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## Greater Twin Cities Dalmatian Club Newsletter

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© 2009 S. McCormick  
Rosie's Toby does the A-frame

### **Announcing the AKC Registration Pledge Challenge – A call to action for AKC Member Clubs**

AKC Member Clubs bring together knowledgeable breeders and fanciers who carry forward AKC's message of responsible dog care, who value and understand the importance of purebred dogs, and who introduce new dog owners to AKC educational opportunities, events, and programs.

As a leader of your Member Club, you know that AKC relies on fees from litter and dog registrations to fund those programs and to remain the leading advocate for purebred dogs. But too often, new owners forget to register their puppies. Currently, fewer than half the puppies from AKC litters become registered.

To introduce the Pledge to your club members, we invite you to participate in the AKC Registration Pledge Challenge, a contest for AKC Member Clubs.

[Accept](#) the AKC Registration Pledge Challenge on behalf of your Member Club.

For questions about the AKC Registration Pledge, the contest, or how to sign up your Member Club, please send an email to [regpledge@akc.org](mailto:regpledge@akc.org) or call (919) 816-3645.



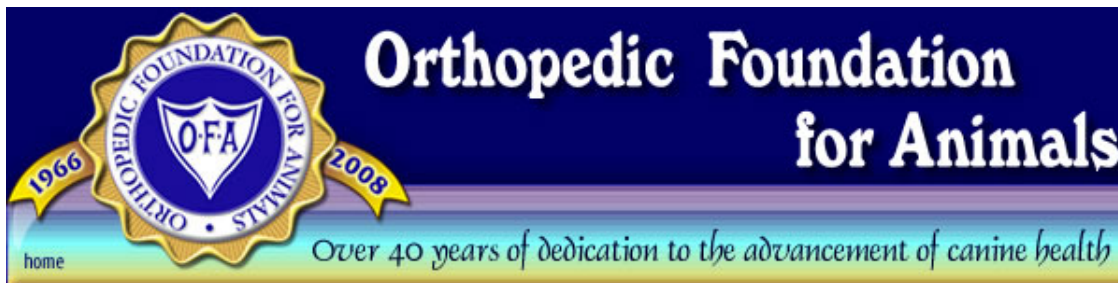
## All Dalmatian Owners are Cordially Invited to become Research Assistants and contribute to Canine Health

The CHIC DNA Repository is pleased to announce that it will be holding a DNA Collection Clinic after the **2009 Greater Twin Cities Dalmatian Club Specialty** show on **Saturday August 22, 2009**.

DNA samples will be collected via blood sample and will be stored in the Veterinary Genetics Lab at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Approximately 2 tubes will be collected per dog. The sample collection process is quick and should not affect the dog's ability to compete at the show. All collection and storage costs for samples collected during this event will be underwritten by the DCAF and OFA.

Pre-Registration is not required, although it is recommended and requested that owners complete the required paperwork ahead of time. Forms can be downloaded from the DCA website at [www.thedca.org](http://www.thedca.org). Forms will also be available the day of the show.

*The CHIC DNA Repository, jointly sponsored by the OFA and the AKC CHF, collects and stores canine DNA samples along with corresponding pedigree and phenotypic health information to facilitate canine health research.*



## AKC Announces Government Relations Department

The AKC Government Relations Department assists state federations and local clubs in fighting anti-dog initiatives across the country, including those that contain numerical limits on ownership, excessive regulation, mandates on breeding ages without regard to reproductive differences within breeds or the use of reproductive technology, and in many cases, provisions that would allow for warrantless searches of private property including breeders' homes.

The first step in fighting anti-dog initiatives is keeping yourself informed. You can access pending canine legislation, bill text, official legislative summaries, the latest legislative developments, the progress of specific bills, and AKC legislative alerts and messages for your state with the new [AKC Government Relations 2009 Legislation Tracking tool](#).

You can receive monthly updates on the work of the AKC Government Relations Department with their newsletter, *Taking Command*. Go to [your subscription center](#) and check the *Taking Command* box at the bottom of the page.



