

Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston

OTTER



TALES

Winter 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:
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20 Fairway Drive
Seekonk, MA 02771

From the President

2009 promises to be an interesting year for Labradors and their owners! The holiday release of the movie version of "Marley and Me" will put Labradors in the 101 Dalmations hot seat for the next year or so. Being America's most popular breed is enough of a problem, without further market pressures and opportunistic back yard breeders diluting the message of responsible pet ownership and responsible breeders, and trying to make a buck off of what is mainstream popular.

But Marley isn't the only problem, the current legislative climate is such that we are going to see repeated efforts of legislatures to pass mandatory spay neuter bills, dog limit bills, restrictions on our ability to own and breed dogs. Massachusetts came very close this year, but HB 5092 was opposed! That doesn't mean we are done, every state served by LRCGB is likely to see legislative action in the near future. As dog owners and breeders we need to stay on top of the legislative scene, write our representatives, and keep current on what is going on. Animal rights groups do not have the best interests of dog owners at heart, ideally such groups would like to see pet ownership abolished. Animal rights groups do have deep pockets and lots of support, even from pet owners who do not see the true agenda of the AR movement. As dog owners we need to work together to make sure laws are not put in place that will affect our ability to own and breed dogs.

But I'm not a breeder, how does this affect me? There is a lot on the line:

- your ability to obtain your next purebred dog
- your ability to maintain the reproductive status of your canine companion and spay neuter at your timeframe, not some legal timeframe
- your ability to train, compete, and share activities with your dog

These are all on the line every time a piece of dog legislation is proposed.

So what is a person to do?

Check out the Public Service Announcements on AKC.org regarding Marley and Me. http://www.akc.org/press_center/marley.cfm The AKC has gotten John Grogan to do a nice PSA that will remind people about responsible pet ownership. This campaign is in print and visual media. Remind folks that if they want a dog just like Marley, that really, it's a many year commitment and besides, they don't want Marley, they want a great dog like yours! Refer folks to a reputable breeder (contact me for the club list).

Get involved in making sure that our canine rights aren't legislated out from under us. Write your representatives, read the emails coming out about upcoming legislative efforts. Come out to public demonstrations at the state house. There are LRCGB members involved in MASSFED and on the lablaw lists who monitor this activity. Keep track of what is going on in your own town. Not all the issues are state wide issues, make sure you speak up and get others to join you if your town meeting, zoning or planning boards are considering dog limiting legislation.

And for 2009 – have fun with your dogs! Try something new, learn a new skill, compete in a new venue, take a swim in a new pond! Come on out to an LRCGB event and enjoy!

My holiday wish for all is a safe, happy, healthy holiday season, and a prosperous new year! May 2009 bring you many tail wags, labby licks, ribbons, titles, treats, and happiness!!

Barb Burri

“No matter how little money and how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich.”-Louis Sabin

Club News

SAVE THE DATE

Fun Match: January 25th, 2009

Performance Plus Dog Training Center, Taunton, MA

Members & Guests Welcome

Beth Texiera and Ruth Solomon
Chairs

Judges TBA

Check the LRCGB Web site for entry forms and more information.

WANTED!

Raffle Items for All Shows

Advertising Volunteer for Specialty

Grounds Chair for Specialty

Kitchen Help (will train)

Winter Obedience/Rally Trials at MASTERPEACE DOG TRAINING
Contact Cheryl Palmer, Chair, if you can help out.
palmerpack@comcast.net

“When a dog runs at you,
whistle for him.”
Henry David Thoreau

THANK YOU NOTES

Karen, Joey, and Margaret,

Thank you for allowing me to judge for your club. The grounds were beautiful, the weather great, and the club members made the event most pleasurable for the participants and the judges.

I especially thought that Ellison and I worked very well together and presented a fair, but challenging, Master hunt test. I hope that the Lab club agrees. Please keep me in mind if you ever need a judge for a future event.

Regards, Bob Samios

PS: Thank you for the Cabella gift card

Dear Beth:

I want to thank the LRCGB for asking me to judge their WC and fall Juniuor Hunter test. I would not be fulfilling these duties if it wasn't for the other club members that have taught me the ropes: Karen and Dick Kennedy, Karen Kase, Jeff Snyder & Joey Edsall. Without them I would not be writing this letter today. Thank you all.

