

Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston

OTTER



TALES

Spring and Summer 2012

Inside This Issue

Published Quarterly

LRCGB Officers & Board of Directors

President

Sue Willumsen
willcare@comcast.net

Vice President

Ruth Solomon, DVM
sealcovelr@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Gail Conway
labrsq@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary

Nancie Freitas
nfreitas@freitasgroup.com

Corresponding Secretary

Beth Teixeira
macgregorlabs@cox.net

Newspaper Editor

Robin Anderson
grampianlabs@comcast.net

Board Members

Shirley Cardello
acardello22@comcast.net

Maria Corrigan
bimwhim28@hotmail.com

Lisa Kinsman
lkinsman@northbridgeins.com

Peggy Lands
nightwindlabs@mindspring.com

Marilyn Meewes
wandavp@aol.com

Pam Nolin-Shaw
stella513@aol.com

Karen Pandolfi
mkpandolfi@comcast.net

Milly Secco
milly@remaxtraditions.com

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Publication Information

Otter Tales is published quarterly. Contributions of brags, articles, or event information are very welcome.

Email submissions to:
grampianlabs@comcast.net

Publications deadlines are:

Spring	February 15
Summer	May 15
Fall	August 15
Winter	November 15

Submissions may also be made on CD or snail mailed for scanning. I can return anything if you include a SASE.

Mail them to:
Robin Anderson
20 Fairway Drive
Seekonk, MA 02771

From the President

This space is saved for our President to write things you might find interesting, or things that interest her. This issue, sadly, she has writer's block. Maybe the membership can send her ideas for the next issue, which will be Fall 2012.

Sue Willumsen: willcare@comcast.net

Club News

<http://www.lrcgb.org/blog/>

Check out this new area of our club site.

Events are listed on the Club Website:
www.lrcgb.org

Photos of events are on the club web site:
www.lrcgb.org

If event chairs want results or any other news of our club events to make it to this publication, please send them to me at: grampian-labs@comcast.net. I will always save you a space. I will be happy to include photos, stories, results, you name it! I know everyone is busy, but please be sure to remember the newsletter. Submission dates are on the front page.

Contact Us

Membership
Denise Fiandaca
ddlaborador@aol.com

Breeder Referral Coordinator
Barb Burri
bburri@comcast.net
603-378-0098

Webmaster
Rainer Fuchs
webmaster@lrcgb.org

Membership Email Group

The Club maintains an email group to facilitate communication between Club members. Anyone who joins the group can post notices about events, brag about your accomplishments, ask questions about Club stuff, training, and breeding.

Go to <http://groups.google.com/group/labrador-retriever-club-of-greater-boston> and follow the instructions to join the group. Your membership will be approved and you can stay current with Club and member news.

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Hunting

Labrador Retrievers are outstanding gun dogs, bred to hunt waterfowl and upland game under difficult conditions. Hunt tests and field trials are used to demonstrate the Labrador's exceptional hunting abilities.

The Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston runs several AKC-sanctioned hunt tests per year. Information about upcoming tests and results from past tests will be posted here.

Rules and regulations can be obtained from the AKC Retriever Hunt Test page. Up-to-date listings of all upcoming AKC hunt tests and field trials events in the New England area are available from the AKC Events Search page.

Working Certificate

LRCGB also offers the less competitive working certificate (WC). A dog that fulfills the working certificate requirements has demonstrated that it is not gun-shy and willing to retrieve birds on land and in water. In addition to the working certificate, LRCGB also offers a WC Intermediate (WCI) and WC Excellent (WCX) title. The requirements are similar to AKC senior and master hunt tests but test only a dog's marking abilities and do not require any blind handling skills by dogs or handlers. WCI and WCX are club titles and not recognized by the LRC. The WC/I/X tests take place in July.

Beginning Retriever Training

If you're interested in training your young Labrador to become an enthusiastic retriever, join the Beginning Retrievers Field Training Class, offered by LRCGB each spring at the Delaney Wildlife Management Area in Stow, MA.

Classes are held for eight weeks on Tuesday afternoons, starting in April each year. Please check the web site for more information or to register.

Advanced Retriever Training

We will again have a guided training group for all levels of experience on Tuesday nights at Delaney, from March 27 through October 9, 2012. Check the web site for more information.

Quote from Margaret Stubbs:

The Delaney Group had a phenomenal year (2011). There were many titles at all levels. AND six dogs qualified for and ran in the Master National Retriever Hunt Test in Maryland in October! All six teams are graduates of Karen Kase's Beginner Field Training Class and are grateful for the solid foundation and sound start she gave us in field work and for her continuing guidance and encouragement.

March 2012 Obedience and Rally Trial Photos

<http://www.mwphodography.com/gallery-LabRetCGB-ObedTrial-030312.html>

<http://www.mwphodography.com/gallery-LabRetCGB-RallyTrial-030412.html>

"If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven and very, very few persons."-
James Thurber



For all those involved in dog sports, from shows to trials, we need you. North Country Sustainability Center, Inc, a 501(c)(3) regional organization is trying to purchase a foreclosed riding stable. This facility includes an indoor riding arena (130'X150') and a padded stable that can be subdivided into a space for dog training or classrooms. Our mission is to support and promote the local economy and a sustainable community for Central New England. The dog spaces would be available for rent, and for consultants to use, especially if they are members of NCSC. For more information about NCSC visit our website at www.northcountrysustain.org or call the Executive Director at 978-252-5021.

There will be an informational meeting at the NCSC leased facility at 12 Memorial Drive, Ashburnham, MA on June 6 at 7:30 p.m. This meeting will be a place to get questions answered, potentially visit the site and see how NCSC and the dog sport community can work together to make our region more sustainable for the future.