# On the job: Michael Ritchie provides technical, investigative expertise in handling hazardous materials incidents

Michael Ritchie's path to becoming a hazardous materials specialist began in 1984, when he was hired by the department to serve as a motor transportation representative.

At that time, there were only two hazmat specialist positions within the agency and both were occupied. The positions were relatively new, having been created in 1980 due to federal hazmat regulations adopted by the state of Minnesota. Although the regulations were in place before 1980, not many of the states were enforcing them, according to Ritchie.

In 1988, Ritchie applied for and became the agency's third hazmat specialist. For 21 years he has held his position, making him the most senior member of the current crew of hazmat specialists, which also includes Jim Fox, Kevin Kampa and Randy Kudzia.

## What are your daily duties?

Most people think that hazmat specialists deal mainly with emergency response. In reality, only part of our duties pertain to emergency response issues.

Hazmat specialists conduct compliance reviews, hazmat cargo inspections and provide hazmat and motor carrier safety training.

I also spend a lot of time answering hazmat questions from the industry and interested citizens, as well as coordinating our activities with the USDOT and various state agencies.

## What you do when responding to an emergency?

We are dispatched by the Minnesota Duty Officer, who works for the Department of Public Safety and is the single point for requesting state agency assistance and reporting hazmat spills. We are on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

When we arrive at an incident, we have two primary responsibilities.

The first is to be part of the incident command system and provide support and technical expertise to the incident commander. The incident commander is usually the local fire chief or emergency manager.

We work closely with other state agencies at an incident scene and provide knowledge and experience in hazmat packaging, including the design of cargo tanks, procedures for product transfer and up-righting rolled-over vehicles. The goal is to get the incident handled safely, prevent or reduce chemical releases and get the highway reopened.

*Cont. on page 4*



Second, we figure out why the incident happened by performing an investigation to determine if the incident was caused or made more serious by violations of the hazardous material or motor carrier safety regulations.

If hazmat shipper or carrier violations are discovered, we document them and refer the responsible shipper or carrier for regulatory review. The review may direct the responsible party to take immediate corrective action to prevent further violations or unsafe activities.

### **What type of incidents do you respond to?**

We have responded to a variety of incidents over the years.

Our top priority is hazmat transportation incidents, which include the release or potential release of hazmat cargo at a crash or during the loading or unloading of a truck.

Transloading mishaps occur when hazardous material leaks during the transfer of cargo from a truck to rail car or vice versa.

We also deal with fires or chemical releases that occur at a facility near a highway, illegal dumping of hazmat on the right of way or any other incident that affects a road or highway.

In cases where someone has illegally dumped hazardous material on Mn/DOT right of way, we attempt to identify the guilty party. Every once in awhile, we get lucky and are able to trace the material back to the responsible party.

### **Who cleans up the mess?**

It is the duty of the responsible party to prevent discharges, clean up all spilled material and dispose of the waste properly.

However, department policy allows maintenance workers to contain and remove vehicle fluids, but not hazmat cargo, to get a roadway open.

### **Describe an interesting incident you or your team responded to.**

My partner, Jim Fox, responded to a BLEVE on Hwy 7 in Olivia last year just before Thanksgiving. A BLEVE, which is very rare, is an incident that involves a boiling-liquid-expanding-vapor explosion.

The incident involved a driver who turned his propane cargo tanker over causing it to rupture and explode. That's extremely unusual because propane cargo tanks are generally tough.

I responded to a gasoline tanker rollover on Hwy 75 in Lac Qui Parle County in February. The trucker was driving in white out conditions, lost sight of the road and ran into the ditch.

I checked with District 8 staff and the State Patrol and was told travel in the area was unsafe. Local responders who made it to the scene reported the tanker was not leaking so we decided to leave the truck where it was, as it was unsafe for recovery crews to operate.

I then contacted the trucking company and we scheduled the recovery effort for the next day. The following morning I supervised the off-loading of the cargo tank and, thankfully, no gasoline was spilled.

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Minnesota Department of Transportation**





*All Dalmatian Owners are Cordially  
Invited to become Research Assistants and  
contribute to Canine Health*

The CHIC DNA Repository and The Dalmatian Club of America are pleased to announce that they will be holding DNA Collection Clinics at regional Dalmatian specialties through out the country.

