

# THE RETRIEVER BELIEVER

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association

Volume 23, Number 9, September 2006



## PSLRA Officers

President: Jan Palumbo  
206-362-2098  
Vice President: Dave Lawniczak  
253-939-7984  
Secretary: Carole Jensen  
360-856-2902  
Treasurer: Darlene Pado  
206-937-9765

## Board of Directors

Kristi Clark  
253-946-5890  
Bea Ferguson  
425-778-6938  
Stephanie Harris  
509-925-1259  
Vicky Hoskinson  
360-856-0649  
Becky Jack  
425-483-8993  
Cheri Levine  
425-888-2719  
Linda Maffett  
360-961-5269  
Nina Mann  
360-629-7619  
Chantel Nahoopii  
360-724-5227  
Ron Perry  
206-523-1615  
Susie Sharp  
425-488-0772

## Field Chair

Bryant and Cindy Meyer  
Rockingmlabs@qwest.net

## Western Time Zone Coordinator-LRC

Nina Mann

## Membership

Chantel Nahoopii

## Public Information

Ron Perry

## Litter Listings

Marlys Swanson 360-658-7604  
mlswanson@verizon.net

## Public Puppy Inquiries

Merlyn Foote 425-402-1362

## Rescue

Edith Bryan 360-678-1556

## Newsletter

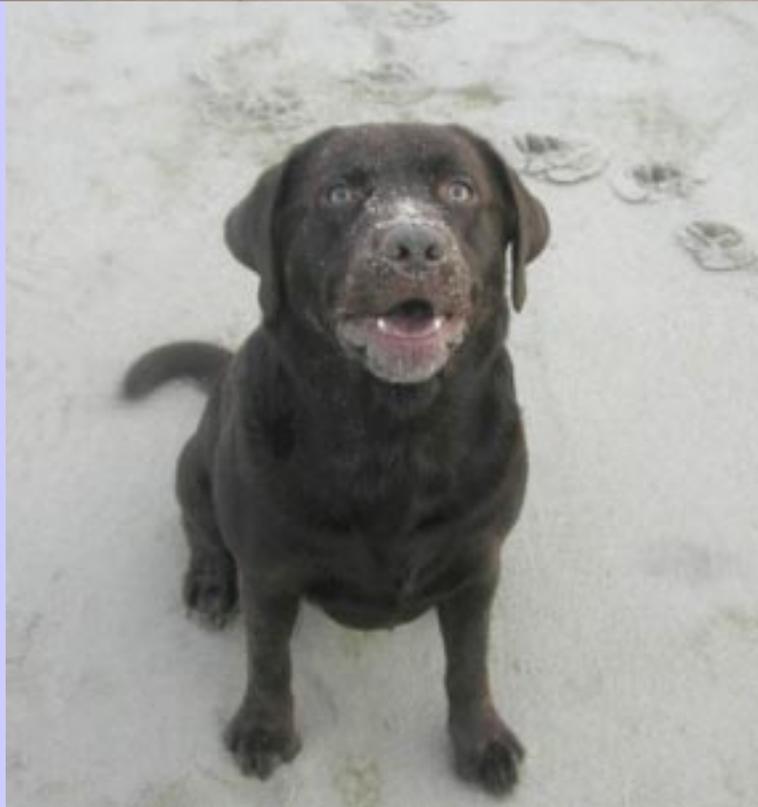
Terrie Sato 425-788-6628  
WDSato@aol.com

## Web site

pslra.org

## Time to relax

Autumn on the Oregon Coast—Labrador Heaven



More sand and surf adventures with Darlene Pado's Murphy and Reilly inside.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**October 7-8 Agility Trial, Argus Ranch, Auburn, Dave Lawniczak**  
**October 21, 22, 23 John Rogerson Training Seminar, Langley BC, info@busydogventures.com 604-539-5262. Note: all days are approved for 5.5 CEUs by Certification Council for Pet Dog Trainers.**  
**October 25 board meeting**  
**October 26 Island & Pacific Specialty, Abbotsford BC, info@westerndogshows.com**

Newsletter Information:

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

All submissions should be sent to:

Terrie Sato, Editor

31902 NE 139<sup>th</sup> St.

Duvall, WA 98019

e-mail: WDSato@aol.com

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

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

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

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

Requests for information, applications and/or payment of dues should be addressed to:  
**Chantel Nahoopii, Membership Chair**  
**3413 Woodcrest Lane**  
**Sedro Woolley, WA 98284**  
 koalabs@msn.com

## club business

# August board meeting minutes

The August board meeting was held August 23 at the home of Becky Jack. Board members present were Jan Palumbo, Bea Ferguson, Nina Mann, Darlene Pado, Kristi Clark, Vicky Hoskinson, Linda Maffett, Becky Jack, Susie Sharp, Chantel Nahoopii, Ron Perry, Cheri Levine and Carole Jensen. Guests were Marlys Swanson, Barb Ironside, Cheri Wilde, Mary Jane Sarbaugh, Merlyn Foote and Sharon Edwards.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance in checking and savings is \$14,159.73.

**Secretary's Report:** June board meeting minutes approved by email. —M/S/V by email to approve a \$100 purchase for the raffle.

**Correspondence:** I received a phone call from a member wondering about entering the Specialty. Unfortunately I received the call a few days after closing. She was disappointed that there was no mention of how to enter the show in the last two newsletters. The newsletter did state that the information was available on our website but she does not have a computer. She asked that we make sure the entry information is available in the newsletters prior to next year's specialty.

