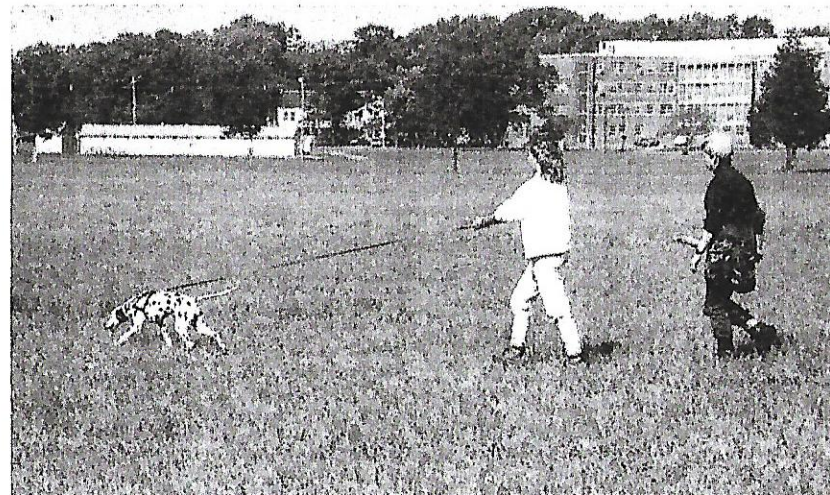


DALMATIANS IN OBEDIENCE

By Cathy Murphy

DCSNE HOLDS SECOND TRACKING CLINIC: Prue Stuhr sends the following information: Oct. 19, 1991, The Dal Club of Southern New England held a second fall Tracking Clinic to introduce the sport to some and reinforce skills for others. Five Dals and their handlers, plus 3 other dogs participated. Debbie Fowler and Mindy, Elias Friedman with Pongo, Ronnie Schoelzel with Deedee, Sally Coppus and Casey, and Prue Stuhr with Brambles made up the Dalmatian contingent. Other dogs were a beagle, a springer, and a min. wirehaired dachshund.



*Debbie Fowler with Mindy returned to Tracking Clinic for second year.
Candy Martin, Instructor, Observing*



Ronnie Schoelzel with Deedee (DCA Member)

Candy Martin, Instructor with Dal Handler: Barbara Partridge's Mini-Dachs, Cozy

Debbie Fowler with Mindy (DCA Member)

Elias Freedman with Pongo

Prue Stuhr with Brambles

Excellent weather held, although the wind picked up as the day went on. Cover was 3 to 5 inch high grass. Candy Martin returned as instructor, an advantage as she knew two of the dogs from the first clinic. Candy discussed what tracking is, recommended equipment and how to get started. The handlers laid three straight tracks for each other, increasing the length from 40 to 70 feet, aging from 5 to 10 minutes for the dogs to work on. Later another track was laid with one corner turn and aged for 10 minutes.

One of the reasons for offering the clinic was to encourage people to take the time to prepare for the DCA Tracking Test scheduled for Saturday, August 8, 1992 in Reading, PA. How should one get ready for the Test? Find someone who has tracking experience and set up a time to get started. Locate books and information about tracking. Try to track once a week. Keep your Dal motivated to track. Go to a tracking seminar or take lessons from a tracking instructor. Set your goals for certification. A tracking judge must certify you, meaning that he or she must lay out a regulation track for you, then sign a paper that you are ready to enter the Test. We hope to have at least seven dogs entered August of 1992 with a preference for Dalmatians who haven't yet received a Tracking Dog title. If you would like further information about tracking or the 1992 Tracking Test you may contact Prue Stuhr, 340 Bigelow St., Marlborough, MA 01752-1063. PH: 508-485-7227.