

# THE RETRIEVER BELIEVER

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association

Volume 22, Number 1, January 2005



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## Field Chair

Bryant and Cindy Meyer  
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## Western Time Zone Coordinator-LRC

Nina Mann

## Membership

Chantel Nahoopii

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Ron Perry

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## President's Message

*Let me start by saying how honored I am to be your new PSLRA president. I love this club full of big-hearted people and dogs! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the club as president.*

*I'd like to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me. You may have seen me around the obedience or agility rings at shows. I have two wonderful labradors and I compete with them in agility and obedience. I've been a club member for seven years and board member for two. I hope to work with all of you and get to know you much better.*

*I'd like to thank all the people in the club who worked so hard to make 2004 a big success. Volunteers are the heart of this club and what makes it so successful. A big thank you to all of you who have helped out in so many different ways. I'd especially like to thank our outgoing president, Ron Perry, and the members of the Board, for their hard work throughout this past year. I would also like to thank the people who received special awards this year: Edith Bryan for her work as rescue chair; Sharon Edwards for her longstanding dedication to the club; and Kimberly Dotson who ran several club events this year.*

*It is so impressive to see what people accomplished with their dogs during the year. Many earned new titles, including the all-around and versatility awards given to dogs who have earned titles in several areas of competition. And this year Ron created a new award, the all around handler award, for handlers who compete with their dogs in all the venues. Nina Mann, Lee Foote and Els Crisafulli received all-around handler awards this year. It was also great to see that so many juniors have accomplished so much with their dogs. Congratulations to all who have worked hard with their dogs!*

*We have great plans for the upcoming year. The Board met a couple of weeks ago to plan our goals and activities for the year. We decided to continue with our goal of encouraging new members to become involved in the club. To that end we will have three fun/training days this year: one for field and tracking in February; our sanctioned match in June, which will also include a conformation handling and obedience fun/training day; and a rally/agility/obedience fun/training day in July. We've added two new goals this year. One is to expand our outreach to non-members and the public. The other is to improve breeder and puppy buyer education. We have several activities planned to accomplish these new goals. These are in addition to our standard events of hunt tests, working certificate, 5-Series, tracking test, eye-clinic, agility trial, specialty show and obedience trial. 2005 will be a fun and busy year for us!*

*Finally, I am a relatively new club member, and I still have much to learn. I would appreciate any ideas you have about what I can do, and what we can do as a club, to make 2005 a great year. There is so much experience and expertise in our club, and I really want to hear all of your ideas. I'm really looking forward to working with all of you to make 2005 the best year ever!*

- Jan

**IMPORTANT DATES**

*February 6 All breed obedience and agility fun match, Argus Ranch, pre-entry 1/23, Amy Aitken 360-570-3329*

*February 26 PSLRA Field Training Day, Greenleaf's March 12-13 Seattle Kennel Club Show; PSLRA Meet the Breed booth, Lucy Isaacson-Logan to help himoon@msn.com*

Newsletter Information:

**Publishing of an article or advertisement does not constitute endorsement or agreement by the PSLRA.**

All submissions should be sent to:

Terrie Sato, Editor

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Duvall, WA 98019

e-mail: WDSato@aol.com

**Submissions must be received by the editor by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month.**

*The Retriever Believer* is published monthly by the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association in the interest of providing information and promoting the Labrador retriever. Non-member subscriptions are \$20/year. Contributions in the form of articles, letters or money are always welcome. Letters to the editor should not exceed one page of typeset in the newsletter. It is our goal to provide an open forum where members can present their views to the club. The editor and the board of directors reserve the right to decline publication of advertising and other material submitted for publication.

*The Retriever Believer* will publish brags (free) and Puppy Referral litter listings provided a club member owns either the sire or the dam and a \$10 listing fee has been paid to Puppy Referral. All litter listings and other advertising of litters must comply with the PSLRA Code of Ethics.

**Membership in the PSLRA is open to anyone interested in Labrador retrievers. Annual dues are \$20 for individuals, \$25 for families. Junior memberships are \$10 (for a separate listing in the membership book and a separate newsletter).** Please note that new members require the signature of two sponsors on the application form.

Requests for information, applications and/or payment of dues should be addressed to:  
**Chantel Nahoopii, Membership Chair**  
3413 Woodcrest Lane  
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club business

## January Annual Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Perry at 7:50 p.m. at the Best Western Hotel in Puyallup.

Several announcements were made:

—Cindy Meyer reminded people that Chairs are needed for the spring and fall hunt tests and said that she will be available to help volunteers.

—Ron announced that the 2005 calendar is now on our web site and that the first event will be a fun Field Day on February 9.

—Lucy Isaacson-Logen reminded everyone that we have a breed information booth at the Seattle Kennel Club show and that volunteers will be needed to staff it.

—A cake was brought in with 80 candles to celebrate a surprised Joni Willing's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

—Nina Mann announced that our club book *A Dog For All Reasons* is a finalist in the Dog Writer's Association of America's annual writing contest. It is entered in the club publications category

and winners will be announced at Westminster Kennel Club.

