

THE RETRIEVER BELIEVER

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association



Volume 23, Number 11/12, November/December 2006

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President's Message

Fall is here, with its vibrant oranges, reds, yellows, golds, and clean, crisp air. And the holidays are nearly here. Hope this season finds all of you and your beloved Labradors doing what you love to do.

I hope all of you attended our Holiday Party on December 9 at the Skills Center in Everett. This is a fun event, with lots of great food and a hysterical gift exchange for all who wish to play. Also coming up soon is our Annual Awards Banquet on January 13. Both these events are fun and are a great opportunity for new members and old members to meet each other. Please see information in this newsletter to sign up.

I always find this season a time to recognize and be thankful for all that I have; family, friends, dogs, cats, health, job, comfort. . . High on my list of what I am thankful for are my good friends in PSLRA. I particularly want to thank Dave Lawniczak, our Vice President, and the members of the Board and Club who have filled in for me while I have been out of town caring for my mother. It is wonderful to have the support of the caring people of PSLRA. Our club is about caring about each other, and you all have been very caring and supportive of me during this time, for which I am very thankful.

My warmest wishes to all of you. -Jan



Kellygreens Seafox Finnegan, owned by new club member Cathleen FitzGerald, is ready for the holidays.

IMPORTANT DATES

December 30, 31 Liz Pedersen Flood Relief Fun Match, see p. 7
January 13 Awards Banquet, Perrin Christensen, perrinsk9s@comcast.net
January 25-29 Sportsman Show, Puyallup, Cherie Levine
February 19 Obedience/Rally Show 'n Go, Nina Mann, Jan Palumbo
February 22 board meeting

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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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

club business

October/November minutes

A combined October/November meeting of the PSLRA Board of Directors was held on Nov. 8 at the home of Becky Jack. Board members present were Jan Palumbo, Dave Lawniczak, Becky Jack, Bea Ferguson, Kristi Clark, Nina Mann, Chantel Nahoopii and Ron Perry.

Secretary Report:

—Minutes from the August Board meeting were approved by email.

—No board meeting was held in September but the following items were M/S/V by email:

A nominating committee was proposed and approved.

The date and location for the Club Holiday party was proposed and approved.

A proposal was made and approved to invite the Summit Assistance group to speak at our January Banquet.

A donation of one of our resource books to the LRC National raffle was approved.

A donation to the Lions Club in memory of Claude Smith was approved.

A decision was made to combine the October and November Board meetings and hold it on Nov. 8.

Correspondence:

—Received from AKC:

The results from the Fall HRT have been processed.

The results from the Agility trial have been processed.

Application for agility trial has been approved.

The 2006 Specialty has been processed and closed out.

—We received a thank you from our Specialty Judge's Hostess for the gift certificate.

—We received a thank you from Marlys Swanson for the memorial for the loss of her mother.

—A reminder was received from the Master National club regarding the proposed amendments to be decided at the Master National.

—A letter from Sandy Brandon, Island County Fair Administrator

showing possible rate increases and other changes concerning our use of the Fairgrounds was received.

—Judges affirmations were received from Marion Postgate, 2007 obedience judge and William Sanders, 2007 tracking judge.

Treasurer's Report:

—We have a total of \$17,503.30 in our checking and savings accounts.

Acknowledgments:

—Thank you to Becky Jack for hosting the Board Meeting

—Thank you to Dave Lawncizak, Kristi Clark and their crew for a successful agility trial

—Thanks to the LRC/PSLRA members that helped at LRC in St Louis: Julie Kirk, Nina Mann, Barb Ironside, Els Crisafulli and Linda Walkley.

Old Business:

—Ron Perry reported that the Fall Hunt test broke even. The cost of paid help was lower than normal because a number of the kids that we normally hire for the tests were unavailable.

—Master Nationals

The proposed Regional divisions for qualifying for the Master National did not pass. Instead a new pass/fail criteria has been approved with a transitional plan.

Requirements can be found at <http://www.masternational.com/news/transitionplan.doc>

Kevin Bunnell is one of the Master National judges from our region.

Master Nationals in Virginia in 2007 and in Minnesota in 2008.