DNA samples will be collected via blood samples and will be stored at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Approximately 5-10 ccs of whole blood will be collected per dog. The sample process is quick and should not affect the dog's ability to compete at the show. All collection and storage costs for samples collected during these events will be underwritten by The Dalmatian Club of America Foundation and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals.

Pre-Registration is not required, although it is recommended and requested that owners complete the required paperwork ahead of time. Forms can be downloaded from the DCA web site [www.thedca.org](http://www.thedca.org). Forms will also be available the day of the show.



*The CHIC DNA Repository, jointly sponsored by the OFA and the AKC CHC, collects and stores canine DNA samples along with corresponding pedigree and phenotypic health information to facilitate canine health research.*



Photo © Krizma Images



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB  
CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION

## The Importance of Puppy Socialization

By Arliss Paddock

This article was found on the AKC website and is reprinted here with the permission of the AKC.

<http://www.akc.org/enewsletter/yourakc/2009/march/puppy.cfm>

From the very start, a puppy learns important lessons through his experience of the world around him. Even in the first few weeks as he snuggles with his dam, wrestles with his littermates, and is handled by his breeder each day, the personality traits and social skills that he will have all his life are beginning to form.

As the weeks go by, exposure to a variety of experiences is crucial to his becoming a well-rounded adult. Studies have shown that a puppy's experiences in the first three months of life strongly influence what kind of companion he will grow to be and how he will react to the world. Will he shy away from children? Will he be afraid of people in hats? Will he be aggressive toward other dogs? Or will he be easygoing and adaptable in a variety of situations?

Perhaps surprisingly, failure to properly expose a young puppy to certain situations or types of people during this brief early period can result in his being forever fearful of them as an adult. Early socialization—or the lack of it—is a vital determinant of a dog's lifelong behaviors. Without proper socialization, it is unlikely that a pup will become the adult dog he could have been, whether as a competitor in canine events or as a happy, well-adjusted pet.



Labrador Retriever. Photo by Mary Bloom.

### Windows of Opportunity

But what exactly is “proper socialization”? Socialization is the process of exposing a puppy from early on to as wide a variety of environments, situations, animals, and types of people as can be done safely and without causing trauma to the pup.

Canine-behavior researchers have found that there are several crucial “socialization windows” in the first year—limited periods

during which the pup is receptive to the lifelong benefits of exposure to new things. Of these periods, the earliest—the first 12 weeks of life—is the most critical. According to the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB), sociability outweighs fear during this period, making it “the primary window of opportunity for puppies to adapt to new people, animals, and experiences.” This period is when the pup first learns to accept and enjoy the company of people, to behave appropriately around other dogs, and to experience the differing aspects of the world around him without fear.

Soon after 12 weeks, most pups will enter a fear-prone period in their development. After this point, if the pup has not been well socialized it may be at best permanently difficult for him to adapt to certain unfamiliar experiences.

“Basically, an adult dog's temperament and behavior habits, both good and bad, are shaped during puppyhood—very early puppyhood,” says veterinarian and leading animal behaviorist Dr. Ian Dunbar, author of *Before & After Getting Your Puppy*. Further, Dunbar notes that behavior issues are the number-one cause of relinquishment to shelters.

Thus it is essential that as a breeder you understand the importance of socialization. Although its benefits continue throughout (and beyond) the first 18 months of the dog's life, remember that the most critical socialization period ends at 12 weeks, so the bulk if not all of this most-vital groundwork is up to you.

### Strategies

What can a breeder do to properly socialize each pup? The starting point is for the litter to be raised within a home environment with frequent human contact, rather than secluded in the yard or a kennel. This is the first step in ensuring that the pups will be prepared for life in a household, with all the sounds, smells, and hustle-and-bustle that this entails.

Some breeders will move a litter from room to room on progressive weeks, to change the scene and familiarize the pups with such varied sounds as those of the dishwasher, television, and washer-dryer. Others like to situate the puppy pen near the home's center of activity, so the pups are exposed to comings and goings and hear a variety of human voices.