—Ron reported in a state of the club report that he feels our club is very healthy in all aspects and he is pleased by both the number and quality of the events we put on.

Election of new officers and board members by unanimous vote followed.

All members and guests then introduced themselves and the program turned to the presentation of awards, starting with the juniors. The Member of the Year award was presented by telephone to Edith Bryan, and Ron gave out two President's awards for special contribution to Kimberly Dotson and Sharon Edwards and three awards to members for being all-around handlers and competing in all events the club offers. These went to Els Crisafulli, Lee Foote and Nina Mann. The evening ended with the presentation of the All-around and Versatility awards.

—Nina Mann, outgoing secretary

## Membership

*New Members:*

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**Membership** continued on page 3

## PSLRA Awards

The Outstanding Member of the Year Award goes to Edith Bryan for her many years of service as head of PSLRA Rescue. This Angel of the Labradors has worked tirelessly to place thousands of Labradors through our Rescue program. Edith inspires those of us who are proud to call ourselves members of PSLRA.

The two President's Awards go to Sharon Edwards and Kimberly Dotson. Sharon leaves the board after serving on it for many years with distinction. She has been a constant volunteer for all of our events, and she sets an example for the rest of us by putting the interest of the club ahead of any personal gain. Kimberly Dotson chaired the 5-Series and the Match and was HRT secretary. Most people only do one of these, if any. Kimberly justifiably takes pride in the organizational skills she brings to our events that make them so excellent.

This year I started a new award, the All Around Member Award. It recognizes members who consistently exhibit in all types of events: conformation, obedience, field, tracking, and agility. In so doing, they live up to the purpose and mission of the club and set a high standard for the rest of us to attempt to achieve. This year's recipients are founding member, Nina Mann, Lee Foote, and Els Crisafulli. The number of titles their dogs achieve are impressive, and so are they!

The winners of the "dog" awards—the All-Around Labrador Awards and the Versatility Awards follow on this page. Congratulations to the owners and breeders of these great Labradors.

Thanks to Beckie Jensen and the fine job she did on this year's banquet, which was the largest one so far. And thanks too to Betsy Clagett for arranging the wonderful banquet speaker on such short notice.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone of you who helped make the last two years go so quickly for me as club president. Together, WE have made the club thrive and continue its reputation for friendliness and great events. —Ron

## All Around Awards 2004

### **Intl. Ch Koa Maui Da Hawaiian Supaman CD JH CGC WC**

Kim Tyler and Chantel Nahoopii

### **Intl Ch Koa's Kauai Elegance CD JH WC CGC Pet Partner**

Kim Tyler, Chantel and Kawai Nahoopii

### **Intl Ch Pinamark Jumpnshipto Duckndogs CD WC Pet Partner CGC CC**

Carole Jensen

### **Ch Shamrock Acres Razzle Dazzle CD JH**

Roger and Katie Somers

### **Ch ShaRay Klasik Dimnd N th Ruf CD WC**

Sharon Edwards

James and Perrin Christensen

### **Can Ch ShaRays Lord Isaac CD JH WC**

Ray and Sharon Edwards

### **Int Ch Sher Mi Idella Ivy Leaguer NAP WC CC**

Carole Jensen

### **Ch Sterling's Brown Bomber CD JH**

WCMarilyn and Richard Parker

### **Intl Ch Timberline's Annie Get Yr Gun JH CD**

Beckie and Bob Jensen

Kimberly and Chris Dotson

### **Intl Ch Wyntercreek Glory Be CD WC**

Mary Jane Sarbaugh

### **Intl Ch Wyntercreek Ryder At Blu Top CD WC CGC**

Jennifer Hajny and Mary Jane Sarbaugh

## Versatility Awards 2004

### **Can Ch Bayview's Gusta Wind CDX JH**

### **Can CD CGC CC Am/Can WC Pet Partner**

Carole Jensen

### **Blythmoors Undeniable VCD1 CDX TD OA OAJ WC**

Margie Dykstra

### **Intl Ch Koa's Kauai Elegance CD JH WC CGC Pet Partner**

Chantel and Kawai Nahoopii

### **ShaRay's Happy Abby CDX AX OAP OAJ NJP TDI**

Vicky Maclean

### **Trolldom's Eloise CD JH NA AXJ**

Vicky Maclean



The 80th Birthday award was presented to Life Member Joni Willing by Beckie Jensen during festivities at the annual Awards Banquet.

### **Membership** *continued from page 2*

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Jim Charboneau  
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### *Membership address change:*

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### *Email address change:*

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harbortop@netzero.net

## PSLRA Juniors

They start as Pee Wee handlers and work up to Best Junior Handlers and 4-H State Champions. They “run with the big dogs” by working for pro handlers and competing against the adults in the shows and field. They qualify for Westminster Juniors competition. They don’t just earn titles, they earn High in Trials and High Combined. They compete and win in fun matches, Junior Showmanship, Conformation, Obedience and Hunt tests. They train, feed, scoop poop, groom, handle, feed, scoop poop, throw birds and bumpers and even blow a mean duck call. Did we mention that they feed and scoop poop?