Patricia G Stewart
 President/ Executive Director
 North Country Sustainability Center, Inc.
 PO Box 914
 Ashburnham, MA 01430
 978-252-5021
www.northcountrysustain.org
www.growingfuture.wordpress.com

Subject: MassFed - recent legislation action

MassFed Club Delegates, Alternates, Secretaries & Associate Members,

Please note recent action on various bills - see our website for more info:

HB2054 - Homeowner's Insurance - Support - 03/15/12 Sent to Study

HB1445 - An Act Relative to the Regulation of Animal Shelters (Rep. Khan) - Support - 03/07/12 Reported Favorably by Municipalities Cmte

HB1455 - An Act Relative to Dogs - Re-file HB1997 (Rep. Pedone) - Oppose - 03/14/12 Sent to Study

HB2326 - An Act to Ensure Adequate Care of Animals in Cities & Towns (Rep. Kafka) - Oppose - 03/07/12 Reported Favorably by Municipalities Cmte

HB2887 - An Act Establishing a Seized

Animal Fund (Rep. Coakley-Rivera) - 03/14/12 Sent to Study

HB3886 - An Act Regulating the Sale of Dogs (Rep. Coakley-Rivera) - 03/07/12 Reported Favorably by Municipalities Cmte

SB1027 - An Act Relative to Rabies Vaccinations for Dogs & Cats (Sen. Finegold) - Support - 03/14/12 Sent to Study

Check the MassFed website regularly for updates on late breaking news.

Julie Rembrandt Seeley, Corresponding Secretary Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs & Responsible Dog Owners
 email: jrembrandtseeley@charter.net
 email: info@massfeddogs.org
 website: www.massfeddogs.org

Wendy C. Brown McNaughton



Secretary, Labrador breeder

A N D O V E R
 — Wendy C. Brown (Douglas) McNaughton 65, formerly of Townsend MA and Bradford, passed away Saturday, May 12, 2012 at the Academy Manor Nursing home in

Andover.

She was born in Lynn December 27, 1946 to Walter and Barbara (Porteous) Brown.

Wendy was educated in the Lynn School system and was later employed by Digital, General Electric and most recently at Dover Saddlery as a secretary. For over 30 years Wendy was a dog show judge and a Labrador dog breeder.

Besides her parents Wendy is survived by a brother Ted Brown of Ossipee NH, a sister Barbara McHugh of Groveland, a son Bryan Douglas and his wife Randi, of Salem NH, a daughter Kristie Bauters and her husband Russell of Salem NH, three Grandchildren, Devin Douglas and David and Cindy Bauters, as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers Contributions in her memory may be made to the New England Labrador Rescue, NELR, Inc. C/O Heather Labbe, P.O Box 58, Limerick, Me, 04048. Arrangements are by H.L. Farmer

& Sons Funeral Homes and Cremation Service, Haverhill and Bradford. Condolences to her family may be made at www.farmerfuneralhomes.com

AKC 2012 Eukanuba Championship Top 25 Labrador Qualifiers

Eligibility Period:
 October 12, 2011 through
 October 10, 2012

For Events Processed Through:
 May 12, 2012

- GCH CH Bandalier Alakazam Of Woebe-gone
- GCH CH Belquest Deep Run Easy Peasy
- GCH CH Belquest Fields Of Gold At Eagle Bay
- GCH CH Big Sky's Heaven Scent From Trinity
- GCH CH Briarwood's Eye On The Prize
- GCH CH Brook And Ridge Isabella
- GCH CH Casbar's Hart To Hart
- GCH CH Char-Don Ms T's Rockin' Tyme
- GCH CH Clearcreek Bonaventure Wind-jammer
- CH Danbridge Black Pearl**
- GCH CH Danbridge Henry J**
- CH Fortune's Blueprint
- CH Fortune's Feet Don'T Fail Me Now
- GCH CH Hypspire Singular Sensation
- GCH CH Kaltrav Caribbean Cruise JH
- CH Premiere's Ice Cold & Hot Wired**
- GCH CH Robnie's Net Asset
- GCH CH Rosewater Babalu
- GCH CH South Gate Deepwater Buoy**
- GCH CH Sunnydaze Running Across The Miles
- GCH CH Tabatha's Pristine
- GCH CH Tecate Riding The Waves With Salty
- GCH CH Thornwood's Dressed To Thrill
- GCH CH Viking Hil'Die Tanzbarin RA MH**
- GCH CH Vishnu Whoopi Goldberg Del Cypres

My Winter of Puppy Hell

Robin Anderson, 2012

You know how it is. All your girls are in season at the same time. They are all the right age for a litter, so you breed them all hoping one or another will get pregnant. We had five ready around the same time and just did it. They all got pregnant. This began my Winter of Puppy Hell.

Things started to happen at the 2011 fall hunt test when Hildi was in labor and we had three Junior dogs entered. I was only running one dog, but Gerrie had two who needed their first two JH legs. When Hildi started hard labor the morning of the test, Gerrie called me to tell me to pick up her two entries and run them in the test for her. These were two dogs I'd helped train, but had never handled. I ran them along with mine, and they all passed. Hildi had six gorgeous yellow babies during the test, and we all got to see photos of the newborns on my cell phone between taking dogs up to the line. This was our Twisted Hollywood litter, from which we kept Grampian Viking Sophia O'Wren and Grampian Viking Mia Sparrow.



