

THE RETRIEVER BELIEVER

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association



Volume 22, Number 11, November 2005

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President's Message

During this season I am reminded of how much I have to be thankful for: family, two and four legged; friends, two and four legged; the caring, committed and fun people in our club. I hope this season brings all of you many blessings.

The season brings two of our club's biggest, most fun events, our Holiday Party on December 10 and our Annual Awards Banquet on January 14. Hope to see all of you there. I'd like to extend a special invitation to all new PSLRA members to attend both of these events. And if you are not a new member but haven't come to these events in past years, I'd like to encourage you to come this year. And, of course, I hope all of you regular party animals will be there.

The Holiday Party will be a potluck and will be held at Le Bistro at Sno-Isle Skills Center in Everett. We always have great food, a raucous gift exchange, and fun door prizes at this party. The Annual Banquet will be at the Best Western in Puyallup on the Saturday of the Puyallup cluster. There will be a modest cost for the dinner, with the balance of the tab picked up by the club. The highlight of the night will be presentation of awards to club members, including juniors, for their achievements throughout the year. Look inside this newsletter for more information about both these events.

There are many of you in the club I haven't met yet. I would really like to meet you and get to know you. These social events are a great place for us all to get to know each other better. When I first joined the club, I was shy about going to these events because I thought I wouldn't know anyone there and wouldn't have anyone to talk with. But when I did go, I found people so welcoming and friendly. Now I wouldn't miss these parties for anything. So I hope to see you there!

Hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving! -Jan

Judges Selection Committee

We are looking for people to serve on our Judges Selection Committee. This Committee makes recommendations to the Board of Directors for judges for all of our club events, hunting, agility, obedience, tracking and conformation. You only need experience in one of the above events to participate. If you would like to participate on this Committee, please contact the Chairperson, Linda Maffett at sunnydazelabradors@hotmail.com as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT DATES

**December 10 Annual
Holiday Party,
Everett, see page 3
for details**

**January 14 Awards
Banquet, Puyallup,
see page 5 for details**

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

31902 NE 139th St.

Duvall, WA 98019

e-mail: WDSato@aol.com

Submissions must be received by the editor by the 22nd 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
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284
koalabs@msn.com

LRC Sponsors Local Junior

At their June 2005 meeting, the Labrador Retriever Club directors voted unanimously to sponsor any Junior Handler who qualifies for Westminster or the Eukanuba Invitational by handling a Labrador Retriever exclusively. A gift of \$500 will be applied toward their expenses.

The first recipient of this award is a youngster from the northwest, Aaron Bradshaw, who was Best Junior at our PSLRA Specialty in August. Here is his letter:

Hi, my name is Aaron Bradshaw. I am 11 years old and I show Labrador Retrievers exclusively in Junior Showmanship.

When I became eligible for Junior Showmanship, I had two goals: 1. to qualify for the Eukanuba Nationals; and, 2. to qualify for Westminster. This year I have achieved both of my goals and am attending both shows.

Showing dogs is hard work. You have to practice a lot and keep your grades up. Most importantly, you must learn good sportsmanship.

This year I had first place wins at the following shows:

1. 5/15/05 – Klamath Falls, OR
2. 6/11/05 – Puyallup, WA
3. 6/12/05 – Puyallup, WA
4. 7/12/05 – Hillsboro, OR
5. 7/13/05 – Hillsboro, OR
6. 7/18/05 – Hillsboro, OR
7. 8/13/05 – Lacey, WA
8. 8/14/05 – Lacey, WA
9. 9/3/05 – St. Helens, OR
10. 9/10/05 – Eugene, OR

My new goals are to have fun at Eukanuba Nationals and Westminster, put a Championship on one of our dogs, put a CD on my Chocolate Lab Indee, and to one day become a Junior Showmanship Judge.

I know I never could have made it this far without the help of my friends and family. I'd like to thank Lorna Brandt, Dan and Debbie Neal, Diane Morrow, Cheri Conway and my Great Aunts Val Bradshaw and Pam Bradshaw.

Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee is delighted to report the following slate of officers and board members for 2006:

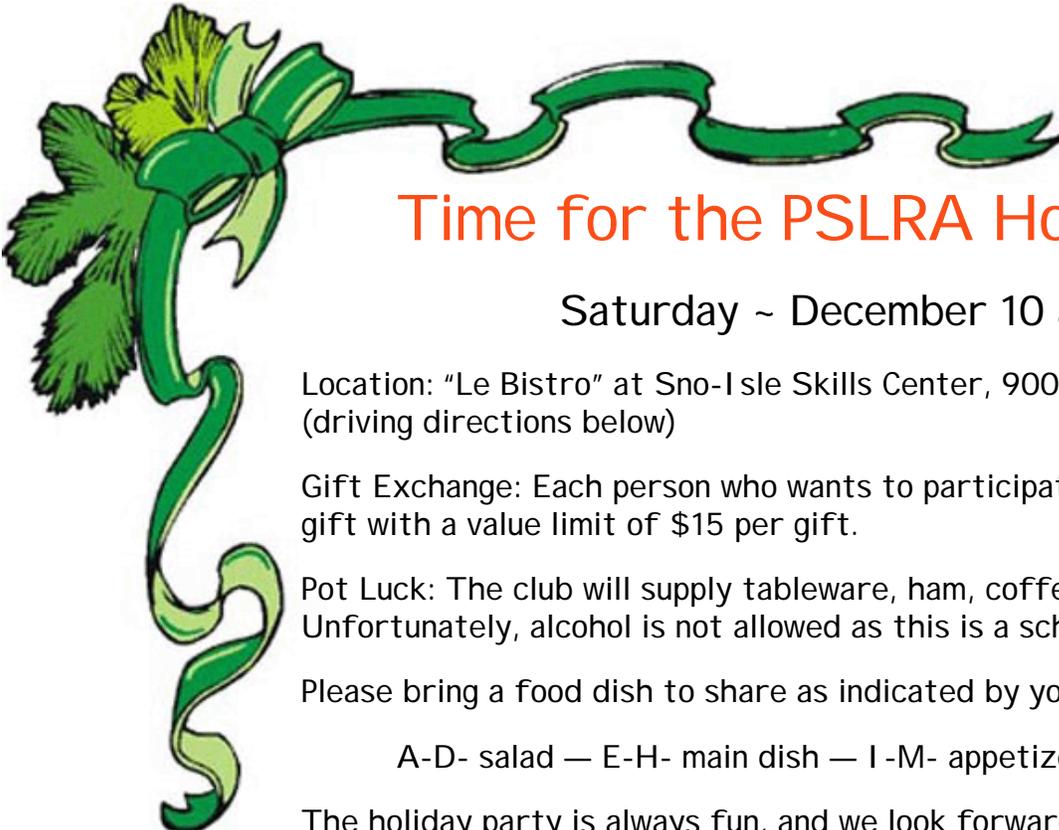
President – Jan Palumbo
Vice President – Dave Lawniczak
Secretary – Carole Jensen
Treasurer – Darlene Pado

Board:

Kristi Clark
Bea Ferguson
Stephanie Harris
Becky Jack

Cheri Levine
Linda Maffett
Nina Mann
Chantel Nahoopii
Ron Perry
Susie Sharp

The nominations will be presented at the membership meeting held at the holiday party on December 10. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at this time. Voting will take place at the business meeting on January 14, 2006, at the Best Western during the annual banquet.



Time for the PSLRA Holiday Party!

Saturday ~ December 10 at 3 p.m.

Location: "Le Bistro" at Sno-I sle Skills Center, 9001 Airport Road, Everett.
(driving directions below)

Gift Exchange: Each person who wants to participate should bring a wrapped gift with a value limit of \$15 per gift.

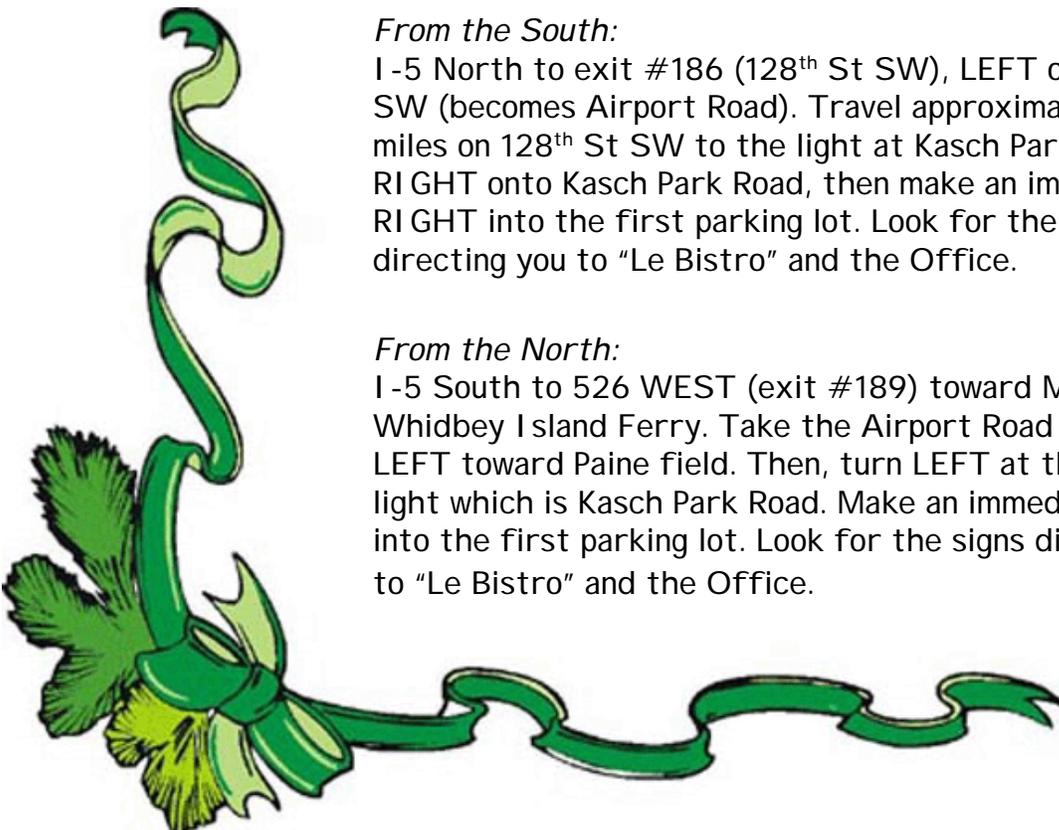
Pot Luck: The club will supply tableware, ham, coffee, and punch.
Unfortunately, alcohol is not allowed as this is a school facility.