—Received from Evergreen Golden Club: *On behalf of the Evergreen Golden Retriever Club I would like to thank PSLRA for their members help at our recent hunt test. The hunt test ran beautifully thanks to the enormous support of all who participated. Deb Pampiks, Corresponding Secretary EGRC*

—Spokane Dog Training Club is holding a two day seminar weekend. Saturday, September 9 is an AKC Obedience Judging Seminar and Sunday, September 10 is an AKC Rally seminar. This event will be held at the SDTC facility. For information call 509-466-1154

—Received from AKC: Fall Hunt test judging panel has been approved.

Application for Fall Hunt test has been approved

Rally event for Specialty, approved.

Tracking test for 2007 has been approved pending receipt of disaster and emergency plan.

A Post-Specialty debriefing was held. Judge expenses have increased with the rise in airfare, gas prices, etc. A committee will be formed to come up with a more specific judge's contract to include a more detailed budget.

—Sharon Edwards has been in contact with a member of the Island County Fair board in regards to the difficulties we experienced with the Grounds manager during the Specialty. At the conclusion of the Specialty, she had presented a letter to Vicky Hoskinson regarding revisions to our contract that included such items as a large increase of the fee as well as changing the date of our Specialty. It was reported that numerous club members had unpleasant experiences with this manager throughout our event. Sharon will be compiling formal written accounts of these to take to the Fair board meeting.

—It was decided that in the future the area for the judges' lunches will have to be somehow roped off to keep people from removing the items needed for hospitality.

—Vicky has all the job descriptions for the different chair positions needed for the Specialty that was compiled by Barb Ironside and will forward copies to the board.

—A discussion was held regarding the wine served at the Friday ringside get together. The club didn't provide the wine, as it is our policy not to provide alcohol at our club events with the exception of one drink at judge's dinners.

—There was a problem with the mailing list for the Specialty. Some folks received two premiums while many didn't receive one. We will try to coordinate our mailing list with Baray more effectively.

—It is imperative that the Obedience Ring not be on the Football field. The blackberry bushes are forcing us to try to fit into ever narrowing space so we may need to consider moving the Obedience ring next year.

—Craig Beecroft has agreed to be a Chief Ring Steward again next year.

—The catered banquet went well this year but it was decided that we should have a 6 p.m. start time next year.

Minutes, *continued from page 2*

—We need to make sure membership applications and decals are available at the catalog sales table.

Nina reported that the WC went well.

**Old Business:** Mary Jane Sarbaugh gave an update on the Eye Clinic. Dr. Woodfield will be there for Cardiac clearances and there will be someone there to draw blood for Optigen tests. —Jan Palumbo reported for Dave Lawniczak that the agility trial was already filling up.

—Ron Perry and Barb Ironside gave an update on the Fall Hunt Test. Using Entry Express has been very successful and appears to be the way that most clubs will be handling entries in the future. They still are looking for a couple of Stake chairs and, of course, volunteers are always needed.

**New Business:** Nina Mann presented a prospective ad for the LRC National Specialty. It will be a two page ad with one side listing this year's new All-Around and Versatility Award winners and the facing page will be a photo taken at PSLRA's Specialty of our very own Multiple BIS winners and All-Around Dogs, Dart and Nick.

—Nina also proposed that the Club sponsor an Assistance Dog trained by Summit Assistance Dogs. Summit will come to one of our events to give a presentation on their program. Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Carole Jensen

## Hunt Test Thanks

Thank you to all of the club members who worked so hard at the PSLRA hunt test September 9 and 10. Thank you to our chairs Bryant Meyer and Ron Perry, the secretary Barb Ironside, the greeters Christina Ramay and Joni Willing, hospitality chair Kristi Clark, all around problem solver Cindy Meyer as well as all of the stake chairs, marshals, gunners, pop and throw workers and blind planters. It takes a lot of people to put on a successful hunt test and everyone really stepped up to the plate on this one. Good job!

## Membership

### *Address change:*

Scott, Liz Gibson  
PO Box 9291, Seattle, WA 98109  
206-354-6564 / Email  
amozndgs1@comcast.net

### *New Members:*

Tom and Myra Hudson  
PO Box 11725, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110  
206-842-5158 / Email  
mhud1023@aolcom

Mary and John Preston  
PO Box 1971, Orofino, ID 83544  
208-476-7460 / (208) 827-0018  
Email ponderosalabradors@hughes.net

Bonnie and Rich Valdez  
721 Mountain View Ave, Buckley, WA 98321  
360-829-0925 / 360-367-0462  
Email bonniebonniebonnie@yahoo.com



The dogs don't seem to think the ocean is cold.

## Agility— help wanted

Have you been meaning to look into agility? Here is your opportunity, because the PSLRA agility trial will be held October 7 and 8 at the Argus Ranch in Auburn. Come out and see what the excitement is all about. Watch the fun, support the club and enjoy the action. Volunteers are welcome and no experience is necessary. There are plenty of jobs that provide a ring side seat and easy training on site. Contact Dave Lawniczak at [davel@everranch.com](mailto:davel@everranch.com) 253-939-7984 for more information or visit the PSLRA web site.

## Variable Surface Tracking Test

Washington State Obedience Training Club will hold its first VST test on Sunday, Nov. 26 at two sites in the Seattle Area. It will be a 6-0 track test judged by Sil Sanders and Anne Hershey MD. Entries close Nov. 8. Premiums: Sue Cox at 206-524-2468 or e-mail [Sue-johnandsuzanne@comcast.net](mailto:Sue-johnandsuzanne@comcast.net) or visit [www.wsotc.org](http://www.wsotc.org) (click on calendar for downloadable P/L)

## Crufts- A Ringside View

This year, I had the good fortune to attend Crufts as an interpreter for Mr. Kato, a Japanese Lab breeder (learning Japanese finally paid off!). The adjective that comes to mind is "overwhelming." The show is held at the Birmingham National Exhibition Centre, which is wonderfully accessible, by rail, air and car. There are twenty halls and the show uses numbers 1-5. So much space, but this is a benched show and with thousands of exhibitors of 138 different breeds and their dogs set up in paddocks, a total of 143,000 visitors, and more vendors than you can shake a stick at, it always seemed crowded. A veritable ocean of noisy, dog loving humanity.