New Business:

—Holiday party will be held at the Skill Center in Everett again this year with Karen Coulombe, Heide Savidge and her daughter Brittany to chair.

—January Banquet – Perrin Christensen has agreed to Chair. She has reserved a block of 10 rooms at the Best Western for PSLRA members. The Banquet room that we have used for the last few years in unavailable for this year and new location is pending.

—Sharon Edwards will be in charge of the Junior Awards at the Banquet.

—A discussion was held regarding the fall Agility trial. It falls on the same weekend as the National Specialty hunt test to be held in Oregon Agility trial. Nina expressed concern that the members that compete in both venues would be torn about which venue to support.

—The Shetland Sheepdog Club expressed an interest in running their Agility trial the same weekend as ours. They would have their two days Thursday and Friday at Argus with our club to have the Saturday and Sunday. Board decided against sharing the trial in 2007.

—Ron proposed a motion to hold agility trial on corresponding weekend in 2007 to be voted on via email once we have had a chance to think through all the pros and cons of this decision.

—Show and Go—Nina to check dates for conflicts for 2007 and consider limited entries. Would like to do it again in February 2007 with possible date change.

—The Nominating Committee proposed the following for the 2007 PSLRA officers and directors:

President - Dave Lawniczak
 Vice President - Stephanie Harris
 Treasurer - Jill Mahoney
 Secretary - Carole Jensen

Board:

Chairman of the Board - Jan Palumbo
 1. Darlene Pado
 2. Chantel Nahoopii
 3. Nina Mann
 4. Ron Perry
 5. Becky Jack
 6. Kristi Clark
 7. Susie Sharp
 8. Jennifer Hajny
 9. Terrie Sato
 10. Jessica Meadows

—The club finds itself with a larger than normal bank account, both in rescue and general funds. So as not to jeopardize our Not-For-Profit status, we need to make some purchases.

Becky Jack suggested we should purchase some more tables for use at the Specialty and other club functions.

Chantel Nahoopii suggested that we should get some wingers for the hunt tests.

Ron Perry made a motion that we sponsor a Labrador for two years of training at Summit Assistance dogs. The motion was seconded and approved.

—Chantel suggested that at the beginning of the year, the board should set up list of judge chair gifts with a proposed budget

so the person in charge of the gifts can keep track better.

—The club newsletter is looking for a new editor. Thank you to Terrie Sato for the fantastic job you have done.

—A suggestion was made that at this year's January Awards banquet we honor those members who have been PSLRA members for 20 years or more.

Recorded by Chantel Nahoopii
 Submitted by Carole Jensen

Membership

New Members:

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Bits and Pieces

The OFA has made an e-newsletter available to those who request it. Go to www.offa.org for more information.

The PSLRA is proud of Ron Perry and Nick and Els Crisafulli and Dart, pictured below, for representing the Northwest at the Eukanuba National Championship. Dart received a Judges Award of Merit. The winner of the National Obedience Invitational held concurrently with the Eukanuba Championship was Labrador Retriever NOC OTCH Chaseabout's Dances With Lions UDX9 JH MX MXJ. Simba is owned by Renate Van Allen of Littleton, Col., and this makes the second year in a row that they have won this event. For more information about these national events visit www.akc.org/nationalchampionship/index.cfm.

The Retriever Believer is looking for a new editor. Being editor is a great way to get to know and appreciate your fellow club members and their dogs. Please consider taking on this responsibility for our club.



Participating at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship were ElsCrisafulli and Ch. Double Dutch D'Artagnion JH RN NAP, Dart.

Amateur Field Training

The e-collar: direct and indirect pressure

by Terrie Sato

The electric collar allows trainers to give their dogs information at a distance. It also allows trainers to give information the moment a mistake is made. However, this information is only valuable to the dog if it understands how to respond. Electrical stimulation is pressure. Pressure is often applied directly to achieve a correction. It is interesting to note that pressure applied indirectly can also achieve the desired result. In fact indirect pressure can be more effective than direct pressure.

Direct pressure is a correction given for a specific problem. For example, a policeman stops a speeding car. The driver gets a ticket and must pay a fine for speeding. The driver will probably slow down at least temporarily rather than risk another ticket. That is direct pressure at work. If you have an effective correction, direct pressure can successfully stop unwanted behavior.

