

THE RETRIEVER BELIEVER

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association

Volume 21, Number 9, September 2004



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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On October 2nd and 3rd, you will have an opportunity to participate in the club's second annual Agility Trial at Argus Ranch, Auburn. Even if you do not plan to enter the trial, please come out and help with the trial. The tasks are very easy, and we will show you what to do.

More important, the Agility Trial is a FUN event. Everyone, even those who don't run dogs, have a bundle of fun. Agility is a great dog event, because everyone involved has a shared spirit of support and camaraderie. And if this isn't enough to get you to come out, keep in mind that everyone who helps with the trial gets to partake in the free buffet lunch for workers. You will not want to miss this event.

If you would like to help, e-mail the trial chair, Dave Lawniczak at dalawniczak@comcast.net.

The agility trial is the club's last major AKC event of the year. After the trial, as we begin to finish out the year, we have to begin looking forward to next year's events and the election of officers and board members.

In brief, we will need event chairs for all of our major events, which include

- Two hunting retriever tests
- Five Series Singles
- Specialty show and obedience trial
- Agility trial
- Fun training days
- Breed/obedience match
- Eye clinic
- Awards banquet (in January)
- Holiday party

I won't disguise the fact that a lot of work is involved in each of these, but I want to encourage you to step forward to help the club. I especially appeal to newer members who want to help. Please be assured that if you want to be a chair or event organizer, we will give you experienced people to work with as your guides.

We will soon be forming a Nominating Committee to gather names of people interested in serving as officers and board members.

If you are interested in serving as a event chair, organizer, or board member/officer, would you please contact me by phone or e-mail.

Last month, on two Lab-related chat lists, NW Labs and the PSLRA Chat List, I was pleased to see so many positive comments about the club and our events. It was especially gratifying for me to read messages from members declaring how proud they are to be PSLRA members. They also mentioned how much pride they took in their volunteer work for the club, to make our events first-class and especially welcoming to newcomer and experienced participants alike.

Keep up the good work, everyone. You make this club truly great for all of us.-RP

IMPORTANT DATES

September 26 PSLRA Eye, Heart, Microchip, Tattoo, Chiropractic clinic, Cascade Kennel, Woodinville

October 2-3 PSLRA agility trial at Argus Ranch in Auburn

October 22, 23, 24 Maureen Foley Tracking seminar see www.hot4dogs.com

November 6 MVDTC Obedience Fun Match, Monroe Fairgrounds, preregistration only see www.mvdtc.org

Newsletter Information:

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

All submissions should be sent to:

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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:

Joni Willing, Membership Chair

3602 122nd St. CT. NW

Gig Harbor, WA 98332-8948

hwilling@amerion.com

club business

The August Board Meeting Minutes

The regular August meeting of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Board of Directors was held on August 25, 2004, by Ron Perry, President, at the office of Barbara Ironside. Minutes of the June Board Meeting and the July General Membership meeting were approved as submitted by email.

President's Report: We are gearing up for an extremely large entry at the hunt test.

Secretary's Report: Closeout of our three specialty events was received from AKC. The enclosed applications for next year will be kept with the Secretary's records till next year's Chair is announced.

Acknowledgments: To Barb Ironside and Terra Services for allowing the meeting to be held in their office. To Barbara Ironside and Linda Walkley for chairing the Specialty and to everyone who worked there, in particular the committee chairs listed in the catalog. Special thanks to Breeder's Choice for all their support of the specialty and to Laura Berger for stepping in as photographer when our contracted photographer didn't show up. Thank you to Bonnie McGhie for the very special efforts in providing a special lunch and ambience for the judges' lunches.

—Thanks also go to the Breeder who made a very generous donation of \$150 as thanks for puppy referral. Ron thanked Chris Roth, Beckie Jensen and Nina Mann for their efforts in producing our club's new resource book, *A Dog for All Reasons*.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reported that the large checking account balance reflected the receipt of hunt test entries but not the corresponding expenses. For example, there is a \$6,000 bill for birds to be paid. Our balance in checking, savings and CD is \$25, 677.49, which includes \$1,968.48 in special rescue funds.

Specialty Report: Barbara Ironside is compiling a manual of job descriptions and other notes that will assist next year's Specialty Chairs. It was recommended that we buy a better sound system, that we re-schedule the Breeders' Cup for Friday night after a break, that we consider an Obedience match on Friday instead of a second trial, and that we offer a PeeWee class as a special attraction. There were many other suggestions for improvements to what was a very successful specialty.

—Carole Jensen has volunteered to head a committee to repack the show trailer after the shelves are installed. The man who engraved our trophies is retiring but will engrave ours for the coming year. Merlyn will ask him for an inventory of what he has and get a bid. We will ask Mary Jane Sarbaugh and Edith Bryan if they think the Rescue Parade is more of a burden than an attraction for owners as we had a very low turnout this year.

Hunt Test Report: Ron Perry bought new radios at Costco and will try them out at the hunt test. We will have a record entry and are still looking for volunteers to help although many members have volunteered so far.

Web Site: We are still experiencing difficulties and need to get them resolved. Ron will ask Marcy Johnson to see if her brother is willing to take on the redesign. The responses to the survey did not indicate a great desire for change.

Donation: We need to spend some time researching the many possible places that our donation might go. Ron Perry will correspond with Dr. Todhunter to learn more about his project on hip dysplasia.

New business: A discussion on archiving old specialty records ended in a proposal to make a CD of requirements for the next specialty chair and keep current paperwork separate from the record of past events.

—The suggestion was made that we ask a veterinary dermatologist to speak at the banquet this year. Dr. Mundell was highly recommended.

—A nominating committee needs to be appointed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next meeting will be on September 22 at Fred and Linda Walkley's house.

Nina Mann, Secretary



Blessing of the Animals

Please join us at the 10th annual "Blessing of the Animals," October 10, 2004, at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Kirkland, Washington. This non-denominational ceremony will take place, rain or shine, on the back lawn of the church at noon.

All animals are welcome, provided they are under physical control (leash, harness, bridle, or crate), and are safe to be around others. If your animal is unable to be present, an article representing them (pictures, collars, a toy, halter, etc.) will be blessed on their behalf.

Certificates will be given to commemorate this special occasion. Free-will donations will be appreciated and will be divided between the Lutheran Compass Center, an organization that has been ministering to Seattle's poor and homeless for 80 years, and the Delta Society[®], an organization committed to the human-animal bond.

Directions: 405 North or South, exit at the 124th St. exit. Head west on 124th St. The church is on your left just before the stoplight at 100th St.
Address: 10021 NE 124th St., Kirkland.

If you need more information, and/or would like to volunteer to help, please call Christi Dudzik at (425) 488-3061

Judges Selection Committee

Now that our major events are over for this year, it is time to start thinking about judges for future events. A Judges Selection Committee is now being formed. We need volunteers for this committee. Most, if not all, of the work will be done via email and telephone. This committee will be compiling, and presenting to the Board of Directors, a list of proposed judges for the following events:

- Both Spring and Fall Hunt Tests for 2005
- Match Judges for 2005
- Agility Judge for 2005
- Specialty Obedience Judge for 2005
- Specialty Conformation Judge for 2006
- Specialty Sweepstakes Judge for 2006

Volunteers need experience in only one of the above areas to serve on this committee. We do want committee members from each of the above areas of interest.

If you would like to volunteer for this important committee or if you have names of potential judges you would like to propose, please contact me as soon as possible.

Thanks—

Barb Ironside, Judges Selection Chair



Barb Ironside and Judge Janice Pritchard with the WD Ribbon at PSLRA Specialty 2004.

What is an Excellent Bee Jumper?

by Nancy Harney

Have you ever read an agility “brag” and wondered what in the world someone was talking about when they said they qualified in *Excellent B Jumpers* or got a second place in *Novice A Standard*? Are you clueless when you hear things like *double Q* or *earned 10 points towards a MACH title*? PSLRA is sponsoring an agility trial next month. To help you appreciate the accomplishments behind the brags, here is a primer on the basics of AKC agility—the titles, what they mean, and how they are earned.

Brief Overview

In AKC Agility there are two basic classes: Standard and Jumpers with Weaves (JWW or Jumpers). In both classes, the goal is to run clean, that is, don't make mistakes, and run at or under the course time which is determined ahead of time by the judge. Both classes have a series of jumps, tunnels and weave poles. The key difference between the two is that the Standard class includes what are called *contact obstacles*, whereas the Jumpers class does not. A contact obstacle is generally something a dog has to climb or walk up and over, such as an A-frame or a teeter-totter. There are contact zones that are painted yellow on these obstacles. The dog **MUST** touch the contact zone, even if only by the width of a toenail, in order to successfully complete the obstacle. If the dog misses the contact, it is an automatic disqualification. A Jumpers' course does not have any contact obstacles. It consists only of jumps, tunnels and weave poles. Jumpers courses are designed for speed; Standard courses are a test of both precision and speed.

Every course is different. On the day of the trial, the handler has anywhere from 15 minutes to half an hour to memorize a course and walk it without the dog. I've often thought about how odd it must look to someone driving by an agility trial and seeing a large group of people walking around in circles talking to themselves with their hands extended leading imaginary dogs around a course! The dog doesn't see the course until he has to run it. So, it is up to the handler to figure out the best way to maneuver through the

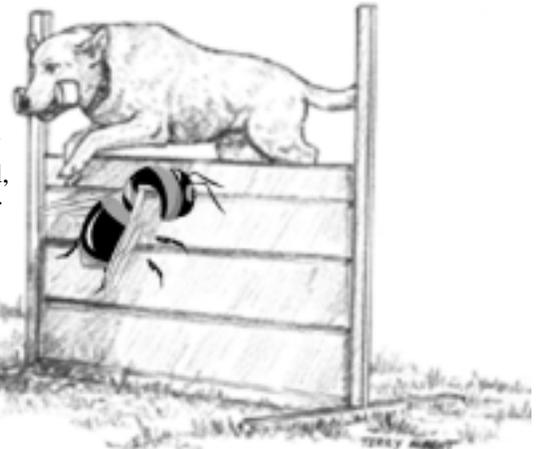
obstacles and communicate a myriad of information to the dog that will enable the dog to know which way he has to turn or what is coming next.

To the untrained eye, running an agility course might look very simple. After all, the handler just points to an obstacle or runs by it, and the dog knows exactly what to do and does it. Not quite! What looks effortless is, in fact, deceptively tricky! While dogs can become familiar with the obstacles and learn to execute the obstacle relatively easily, the real key to agility is the communication that must take place between the handler and the dog in order to be successful on the course. The handler's body movement speaks volumes to the dog, so every slight twitch, or something you may not even be aware of doing, sends a signal to the dog. The goal is to send the right signal that tells the dog what he is supposed to do. A slight unintentional turn of the shoulder or an uncontrolled wave of the hand, can send your dog off in a completely wrong direction.

As you walk the course and memorize the sequence of obstacles, you must plan a strategy that entails understanding your dog's abilities, strengths and weaknesses to figure out how best to direct him over the length of the course. At what point in the course should your dog be on the left? When should he be on your right? How will you change from right side to left side? Where will you stand for the opening sequence of jumps? How tight a turn can you make without risking knocking down a bar on a jump, earning an automatic disqualification? The handler should have a clear plan in mind in order to move smoothly, efficiently and quickly from one obstacle to the next. And once you have a plan, it must be **CLEARLY** communicated to your teammate, who often has some ideas of his own. Therein lies the complexity of the sport of dog agility!

Earning a Title

There are three performance levels for both the Standard and JWW classes:



Novice, Open and Excellent. These classes are further divided into jump heights of 8, 12, 16, 20 and 24 inches. Thus, all breeds can run the same course, but a Chihuahua doesn't have to compete against a Great Dane. Course times also vary depending on the height category. For example, small dogs may have 70 seconds to complete a course, whereas the larger dogs may have to run it in 61 seconds. Dogs in the same height categories compete against one another. The height your dog is required to jump is based on his height as measured at the withers. You must pass or *qualify* (hence the term *Q*) to earn a leg, and it takes three legs to earn a title in Novice, Open and Excellent. A fairly recent addition to agility competition is what is known as the Preferred Class. This class allows a dog to jump at a lower jump height and gives the dog additional time to complete the course. Thus dogs (and handlers) who are older or perhaps slowing down, can continue to compete.

At all three levels, when you step out on the course, you have 100 points at the start line. The goal is to not lose any of those points, but depending on which class you are in, you can lose points and still qualify. Points can be lost if the dog runs up to the obstacle but doesn't jump it or climb it (a *refusal*), or if the dog takes an obstacle out of sequence (known as a *wrong course*). The Novice level is quite forgiving. In Novice, you can pass with a total of 85 points. You can make some mistakes, but still qualify. For example, your dog can take the wrong obstacle, or

can refuse an obstacle but then try again, and the dog can still receive a qualifying score; (for example, you can lose 10 points for two refusals and five points for a wrong course, but you can still pass with a score of 85).

Likewise, there is more leniency when it comes to running the course beyond the allotted time. If your dog makes it through all the obstacles without any mistakes, but you run 15 seconds beyond the official course time, you can still pass because you only lose one point for every second over the course time. You can have a combination of time and course penalties (also called *faults*) but still pass if your score is 85 or more. Another nice thing about Novice is that you don't receive any penalties if your dog misses the weave poles, one of the hardest obstacles for dogs to execute correctly. You must complete the obstacle but you can try as many times as it takes to get it right. The only thing you lose is time.

As you advance from one level to the next, the courses become increasingly complicated, which means the handler has more to analyze and memorize, and you are not allowed as many faults as you are at the Novice level. Obstacles are placed closer together making it more difficult for the dog to determine which obstacle he is supposed to take; the number of obstacles increases, the amount of time you have to run the course decreases, and the scoring is less forgiving meaning you can't make as many mistakes.

When I moved from Novice to the Open level, someone told me it was like leaping from kindergarten to graduate school and they were absolutely right! In Open, weave poles count! If you miss the entry the first time, it counts as a refusal and you are only allowed one refusal at the Open level. You can still qualify with 85 points, but now you lose two points for every second that you go over the course time. At the Excellent level, your life on the agility course becomes exponentially tougher. There is more of everything: more obstacles, more complexities to the course itself, more tight turns, more difficult entries, more discrimination between obstacles close to one another, and above all, NO ROOM FOR ERROR.

You must run clean to qualify—no mistakes allowed.

In addition to height divisions, there are a few other category breakdowns that should be mentioned. You will hear people talk about Novice A and B or Excellent A and B. In Novice, if the handler has already earned an agility title on any dog, or if the dog entered already has an agility title at a higher level, the handler must run in Novice B, but the rules are the same in A and B. That's not the case in Excellent. At the Excellent level, in both A and B you must run clean, but in Excellent A you are allowed a few time faults. However, there are no time faults allowed in Excellent B. To qualify you must have both a clean run AND your time must be equal to or under the course time. Once your dog completes his Excellent A title, if you want to continue to compete, the dog has to run in Excellent B.

Once you earn an Excellent title, the next step is a Master Agility title. This requires 10 legs at the Excellent B level, and there is a separate Master title for standard and JWW. From Master Agility, those with very steady, capable and FAST dogs, can start to work on their Master Agility Champion title, otherwise known as a MACH. To earn a MACH you and your dog must double Q on the same day in both Excellent B Standard and JWW. You need twenty double Qs as part of the MACH title. But that alone doesn't earn you the title. You also need to earn 750 points. Points are earned when you run under the course time. Thus, if the course time is 60 seconds and your dog runs it in 50 seconds, you earn 10 points towards your MACH. You also can earn extra points by finishing first or second in your class. A MACH title is quite prestigious in Agility circles. It takes great ability, dedication, and time, (not to mention a bit of a financial investment!) to reach this major milestone. And it doesn't stop at a MACH. You can keep going—MACH 2, MACH 3, and so on. I recently attended a trial where a dog earned his MACH 5. That's a lot of trials, a lot of double Qs and an unbelievable number of points to accumulate!

A number of PSLRA club members have great agility dogs and are fun to watch. Go to the club agility trial, cheer for the labs, relish the skill that it takes to run a dog through an agility course and discover for yourself how exciting the sport of dog agility can be!

Titles:

(For novice, open and excellent, add a "P" for a title in the Preferred class)

NA—Novice Agility Standard

NAJ—Novice Agility JWW

OA—Open Standard

OAJ—Open JWW

AX—Excellent Standard

AXJ—Excellent JWW

MX—Master Standard

MXJ—Master JWW

MACH—Master Agility Champion

Travel Discounts

The following information was forwarded by the President of the American Rottweiler Club quoting a letter received from the AKC Director of Club Communications.

Discounts are now available to any person traveling to or from an AKC event with a 2-night minimum stay. Depending on class of service and how far in advance of the travel date tickets are purchased, United will offer 5% to 15% off published fares. This offer is available through July 15, 2005. Please note, you do not need to be traveling with a dog in order to receive this discount. Fanciers may obtain this discount by contacting United's Special Reservations at 800-521-4041, from 8 am - 10 pm Eastern Standard Time, 7 days a week except major holidays, using the code 5155P. The airline will have records of dates and locations of AKC events. The American Kennel Club is pleased to offer you these services through United Airlines. We hope you will find these offers convenient for your next entry in an AKC event. Travel safely!

You may, of course, be able to find lower fares on carriers such as ATA, Frontier and American who also carry dogs, but if United is the one that services your area, this could offer you a considerable savings on your next flight.

training thoughts

Field and Obedience Part 2

by Terrie Sato

As the dog learns to watch for food or toy, I switch the food to my hands. A treat in both hands will often make the mistake of an off-centered front obvious as the dog tries to move to one side or the other to get the food. As the dog dives for the left hand, pat the side of your right leg with your right hand (holding the treat) and draw the dog's attention to the right side. As the dog dives to the right side, pat the side of your left leg with your left hand (also holding a treat) and draw the dog's attention to that side. Now the dog has



Clutch visits trainer's right hand for a treat but gets no reward as the left hand encourages him to move over.

visited both sides but not been rewarded. Use the cue *look up* and as the dog looks up at you, bring both hands together at your waist and reward the dog in the center. The value of this exercise is that it tells the dog that the reward only comes from the center and it teaches new subtle cues, in the patting of hands at your side to help the dog understand how to come in and sit straight. Once a dog understands these cues it begins to adjust itself slightly left or right as cued by the handler. It is important in teaching a straight sit that the handler not move back. If a dog believes the handler will adjust to the dog, there is very little incentive for the dog to try hard to sit straight. When a dog understands the cues, proofing for a straight front can make recalls fun and challenging. Try having a helper walk up directly behind your dog as it comes into a front. A person walking



Above photo demonstrates that Clutch gets both treats when he comes to the center instead of the side for his front.

between the handler and the dog as it is coming in can also throw off those fronts. Sending the dog to retrieve an item and then turning your body to the right or left gives the dog an interesting problem to solve and demonstrates if the dog truly understands the front position. Remember to use your cues to help your dog if it gets confused.

Once learned, these cues transfer quickly to the field. Commonly, as a dog is sent for a blind retrieve, it is necessary to stop it with a sit whistle and cast to adjust the dog's line to the blind. A dog that only partially turns to face the handler while sitting is in a poor position to take the correct cast because it can't see the cast well and already has its body facing the wrong direction. A dog sitting crooked to the handler's right need only see the left hand pat the outside of the left leg to straighten up once it understands the cue taught for the obedience front. This is often accompanied by a quick *come in* whistle and a quick repeat of the *sit* whistle giving the dog even more usable cues in the field. In fact, though not permitted in the obedience ring, body language is allowed and expected in the field. This gives a trainer more opportunities to help the dog get it right when working on the straight front concept. Obedience fronts are always challenging. Whether working in the field or not, this is an exercise that must be continually practiced and the training standard must be kept high. If a trainer is indifferent to a dog's response to the command *come* or *front*, the dog will gladly also be indifferent. While working on straight fronts I suggest that the dog is rewarded and released immediately



Clutch coming to heel while retrieving a bumper. He is cued by trainers left hand and this time the left foot steps back instead of forward.

following success. Requiring an obedience finish following a front is often a greater cause for confusion to a dog than any conflict in the field. Dogs that understand their job often anticipate their job. If every practice recall is followed by a finish, the dog may simply feel that an automatic finish in the obedience ring saves time. Give your dog credit for being intelligent and versatile. Training both advanced obedience and field work is interesting and lots of fun.



Clutch is being cued to straighten in preparation for a back cast using the same cues as for the obedience front.

PSLRA Specialty 2004



The Ironsides—Barb, with Ben, and Don, with Rowan, on the move at 2004 Specialty.



Winners Bitch class at 2004 Specialty



BOB-Ch Dos Rios Aim High, 2004 PSLRA Specialty

Dogs Afield!

2004 PSLRA Working Certificate Test

by Liz Skillingstad

photos by Laura Berger

August 1 dawned clear and cool, the perfect day for a little duck hunt. Our two judges **Brenda Manus** and **Doug Gallucci** arrived early to set up their test at the beautiful Davis farm on Whidbey Island. Thus the day began with many helping hands making light work of setting up the holding blinds, live-gun station, pop and throw blinds, tables, and ez-ups; making coffee; delivering coolers, drinks and ice; taking day-of entries; gunning; marshaling; bringing lunches and snacks; and general lifting and toting of all the equipment and birds for an altogether seamless event. It never ceases to amaze me what people will do for a free lunch! Thanks go to **Ron Perry, Patsy Craig, Debbie Milks, Brad Aker, Lucy Isaacson-Logan, Liz Scott, Joni Willing** and all the other elves that helped get the show on the road.

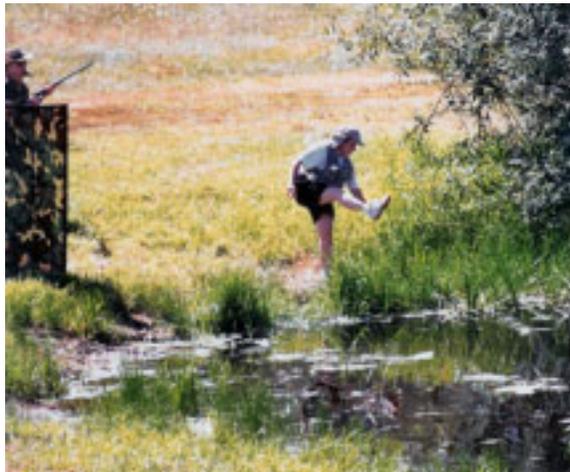
Can any field event run smoothly or move along quickly without no-nonsense marshals? I think not. **Laura Berger** and **Chantel Nahoopii** were recruited way back in January because they both have what it takes to ride herd on the most difficult-to-find handlers. Thirty-four dogs and 24 handlers entered the WC, and the marshals kept the blinds full and did a very professional job, including taking care of many things that weren't in their contracts.

Gun Captain **Brad Aker** and his crew of gunners **Spence and Lynn Saunders**, and **Pete from Camano Island** (we never did learn his last name) set up a nice 52-yard land mark. Throughout the day, they shot consistently and well, and added a bit of diversion for the gallery with Lynn's *hat trick* and Brad's rolling tackle of an escaping bird. Things are never dull in the field! All of the fun intrigued **Specialty Judge Janice Pritchard** so much that she wanted to come out and play, too; **Janet Healy's** generous offer of one of her dogs allowed Janice to earn a respectable pass. Brenda and Doug called back 29 dogs after the land series.



Judge Janice Pritchard passes using dog borrowed from member Janet Healy.

The two water marks were next. The judges set up a good swim for the first bird and a shorter retrieve for the second. In any other setting, being a popper/thrower is an uninspiring, repetitive job with little to recommend it. However, no one I have ever seen has attacked their throwing job with as much élan as **Jan Skewes**.



Jan Skewes demonstrates the art of throwing a dead duck. Joni Willing, left, shoots the popper gun.

Our **Joni Willing** was out there as well with perfect popper gun timing, dog after dog, all afternoon. Other well-hidden, but no less appreciated folk who consented to heave birds in the water and get the dogs' attention were **Ron Perry, Liz Scott and her family members, Mark and Ben Hansen, and Todd Sullenberger**.

For optimum functionality of your average helper in the field, coffee needed to be available early and in plentiful supply. All of that fresh air made workers hungry and thirsty, and if **Marcy Johnson, Sharon Edwards, Beckie Jensen, and Mary Jane Sarbaugh** hadn't coordinated it so well, we would still be looking for java, lunch and drinks, or at least wondering when they would appear.

Without birds or equipment, we wouldn't have had a test at all. Thanks to **Bryant Meyer** for arranging for and purchasing the ducks, **Cindy Meyer** for double-checking my equipment list and helping to load it all up, and to my patient husband, **Paul Skillingstad**, for "getting up at the crack of dawn" (he wanted that mentioned!) and driving at least 150 miles round-trip to deliver birds to the island. Also, thanks to **Marcy's daughter Sami** and her friend **Jessica Harris** who kept the ducks well-fed and watered before the test.

What goes up must come down. Tear down and clean up sometimes are the hardest part of any test. It's hot; people are tired or in a hurry to leave, but these intrepid people got everything back into the trucks without complaint: **Marcy Johnson, Brad Aker, Sharon Edwards, Perrin Christensen, Laura Berger, Bob Gunther, the McKinneys, the Milsteadts** and any others whose names unfortunately escape me. **All of you** have my thanks for your unselfish assistance.

Last, but certainly not least, a heartfelt thank you to **Marcy Johnson**, my co-chair, for cheerfully taking care of the endless details that helped to make this WC an event our club can be proud of. Well done!

Let's hear it for the working Labrador Retriever! Congratulations to the following handlers and their dogs (26 in all) who qualified for a PSLRA Working Certificate:

Janet Healy	"Savannah"
Linda Maffett	"Mee Mee" and "Henna"
Perrin Christensen	"Coal" and "Joy"
Todd Sullenberger	"Lulu"
Debbie Needham	"Rio"
Lucy Isaacson-Logan	"Ella"
Leah Tobin	"Sage"
Barb Ironside	"Teddy," "Brandy" and "Molly"

Kevin Huggett	"Bazuka" and "Porter"
Ron Perry	"Nick"
Patsy Craig	"Maggie"
Sharon Edwards	"Marlo" and "Victoria"
Rebecca Harris (Jr. handler)	"Peanut"
Karen Coulombe	"Boomer"
Mary Jane Sarbaugh	"Glory"
Jennifer Foote	"Maris"
Janice Pritchard (OOC)	"Wheat"
Rich Milsteadt	"Jake"
Nancy McKinney	"Babe"
Kelsey Williams	"Jade"



Laura Berger

Braggs

Little Miss Katie IV CD, SH and Dixie Humble earned their senior hunter title on July 24 at the Rose City Labrador Retriever hunt test in Oregon.

Harbortop Death By Chocolate WC, CGC, JH Am/Can CD "Bailee" spent the summer earning three wings of her JH and on August 29 she finished her JH title. WHEW! Mom can no longer take the nerve-racking retrieves and spontaneous thinking on Bailee's part so on to Agility. Bailee is spoiled by Heide and Brittany Savidge.

BISS Ch ShaRays Ezra JH ran VERY well at the PSLRA HRT and earned the fourth leg on his Junior Hunter title. Thank you Chuck and Sharon Hilton—<http://www.hiltonhall.labradors.com>—for honing Ezra's natural talent into a hunting machine! He is an ANIMAL out there! It sure is fun to take him to the line! Senior work sounds like a good possibility—Sharon Edwards.

Bakerbay Secret James Bond owned and trained by Rhonda Lahey, received his Junior Hunter title on August 8 at the Rainier Hunting Retriever Club's hunt test at Bob Pepper's in Carnation, Washington.

Bakerbay Outlaw Jessie James JH owned and trained by Rhonda Lahey, received her Senior Hunter title on August 28 at the PSLRA hunt test at Bob Pepper's in Carnation, Washington.

FrogCreek Smackwater Jac "Jackie" earned the third wing on her JH title at PSLRA's Fall HRT. Owned, trained, and loved by Liz Skyllingstad.

Harbortop's Stolen Solitaire WC finished her JH August 29, just five weeks after puppies. She was bred and is owned and trained by Nina Mann.

Shilshole's Shiftn Gears earned his first JH leg at the PSLRA test August 29. Clutch is owned and trained by Terrie Sato.

Yeah Daisy

PSLRA members at the British Columbia Specialty on August 21, 2004, celebrate the WB win for Bea Ferguson and Daisy. From left to right are Sharon Edwards, Bea Ferguson and Daisy, Barb Ironside tucked behind everyone, Cindy King, Beckie Jensen holding the ribbon, and Marlys Swanson to the far right. As you can see, it was very wet!



Specialty Results

Judge: Ms. Janice Pritchard

Puppy Dogs 6-9 months

1 **Blackthorn Devonshire DBL 0 7**

Owner: Allison Hillius

2 **Blackthorn Frankly My Dear**

Owners: Barbara Gilchrist, Rebecca and Charles Tufts

3 **Kayo's Every Now And Then**

Owner: Betty Buelteman

4 **Fawnhaven's Double Shot**

Owners: Barb and Don Ironside

Puppy Dogs 9-12 months

1 **Tapeatom Gentry**

Owner: Lorraine Murray

2 **Himoon's Piano Man at Drayton Harbor**

Owners: Gordon and Julia Wilson

3 **Harbortop's Magical Coal**

Owner: Julia McKechnie

4 **Nipntuck Moon Driver**

Owners: Rick Mullen, Cindy King

Dogs, 12-18 months

1 **Himoon The Duke At Clovercreek**

Owners: Kimberly and Christopher Dotson

2 **Decoys Blackjack**

Owner: Judy Davis

3 **Spiritwood's Red Dog Ale**

Owners: Patricia and David P. Miller

4 **SoundViews Show Me the Money**

Owner: Marcy Johnson

Bred by Exhibitor Dogs

1 **Skyfire's Just Lucky I Guess**

Owner: Stephanie Harris

2 **Fawnhaven Indigo Jones**

Owner: Barbara and Don Ironside, Rose Goche

3 **Willowridge's Bodhi Dharma of Riley**

Owners: Greg Phillips, David Berge

4 **Camalire Dideridoo**

Owners: Diane J. and Calvin P. Smith

American Bred Dogs

1 **Balrion Weathertop Tailor**

Owner: Judy Davis

2 **The Flying Fortress Hunts-On CD JH**

Owners: Terry and Karen Coulombe

3 **Harbortop Odin's Shadow SH**

Owner: Patrick Gould

4 **Nipntuck Bulldozer JH**

Owner: Judith LaPlante

Open Dogs, Black

1 **Himoon's Touch Of Frost**

Owners: Michael T. and Leslie E. Douglas

2 **Nipntuck Cimarron's Blue Moon**

Owner: Laura Steward

3 **Blackthorn Floats My Boat**

Owners: Barbara and Robert Gilchrist

4 **Winnie's Manpower**

Owner: Wendy Knox

Open Dogs, Chocolate

1 **Caorunn Hilander At Fawnhaven**

Owners: Barbara and Don Ironside, Chris and Jan Tenzler

2 **Lavender Hills JP Sir Thomas**

Owner: Nina Mann

3 **Fawnhaven Mischief Maker Delphi JH**

Owners: Darlene Pado, Barbara and Don Ironside

4 **Oceanspray's Mendocino Merlot**

Owner: Gina Rawlins

Open Dogs, Yellow

1 **Timberline Big Ben At Fawnhaven SH**

Owners: Barbara and Don Ironside

2 **Davoegs Dictator**

Owner: Theresa Doherty

3 **Devonshire Mi Majestic Rain**

Owners: Sonya Dudder and Allison Hillius

4 **Driftway Billabong**

Owners: Diane J. and Calvin P. Smith

Winners Dog: **Timberline Big Ben At Fawnhaven SH**

Owners: Barbara and Don Ironside

Reserve Winners Dog: **Himoon's Touch Of Frost**

Owner: Michael and Leslie Douglas

Puppy Bitches 6-9 months

1 **Skyfire Luck Be A Lady Tonite**

Owner: Stephanie Harris

2 **Ghostone's Remington Java Mama**

Owners: Judy Schenk and Scott K. Chambers

3 **Cambridge Shhhhhhh**

Owners: Brian Proctor, Lori Chamaschuk

4 **Madrona Pearl of Blackthorn**

Owners: Cathy West, Barbara Gilchrist

Puppy Bitches 9-12 months

1 **Devonshires Taylor Made**

Owner: Allison Hillius

2 **Sunnydaze It's About Mee**

Owner: Linda Maffett

3 **Nipntuck Just A Sweedie**

Owner: Timothy A. Ghezzi

4 Belgairn Shadowbrook Dream Time

Owners: Ron and Jennifer Kelly, Mike and Kimberly Silva

Bitches 12-18 months

1 **Ghostone's Joan Jet**

Owners: Judy Schenk and Scott Chambers

2 **Cimarron Slippery Shoes**

Owner: Laura Steward

3 **Nipntuck Miss American Pie**

Owner: Rebecca Jack

4 **Devonshires French Twist**

Owners: Allison Hillius, Vicky Hoskinson

Novice Bitches

1 **Wyntercreek Ryder at Blu Top CD**

Owner: Jennifer Hajny

2 **Thornwood's WWW. Cannon In D**

Owners: Lorna Brandt, Aaron Bradshaw

Bred by Exhibitor Bitches

1 **Nipntuck Congeniality**

Owner: Rebecca Jack

2 **Whistle Stop Perfect Harmony**

Owner: Martha Shaw

3 **Belgairn Bodega Bay**

Owners: Ron and Jennifer Kelly

4 **ShaRays That Girl**

Owners: Sharon and Ray Edwards

American Bred Bitches

1 **Nipntuck Graceful Spirit**

Owners: Deborah Neal, Rebecca Jack

2 **Asgards Prairie Schooner**

Owner: Margie Dykstra

3 **Himoon Poet Laureate**

Owner: Cecilie Drege

4 **Skyfire's Trick Pony at Willowridge**

Owners: Greg Phillips, Stephanie Harris

Open Bitches, Black

1 **Whistle Stop Bee Charmer**

Owner: Martha Shaw

2 **Winnie's Mensana**

Owners: William and Katherine Knox

3 **Skyfire Nipntuck Havin' A Ball**

Owner: Donna Shuman

4 **Ghostone's Woodland Gossip**

Owner: Lisa Cruanas

Open Bitches, Chocolate

1 **Nipntuck Skyfire Too Much Fun**

Owners: Rebecca Jack, Stephanie Harris

2 **Sunnydaze Auburn Shade**

Owner: Linda Maffett

3 **Remington's Classic Clove**

Owners: Judy Chambers, Barbara Randle

4 **Traynors Decadent At Duckdogs**

Owner: Cathy Tweeddale

Open Bitches, Yellow

1 **Blackthorn's Chatty Cathy**

Owners: Barbara and Robert Gilchrist

2 **Davoegs Beautiful Britney**

Owners: John and Mary Doherty

3 **Devonshires French Kiss**

Owner: Allison Hillius

4 **Jandor Scarlett**

Owner: Janet Ann Healy

Winners Bitch: **Whistle Stop Bee Charmer**

Owner: Martha Shaw

Reserve Winners Bitch: **Winnie's Mensana**

Owners: William and Katherine Knox

Veteran Dogs 7-9 years

1 **Ch Chartwell's Crown Jewels CDX, NA, NAJ**

Owners: Laura Berger, Carol and Tony Clavarelli

2 **Ch Sharay Abraham of Greenbank VDC**

1

Owner: Jan Skewes

3 **Winroc XLT Funnel Cloud VCD1, TDX, MH, MX, MXJ**

Owners: Lee Foote, Mrs. A. L. Foote

4 **Little Salmon Blaze Ahead**

Owner: Rea Hagan

Veteran Dogs, 9-11 years

Ch **Nipntuck Arncha Bold JH CD**

Owner: Rebecca Jack

Veteran Dogs, 11 years and older

1 **Sunnydaze Black Max**

Owners: Julie and Steve Kirk and Linda Maffett

Veteran Bitches, 7-9 years

1 **Bakerbay Gertrude**

Owners: Rick Mullen, Cindy King

2 **Ch Twigs Dancing With My Shadow CD, SH**

Owners: Bonnie McGhie, Barbara and Don Ironside

3 **Tiderip's Warrior Princess NA, JH**

Owner: Diane Steen

4 **Cambridge Leather and Lace**

Owners: Brian Proctor, Lorie Chamaschuk

Veteran Bitches, 9-11 years

1 **Bayviews Ramblin Rose CD, NAJ, NA, JH**

Owner: Carole Jensen

2 **CH Decoys Widgeon**

Owner: Judy Davis

3 **Bayview's Gusta Wind CDX, JH**

Owner: Carole Jensen

4 **Bayviews Big Splash JH CD**

Owners: Chantel, Al and Kawai Nahoopii

Veteran Bitches, 11 years and older

1 **ShaRays Christian Joy CD**

Owners: Sharon Edwards, Barbara Sheard

2 **Rosewood's Best of Luck**

Owner: Vicky Hoskinson

Hunting Retriever Dogs

1 **Ch Fawnhaven Hard Act To Follow MH CD**

Owners: Barbara and Don Ironside

2 **Ch Hiltonhall Sammy's Keepsake JH**

Owners: Chuck and Sharon Hilton

3 **Harbortop Odin's Shadow SH**

Owner: Patrick Gould

4 **Koa Maui Da Hawaiian Supaman JH, CD**

Owner: Chantel Nahoopii

Hunting Retriever Bitches

1 **Ch Twigs Dancing With My Shadow CD SH**

Owners: Bonnie McGhie, Barbara and Don Ironside

2 **Timberline Annie Get Yr Gun JH CD**

Owners: Kimberly and Christopher Dotson

3 **Tiderip's Warrior Princess NA JH**

Owner: Diane Steen

4 **Harbortop Hogo Megan Two CD JH**

Owner: Nina Mann

Best Of Breed: Ch Dios Rios Aim High

Owner: Dorsey Johnson

Best of Winners: Whistle Stop Bee Charmer

Owner: Martha Shaw

Best Opposite Sex: Whistle Stop Bee Charmer

Owner: Martha Shaw

Best Puppy From The Regular Class: Devonshires Taylor Made

Owner: Allison Hillius

Owners: Rebecca Jack, Deborah Neal
2 Ch Fawnhaven Hard Act To Follow
 Owners: Barbara and Don Ironside
3 Ch Chartwell's Crown Jewels CDX NA NAJ
 Owners: Laura Berger, Carol and Tony Ciavarelli
4 Ch Shamrock Acres Razzle Dazzle CD JH
 Owners: Katie and Roger Somers
All Around Bitches
1 Timberline Annie Get Yr Gun JH CD
 Owners: Kimberly and Christopher Dotson
2 Ch Twigs Dancing With My Shadow CD SH
 Owners: Bonnie McGhie, Barbara and Don Ironside
3 Tiderip's Warrior Princess NA JH
 Owner: Diane Steen
4 Wyntercreek Ryder at Blu Top CD
 Owner: Jennifer Hajny
Best All Around: Ch Nipntuck Raging Spirit CD JH
 Owners: Rebecca Jack, Deborah Neal

BREEDERS CUP

Judge: Ms. Annette Watkins
1 Breeder: Allison Hillius
Devonshires Taylor Made
 Owner: Allison Hillius
Devonshires English Rose
 Owners: Allison Hillius, Janet Rhodes
Ch Devonshires Art of Elegance
 Owners: Sonya Dudder, Allison Hillius
Devonshires French Twist
 Owners: Allison Hillius, Vicky Hoskinson
2 Breeder: Laura Steward
Ch Blackwater's Nipntuck Cheerleader
 Owner: Rebecca Jack
Cimarron Slippery Shoes
 Owner: Laura Steward
Cimarron Wild Starfire
 Owners: Laura Steward, Rebecca Welsh
Cimarron Jessica's Montana
 Owner: Laura Steward
3 Breeder: Linda Maffett
Sunnydaze Supernatural
 Owner: Linda Maffett
Sunnydaze Auburn Shade
 Owner: Linda Maffett
Sunnydaze It's All About Mee
 Owner: Linda Maffett
4 Breeder: Rebecca Jack
Ch Nipntuck Archa Bold CD JH
 Owner: Rebecca Jack
Ch Nipntuck Twinkle In Our Eyes
 Owners: Rebecca Jack, Cindy Frost
Nipntuck Miss American Pie
 Owner: Rebecca Jack
Ch Nipntuck Raging Spirit
 Owners: Rebecca Jack, Dan and Debbie Neal

LITTER LISTINGS FOR SEPT.

Litter Born 5/30/04 (1 BM Available)
 Sire: Can Ch Sunnydaze Black Max SH CGC
 OFA 24G, GDC OFEL 45, CERF 03/03/03
 Hips, Elbows, Shoulders and Tarsus GDC 44G
 Heart cleared 7/3/2001;
 Dam: Harbortop Cinder A'Redwick JH
 OFA 26G, OFEL 26, ACVO 03/07/04
 Litter: 2CF, 3BF, 2CM, 3BM
 Contact: Julie Kirk (509) 588-6712 or (509) 588-6712
 Email: redwick@televar.com
 Listed 8/19/04, 8/26/04 Benton City, WA

Litter born 6/13/04 (1 CF Available)
 Sire: Bayviews Twerp
 OFA 29G, OFEL 29, ACVO 05/03/04
 Dam: Bayviews Little Nudger
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 5/27/04
 Litter: 5 CF, 2 BF
 Contact: Doug & Terri Cogswell (360) 297-4483
 Email: Labbies4u@msn.com
 Listed 6/27/04, 8/20/04 Kingston, WA

LIST OF LITTERS BORN OR EXPECTED AS OF 9/3/04 that conform to the P.S.L.R.A. 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 P.S.L.R.A. of any litter or any one litter over another. Litters are removed from the list after 3 mos. Consult the Code of Ethics or the August newsletter for clearance information.

To list a litter, contact Marlys Swanson (marlyss982@aol.com), fill out a litter listing form, and 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.**

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-----More litter listings-----
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Litter born 8/04/04 (1BM, 1CM, 1BF 1CF available)
 Sire: CH Belgair Polo, JH
 OFA 24F, OFEL 24, ACVO 02/20/04
 Dam: Sunnydaze Wish Upon A Star
 OFA 26G, OFEL 26, ACVO 05/24/04
 Litter: Black & Chocolate expected
 Contact: Linda Maffett (360) 961-5269
 Email: sunnydazelabradors@hotmail.com
 Listed 7/7/04, 8/20/04 Seattle, WA

Litter born 05/28/04 (2 BF Available)
 Sire: Chompen T Rex JH CGC WC
 OFA 54E, OFEL 54, CERF 02/06/04
 Dam: Rocking M's Gardening w/ Pearl JH CD WC CGC
 OFA 25G, OFEL 25, CERF 02/06/04
 Litter: Black
 Contact: Mark & Sharon Hansen (253) 862-9735
 Email: hansenzoo@prodigy.net
 Listed 7/20/04, 8/24/04 Sumner, WA

Litter born 06/01/04 (4 BM Available)
 Sire: AM/Can CH Hiltonhall Sammy's Keep-sake JH
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, CERF 10/19/03
 Heart cleared 28 months
 Dam: Hiltonhall Athenian Knight
 OFA 27G, OFEL 34, CERF 10/20/03
 Heart cleared 22 months
 Litter: 1 YM, 1 YF, 1 BF, 5 BM
 Contact: Jason and Neva Pursel (425) 397-6279
 Email: jason@pursel.org
 Listed 7/23/04, 8/20/04 Everett, WA

Litter expected 8/18/04 (1YM & 1YF Available)
 Sire: Lobuff Bobwhite at Chucklebrook
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 02/26/04
 Dam: Himoon Poetic License
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, ACVO 10/19/03
 Litter: 1 YF & 1 YM
 Contact Lucy Isaacson-Logen (206) 362-8004
 Email: Himoonlab@msn.com
 Listed 08/03/04, 8/27/04 Seattle, WA

Litter expected 8/27/04 (4YM & 3YF Available)
 Sire: Lobuff Bobwhite at Chucklebrook
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 02/26/04
 Dam: Himoon Dance Music
 OFA 28G, OFEL 28, CERF 09/12/03
 Litter: 4 YM & 3 YF
 Contact Lucy Isaacson-Logen (206) 362-8004
 Email: Himoonlab@msn.com
 Listed 08/03/04, 8/27/04 Seattle, WA

Litter expected 9/7/04 (Yellows expected)
 Sire: Am/Can CH Sharay's Jeremiah CD
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 10/19/03
 Heart normal 24 months
 Dam: Somerset Sea Star WC
 OFA 27G, OFEL 27, ACVO 10/19/03
 Litter: Yellows expected
 Contact: Jennifer Foote
 Email: najenjo@whidbey.net
 Listed 08/10/04
 Coupeville, WA



OTHER DOGS THAT A BREEDER HAS DECIDED TO PLACE
See Disclaimers in Last Newsletter.
Same ones apply.

Black female, 2 yrs. (spayed)
 Slightly smaller size, house trained some obedience, crate trained, black female. Needs a fenced yard for play, very sweet, good with kids.
 Contact: Elyse Belanger or Cindy Busler (360) 400-1745
 Email: meadowvu@ywave.com
 Listed 6/15/04, 8/3/04
 Roy, WA

Black male, 8 mos. (intact)
 Sweet, calm, well behaved. Going to be a small dog. He has been well socialized, raised with kids, cats, other dogs. Crate trained, great traveler. No health issues.
 Contact: Laura Steward, DVM (360) 876-6199
 Email: cimarronlabs@earthlink.net
 Listed 08/19/04
 Port Orchard, WA

Yellow female, 16 mos. (intact – will spay)
 Basic obedience, crate trained, loves adults & children. Good with other animals, natural aptitude for the field.
 Contact: Julia Wilson (360) 332-4844 or cell (360) 920-6648
 Email: juliaw8@juno.com
 Listed 9/3/04
 Blaine, WA



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

Volunteer for the Agility Trial Oct. 2 & 3

**See Sept. 26 Eye Clinic Flyer
in August Newsletter**