Please bring a food dish to share as indicated by your last name:

A-D- salad — E-H- main dish — I-M- appetizer — N-Z- dessert

The holiday party is always fun, and we look forward to seeing you all!

Hosts will be Terry and Karen Coulombe huntson@hotmail.com cell 425-330-7125 and Heide and Brittany Savidge lyte_my_fyrelabs@hotmail.com cell 425-231-0122. Contact us if you need more info or get lost driving.



From the South:

I-5 North to exit #186 (128th St SW), LEFT onto 128th St SW (becomes Airport Road). Travel approximately 2.5 miles on 128th St SW to the light at Kasch Park Road. RIGHT onto Kasch Park Road, then make an immediate RIGHT into the first parking lot. Look for the signs directing you to "Le Bistro" and the Office.

From the North:

I-5 South to 526 WEST (exit #189) toward Mukilteo/Whidbey Island Ferry. Take the Airport Road exit, turn LEFT toward Paine field. Then, turn LEFT at the second light which is Kasch Park Road. Make an immediate RIGHT into the first parking lot. Look for the signs directing you to "Le Bistro" and the Office.

2005 Master National Report

by Don Aker

The 2005 Master National was held October 9 to 16, near Palestine (pronounced Palesteen), Texas, about 95 miles southeast of Dallas, at a Hunting Preserve called The Big Woods.

There were 307 dogs signed up for the event, but there were several late scratches. The field was divided into two groups, "A" and "B."

The vision statement for the Master National Retriever Club says in part "Master Hunters will be tested annually in a non-competitive manner ... to the maximum of the standard set out by the American Kennel Club." And this National certainly achieved that standard!

THE GROUNDS East Texas is hot and humid. I think daytime temperatures probably averaged about 85 degrees or more and the humidity was around 80 to 85 percent. It was the kind of heat that just saps the strength out of people and dogs.

There was a LOT of ground cover. Smartweed in the bottom of dry ponds, about knee high, thick, tight and tough. There was a lot of goat weed. It too was about knee high but not nearly as tight and impenetrable as the smartweed. But it gave off an odor—sort of heavy and sweet to my nose—that gave dogs that had not had the opportunity to get acquainted with it a lot of trouble. And of course there was the full complement of E. Texas "brush."

The water was not really "big" but was certainly completely adequate for our needs. Some of the water tests were very picturesque.

THE JUDGES The judges in my group, A, were Janet

Peters from California and Sidney Williams from North Carolina. These judges know dogs. They set tests that were completely straightforward, but cleverly used the terrain and cover to give dogs that didn't mark well a lot of opportunity to get themselves in trouble.

They didn't have "sharp pencils" or "pick nits." They set tests that allowed the dogs to separate themselves. And they made it Fun! I enjoyed running under them and look forward to doing so again.

THE MARKS Every mark, live or dead, was thrown from a winger. The live birds were thrown from a manual winger. Every gun station was hidden. Not retired. Hidden! The dog heard a pheasant or a duck call and the bird came out from the trees or from behind a blind. The dogs had to mark the area of the fall closely; they couldn't "guide on the gunners." And the marks were placed so that if the dogs didn't mark the fall closely, there were a lot of inviting alternative areas for them to investigate. Neat!

I think that this National will be remembered as the "Marking Dogs" National.