The show covers four days and includes all of the usual competitions—conformation, agility, obedience, Junior handling—and also some interesting "newer" things like dog dancing. There is so much going on in each hall that you have no hope of seeing more than a small percentage of it. Luckily, most of the main events are broadcast on large screen TVs in each hall, so you can keep track of your favorites when they overlap. Each day is focused on a different group—Toy and Utility, Terrier and Hound, Working and Pastoral, and Gundog. The BIS is a grand affair held in the late afternoon on Sunday. Tickets for the main ring sell out early. The media covers every day of the event, with the BBC leading the way. All of the television stations run the highlights each day and there are very few people who are not aware of "the big dog show" up in Birmingham.

The atmosphere in the halls is like a state fair. The yummy smell of forbidden junk food wafts through the air. There are personable vendors hawking everything from dog food to pet gravestones. Leads, jewelry, clothing—both canine and human, portraits, doggy language translators (No husband language translators, even though "significant others" can be more difficult than dogs to understand!), mugs, calendars, grooming tools, furniture—if you can't find it here, it does NOT exist. Some of the vendors are reps of large companies, but a lot are mom and pop stands with carefully handcrafted items for sale and friendly banter for free.

Having all of the dogs benched gives visitors an incredible chance to meet fine examples of each breed and talk with owners and breeders. Since the UK has a wonderful law prohibiting pet shops from exhibiting or selling dogs, this is the perfect opportunity for families to learn about different breeds and pick their favorite. Of course, no dogs are sold on the premises, but potential puppy buyers can meet breeders and arrange kennel visits. Most kennels have more than one dog entered which gives you a feel for the kennel "look." Further, each breed is paddocked in the same area, so it is possible to see every age group from puppy to veteran by strolling a few feet down the aisle. A "Meet the Breed" event extraordinaire.

Enough background, on to the important stuff, the Labrador competition. The order of the groups is changed each year and the Gundog competition was held on the final day in Hall #5. We had arrived too late the previous day to pick up our entrance tickets, so Mr. Kato decided that we should be at the venue at least two hours before the doors opened to get our tickets and wait in line. No amount of pleading or reasoning could make him see that that was too early. He wanted front row seats for the Lab ring and we WOULD be first in line. Since I was the hired help, I couldn't object too strenuously, so I reserved a taxi to take us from our wonderful and cozy B&B to the cold and empty NEC at a hideous 6 a.m. Waking at five, I sincerely regretted sampling all the different local brews in the B&B pub the evening before. Mr. Kato, loaded down with more camera equipment than any one person should own, and I took the short ride and arrived at the NEC in the pre-dawn gloom. Of course, no one was there. Thankfully the doors to the lobby were open and we could get out of the cold. After about a half an hour, some security personnel arrived and told us that the doors to the halls would not open for visitors until precisely 9. Not a minute before. Waiting in a cold lobby is not very high on my list of "things to do in England when slightly hung over from too much brew", but wait we did. Finally exhibitors began appearing to set up their paddocks, then the hardy visitors that were hoping to snag one of the few ringside seats and soon the lobby was bright, warm, friendly and happily buzzing with pre-show tension. The doors opened and we raced in. Of course, the exhibitors who were able to get in early had snatched up the best seats, but we managed to get two seats at the center of the Bitch ring. This was no small feat when you consider that there were 543 Labrador Retrievers entered—the largest Labrador entry in Crufts to date and the largest of any breed at the 2006 show.

The bitches were judged by Mrs. Marlene Hepper of Mardas Labradors ([www.mardaslabradors.com](http://www.mardaslabradors.com)) and the dogs by Mr. J Nolan of Veyatie Labradors (<http://welcome.to/veyatie#>). Both judges have vast UK and International experience and are well-respected Labrador breeders. I won't go into the class divisions, which are mystical and devilish to comprehend- except to say that all colors are judged together, the same dog can enter several different classes and there are no disqualifications for height- as well there should NOT be! [For an in-depth explanation, see <http://www.the-kennel-club.org.uk/kennelclub/schedules.html>, and download the document "Breed Championship Schedule". The classes and definitions are on page 6 of that document.]

Before I settled in beside Mr. Kato at the bitch ring, I had to make a dash to the dog ring where GBCH.I nt.Norw.Swe.Fin.CH Carpenny Walpole (how is that for alphabet soup!!) winner of over 30 CC card in the UK alone, was making the final appearance of his long and distinguished show career in the Veteran's class at the grand age of 10. The gallery was packed with well-wishers and Walpole showed to fifth place of 16- including many of his own progeny. In Japan, we NEVER see the veterans as most dogs are retired by four years of age, so this was a real treat for me.



The atmosphere around the ring was friendly and open. People cheered for their favorites and applauded all winners. The competitors talked among each other and to spectators as they awaited their turn to be judged, often posing for pictures when asked. The handling was by in large atrocious, but the judges were looking at the dogs, not the handlers. As in the US, most labs at Crufts were handled by their owners. A lot of them stood too close to their dogs, which I thought ruined the top line as the ever-hungry labs craned their necks to see if there was a treat in their owner's hand. In Japan, the handling standard is very high and all breeds are primarily handled by pros who know how to make a dog look its best (or even better than it is!!). Judges will often overlook a beautiful dog that is poorly handled. I came away thinking that doing a great job handling is important because it makes the dogs look so beautiful, but even more important is the dog itself and the judge is really there to judge the dogs, not the handlers.