They are posts for figure 8s, they hold the clip board and play the judge, and they can be the perfect distraction for sits and downs. They are dedicated puppy lovers and socializers, teaching puppies to fetch, walk on lead and how to be flexible. They help whelp litters, clean puppy pens, and are the best puppy socializers available. They sleep with the dogs and cuddle them all.

They help at club events by making lunches, stuffing coolers, selling raffle tickets, setting up and cleaning up, and just plain running errands. Some even baby-sit for others so the parents can go work!

They manage to accomplish all this while growing up, dealing with parents, working, getting educated, and some even maintain honors grades!

It is good for the soul to acknowledge these wonderful young citizens. We can all rest assured that our club’s future is solid with youngsters like this at its core. Thank you parents for spending the time and paying the attention to guide these young people down the right path. We appreciate your effort and your children!

**Daniel Swanson and Josh Swanson** - parents Brad and Marlys Swanson  
**Jessica Dotson and Katie Dotson** - parents Chris and Kimberly Dotson  
**Kia Phillips and Wil Phillips** - parent Greg Phillips

**Brittany Needham and Carter Needham**- parent Debbie Needham  
**Cheyenne Schlecht and BJ Schlecht** - parents Bill and Kari Schlecht  
**Jessica Steward** - parent Laura Steward  
**Jovanah Foote** - parent Jennifer Foote  
**Kawai Nahoopii** - parents Al and Chantel Nahoopii  
**Claire Fernandez** - parent Jan Fernandez  
**Jessica Harris, Jon Harris, and Matthew Harris** -parents Jon and Stephanie Harris  
**Kate Jack and Will Jack** - parents Kim and Becky Jack  
**Jaimie Hansen, Benjamin Hansen, Kristen Hansen, Stephen Hansen** - parents Mark and Sharon Hansen  
**Rachel Harris and Joshua Harris** - parents Ken and Kellie Harris  
**Hailee Drege and Devenne Drege**- parents Curt and Cecilie Drege  
**Jennifer Schmitke** - parent Kay Schmitke



Although it may appear that the award winner was a gentlemen with silver hair, real junior handler award winners included Claire Fernandez, above; Jovanah Foote, to the right and Kawai Nahoopii, below.



# BRAGS

**Am/Can/Int CH Devonshires Bracken CD WC** finished his CD on Sunday, January 16 at the Puyallup shows. Bracken has now qualified as a new all around dog. He is owned and trained by a very proud Joni Willing.

Reba, **Cedarwoods Country Diva UD MX MXJ CGC CAN. CDX**, got a fourth in Utility B with one OTCH point on Saturday and a 100 in Rally. She then went on to Sunday and got first place in Utility B and 20 OTCH points and a 93 in Rally Novice B! She has now 25 OTCH points and two first places in Utility. Julie Germano is Reba's delighted training partner.

Clover, **Normandy Four Leaf Clover CD OA AXPAXJ OAP**, got 2Qs in Rally with 99 and 96 points. At 10+ years young, she has a new venue to play in! Clover is owned and trained by Franna Pitt who reports, "I think she swept every sit and down position spotless with her tail."

**Merganser's Hi-Rollin Hudson JH**, earned his first CD leg on November 14 at the WKC show. Hudson, owned and trained by Liz Scott, qualified for his second leg towards his CD at the Sammamish Kennel Club show in Puyallup, January 15 2005.

**Angelwood Magic Penny CD NAP CGC WC** completed her Novice Agility Preferred title by going fourth on Saturday and first on Sunday at the Puyallup Agility Trial. Penny is owned and loved by Brad, Marlys, Daniel and Josh Swanson.

**Int'L CH Rocking M Royal Heir's Topaz WC JH** has 10 points on his Canadian Championship. He needs just one more.

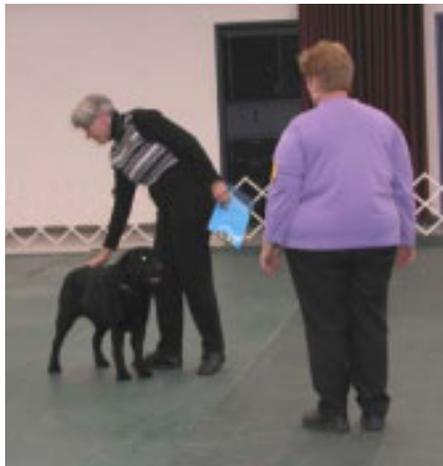
**Int'L CH Rocking M's Little Miracle** earned five points on her Canadian Championship. **Rocking M Go for the Gusto Casey** earned five points on his Canadian Championship. KC is owned and loved by Kristi and Randy Clark and bred by Cindy Meyer. **Rocking M Turbine Porter** won Winners Dog for a four point major at the Puyallup show, Friday January 14. Porter is owned and loved by Nancy and Lance Robertson and bred by Cindy Meyer. **Rocking M Gathering Grace** earned her International Championship on October 8, 2004. Gracie is owned and loved by Jan and Claire Fernandez and bred by

Cindy Meyer. Claire Fernandez placed fifth in Junior Showmanship at the Puyallup show January 16. This is her first time showing as a Junior handler in AKC.