Nancy Laser Wolston

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

You can now subscribe to the LRCGB event calendar in internet calendar format!
<http://www.lrcgb.org/calendar.html#CalendarSubscription>
Get your OTTER TAILS on line:
<http://www.lrcgb.org/ottertales.html>

Rescue News

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.

1. Visit our new website www.labrescue.com, where you can now order unique Lab Rescue merchandise online by credit card—including our popular Lab XMAS cards.
2. We need knowledgeable Lab people for a variety of volunteer opportunities throughout our service area. Most tasks involve a small time commitment, just a few times a year:
 - Foster homes (not kennels) provide a temporary residence where the dogs can be observed in a natural, family setting, pending adoption by previously screened applicants. The typical stay in foster care is 1-2 weeks.
 - Conduct home studies of people in your area who have applied to adopt from LRR. You and your Lab visit applicants, by appointment, and complete a home study form. Each visit takes 30 minutes to 1 hour.
 - Evaluate Labs at shelters, vet clinics, or private homes for temperament, health, and to make sure the Lab is purebred. Each visit takes 30 minutes to 1 hour.
 - Other opportunities include basic obedience training, transport, publicity, fundraising, public education.

For more info and volunteer forms: www.labrescue.com 978-356-2982

AKC Obedience Changes:

compiled by Barb Burri, President LRCGB

The AKC board has approved the changes suggested by the Obedience Advisory Committee, and over the next 3 years these changes will roll out to the sport of obedience.

The changes that go into effect for 1/1/2009 include

- Limiting judges to 8 hours of judging
- the ability of clubs to arrange entries by jump height,
- changing the trained or instructed clause to six months

from one year

- adding optional titling classes
- clarification of when titles are won, and move ups
- adding forms to the action for disqualification for attacking
- adding a master and grand master title.

Optional Titling Classes:

The non-regular classes of Graduate Novice, Graduate Open, and Versatility are now optional titling classes. Each of these classes can title with 3 qualifying performances under 3 different judges, and the new titles are GN, GO and VER.

Obedience Master and Grand Master Titles

Once a dog has earned its Utility title, I can compete for the Master Title. Dogs earning scores of 190 or higher in Open B or Utility B earn points towards its master title; 200 points are needed and must be at least 60 points from Open B and 60 Points from Utility B, the rest from either class. OM will be the designation for an Obedience Master. When a dog has completed 10 Levels of Obedience Master, they become an OGM Obedience Grand Master.

The new non-regular classes, Wild Card Novice, Wild Card Open and Wild card utility are also spelled out in the new obedience regulations for 2009.

Changes for 1/1/2010 will allow clubs to hold two all breed obedience trials concurrently on the same site on the same day. The other change for 2010 is the new advanced teamwork class, as a non-regular class. This includes heeling, and judges choice of 4 out of 7 new exercises that include such tasks as retrieving a baseball glove, object pick up and placement, scent work, seek back to find a lost object, moving stand, sit or down, distance control, and a send away exercise. This class is for those who have completed their UD.

Changes for 7/1/2010 are a new Beginner Novice class. This is a new optional titling class designed to bring in dogs before the Novice Level. The tasks include on lead heeling, a figure 8, sit for exam, sit stay while the handler walks around the ring, and a recall. Rally signs will be used for the on lead heeling. It will be permissible to give one phrase of encouragement or praise for each moving exercise without penalty. The new title will be a BN.

The big change for 1/1/2011 – all the titles and optional titles change to requiring three legs under TWO different judges instead of three.

Prepare Yourself for Breeding a Litter

Breeding dogs has been a passion for people through many centuries. Part art, part science, and total devotion, breeding will show you all the best in the human-and-dog bond. It is exciting and challenging.

Breeding purebred dogs is also time consuming, expensive, and, occasionally, heart-breaking. If you go forward, your underlying purpose should be to improve the breed - not just increase its numbers.

Breeding a litter should begin with knowledge. Responsible breeders devote time to learning as much as they can about their breed, about canine health and training, and about AKC rules. How can you become an expert?

Study your breed standard. This is the official version of the "perfect" breed specimen and should be the starting place for any breeder. The AKC offers breed videos with real-life examples, and many parent clubs offer more detailed, illustrated versions of

their standards for more in-depth research.

Attend dog events. Watch dogs in action and study the pedigrees of those you like. Ask questions of breeders involved in your breed. Research your breed by visiting the breed's [national parent club](#) website. Find and attend a local club meeting to meet other breeders.

Read, read, read! Your library and bookstore are invaluable sources of information about canine health and breeding. Some books, including the *Complete Dog Book* and *American Kennel Club Dog Care and Training*, are available in the AKC Store. The *AKC Gazette* and other dog magazines have informative articles about breeding as well.

Additional reading:

[Advice from the Breeder: Considerations Before Breeding](#)
By Mary M. Rodgers



Member Accomplishments

Grandquest Compass Rose, RN, WC, CGC, CC earned her Rally Novice title with

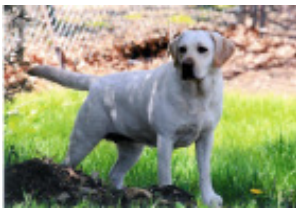
placements both days at the PRLRC Specialty Shows in September 2008. She celebrated her 8th Birthday a few days prior to earning her title. Rosie is owned and loved by Robin and Bob Anderson. She was bred by Michelle and Jose Granda. (*Simandem Jumpin' Jack Flash x Beechcroft Grandquest Jasmine*)



UCD HR SR Puddleducks Kyla O'Fairview, UD, SH, RA, WCX2, CGC, TDI; UCD SHR McPhersons Tessa di Fairview, CDX, JH RA, WC, CGC, TDI, NAVHDA NA Prize II & Snowden Hill Justa Fairview Illusion, WC all added letters to their names. Both Kyla and Tessa completed their Rally Advanced (RA) titles yesterday at the Obedience Trial Club of RI's annual trial. Kyla placed 3rd with a 99 and Tessa (who had way too much fun in the ring) qualified with a 93. Kyla also placed 1st in the Veterans obedience class. Llew earned his Working Certificate at the PRLRC WC/WCI/WCX test.

U-Ch Viking Hil'Die Tanzbarin, JH, RN, WCI, CGC, CC earned her WCI at the PRLRC

WC.WCI.WCX test handled by Gerrie Owren. She then earned her UKC Championship on November 14th, 2008 handled by Junior Handler, Julia Sterrett. 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.



Grampian Bedizened Viking, JH, RN, WCI, CGC, CC earned her WCI at the PRLRC test in October. Handled by Gerrie Owren, 'Dazzle' is loved and trained by Gerrie. (*Ch Hollyhills Delby's Samuel Adams, WC, CGC x Ch Snowden Hill Mango Crazy, JH, RA, WC, CGC, CC*)

Corbett's Operation Chaos CDX, SH, WCI, CC, CGC

finished her Senior Hunter title at the Central New York Retriever Hunt Test. Chaos is Bred/Owned/Handled by Pattie Duddy



Burri's Lofty LadyHawke RN, RL-2, CLS-1, CGC, TDIA, CC earned her APDT Rally level 1 and level 2 titles at the Wag-It Trials in Lincolnville Maine, Hawke is owned, loved and trained by Barb Burri.

U-CD Burri's Celestial Kestrel CD, RE, NF, NA, NAP, NJP, RL-1, CL-2, CGC, CC "Kestrel" finished her NF title on September 21st at the Wachusett Kennel Club Agility Trial, then Finished her APDT RL-1 title with an award of Excellence for exceeding 190 points on each leg, at the Monadnock Canine Academy Rally Trial on 9/28



Timber Town Turn Me Loose UD

VCD2 MH RE (Kaya) successfully completed all six series and qualified at the Master National hunt test in Minnesota, September 21 – 28. Kaya is trained and handled by Rainer Fuchs.

Grampian Raptor Mystique, RE, RL-2, CGC, TDI, CC finished his APDT RL-2 title on 9/28 at the Monadnock Canine Academy trial in Keene NH. Merlin was bred by Robin Anderson (*Ch Hollyhills Delby's Samuel Adams WC, CGC x Ch Snowden Hill Mango Crazy JH, RA, WC, CGC, CC*). Kestrel and Merlin are owned, trained, and loved by Barb Burri

Grampian Hickory's Crimson H2O Dragon RN, CGC "Cory" finished his AKC Rally Novice title. He got his third leg in West Warwick at the Obedience Trial Club of Rhode Island's trial. We also won high scoring Labrador Retriever in Rally Novice B. (*Ch Liddle Leaping Leo x U-Ch Viking Hil'Die Tanzbarin, JH, RN, WCI, CGC, CC*) Joel Wolff and Penny Shultz



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.

Margaret Mitchell's Labrador Retriever **CAN.BER.CH. MEADOWMERE'S LETS GET CHUMMY LATEST WINS.** 8/15 ALRC SPECIALITY ST. JOHN. NB Chummy won the GUN DOG Class under Breeder Judge Mike Woods. Mid-Coast KC 8/30 /08 RWD. 8/31WD BOW. 9/27-28 L/A KC RWD and Sunday WD.

MEADOWMERE'S NORWIND OOH LA LA Co-owned with Claude Tremblay of Bathurst, NB at ALRC SPECIALITY 8/15 went RWB and BPIS at 11 months. She finished her Can Title at Miramichi KC 9/27 and is now BPISS **CAN.CH. MEADOWMERE'S NORWIND OOH LALA.** "Chick" is Chummy and Tipsy's daughter.

NEW CAN.CH. MEADOWMERE'S CHAMPAGNE MERRYLEGS "Tipsy" just finished her Can CH, going WB BOW at Cobequid DC both shows. At Charlottetown PEI Tipsy went WB BOW two shows and the 3rd show WB BOS over 3 Specials to finish.

Josie took Best of Breed at the Raleigh-Durham Specialty under Kendall Herr in November. We can now announce that she is **BISS Ch. Danbridge Empress Josephine**. She is Ch. Windfall's Pipe Major X Danbridge Kathryn The Great CGC, CC, CD, RN . Owned and bred by Marilyn and Ken Meewes.

Josie's son (by Ch. Danbridge Indiana Jones, WC,) - **Danbridge Henry J** - added another major to his record at the Elmira Kennel Club in September, taking a five point major under Claire White Peterson. He also took his BBE class both days at Raleigh-Durham under Kendall Herr and Jan Granneman. and RWD from the bred by class, at the PRLRC Specialty under Marilyn Prior .

Danbridge Henry J and his littermate, **Danbridge High Society** (Reenie) took RWD and RWB in North Conway under Jean-Louis Blais.

Danbridge Shake It Up WC, (aka Margarita) earned her new field title at the PRLRC WC event in October. She is Ch. Windfall's Pipe Major X Danbridge Rumor. Owned and bred by Marilyn and Ken.

Danbridge Rumor Has It (aka Muffie) went Best In Sweeps at the PRLRC Specialty under Kate Perry. Muffie is also Ch. Windfall's Pipe Major X Danbridge Rumor.

Danbridge Kathryn The Great RN finished her Rally Novice title in straight shows, getting a perfect score of 100, under Tibby Chase. Katie accomplished this at the young age of 10 1/2 !! Katie is out of Ch. Graemoor Tim CD, JH X Danbridge Socialite

U-Ch Grampian Lola Tortola Viking, JH, RN, WC, CGC, CC garnered another BOB win and a Gun Dog Group III at the Silver City K9 Club show on November 14th. (*Ch Hollyhills Delby's Samuel Adams, WC, CGC x Ch Snowden Hill Mango Crazy, JH, RA, WC, CGC, CC*). Robin Anderson and Gerrie Owren co-own, love and train Lola.



Beau Geste Theophilus's

Anna SH (a.k.a. Annie) earned her SH in July - and 3 MH legs since. Her father, **Theophilus's Friend Luke MH** (a.k.a. Luke) earned his MH in August. I'm proud of them both. Marsha Wilcox.

U-CD Viking Gansett Baywatch, UD, SH, RA, WCX, CGC earned her Rally Advanced title with perfect scores at the PRLRC Specialty shows in September. Ganni went on to earn her first Rally Excellent leg. Gerrie Owren is proud of her little Ganni.



Dick Kennedy and Mattie, aka, **Pleasant Pine's A Bit of Mischief**, CD, SH, WCX, CC, CGC, earned her first Master Hunt test leg at the LRCGB Hunt Test in August. Mattie is bred and trained by Dick and Karen.

Karen Kennedy and Cinder, aka, **Pleasant Pine's Making a Mark, CDX, SH, WCX, CC, CGC**, earned 2 Utility Dog legs Nov 1/2 their first time in the ring, losing the run-off for 4th in the first trial and placing 3rd in the second trial. Cinder is bred and trained

by Karen.

Dick Kennedy and Morgan, aka, **Wilmark's Jus 1 Mor at Pleasant Pine, SH, WCX, CC, CGC** finished their Senior Hunter title at the Colonial Retriever Field Trial Club in August.

Karen Kennedy and Mattie, aka, **Pleasant Pine's a Bit of Mischief, CD, SH, WCX, Can WC, CC, CGC** earned their first CDX leg with a First placement at the Springfield Show. Mattie was bred and trained by Karen and Dick.



Jayhawk's Cool Hand Luke of Little River owned by Joannie Viator and John Newman took a Best of Breed from the 3-6 month puppy dog class at the Souhegan Kennel Club All Breed Match on September 21, 2008. Luke was bred by Elly and Brian Hawkins (*Camelot's Jelly Bean Bandit x Jayhawk's Lulu Live Strong*). Thank you Elly and Brian for this special boy.



In Springfield on Sunday, November 23, 2008 **CHOCORUA'S RIPTIDE** was Winners Dog/Best of Winners for 3 Points (*Mardas Corn Barley - Ch Hillside's Sarah From Chocorua CD JH*). Owner: Marion Lyons. Breeder: Marion Lyons & Pam Leslie.

Ch LEGACY'S PANDAMONIUM @ WILLCARE was Winners Bitch for 3 Points on Sunday and finished her AKC Championship (*Ch Willcare's Prestige - Legacy's Thistlewhistle*). Owner: Susan C Willumsen & Kevin Bergeson. Breeder: Kevin Bergeson.

At the Pioneer Valley supported entry in Springfield on November 24, 2008, **MAYFAIR PORTABELLA** won a 3 point major when she was awarded Winners Bitch and Best of Winners from the 6 to 9 Months Puppy Bitch class. (*Mayfair Porter x Lobuff's Over The Rainbow*). Owner/Breeder/Handler: Karen K Pandolfi.

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

"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



"Some of my best leading men have been dogs and horses." - Elizabeth Taylor



Marshall "Pete" Simonds
September 17, 1930 — October 1, 2008

Pete Simonds passed away at his home in Morrisville, Vermont on October 1, 2008. We are deeply saddened by his loss to his family, to us, and to the retriever world. Pete was dedicated to the preservation of the working retriever and the sport of field trials, and gave generously of his time and guidance to the field trial community and The Labrador Retriever Club.

Pete became a member of The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. in the 1960s and served as a Director and Vice President for many years. His foresight, wise recommendations and leadership will be sorely missed.

Pete was past President and a past Secretary-Treasurer of the National Retriever Club. He judged the 1970 National Retriever Championship. He was the Field Trial Chairman for the 1984 National Amateur Retriever Championship, Chairman of the Special Committee of the 1996 National Amateur Retriever Championship, and a judge and competitor for more than 40 years. Pete was also the face of the Colonial Field Trial Club for 30 years. In 2001 he was an inductee to the Retriever Hall of Fame.

The Simonds property in Vermont was a major site for the 2008 National Amateur Retriever Championship. During the week long event, Pete watched several series from his front porch. He was the proud owner of 13 field trial champions, and a finalist at National Retriever Championships with several dogs. His dogs also earned multiple Double Header wins.

Pete was a lifelong sportsman, naturalist and conservationist. He was an advocate for canine health and welfare and a co-founder of the AKC Canine Health Foundation, as well as serving on the OFA Board of Directors for many years. He was a long-time Delegate to the American Kennel Club, and Chairman of the AKC Retriever Advisory Committee, Sub-committee on Rules; and Chairman of the AKC Delegates Committee on Field Trials and Hunting Retriever Tests. He was also Chairman of the AKC Delegates Coordinating Committee. Pete was a recipient of the AKC's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Pete was the son of Sidney and Evelyn Simonds of Belmont, MA. He attended Belmont High School, Princeton University (1952) and Harvard Law School (1955). He joined the Boston law firm of Goodwin, Procter and Hoar. During Pete's 45 year career with the firm it grew from 25 attorneys to international recognition with over 900 attorneys. In addition to working on the behalf of private clients, he served as general counsel to the Massachusetts Crime Commission and as special counsel to the Boston School Committee. He was a longtime member of the American Bar Association and was selected as a Fellow to the American College of Trial Lawyers. He lectured and trained trial skills at Harvard Law School, and in various professional settings, and in exchange with English barristers. He also moderated and presented televised case scenarios for WGBH public television. Pete was deeply devoted to democratic town governance and spent more than 30 years as a moderator for town meetings in Carlisle, MA.

Pete is survived by Kate, his wife of 39 years; his children Robert Bradley Simonds of Sugarloaf, FL and Joshua L. Simonds of South Burlington, VT, and several grandchildren. Our heartfelt condolences to Kate and the Simonds Family.



The Members of The Labrador Retriever Club

Winter Care for Canines

General Concerns

Winter's cold air brings many concerns for responsible dog owners. Keep the following precautions in mind:

- Don't leave your dog outside in the cold for long periods of time. Wind chill makes days colder than actual temperature readings. Be attentive to your dog's body temperature, and limit its time outdoors.
- Adequate shelter is a necessity. Keep your dog warm, dry and away from drafts. Tiles and uncarpeted areas may become extremely cold, so make sure to place blankets and pads on floors in these areas.
- Be extra careful when walking or playing with your dog near frozen lakes, rivers or ponds. Your dog could slip or jump in and get seriously injured.
- Groom your dog regularly. Your dog needs a well-groomed coat to keep properly insulated. Short- or coarse-haired dogs may get extra cold, so consider a sweater or coat. Long-haired dogs should have excess hair around the toes and foot pads trimmed to ease snow removal and cleaning. If you do the trimming, take care not to cut the pads or other delicate area of the foot.
- Feed your dog additional calories if it spends a lot of time outdoors or is a working animal. It takes more energy in the winter to keep body temperature regulated, so additional calories are necessary.
- Towel or blow-dry your dog if it gets wet from rain or snow. It is important to dry and clean its paws, too. This helps avoid tiny cuts and cracked pads. A little petroleum jelly may soften the pads and prevent further cracking.
- Don't leave your dog alone in a car. If the car engine is left on, the carbon monoxide will endanger your dog's life. If the engine is off, the temperature in the car will get too cold.

Health Tips

Dogs cannot talk to us when they are sick. As a responsible dog owner, it is important to pay special attention to your dog's well-being during the winter season. Remember the following health concerns:

- Antifreeze, which often collects on driveways and roadways, is highly poisonous. Although it smells and tastes good to your dog, it can be lethal.
- Rock salt, used to melt ice on sidewalks, may irritate footpads. Be sure to rinse and dry your dog's feet after a walk.
- Provide plenty of fresh water. Your dog is just as likely to get dehydrated in the winter as in the summer. Snow is not a satisfactory substitute for water.
- Frostbite is your dog's winter hazard. To prevent frostbite on its ears, tail and feet, don't leave your dog outdoors for too long.

- Be very careful of supplemental heat sources. Fireplaces and portable heaters can severely burn your dog. Make sure all fireplaces have screens, and keep portable heaters out of reach.
- Like people, dogs seem to be more susceptible to illness in the winter. Take your dog to a veterinarian if you see any suspicious symptoms.
- Don't use over-the-counter medications on your dog without consulting a veterinarian.

Holiday Safeguards

The winter season brings lots of fun holiday festivities, but pet-owners should keep in mind the following special precautions:

- The holidays are not ideal for introducing a pet into your family. New puppies and dogs require extra attention and a stable environment, which the holiday season doesn't permit. Also, a puppy is not a toy or gift that can be returned. Instead, the AKC suggests giving a gift representative of the dog to come, such as a toy, a leash, or a bed.
- Holly, mistletoe and poinsettia plants are pet poisons! Make sure they are kept in places your dog cannot reach.
- Review holiday gifts for dogs to make sure they are safe. Items such as plastic toys and small rawhide sticks may be dangerous.
- Remove holiday lights from lower branches of your tree. They may get very hot and burn dogs.
- Watch out for electrical cords. Pets often try to chew them and may get badly shocked or electrocuted. Place wires out of reach.
- Avoid using glass ornaments. They break easily and may cut a dog's feet and mouth.
- Refrain from using edible ornaments. Your dog may knock the tree over in an attempt to eat them. Also, commercial ornaments may contain paint or toxins in the preservatives.
- Whether your tree is live or artificial, both kinds of needles are sharp and indigestible. Don't leave your dog unattended in the room with the tree.
- Tinsel is dangerous for dogs. It may obstruct circulation and, if swallowed, block the intestines.
- Alcohol and chocolate are toxic for dogs, even in small amounts. Keep unhealthy, sweet treats and seasonal goodies out of reach.
- The holiday season is a stressful time for dogs. Try to keep a normal schedule during all the excitement.

Update: MA HB 5092 Will Not Move Forward!

[Friday, October 24, 2008]

Today the Massachusetts Legislature's Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government decided to send House Bill 5092 to "study," which effectively ends the consideration of this onerous bill for the remainder of the current legislative session.

In addition to the over 200 concerned responsible dog breeders and owners who appeared today in opposition to the bill, legislative staff in Massachusetts report that thousands of opposition calls, e-mails, and letters were received prior to the committee's meeting. The American Kennel Club congratulates everyone involved in the successful effort in opposing HB 5092.

The AKC Government Relations Department actively opposed HB 5092. In addition to working hand-in-hand with our Massachusetts federation, the Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners, the Government Relations Department issued several Legislative Alerts, provided sample letters to Massachusetts constituents, wrote letters of opposition to committee members, and e-mailed over 50,000 Massachusetts dog breeders and owners notifying them of both the bill's introduction and subsequent developments. The Government Relations Department will continue to monitor any and all legislative developments in Massachusetts, and will report any developments should they warrant.

For more information, please contact AKC's Government Relations Department at (919) 816-3720, or e-mail doglaw@akc.org.

Support the fight against anti-pet legislation. Check out the Naked AKC judge calendar to

<http://www.carpoc.org/> click on the naked truth calendar

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@yahoo.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."



UCD LeeShore Crescent Highland Caper, CDX, RE, TDX, JH, OA, OAJ, WC, CGC, ThD, CC

(Ch. Zane Hills Blue Jacket, CD, JH, CGC x LeeShore Pale Patti, MH)

March 23, 1996 – August 17, 2008

Our beloved Caper died in August. For the past 12 years, we enjoyed practicing and performing in obedience, rally, tracking, hunt tests, agility, and making pet therapy visits.

She was one of Patti's Pups who had the fun of placing first in the Team competition at the 2002 Lab National Specialty with her three yellow sisters, Jan Johnson's Splash, Pam Kimel's Sprite, and Nancy Baker's Wanda.

Caper was the first Labrador Retriever in New England to earn the AKC Versatility titles (obedience, agility, tracking) – both VCD1 (CD+TD+NA+NAJ) and VCD2 (CDX+TD+OA+OAJ). Additionally she earned her TDX on the first try in Virginia – quite a thrill for her handler!

Caper was a great companion on hikes and swims. She loved to investigate new smells, to retrieve tennis balls and/or bumpers, and to earn special treats. We are very grateful for the time she was with us and miss her beautiful expression and dear presence so very much!

Ellen, Marianne, Marianne & Morrison Brinker; Marlee (7) and Carina (1)

**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: _____



Obedience + Rally TROPHIES
LRCGB Specialty
4-H FAIRGROUNDS, WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS
2 TRIALS - 2 DAYS - Labs ONLY!

Thursday, June 11 and Friday 12, 2009

All regular Obedience and Rally classes will offer the same prizes for each placement.
The cost to sponsor a class is \$20.

Regular Classes Obedience: Non-regular classes:

- Novice A Open A Utility A
 - Pre-Novice –Veterans-Brace
 - Novice B Open B Utility B
 - Graduate Novice – New Title Class!
- Classes and prizes may be co-sponsored
Members can donate prizes for Non-regular
classes
Labs with Agility/Hunting/Tracking etc.
titles per class or trial.

Plus - Special prizes: High in Trial, High Combined (Open B/Utility A or B)

Rally O

Novice A Advanced A Excellent A

Novice B Advanced B Excellent B

Rally O - Non-Regular – Rally Novice Pairs

Class/Date Description of Trophy/Prize

Preference

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. Trophy fund: _____

Please make checks out to: **LRCGB**

If you have questions write or call me: *Thank you in advance for your help,*

Gerrie Owren

Obedience/Rally Trophy Chair, 2009

Email: gerrieo@verizon.net

Home phone: 401 295-7209, W - 401 874-7635

Address: 315 Railroad Ave, Saunderstown, RI 02874

Little River

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Offered by Joan Viator
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and
North Shore

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

Dog walking, in home care, and other pet care services all on a professional level.

Nails, some grooming, and other care available upon request.

Call Joan for a complete competitive list of prices and references

LRCGB members may receive some special considerations. Call Joan to ask.

508-284-3154



"Andy" bred, trained and shown by Joan Viator
1998 IALHA National Show Qualifier



Naiad Nightmist of Beauport, WC
Owned & trained by Joan Viator



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

2009 June Specialty
 Robin MaGee
 Gayle Abrahms
windyridgelabs@wildblue.net
candyacres77@aol.com

Field:
 Joey Edsall
jme86@aol.com
 978-371-7344

Show:
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Willcare@comcast.net
 603-642-5893

Membership:
 Maria Corrigan
maria@corriganphoto.com
 508-981-3052

**LRC, Inc Eastern Time
 Zone Rep**
 Claire White-Peterson
 860-535-4289

**Master National Retriever
 Club Delegate:**
 Karen Kase
 978-422-0053

**Puppy/Breeder Referral
 Coordinator**
 Barb Burri,
bburri@comcast.net
 603-378-0098

Webmaster
 Rainer Fuchs
webmaster@lrcgb.org

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

Brag 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
Jan 4, 2009	Winter Match	Westfield, MA	www.lrpv.com
Jan 25, 2009	Winter Fun Match	Taunton MA	www.lrcgb.org
February 9/10, 2009	Westminster	New York City	
Feb 28, 2009	Obedience Trial	Franklin, MA	Feb 11, 2009
Mar 1, 2009	Rally Trial	Franklin, MA	Feb 11, 2009
Mar 2009	General Meeting	TBD	
March 8, 2009	PRLRC Match	Warwick, RI	www.prlrc.org
April 8-10, 2009	The Potomac	Maryland	
Apr 25 & 26, 2009	Spring Hunt Test	Gardner, MA	

Pet Astrology

Sagittarius (23 November - 21 December)

"Brave active and bright the Sagittarian pet will always amuse us."

Pity the poor bitch who has a litter of Sagittarian puppies for as youngsters they are a whirlwind of hyper active energy. As they grow they become more controlled, muscular and sturdy. Large dogs such as Ger-

man shepherds, Labradors and the Old English Sheepdogs fare well as Sagittarians as do long limbed dogs such as Borzoi of Afghans. A fire sign with a planetary ruler of Jupiter makes these dogs exceptionally brave and lucky. They are very trustworthy and reliable and particularly suitable working for the blind. They have lots of character and know amusing tricks.



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

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