Both judges took a lot of time going over each dog. They liked all movement to be done quite slowly- slightly more slowly than in the States and much more slowly than the bullet fast speed preferred in Japan. Things that seemed important to the judges: a good coat, fat tail, nice head, scissors bite and smooth movement. Things that did not seem as important: a tightly wrapped otter tail, length of muzzle, length of leg, number of teeth, a level topline. As in many indoor shows, the yellows took the day and even a diehard chocolate fan like me has to admit that those silly blondes DID look good. As an aside on color, there were very few chocolates that were of the quality that you find on the West Coast of the States. For those of you who keep up with English kennels, though, it looks like Penny Carpanini of Carpenny labs has thrown her hat in the chocolate ring under the kennel name of King's Penny. Of course, Naiken and Warringah had some of their lovely chocolates entered.

Well, on and on the classes marched. 9 o'clock, 10 o'clock, 12 o'clock and past and the judges didn't even slow down. Finally, at a little past one, they both grabbed a sandwich at the judges table and then went right back at it. If the judging became more lax as time went on, I couldn't tell. The last bitch of the day- at around 5 o'clock- seemed to get all of the attention that the first one who walked out early that morning did. From mid-morning, I noticed that the crowd had gotten decidedly larger and more International. I saw a few other Japanese folks, and heard Russian, French, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and some unidentifiable Eastern and Northern European languages swirling in the background. A quick check of the program showed that not just the famous UK kennels, but kennels from all over the world had put forth their best animals in the hopes of winning the prestigious Crufts BOB. The Best Bitch was an Italian- It Ch Loch Mor Sugar and the Best Dog and BOB was English- Suttonpark Manifesto JW. Both yellow, but very nice.



The picture to the left is Sugar. And to the right is Manifesto. Like I said, it was a day for the blondes! The breed judging ended at about 5:30 and Mr. Kato and I made a mad dash to buy presents for all our friends and met exhausted at the exit. Off we went, back to the B&B and the comfort of a nice English beer. The B&B was filled with people who had been watching or exhibiting at Crufts, so all the talk was dogs, dogs, dogs. The day ended on a humorous note when I overheard the young son of the proprietor say to his father, "Daddy, I don't think those people are very nice. I just heard one say that the black bitch had a lot of attitude. Didn't you tell me never to say 'bitch'?"

It was hectic and tiring, but I can't wait for next year. One of the wonderful things about Crufts and the UK Labrador folks is that they are very willing to welcome you into their homes, show you their stock and talk about their breeding program and philosophy. Mr. Kato and I spent the next few days visiting kennels that interested us, eating too much cake and drinking too much tea and coffee... but that is another article!

For those of you who would like to see more Crufts pictures, go to my site:

[http://www.lavenderhill-labs.com/pages\\_en/home\\_frame\\_en.html](http://www.lavenderhill-labs.com/pages_en/home_frame_en.html)

and follow the links... there is even a slideshow of London and the B&B! For a list of the winners and most of their photos, go to:

[http://www.slovak-retriever.org/spravodaj/crufts06\\_lr.html](http://www.slovak-retriever.org/spravodaj/crufts06_lr.html)

Stephanie Worrall  
Lavender Hills JP  
[www.lavenderhill-labs.com](http://www.lavenderhill-labs.com)

## Braggs

Ron Perry reports that **BIS CH ShaRay's Nikolas of Whidbey JH RN**, Nick, took Best of Breed and third place in Group at the Longview-Kelso KC show September 2. Nick took best of breed at Longview Kelso September 3 and also won the Sporting Group.

Congratulations from Rocking M to: **Bracken** handled by Bryant Meyer, at right, finished his Junior Hunter at the RHRC Test. It was a long time coming and lots of people were behind old Bracken. Bracken is loved and owned by Joni Willing.

—**Rocking M Thunder Bolt** earned his Junior Hunter at the RHRC Fall Test and is owned and loved by Bill and Jean Chynoweth.

—**Rocking M's Ace of Diamond** earned his Junior Hunter at the RHRC Test. He is owned and loved Dan Wegenast.

—**Rocking M's Gidget's Lit Granite** earned his third pass on his Junior at the PSLRA Test. He is owned and loved by Bryant and Cindy Meyer.

—**Rocking's Gidget's Black ONYX** earned his Junior Hunter title and is owned and loved by Bryant and Cindy Meyer

—**San Juan Gidget MH** earned her Master Hunter title at the RHRC Test and earned her second qualification for the 2007 Master National for next year in Virginia at the PSLRA test. She is owned and loved by Bryant and Cindy Meyer.

—**Outlaws Seven Lakes Sunrise MH** earned her Master title at the PSLRA test. She is owned and loved by Bryant and Cindy Meyer.

—**Autumn's Time For A Diamond** earned her second pass on her Masters at the PSLRA Fall Test. She is owned and loved by Bryant and Cindy Meyer.

—**Kingsland Dutches of Yorkshire MH**, Co-Co, earned her Second Qualification for the 2007 Master National for next year in Virginia. She is owned and loved by Nelson Brown.

—And one more special brag from Rocking M: Congratulations to Sami and **Porter**, right: Best of Winners at Enumclaw 2006 for two points! Expertly handled by Sami Meyer, Porter needs 1 more win to finish him out. Way to go Sami! Love, Mom



**Int CH Daybreaks Chocolate Splash at Koa, CD, WC, CGC** has had a very good summer. The Chocolate Rocket can now add JH to her name. She finished her Junior Hunter title at the

PSLRA test just two weeks after getting her first U.S. show points. Needless to say, the Koa Labrador Gang is thrilled. She's loved and spoiled by us and bred by Debbie Needham.