**Ginger Spice Girl IV**, a chocolate lab, owned by Cheri and Mark Levine received her hard earned second leg in Excellent A Jumpers w/Weaves along with a second place at the Puyallup Show on January 15.

**Windy Canyons Dark Ranger**, Strider, in his AKC debut, earned the first leg of his CD title at the Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers Show on January 16. He also turned in two qualifying scores in Rally Novice A. Strider is a 13 month old black lab, owned and handled by Mark Levine.

**Can Ch Timberlines Victoria WC** won WB and Best of Breed for a major on Friday. Victoria is co-owned by Sharon Edwards with breeder Beckie Jensen.



Sharon Edwards showed Ezra to the completion of his CD and his All Around Labrador award.

**BISS CH ShaRays Ezra JH CD** earned the second leg of his CD on Friday at the Puyallup Cluster and the third on Saturday to be a new PSLRA All Around Labrador. Ezra is owned and shown by Sharon Edwards.

**ShaRay's Nikolas of Whidbey WC CGC** took Reserve Winners Dog at the Tacoma Kennel Club show in Puyallup on January 14, 2005. Bred by Sharon Edwards and Christy Hoagland. Co-owned by Sharon Edwards and Ron Perry.

**BISS Can CH Skyfire's Tribute To Cameo WC** was RWD (to a major) at the Saturday Puyallup show which was a PSLRA supported entry. Cam is owned by Greg Phillips of Willoridge Labradors and was bred by Stephanie Harris of Skyfire Labradors.

**Skyfire Nipntuck Havin' A Ball** was WB and BOS at the PSLRA supported entry at Puyallup. Lucy earned four points and a major! Lucy is owned by Donna Schuman and co-owned with Stephanie Harris and Becky Jack. Lucy was bred by Stephanie Harris of Skyfire Labradors.

**Skyfire's Phoenix** was RWB (to a major!), at only her second show, at the PSLRA supported entry at Puyallup. Macy is owned by Jennifer and Mike Hanjy and was bred by Stephanie Harris of Skyfire Labradors.

**U-UD HR Nomad Take The High Road UDX TD SH Can CD** finished his Utility Dog Excellent title on Friday January 14 in Puyallup by qualifying both in Open B and Utility B on the same day for the tenth time. Traveler is owned and trained by a very grateful Terrie Sato who cooked a steak for him the night he qualified much to the dismay of the rest of the Sato family.

**Dusti, Intl Ch Ms T's Dusti Winds Over CharDon ASCA CD** went three for three in January 2005, completing her ASCA CD with a final score of 197. Dusti is owned and bred by Terry McFadden and Janet Schoonover and co-owned by Jennifer Schmitke.

**U-CD Fawnhaven's Winter Rose, CD, OA, OAJ, WC, Can-CD, Delta Pet Partner**, earned her second CDX leg at the Puyallup show on January 15, 2005. Much to her partner Jan Palumbo's joy, see below far left, Rosie held her sit for the full three minutes! Also pictured below are Vicki Lord and her yellow lab, second from right.



# PSLRA 2005 Events Calendar

## January

- 15 Banquet  
26-30 Sportsman Show, Puyallup; Contact: Cindy Meyer, rockingmlabs@qwest.net  
26 Board meeting

## February

- 23 Board meeting  
26 Field Fun/Training day, Greenleaf's; Chair: Terrie Sato, wdsato@aol.com

## March

- 12-13 Seattle Kennel Club, Contact: Lucy Isaacsom-Logen, himoonlab@msn.com  
23 Board meeting

## April

- 9 5 Series at Greenleaf's; Chair: Kimberly Dotson, clovercreeklabs@aol.com  
27 Board meeting

## May

- 7-8 Spring HRT and Conformation Certificate, Carlson's Farm, Fall City; Secretary: Chantel Nahoopii, koalabs@msn.com  
15 Tracking Test, Cherry Valley; Chair: Michelle Schraeder mtnvet@telcomplus.net  
25 Board meeting

## June

- 4 Breed/Obedience Match & Conformation Handling/Obedience Fun/Training Day, Remlinger Farms, Carnation; Match Chair: Kristi Clark, Kristiclar2001@yahoo.com  
22 Board meeting

## July

- 9 Rally, Agility & Obedience Fun/Training Day (location TBD)  
27 Board meeting

## August

- 5-6 Specialty Show and Obedience Trial, Langley, Whidbey Island; Chair: Linda Maffett, sunnydazelabradors@hotmail.com  
7 Working Certificate, Whidbey Island; Co-chairs: Liz Skyllingstad, lsky@harbornet.com  
24 Board meeting

## September

- 3-4 Fall HRT, Pepper's Farm, Carnation; Contact: Cindy Meyer, rockingmlabs@qwest.net  
25 Eye Clinic at Cascade Kennels, Woodinville; Contact: Mary Jane Sarbaugh, labsix@whidbey.com (NOTE: Alternate date is October 2)  
28 Board meeting

## October

- 8-9 Agility Trial, Argus Ranch Facility, Auburn; Chair, Lee Foote, lafrh@earthlink.net  
26 Board meeting

## November

- 16 Board meeting

## December

- 3 or 10 Holiday Party

*NOTE: Dates and locations are subject to change. Check the newsletter for details.*



Joni Willing puffs on 80 candles after being surprised with her birthday crown and attendant honors at the annual banquet.