THE BLINDS All of the blinds were in conjunction with the marks. The marks were often used to "set up" the blinds. Dogs that ran good lines and handled well did well.

We had one test, a Double, Double—a double mark and a double blind. It did not appear to be particularly demanding, but, if a dog didn't mark well, it could get into a lot of trouble and a surprising number of dogs did just that. And when they got the marks, the blinds were set invitingly close to the old marks.

THE COMPETITORS There was a lot of comraderie between the contestants. It seemed to me that people went out of their way to help one another out. I made friends there that I expect will last a very long time.



One fellow passed his first Master National last year in Wisconsin, and vowed not to cut his beard until he passed another. Well, when his dog passed, his wife took out a pair of scissors and began cutting away. Many of us in the crowd gave helpful hints such as, "Go ahead and take a piece of ear with all that hair!" Another said, "A piece of ear be damned! Take the whole ear!"

It was a memorable experience. And, of course, it was made even more memorable by Jenny passing. She ran very well. We had to handle on only one mark and that was the last bird of the last series. I was certainly glad that she brought her "A" Game!

But part of the reason she brought her "A" Game was the preparation. I trained with Ed Arnett, Elaine Brock, Kevin

Bunnell and Jim Morris for a week before the Master National near Giddings, Texas. What a great group to train with. Every one of them serious, dedicated, knowledgeable dog people.

Elaine's dog, Westwind's Raven of Aliho MH is out of bench breeding, but is a very strong marking dog and also handles very well. She completed her second National and earned the title, MNH (Master National Hunter), a truly significant milestone.

Jim Morris ran Rick Arnold's young dog, Arnold's Burly Dirty Augustus MH. We only had Gus for a bit more than a week before the National, but I truly am impressed with him and I think that if we had had him for a bit longer he and Jim would have gone several series into this National. As it was, they went out in the second series.

The rest of the training group all passed! Four out of five! I think that shows what dedicated amateurs can accomplish. But three of us didn't really accomplish it altogether by ourselves. Ed Arnett, Elaine Brock and I all trained with Tom and Katie Quarles in preparation for this National and a great deal of credit for our success must go to Tom and Katie!

Gentle Readers, I truly hope that I have whetted your appetite for Field Work! The Master National is an experience unlike any other. But our weekend Hunt Tests are a lot of fun, too. I'm looking forward to seeing you there next year.

Meanwhile, if you'd like to hear more about this year's Master National, please feel free to e-mail me or give me a call. See also Master National at www.masternational.com

Annual Awards Banquet

Location: Best Western, Puyallup (253) 848-1500, Georgian Room

Date: Saturday, January 14, 2006

Social hour: 6 p.m.

Dinner: 7 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 per person.

Please send reservations to:

Beckie Jensen

P.O. Box 304

Wilkeson, WA 98396

Reservations may also be made via e-mail.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at:

timbrlab@tx3.com

(360) 829-2808

This is a wonderful time to join in the festivities while helping acknowledge the efforts of others. Several awards are presented, as well as the voting in of our new board of directors. We do need a head count for the dinner by January 11; so don't delay in making your reservations.

Happy Holidays!

2005 PSLRA Agility Trial

by Lee Foote

Once again the weather gods smiled on the PSLRA agility trial. Like Camelot, it rained only in the evening. There was a brief time on Saturday when the sun caused a scramble for some shade, but for

the agility community at large are VERY good about stepping forward to do what needs to be done. I didn't have to do a lot of pleading or arm twisting.

happy competitors. Both judges were very quiet in the ring and really easy to work with on logistical matters. I suspect that the success of this weekend will see them invited back by other clubs in the future.



PSLRA member Beth Selthofer's Springer Spaniel works beautifully on the agility course.

the most part we had great Lab weather—cool, but not cold. PSLRA is the last outdoor agility trial of the year in Western Washington, and whether it is the weather, the easygoing Labrador atmosphere, or the impending cut off for the AKC Agility Nationals, we continue to have good entries in the face of declining entries at other trials. We can be proud that our club has gained a reputation that our weekend is a date to save on the agility calendar.

So much of my job as chair was simplified by the work and good judgment of Dave Lawniczak and Franna Pitt in setting up our previous trials. They also were there again this year but had a little less weight on their shoulders. They mostly saw to the needs of our fine judges, hauled the trailer back and forth, helped ride herd on the volunteers and generally held my hand through the whole of this year. (Still more than their share of work.) As chair, I had a few important positions to fill, but PSLRA members and



Dan Selthofer reminds his dog to stay down on the pause box.