From Anne Swindeman, WindyCanyon Labs: **WindyCanyon's Northern Spy CD RA JH**, Mata, finished her Junior Hunter title on September 10 at the PSLRA hunt test. Mata is only 19 months old and qualified in four of four attempts. On to SH training and finishing up her CDX!

Announcing: **WindyCanyons Dark Ranger JH CD RA OAJ**, Strider, earned his Open Jumpers Agility title (OAJ) at the Sammamish Kennel Club show. His excellent speed and intelligence continue to develop, testing my footwork and agility handling skills in every event. He is truly what a lab should be, a willing problem solver, a great competitor, a fine sportsman and a good friend. Thank you Stephanie for 'The Right Stuff' from Alibi - CH Skyfires Oughta Be A Law CD JH. Thank you Anne for challenging us "To be Versatile" and for Rosa - WindyCanyons Ima Pink Lady CDX SH OA. Woohoo, the thrill is on! Proudly owned and handled by Mark and Cheri Levine.

Diann Sullivan-August reports that at the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association Specialty: **Cedarwoods Master Flt Plan** puppy dogs 6 to 9 sweeps AND puppy dogs 6 to 9 regular class, second; **Cedarwoods Magnificent Halle**, fourth open black bitches. At the B.C. Labrador Retriever Club Specialty: **Cedarwoods Master Flt Plan** first in 6 to 9 sweeps and second in 6 to 9 regular; **Cedarwoods Magnificent Halle** first Open Black bitches and R.W.B.! (both sired by my AM.CAN.CH. Cedarwood flt of the Phoenix.) Diann adds, 'The specialties were beautifully organized and appreciated by everyone.'

Handlers are happy with qualifying green but Cosmo prefers blue, even outdoors. At the end of August, Cosmo took first of 20 entries in the Rally Novice A class at Sammamish with a 97 and finished his RN title earning all blue ribbons. Three weeks later at Wenatchee, he finished his CD on Saturday, had an encore blue ribbon performance on Sunday (190-1/2) and downed, sidestepped, halted and jumped his way to two Rally Advanced legs! Cosmo is now **WindyCanyon's Cosmopolitan Lad CD, JH, RN + 2RA** legs (CH Cook's Midnight Bandit MH x Windycanyon's Ima Pink Lady CDX, SH, OA, OAJ) bred by Anne Swindeman, owned/trained/loved by Sarah and Travis Fischer.

**Harbortop Shokora CD JH** finished her Junior Hunter at the Rainier HRC test. Owned by Fred Drennan and Terry Massagli, bred by Nina Mann, Kora's team also includes Pat Murphy and his great birds!, Terrie Sato, and the Saturday Morning at Peppers Group with Barb Ironside and all.

Linda Maffett reports: We're excited! WD and BOS for two points went to **Can CH Sunnydaze Indigo, WC** at the Wenatchee Kennel Club show. Bred by Linda Maffett and

Shelah Frey, now owned by Linda, Diane Sullenberger and Shelah Frey!

Saturday at Wenatchee for her and our first major. We are still floating. Thank you for all the support and congratulations ringside, lab people are the best. Kimberly and Chris Dotson.

We are very pleased and thrilled to announce that our girl **Int'l CH. Timberline Annie Get Yr Gun SH CD** was WB/BOS on

Join us to celebrate  
all that our companion animals mean to us.



## 12th Annual Blessing of the Animals



Sunday, October 1, 2006, 12 p.m.

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Kirkland, WA.  
This non-denominational ceremony will take place,  
rain or shine, in front of the church.



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 divided between the  
**Lutheran Compass Center**, a non-profit organization that ministers  
to Seattle's poor and homeless, and  
**Homeward Pet**, a non-profit organization in Woodinville  
dedicated to the placement of homeless dogs and cats.

Checks may be made payable to either organization. Cash will be gladly accepted as well.

Address: 10021 NE 124th St., Kirkland.

Directions: I405 north or south, exit at 124th St. Head west on 124th St.

The church is on your left just before the stoplight at 100th St.

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

## Shaping Puppy to New Home

from *THE LABRADOR QUARTERLY*

by Diann Sullivan—August

BEFORE I send a puppy to a new home, I provide them these 'New Home Success' instructions to help make the transition smooth and successful -[ APPLIES to ANY AGE ]

**HOUSE BREAKING** – Labradors WANT to be clean. Being creatures of habit, puppies will tend to decide on a special spot to use for a

bathroom and return to it each time. YOU should be the one to decide WHERE those spots will be. Choose a spot in your yard not too far from your door and take your puppy there IMMEDIATELY after meals (if he



Puppy settling nicely into new home

eats in the house), after spending a short time inside with you, and lengthen those times gradually. WHILE he is in the act of going, PRAISE him with "Good potty, good potty" so that he knows you are pleased that he has gone outside. Be sure to stand there with him until you are sure he is done. THEN bring him immediately back in the house with you so he knows that THE reason he was taken outside was to 'go.' YOUNG puppies have a limited ability (like babies), to hold it for very long and should be taken outside at least every hour. Puppies feel 'the urge' to potty as soon as they wake up from a nap as well as immediately after a meal. When your puppy is in with you, watch for him to seem restless and begin sniffing around, take him outside to 'his spot.' If he makes a mistake in the house (No hitting), simply use a scolding tone of voice to say "NO" but ONLY IF you caught him 'in the act.' Otherwise, just clean it up.