# Rescue Report 2004

by Edith Bryan for the Rescue Committee

We have completed yet another eventful year in Lab rescue in 2004. Thanks so much to everyone who helped in this tremendous effort! We appreciate all of the members of PSLRA who contributed to the success of our rescue efforts by visiting shelters, evaluating dogs, providing temporary foster care, making endless phone calls, keeping the records and providing words of encouragement! We are grateful for the wonderful financial support for our rescue program provided by PSLRA and send extra special thanks to everyone who worked so hard on the fund-raising raffles and basket auction—and to all those who generously purchased raffle tickets and made astounding bids at the auction! We also owe a heart-felt thank you to several volunteers for SPDR who are not club members but have opened their hearts and homes to Labs in need of foster care, medical attention and behavior training—in particular, we would like to acknowledge the many contributions of foster-care providers Brandy Burton-Tarantino and Nancy and Lance Robertson.

As always, one of our primary rescue goals is education. We spend endless hours trying to make just the right match between a rescued Lab and a new family, and we have helped some owners find solutions that have allowed them to keep their pets rather than turn them over to rescue. The number of Labs that we placed in new homes this year remains about the same as last year, after several years of steady declines. With Labradors remaining solidly as the number one breed in the US, we sadly anticipate that the need for our rescue services will remain strong. Eighty seven of the Labs that we helped re-home this year had AKC papers available—we are not just providing rescue services for waifs and strays of unknown origin! Many of these Labs are the result of *back-yard breeding* and serve as reminders of how important it is for all breeders to both educate puppy buyers and place all pet-quality puppies with spay/neuter requirements.

We have worked closely with the area shelters by providing foster care for Labs with special needs and by referring families from our list of approved

adopters to specific Labs waiting in the shelters. Together we have managed to find new homes for nearly every abandoned or stray Lab in the Puget Sound area shelters that is healthy and adoptable. Every pure-bred Lab that is helped out of the shelter system makes room for another shelter dog to have a better chance at being adopted, too.

As always, we can be very proud of our club's record for whole-heartedly supporting the rescue of our beloved breed!

## Lab Statistics 2004

Total Labs reported: 232  
 Males: 146  
 Females: 86  
 Age: 0 – 2yrs: 114 3-6yrs: 96 7+yrs: 22  
 Spayed/neutered: yes: 130 no: 88 unknown: 14  
 Origin: shelter-104 owner-121 other-7  
 Outcome:  
 Owner kept: 7  
 Owner placed: 10  
 Left with owner/unplaceable: 2  
 Left in shelter/outcome unknown: 10  
 Adopted by shelter clients: 89  
 Owner redeemed: 17  
 Returned to breeder: 4  
 Adopted by SPDR adopter: 87  
 Euthanized: 6 age-1 health-3 temperament-2



Outgoing president Ron Perry and vice-president Linda Walkley begin the banquet buffet, left. Members shown below include, left to right, Earnie Robinson, Stephanie Harris, Laura Steward and Greg Phillips.



# Rally vs. Obedience

by Larry Tanner

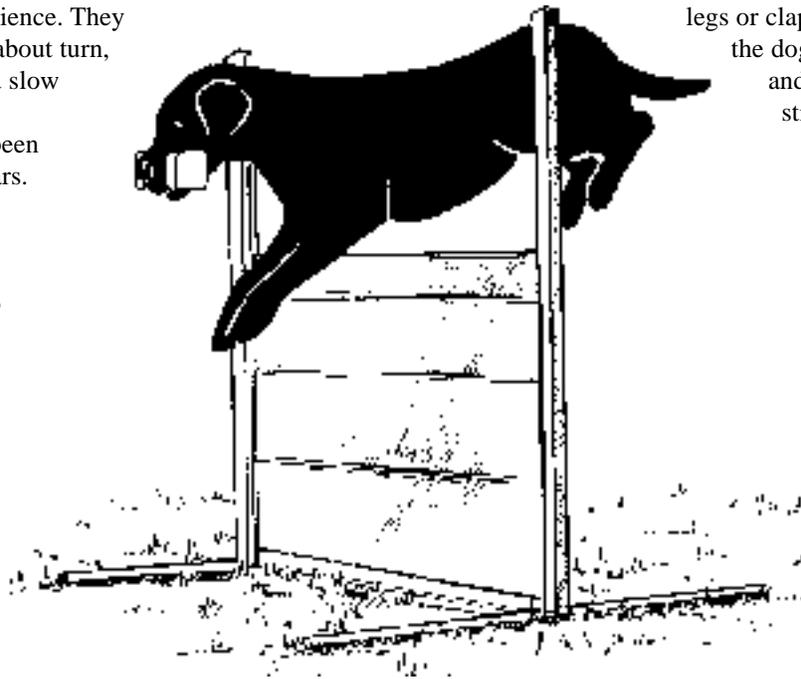
I have heard people say they don't want to do Rally because it will mess their dog up for regular Obedience. In my opinion that is like saying you don't want to train your dog. Rally is a fun new sport that can be a perfect stepping stone to that first leg in Novice, or it can be a low pressure fun experience for the Utility team. The nice thing about Rally is you can treat it like a training session and use your voice and pat your leg and work your dog through an exercise.

Rally has a lot of similarities to Obedience. There are three levels called Novice, Advanced, and Excellent. You have to receive three qualifying scores but only under two different judges. This makes it easier to stage than regular Obedience where you have to earn your legs under three different judges. Some of the exercises that are performed in Rally are just like the ones in Obedience. They are halt, right and left turns, about turn, normal pace heeling, fast and slow pace. There are a lot of the exercises in Rally that have been used in training for many years. In fact, the common term for them in Obedience is "doodling." The nice thing about Rally is you can talk to and encourage your dog through these and any of the exercises.

As a rule, most of the Rally rings are larger, and two regular Obedience rings made into one works best. You need more room so you can lay out the course, because in Rally you don't have a set pattern and order that you do the exercises in. In Rally, the exercises required are on signs that have symbols and words to help participants understand what is required of the team. These signs, when placed in the ring, are called stations. All stations are numbered and are placed in the ring in such a way as to lead the team through the course to the finish line. In Obedience, the judge can

set the heeling pattern he wants but everything else has to go in the set order. In Rally the judge makes up a course before the show and posts it outside the ring and can have copies for the exhibitors to take when they check in for their armbands. The course has more stations with more difficulties as you move up into higher levels.

In Novice there can be 10-15 stations with no more than five stationary exercises. A stationary exercise is one that has a halt or no forward motion. The judge can pick from any of the first 31 exercises listed in Rally. This class is performed entirely on leash. In all the Rally levels you go at your own speed. The judge will only ask you if you are ready and then says "Forward." You go



from station to station and perform the exercises at your own pace.

The Rally Advanced class is performed off leash, and you have 12-17 stations with no more than seven stationary exercises. This course can be taken from the first 45 exercises on the Rally list. There also must be a jump in this class.

The jump can be a broad, high or bar jump and are the same or very similar to Obedience jumps. There are only three settings on the jumps. The lowest is only 8" high for dogs under 15" at the withers, 12" high for 15" and under 20", and 16" high for any dogs 20" and over.

Rally Excellent class is also performed off leash except for the Honor Exercise. The Honor Exercise can be either the sit or down and is designated by the judge prior to each class. The dog must remain in either a sit or a down position to honor the next dog and handler's entire course. There will be between 15-20 stations with no more than seven stationary exercises. There will be two jumps in this class and they cannot be used consecutively on the course. Unlike in the Rally Novice and Advanced class in Rally Excellent, handlers are not allowed to pat their legs or clap their hands to encourage the dog. Verbal encouragement and multiple commands are still allowed.

One of the main differences between Rally and Obedience is the course layout. The judge makes his own course under the restrictions stated earlier and from the designated list of exercises. The signs that show what the exercise is with pictures to help illustrate the required action are laid out by the judge. The handler then gets a 15 minute walk-through without their dogs so they can get familiar with the course layout and also have a chance to ask

the judge any questions they may have. The handler and dog are to perform the designated exercise near the sign, either directly in front of or in front and to the left of the sign. If it is a change in direction on the sign, the sign would be placed directly in front of the team.

Scoring is also different in Rally. To qualify all you need is a minimum score of 70 points out of a possible perfect score of 100. There are no 1/2 point deductions. If your dog is off just a little and you would receive a 1/2 point deduction in Obedience, the judge lets it go in Rally without any deductions. This means you don't have to be perfect in your performance and could still get a very good score. There are set things for which a judge will take off one point, such as a tight leash, interfering, poor sits, slow response, touching jumps or posts, touching a person, and being out of position.

Another nice thing about Rally is you can make a handler error or repeat a station and lose only three points. As most of you know that does not cut it in regular Obedience. You also can lose three points if you knock over a pylon, have lack of control, use loud commands, or excessive barking. You can even incorrectly perform a station and still pass because you lose only 10 points for that or for hitting the jump.

One thing that disqualifies most exhibitors is a station not attempted or missed. You can also NQ for minimum requirements not met, dog unmanageable, consistently tight leash, not completing honor, eliminating in the ring, using jumps as an aid, and major handler errors. So the chances of receiving a qualifying score are a lot higher in Rally.

Rally is a timed event and I think some people get too concerned about that. When the judge says forward the timing is started and it stops when the dog and handler cross the finish line. Times are used only to break ties for placement and have nothing to do with your score. So if you go out on the course and try to go fast to get a low time and miss a station, guess what, you don't qualify. They need the time because I have seen multiple 100 or 99 point scores and the only way to give out placements and ribbons is by the time. I would encourage you to take your time and get it done right the first time

through. Rally can be fun but it still must be taken seriously. Expect to take a Rally class or at least study the exercise before you go into the ring. I have seen some that have not and it shows in their performance. If you don't perform the exercise correctly and you mess up three or more stations you will not qualify so please take the time to learn the exercises.

I hope this article has helped some of you to understand this fun sport of Rally and will encourage you to give it a try. I would be happy to see you in my ring someday.



Sharon Edwards and Ezra await their cue from the judge, above, while more fun was had at Joni Willing's birthday celebration, a highlight of this year's banquet, below.



**LIST OF LITTERS BORN OR EXPECTED AS OF 01/10/05 that conform to the PSLRA Code of Ethics.** Information is as submitted by owners and provided as a service to the public. Listings of litters are in no way an endorsement by PSLRA of any litter or any one litter over another. Litters are removed from the list after three months.

To publish **LITTER LISTINGS** in the newsletter, the following information **must be available:**

- Elbows and hips must be certified on both the sire and dam. Dogs and bitches whelped before 5/1/87 are exempt from elbow clearance requirements and will be marked OFEL N/A. Prelims are not acceptable! The board has recently agreed to accept PennHip clearances that score in the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher, passing Wind-Morgan clearances, and clearances from the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) in Canada. Female Labradors (bitches) with a Wind-Morgan, Penn Hip, or OVC clearance must not be bred before the age of 20 months, or 24 months with an OFA clearance. Male Labradors (dogs) with a Wind-Morgan, Penn Hip or OVC clearance must not be bred before the age of 12 months, or 24 months with an OFA clearance.
- Eye clearances on both parents annually. After the dog's examination at age 10, annual examinations are no longer necessary.
- Heart clearances will be included in the listing at the discretion of the breeder.
- A PSLRA member must own either the sire or the dam and must submit the listing for a non-member.
- **Please contact Marlys if you need a Litter Listing form, to be used for ALL litters.**
- All Breeders must update their litters each week with Marlys Swanson via email (marlyss982@aol.com) as to the sex and color of puppies you have sold. The listing will be deleted after three months from the first litter listing date unless she hears from you.

1. Mail the completed form and a check for \$10 (operating expenses for Breeder Listing and Puppy Referral Programs) to: **Marlys Swanson, 3512 – 93<sup>rd</sup> Place NE, Marysville, WA 98270.**
2. Your litter notice will appear in the next PSLRA newsletter **if** it conforms to the Code of Ethics.
3. If you know that the Litter Listing and the Puppy Referral programs have helped you sell your puppies, **please send a donation to PSLRA** (c/o Marlys Swanson) to show your appreciation. These donations will all be used for Lab Rescue.

**LITTER LISTING FORMS** available from Marlys

**Litter Born 11/11/04 (2 BM Available)**

Sire: Ch Hyspire Darktown Bandit  
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, ACVO 11/4/03  
 Wind-Morgan #1329 (Shoulders, elbows, hips and hocks) Heart clear 10/19/01  
 Dam: Ch Hyspire Ghostriver Fantasize  
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, ACVO 10/14/03, Heart clear  
 Litter: 2 BF, 6 BM  
 Contact Irlanne Warren (360) 754-4944  
 Email: [Thistledown1@juno.com](mailto:Thistledown1@juno.com)  
 Listed 12/1/04, 12/27/04 Tumwater, WA

**Litter Born 11/27/04 (2 YF, 1 YM, 1 BM Available)**

Sire: Ch Lobuff Bobwhite at Chucklebrook  
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 02/26/04  
 Dam: Can Ch Himoon Poet Laureate, CGC  
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, ACVO 1/24/04  
 Litter: Yellow & Black expected  
 Contact Cecilie Drege (360) 435-0456  
 Email: [cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com](mailto:cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com)  
 Listed 10/07/04, 12/24/04 Arlington, WA

**Litter born 12/5/04 (5 BM Available)**

Sire: Ch Belgairn Polo, JH  
 OFA 24F, OFEL 24, ACVO 2/20/04  
 Dam: Int Ch Sunnydaze Auburn Shade  
 OFA 31F, OFEL 31, CERF 7/05/04  
 Litter: 5BM, 2CM, 2CF.  
 Contact: Linda Maffett (360) 961-5269  
 Email: [sunnydazelabradors@hotmail.com](mailto:sunnydazelabradors@hotmail.com)  
 Listed 10/2/04, 12/10/04 Seattle, WA

**Litter born 12/12/04 (1BF, 3 BM Available)**

Sire: BISS CH ShaRay's Ezra JH WC  
 OFA 28G, OFEL 28, Cardiac 44mos, ACVO 9/26/04  
 Dam: Sharay's Fair Emma  
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, ACVO 9/26/04  
 Litter: 2 BF, 4 BM  
 Contact: Sharon Edwards (360) 341-1422  
 Email: [sharay@whidbey.com](mailto:sharay@whidbey.com)  
 Listed 01/10/05 Langley, WA

