

Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston

OTTER



TALES

Fall 2013/Winter 2014

Inside This Issue

Published Quarterly

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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

Submissions deadlines are:

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

Submissions may also be made on a stick, 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 Field

The club bought a canoe – whoo hoo! This has been on the wish list for years, and now we can shoot off our own gunwhales -- hahaha -- I shot the gunwhales off of Karen Kase's canoe with a popper gun 100y rs ago when I was just getting into the sport...

Joanne Lyons and Kathy Fisher teamed up to scour CraigsList for a good deal. Not only that – they negotiated it down, too. Hooray!!!

Showing off the canoe with Joanne's Abbey and Bella!

Nancie Freitas



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

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

Canine Rehabilitation

By Barb Burri, MBA, MEd, CVT, LVT, CPDT-KA.

Ten years ago if you had told me I would be taking my dog to the physical therapist, I would have said you were nuts. I have long been a fan of physical therapy myself, as a great way to recover from an injury or surgery. Well the same is true for our dogs, and Canine Rehab is not just for Agility World Team members, or other canine superstars. Physical therapy is a great way to get your dog back on his feet and feeling comfortable.

First off, whom should your dog see? Ideally, you want treatment from a CCRP, Certified Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner or a CCRT, Certified Canine Rehabilitation Therapists. CCRP's are someone who has completed the Certificate Program in Canine Physical Rehabilitation at the University of Tennessee. To participate in this program, a practitioner must first be a veterinarian, veterinary technician, physical therapist, occupational therapist, or physical therapist assistant. CCRTs have attended the Canine Rehabilitation Institute and have to be veterinarians or physical therapists to attend. CCRAs are Certified Canine Rehabilitation Assistants and this is the certification track for Veterinary Technicians or Physical Therapy Assistants. Both programs require externships as well as passing an examination to be certified.

Depending on the veterinary practice act in each state, canine physical therapy may be by prescription, under the orders of a veterinarian, just as human physical requires physician's orders. What will the physical therapist do for my dog? These practitioners use a variety of techniques to help regain motion and function for the dog. Range of motion exercises, strengthening exercises, massage, mobilization, heat, cold packs, ultrasound, laser, and aquatic therapy are many of the modalities used. The practitioner may use stretching to increase range of motion. They may use tools such as the FitPaws® Peanuts and disks. Dogs may perform low jumps such as Cavaletti, or go through a course of cones or up and down a ramp. Low-level laser therapy can be used to lower inflammation and promote healing. Ultrasound can be used to lower inflammation and warm up soft tissue. Aqua therapy can take place in an underwater treadmill; the water provides buoyancy and minimizes weight bearing. The warm water makes it easier for stiff muscles to work. Aqua therapy can also utilize a swim pool, often with an adjustable current again to allow strengthening while the water provides buoyancy. The aquatic work will also provide strengthening and conditioning post injury or post-surgery.

What can you expect? Physical therapy is not cheap, and it takes many visits to see results. Incremental results often take place after a visit or two. The physical therapist will typically outline a home program of passive stretches; range of motion, and as the patient progresses, strengthening exercises at the center and as a home program. The owner can, easily see the emotional re-

wards to the dog. Instead of being home, isolated, on crate rest, in a cone, they get to come to the physical therapy center, do some interesting exercises, get relief from pain and inflammation and for those that love it, get to go in the water! It is mentally enriching for the dog, a great change of pace, and that enrichment helps the healing process as well.

Here is my tale of personal experience with canine rehabilitation. Kestrel is my 10 ½ year old female Labrador retriever has had a cruciate tear in December 2008 with a TPLO, an iliopsoas strain in 2011, the other cruciate in June 2012 with a TTA, and her 13-year-old sister Hawke had a partial cruciate, no surgery needed in January 2012. Both dogs found physical therapy and aquatics to be beneficial. Here is a brief video from YouTube of Kestrel in a session in the pool. Kestrel has chronic iliopsoas issues so we keep her fit with aquatic therapy.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LERBWBqm40M>

If your dog has experienced a trauma, or has issues such as arthritis or neurological problems, consider physical therapy as one of the potential treatments. Canine rehab can get your dog in better strength, help them move, and feel better in general. As one of my human PT's used to say "ice is nice, but motion is lotion". Canine rehab might be just the thing for your partner.