The litter should be accustomed to human touch from the start. Most breeders pick up each puppy at least daily, usually to weigh or otherwise inspect them and assess their condition. Puppies can be gently held in different positions and get used to having different parts of their body handled.

“My puppies are handled every day from birth,” says longtime English Cocker Spaniel breeder Betty Ganung. “I start trimming their nails at 2 weeks, and by 5 weeks they are introduced to clippers and have toys to play with and some individual playtime.”

As puppies mobilize themselves and begin exploring, it's important that they experience a wide variety of textures, stimuli, and challenges. Experienced breeders recommend

providing a variety of surfaces for the pups to walk on, such as carpeting, slippery floors, and bumpy terrain. Have the pups learn about stairs. Set up “obstacle courses” for them to figure out and climb up and down or through, and include unstable elements that (safely) tip or wobble underfoot. Provide toys in a range of sizes, shapes, and materials.

Take the pups on frequent short trips in the car. Bring them into large buildings if possible, and, once they are vaccinated, to a variety of parks and outdoor situations where they can safely meet other dogs and encounter other animals.

#### “100 People by 12 Weeks”

Most important of all is to expose the pups to as wide a variety of people as possible—people of differing ages, sizes, skin color, and dress. Many dogs can be particularly apprehensive of men and very small children if they were not exposed to them during the early socialization period. “I invite neighborhood kids over to play with all my pups,” says Ganung. “I let them pick them up, always while I’m there to supervise.”

Dunbar recommends that a puppy meet at least 100 different people by age 12 weeks. “Not only is this easier to do than it might sound,” he explains, “it’s also lots of fun.” Breeders can arrange to have small groups of friends and family visit the pups, and take pups to public areas such as pet-supply stores and school grounds.

#### A Standard of Care

Because of the evidence that early socialization can prevent serious canine behavior problems such as fear, avoidance, and aggression, in 2008 the AVSAB issued the position statement that it should be the standard of care for puppies to be socialized in the first 12 weeks.

An excellent means of early socialization is for puppies to attend puppy-kindergarten classes. Although many vets have held that puppies should not be exposed to strange dogs before 12 to 16 weeks because of disease risk, the AVSAB supports participation in puppy kindergarten classes before the full series of puppy vaccines has been completed as long as all puppies in the class are vet-checked to be healthy and parasite-free upon entering the class and are kept current on vaccinations.

An AVSAB position statement says, “Veterinarians specializing in behavior recommend that owners take advantage of every safe opportunity to expose young puppies to the great variety of stimuli that they will experience in their lives. Enrolling in puppy classes prior to 3 months of age can be an excellent means of improving training, strengthening the human-animal bond, and socializing puppies in an environment where risk of illness can be minimized.”

By taking steps to see that the pups you breed are properly socialized during those critical first 12 weeks, you are helping to ensure that they will grow to be happy, well-rounded companions for life.

*Arliss Paddock breeds and shows English Cocker Spaniels and is former managing editor of the AKC Gazette. This article appeared in the Winter 2008 issue of AKC Breeder, the AKC’s newsletter for breeders.*



## Additional Links to Articles on Breeding and Puppy Care

### Breeding Better Dogs

By Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia  
<http://www.breedingbetterdogs.com/>

Dr. Battaglia has a number of articles on line including:

#### Early Neurological Stimulation

[http://www.breedingbetterdogs.com/articles/early\\_neurological\\_stimulation\\_en.html](http://www.breedingbetterdogs.com/articles/early_neurological_stimulation_en.html)



### Whelping and Puppy Care Recipes

<http://www.quinn-carlin.ca/WhelpingPuppyCareRecipes.php>



### Myra Savant Harris website:

<http://www.myrasavantharris.com/>



### Breeding, Whelping, and Rearing Puppies

<http://www.k9web.com/dog-faqs/medical/whelping.html>



### Choosing Your Puppy (PAT) Volhard’s Puppy Aptitude Testing

<http://www.volhard.com/pages/pat.php>



# Club News



© 2009 S. Dennis

Hi Cheryl, here's a photo of Daniel playing soccer for the newsletter.