Then came the October National 2011 in Brooklyn CT. Daisy-Mae and Dazzle were going to run in the Master Test over the weekend with my co-owner Gerrie Owren. In addition to the Master tests, she had the two Junior dogs to finish, as well as my newly finished Junior dog running bumper legs. Because Mary was due to have puppies by scheduled C-Section on Sunday, the plan was for me to stay home and keep the litter while Gerrie took a vanful of dogs to the tests.

Mary got delivered to my house on Friday evening when I got home from the 'No Bells No Whistles' show. John Owren, Gerrie's husband, told me Mary was acting 'funny'. Well, if you were as large as Mary, I suppose you'd be acting funny too...but I thought it was a little TOO funny when she refused to eat her dinner, fell into a deep sleep on the couch, and was in a strange position with her butt up on the arm of the couch. I took her temperature, and it was a normal 100 degrees, so I thought I was going to have a peaceful night waiting for her temperature to drop and prepare for delivery on Sunday.



By morning Mary still wasn't eating, was panting as if in light labor, and was losing water. I called her vet to talk about symptoms and progesterone levels. We both agreed without a temperature drop she was still due on Sunday. What I didn't realize was that nobody caught the temperature drop because we were all at the show when it happened. Mary went into hard labor around 8am. I called her vet, an hour drive away, and told her to put a team together because we were on our way.

My husband followed me in his car so he could be available to help rub newborns. When the pups were all stable he could go his merry way, leaving me, Mary and babies to recover from surgery and go home when we were ready. I suggested he take my GPS because he had never been to this vet, and I didn't want him to get lost. He said "No thanks. I'll just follow right behind you."

About 40 minutes into the trip I heard Mary scream from the back of the van. That is all I heard. I tried to look at her as I drove 75MPH on the interstate, but her back was to me and I couldn't see a thing. Then I heard peeping. There was a new baby and Mary wasn't doing anything except look at it!

I phoned Bob and asked him to follow me off the very next exit ramp because I had to take care of the puppy. We pulled off Exit 10 in Norton, MA, found a parking lot, and opened the van. I told Bob to hang on to Mary while I got the puppy out. Thankfully I had sterile scissors, cut his cord, and wrapped him in a towel. We gave Mary clean bedding and made her get back in the crate. I held the puppy and rubbed, put my foot on the gas, and we were off to the vet. One hand on the wheel, one hand rubbing a puppy my husband wanted to call Norton for the town where he was born, I went even faster to get to the vet before more puppies arrived. But about 10 minutes away I 'felt' something wasn't right. Mary had her back to me again and I couldn't hear anything.

Putting my foot down harder, I think I sped up to 90MPH and lost Bob. There was no way I could drive and phone him to hurry, so I just kept going, all the while hoping he realized what exit I was going to take.

When I got off the ramp and looked at the crate, I thought I could see another puppy and it wasn't moving. Gulping and wishing I was wrong, we got a green light and made it to the vet about 2 minutes later. Thankfully Bob was right behind me. I gave Mary and the first puppy to him and told him to get the dog and pup inside and to get the vet to come out. The worst had happened. Two puppies were delivered and were stone cold.

We all rubbed and rubbed and the vet tried all her magic, but the puppies couldn't be saved. Mary subsequently and with the doctor's help pushed out another stillborn puppy. To save what ones were left, Mary was popped onto the surgical table, a quick x-ray was taken, and about 20 minutes later we had three more living puppies. That was our Bee Hive Litter of two yellow boys and two yellow girls, all fat and sassy. Mary was a wonderful mother until the pups started to eat solids. That was the end of Mary's cleaning duties, but she continued to happily nurse her babies until they were almost seven weeks old. Our FreeBee (Grampian Free Bee) is our little keeper from the litter. She's

a Mary Mini-Me and we love her.

Three days after Mary delivered her litter, our Can Ch Grampian Lil' Puckwudgie KaBoom was delivering a litter of seven black babies. Nicknamed the Powder Keg Litter because of KaBoom's name, Gerrie had two litters about three weeks apart at her house and I had my one litter to raise. We both settled into puppy watching! From Ka-Boom we kept Pow who is officially Grampian Lil' Punk Wudgie POW.



Somewhere in all the births we had to deal with DaisyMae's surgery. I had DaisyMae settled in a small recovery pen under the

TV in the family room, Mary's puppies were in the kitchen, and I was looking forward to Tiki having an uneventful delivery soon so I washed the whelping box and bedding and waited.

Once Mary went back home to her family who house and adore her for us, our Tiki had puppies on December 4th. Can Ch Gram-pian Tiki Torch, WC/Can WC is a lovely black bitch with lots of bone, a strong head, and gentle temperament. I looked forward to her puppies throughout her whole pregnancy. We expected six, and since her Mom and Grandmother delivered their first litters naturally, and her littermate KaBoom had no trouble delivering only a few weeks earlier, I didn't expect that Tiki would fail to push for all but one puppy. Thankfully the weather was mild because she refused to give birth indoors. All but one puppy was born near the front stairs. I kept hoping the neighborhood kids didn't see me in the front yard and come to chat because the walkway looked like someone had been murdered.

The day turned into a 10 hour ordeal with a trip to the emergency room where we were able to save one puppy, but lost the last one to secondary dystocia. Even with the loss, I feel like I made a very good friend because the doctor that night was



the same wonderful young woman who was our Daisy-Mae's ICU doctor during her thoracotomy. She called me twice after we took the babies home to be sure all was well with 'her' puppies. This litter was our Hawaii Five-0 litter...a pack of roly poly butterballs with one little black boy thrown into the mix. Tiki was an awesome, gentle mother. I soon

learned to trust her every move, and didn't question her when she left her babies to hang out with me, and when she wanted to go back into the nursery to care for them. Nothing bothered Tiki except other dogs who wanted to peek. From Tiki we got 'Kono', officially named Gram-pian Hi'llawe and we love her too!