Our judges, Anne Platt and Kim Crenshaw, turned out to be really excellent choices. They were chosen by Dave Lawniczak and me, and I don't know that a better team could have been assembled. The courses were very doable and made for generally

the absolutely super job performed by Joan Cook and Peggy in providing workers' hospitality over the weekend. She did a fabulous job and kept the costs way down, especially when we accounted for the donations she collected.

Ed and Donna Dykstra again stepped up to oversee the parking. Somehow they also managed at the same time to help out with the set up on Friday afternoon. That especially deserves a big thank you. We were half way set up when I decided the rings needed to be shifted over to avoid a utility cover. Everyone was pretty patient with me and I appreciate that. The set up crew also included a number of non-PSLRA members, some were competitors who were already there, but one, my neighbor, Pat Shuler, came down with me just to lend a hand. Lori Vicari also helped out ahead of time with some early worker organization and set up. Also assisting with set up were Keith and Beth Selthofer as well as Jan Palumbo.

Jan's primary job was as the awards maven. She made sure we had plenty of ribbons and toys on hand. She also was on site for all three days, staying to the very end to make sure I got out okay, despite suffering from laryngitis that robbed her of her voice. As many have already heard, the ENORMOUS MACH ribbons were a big hit with the two lucky competitors who took them home (Kathy Farrell with her Aussie, Darby, and Sally Hildt with her Sheltie, Arrow). For those who have never been witness to a MACH completion, it is quite an event. The show is stopped with a general uproar from the crowd and much hugging and the awarding of the MACH ribbon and the "last bar." Then to a great deal of applause the team does a victory run—repeating the course much to the confusion of the newly titled dogs who thought they did it right the first time around, so why should they have to repeat it?

There were quite a few Labs at our trial—easily twice the numbers we see at an average AKC trial. I very much regret not getting a chance to introduce myself and get to know some of the less familiar faces. I hope we can see some of them again soon and can make them a more integral part of the trial next year. Unfortunately, the cheering for the Labs never really caught on. Next year we might have to have an assigned cheerleader. Sharon Edwards really should get a dog back in competition.



PSLRA members and Lab handlers turned out in good numbers.



Lee Foote gets ready to enter the ring.

Agility, continued from page 7

I want to especially thank the PSLRA members who came out and helped at the trial without running dogs. It is especially moving to me that people can be so generous with their time. Liz Scott and Kristi Clark were both not quite ready to debut with their future agility dogs, but sacrificed some serious time to see our event ran smoothly. Kristi proved to be the ultimate float. She had a serious knack for showing up just as someone was needed to step into a position. She was incredibly cheerful and capable. I kinda hate to think she will be busy with her own dog soon. Liz got a crash course on all things agility as well. The two of them will be old hands by the time they are ready to enter their dogs in just a few months. Ron Perry was there on Sunday for an entire day to help out as well. He is getting quite a good reputation as a gate steward—a job that is difficult to do when you don't know most of the competitors. Why not consider running a dog soon, Ron? There were also a number of members who helped at the PSLRA clothing booth. Debbie Needham (who also brought the judge's gifts) and Marlys Swanson were at least two of those on hand to market the club's wares.

There was one other non-member I feel obliged to acknowledge. Linda Nehman isn't running a dog right now, but she often volunteers to gate steward for the entire weekend (and loaned us her canopy when it got a little sunny) asking for nothing more than a free lunch and a nice parking spot so she can tend to her elderly Boxer. She is the unofficial Northwest Agility Gate B@#%h, (female dog—her term) and has single handedly saved the local agility community quite a few cumulative hours through maintaining a crisp flowing stream of competitors at the start line.

For all-around raucous fun, the few minutes on Sunday when we stopped the trial to take the group photo was a testament to the good time had by all and the solidness of Labrador temperaments. Like any family photo, it would be much more interesting as a video. For one



Rick Mullen puts his dog through the weave poles.

precious second, we all defied chaos. For those of you who don't run agility, please look at our merry band and think about joining us next year.

The photographer's web page is worth a visit, he took over 3000 photos:
<http://inthezonephotography.biz/>

The photos here in the newsletter were taken by Ron Perry.

Thanks again to all those folks I have missed. It is frustrating to think of those deserving of mention who are not getting the public acknowledgement they deserve. There were lots of members and non-members alike working hard to see that the trial went off well. I know that I can't be responsible for it flowing so smoothly, but hopefully I maintained enough good will to see us into next year.



Julie Germano and Reba in the middle of working their agility course with the judge looking on.