Some resources:

<http://veterinarynews.dvm360.com/dvm/ArticleStandard/Article/detail/613813>

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

<http://www.caninerehabinstitute.com/ccrt.html>

Lawn Chemicals and Canine Cancer

By Barb Burri, MBA, MEd, CVT, LVT, CPDT-KA

There are many substances humans put on their lawns including fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides. Some of these might be a hazard to dogs, but further study needs to take place.

Fertilizers will generally cause GI upset, and can cause blockages from inappropriate ingestion. However, many fertilizers not just feed but also weed the lawn.

Dogs that live with lawns treated with herbicides may be more prone to Bladder Cancer. 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D), 4-chloro-2- methylphenoxypropionic acid (MCP) and/or dicamba are the common herbicides used. Dogs get these chemicals on their feet and ingest them by licking, and can be exposed by the wind bringing the chemicals from other lawns up to 50 feet away. Breeds that are prone to bladder cancer such as Shelties, Westies, and Beagles are at a higher risk as they have a genetic predisposition towards bladder cancer. And the chemicals get tracked into the house, exposing the humans as well. Experimenters analyzed urine samples from dogs who have treated lawns as well as untreated lawns, those with treated lawns showed these chemicals in the urine, and some with untreated lawns did as well, probably from nearby treatments. (Viegas, 2013)

Robo Dogs

http://www.robotictrends.com/consumer_education/article/robot_animals_take_over/?utm_source=RoboTrendsWeekly&utm_medium=email

Bladder Cancer is not the only issue, a study conducted at Tufts, and highlighted in the April 2012; issue of Whole Dog Journal examines the connection between lawn chemicals and Canine Malignant Lymphoma. This study was not as structured and indicates more study is needed to confirm this. Prior to this study, it was believed that 2,4-D was not carcinogenic and was indicated to be so by a flawed study conducted in the early 2000's. (Dobbins, 2013) It might be best to err on the side of caution.

Your "lawn guy" may say, "this pesticide is safe, it comes from chrysanthemums". If so, they are talking about pyrethroids, and probably the synthetic permethrin. This is a widely used insecticide, often seen in topical and collar flea and tick products. It has shown to create benign lung and liver tumors in rat studies, and is viewed by the EPA as likely to be carcinogenic to humans. It is more of a hazard in cats than in dogs (and is the primary reason some dog flea products are marked not to use in cats) as a toxic exposure can cause neurological issues. (NPIC, 2013)

So what is a human to do in search of a lovely lawn?

- Read the directions carefully and follow the instructions to the letter, allowing products to dry and/or settle before letting the dogs on the lawn.
- Treat the front yard and the back yard on different days to lower contact. On the other hand, just treat the parts that give "curb appeal".
- Select a day with no wind for applying treatment.
- Lower your standards for how green a lawn is desirable.
- Get one of those long pointy things and dig up the weeds.
- Pay the neighbor's children 5cents per dandelion.

Or do what I do, once a week take the power mower to whatever has cropped up in the yard so at least it's all one height.

Be a clever consumer, read about what is being put on your lawn, and be careful. Personally, I'd rather have a healthy dog than a golf course lawn.

Works Cited

- Dobbins, B. (2013, 10 3). Studies Have Linked Lawn Pesticides with Canine Malignant Lymphoma. Retrieved from Whole Dog Journal: http://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/15_4/features/Canine-Malignant-Lymphoma-and-Lawn-Pesticides_20494-1.html
- NPIC. (2013, 10 3). Permethrin Technical Fact Sheet. Retrieved from National Pesticide Information Center: <http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/Permeth.pdf>
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DOGKNOBIT

szeremy@mho.net, <http://dogknobit.com/>

The Scorpion, The Frog, and Scarlett O'Hara

Posted: 02 Oct 2013 01:50 PM PDT

In what I fear is a sure sign of advancing age, I'm beginning to think more than I used to.

