

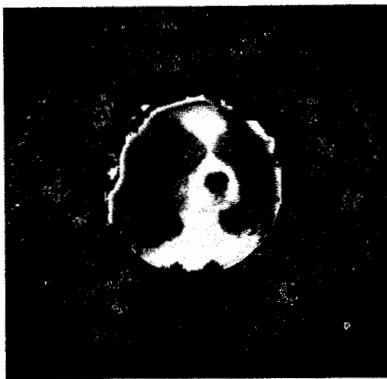


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The Cavalier Chronicle

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December 2005

“CHRISTMAS BELLE”



All Cavaliers are special, each in their individual ways. However, once in a great while one comes along that just grabs your heart and doesn't let go. Such is the case of “Christmas” Belle.

Belle comes to us with an all-too familiar story – that of an owner who, for whatever reason, does not wish to have her in her life any more. While all such stories are sad, this one in particular not only tugs at my heartstrings, but also makes me wonder how people like Belle's former owner can exist without a heart.

Belle was found wandering around Stockbridge by a wonderful gentle I have dubbed Belle's Guardian Angel. Belle's Angel arranged for a vet to examine her and during the exam it was discovered Belle had a microchip and the owner contacted. However, instead of a joyous reunion the owner stated she didn't understand how it came to be Belle was wandering around loose because she had left Belle with her vet to be euthanised as she had fleas. Furthermore, she assured Belle's Angel and the vet she had no interest in taking Belle back (very fortunate for

Belle!!!!). Belle's Angel then contacted one of our Club members who, in turn, contacted me, and Belle came to our home.

Belle is approximately 7 years old and so far is heart clear. She appears to be in very good health other than the residuals of a severe flea allergy. She is very friendly, extremely loving, is house trained as well as possessing an understanding of a surprisingly number of voice commands. All in all it is very apparent Belle will make a most lovely companion.

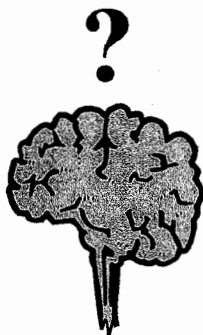
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Although I was warned this particular Cavalier would steal my heart I was not prepared for the overwhelming emotions I experienced the moment I laid eyes on her. It was a combination of sadness for what she had been through, anger that some human would be so cold hearted as to want her dead just because caring for her became a little inconvenient, and a great sense of protectiveness I have rarely experienced for Cavaliers not my own. However, I went about the business of looking for just the right home for Belle.

WHAT'S ON MY MIND Lu Dunham

I always seem to wax philosophical at this time of year, get a little sentimental, and spend a good bit of time reminiscing. As I was looking through some old files I ran across a poem that I hadn't read in quite a while. Somehow, it seems appropriate to share it with you, as it represents a lot of what's on my mind this month. Can you imagine not having "a dog"? How lonely and boring life would be. The description of "a dog" in the poem seems to exemplify the essence of the personality of the breed that we all love.



Take some time this holiday season and appreciate all that your Cavaliers bring to your life. My best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas, a happy, healthy 2006 and lots of Cavalier Comfort and Joy!

Lu

A DOG:

"Tis pity a not to have a dog, for at the long day's end, the man or boy will know the joy, of welcome from a friend. And whether he be rich or poor, or much of little bring, the dog will mark his step and bark, as if he were a King.

Though gossips whisper now and then, of faults they plainly see. And some may sneer, from year to year, my dog stays true to me. He's glad to follow where I go, and though I win or fail, his love for me he'll let me see, by wagging of his tail.

Now if I were to list the friends of mine in smiles and tears, who through and through are staunch and true, and constant down the years, In spite of all my many faults, which critics catalog, deserving blame, I'd have to name my ever-faithful dog.

Tis pity not to have a dog, whatever be his breed, for dogs possess a faithfulness, which humans sadly need. And whether skies be blue or gray, good luck or ill attend, Man's toil by day, a dog will stay, his ever-constant friend...