**Litter born 12/13/04 (2 YM Available)**

Sire: Ch Lobuff Bobwhite at Chucklebrook  
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 02/26/04  
 Dam: Ch Himoon Water Sports  
 OFA 25G, OFEL 25, ACVO 09/26/04  
 Litter: Yellows expected  
 Contact Lucy Isaacson-Logen (206) 362-8004  
 Email: [Himoonlab@msn.com](mailto:Himoonlab@msn.com)  
 Listed 11/8/04, 12/13/04 Seattle, WA



**OTHER DOGS THAT A BREEDER HAS  
DECIDED TO PLACE**

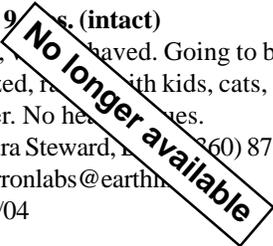
*(Note) Owners of all dogs that are listed here have filled out and signed a PSLRA "Listing Form" disclosing to perspective buyers any known health and/or temperament issues and are on file with the Breeder Listing Chairperson.*



These dogs are usually well socialized, frequently have some training, and are very desirable as companions. These dogs may not meet either owner's requirements for show or field performance or the code of ethics for breeding. Prospective buyers are encouraged to ask whether these older dogs have acceptable clearances on eyes, hips, and elbows and the reason why the dog is being placed. The listing of other dogs in no way constitutes an endorsement by PSLRA. Price will vary.

**Black male, 9 mos. (intact)**

Sweet, calm, and playful. Going to be a small dog. He has been well socialized, trained with kids, cats, other dogs. Crate trained, great traveler. No health issues.  
Contact: Laura Steward, DVM (360) 876-6199  
Email: cimarronlabs@earthlink.net  
Listed 11/14/04 Port Orchard, WA

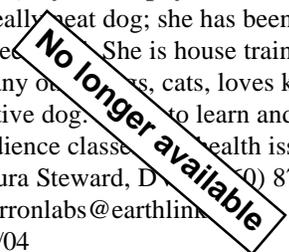


**Black Female, 3 years (spayed)**

Sweet affectionate girl that loves to retrieve. House and crate trained, micro chipped and has had some obedience training. Would make a great hunting or performance companion.  
Contact Lucy Isaacson-Logen (206) 362-8004  
Email: Himoonlab@msn.com  
Listed 11/8/04 Seattle, WA

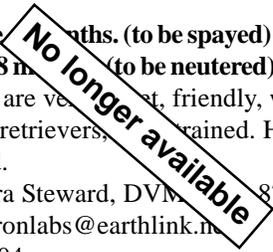
**Black female, 3 years. (spayed)**

Reese is a really great dog; she has been a family house pet since she was 8 weeks old. She is house trained, crate trained. Gets along with any other dogs, cats, loves kids. She is a very 'up', smart, attentive dog. Loves to learn and work. Has been through several obedience classes. No health issues whatsoever.  
Contact: Laura Steward, DVM (360) 876-6199  
Email: cimarronlabs@earthlink.net  
Listed 11/14/04 Port Orchard, WA



**Yellow female, 8 mos. (to be spayed)  
Yellow male, 8 mos. (to be neutered)**

Both puppies are very sweet, friendly, well socialized. They love people, good retrievers, crate trained. Healthy, all vaccines and microchipped.  
Contact: Laura Steward, DVM (360) 876-6199  
Email: cimarronlabs@earthlink.net  
Listed 12/14/04 Port Orchard, WA



**Yellow female, 3 years (intact)**

House trained, loves kids and dogs.  
Clearances – elbows, eyes clear, hips OFA Good  
Champion (Infertile)  
Introduced to birds, possible hunt or agility prospect, very smart.  
Contact: Betty Barkley (503) 645-4187  
Email: Barkley61@comcast.net  
Listed 12/23/04, 12/30/04 Portland, OR

**Black female, 22 mos. (spayed)**

Kira is a lovely labrador girls; intelligent, affectionate, and loves to play. She is housebroken, crate trained, and has had some obedience training. Both parents have all their clearances, sire is a champion and her mom is major pointed. Kira has no health issues. She has been the full-time companion of a young man.  
Contact: Sirinda Krueger (425) 836-4601  
Email: sirindakru@hotmail.com  
Listed 1/19/05 Redmond, WA





*The Retriever Believer*  
Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association  
Web: [www.pslra.org](http://www.pslra.org)  
Terrie Sato, Editor  
31902 NE 139th Street  
Duvall, WA 98019

## Membership Renewal Notice—2005

Dues are payable each year by January 31. Checks should be made out to PSLRA and mailed to:  
**Chantel Nahoopii, 3413 Woodcrest Lane, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284**

Please print plainly and send promptly!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country (if not USA) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Note: You will receive the monthly newsletter electronically unless you otherwise notify the membership chair.

Type of membership (check one):  Individual \$20     Family \$25     Junior \$10

I would like to volunteer for the following types of events:

Field     Tracking     Agility     Obedience     Conformation     Other