Rhumba delivered a litter of five puppies in less than three hours on Christmas Day! She worried me the whole night before, and I was on the phone with her vet to tell her the bitch was crawling up my body and sitting on my head whenever she had any kind of contraction. I almost took her for a C section, but in the end I didn't need to get in the car. Once Rhumba started serious pushing she was all business with the delivery and care



of the puppies. Rhumba has always loved puppies, so I am sure she was totally delighted when she had her own. Rhumba was still visiting her babies several times a day to lie with them and

snuggle them, almost seven weeks later.

When Tiki's Hawaiians were only five weeks old, I got a phone call from a friend in need. Her bitch delivered four puppies via C section on a Wednesday, but by Friday night was in serious difficulty. At the emergency room, where she was carried in on a stretcher, they found she still had two puppies that the original vet had failed to remove. The bitch was going septic and was swollen and in terrible pain. Miraculously the two puppies were alive and healthy. Of course I would take the newborns and try and get my bitches to adopt them. How could I refuse little ones in need when I was so rich in mothers' milk? Because of Tiki's stability with her own puppies, I had a good feeling that the orphans had a mother in waiting.

When the puppies arrived I was shocked at how much in need these little ones looked. Two nights in a row the poor bitch's owner had tried to encourage nursing and cleaning, but the bitch was too sick. Being a new breeder, she kept on trying but in the end just knew something was terribly wrong. While the bitch was in ICU, the breeder tried bottle feeding the puppies, but wasn't getting anyplace fast since she was new to the whole concept. Saturday morning she called friends in to help. A team bottle fed the starving puppies, and the bitch's owner called me to see if there was any way I could help. By Saturday afternoon Tiki was put back into service with new babies.

Tiki readily accepted the babies as her own. She nursed and cleaned them round the clock for almost two weeks. But she wouldn't lie with them constantly like a new mother, so I camped out with Tiki and her new babies to be sure she got in with them every



two hours. There were several nights when Tiki looked at me in exhaustion, but she never refused when I said "Come on, girl. The babies need you." Every day I looked at Tiki and cried with pride and admiration that this dog never

refused me or the little ones in need, or me urging to keep up the good work.

I still had two litters of my own to clean up after, plus four adult bitches and two puppies from two previous litters...FreeBee and Pow! These three month old pups needed house training, socializing, manners, you name it. With the infants in the house, and Tiki wanting me to SIT with her while she did her mothering, all my other responsibilities had to be put aside. I had puppies and dogs in every room in my house, my husband had to go to work each day, and the poor sick bitch was still in need of lots of TLC to recover from her or



deal. The sick bitch had to be a first priority for her owner until she was well enough to leave for longer periods. Until then I didn't expect any help from her with the puppies. I suggested to her that once she took care of her bitch each morning, to please come and take the two three month old puppies for a couple of hours of socializing at her house. The woman was terrific. Every day about 11am she'd arrive with food for me (no time for me to shop or cook for myself with all the other hungry mouths), help to care for all the puppies for an hour or so, and then she'd take the older pups to 'school'. I packed their lunch box, she'd put them in her car, and I'd wave BYE BYE till after dinner. They'd come back with a 'report card' and new skills learned. The pups kept the woman's mind off her own troubles and my puppies got TLC every day for two weeks. It couldn't have been a better situation for FreeBee and Pow.



One day I just felt that the orphans were not going to gain with Tiki any more. Despite all my efforts, nice rich food, and Reglan



to keep her milk flowing, Tiki was drying up just when the babies needed her most. Thankfully Rhumba's puppies were just over three weeks old and doing well on puppy mush, so we retired Tiki and put Rhumba in with the babies. Sadly I took

away from her just when she'd decided they really were hers.

Rhumba had been inspecting the puppies every day, but now I was asking her to be in charge. Reluctant at first and tentative where Tiki had been proactive, the puppies' great need for suckling encouraged Rhumba to want to be with them several times a day. Full of milk and love, Rhumba fed those growing babies until most were over three pounds. She never wanted to clean their bottoms but she did stimulate them to pee and thought Tiki should stay out of 'her' room. One day Tiki ignored Rhumba's evil eyeballs and just sat in the box with 'her' babies while Rhumba was nursing some, dumbstruck at Tiki's boldness. All Rhumba could think to do about the invasion was to lick Tiki's face and try and push her out of the room. I laughed and praised them both.



All wasn't roses with the litter. Probably due to lack of moisture early on the puppies got terribly constipated about four days after Tiki took them. They kept me awake all night moaning from belly ache, and all their poop looked like yellow pebbles. We took the puppies to the vet the next morning and learned how to do an enema. It's not something I ever wanted to learn, but I learned. After they had their enemas, the puppies relaxed, slept like babies, and nursed well. We gave them a laxative to help the poop get soft, and eventually all the puppies had a normal stool and no

tummy aches. They gained weight steadily every day, making all of us happy with Tiki's good mothering skills.

One thing I asked after the enema lesson was "How much poop will a puppy produce?" At this stage Tiki wasn't cleaning poop, so I wanted an idea of how much I was supposed to find when I cleaned baby bottoms. Mother dogs almost always clean up puppy poop before we see it, so even the vet (a breeder himself) was clueless about the amount I should see. It became a moot point because Tiki started cleaning up poop and I never did find out how much I was supposed to find.

One very dramatic night happened when one baby developed colic. Never having experienced a puppy with colic, I was sure I was holding a dying puppy. He wailed and cried and screamed. I tried simethicone, the newly learned enema, warm bedding, rocking and burping. I tried tummy massage, washed his bottom in warm running water....nothing worked. By 11pm he was screaming in pain if I simply touched a toenail.