**NIGHT TRAINING** – After about 8 weeks, the puppy truly wants to stay clean (especially if he was kept clean in the litter). Puppies in the litter will actually get up from the bunch while sleeping and go as far away as possible to go potty before going back. Retriever puppies are easy to crate train. First KEY to success is the SIZE of the crate. It must be small enough so that if and when the puppy 'goes' he must sleep near his mess and can't simply 'get away from it' by going to the other end of a large crate. IF you only want to buy one crate for the entire life of the puppy, either BORROW a small crate for training OR divide your larger crate with a front section. You must take him outside for a very last time to potty before bedtime and DON'T feed him for a few hours prior, also. You must be prepared to get up EARLY in the morning also to give him a chance to hold it for a reasonable block of time. At as late a bedtime as possible (at first), show him a small bit of hotdog-type treat, gently help him in the crate and then give him his 'positive reinforcement'

(treat), and shut the door. LEAVE the room. WHEN he starts to cry, IGNORE him and he will work it out. If you must, give him at least a HALF-HOUR to 'work it out' and go to sleep before going to him. You will confuse him less and crate-train sooner IF you at that time, talk to him in a soothing tone of voice and reassure him that "It's O.K." and then leave. VERY EARLY that next morning, sneak out to him, open the door quickly and pick him up (if he's not soaked or soiled), and take him to his spot outside. If you open the door and let him follow you, I guarantee he will 'piddle all over the place.' He will probably have an accident in the crate two or three nights but just remember you have a baby and you are now in the process of training and shaping him. I find that having some old-fashioned Listerine type mouthwash mixed 1-20 in a spray bottle works great for spraying him off followed by a good rubbing with one of your doggy towels. Take the crate out by your hose and splash a little bleach inside and spray out. Sitting the crate down with the door open and facing downward will dry it out quickly and ready it for the next night. Once the puppy 'has to sleep next to his mess' a couple of times, he'll try very hard to stay clean through the night. And, since you are getting up so early in the morning to take him out, you'll actually start finding him asleep and see him extend the length of his nights staying clean.

**CHEWING** – Chewing for puppies is NATURAL and NECESSARY and can last for over a year. There is not a 'magic age' when it 'just stops.' YOU decide WHAT is appropriate for him to chew on and provide items that not only invite chewing but are also safe (I get knuckle-type bones at the meat department). There are many chew items packaged up in the pet section also. Your puppy has to have good things to chew on especially as his baby teeth begin to loosen and the adult teeth are beginning to come through. Anything that you do not want chewed must be put away and don't assume that your puppy knows which items to ignore. When you do see your puppy mouthing and chewing something that he isn't allowed to have, say "No" and replace it with something he IS allowed to chew on.

**FEEDING BASICS** – The BRAND of kibble can be huge as the puppy's stomach is sensitive to sudden change. Some dry foods have a higher percentage of grains versus meat matter and can cause loose stools when all that's occurred is a laxative effect. Ask the breeder WHAT food the puppy has been on and feed him the same thing for a few days. Make any transition to a different food gradual. To change foods, start by mixing the old and new brands in a ratio of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the old with  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the new for a least three days. After a few days of this mixture, go to  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$ . After three or four days, feed just a little of the old sprinkled in with the new brand and he will be ready to totally switch over in a few more days. Three smaller meals a day will be comfortable for puppy's small tummy and I change to two meals daily at about twelve weeks. I like to make the first meal of the day outside in his pen or kennel and always alone and without any other pets. He then has a chance to eat, eliminate, and find a favorite thing to lay down and chew on for a while while I have things to do also. He should always be in a safe pen or kennel

**Puppy**, continued on page 11.

## Secret Agent Pup



Summer is now over and it's time for an update. It was a wonderful summer full of adventures every day. I have a wonderful full family. I have my oldest "brother" Maui, he's the black Lab; Splash, affectionately called Grama, (another black Lab) who turned 11 this year; Kainalu is the only chocolate colored Lab (such a strange color, she must

be special as she's the only one like that here); and then there's Goose, my yellow "brother." My mother back at base was yellow, so I find myself very comforted to be near him. There was lots of swimming and retrieving and rip roaring around the back yard. It has been so nice of my Mother to allow us to spread all of our toys (and everything else we find!) throughout the back yard. Who knew that a 24 pack full of Pepsi cans could be so much fun! Interestingly enough, Mother was not amused.

The youngest family member, Kawai is now going back to school. This makes my mother very lonely as she's gone all day. I miss Kawai, but Mom does spend the whole day playing with us. It seems like this big adventure that Kainalu said was coming is not quite as much fun as I had thought. It does in fact involve food, or bait as she calls it, but it seems a little more work than I had anticipated. We've begun to really have to work on heel. At least Goose reminded me early that heel meant with Mother and not where I felt like. We do a lot of walking on a leash. I have figured out that it goes a lot better if I don't pull on the leash so much. It does make me smile when every time we stop and I sit and look up at my mother, she smiles and gives me a cookie.

We've started another very hard exercise. Okay, maybe it's just hard for me. My mother puts us all in down stays. (Note to self, stay means stay until told otherwise.) Then she'll pick one of us to practice with (usually with food) while the rest of us need to stay. This is where the stay until told otherwise comes in to play! It is so hard to wait my turn, but I'm getting better at it every day. It makes me happy to see my mother so happy with my progress.

I have acquired a new skill. I call it data collection, my mother calls it counter surfing! I happened to pop up on to the counter one day and low and behold, there was a pan of cupcakes that she had just made. I knew something had smelled good, but had no idea what. They even tasted as good as they smelled! I thought Mother would be thrilled that I had been able to get them all by myself and not have to sit there and ask for her help. (I wonder how much longer until she understands what my barks mean, heck, I understand her!) But, my mother was NOT happy at all. She has since devised an obstacle course that includes lots of large metal objects balanced on the edge of the counters and if I put my feet on them, they come crashing down! I'm thinking that that method of data collection needs to stop!

My family is so loving and so caring. My mother especially, loves to have me cuddle with her and I look forward to it every night. I'm almost big enough to jump on the bed and can't wait to be allowed to sleep with her. Seems like most of the dogs sleep on the beds, so my turn is coming.



Time sure flies when you're having fun and I hear the leashes banging, so that means it's time to PLAY! Oh, I mean heel. I'll be sure to continue to collect data (without the large metal pans!) and report in.

Happily signing off until next time.  
Agent Nyah K9



**Coming in October**  
**The Island & Pacific Labrador**  
**Retriever Club Annual Specialty**  
**Abbotsford, British Columbia**  
**October 26, 2006**  
**Judges: Heather Wiles-Fone**  
**(Heatherbourne) and**  
**Dottie Black (HiView)**  
**Western Dog Shows**

**LIST OF LITTERS BORN OR EXPECTED AS OF 9/23/06 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 50<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher, passing Wind-Morgan clearances, and clearances from the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) in Canada. Female Labradors (bitches) with a Wind-Morgan, Penn Hip, or OVC clearance must not be bred before the age of 20 months, or 24 months with an OFA clearance. Male Labradors (dogs) with a Wind-Morgan, Penn Hip or OVC clearance must not be bred before the age of 12 months, or 24 months with an OFA clearance.
  - Eye clearances on both parents annually. After the dog's examination at age 10, annual examinations are no longer necessary.
  - Heart clearances will be included in the listing at the discretion of the breeder.
  - A PSLRA member must own either the sire or the dam and must submit the listing for a non-member.
  - **Please contact Marlys if you need a Litter Listing form, to be used for ALL litters.**
  - All Breeders must update their litters each week with Marlys Swanson via email (marlyss982@aol.com) as to the sex and color of puppies you have sold. The listing will be deleted after three months from the first litter listing date unless she hears from you.
1. Mail the completed form and a check for \$10 (operating expenses for Breeder Listing and Puppy Referral Programs) to: **Marlys Swanson, 3512 – 93<sup>rd</sup> Place NE, Marysville, WA 98270.**
  2. Your litter notice will appear in the next PSLRA newsletter **if** it conforms to the Code of Ethics.
  3. If you know that the Litter Listing and the Puppy Referral programs have helped you sell your puppies, **please send a donation to PSLRA** (c/o Marlys Swanson) to show your appreciation. These donations will all be used for Lab Rescue. **LITTER LISTING FORMS** available from Marlys Swanson

**Litter born 8/2/06 (Available 2 CF, 2 CM, 3 BF, 2 BM)**

Sire: BISS Ch SR Belgairn Pictionary RN JH  
 OFA 29E, OFEL 29, CERF 5/26/06, OFA Cardiac,  
 Optigen Pattern A1  
 Dam: Aristes' Story Teller  
 OFA 28E, OFEL 32, CERF 8/12/05, OFA Cardiac  
 Litter: 2 CF, 2 CM, 3 BF, 2 BM  
 Contact: Terry McFadden (480) 834-4138  
 Email: [mstslabs@msn.com](mailto:mstslabs@msn.com) Mesa, AZ  
 Listed 8/7/06

**Litter due 9/29/06**

**(All yellow)**

Sire: Can/Int. Ch Himoon the Duke at Clovercreek JH CD  
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 9/17/05, Heart OFA  
 Dam: Int. Ch Interlochen Clovercreek Comet JH  
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 2/26/06  
 Litter: all yellow  
 Contact: Kimberly & Chris Dotson (253) 538-7972 or  
 (253) 278-1116  
 Email: [clovercreeklabs@msn.com](mailto:clovercreeklabs@msn.com) Tacoma, WA  
 Listed 9/7/06

**Litter born 8/4/06 (Available 2 Females)**

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](mailto:QRLabs@comcast.net) Gig Harbor, WA  
 Listed 9/14/06

**Litter due October**

**(Yellows and Blacks)**

Sire: Int. Ch Devonshire Mi Majestic Rain, WC  
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, ACVO 9/25/06  
 Dam: Can Ch. Himoon Poet Laureate, CGC  
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, ACVO 12/5/05, Heart OFA clear,  
 Optigen Normal/Clear  
 Litter: Yellow/black  
 Contact: Cecilie Drege (360) 435-0456  
 Email: [cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com](mailto:cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com)  
 Website: [www.cougarcreeklabs.com](http://www.cougarcreeklabs.com) Arlington, WA  
 Listed 9/14/06

**Litter born 8/9/06 (Available 3 CF)**

Sire: Kingsland's Rocky Top MH  
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, CERF 2/14/06, CNM Clear  
 Dam: Kingsland True Blue  
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 6/7/06, CNM Clear  
 Litter: 2 CM, 6 CF  
 Contact: Teresa Meredith (253) 845-1311  
 Email: [Kingsland\\_labs@hotmail.com](mailto:Kingsland_labs@hotmail.com) Puyallup, WA  
 Listed 9/22/06

**Litter Expected October 2006**

**(Available all Chocolate)**

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: Chocolate  
 Contact: Teresa Meredith (253) 845-1311  
 Email: [Kingsland\\_labs@hotmail.com](mailto:Kingsland_labs@hotmail.com) Puyallup, WA  
 Listed 9/22/06