Braggs

Quail Run's Hot August Nite Gus (CH Raintree Slippery When Wet, JH x Quail Run's Summer Solstice, CD) got the first leg on his CD at Golden Gate. **Quail Run's Summer Solstice** Tazz (CH Cherry Oak's Dillon Dance x Blue Knight Even an Angel, CD) was second in Veteran Sweeps 9 to 11 and second in regular veteran's also. The old lady does like to show! **Tracyn Sidekick at Alibi** Gabbie (CH Remington's Sidekick x Tracyn Blue Moon Shine on Me) was fourth in Open Chocolate at Golden Gate and third in Open Chocolate at Del Valle. All are owned by Cindy Freeman of Quail Run Labradors.

Nipnucks Cameo Apple Cart took Best in Sweepstakes under Michael Weist and Reserve Winners Dog under Judge Val Walters (Ranbourne) at Island & Pacific LRC. Carter is owned and loved by Vicky Hoskinson.

Romany Cimarron Leading Man owned by Sandy Wasson and bred by Laura Steward was WD and BW for a three point major at Wenatchee on September 17. **Romany Cimarron Satori CD** owned by Sandy Wasson and Laura Steward, bred by Laura, had a great debut in the agility ring in Yakima, October 22, qualified and first place in Novice Jumpers and Novice Standard, and on October 23, another Q and first place in Novice Standard.

Tio (**BISS Am Intl Ch SR Belgairn Pictionary WC**), owned by Terry McFadden, Janet Schoonover, and Jennifer Schmitke, took BOB and earned two Rally Novice legs at the Kachina KC shows October 5. Rana (**Intl Ch SR Ms T's CharDon Spirit of the Wind JH**) finished her JH with two passes at the hunt test November 5 and 6. She was handled by novice handler and co-owner Jon Rohrbach who took her from start to finish in both NAHRA and AKC. Also, Tio (**BISS Ch SR Belgairn Pictionary WC**), earned the second and third legs on his JH at the test.

International Champion Rocking M's Gathering Grace took best of breed and

second in group at Olympic Kennel Club's fun match in October. Owned and handled with lots of love by Junior Handler Claire Fernandez, Gracie and Claire did all this while mom was out of town on business.

Himoon Bossa Nova De Rio won WB at the Lower Mainland Group 1 specialty in late October in Canada. The same weekend Rio won RWB on Sunday at the Lower Mainland show. Rio is owned and shown by Lucy Isaacson-Logen of Himoon Labradors.

CH ShaRay's Nikolas of Whidbey JH, Nick finished his Can CH by going WD at the Island & Pacific Labrador Retriever Club Specialty in October. Two days later, on the second of three Lower Mainland Dog Fanciers all breed shows, Nick took BOB and a Group One win. Highlights of Canada's largest dog show will be aired in January. Nick was expertly and lovingly handled by Rick Mullen at Island Pacific, and by Cindy King at the LMDF shows. Bred by Sharon Edwards and Christy Hoagland, co-owned by Sharon Edwards and Ron Perry

Rocking M's Go for the Gusto KC was winners dog and best of winners on Friday at the Lower Mainland Kennel Club show at the Tradex in Canada. He was in very good company as there were a lot of great dogs there. KC was bred by Bryant and Cindy Meyer and is owned and loved by Kristi and Randy Clark.

Intl CH Rocking M's Turbine Porter took winners dog and Best of Breed and earned his Canadian Championship at the Lower Mainland Dog Fanciers. Porter also has eight points on his AKC Championship in the States, was bred by Bryant and Cindy Meyer and loved and owned by Nancy and Lance Robertson, and Bryant and Cindy Meyer. **Rocking M Black River Raider MH** qualified for and finished the Master 2005 held in Palestine, Texas. Bred by Bryant and Cindy Meyer owned and loved by John and Judy Lorenzo. **Intl CH Rocking M's Little Miracle** has two wins on her Canadian Championship. She needs one

more win. She is loved, owned and bred by Bryant and Cindy Meyer. **Intl CH Rocking M's Royal Heir's Topas WC JH** has earned two wins on his Canadian Championship. He needs one more win and has taken third in Group in Canada as well. He is loved, owned and bred by Bryant and Cindy Meyer.

Valerie Jones of Locust Grove Labrador reports that her puppy **Ducktales And On And On** went Winners Bitch from the 9 to 12 month class two out of three days for her first two points at the Treasure Valley Cluster in Boise, Idaho. The day that she didn't take the points she went Best of Breed Puppy and on to a Group IV. This was first time out to the all-breeds, so we are thrilled with her showing.

Rachel Elana AX, OAP, MXJ, OJP, EAC, EAC-Veteran, EJC, Outstanding-EJC-Veteran, ETC, PI, CGC, Pet Partner qualified and placed first (in Excellent A Preferred) in all three of her runs at the Sno-King Agility trial. Rachel will turn 12 next month. **Winroc Racey Rosalie OA OAJ NAC NJC NGC NTC** finished her Open Jumpers title with a first place run and earned her first Excellent Standard leg (second place) at the Sno-King Agility trial. Rachel and Rosie run with Kate Schottman and are owned and loved by Kate Schottman and Phyllis Miller.