I know. Scary, right?

Don't call me "Spock" just yet. These bouts of thought are often precipitated by a "feeling" that something I've just seen or heard means something, I just don't know what. Thinking is the only way I've found to put myself out of my misery until I figure it out, if I ever do.

My latest thinking episode followed a four-day dog show and an innocuous conversation that happened while we were packing up to go home. The grooming area was largely deserted by the time we started to stack crates and tables. Dust bunnies and hairballs swirled around us, and every so often, one would stick to my lips that I'd smeared with Chapstick. As I shepherded my Puli into his crate, I warily surveyed his coat and surmised that at least one hair of every dog that had been shown over the last four days now impaled his cords. I groaned inwardly at the tweezer work ahead of me, and as if she'd read my mind, my "neighbor," also packing up, chirped, "Right about now, I bet you wish you showed a Chihuahua."

My husband, who had come along on this trip, offered his creative solution to the problem by making a "bzzzzzzzz" sound while brandishing an invisible hair clipper in his hand. Personally, I've never understood why the idea of shaving a Puli in a show coat strikes some people as hilarious, but even my veterinarian suggests it when he's about to clean my dog's teeth. It amuses him every time.

I offered a weak smile, but my neighbor actually giggled which earned points with my husband. Having broken the ice, they now cheerfully chitchatted back and forth while stacking crates and securing bungee cords, and it was through this banter that we learned that our neighbor was a consulting veterinarian. The subject turned darker when she mentioned the impact of the animal rights movement on her profession, and soon the topic morphed into what was wrong with the world. The dog fancy, they agreed, was emblematic of a group having its rights violated, and between them they dropped terms like, "corporate greed," feudalist society, entitlement and elitism. They were in complete agreement on what they believed to be very real threats against the life we've all known.

For twenty minutes they agreed with each other, and would have for another hour had my husband not finally said, "Yup. It's those damn (fill in the political party) who are causing trouble. " This stunned our neighbor who sputtered, "Well, no, it's the fault of (fill in the name of the other political party).

And I said, "I think I'll go wash my hands" as I made a swift exit.

During the drive home, I couldn't stop thinking about this conversation. I mused at how two people had been in total agreement with each other until one of them put a name to who he thought was to blame, while the other person faulted the "other" guys. This meant something.

By the time we drove into our driveway, I'd worked it out. The real villain from the perspective of the dog fancy is the animal rights movement, of course, but what niggled at me is that I no longer fault PETA or HSUS. I can thank an Aesop Fable for this epiphany.

As the story goes, a scorpion and a frog meet on the bank of a stream and the scorpion asks the frog to carry him across on its back. The frog asks, "How do I know you won't sting me?" The scorpion says, "Because if I do, I will die too." The frog is satisfied, and they set out. But in midstream, the scorpion stings the frog. The frog feels the onset of paralysis and starts to sink,

continued on page 9

Club News

Board of Directors Meeting [GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING] Oct 9, 2013, 6:38pm-8:30pm

Board Attendees: R.Solomon, P.Shaw, S.Willumsen, N.Freitas, M.Meewes, J.Quinn, L.Kinsman, M.Secco, S.Cardello, C.Belli, G.Conway

Members: D.Conroy, G.Abrams, B.Burri, K.Fisher, M.L. Troy, S.Lindberg, L.Gannette, D.Bierer, K.Kase