--- Edgar A. Guest ---

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Lu Dunham

Phone: 770 - 252 - 1907 h

Cell: 770 - 617- 4039

Email: lkdunham@mindspring.com

V-President: Kay-C Phipps

Phone: 770-987-8696 h

Email: okay111@mindspring.com

Secretary: Alice Alford

Phone: 706- 468-2595 h

Email: JONBOY5@msn.com

Treasurer: Vicki Herring

Phone: 678-284-0086 h

Email: vwherring@aol.com

Board Members:

Paula Ayers

Phone: 706-342-3292 h

404-506-3613 w

Email: playerscav@aol.com

Brenda Martz

Phone: 706-342- 9241 h

Email: cavhaven@aol.com

Susan Robinson

Phone: 770-922-8521 h

770-922-3400 w

Email: susan1948@bellsouth.net

Rescue: Geri Dueringer

Phone: 770-483-9978

Email: Mabeline1@aol.net

Sunshine: Maureen Miles

Phone: 770-460-9197

Email: mvmiles@bellsouth.net

2006 Show Chairman: David Fischer

Phone: 404-661-6767 h

678-459-3829 w

Email: canoebrook@hotmail.com

Assistant Show Chairman: Sonya Thompson

Phone: (770) 463-3753 h

Email: Kingswaycavalier@aol.com

IF I DID NOT HAVE DOGS

1. I could walk around the yard barefoot in safety.
2. My house could be carpeted instead of tiled and laminated.
3. All flat surfaces, clothing, furniture, and cars would be free of Dog hair.
4. When the doorbell rings, it wouldn't sound like the NCDL kennels.
5. When the doorbell rings, I could get to the door without wading through dog bodies who beat me there.
6. I could sit on the couch the way I wanted, without taking into consideration how much space several fur bodies would need to get comfortable.
7. I would not have strange presents under my Christmas tree-like dog bones, stuffed animals or have to answer to people why I wrap them.
8. I would not be on a first name basis with three vets.
9. The most used words in my vocabulary would not be: "out", "sit", "down", "come", "no", "stay", and "leave him/her/it ALONE".
10. My house would not be cordoned off into zones with baby gates or barriers.
11. My pockets would not contain things like poo bags, dog treats and an extra leash.
12. I would no longer have to spell the words B-A-L-L or F-R-I-S-B-E-E or W-A-L-K or C-O-O-K-I-E-S.
13. I would not have as many leaves INSIDE my house as outside.
14. I would not look strangely at people who think having their ONE dog ties them down too much.
15. I'd look forward to Spring and the melting of the snow instead of dreading "mud season".
16. I would not have to answer the question "Why do I have so many dogs?", from people who will never have the joy in their life of knowing they are loved unconditionally by something as close to an angel as they will ever get.
17. How empty my life would be....

FRIEND OR FOE?

Introducing your dog to another canine.

Unless you live in total isolation, you and your dog will inevitably encounter another dog. Though many dogs are well adjusted socially, it is important to understand that not all dogs are thrilled with the prospect of meeting a newcomer. How he will react will depend on his level of socialization, previous experience with other dogs, the other dog's behavior, the location of the meeting, whether he's on a leash or running free, and whether he's in close proximity to his owner. Many dogs will greet each other with happy wagging tails, a relaxed body posture and perhaps even a lick or two.

Some dogs will present others with a series of challenges, approaching at right angles, body tense, ears erect and tail flagging. The response to the challenge may involve acquiescing, returning the posture or perhaps even escalating the challenge placing a paw on the other's shoulder or growling.

In most cases, one of the two will fold, acknowledging the other's alpha status and often the fun and games will begin. Be aware however, that some dogs can be socially dysfunctional and may not warm-up to what he perceives as an intruder.

