

Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston

OTTER



TALES

Spring 2009

Inside This Issue

Published Quarterly

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Publication Information

Otter Tails 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.
(no floppies please)

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

From the President

The Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston is a Working membership Club. Each member must make a significant contribution for the betterment of the Club a minimum of 10 hours per calendar year. Contributions such as, serving as an Officer or Board Member, working a day at any of our events, submitting articles to Otter Tales, helping out with mailings, raffles, educational activities or on any committees will meet this requirement. Failure to contribute to the betterment of the Club will result in review of membership status by the Officers and Board of Directors and possible termination from the club.

LRCGB can only survive if members satisfy this working rule condition. The privileges of membership, such as litter listings with the Breeder Puppy contact and in Otter Tales and priority registration for such things as the Beginner Field class will not be permitted for those who are in violation of the working rules. Everyone is busy, and each of us has our own talents as well as restrictions. There are many ways to volunteer:

- Being the contact person for a trial or even
- Helping at any of our events
 - Winter Match
 - Obed/Rally Trial
 - Sanctioned Match

- Multiple Hunt tests
- Agility Trial
- Specialty
- Serving on the committee for any of these events
- Writing articles for Otter Tales
- Helping at health clinics
- Selling catalogs and merchandise at the Specialty
- Helping with registration of any of these events

Many volunteer jobs can be done from home such as collecting advertising for the Specialty, coordinating vendors for events, serving as match or trial secretary and collecting registrations and fees, collecting trophies, collecting raffle items, collecting items for the silent auction, generating educational pieces on Labrador Retrievers, writing to legislators on behalf of the club, finding speakers for meetings, generating press releases on behalf of the club. There are many ways to support the club through meeting your working requirement.

Barb Burri

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

Club News

To everyone that supported the
LRCGB 3rd Annual Obedience and Rally Trials

THANK YOU!

The club needs to give individual thanks to:

Pam Kimel, she has been the "Trial Secretary" for 3 years. Awesome job again this year Pam – we couldn't do it without you! Pam has volunteered to be the trail secretary for the 2010 trials.

Judges: Jim Ashton & Sandy Walker They handled their classes efficiently and made they handlers feel relaxed & special.

Fran Masters, Chief Steward and Emergency Coordinator. Fran is the perfect hostess, she makes everyone feel welcomed. Fran owns the MasterPeace Training Facility. Fran please thank all the wonderful stewards that worked so hard for the club. Fran has also volunteered to handle these same positions for the 2010 trials.

Robin Anderson – "Raffle Princess" was not able to attend the event this year due to having a 2-day old litter of Lab pups to take care of, but she had everything in order and it was very easy for the rest of us to pick up the baton and run with it. This year we donated the proceeds of the raffle to the Labrador Retriever Rescue and Labrador Lifeline.

Beth Teixeira & Gayle Abrams - Hospitality, Beth Chapman - Trophies, Lisa Kinsman - Parking, — You all made our jobs so easy and made our club look so GOOD!

A BIG "Thank You" to all the members and friends of the LRCGB that made the club's 3rd Annual Obedience and Rally trial a huge success!

2009 Chairpersons (and 2010)

Cheryl Palmer – Obedience

Gerrie Owren - Rally

SAVE THE DATE

More details to follow

Holiday Inn Boxborough MA

(exit 28 off 495)

Sunday March 29th, noon for lunch

1pm business

2pm speakers

Speakers will be Julie Rembrandt Seeley and Judith Erlanger from MASSFED speaking about legislation issues in the canine world.

American Kennel Club, Twentieth Century Fox and John Grogan Promote Responsible Dog Ownership With Marley & Me PSA Campaign

[Wednesday, November 12, 2008]

New York, NY – The American Kennel Club®, in partnership with Twentieth Century Fox and John Grogan, announced today the launch of a new public service announcement (PSA) campaign tied to the upcoming film *Marley & Me*. The campaign can be viewed at www.akc.org/marley and features 60-, 30- and 15-second television spots and a print PSA designed to remind all dog lovers of the commitment it takes to own a dog.