Our weekends are filled with either soccer games or tournaments these days. Daniel (in red) plays soccer on a Madison 56ers 1st Division team, which means we travel to the Milwaukee area, Rockford, Green Bay (the farthest) on most weekends either for games or tournaments. It's almost like showing dogs, long drives for 80 minutes of time on the field regardless of the weather (except for lightening!) For those who remember Daniel as the little tow-headed boy playing ringside, he's 15 1/2 now!

Thanks,  
Sandy Dennis



## *With Sympathy to the Miller family*

### **Alma Belle Disbro**

Mrs. Disbro, 87, of Rochester, died of a lengthy illness on Saturday (May 30, 2009) at Saint Mary's Hospital in Rochester.

Alma (Cornell) was born April 1, 1922 in Binghamton, NY. She married Stanley R. Disbro on May 25, 1940, in Binghamton, NY. He died April 11, 1999. Alma lived in Los Gatos, CA, from March of 1956 to July of 1995.

Mrs. Disbro was a wife and mother. She also was a member of the Rochester Senior Center Young at Heart Choral Singing Group and volunteered at the Los Gatos Community Hospital. Alma loved traveling, reading, and cross-stitching/needlework. Alma also loved her grandkids and great grandkids.

Mr. Disbro was retired from IBM.

Survivors include a son, James (Eileen) Disbro of Colorado Springs, CO, and two daughters Phyllis Maxwell and Ruth (Rick) Miller, both of Rochester; eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband and two brothers.

The family prefers memorials to the Rochester Senior Center.





**Jim Tarbox and Stella**

**OTCh Stella** briefly emerged from retirement to participate in April's Veterans Class at the St. Paul Dog Training Obedience Trials. She and her new partner, **Jim**, scored 195.5 and took first place. Ever the diva, **Stella**—who turned 13 in June—still enjoys the limelight (and attention and treats) that illuminate her now infrequent public appearances.



## **CH RedCoach Tapestry Promise Kept - 'Ella'**

**CH Paisley's Promises Promises 'Simon' x Red Coach Starlite Destiny 'Tess'**

Ella finished her championship in Bloomington, IL on Sunday May 24 with a four point major under j. F. Sabella.

She is the second CH for Simon and the first CH for Tess.

Ella finished her title with three majors, a Best In Sweeps and a Best Sr. in Sweeps.

**Breeders: Paula and Dan Pollock**  
**Owners: Cheryl Bryant and Steve Whittlesey**

# Braggs

## Patrick Jones

Casper and Laramie Wyoming shows - Memorial Day weekend.

**Tim, Avalons Couture for Royalty**, was WD in Casper 5/22/09, for 1 point, RWD 5/23/09. Then we went to Laramie Wyoming and he won BOB on 5/24/09 for a 3 point major and WD 5/25/09 for another 1 point.

We also showed **Bella, Ravin and Southstreets Bella the Ball**, in the 12-18 month class. She won RWD, best puppy and went on to best puppy in group on 5/22/09.

The non-sporting puppy group was the largest puppy group that day.



## Sue MacMillan\Ginger & Mark Iwaoka

### Am/Can Ch. Paisley NspirD By Broadway – Argus

Marshalltown Iowa Kennel Club  
Argus went Best of Breed and Group 1 both days

Rock Island Kennel Club May 16  
Argus went Best of Breed and Group 3

Corn Belt Kennel Club May 24  
Argus went Best of Breed and Group 3

Fox River Valley Kennel Club May 29 & 30  
Argus went Best of Breed both days and Group 1 both days!

Lake Minnetonka Kennel Club June 6 & 7  
Argus went Best of Breed both days and on to a Group 1 & a Group 2

Fort Dodge Kennel Club June 13 & 14  
Argus went Best of Breed both days and on to a Group 3 & a Group 1.

Argus has 8 Group Ones for the year, and is in the Top 10 Dals along with his son **Bennett**.

Argus's kids have been doing well too, with daughter **Rita** defeating two specials and earning a Group 3 & Group 4, son **Bennett** winning a Group 1 (the same day **Argus** also won the Group), and kids **Ru, Krash, Naughtia & Hottie** winning points.