Membership

Barbara and Harvey Hazen M2-06 (2004)
1649 Progressive Rd/Box 307 "Mountain Star"

Wapato, WA 98951
(509) 833-9105; (509) 833-9715
Email hazenlabs3@yahoo.com

Tamboline, Michelle M1-06 (2005)
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email mtamboline@shaw.ca

Email Change:

Beatrice Ferguson babfergie@msn.com
Valerie Jones jonvaler@pmt.org
Katie Mearns katiemearns@verizon.net

LIST OF LITTERS BORN OR EXPECTED AS OF 11/11/05 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 50th 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 – 93rd 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 Swanson

Litter born 9/27/05 (Available 3 BM)

Sire: Int Ch Cimarron Sam-I-Am of Cougar Creek CGC
OFA 24E, OFEL 24, CERF 06/2005, Heart clear
Optigen A1

Dam: Can Ch Himoon Takes Twota Tango, CD, CGC
OFA24G, OFEL 24, CERF 9/26/04, OFA Cardiac

Litter: 4 BM, 1 BF, 1 YM

Contact: Cecilie Drege (360) 435-0456

Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com

Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com

Listed 9/8/05, 10/07/05 Arlington, WA

Litter expected 10/8/05 (All Yellow expected)

Sire: BISS Can Ch. Ghoststone's Boomtown, JH
OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 11/13/04, OFA Cardiac
1/22/05, OFA PRA 1/27/05

Dam: Rocking M's Crystal Clear
OFA 24E, OFEL 24, CERF 2/27/05

Litter: All Yellow

Contact: Cindy or Bryant Meyer (253) 846-9583

Email: rockingmlabs@qwest.net

Listed: 8/29/05 Spanaway, WA

Litter born 10/8/05 (Available 2 YF, 1 BF)

Sire: BISS CH Sureshot Hyspire Impressive
OFA 24 G, OFEL 24, OFA Cardiac, 17 mos.
ACVO 05/20/5

Dam: Nipntuck Harlequin Double Trouble CD
OFA 35 G, OFEL 35, ACVO 09/12/05

Litter: 4 YF, 1 YM, 1 BF, 1 BM

Contact: Diane Sullenberger (360) 652-8271

Email: harlequinlabradors@yahoo.com

Listed: 11/09/05 Arlington, WA

Litter born 11/14/05 (Available 4 YM, 4 YF)

Sire: Ch Raintree Riff SH
OFA 31G, OFEL 31, ACVO 9/14/04

Dam; Toastin's Roussanne JH OA OAJ
OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 11/7/05
OFA Heart Echocardiograph 19 mos

Litter: 4 YM, 4 YF

Contact: Mary Beth Lamb (541) 488-5660

Email: toastn@charter.net

Listed 11/17/05 Talent, OR

Litter born 11/16/05 (Available 5 YF, 1 YM)

Sire: BISS Can Ch. Ghoststone's Boomtown, JH
OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 11/13/04, OFA Cardiac
1/22/05, OFA PRA 1/27/05

Dam: Ridge View Amazin Perfection
OFA 24 G, OFEL 24, OFA Cardiac 41, ACVO9/25/05

Litter: 5 YF, 4 YM

Contact: Kristen Reiter, DVM (360) 320-0941 or
Evening (360) 240-1040

Email: kris_daren@verizon.net

Listed 11/11/05, updated 11/17/05 Oak Harbor, WA

Litter expected 12/21/05 (All Black expected)

Sire: Ch Belgairn Tom Jones
OFA 24G, OFEL 24, ACVO 9/25/05, Heart OFA

Dam: Can Ch Sunnydaze Supernatural
OFA 54G, OFEL 24, CERF 10/3/05

Litter: All Black

Contact: Linda Maffett (360) 961-5269

Email: Sunnydazelabradors@hotmail.com

Listed 11/9/05 Bellingham, 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 P.S.L.R.A. Price will vary.

Yellow Male, 6 mo. (as of 10/14/05)

Intact

He has been raised with children and is friendly with people and other dogs. Loves to retrieve and is very playful.

Contact: Helen Oyama (253) 847-8765

Listed 9/15/05 Spanaway, WA

Black Male, 11 Mos. (as of 10/24/05)

Neutered

Very sweet boy that needs lots of attention. Also, very active.

House breaking started, has basic obedience.

Contact: Irlanne Warren (360) 352-9373

Email: thistledown1@juno.com

Listed 9/24/05 Tumwater, WA

Yellow male, 6 mo (as of 11/17/05)**Intact**

Sweet, mellow boy looking for a family of his own. Second pick puppy in the litter, both parents have all their clearances. Merlin is a quick and willing learner. Crate trained, raised with kids and other animals, started retrieving, loves the birds.

Contact: Stephanie Harris (509) 925-1259

Email: stephanie@skyfiirelabs.com

Listed 11/17/05

Ellensburg, WA

Canine Epilepsy Research For Labrador Retrievers

by Julie Kirk

Many moons ago in January 2002, one of my homebred Labs had a humungous cluster of seizures. He was almost 4 years old, was working on his SH, had a point in the show ring, one litter on the ground and was generally the apple of my eye. His first two seizures were so deep and long that his blood sugar could be tested; but he was not hypoglycemic. He was put on a maintenance dose of phenobarbital and then I took him up to WSU for tests to determine the source of his seizures. \$1,500 later, nothing had turned up on brain scan, spinal tap, blood tests or X-rays, so idiopathic epilepsy, probably inherited, was the diagnosis.

Neither of his parents had ever had seizures; as best we could determine, none of his relatives in the northwest had had seizures either. But within a year, two of his littermates also began having seizures, though theirs were not as severe. I did a lot of reading about epilepsy on the internet, especially at the University of Missouri Vet School site, but there was nothing to suggest any solutions or definitive diagnostic tests were on the horizon.

Fast forward to spring 2004, when many of us contributed cheek swabs and pedigrees to research dealing with mapping the canine genome. By the end of that year, the mapping was done, and some of the resulting reports on the age of various breeds and the relationships between them appeared in scientific journals and the AKC Gazette.

Fast forward again to January 2005, when an online news bulletin from Health Gene Corp, a Canadian research and testing laboratory caught my eye. It said the gene for a rare type of cancer in canines had been identified, piggybacking on research that had identified the gene in humans. I sent an inquiry to Health Gene asking if they would be interested in DNA samples from two epileptic Labradors and a few months later I was invited to send blood samples from the two epileptic boys that are here in Tri-Cities. In October, I got a phone call from Dr. Melekhovets of Health Gene who said he had found the gene mutation that caused my boys' epilepsy and he would be most grateful if I could submit samples from parents and littermates. Semen could be used if blood was not available. This would help them be able to identify carriers and non-carriers in litters that included dogs affected with epilepsy. The goal is for Health Gene to put a diagnostic test on the market early next year.

Dr Melekhovets also asked if I could contact other breeders who had affected dogs and invite them to submit samples from epileptics and their littermates and parents. I asked about dogs

whose owners had not been motivated to have expensive diagnostics done, and he said a history of repeated seizures over the course of two years or more and not attributable to other causes, would be sufficient. If in doubt, he is only a phone call 416-658-2040 or email dr.melekhovets@healthgene.com away. He can also give you instructions for drawing the blood and shipping it.

Healthgene is paying for the shipping and doing the analysis for free. Getting the blood drawn is between you and your vet. My vet has done about 10 draws so far, some from littermates and some from other dogs, all for free. Only one vet has been venal enough (or skeptical enough) to charge for it that I know of.

I asked Dr. M. about modes of inheritance and the fact that the research had dealt with only one form of epilepsy, and he said that, contrary to what they expected, they had found only one gene responsible for all the forms of epilepsy they'd seen to date. Different mutations of the gene produced different forms, with three forms identified so far. Inheritance is as a simple recessive, both parents must be carriers of the mutation and pass it to the pup to produce an epileptic pup. Several breeds have been studied along with Labs, but the only specifics I know for sure are that Poodles have been studied and German Shepherds have not.

At this time, I've rounded up samples from most of the littermates of my original two, and the parents' samples have been submitted also and I've published messages on plsralabchat, the Lab-L and nwlabs inviting people with affected Labs to join in the research. Dr. M. is most anxious to get a look at the gene as it presents in different bloodlines, and I'm pretty sure four or five others in the northwest and some from elsewhere, the Midwest, Europe, are also getting on board. The group includes dogs whose seizures are mild as well as those with more severe symptoms. It's pretty exciting stuff. The first ever champion/master hunter had epilepsy and was never bred, but his sire is behind many dogs in the Northwest. When the test is put on the market we can all get lots of dogs tested and free ourselves of worry about producing this terrible condition.

Oh yeah, cost. Well Dr. M. says the cost when the research is complete and the diagnostic test is on the market will be in the range of \$70-\$140 Canadian, a small price indeed to pay for peace of mind!



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Terrie Sato, Editor
31902 NE 139th Street
Duvall, WA 98019

Membership Renewal Notice — 2006

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 _____

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Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Note: All telephone numbers listed here will be printed in membership booklet.

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

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