Responsible dog ownership is something Grogan, the author of the best-selling book on which the film is based, knows better than anyone. *Marley & Me* recounts his life with his rambunctious Labrador Retriever, who quickly grew from an adorable puppy to a 97-pound steamroller. In the PSA Grogan states:

"Puppies...they're so cute. Until they're not. Then they become 100 pounds of thundering, hairy, yelping, jumping, drooling, go-exactly-where-you-don't-want-them-to-go... commitment. In a word: Marley."

"I'm John Grogan. I was Marley's very patient and loving owner for over 13 years. I know there is nothing like the joys and rewards of pet ownership but... someone's got to be the responsible one... most likely you."

The PSAs, part of the AKC's longstanding public education campaign, remind potential dog owners that dogs are a big responsibility and that the decision to buy a puppy should not be taken lightly.

"Unlike other films and aspects of popular culture that idealize dogs, we think *Marley & Me* depicts a more balanced view of dog ownership and we want to underscore that further through

this campaign," said Daisy Okas, AKC's Assistant Vice President of Communications. "Dogs bring us love, affection, comfort, security and unrivaled devotion despite our flaws, but there is a lot that is required of us in return for the wonderful privilege of having a dog. We applaud Fox and John Grogan for providing the public with an entertaining story that drives this message home to all animal lovers."

"This heartwarming story about the trials, tribulations and lifelong commitment of owning a dog lends itself perfectly to a public

service announcement campaign," said Rita Drucker, Senior Vice President, Feature Films, Twentieth Century Fox. "We are pleased to be working with the AKC, an organization synonymous with the care and well-being of dogs for the past 125 years, in delivering the practical message *Marley & Me* sends to all dog lovers."

Created pro-bono by Doner, the new PSAs direct viewers to www.akc.org to research the right breed for them and learn about dog ownership. The television campaign has been dis-

tributed by On The Scene Productions to hundreds of stations nationwide and the print PSAs are available for download at: www.akc.org/marley

In addition to the PSAs, a co-branded AKC/*Marley & Me* licensed line of plush pet toys is currently being sold exclusively at Wal-Mart stores. The AKC and Twentieth Century Fox have collaborated previously on films (such as 2007's *Firehouse Dog*) in order to promote responsible dog ownership messages.

The Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston 2009 Dues Notice



Annual dues for the Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston are now due

Dues are \$ 20.00

The printed label on Otter Tales is the most recent address on file. Please make any necessary corrections. It's important for your information to be accurate so you can get Club info. Please submit payment by March 1, 2009. Remember, you will need to participate in an activity in 2009 to remain a member in good standing and for your membership to be renewed in 2010.

Send dues payment by check payable to LRCGB to:

Maria Corrigan, Membership
The Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston
204 Doyle Road, Holden, MA 01520
508-981-3052

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Kennel Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Interests: Breeder: __ Conformation: __ Field __ Obedience __ Agility: ____

Lab Rescue: _____ Other: _____

At which event or activity did you help the Club in 2008:

At which event or activity will you help the Club in 2009:



Member Accomplishments

AKC/U-Ch Viking Hil'Die Tanzbarin, JH, RN, WCI, CGC, CC became an AKC Champion on February 21, 2009

handled by Katherine Mines. Hildi finished with three majors in less than two months of showing. Bred by Gerrie Owren (*Ch Aquarius Centercourt Delight, JH, WC x Viking Zinka Dew, CD, JH, RN, CGC, CC*), owned by Gerrie and Robin Anderson.



Chucklebrook's Gleniscraig Angus, SH, WCI completed his Senior Hunter Oct. 25-26, 2008. Angus was handled to his title by trainer Dave Sears and is owned by Cynthia Abbott, Glenforrest Kennels.

2/14/09 Halifax, NS Canada. **BPISS CAN.CH.MEADOWMERE'S NORWIND OOH LA LA** goes BOB - Sporting Group II over 8 Specials. One the #1 male Lab for 2 yrs, and #2 Male lab in Canada. "Chick" is the 11 month old female Mike Woods gave BPISS and Reserve Winers bitch at the Aug. ALRC Speciality. His Critique was "Very nice yellow younster with lovely outline, short coupled, and good spring of ribs, pretty head with good muzzle and proper pigment. Has lots of potential." Chick is owned by Claude Tremblay and Margaret Mitchell.