How your dog will react to a new friend often depends on where the meeting takes place. Dogs tend to be much more protective of their own turf. You have a much better chance of success if their first encounter takes place in a neutral location.

The best guarantee that your dog will have a happy encounter with a new friend is to understand his personality. Is he sociable or antisocial? Is he aggressive or passive? Knowing in advance can help avoid problems down the road. And remember, just because your dog is friendly that doesn't mean the other one is. Always keep your dog on a leash.

CHRISTMAS BELLE

PROPOSED AGENDA: JANUARY

Minutes of last meeting - corrections/additions

Report of the Secretary - Election 2006

Report of the Treasurer

Report of the Committees:

CKCSC Gr. Atlanta 2006 Show/

ACKCSC 2006 National Show

Conyers Show Fund Raising / drawing -

Paula Ayers

Sunshine

Rescue

ACKCSC Rescue Trust

Transition to new Coordinator -

Gerri Dueringer

Survey - Sue Hardwick

Unfinished Business:

Puppy Picnic

New Business:

Each call I made was met by answering machines with no follow-up from humans. So the first day came and went with no permanent home in sight for Belle.

That night she found her way into our bed (which is no easy task, given that 4 other quadrupeds have previously staked claims to one section or another of our steadily shrinking mattress) and settled in for a good night's sleep. The next morning she dutifully waited for me to don my robe and slippers then obediently followed me outside to take care of morning business.

After sharing my breakfast with my "roo crew" (including Belle), I set about making more calls to prospective adoptive homes, but not with the enthusiasm I usually felt. As the day wore on and no one answered my calls, I found myself taking more and longer breaks in my La-Z-Boy with Belle snuggled in comfortably at my side.

By the third day I had ceased making calls, having determined there wasn't anyone that would be good enough for Belle. So unless a *very, very, very* special person comes along who, I feel, is worthy of this wonderful Cavalier, Belle will be staying with us for the remainder of her days.

What a wonderful Christmas gift for us!!!!

From our family to yours we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and bountiful New Year!

Steve & Susan Lewis
Tommilu Braidon

DEVOTION

"He is your friend, you partner, your defender, your dog.

You are his life, his love, his leader.

He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart.

You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion."

-unknown

DREAMS OR FANTASY

The reality about dreaming dogs.

Twitching. Smiling. Pedaling or whimpering in his sleep. Could these be signs that your dog is dreaming? The answer of course, is an emphatic Yes.

The reality is that both dogs and humans dream for the same reasons to revitalize the body and mind. And though with their larger brains, humans experience five different states of sleep, dogs are similar in that they share two of the same Rapid Eye Movement (REM) and Slow Wave Sleep or SWS.

What are the differences between the two?

During SWS, the brain waves move at a slower pace and though he appears calm and at rest, this is considered a transitional state of sleep. His muscles are not totally relaxed and he may stir from time to time. This would explain why dogs who appear to be sleeping wake-up instantly at the sound of a potato chip hitting the floor.

In the REM state however, your dog is experiencing full restorative sleep. Her brain waves are moving at a much livelier pace and her eyes begin rapid eye movement. It is during REM sleep that you may notice her smiling, twitching or perhaps even experiencing the great duck hunt in her mind. This indicates that your dog in all likelihood is dreaming. It has been said that dogs, not unlike humans, who are in the REM sleep state could sleep through a tornado.

Surprisingly though, not all dogs dream. Dreaming seems to occur more often in puppies and in older dogs. Why dogs in their prime dream less is still a mystery to researchers but they theorize it could be traced to the development of the brain stem. Just remember that sleep contributes to both your dog's physical and mental well-being and the old adage, Let sleeping dogs lie are good words of advice to live by.

HEALTH WATCH

Dog allergies are nothing to sneeze at.