When you come across someone else getting a ticket for speeding, your behavior is also affected. Most people slow down even though they have not been stopped. This is an example of *indirect pressure*. Dogs also respond in this way. I've scolded a dog for a transgression and found that my other dogs have placed themselves in a sit/stay, eyes fixed on me, tails wagging. They look at each other as if to say, "She's kind of grumpy today. Let's not do anything to make her mad." Indirect pressure works in another way. Ever been driving down the road, seen a police car and automatically tapped your brakes to slow down? The very sight of a policeman is enough to affect your behavior and remind you to drive carefully. Your behavior is indirectly affected, and you try harder not to make a mistake. Indirect pressure often makes both people and dogs try harder. If a dog is misbehaving, enforcing strict standards for a proper sit can change the dog's attitude and result in more respectful overall behavior. By just

working on a simple exercise like the sit, you can indirectly pressure the dog to try harder with other exercises. Indirect pressure can be a great motivator.

It is with the use of the direct pressure technique that collar conditioning teaches the dog how to properly respond to a correction for failure to sit, come and go. The same correction, a nick or burn from the e-collar, is used for all three of these basic exercises. Most dogs learn quickly to respond as expected. Training on a T-pattern drill is a great way to expand on these lessons. The T-pattern provides the opportunity for the dog to practice the go, stop, come skills at a distance. Any failure to respond to these commands can be directly corrected with collar pressure.

When you are ready to use the corrections away from the drill field, it is important to remember that all the dog has really shown that it knows and understands is to respond to corrections for the three commands it has been taught. We can not assume that direct pressure can be used to solve every problem that might arise in the field. It can only successfully be used to correct a *go*, *stop* or *come* problem. If a dog hesitates to go when sent on a mark, direct pressure applied to the *go* command motivates the dog to get going and find the bird. However, if the dog hunts in the wrong place, makes a friendly visit to the gun station or takes a bad route to the bird, direct pressure may just confuse the dog.

Let's look at an example. If a dog fails to sustain a hunt and returns to an old fall, the handler holding the e-collar control might think the dog has made a mistake and that direct pressure should be applied. Suppose a correction is given. What does the dog think? If it gets a correction should it *sit*, *come* or *go*? Direct pressure would not give the dog much information. The handler might hope that the dog would get out of the old fall and return to the proper area. A dog certainly might

guess this. The dog might also just guess to run as *go* has been an acceptable response to collar corrections in the past. With no more information than a correction and perhaps the word *no*, the dog could mistakenly relate the problem to the ground, a nearby gun station, a ditch or stand of trees. Many dogs will quit and come back to the handler as *come* can also be an acceptable response to a correction. The handler cannot be sure what the dog is thinking. The correction is random and the dog's thoughts are just as random. What would you think if you were stopped by a policeman and given a ticket with no knowledge of committing a driving offense? If you were expected to just figure out the problem, you would probably be confused and a little nervous. The handler hopes that over time the dog understands that a correction means *no*. This is pretty vague. There is a lot of guess work on the part of both dog and handler in this case. It is not surprising that dogs can get pretty nervous in the field.

Over time the dog would come to feel that certain places out in the field are not safe. In the case of an old fall, the handler may be satisfied with the dog feeling unsafe. No one wants their dog to return to an old fall. That is unless you are doing advanced work and the marks are in line so that the dog has to run through the old fall to get to the new mark. It is also not uncommon for the line to a blind to run through an old fall. As dogs advance through the ranks of field work, the lessons are often contrary. Add to this the training fact that many people repeat marks that were difficult for their dogs. The dog has returned to the same spot multiple times with good results. If it is having trouble hunting a new mark, it can not be surprising to a handler that a dog would return to the spot where it had previously safely found several birds. You can imagine the dog's surprise at being corrected for trying the old fall one more

time. In this case, direct pressure can be confusing.