OTCH Westwind Nite-Sky of Montana UDX12 competed at the 2008 AKC Eukanuba National Championships held in Long Beach California this past December. Montana finished the first day of competition in the overall 5th position and was the top Labrador for Saturday which allowed her to earn the special Labrador medallion. Montana also ended up 3rd in the sporting group which allowed her to compete on Sunday. (only the top 4 of each group and 4 wild card spots make it to Sunday for a total of 32 dogs) On Sunday, Montana made it to the final four and ended up as the third runner-up in the over all competition. Montana is proudly owned, bred and handled by Beth Chapman, Westwind Labradors.



CONGRATULATIONS BETH CHAPMAN AND MONTANTA!

2008 AKC National Obedience Champion

NOC OTCH Count Tyler Show Me the Money UDX2

Labrador Retriever Owned by: Petra Ford

1st Runner Up -

OTCH MACH4 Sanew's Abundance of Energy UDX4

Poodle Owned by: Shirley Barkan

2nd Runner Up -

CH OTCH Trumagik Step Aside UDX9

Border Collie Owned by: Catherine Zinsky and Annemarie Silverton

3rd Runner Up -

OTCH Westwind Nite-Sky of Montana UDX10

Labrador Retriever Owned by: Beth Chapman

Labrador Retriever Holds Firm in Top Spot on AKC's List of Most Popular Dogs in America; Lovable Bulldog Continues its Ascent [Wednesday, January 21, 2009]

AKC Celebrates 125th Anniversary with a Look Back at First AKC Registered Breeds in History

For the 18th consecutive year, the Labrador Retriever is the most popular purebred dog in America, according to [2008 registration statistics](#) released today by the American Kennel Club® (AKC) But, while more than twice as many Labs were registered last year than any other breed making it a likely leader for many years to come, the Bulldog continues to amble its way up the list. The breed made news last year by returning to the AKC's Top 10 for the first time in more than 70 years and now has jumped 6%, advancing two spots to land in 8th place.

"The playful Lab may still reign supreme, but the docile and adaptive nature of the Bulldog is gaining ground as a family favorite," said AKC Spokesperson Lisa Peterson. "It's no surprise to learn that this devoted family companion is still growing in popularity."

**Westminster Kennel
Club Show,
February 2009**



**Our members shine in
the ring...**



and in the stands!



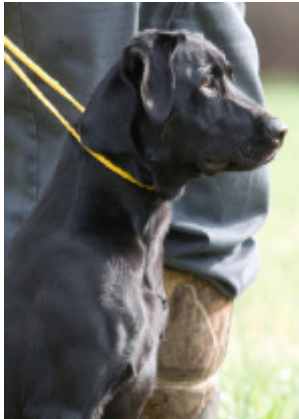
**Congratulations to all
the competitors.**

*photos by Carol Stevens
www.adigitalmoment.com*



Beginner's Class for the Field

Come join the fun!



Start your pup off right and see how far you can go. Chances are you'll be ready for the Working Certificate or AKC Junior Hunt tests this summer.



Students will participate in all aspects of field training and learn what it takes to succeed at any level.

Details

Instructor: Karen Kase
Assistants: Joey Edsall, Rainer Fuchs

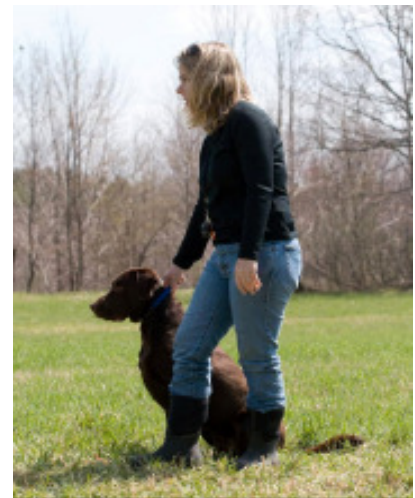
Duration: 8 weeks

When: Tuesday evenings, 6pm April 7 - May 26, 2009

Where: Delaney Watershed,
Stow, MA

Cost: Members \$130.00
Non-members \$150.00

Prerequisite: basic obedience
commands: Sit, Here/Come, Heel



Class will be limited to 8 students One dog per student or as space allows Club members will be given preference

To Register

Please contact Ellen Brinker at elbrinker@aol.com

It Really *is* Fun

The *Beginners Class to Field Training* is a great orientation to hunting retriever work. Plus, you'll meet encouraging, supportive people and find places to train.

photography by Jeremy Keezer

Time for the Puppies!