Dog allergies are a relatively common malady but fortunately, great strides have been made in the treatment of them. The most common sources of allergies are pollens, flea saliva, grasses, weeds, mold spores and some food ingredients. Once they come in contact with your dog, he'll react by chewing, scratching or licking the area to relieve the symptoms. Repeated licking can cause the skin to become infected and lead to more serious problems.

If you suspect your dog has allergies, the best course of action is to visit your veterinarian. He will conduct a complete exam and ask you questions to rule out obvious causes of skin discomfort such as fleas (which can be controlled) or food allergies. Your vet may suggest skin tests conducted by a specialist to pinpoint the exact cause of allergies. He will then treat the skin infection with antibiotics while determining whether your dog could benefit from a prescription topical spray, antihistamines or perhaps a cortisone shot.

You can do your part too by ensuring your dog's bed and yard areas are free of fleas and also by limiting his outdoor activity during particularly high allergen days.

DUES REMINDER:

Remember to pay
your 2006 dues

CLUB MINUTES

The December, 2005 meeting of the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Greater Atlanta, Inc. was called to order by President Lu Dunham at 7:32PM on 12-06-2005 at the Steak and Ale on LaVista Rd. (16) Sixteen members were present. We had three guests, Missy Crane, Samantha Breeden, and Tommy Thompson.

Approval of Minutes: Susan Lewis made a motion to accept the November minutes as published in the newsletter. Seconded by Vickie Herring. Motion passed.

Secretary Report

Alice Alford read note from Carolyn Adams advising that she had a litter for sale. Also read for the first time application for Regular membership from Melissa Crane and for Junior membership, Samantha Breeden, both from Roswell, Ga. Melissa has three cavaliers and also has Shih Tzu. Kathryn Phipps and Patricia Lander are their sponsors.

Treasurer Report

Vickie Herring gave the Treasurer's report. Vickie also advised that she had sent membership renewal statements by U.S. Mail this year since we now send our newsletters by e-mail.

Committee Reports

Report of the National and CKCSC of Atlanta Show Committees

Premium list is almost ready. There will be an insert "One Stop Shopping" list so one will be able to sign up for what they would like to attend. Discussion about the Seminar to be sponsored by our club. Discussion about food for breakfast and lunch. Discussion about whether we wanted to have a wrap-up party on Sunday. Motion by Jeff Herring that we would charge \$20.00 for wrap-up party and our club would pay \$5.00 per person. Pat Lander seconded. Vote was taken and - motion failed. Lu Dunham

DECEMBER

stepped down from the chair and made motion to cancel the Wrap-Up party. Pat Lander seconded. Vote taken and motion passed. Motion by Sonya Thompson to have "All Day Breaks" instead of breakfasts and/or lunches on Saturday and Sunday. Seconded by Alice Alford. Motion carried. This will cost our club approximately \$3500.00 for both days. Discussion about what to charge for the Saturday Dinner and Seminar. Alice Alford made a motion to charge \$35.00. Susan Robinson seconded. Motion carried. David Fischer donated \$500.00 toward our expenses for the food at our show. The National Club has approved us to sell our 50/50 drawing tickets all week. Lu asked for volunteers to handle the 50/50 raffle as our club's fund raiser at the show. Alice Alford volunteered to handle this.

Old Business

Puppy Picnic

Alice Alford reported this is still in the planning stages.

Holiday Party

Reminder that our Holiday Party will be at the home of Jeff and Vickie Herring on Sunday, Dec 11th starting about 2:00pm They live in Stockbridge.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee's slate of officers was not sent to the voting membership according to the time line required by our bylaws, therefore that slate was declared "null and void". Nominations from the floor were the next in the order of business. Luanne Dunham was nominated for President. Sonya Thompson was nominated for Board of Directors. Discussion was held about the validity of the nominating committee's slate. Vickie Herring made a motion that we "lay aside the bylaws" accept the slate, hold nominations from the floor in January, and vote in February. Jeff Herring Sec-

ended. Vote taken and motion failed. Since two of the nominating committees candidates were not present to accept their nominations from the floor and there were no written acceptance statements available, Vickie Herring made a motion that we accept e-mail letters sent within 48 hours to the Secretary by those candidates stating they would accept the nomination. Seconded by Kay-C Phipps. Vote taken and motion passed. Susan Lewis made motion to close the nominations, seconded by Helen Jesse.