Guests: K.Tibbetts, M.Wiser, S.Seeber

OFFICER REPORTS

Minutes from 8/1/13 mtg read

Motion to accept: S.Willumson; second by P.Shaw; all accepted

President's remarks: R.Solomon

- Welcome everyone!
- LRCGB is approaching 40 years!
- Request that members complete short survey so BOD knows what you want from the club – with a goal of moving from events-based to full service

Treasurer's report: < >

Corresponding Sec Report:

- New slate still not updated on AKC site
- o Ruth to follow-up w Robin
- New Member readings
- o 1st Reading: Karen Tibbetts; Susan Follansbe

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Field Report: N.Freitas

- Financials: While not final, it looks like we'll end the year with a \$3640 net contribution.
 - Hunt Test: we'll host 1 official hunt test in 2014
 - o Date will be Sept 20/21, 2014
 - o Venue is not confirmed but working towards Fitchburg Sportsmen's Club & High Ridge combo
 - o Stakes will be Master, Senior and Junior.
 - Will have the Field Committee 2014 Planning Meeting later this fall.
 - Fall Training Day & Trailer Clean-up was a smashing success.
 - Request: Wish to invest in equipment repair and a used canoe. ~\$700 needed for canoe, configuring trailer to carry canoe, 2 new (used) popper guns, + misc equipment repair
 - Lisa K and NF to figure out insurance liabilities
- Motion to accept ~\$700 for equipment repair;
- Motion accepted and voted.

Board of Directors Meeting Oct 9, 2013 BOD Meeting Notes

Show Report: C.Belli

- Show committee meeting on 11/16 @4pm with potluck at Akushnet
- o See Cassi to participate
- Supported entry at Eastern; all paperwork/approval are in. East coast delegate for LRC is N.Brandow
- o S.Willumson to show off our cool LRCGB Welcome sign

at crating area

- Elaine Capone is Specialty Chair in-training (coaches: Lisa & Barb)
- o In addition to standard classes, the 2014 event is also working towards:
- an all-breed rally and obedience on

Thurs afternoon

- a Wed evening match
- a 4-6mos puppy conformation
- o There will be surprise entertainment at the "fun-in-the-sun" lobster-bake dinner on Thurs night

Agility/Obed Report: n/a

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Bylaws Subcommittee: R.Solomon
 - No update
2. Motion to discuss: should we extend duration of BOD meetings beyond 2 hrs
 - Problem restated: how do we address more topics in an evening/meeting
 - o Discussions covered meeting formats including, email, video conferencing, full day vs. 2hrs; as well as ways to manage our time more efficiently. Meeting Face-to-face is a preferred but scattered geographies and commuting time make things difficult.
 - o Motion (S.Willumson): Meet face-to-face and try clusters/camps of video conferencing; pre-submit an annual list of topics – which we'll prioritize in order to use our time better
 - o Motion; accepted and agreed
3. Future events & schedules
 - Wish to build value to our members and ask for members input on topics of interest. General Meeting attendees were asked to complete a short survey offering their opinions.
 - Upcoming events:
 - o Board Meeting; 11/14 in Bolton
 - Social from 6-6:30; meeting starts at 6:30
 - Possibly teleconnect Robin Magee
 - Agenda will be sent to the club in 10days in advance
 - BOD Members to submit agenda topics to Ruth (and cc all BOD members) by Nov 1
 - In order to prioritize, will require quick and immediate feedback

NEW BUSINESS

1. Club Communications
 - How to make sure we keep all members are kept in-the-know of our activities, events, and opportunities
 - o Corresponding Secretary carries this responsibility
 - o Action: Robin to set expectations for turnaround time of communication requests
 - The contact info on our membership list is suspect -- Emails, phones, etc
 - o Action: Barb Burri to organize a drive to verify email & postal contact info for all members
 - May consider "send out cards" which requires funds, etc
 - Our official club communication vehicles:
 - o For outgoing/one-way: email via our ConstantContact account
 - Only board members or committee chairs may send communications
 - o For back & forth exchange that fosters community among members: googlegroups
 - We surveyed our members in attendance meeting for their preferred option: FaceBook4; googlegroup: 9
 - o Action: Both options will be published on website for folks to sign up

