience Trial Awards

Dec. 15-16, 2001

Thank you very much to everyone who donated prizes and/or money to the trophy fund. Exhibitors raved about the great prizes! We are proud that this trial has a reputation for awarding wonderful prizes!!

A huge Thank You to the Iams Company for their continued support!!!

Thank you also to MF Davis, Mary Opperman and Liza Williams for helping man the Trophy Table & tabulate winners!!

Great work to all who contributed!!

Thank you again,

## Denise McDonald

2001 DKC Obedience Trial Trophy Chair

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## Obedience Trial Stewards

Many thanks for the hard work of the STEWARDS at the DKC Obedience Trial!

DKC members (and friends) responded, as always, with great generosity and helped the trial run smoothly and without delays. Emilie and George Beglane, Nikki Camera, Marge White, Norma Williams, Nancy Burka, Steve Wallis, Stephanie Spencer, Joanna Burley, Richard Whorton, Beth Cochrane, Jane Gray, Linda Kay, Barbara Nelson, Beth Para, Emmy Wolters, Jane Bergsten, Deidre Luttrell, and Dan Shelton all gave their time to support the trial.

THANK YOU!!

**Sally Glei**

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## 2002 Yard Sale

Saturday, Jan 19th.....Mark your calendars.

It's getting close to that time of year.....be saving all your unwanted treasures and items you no longer need or use. Clean out those drawers, linen closets, cabinets and tool sheds! Buy new furniture and donate the old; we can use everything (except clothing and electrical items that aren't safe/don't work).

We'll have a set up date/time for you to bring those items to DKC before the sale. If you would like to help, please let me know.

Thanks,

**Sharon Pitz, 919-384-9071**

or see me at DKC.

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### Scientists Find Pets Can Catch Dangerous Infections From Their Owners

December 18, 2001 12:00am

Source: The Associated Press

CHICAGO - AP World News via NewsEdge Corporation : Scientists who worry about the spread of nasty germs from animals to people have found the opposite also can happen: Cats and dogs catch bad things from their owners.

Canadian researchers documented 16 cases of dangerous, hard to treat staph infections in horses, cats and dogs. They believe that all of them probably began with owners or veterinarians infecting the animals.

The germ is methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus - called MRSA for short - a microbe that until recently was seen only in hospitals, where it often spreads to elderly or especially ill people who have open wounds or tubes. Healthy people may carry it on their skin without getting sick.

"We've got some pretty strong evidence that owners were responsible for their companion animals developing MRSA soft tissue infections," said Dr. Donald E. Low, chief microbiologist at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto.

Low and colleagues presented the data Sunday at a meeting in Chicago of the American Society for Microbiology.

They found that the animals had resistant staph infections that were genetically similar to the ones that occur in people. In some cases, they showed that the animals got sick months after their owners caught identical germs.

Such transmission is often difficult to prove, but Dr. Shelley Rankin, a microbiologist at the University of Pennsylvania, believes vets are seeing it more often in domestic animals.

"People think it only goes one way, from animals to humans," she said.

"This shows the other side of the story."

The germ passes through close person-to-person - or person-to-pet - contact, which is one reason why hospitals constantly urge doctors and nurses to wash their hands. In people, staph can cause pimples and boils as well as much more serious conditions, such as pneumonia and lethal bloodstream infections.

The first Canadian case researchers examined was a 9-year-old Bichon Frise operated on in January 2000 to remove an eyelid cyst. Despite antibiotics, the dog developed a lingering infection that turned out to be MRSA.

The dog's owner had undergone surgery in late 1999 for testicular cancer. While in the hospital, he, too, had caught MRSA. The researchers did genetic tests to compare the germs from man and dog. They were identical.

The researchers believe veterinary clinics can also serve as a source of the bug - just as hospitals spread the germ to sick people. Two cats and one dog with identical infections had all been treated at the same Quebec clinic.

The team documented two separate outbreaks of the infection involving eight horses. One of them began when an Irish thoroughbred was admitted to a large veterinary hospital for removal of melanoma cancer. Two days after returning home, the horse developed an abscess caused by MRSA.

The horse's owner had undergone a hysterectomy nine months earlier. The researchers isolated MRSA from her nose, and the bacteria turned out to be identical to the horse's. Two other horses got the same infection at the hospital a few months later.

The researchers found that a surgical technician and a veterinary student carried the same germ, suggesting they may have caught it from the first horse and passed it on.

Before the introduction of antibiotics, staph was such a big problem that sometimes wards and even entire hospitals had to be shut down. The

advent of penicillin at first stopped the bug, but it quickly grew resistant. In 1960, methicillin became the standard treatment.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates about half of all hospital-acquired staph infections in the United States - 80,000 annually - are now resistant to methicillin, and they often are impervious to other antibiotics, as well. Some can be treated only with vancomycin, an injected drug, or Zyvox, a pill introduced last year.

For pets as well as people, the infection can be life-threatening. One of the dogs died, and another required amputation of its infected leg.

For several years, experts have warned that overuse of antibiotics on farms can promote the transmission of drug-resistant microbes from animals to people, what's known as zoonotic spread. However, the Canadian researchers say they believe they have found evidence of a different hazard - humanotic spread.

Medical Editor Daniel Q. Haney is a special correspondent for The Associated Press.

On the Net: Conference: <http://www.ICAAC.org/ICAAC.asp>

## Upcoming Events

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**January 19, 2002 (Sat.) (DKC)**

### ***Yard Sale***

**Sharon Pitz 384-9071**

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**February 22, 2002 (Fri.)**

### ***DKC Awards Banquet***

**Jan Gray 919-990-1009**

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**Mar. 22, 2002 (Fri.)**

### ***Spring Show***

**Connie Howard 919-309-9014**

**Ridley Kessler 919-929-1955**

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**SHOW REPORT: CONFORMATION**

OWNER'S NAME	DOG'S NAME (BREED)	SHOW & DATE	CLASS	PTS	HIGHEST WIN *	SPECIAL MERIT
Steve & Dee Wallis & Bill Nelson	Willenbec Desdemona (Cavalier King Charles Spaniel)	Lumberton KC (11/16/01)	Open Bitch	1	BOS	New Champion !!!

\*Abbreviations as listed by the AKC Gazette

**PERFORMANCE SHOW REPORT: OBEDIENCE, TRACKING, HERDING, FIELD TRIALS, LURE COURSING AND AGILITY, ETC.**

OWNER'S NAME	DOG'S NAME (BREED)	SHOW & DATE	CLASS	SCORE	LEG	PLACE	SP. AWARD
Linda & Joe Kerr	ABBEY (Pembroke Welsh Corgi)	Forsythe KC (12/8/01)	Novice B	194.5	2		
"	"	DKC (12/15/01)	Novice B	194.5	3	4	New CD !!!
"	"	DKC (12/16/01)	Novice B	196.5		2	

**AKC Litter Registration Statistics for 2000 (first 10 on list)**

Rank	Breed	2000	1999	Change
1	Retrievers (Labrador)	45,332	43,264	2,068
2	Dachshunds	30,697	31,186	-489
3	Poodles	28,708	31,619	-2,911
4	Chihuahuas	28,423	29,560	-1,137
5	Yorkshire Terriers	27,183	27,307	-124
6	Pomeranians	24,130	26,594	-2,464
7	Shih Tzu	22,312	23,727	-1,415
8	Beagles	19,642	19,799	-157
9	Retrievers (Golden)	18,118	18,276	-158
10	German Shepherd Dogs	18,042	19,115	-1,073