Another way to deal with the old fall problem would be to use indirect pressure. As the dog left the correct area of the fall and headed for the old fall, the handler could blow a sit whistle. If the dog's intent to switch was clear, this would stop the dog from making a big mistake. A handle back to the proper fall area would tell the dog to keep hunting in the new location. If the dog refused to sit on the whistle, a correction for failure to sit would be very appropriate. The handler might also use a verbal sit command or another whistle to reassure the dog of the proper response to the correction. Now you have the dog's attention. If the dog sat but refused to cast, another quick sit whistle and a correction would be appropriate. Over time the dog would come to realize that a whistle and correction meant to stop and pay attention, a change of direction would be needed. The correction came with a known command and allowed the dog to give a taught response to stop the pressure. For many dogs this alleviates the panic that can be associated with a random correction where there is no taught response. Indirect pressure helps to build the team work needed in the field.

The decision of when to use direct or indirect pressure is an important one in field work. These techniques come into play when dealing with water cheating, running to the back side of a mark, ignoring a cast, refusing to carry a cast, breaking an honor, dealing with line manners, slow returns—the list of lessons is endless. Both techniques are useful when appropriately applied. Many handlers elect to stick with the use of direct pressure. Mostly because it is old school and familiar. It was the method used before the refinement of e-collars and animal behavioral studies. It is also popular because it involves less training. Indirect pressure requires a good response

to the whistle commands. It requires that a dog understand casting. Teaching reliable casting skills takes time. The advantage you have as an amateur trainer is that you can take as much time as you want to train your own dog. You do not owe anyone a thirty day wonder. You can use drills to teach your dog how to respond to a correction and devote time to building a trusting relationship based on understanding.



Field work is often *Hurry Up and Wait!* as Clutch and Terrie Sato demonstrate here.

The National Specialty experience

The Labrador Retriever Club held its 75th National Specialty at the Purina Farm in Missouri from October 9 through 15 this year. A number of PSLRA members attended. This year there



PSLRA members attending the National Specialty.

were a record number of Dog For All Reasons awards. It was not uncommon for a Labrador to compete in the conformation ring, obedience, agility and finish up the week with a hunt test.

Several examples that speak to the versatility of the breed came from Sandy McMillan's report of the event. Barbara Eberhart's Labrador, Aria, brought home blue in agility, completed a CD with a second place and won the Advanced Rally class. She also supported her mother in the Brood Bitch class to a win. Another example is Belle, belonging to Kay Scott of Arlington, Texas. Belle won the Utility B class, was High Scoring Hunting Dog and was second in the Hunting Bitch conformation class. She also ran a Master Hunt test at the Specialty. PSLRA's own Nina Mann brought home a Dog For All Reasons Award with her black Labrador, Kiwi.

Best in Sweepstakes under judge Jenny Eppinga was Tabatha's Pester, bred/owned by Carol Heidl and Best Opposite in Sweepstakes was Blackwing's Hog Wild at Seawind, owned by Pam Ireland.

Best in Veteran Sweepstakes was CH Winterwind's Zeus Mach Two CD JH, owned by James and Maria Kraft. Best Opposite Veteran was CH Sher-Mi Believe It or Not bred/owned by Sherry Anderson.

Winner's Dog, Diamond in the Rough otherwise known as Curly, owned by Deb Arnold, came from the Open Yellow class. Winners Bitch, Sureshot Hyspire Born Ready or Diva, owned by Carrie Eberhardt, came from the Open Black class. Best Of Breed was CH Sunspot Lace Em Up JH, owned by Bonnie and

Robert Anthony. Best Opposite Sex was CH HyspireSurshot Juz Becuz Im Hot owned by Jan Grannemann and Tori Jackson. PSLRA member Els Crisafulli got one of the JAMS with CH Double Dutch D'Artagnion JH RN. Dart also took one of the three JAMS at Eukanuba!

PSLRA member Perrin Christensen created and donated the beautiful drape worn by the Best of Breed winner. What a wonderful commemoration of the LRC Diamond Jubilee!



PSLRA member Els Crisafulli and Ch Double Dutch D'Artingnion, Dart, receive Judge's Award of Merit.



Drape worn by Best of Breed winner at National Specialty was created and donated by Perrin Christensen.