May 3rd, 2009 is the Spring Match in Westford, MA at the same fairgrounds where our June Specialty is held. Watch the LRCGB web site and the GOOGLE email board for more information.

Delaney Group Procedures

Mass Wildlife is charging \$25 per session for use of the Delaney Watershed area. To defray these costs, we collect the following fees:

1. **Beginners Class:** For participants in the LRCGB Beginners Class, the fee for the class covers the grounds fee for the duration of the class. Participants wishing to use the grounds after completion of the class may do so for a fee of \$20 per person for the rest of the season. The Beginners Class will have first priority for selection of grounds for the duration of the class.
2. **Club Training:** LRCGB members may pre-pay for the season for a fee of \$35 per person. After the Beginners Class ends, pre-paying participants will have first priority for selection of grounds.
3. **Members wishing to pay for use of the grounds on a daily basis** may do so for \$5 per handler, per day. Prepaying participants will have priority in running their dogs; drop-in participants will get a refund if their runs cannot be accommodated because we are running out of daylight. Drop-ins should let the group know by Monday 5pm (the day before) if they will be attending that Tuesday. (If you are not part of the field google group, please email your request to either jme86@aol.com or rainer@fuchsamerica.com)

Fees for the season should be sent to:

Margaret Stubbs, 12 Meadowbrook Rd., Weston, MA 02493

The check should be made out to Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston. Please include your email address and you will be added to our google group for information.

Field Committee

Delaney group procedures

- When entering the roadway, please drive 5 mph. We'd like to keep a good relationship between our training group and the dog walkers.
- Participants should let the group know if they will be attending and how many dogs by Monday 5pm (the day prior) Tuesday's session.
- Be prepared to work in the field and provide equipment. The club has some equipment, but is dependent on others to provide starter pistols, etc. At a minimum, **participants are expected to bring a duck call, whistle, and a working radio.**
- Running order and substitution will be provided at the beginning of the session. This substitution order may include providing assistance to the Beginners Class.
- Each week will have a pre-arranged set up, which will be designed to teach dogs of different levels. Prior to the training session we will discuss the set-up, what it is designed to teach and how to run the set-up depending on the level of your dog. We will work with you to help you run the appropriate set-up for your dog.

- The training session are expected to start at 5:00 and run until dark. If you arrive late you may not be able to run all the set-ups.

- This is a training session, think about what you want you and your dog to LEARN. Do not try to win the training session, you will have ample time to demonstrate your dog's ability at the tests. While all dogs have bad days, if you dog appears to consistently have problems, then you may want to consider that the task you have asked is beyond the current ability of your dog. All dogs learn at different rates and have different problems. Do not feel your dog should be able to do the most difficult set-up or that a training approach used by one member is always the right approach for your dog. Don't hesitate to ask more experienced handlers for suggestions how to simplify if you're in doubt. Ask questions!

- Please make sure your dog is ready to run when it is your turn. Ideally, there is always a dog in the holding blind. Air your dog in advance, pick up after your dog!

- Please be aware that we're sharing the grounds with other people walking their dogs. **If someone complains, be courteous, offer to explain what we are doing, but do not get into arguments.**

How to write your legislators!!!!!!!

Email: ginagross@mindspring.com

FIRST of all, know who your legislators are. <http://www.naiatrust.org/gov/index.htm> can help you figure this out. You can also get good information from the various email lists. I know we don't have time to read more email - but think about getting at least one for your home state or for dogs only. This one is much less busy than Pet-law but often has the same cross posts that it does. Send an email to: doglegislation-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to set up a subscription. If you don't like it you can always unsubscribe.

Communicating with Legislators By Mail or Fax

- First Rule! DO NO HARM - be Polite!
- Use the proper form of address on the envelope and inside address. For senators and representatives: The Honorable [Full Name]
 - Start your letter: Dear Senator [last name] or Dear Representative [last name]
 - Make your letter legible. Handwritten letters are great, but if your handwriting isn't very easy to read, type the letter! It must contain your name, return address and telephone number – readable!
 - Always be polite. Never, never preach, threaten, or scold!