© 2009 J. MacMillan

Pauli, Pepper and Simmie



© 2009 J. MacMillan

The girls eating their raw dinner

# Specialty Trophy Donations Membership Renewals



Dear Members and Friends:

The Greater Twin Cities Dalmatian Club held its first Specialty in 1990, and is anticipating its 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Specialty on August 21, 2009, as part of the St. Croix Valley Combined Specialties. The tradition of competition and the recognition of excellent examples of the breed make the Specialty a great place to see Dalmatians at their finest.

Please consider making a donation to the trophy fund to help the Club continue to make the Specialty an event to remember.

In order to make it easy on everyone by writing one check, I have also been asked to remind you that memberships renew on 6/1. Individuals are \$15 and Families are \$25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Becky Loader  
[mrloader915@yahoo.com](mailto:mrloader915@yahoo.com)

## 2009 GTCDC Specialty Trophy Fund

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Kennel Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Renewal

Individual \_\_\_\_\_ (\$15)

Family \_\_\_\_\_ (\$25)

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to GTCDC and mail this form and check to:**

Mr. Tom Demma, 7430 Jeffery Lane S, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

# Membership Application Greater Twin Cities Dalmatian Club

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name and AKC number (if registered) of at least one Dalmatian Owned \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of any other dog clubs? **Yes / No**. If yes, please list \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to work as a member of the club for advancement of the Dalmatian, for sportsmanship and for the interest of the club? **Yes / No**.

I the undersigned, hereby apply for membership in the Greater Twin Cities Dalmatian Club. I certify that I am the required age of 18 or older and am currently in good standing with the American Kennel Club. I hereby agree to abide by the constitution and by-laws of the Greater Twin Cities Dalmatian Club and by the rules and regulations of the club and of the American Kennel Club.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed by \_\_\_\_\_ Club Member      2<sup>nd</sup> by \_\_\_\_\_ Club Member

Fee for membership is \$15.00 per year. Membership includes the newsletter, which gives notice of club activities.

**Send applications to Ruth Miller, Secretary. 1440 Woodland Dr. SW. Rochester, MN 55902-1040**

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Voted on \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

GTDCDC Membership Application 7/05

**Board:**

President	Rick Miller	507-252-1107	<a href="mailto:Avalondalmatian@gmail.com">Avalondalmatian@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Dawn West	651-459-6900	<a href="mailto:Dawnmwest@comcast.net">Dawnmwest@comcast.net</a>
Secretary	Sue MacMillan	651-690-5833	<a href="mailto:SueMac@paisleydals.com">SueMac@paisleydals.com</a>
Treasurer	Tom Demma	651-459-6900	<a href="mailto:Tommyjd@comcast.net">Tommyjd@comcast.net</a>
Board Members:	Cheryl Bryant	319-895-4057	<a href="mailto:bryantcheryl@earthlink.net">bryantcheryl@earthlink.net</a>
	Jessica MacMillan	651-233-4417	<a href="mailto:spotted101@hotmail.com">spotted101@hotmail.com</a>
	Stephanie Zambrano	612-309-1826	<a href="mailto:Stephanie_L_Zambrano@uhc.com">Stephanie_L_Zambrano@uhc.com</a>



© 2009 R. Branaman

From Rosie in May: Few nights ago Hottie brought the caterpillar over next to me and started systematically plucking its legs off. We have had this green critter for over a year, and NO ONE had removed a leg previously.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Meetings are normally held the third Friday of the month. Meetings and programs are always open to members and guests. Membership dues are \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per family and include a newsletter subscription. Membership follows our fiscal year which is July 1 - June 30.

**SUBSCRIPTION** (only)

\$13.00 per year (within the U.S.)  
\$15.00 per year (outside the U.S.)

**ADVERTISING**

Members:

1/2 page - \$5.00  
Full page - \$10.00 (blk/wht photo)  
- \$15.00 (color photo)

Non-Members:

1/2 page - \$7.50  
Full page - \$15.00(blk/wht photo)  
- \$20.00 (color photo)

**EDITOR**

Cheryl Bryant

[mailto:bryantcheryl@earthlink.net](mailto:mailto:bryantcheryl@earthlink.net)

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

On or before Aug 7th for inclusion in the next issue.