Voting will be held at our regular January meeting. The list of candidates for officers and board of directors are as follows: President – Lu Dunham and Pat Lander, Vice-President – Kay-C Phipps, Secretary – Alice Alford, Treasurer – Vickie Herring, Board members – Brenda Martz, Paula Ayers, Susan Robinson and Sonya Thompson.

New Business

Rescue

Susan Lewis has in rescue a 7 year old tri female (Belle). She was found wandering around in Stockbridge. The gentleman who found her carried her to a vet and paid for her care; he would not accept any reimbursement. Belle is housetrained and very sweet. For now, Belle is living with the Lewis's. Susan Lewis made a motion that we give this gentleman a \$50.00 gift certificate to Pet Smart and also a club T-Shirt. Kay-C Phipps seconded. Motion carried.

Programs for 2006

Lu advised she was working on having dog related programs for the year 2006. Several suggestions were... Canine Good Citizenship- given by Alice Alford, Lu has been in contact with the AKC to get a Rep to do a program on a Bench Committee. Also Lu asked if we would be interested in having a Dog First Aid Class as a program. Response was very favorable for a program such

as this. If anyone has additional program/ activity suggestions please contact one of the officers or board members.

Jeff Herring made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Helen Jesse. Motion passed and meeting was closed at 10:05pm.

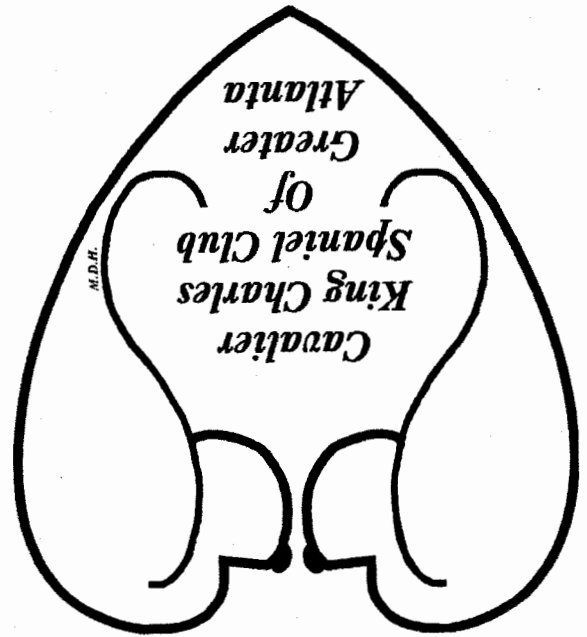
Respectfully submitted,
Alice Alford, Secretary

Attendance for December 2005

Alice Alford
Susan Robinson
Vickie Herring
Jeff Herring
Kay-C Phipps
Steve Lewis
Susan Lewis
Sonya Thompson
Carolyn Powell
Michael Lander
Pat Lander
David Fischer
Rita Guest
John Guest
Lu Dunham
Helen Jesse

Visitors

Missy Crane
Samantha Breeden
Tommy Thompson



Address club correspondence to:
CKCSC of Greater Atlanta
C/o Alice Alford, Secretary
2590 Dumas Road,
Hillsboro, GA 31038
Address Newsletter correspondence to:
Helen Jesse
Email: oskot@mindspring.com

Important CKCSC of Grater Atlanta Meeting Notice

Steak & Ale

2150 North Lake Parkway, Tucker, GA.

The regular general club meeting held on the first Tuesday of the Month – begins promptly at 7:30 pm.

If you need directions call: 770—939—3582