- Send a ctct request to make sure you're on the lists
- o NF: research how ctct works

Board of Directors Meeting

Nov 13, 2013, 6:55 pm-9:15

Board Attendees: R.Solomon, N.Freitas M.Meewes, L.Kinsman, M.Secco, S.Cardello, C.Belli, N.Wolston, E.Capone, J.Quinn

OFFICER REPORTS

Minutes from 10/9/13 mtg read

Motion: to revisit the communication channels

- Hard copy/postal should still be considered

Decision:

- Use SendOutCards for an upcoming communication
- o (Barb is 5-10 members away from fully accurate list)
- o Content: Jan-June events & activities
- o Content to be supplied before thanksgiving
- o Milly to be 'card director'
- o Cards sent early January 2014

Motion to accept minutes w above adendum: C.Belli; second by L.Kinsman; all accepted

President's remarks: R.Solomon

- Boundaries are important and we must have respect for the job that everyone does

Treasurer's report: G.Conway / via Ruth

- \$9187.21 in checking
- \$2,465.49 in paypal
- \$23kish in savings

Corresponding Sec Report: <not present>

- Outstanding items: slate and membership list
- New member readings - 2nd Reading:
 - o Karen Tibbetts; Susan Follansbe
 - o Membership accepted
 - o Send New Welcome Packet

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Agility/Obed Report: J.Quinn

- Agility: Club officer to sign application
- Worker model is really impressive; maybe other fancies can learn from this???

Field Report: N.Freitas

- Field Comm meeting 12/1 with trap. As of now, 14 signed up
- o Meeting Goals: review mission and objectives, set goals for 2014, nail down event & activity dates & venues, secure leaders

Board of Directors Meeting

Nov 13, 2013 BOD Meeting Notes

Show Report: C.Belli

- Ladies supported entry
- o Judges are signed – one breeder judge; one well rounded
- o This is a Centennial Event for Ladies;
- Show committee must make sure we hold a BOB match
- o Musts: be open to the public, hold certain classes; obedience and breed; run like a mini show
- o Dates to be selected soon – so can included in above mentioned postcard

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Bylaws SubCommittee: R.Solomon
 - Currently reviewing certain bylaws
2. Surveys: not a big enough sample to reflect our membership base, but...

Results:

- Weeknights – preferred by most
- Attached to an event- majority say yes
- Prefer spring & fall

Decision: Board to form education/social committee

- Milly Secco, Shirley Cardello, Nancy Wolston to tri-lead
- Suggested topics:
 - o Aggression management
 - o Lyme management

3. Roles & Responsibilities of BOD

- We want to understand where we have coverage and where there are holes/overloads; where we can solve with standing committees or ad hoc committees. This will leading to a future conversation: what should the composition of the board be?

Decision:

- each board member write down our responsibilities and club contributions (where you take a leadership role outside of the board)
- we're to share with the BOD via email by Nov 30th

Board of Directors Meeting

Nov 13, 2013 BOD Meeting Notes

NEW BUSINESS

1. Event calendar:

Jan

- Jan 26 Winter Match (show committee to confirm)
- General meeting

Feb (nothing)

March

- Mar 1– obedience (Jenn)
- Mar 2 - Rally
- March – Delaney starts

Mar 23 - Sunday, Annual Meeting (Pam nominated as chair); 3/30 as fallback

Apr Field Beginners Class – 4/22-6/3
(Possible field training day)

May –Agility 5/17

ladies supported entry 5/31-6/1

June – flyer day June 8

Specialty 6/12-13

2. Slate: Marilyn Meewes is board member in charge of 2014 nominating committee.

3. When's our official anniversary???

- We were established in 1974, accredited in 1987, licensed in 1990

4. Code of Ethics

- Marilyn to submit examples of other clubs CoE to for guidelines

- Via email correspondences, Ruth learned that a former member was promoting an active association with the club. Former member B.LaRoche was asked to remove club references from her marketing.