Our dogs for all reasons

We had a record year for awards in 2006 and have already started to make a new record in 2007. Anne Swindeman, Marlys Swanson and Kate Schotman all finished versatility titles right after the closing date, so they are the first award winners for 2007! Congratulations, Ladies!

P U G E T S O U N D L A B R A D O R **A Dog For All Reasons**

...Conformation ...Field
...Obedience and/or Rally ...Agility
...Therapy ...Tracking

The Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association is proud to congratulate these dogs owned and/or bred by our members on earning their All-Around and Versatility Awards.

2006 All-Around Awards

CH Bakerbay Baba Lu JH RN—bred/owned by Rick Mullen and Cindy King

CH SR Belgairn Pictionary RN JH—owned by Terry McFadden

Intl CH Daybreak's Chocolate Splash at Koa CD JH WC

CGC—bred by Debbie Needham, owned by Chantel

Nahoopii

Am Can Intl CH Devonshires Bracken CD JH WC—bred by Allison Hillius, owned by Haileta Willing,

CH Double Dutch D'Artagnion JH RN NAP—bred/owned by Els Crisafulli

Can CH Fawnhaven Hunter of Snowyriver JH RN—owned by Barbara and Don Ironside

Can CH Fawnhaven's Double Shot JH RN—bred/owned by Barbara and Don Ironside

Can CH Fawnhaven Indigo Jones RN WC—bred by Marilee Howsam-Thacker and Barbara and Don Ironside, owned by Rose Goche and Barbara and Don Ironside

Can CH Fawnhaven Midnightrocket RN SH—bred by Barbara and Don Ironside, owned by Richard and Christina Ramay

Intl Can CH Fawnhaven Mischief Maker Delphi Am Can CD JH CGC WC—owned by Darlene Pado and Don and Barb Ironside

Intl CH Harbortop Lord of the Seas JH RN—bred/owned by Nina Mann

Am Can CH Sharay's Nikolas of Whidbey JH RN—bred by Sharon Edwards, owned by Sharon Edwards and Ron Perry

CH Springwind's Aftershock VCD2, TDX JH RN—bred/owned by Sheri Walsh

Am Can CH Timberline Big Ben at Fawnhaven SH RN—bred by Beckie and Robert Jensen, owned by Barbara and Don Ironside

Can CH Twigs Fawnhaven Dancyn W Attitude Can CD WCX MH CGN—bred by Bonnie McGhie, owned by Bonnie McGhie and Barbara and Don Ironside

Intl CH WindyCanyon's Dark Ranger CD RA JH OA AXJ CC—bred by Anne Swindeman, owned by Mark Levine

Intl CH Windycanyon's Flying Tiger CD JH CGC—bred by Anne Swindeman, owned by Susie and Chris Sharp

2006 Versatility Awards

CH SR Ms T's Dusty Winds Over Char-Don CD RN Service Dog—owned by Terry McFadden

Springwind's Crystal Image VCD2 UDX JH NA NAJ RN—owned by Sheri Walsh

Intl CH WindyCanyon's Dark Ranger CD RA JH OA AXJ CC—owned by Mark Levine

Liz Pedersen Flood Relief Fun Match

Obedience Rally & Conformation Saturday, December 30

Agility Sunday, December 31

Obedience—Novice through Utility/Rally—Novice through Excellent & Conformation/Agility—Standard and Jumpers

This is a great opportunity to practice Obedience, Rally, Conformation and Agility two weeks before the Puyallup Show. Please join us for this worthwhile event. Morning snacks, lunch, refreshments provided.

Donations welcome. Included with this event will be a fund raising raffle.

First Run \$10 Second Run \$8 per day for all events. Day of show entries \$12 per run, limited by availability until 1 p.m.

Location: Country Classic Kennels 9332 99th Ave NE Arlington WA 98223

Contact Linda Shea, <mailto:lindajshea@comcast.net> or call 425 391 2667

Pre-entries strongly recommended. Closes December 23 at 8 p.m.