**Litter born 8/17/06 (Available 4CF, 4 CM)**

Sire: Kingsland's Rocky Top MH  
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, CERF 2/14/06, CNM Clear  
 Dam: Kingsland Madam Sky  
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, CERF 6/7/06, CNM Clear  
 Litter: 4 CM, 5 CF  
 Contact: Teresa Meredith (253) 845-1311  
 Email: [Kingsland\\_labs@hotmail.com](mailto:Kingsland_labs@hotmail.com) Puyallup, WA  
 Listed 9/22/06

**Other Dogs That A Breeder Has Decided To Place**

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

These dogs are usually well socialized, frequently have some training, and are very desirable as companions. These dogs may not meet either owner's requirements for show or field performance or the code of ethics for breeding. Prospective buyers are encouraged to ask whether these older dogs have

acceptable clearances on eyes, hips, and elbows and the reason why the dog is being placed. The listing of other dogs in no way constitutes an endorsement by PSLRA. Price will vary.

**Black female, 6 years (Intact – must be spayed)**

Svenska Flickans Blue Angel “Gabby” is a wonderful companion. She would make a great hunting companion or family pet. She is house trained and crate trained.

Contact: Ann Leonard (360) 799-2204

Email: [angelwoodlabs@yahoo.com](mailto:angelwoodlabs@yahoo.com)

Monroe, WA

Listed 8/10/06

**Black male born March 3, 2006 (Intact)**

Looking for home and family of his own. Very sweet, gets along with other dogs. Silly, doofy personality. No reason to place other than too many dogs. Possible show potential. Puppy picture available.

Both parents have all clearances.

Contact: Sharon Edwards (360) 341-1422

Email: [sharay@whidbey.com](mailto:sharay@whidbey.com)

Langley, WA

Listed 8/31/06

**Yellow female born 2/27/05 (Spayed)**

Buffy has a ton of personality and would make a wonderful pet. She walks on a lead, sleeps in a crate, comes when called, and loves to cuddle. One elbow didn't clear but she is quite functional.

See Buffy at : <http://www2.whidbey.com/sharay/buffy.htm>

Contact: Sharon Edwards (360) 341-1422

Email: [sharay@whidbey.com](mailto:sharay@whidbey.com)

Langley, WA

Listed 8/31/06

Puppy, *continued from page 8*

whenever you are not in direct supervision. Part of my receipt and guarantee also states that he will not run or play with other dogs larger than he is without your direct supervision as injuries are easily confused with dysplasia and can be an environmental factor in developing joint problems later.

**POSITIVE PLAY**—Always praise your puppy for bringing you something, anything, even trash, shoes, etc. Puppies can easily be traumatized and associate a simple well-meant, “NO” with the ‘act of carrying’ something in their mouths. When he has something in his mouth, especially if he is COMING to you, train yourself to just take the object away and restrain yourself from saying perhaps, anything at all. **WHEN YOU DECIDE IT'S TIME TO 'RETRIEVE'**, remember to ‘play retriever’ only once or twice and **QUIT WHEN** he's totally high on the fun of bringing back. I like to use an old sock tied in a couple of knots and drag it around on the ground in front of him until he's ‘tracking’ it. Give it a toss forward and directly away from him so he sees ‘the fall.’ **AS** he picks it up, pat your hands on the ground in front of you calling, “Come!” with great enthusiasm. Help him hold ‘his prize’ with one hand for a few seconds while you pat him all over with the other. After a few seconds, command, “Give” and never ‘tug-of-war’ yet use your free hand to squeeze puppy's mouth open **QUICKLY** so the word “Give” is easily understood. Use an excited tone of voice !

THE vital commands or directions he must understand are not just ‘Sit’, ‘Wait’ and ‘Come’ but also that his human is trustworthy. When he comes upon being called, tell him how good he is and touch and pet him. Carry treats in your pocket during your time out in the yard or in your home so you can reinforce ‘words’ by deciding to call ‘come’ and have a intermittent food reward instantly available. Intermittent food rewards means ‘NOT food EVERY time when given a command Always use lots of verbal praise and petting.

**SOCIALIZATION**—Every puppy, regardless of future purpose, **MUST** be well socialized. This begins right away by taking him with you and meeting other people. He absolutely **MUST** ‘associate’ people with kindness and look forward to the next time he ‘gets to see new people.’ Touching is huge for the young puppy, and whenever he meets someone new, he should experience touching and petting that feels good to him. Treats from others are fabulous and instant ways for him to ‘associate’ new people with positive. Most towns offer ‘Puppy Socialization Class’ and the effect of positive play and meeting other puppies will make your puppy self-confident. Later, when he is older and sees other dogs on the street or in the veterinarian's office, he will be eager to approach and the natural tendency to be dominant or submissive will be reduced.

**YOU** are the one shaping this little dog and have the awesome responsibility to teach what is acceptable and pleasing and what is not. You will build enthusiasm or confuse and discourage. Security not only is a reliable daily routine but security to puppies also means being able to, with one-hundred-percent accuracy, predict the outcome of his behaviors. We are responsible for providing physical care and safety but also for teaching acceptable and unacceptable which brings security.

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Where did those clams go?



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

## Good luck to PSLRA members at Master Nationals!

PSLRA is proud to claim you as our own:

U-CD Little Miss Katie VII MH CD and handler Dixie Humble

M and R Ducken Buddy MH and handler Marv Kvamme

Ti-Gator's Jumpin Jill MH and handler Jim Charboneau or Bryant Meyer

Feels Like Rain MH and handler Katie Mearns

Thank you to Bryant Meyer for attending the business meetings as our club delegate. Testing begins on October 1. To follow along and get a detailed description of each series go to [www.masternational.com](http://www.masternational.com).