In the first sentence, state your position. "I oppose [bill number]" or "I am against..."

- Then introduce yourself: "I am a hobby breeder of Flat Island Zorchers in Bug Run."
 - Be clear and concise. State exactly why the legislation concerns you
 - Focus on one or two issues at a time – don't try to cover everything in one letter.
 - Use personal examples. Say how the legislation would affect you.
 - Say exactly what you want – not , "Please consider this carefully," but "Please vote AGAINST this."
 - Keep it short – no more than one page long.
- End by saying "Thank You" and " I look forward to your response."

There is a really bad bill Docket #653 that has been filed in the Mass. General Court that would make the devocalization of dogs AND cats illegal in Massachusetts.

The following Reps and Senators have signed on as sponsors.

Cosponsors to date:

Representatives

Ruth Balsler, Dan Bosley, Garrett Bradley, Will Brownsberger, Steven D'Amico, Paul Donato, Sean Garballey, Patricia Haddad, Brad Hill, Louis Kafka, John Keenan, Kay Khan, Barbara L'Italien, Pam Richardson, Mike Rush

Senators

Scott Brown, Stephen Brewer

Can you urge all your dog owning friends and relatives whose Rep or Senator has signed to NOT sponsor the bill.

Here are reasons to oppose the bill:

1. Debarking is a minor surgical procedure
2. Debarking can save a life by keeping a dog in a home and out of a shelter.
3. Cat breeders have never heard of a cat being de-vocalized.
4. The bill calls for up to 5 years in prison for anyone who debarks and a mental health evaluation! People who debark to keep a dog are not criminals or mentally ill

here is the link to the out of state group pushing this bill

<http://www.animallawcoalition.com/animal-cruelty/article/654>

There are some breeds of dogs like Beagles, Shelties, Siberian Huskies, Finish Spitz (to name a few) who love to bark - there's no collar that will stop the barking. Owners of such dogs have two options - dump the dog at the closest shelter or have the dog debarked. It's hard enough in these economic times on many families who own dogs to afford the dogs. This is a really unreasonable, unfair bill that punishes responsible dog owners.

US Live Animal Air Shipping Policy Changes

[Thursday, February 26, 2009]

A new directive regarding transporting live animals by air into/through the United States has been put into effect by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Effective February 1, 2009, the directive requires that all animals, including dogs, coming into the United States from overseas airports booked as manifest cargo—that is, not accompanied by a ticketed passenger—must be tendered at their foreign origin airport by a "Regulated Agent" or "IATA-Approved Agent".

Parties NOT AFFECTED include:

- Within the US, people (breeders, owners, etc.) either shipping their pets as cargo (i.e., not accompanied by a ticketed passenger) or traveling with their pets as excess luggage or in-cabin.
- People traveling with their pets as excess luggage or in-cabin into the US from overseas airports.
- People shipping their pets from the US to a foreign country.

AFFECTED parties include:

- People shipping pets as cargo not accompanied by a

ticketed passenger into the US.

- Individuals living overseas who want to send their pets back to the US as cargo not accompanied by a ticketed passenger.

These affected parties must now use the services of a registered/licensed shipping/cargo/freight agent or broker. Such agents are easy-to-find, as there are usually a number of them near major airports.

As always, individuals flying with a dog into the US should check with their airline to confirm its policies on live animals as excess baggage.

Developed after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the TSA is responsible for the security of all systems of transportation in the US. The new directive is part of the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to secure all unaccompanied cargo coming into the US. TSA is part of the Department of Homeland Security.

For more information, please contact the US Transportation Security Administration at (866) 289-9673 or US Customs & Border Patrol at (877) 227-5511.

For a public statement issued by US Customs & Border Patrol, please follow this link: http://help.cbp.gov/cgi-bin/customs.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faaid=1100

CANINE HEALTH FACT SHEET

The American Kennel Club® and purebred enthusiasts do not take breeding lightly. Responsible breeders aim to preserve and improve the breeds they dedicate their lives to. The AKC® leads the charge by donating millions of dollars to canine health research as well as education programs for breeders. For instance, the AKC founded the AKC Canine Health Foundation in 1995 and since that time, \$22 million has been given to more than 500 research projects at 74 vet schools and research institutes worldwide to improve the health of all dogs.