Braggs

Diann Sullivan-August reports:

Island & Pacific Labrador Retriever Specialty, October 26:

Under Sweepstakes judge Ms.Dottie Black - **Cedarwoods Master Flt Plan** second

Under judge Heather Wiles-Fone - **Cedarwoods Master Flt Plan** second

Phoenixs Lil Gypsee Rose (Phoenix daughter 20 months) first Open Yellow Female

Can.CH.Cedarwoods Almond Roca Divine—Cut in Specials

Am.Can.CH.Cedarwood Flt of The Phoenix—first Stud Dogs

Friday October 27 Lower Mainland Dog Show

Cedarwoods Master Flt Plan (9-12 puppy) Reserve Winners Dog

Saturday, October 28 Lower Mainland Dog Show

Cedarwoods Master Flt Plan, pictured below—first 9-12 puppy male, R.W.D., Best of Breed Puppy, Sporting Group Puppy first (and the Best In Show judge from China stated it was a difficult decision between the labrador and the Chow Chow who won.)



CEDARWOODS MASTER FLT PLAN, 11 months, won his 9-12 puppy class Saturday AND Sunday at the Whidbey Island Kennel Club shows in Monroe, Wash. Friday, November 24, was his last day to be a puppy. With a large regional entry at the Elsie Murray shows, he was awarded his third SPORTING GROUP first (puppy). Saturday, November 25, he turned 12 months old. From the Bred By Exhibitor Class he went on to go winner's dog for five points and then Best of Winners. (His half sister (Phoenix daughter 21 months old), won the open class,

went winner's bitch and then Best of Opposite Sex over three bitch specials to also win five points). I am truly thankful for such abundance with exceptional soundness in these young dogs. Diann Sullivan-August

Rachel Elana AX OAP MXJ AJP EAC EAC-V EJC EJC-V-Outstanding ETC NCG P1 CGC Pet Partner came out of retirement following major knee surgery in January to do encores at several fall agility shows and earned four Excellent B Preferred Jumpers with Weaves legs, all first places. Rachel is 12 years and 11 months. **Rocking M Emily AX AXP AXJ MJP EAC EAC-V EJC EJC-V ETC OGC P1 CGC Pet Partner** finished her Master Jumpers Preferred title at the Sno-King trial in November with two first place runs, despite going through surgery and radiation treatment in the last few months. Emily will be 10 years old December 1. **Winroc Racey Rosalie AX AXJ NAC OJC NGC NTC RN Pet Partner** finished her Rally Novice title in September, which makes her eligible to be a Versatility Labrador. She also got two Excellent B JWWs legs, a second place and a third place, at the Sno-King agility trial in November. Rachel, Emily, and Rosie are family to Kate Schottman and Phyllis Miller.

Nick won Best of Breed and Second Place in Group both days at the Whidbey Island KC shows in Monroe. In CA, he won a Group First at Kennel Club of Beverly Hills and a Group Fourth at Los Encinos Kennel Club. He showed wonderfully. Nick is **MBIS Am/Can CH ShaRay's Nikolas of Whidbey JH RN**. Co-owned by Sharon Edwards and Ron Perry. We are very grateful for Tonya Struble's magnificent showcasing of our boy.

Angelwoods Magic Penny CD JH completed her first leg in Open A at the Chuckanut Obedience trial. Penny placed first with a 193. Penny is owned and loved by Brad, Marlys, Daniel and Josh Swanson.

I'm happy to announce that the drive through the snow storm and back was not in vain. **Koa's Top Gun, WC** aka Goose is one step closer to his Canadian Championship. He went WD, BOW and BOB for five points at the Elsie Murray Canine Assn. in Cloverdale. He topped the day off by taking third in the Group in our first ever Group appearance. He's bred, owned and loved by the Koa Lab gang.

Valerie Jones reports, her bitch Echo, **Ducktales And On And On** went first American Bred at the 2006 National Labrador Specialty in October in St. Louis. She also went first American Bred, WB and BOS at the Gateway Sporting Dog Association in Belleville, Ill., on December 1. Her sire and dam are Ch. Waifin's Topform Conumdrum x Ch. Ducktales And That's My Story.