I tried to get the bitch's owner on the phone, but she had a human family crisis and didn't have her phone in her hand. I phoned the co-breeder, who was an hour away. I wanted an idea of what she wanted me to do with the puppy...should I call an emergency room? Fortunately both breeders jumped in their cars and arrived at my house within minutes of midnight. By 3am after expert care from the pup's breeders, we put him on a heat source to recover from his colic. By morning he was ravenous and ready to eat. My husband, sound asleep in his bed, said "Who were you talking to at 2am" Oh my goodness...if he had only seen what that puppy went through!

One puppy failed to gain weight over a couple of days. This was during the days we thought it was Tiki's time to let Rhumba take over. Still, the puppy failed to nurse effectively, so I started to bottle feed him to help him gain weight. We worried over him because he seemed developmentally delayed in so many ways. Nursing poorly, he was also behind the rest of the puppies getting on his feet and finding his momma. He spent most of his time away from the rest of the puppies, and



was generally slow and tired. We hoped it wasn't a serious physical defect, and I continued to give him extra bottles and extra time at the nipple when he'd take it. We called him our 'special needs' boy and probably loved him more than the others because of his extra needs. There is something so satisfying when you feed a baby in your arms and it takes nourishment from you. The trust the little puppy gave me was rewarding to say the least.

Even though Tiki was 'retired' from surrogacy, she continued to check on 'her babies'. Every night I give the dogs a bedtime cookie. They usually chomp them up quickly, but Tiki put hers in her cheek and took it into the babies' room. She'd climb into the box and give the pups her cookie. They'd try and nurse, she'd clean them all up, and then leave so Rhumba could get in and feed them. Rhumba was delighted to find an extra cookie in the

box every night!

One morning, after I was given the gift of seven straight hours sleep by the bitch's owner when she spent the night making sure Rhumba nursed the babies, we woke to a very sick bitch. Even my oblivious husband asked me what was wrong with Rhumba. Rhumba couldn't walk, refused to eat, and wasn't drinking. When I touched her breasts, one was hard as a rock and hot. I took her temperature and it was rising fast. For two hours I applied HOT compresses on the offensive breast and massaged the pus out. Bob held her down because it hurt her so much that she curled in pain when I worked on the breast. When the vet's office opened I called and was told to just bring her in. By the time the doctor took her temperature, it had dropped to almost normal, the breast was soft, and almost no pus was coming out. I asked him to please consider that we needed her for one more week for the orphans, so he put her on two safe broad spectrum antibiotics, and gave her an anti-inflammatory injection, and told me to ICE the breast every time she nursed the pups. We applied ice on her next nursing session, and by 2pm that day, her breast was back to normal, her temperature was normal, and there was no pus...just normal beautiful milk. From that moment the pups were allowed to use that breast again, and we had no more issues.

After the 10pm nursing of the orphans each night, Rhumba visited her own little ones. She stayed with them for an hour each night, nursing and cuddling and cleaning them. The lights would be low, and Rhumba enjoyed the time with her babies. Rhumba was meant to be a mother. Lucky doggie had 9 puppies in two rooms, and she loved every one of them.

About three days after the babies passed their three week birthday, and had been eating a little puppy mush, I gave them back to their breeders. I cried when they left because no matter how tiny, you fall in love with babies. A few were close to four pounds, and the rest were reaching out to hit the three pound mark.

I sent them back having been looked over by St. Rocco, St. Francis, an Episcopal Minister, and their breeder's Rosary prayers. I gave each one a nickname: Rocky, Pebbles, Clifford, Big Blue, Mr. Green Jeans, and Hammer, who was the special boy. At first their breeders laughed at me, but ask them today and they'll call them by the names I gave them. I sent them back loved by two mothers, one being chocolate, so guess what color milk they had with their cookies? One cleaned and one fed, and both loved them very much. I sent them back with a kiss on each little head and a blessing from my heart.



All the news today is good. The bitch that gave birth is on the mend and back to work with her owner, training for hunt tests. The six little orphans are in new homes all over the East Coast. The breeder kept one little man, and I'm so happy for her to have something good out of all the hard work.

I learned how to bottle feed, how to tube feed, how to perform an enema on a one pound constipated puppy, I learned and how to give a one week old puppy sub-Q fluids. I learned I can wash 10 loads of laundry, pack 10 trash bags a week full of dirty paper, go hours without food or drink, and even 48 hours on one hour of sleep and continue to be hopeful amidst chaos. I learned I can

do it alone for the most part, not that I wanted to, and still see light at the end of an exhaustively long tunnel. And I learned that I have two new best friends because we became a family over the need of six little puppies, which lost their own mother's milk to a serious illness.

My only outings during the three weeks I cared for the orphans were to take puppies or bitches to the vet. I was tied to my house, washing, cleaning, feeding, and doing it over again the next day. Bedtime only meant the work load was going to start again in a few hours. There were times when I wished it all would disappear, but then I'd look at puppies that never asked to be born, and I would get up onto my feet to keep on working to be sure everyone was fed and clean.

Of all the puppies born and cared for by me and my bitches this past fall and winter, the six little orphans are the luckiest six puppies I know. They have three dog mothers: Their birth mother who carried healthy pups to term, Tiki Mama, who took them on for two weeks and helped them thrive when they were in great need, and Mama Rhumba, who offered her chocolate milk and fattened them up until they were on their little feet taking puppy mush on their own. Their human mothers will always love these special men. Their co-breeders who looked forward to the litter, and their adoptive one, me....who fell in love with puppies I had never planned to meet!

My hope is that I never have to use any of these skills again, nor do I want to have to be strong and sleepless the way I was for three weeks in January. I hope none of you ever need to offer this kind of help, nor that you will ever need it. But isn't it wonderful to know that we are all here if anyone needs this kind of assistance? Would I help again? I wouldn't hesitate to say yes if puppies needed me. I sure hope nobody needs me, though.

Before I bred my first bitch many years ago, I heard "You need thick skin." "You need to be ready for heartache." Nobody really ever told me what these two things meant. With just this one litter of six orphans it hit home exactly what it all means. The heartache comes when you lose a puppy for any reason. I was determined to not lose a puppy. The heartache comes when your bitch almost dies because of a mistake made. This poor bitch suffered two surgeries in three days and lost her puppies as a result. You develop thick skin when people talk about it all and it comes back to you as gossip with no basis in fact. Another breeder told me recently that we are all eternal optimists. Who else would have all these things happen and yet still plan for the next litter with such expectation?

I rasied another litter this spring. Call me a glutton for punishment and I'll agree. I was an optimist and was richly rewarded by a litter of six yellow puppies, three girls and three boys, all healthy and all easy keepers. I think this was my reward for my Winter of Puppy Hell.



Ask me again in May if I'll do it again, and I'll tell you. Maybe!



Member Accomplishments

Congratulations to all of our members and their dogs on their successes at shows, trials, and tests!

To have your accomplishments published in the Otter Tales and on our web site, please send all brags to the newsletter editor and to the web master.



On Saturday, Cory and Joel competed in a very nice obedience trial put on by the local Corgi club. As some of you may know, until Cory came along, Joel had never competed with a dog in the Open class. Well, I'm happy to report that he and Cory got their first qualifying score in Open at this trial. Cory was a little laggy during some of the heeling, but perked up once all the jumping and retrieving began. However, overall, they had a very nice performance and ended up with a 3rd place. I

was very proud of them both!

Finally, Aspen and I attended our penultimate puppy class on Sunday. Right now the class is focused on preparing all the puppies to take their AKC STAR puppy test next week during the last class. The STAR program/test is kind of like a pre-Canine Good Citizen test. To pass, the puppies must be under one year old (check) show that they know a series of basic obedience commands like sit and down (check and check) and that they come when called from a short distance (check!), will walk nicely on a leash for a short period of time with and w/o distractions (check!), will allow their owner to groom them, hug them and take things away from them (check, check and check) and that they are healthy, in good body condition and up to date on all their shots (check!!). If we pass, we will get a nice certificate and medallion from the AKC. I had never heard about this program before, but now, having taken part in it, I must say I think it's pretty neat - and a great way to get people motivated to train their puppies! It's always nice to have a goal!



Penny, Joel, "Birthday Boy" Thorn, "NEW CDX CORY" Cory and Ms. "almost a STAR" Aspen

Rainer Fuchs is pleased to announce that Kaya successfully completed this year's Master National in Rhodestdale, VA. No handles were required on any of the challenging marks. She's now a two-time qualifying dog and can therefore add the Master National Retriever (MNR) title to her name: **Timber Town Turn Me Loose MH MNR UD VCD2 RE WCX**



Owned, Handled, Trained, Bred and Loved by Dick Kennedy completed her Master Hunter title with probably the Best performance I have seen her do! She had 2 clean triple series, a lined blind in the first series, 2 nice blinds in the second series and a respectable 3rd series.

Pleasant Pine's A Bit of Mischief, CDX, MH, WCX, Can WC, CC, CGC, aka "Mattie"



Am/Can Ch Wood Duck's Captain Morgan BN, RN got his BN and then in the fall got his RN-- not too shabby when you are 8 and just sitting there waiting for the ladies! Jeanne Charest

The 2011 season was full of fun and adventure for Pasta and me. We hit the ground running in Senior, we learned a lot from some very nice judges and titled in September at the Main Retriever Hunt Test. In July we earned our WCX which was a GREAT time! What a fun day that was. Having the hunting part of our lives under our belt we decided we would go for a Canine Good Citizen; try for a Conformation Certificate and we can't forget the Companion Dog title. When all was said and done Pasta ended the year as **Riverbenz Pasta Primavera CD, SH, WCX, CGC, CC**

What is in store for 2012? Master and a CDX paws crossed. All the best to all in 2012. Pasta and Pattie Duddy

Got Brags? email them to Robin to be included in future publications. grampianlabs@comcast.net Want them on the web? Email Rainer Fuchs: rainer@fuchsameric.com

Karen Kennedy and her Black Lab; "Jade" aka **Pleasant Pine's Hidden Treasure, CDX, SH, WCX, CC, CGC**, earned their CDX in 3 straight shows after finishing our CD in October 2011, going 4/4. We started our CDX journey in March 2012. At the Charles River Obedience Trial on 3/17/12 we got a 2nd place with a score of 192, a 4th place and 191.5 at New England Dog Training Club on 3/31/12, a 193 and 1st place at the RI show in Warwick on 4/14/12.



Jade and I are also competing in Master Hunting Tests and have earned 2 Qualifying scores while working on our CDX. She needs 2 more to complete her Master Hunter title.

AKC GCh/UKC Ch Viking Hil'Die Tanzbarin MH RA WCX
BISS BIS Am/Can Ch Aquarius Centercourt Delight, JH, WC x Viking Zinka Dew, CD, JH, WCI, CGC, CC

All breeder/owner trained and handled to her hunting and obedience titles, Hildi is the **FIRST** female Grand Champion Master Hunter in the LRC Inc.