A balanced breeding program includes a host of criteria including genetic testing, pedigree research, conformation and temperament analysis of sire and dam. Potential pet owners should educate themselves about these issues and seek breeders who produce healthy dogs.

It is important to note there is no comprehensive study of genetic diseases in the general population of dogs. Thus, while the purebred community diligently and scientifically monitors canine health issues, there is no such corresponding or comparative effort concerning mixed breeds or dogs in general. Therefore there is no definitive evidence of the superior health of mixed breed dogs.

Because purebred dogs have been selectively bred for centuries, their pedigrees enable us to identify specific canine diseases and develop screening tests and conduct research to eradicate diseases in multiple species, including man.

"Because dogs have been reared as distinct breeds with clear isolated populations, it is often easier to detect a genetic flaw than it is in humans, and dogs are susceptible to many similar diseases that occur in man," said research scientist Dr. Kerstin Lindblad-Toh.*

The most important issue in obtaining any dog is the dedication and knowledge of the breeder and the pet owners' understanding of the long-term commitment it takes to ensure the health and well-being of any dog throughout its lifetime.

Potential pet owners should educate themselves about health issues and seek breeders who adequately screen their breeding stock using the available clinical and genetic tests to produce healthy dogs.

About the American Kennel Club (AKC)

- Founded in 1884, the largest and only not-for-profit All-Breed dog registry

- Recognizes 161 breeds and sanctions more than 21,000 events annually
 - Core values include: “to protect the health and well-being of all dogs” and “to advance canine health”
 - Promotes responsible dog ownership through public education
 - : Only registry with an active Investigations and Inspections program, including a care and conditions policy
 - Affiliates - 501(c)3 charitable organizations that benefit dogs:
 - AKC Canine Health Foundation - *Supports and develops health programs with emphasis on canine genetics to improve the quality of life for dogs and their owners.*
 - AKC Companion Animal Recovery - *Dedicated to the permanent identification of animals and administers the AKC CAR Canine Support & Relief Fund for search and rescue grants and disaster relief.*
 - AKC Museum of the Dog - *Home to the world's finest collection of art devoted to the dog.*
 - AKC Humane Fund - *Administers grants to animal-focused organizations that contribute to the greater good of animals and their well-being by promoting the values of responsible pet ownership and who preserve the human-canine bond through awareness and education.*
 - The AKC is comprised of nearly 5,000 member and licensed clubs, including a designated Parent Club overseeing each respective breed in the U.S. AKC Parent Clubs:
 - promote healthy breeding, genetic testing and genetic diversity. When problems arise, they address them through funding genetic research, encouraging testing breeding stock and establishing and using health registries for their pre-breeding research. Parent Club Health Committees conduct health surveys and facilitate Donor Advised Funds at the AKC CHF for research related to specific breed genetic diseases.
 - write breed standards. The breed standards direct breeders in targeting ideal conformation, temperament and health. The AKC publishes all standards in *The Complete Dog Book* and posts them on akc.org.
 - : may request that the AKC open the studbook for their breed to address health issues to include new animals in the gene pool. This was recently done for the Basenji.
- About the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation (AKC CHF)
- The AKC founded the AKC Canine Health Foundation in 1995 and since that time \$22 million has been given to more than 500 research projects at 74 vet schools and research institutes worldwide to improve the health of all dogs.
 - AKC CHF's mission is, “to develop significant resources for basic and applied health programs with emphasis on canine genetics to improve the quality of life for dogs and their owners.”
 - While this research targets the occurrence of a disease in specific breeds, it also increases the knowledge of the disease within all dogs. To date, more than a dozen genetic tests have been developed for such wide-spread diseases as PRA, Hypothyroidism, and Fanconi Syndrome.
 - The AKC CHF donated \$2.2 million to projects that mapped the canine genome. These projects contributed to the complete genome sequence performed by the National Institutes of Health.
 - Parent club health liaisons and AKC CHF Founder Clubs (those that donate more than \$10,000) are invited to attend the annual National Parent Club Canine Health conference with worldwide leaders in genetic research to advance all aspects of canine health and purebred dog breeding.
 - AKC CHF holds multiple “Breeders Symposia” and Parent Club National Specialty Health Presentations around the

country each year. These educational programs offer breeders a wide variety of opportunities to stay up to date on canine genetics, reproduction, and nutrition.

Independent Health Registries

AKC works with major canine health registries such as the [Orthopedic Foundation for Animals](#) (OFA) and the [Canine Eye Registration Foundation](#) (CERF).

- The OFA collates and disseminates information concerning orthopedic and genetic diseases of animals; advises, encourages and establishes control programs to lower the incidence of orthopedic and genetic diseases; encourages and finances research in orthopedic and genetic disease in animals and receives funds and makes grants to carry out these objectives.
- CERF maintains a registry of dogs that American College of Veterinarian Ophthalmologists (ACVO) Diplomates (AVCO members) examine and have found to be unaffected by major heritable eye disease and maintains a research database which consists of information that is generated by all examinations done by ACVO Diplomates.

The AKC supports the work of the health registries and parent clubs in their efforts to make health testing information accessible by listing test results in our pedigrees and via the [Canine Health Information Center](#) (CHIC) database. This centralized canine health database jointly sponsored by the AKC Canine Health Foundation and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals develops a list of health screenings the responsible breeder should incorporate into their breeding program and is a DNA repository for future research.

The AKC Vet Outreach program seeks to build relationships and increase dialogue about animal health and welfare with all veterinary and vet tech organizations including the AVMA, AAHA, NAVTA and all 28 schools of veterinary medicine in the U.S. Each year the AKC makes educational presentations at vet schools, awards \$175,000 in veterinary student and veterinary tech student scholarships, interacts with practicing veterinarians at major vet conferences and provides specific materials related to breeds and breeding to all first year and fourth year students.

AKC Compliance

The AKC also looks out for the health of dogs when it comes to their everyday care. The only purebred registry in the United States with an ongoing routine kennel inspection program, the AKC has a dedicated team of field inspectors who visit kennels to ensure the proper care and conditions of AKC-registered dogs and verify that breeders are maintaining accurate records for their dogs. In 2007, AKC field inspectors conducted approximately 5,600 inspections nationwide. The AKC dedicates nearly \$6 million annually to its compliance programs to ensure the accuracy of its registry and the care and conditions of dogs raised by breeders of AKC dogs.

More information is available at www.akc.org and www.akcchf.org. AKC Customer Service can be reached at 919-233-9767 or info@akc.org.

** Dr. Kerstin Lindblad-Toh of Uppsala University in Sweden and the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard University and co-author of “The Dog and Its Genome” (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2006) quoted in a recent issue of “Science Daily.”*

Little River

Pet Care Services

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Serving Cape Ann
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Meeting your pet care needs for your home, barn, or kennel.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

2009 June Specialty

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Publication Information

Otter Tails 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

Braggs and In Memoriam

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

Litter Listings:

Members may list litters for \$5 per litter. Please include all information: Name of parents, clearances, and contact information.

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. No floppy disks please.

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/

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

Change of Address?
 Contact Barb Burri
bburri@comcast.net

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



Events Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Opens/Closes
March 8, 2009	PRLRC Match	Warwick, RI	www.prlrc.org
March 29th, 2009	Annual Meeting	Boxborough, MA	noon- 3pm
May 3 2009	Spring Match	Westford, MA	
April 8-10, 2009	The Potomac	Maryland	
Apr 25 & 26, 2009	Spring Hunt Test	Gardner, MA	
May 16, 2009	Agility Trials	Wrentham, MA	3-25/4-25

Pet Astrology

ARIES (Mar 21- Ap 20)

Aries cats and dogs are born to be leaders in their territory. They try to boss the other pets in their immediate neighborhood. No other pet can dare to bully them. They cannot be easily put under leash. They call for attention. If not given adequate attention, they are likely to become rebellious, stubborn and disobedient. When pampered they do not hesitate to show back their gratitude. It is a little difficult to get them under your words. They are known to be territorial and defend the same with all their might.



LRCGB
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