Secret Agent Pup



It seems to be a continual learning experience here with my new family. Mom and I have been working hard on our obedience training (although, I'm not sure why it's called "OUR" obedience training since I'm the one on the leash and expected to know everything!) I have begun to look forward to these training sessions with so much anticipation that I can

hardly contain myself. Not a day goes by that Goose (or Mom) is not reminding me to stop talking so darn much! I have most of the new exercises figured out. I think by far my favorite one is the one that they call the Recall. Mom sits me on one side of the ring and says, "Stay," and walks across to the other side. It sometimes seems like an eternity, (and I think she does that on purpose) until Kawai says, "Call your dog." So Mom says, "Nyah, come," and it's all I can do not to fly to her and the whole way across, I'm reminding myself, "Must stop, Must stop, and Must stop and Sit!" Oh what a fun exercise. Most days I do pretty well with this exercise I think, but there are just some days when I can hardly contain myself. One day I thought I'd think ahead and already be right there when Mom turned around! She

left me in a stay and when she was ready to turn around, I bounded to her and was sitting politely in front of her when she did! Pretty clever I thought. Guess what, not so clever! 'Cause then we had to do that one again. I've found that the hardest exercises are the sits and downs. 'Cause in the sits and downs, it's not just me and Mom, it's a bunch of us dogs and their Moms and Dads. It's so hard not to go and visit, but I swear I'm trying as hard as my little nine month old body will let me.

I still go to the big building for handling class and visit my friend Tonya. Last week I heard Mom and Tonya say, "Well the body's there, now we just need the head to fill out." I know, I thought it was rude too until Goose explained to me that they didn't mean brains and intelligence, they meant that I still had such a baby looking head with such a big filled out body!! So needless to say, I'm guessing that we're going to continue to focus on the obedience training for awhile. OH, and we've gone back to retrieving with birds, but that's a whole other story that I'll get into once I can sneak on the computer again. Today there's talk of a Turkey, and I'm hoping that's another bird that I can get a piece of! Til next time, Agent Nyah K9 signing off.



PSLRA's Dogs for all Reasons are listed on page 7. Photo above purports to show dual champion Bolo, center dog in second row.

LIST OF LITTERS BORN OR EXPECTED AS OF 12/04/06 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 (mlswanson@verizon.net) 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 8/4/06

(Available 1 BF)

Sire: Blackthorn's Here For The Party
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, ACVO 9/19/05, Heart OFA
 Dam: Alibi Rowena Ravenclaw RN
 OFA 25G, OFEL 25, CERF 3/5/06, Heart OFA
 Optigen Normal
 Litter: 1 BM, 2 BF, 2 YB
 Contact: Cynthia Freeman (760) 285-3906 (day)
 (253) 313-0023 (eve)
 Email: QRLabs@comcast.net
 Listed 9/14/06, 10/18/06

Gig Harbor, WA

Litter born 9/30/06

(Available 1 CM)

Sire: Kingsland's Rocky Top MH
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, CERF 2/14/06, CNM Clear
 Dam: Kingsland Crisgo Girl
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 2/14/06, CNM Clear
 Litter: 4 CM, 2 CF
 Contact: Teresa Meredith (253) 845-1311
 Email: Kingsland_labs@hotmail.com
 Listed 9/22/06, 11/17/06

Puyallup, WA

Litter born 10/16/06

(Available - 1 BF, 1 BM, 2 CM)

Sire: Am/Can CH Skyfire's Oughta Be A Law JH CD WC
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 9/25/05, Heart echo clear,
 Optigen Normal/Clear
 Dam: Skyfire's Kodiak Bombshell
 OFA 24G, 24 OFEL, ACVO 9/25/05, OFA Heart
 Litter: 4 BF, 2 BM, 5 CM, 1 CF
 Contact: Stephanie Harris (509) 925-1259
 Email: Stephanie@skyfirelabs.com
 Website: www.skyfirelabs.com
 Listed 10/21/06, 11/17/06

Ellensburg, WA

Litter born 11/17/06

(Available 3 YF, 1 YM, 3 BM, 2 BF)

Sire: Am/Can CH Hiltonhall Sammy's Keepsake, JH OFA 24E,
 OFEL 24, CERF 9/24/06, OFA Heart, Optigen Normal/Clear
 Dam: Ridge View Amazin Perfection
 OFA 24G, OFEL, CERF 9/24/06
 Litter: 3 YF, 1 YM, 3 BM, 2 BF
 Contact: Kristen Reiter, DVM (360) 320-0941, Eve: (360) 279-1257; Email: kris_daren@verizon.net
 Website: www.sundoglabradors.com
 Listed 11/16/06, 11/17/06