Hildi is the **FIRST** Grand Champion Master Hunter to take **BACK TO BACK SPORTING GROUP ONE HONORS!** She did this in Syracuse, 2012 followed by a Group II in RI and another Group I in New Jersey.

Hildi took Select Bitch after winning Best Hunting Retriever at the 2012 Potomac Specialty.



Hildi is the **THIRD** AKC Champion Master Hunter yellow bitch in the record books of The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc, and the second in the Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston.

Hildi finished her AKC Champion title with three majors in six weeks. Hildi finished her Senior Hunt title in five out of five tests. Hildi finished her Master Hunter title in seven tests. Hildi finished her Grand Champion title with several Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex awards. Hildi never got lower than a 99 in any Rally Trials, and more often than not, received perfect scores.

Hildi took time out of her training to raise two litters of puppies, is seven years old, and is still going like the Energizer Bunny. Thank you to all her supporters from her owners who love her: Gerrie Owren, Robin Anderson and Zach Orcutt.

Labrador AKC Eukanuba Championship Qualifiers To Date

- GCH CH Angelwingz Kindred Spirit
- GCH CH Annual's Nostalgic At Hilldreams
- GCH CH Aristes' Ginger Ale
- GCH CH Belgairn Looking For Trouble
- GCH CH Belquest Fields Of Gold At Eagle Bay
- GCH CH Belquest Impressive Edition
- GCH CH Blue Knight Silent Alarm
- GCH CH Breton Gate Outer Limits
- GCH CH Briarwood's Eye On The Prize
- GCH CH Brook And Ridge Isabella
- GCH CH Casbar's Hart To Hart
- GCH CH Cedar Springs Snowflakes On Satin
- GCH CH Chambrays And The Beat Goes On
- GCH CH Char-Don Ms T's Rockin' Tyme
- GCH CH Clearcreek Bonaventure Windjammer
- GCH CH Devonshires Southern Comfort
- GCH CH Double Dutch D'Artagnion RN JH OAP AJP
- GCH CH Fiesta's Head Majorette JH
- GCH CH Gingerbred Party Shoes
- GCH CH Graylyn's Shane
- GCH CH Hollywick's Aristes' Maximum Impact
- GCH CH Hunt Club Clayview Bungee Jumper
- GCH CH Hunt Club Clayview Jetsetter
- GCH CH Hyspire Feelin Bubbly
- GCH CH Hyspire Singular Sensation
- GCH CH Hyspire Texas Hold 'Em
- GCH CH Karousels Just Call Me Katie
- GCH CH Lobuff Major Yeager At Asquam MH
- GCH CH Maidstone Edlyn Lemon Zest RN JH
- GCH CH Majestx Clyde At Allegheny
- GCH CH Markei Anfield Under Study
- GCH CH Mtn Meadow Buckeye Brutus
- GCH CH Mtn Meadow Hit The Deck At Debkens
- GCH CH Mtn. Star Bodacious One
- GCH CH Nipntuck Stocking Stuffer
- GCH CH Plumtree Destiny Incredible Snack And Dash
- GCH CH Plumtree King Nikare
- GCH CH Plumtree King Scorpion JH
- GCH CH Pucketts Super Charged
- GCH CH Quail Chase Broadway Joe Windfall
- GCH CH Rockycreek's Delightful Dilemma
- GCH CH Rosewater Babalu
- GCH CH Saddlehill Late Knight Scramble
- GCH CH Sadie's Simerdown Heartbreaker
- GCH CH Salty's Surfer Girl Of Tampa Bay JH
- GCH CH Sounder's Pepper Jack
- GCH CH South Gate Deepwater Buoy
- GCH CH Stepangar Shrimp Boat Captain
- GCH CH Summerlin's Rocky Mountain High CD RE JH
- GCH CH Sunnydaze Running Across The Miles
- GCH CH Talimar's Stellar Performance JH
- GCH CH Tande First Lady Of Song
- GCH CH Tande Grand Finale
- GCH CH Thornwood's Dressed To Thrill
- GCH CH Trillium's I Know A Secret
- GCH CH Tullamores Sea Salt
- GCH CH Van Dalen Show Dens Top Gun
- GCH CH Viking Hil'Die Tanzbarin RA MH
- GCH CH Vishnu Whoopi Goldberg Del Cypres
- GCH CH Westriver Windchime
- GCH CH Woodland's Simon

Labrador Rescue

LRCGB supports Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc., a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to placing purebred Labrador Retrievers in suitable, loving homes. Our Labs come from, and are placed in, homes in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, and Maine. Contact: 24-hour hotline 978-356-2982, www.labrescue.com, labrescue1988@gmail.com.

Labrador Retriever Rescue thanks LRCGB for hosting our Rescue Parade at the spring match. We appreciate the warm reception the audience gave our rescued Labs as they trotted and sniffed their way around the ring.

We also appreciate the 5 members, many of them busy members of the LRCGB Board, who immediately stepped up and completed volunteer forms after LRR President Judy Wolff spoke at the LRCGB annual meeting. Volunteers make rescue work, and, because of the large region we serve and the varying needs, we can never have too many people to do home studies of potential adopters, foster Labs, transport Labs to foster homes and veterinarians, and to help out with educating the public, fundraising, and publicity. It tears at our hearts when we are unable to rescue a purebred Lab because we don't have an available volunteer to foster, transport, and/or evaluate the Lab, or when we have to return an application to adopt because we don't have a volunteer close enough to do a home study.

Speaking of volunteers: We have come to realize that many of the volunteers on our list have moved on to other locales or stages of life and are no longer available to help. We desperately need to rebuild our volunteer base, so if you can spare a few hours a year, a month, or a week, please let us know. If you filled out a volunteer form a long time ago and haven't heard from us in the past 6 months, please send us an email at labrescue1988@gmail.com or call us to let us know you still want to be an active volunteer.

We have the following immediate need: foster homes, especially in Maine (LRR pays vet bills and a per diem).

Volunteer work for Rescue counts as credit towards satisfying the club's work requirement!

If you would like to be considered for a vacancy on our Board (starting now or with our new Board in March 2013), please call Judy Wolff at 978-264-0286 or email her at labrescue1988@gmail.com.

Gone But Not Forgotten

In Memory of Izy

Wood Duck's Isabella Am/Can CD "Izy" passed in November, 2011. Jeane wanted to show everyone that Izy had won the Toll House Cookie award in New Brunswick in 2004 for the highest scoring labrador in a 4 days set of trials.



UCD HRCH SR Puddleducks Kyla O'Fairview UD, SH RA WCX
CGC TDI
4/16/2000 – 4/16/2011

It is with much sadness that we advise you that Kyla left us quite unexpectedly. It was her 11th birthday and for some unknown reason she decided that she entered this world on April 16 and felt she should leave this world on April 16 2011. She had a mast cell tumor removed in December and all seemed well, but apparently it was not and something ruptured today in her spleen and she went down quickly.

As you all know, Kyla always did things "her way", so although we will miss her dearly, we accept her way of leaving us.

This is our favorite photo of Kyla as it truly embraces the intensity of her spirit.

To my training partners, you all know how much we loved Kyla, despite her rebellious ways. Thank you for sharing our journey and for being there today when we needed your support.

Palmer Pack: Dave, Cheryl, Kyla, Tessa, Llew and Presto



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

2010 June Specialty

Lisa Kinsman
 Gayle Abrahms
ljk16@comcast.net
candyacres77@aol.com

Field:

Nancy Freitas
Nfreitas@wildeland.com
 Cell: 617-645-6166

Master National Delegate

Rainer Fuchs
rainer@fuchsameric.com

Show:

Sue Willumsen
Willcare@comcast.net
 603-642-5893

Membership:

Denise Fiandaca
membership@lrcgb.org 508-877-0048

LRC, Inc Eastern Time Zone Rep

Claire White-Peterson
 860-535-4289

Puppy/Breeder Referral Coordinator

Barb Burri, bburri@comcast.net
 603-378-0098

Webmaster

Rainer Fuchs webmaster@lrcgb.org

Publication Information

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Email submissions to:
grampianlabs@comcast.net

Submissions deadlines are:

Spring	February 15
Summer	May 15
Fall	August 15
Winter	November 15

Brags and In Memoriam

Free of Charge for members. Please include name of dog, owner, breeder, pertinent dates, and a high resolution photo.

Advertising:

Full page: \$25
 Half page: \$15
 Quarter page: \$10
 Business Card: \$5

Camera ready art is preferable, but not required. Submit your ads on CD or email to grampianlabs@comcast.net.

Payments for all ads and listings should be sent to:
 Robin Anderson, 20 Fairway Drive,
 Seekonk, MA 02771

Checks should be made payable to LRCGB.

Send litter and puppy announcements to
 Barb Burri: bburri@comcast.net

Area Lab Rescue
www.labrescue.com
 24 Hour Hotline number: 978-356-2982

National Lab Rescue
www.thelabradorclub.com/rescue/

Change of Address?
 Contact Maria Corrigan
maria@corriganphoto.com

The Labrador Retriever Club of
 Greater Boston's web site is terrific and
 up to date.
www.lrcgb.org
 Have a look!

Do you have something to contribute to this publication? Email it to Robin:
grampianlabs@comcast.net

We have a membership email group. This is for club members only. Anyone who joins the group can post notices about events, brag about your accomplishments, ask questions about club stuff, training, and breeding. Go to this web site to join.

<http://groups.google.com/group/labrador-retriever-club-of-greater-boston?hl=en>

Follow the instructions to join the group. Your membership will be approved and you can stay current with club & member news. Be sure to set your email program so that it will accept mail from: labrador-retriever-club-of-greater-boston@googlegroups.com

Events Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Opens/Closes
Jun 14-15, 2012	Specialty	Westford, MA	May 30
Jul 15, 2012	Working Certificate Test	Hopkinton, NH	TBD
Sep 22-23, 2012	Fall Hunt Test		

Pet Astrology

Gemini May 21 - June 21 Gemini dogs are social and possess inquisitive natures that help them learn tricks quickly. The skies may be graying, but Gemini dogs will be seeing the bright side of things this November. Cheerful Gemini pups will make the perfect shopping companions near the end of the month when Christmas shoppers start bustling through the streets. Reward your Gemini with a new collar or harness for his or her sunny attitude.



Cancer June 22 - July 22 Dogs under the Crab sign are sensitive and loving — they truly fit the role of a furry baby. Be on the lookout for any sign of illness from your Cancer dog in the next few weeks. If there is leftover Halloween candy lying around the house, Cancer pups will be sure to find it. Chocolate is a toxic food for dogs and you may end up with one upset puppy if there are half eaten candy bars left within reach. Any sickness your Cancer dog may experience should pass by the end of November as the snow starts to fly and bells start to jingle.

Leo July 23 - August 22 Lookout for these drama queens! Leos are extroverts who love to be the centre of attention. Leo dogs will be looking for love and friendship this November as the winter months approach. What better way to feel the warmth of the holidays than by sharing them with a new friend or love interest? Make sure to meet Leo dogs' social instincts by providing them with plenty of time to sniff around at the local dog park... just make sure they're wearing extra strong leashes.

LRCGB
C/O Barb Burri
8 Ridgewood Road
Plaistow, NH 03865

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