5. Next board meeting: Wed, Jan 8, 2014



Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston

LRCGB B-OB Specialty Match

AKC Sanctioned open to all Labradors

January 26th, 2014

Masterpeace Dog Training, 264 Fisher Street, Franklin MA

Conformation and Obedience and Junior Showmanship

(wins carry no AKC points and scored do not count toward any obedience title)

Conformation: Regular Classes: Susan Foster-Golden Retrievers
Sweeps: Dr. David Johnson, DVM, FourSquare Pugs
Junior Showmanship – Julia O'Rourke, Junior Handler with Willcare

Obedience Utility – TBD, Open – TBD, Novice- TBD Beg Novice-TBD

Pre-Entries accepted until January 22, 2014

Pre-Entries fees: \$8.00 first entry \$6.00

\$10.00 first entry \$8.00 second entry of same dog

Sweeps and Entries from 8:15-9:00

Handling classes at 9:00

Obedience 9:30 Conformation 9:30 Sweeps first, regular to follow

Directions: Take exit #17 off Rte 495. Follow Rte 140 South for approximately 1 mile.

Turn right onto Fisher Street, pass over the railroad tracks, last building on the left

Classes: Dogs and Bitches

Sweeps	Reg.
4-6	4-6
6-9	6-9
9-12	9-12
12-15	12-18
15-18	open

no dogs with CH points
no professional handlers

Lunch

Potluck Lunch: soda, utensils, paper goods provided by LRCGB

Members please provide a dish according to first letter of last name as follows:

Suggested categories:

A-F appetizer

G-L side dish

M-R Main Dish

S-Z dessert

General Membership Meeting
during Lunch



Send Entries to Robin Magee, 294 Loudon Ridge Road, Loudon, NH 03307 (windyridgelabs@gmail.com)

Entry Form available on the next page

LRCGB Winter Match Entries -- Jan 26, 2014

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dogs Name: _____

Gender: _____ Age: ____ Jump Height _____ (obed)

First Entry _____

Second Entry _____

LRCGB Winter Match Entries -- Jan 26, 2014

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dogs Name: _____

Gender: _____ Age: ____ Jump Height _____ (obed)

First Entry _____

Second Entry _____



Member Accomplishments

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

HR Birchangreen's Rising Tide MH MNH4 qualified at the 2013 Master National in Fall River, Kansas. This is Tide's fourth straight pass at the Master National. He is bred, owned, trained and handled by Nona King and Tara Yohan. This year Tide was handled by Buck Shope of Swift River Retrievers.



High in Trial at the June Specialty was our own AKC/**Bronze GrCh, UKC CH Viking Hil'Die Tanzbarin, MH RA WCX**. Bred, owned and trained by Gerrie Owren.

Snowden Hill Miss DaisyMae SH RA CD WCX CGC earned her own High in Trial in September at the PRLRC Specialty to finish her Companion Dog Title. DaisyMae has two Master Hunter legs, and is owned & trained by Gerrie Owren & Robin Anderson.



Grampian Lime Booful RN WC CGC earned three titles in 2013. 'Sadie' is Miss DaisyMae's granddaughter and earned a WC, a Rally Novice title and her Canine

Good Citizen title. All three titles were earned in July, August and September. Sadie is bred, owned and trained by Robin Anderson and Gerrie Owren.



Wade Remington CD EA CGC TDI earned his CD with THREE First Place Placements *and* he was Best of Opposite Sex in Veterans Sweepstakes at our June Specialty Show! Loved and trained by Elaine and Frank Capone

Bodhi Quinn CDX, JH, RA, CGC earned his Novice Agility Preferred (NAP) title this summer at trials at WWS in North Smithfield RI. Way to go Bodhi starting agility at 8 years old! Jen Quinn



HRCH.MEADOWMERE'S LEX MH MNH '11 '12 '13 Lex" is now in The National Master Retriever Hall of Fame along with 49 other MH Retrievers in the USA. Owners David and Nancy Corkum of VT and Fla. Our thanks to them and Paul & Dee Lance who have given us 9 years of thrills as he advanced with 52

Passes. Margaret Mitchell



Little River Labradors is very proud to announce our first Junior Hunter, **Nor'Land Naiad's Right On Target At Little River JH**. "Target" is the daughter of Nor'Land Naiad Hot Ticket MH and Black Mist Smoke MH QAA. Our little 44 pound powerhouse earned her title going 4 for 4 beginning with the Penobscot Hunting Retriever Club's back to back series in Dixmont, Maine on July 20th and 21st, 2013. "Target" then went on to successfully complete the back to back Junior series at the Maine Retriever Trial Club on August 31st and September 1st, 2013 held in Burnham, Maine. We would like to give a huge thank you to Doris Aylward and Sukie Noble for this wonderful and talented young bitch. We wish to further thank Lois Munroe for getting "Target" started in her field training, our training group of Doris Aylward, Sukie Noble, Becky Whittmeyer, Sue Markle,

Susan Stewart, and Joe Juza. A big thank you to all our Junior judges. "Target" is owned, loved, and trained by Joannie Viator and John Newman and is handled by Joannie.

Introducing.....**CHAMPION Falline Telemark, JH**

She is both our first champion and the first champion we have bred. HUGE, HUGE THANK YOU to Kathy Mines for making my dreams come true - you are a star! To Gerrie Owren, my friend, I could not have done it without you. And Diane Pilbin (Chucklebrook) - for starting us on this crazy journey.





Grampian Viking's Aspen Xtreme! BN, RN, CGC. At the Merrimack Valley Obedience and Rally trial in Amherst, NH Aspen, with a score of 198.5/200, took first place in the class and also ended up winning the prize for the Highest Scoring Lab Retriever in the whole obedience trial! Oh, and she also finished her BN title. Loved and trained by Penny Shultz.

Black and Blind

by Carl Owen August 2013 for Little Joe
submitted by Marilyn Rodes

My sun began to set when I was half way through my life

I didn't understand
The darkness sent a glacier over me
I didn't understand
My best friend was there for me
Her love helped me understand
As dark as it is, her love shines through

I can't help myself
I wag my tail

dogknobit continued

knowing they both will drown, but has just enough time to gasp
"Why?"

Replies the scorpion: "It's my nature."
If the animal rights group is the scorpion, I guess that makes us
the frog.

We know what to expect from PETA and HSUS. They are what
they are and the only real revelation is how we've responded to
them. Their ultimate goal – the elimination of pet ownership –
drives their attack using guilt, greed, and political correctness to
negatively impact pet ownership culturally, legislatively and eco-
nomically. It's a pretty good plan.

But we've helped it along as surely as the frog helped the scor-
pion. How?

With benign neglect.

Through the dog shows I've attended this fall, I've continued to
notice a general lack of panic among dog fanciers. Metaphorically
speaking, it seems as if we know there's a big bad wolf outside
the door, but as long as we stay inside, we think we'll be okay.
This has truly puzzled me. It's not that I expect to see mass
hysteria at a dog show: Exhibitors self-flagellating in the groom-
ing area, or show superintendents weeping as they enter results
into their computers – but neither have I expected to see, well,
nothing.

My friend, "Linda," has a theory I think is "spot on." For most of

us, dog shows are a hobby, something we do for fun and diver-
sion. The last thing we want to think about is unpleasantness, the
notion that one day, it could all be gone: The dog shows, the dog
fancy culture, maybe even the dogs, themselves. It's the Scarlett
O'Hara approach to worry: "I can't think about that right now. If I
do, I'll go crazy. I'll think about that tomorrow."

"Fiddle-dee-dee! War, war, war; this war talk's spoiling all the fun
at every party this spring. I get so bored I could scream. Bes-
ides... there isn't going to be any war." Right.

But tomorrow comes, and we put it off to the next day. And the
next. There's no sense of urgency. Perhaps those of us who do
nothing at all secretly think (or hope) that someone else will do
the heavy lifting. Maybe some of us shrug with resignation and
think, "What can I do?"

I have to think there is strength in numbers. I have to think we
can beat this back, but only if we stand together.

And now I sound like a civil rights leader. But now that I think
about it, the freedom to own, breed and sell the dogs of our
choice ethically and responsibly is covered under civil rights as
interpreted by Article 17 of the Universal Declaration of Human
Rights and a couple of constitutional amendments.

How's that working out for us?

I freely admit that I don't know the answer to this next part, but
given that livelihoods are at risk by the animal rights agenda,
wouldn't it make sense to form coalitions to fight back? Dog
show judges against unreasonable dog legislation? How about
one uniting professional handlers? Show superintendents? Ven-
dors?

How about the rest of us?

If you're not a member of the NAIA, why not? This group has been
pushing back against the rhetoric of the animal rights movement
for awhile now, but it's also poised to be for us what HSUS has
been for the animal rights movement. The NAIA is doing some
impressive work and recently unveiled a "shelter model" that will
hold shelter/rescue groups accountable; No longer will respon-
sible breeders in the dog fancy be pummeled with allegations
about overpopulation, or take the blame for being the source of
shelter dogs without actual proof. Where adopted, this model will
provide hard numbers, and data is a pesky thing.

When was the last time you checked the AKC's legislative site to
be apprised of legislation happening in your state?

Have you ever written or called a legislator to weigh in on a piece
of dog legislation?

As much as we sometimes love to grouse about the AKC, they
provide some terrific tools for us: Activity sheets for kids (coloring
books, hidden picture puzzles, crossword puzzles) that you can
print out and give a classroom teacher or daycare provider; what
to do when a bad bill is Introduced, how to dispel myths about
cropped Ears, cocked tails, dewclaws, and debarking, sample
letters to editors and lawmakers, and more.

Blaming HSUS and PETA for our troubles isn't productive. They
are what they are, get over it, move on – but do something.

Do one thing. Just one.



MADDIE LAB STUDIO

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I always make sure to bring a moose with me on vacation. It helps me blend in with the locals.

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

National Lab Resuce
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

Publication Information

Otter Tails is published quarterly. Contributions of
 brags, articles, or event onformation are very welcome.

Email submissions to:
grampianlabs@comcast.net

Submissions deadlines are:

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

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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
Jan 26, 2014	Winter Match/General Meeting	Franklin, MA	
Mar 1, 2014	Obedience Trial	Auburn, MA	Feb 12, 2014
Mar 2, 2014	Rally Trial	Franklin, MA	Feb 12, 2014
Mar 18, 2014	Start of Advanced Retriever Training Group	Stow, MA	
Mar 23, 2014	Annual Meeting	TBD	
Apr 22, 2014	Start of Beginners Field Training Class	Stow, MA	
May 17, 2014	Agility Trial	TBD	
May 31 - Jun 1, 2014	Supported Entry, Ladies Dog Show	TBD	
Jun 8, 2014	Flyer Day	TBD	
Jun 12 - 13, 2014	Specialty	TBD	

Pet Astrology

Aquarius

January 20–February 19

Aquarius is the third and final air sign of the astrological year. Pets born under this sign are inventive, freedom-oriented, and eccentric; they have a need to be different. These pets definitely have a will of their own, like to roam, and may or may not listen to you. There is intelligence there as well.

Pisces

February 20–March 20

Pisces is the third and final water sign of the astrological year. Sympathetic, compassionate, understanding, and gentle, pets born under this sign are sensitive to their environment and should be trained with a light touch. They also feel more secure if they have their own "spot" (pillow, bed, perch, or rug).

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