Oak Harbor, WA

Litter born 11/22/06

(Available 4 BF)

Sire: Can CH Sunndaze Indigo, WC
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 9/24/06, Heart OFA
 Dam: Sunndaze Black Bird
 OFA 24F, OFEL 24, CERF 9/24/06
 Litter: 6 BF, 4 BM, 1 YM
 Contact: Linda Maffett (360) 961-5269
 Email: SunndazeLabradors@hotmail.com
 Listed 11/7/06, 12/5/06

Bellingham, WA

Litter due 12/6/06

(Yellows and Blacks)

Sire: Blackthorn's Here For The Party
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, ACVO 10/14/06, Heart OFA
 Dam: Am/Can Ch. Himoon Takes Twota Tango, CD, CGC
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 9/24/06, Heart OFA clear,
 Optigen Normal/Clear
 Litter: Yellow/black
 Contact: Cecilie Drege (360) 435-0456
 Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com
 Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com
 Listed 11/16/06

Arlington, 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, on file with the Breeder Listing Chairperson.

These dogs are usually well socialized, frequently have some training, and are very desirable as companions. They 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 Female, 17 mos (10/18/06) Intact (must be spayed)

This is a very pretty and energetic girl. Preliminary hips and elbows were clear, but she has one bad hock. This has not slowed her down at all. She is crate trained; leash trained and has had some basic obedience, which she has taken to quickly. She is also house broken and uses a dog door. She gets along well with other dogs and cats and people. Unfortunately, space dictates that I cannot keep them all, much as I would like to. Parents have all clearances.

Contact: Cindy Freeman (253) 313-0023

Email: ORLabs@comcast.net

Listed 10/25/06, 11/9/06

Gig Harbor, WA

Black Male 3 years (must be neutered)

Very sweet, mellow, small/stocky boy. Is a show champion, has OFA hips, elbows, CERF, cardiac normal, optigen normal. No health or behavior issues known. To a special, loving home only. We love him dearly.

Contact: Cecilie Drege (360) 435-0456

Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com

Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com

Listed 11/16/06

Arlington, WA

Black Female, 5 months (as of 11/16/06) (Intact)

Show Prospect, nice coat and bone. Both parents have all clearances. Am/Can CH Ghostone Boomtown X Sunrise Desert Rose (Briar X Flurry)

Will meet at the pass.

Contact: Katie Somers (509) 787-6093 or (509) 398-1470

Email: Katie_Somers@msn.com

Listed 11/16/06

Quincy, WA

Black male, 5 months (as of 11/16/06) (Intact)

Already swims, loves people and other dogs. Will not be a big dog. No health issues.

Will meet on top of the pass.

Contact: Katie Somers (509) 787-6093 or (509) 398-1470

Email: Katie_Somers@msn.com

Listed 11/16/06

Quincy, WA

Black Female, 1 year (as of 11/16/06) (Intact)

Very sweet, but on the small side. Likes water and birds. Would make a good family dog that hunts. Parents have all clearances.

Will meet at the pass.

Contact: Katie Somers (509) 787-6093 or (509) 398-1470

Email: Katie_Somers@msn.com

Listed 11/16/06

Quincy, WA

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Location: The Puyallup Fair Grounds, 2nd floor above the agility rings

Date: Saturday, Jan. 13

Social Hour: 6 pm Dinner: 7 pm

Cost: \$10 per person

Please send reservations to: Perrin Christensen

10008 24th Ave. E

Tacoma, WA 98445

Reservations may also be made via e-mail.

If you have any questions contact Perrin at perrinsk9s@comcast.net or call 253-303-1976.

This is a wonderful time to join the festivities while acknowledging the efforts of others. Several awards are presented and the vote is taken for our new board of directors. We do need a head count by January 10, so don't delay in making your reservations. Parking on the show grounds at the Green Gate after 5 p.m. A guard will be present to direct you.



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

Membership Renewal Notice—2007

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: