

THE RETRIEVER BELIEVER

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association

Volume 24, Number 4, April 2007



PSLRA Officers

President: Dave Lawniczak
253-939-7984

Vice President: Stephanie Harris
509-925-1259

Secretary: Carole Jensen
360-856-2902

Treasurer: Jill Mahoney
253-630-4810

Board of Directors

Jan Palumbo, Chair
206-362-2098

Kristi Clark
253-946-5890

Jennifer Hajny
509-962-8579

Becky Jack
425-483-8993

Nina Mann
360-629-7619

Jessica Meadows
360-657-1990

Chantel Nahoopii
360-724-5227

Darlene Pado
206-937-9765

Ron Perry
206-523-1615

Terrie Sato
425-788-6628

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

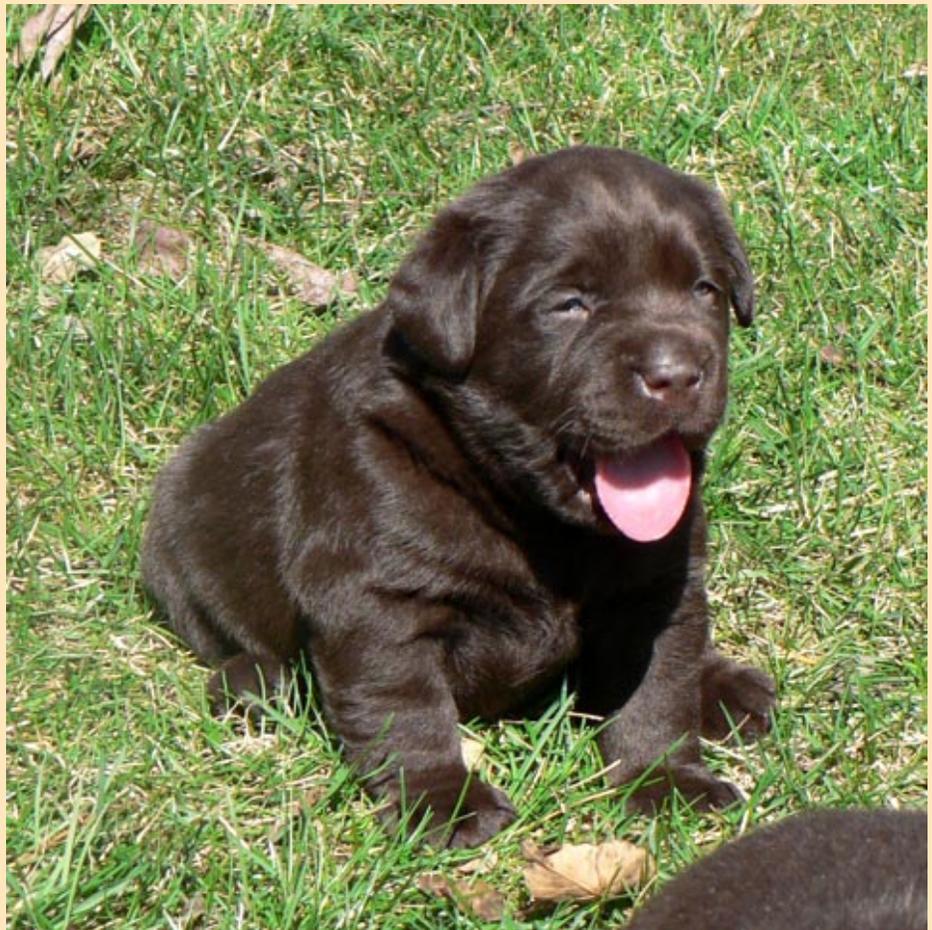
Sarah Fischer 206-265-1007
labradors@tynderlabs.com

Web site

www.pslra.org

President's Message

Well, I hope that you are all having a great spring! Franna and I have been up to our ears in baby lambs, general farm chores and other assorted tasks that pop up in the springtime. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the Tracking Test at Cherry Valley on April 29th and at the PSLRA Hunt Test on May 5th and 6th at Bob Pepper's Farm. And if any of you do come out to the Tracking Test, remember that you will have to purchase your own vehicle use permit this year, which is a change from previous years. Vehicle use permits are available where ever you purchase a hunting or fishing license (I get mine at Fred Meyer usually). Otherwise, have a great spring and I look forward to seeing you out at the various club events! Dave



It's Spring and the puppies are blooming!
Check inside for our special Puppy
Playpen and Puppy Packet segments.

IMPORTANT DATES**April 28 Board Meeting****April 29 Tracking Test,****Snoqualmie Valley****Habitat Mgmt area****Duvall, Jennife Baerlocher****jgerber@everranch.com****May 5 PSLRA Spring Hunt****Test, Ron Perry****perrylab@aol.com****June 16 PSLRA Sanctioned B****Match, Darlene Pado,****Darlpado@aol.com****events calendar/flyers/premiums****online @ pslra.org**

Newsletter Information:

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

All submissions should be sent to:

Sarah Fischer

2716 Morris Ave S.

Renton, WA 98055

e-mail: labradors@tynderlabs.com

Submissions must be received by the editor by the 20th of each month. Please use "newsletter ideas" in subject line.

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

March Board meeting minutes

The meeting was at The Keg in Factoria on Wednesday, March. 28. Present were Kristi Clark, Jill Mahoney, Jennifer Hajny, Jan Palumbo, Susie Sharp, Dave Lawniczak, Stephanie Harris, Jessica Meadows, Nina Mann, Terrie Sato, Ron Perry and Carole Jensen. Guests were Sarah Fischer and Randy Clark.

President's Report:

Dave signed a letter to AKC to release our corresponding date for the Fall Agility trial for one year only. This enables us to change our date so it will not conflict with the National Specialty in October.

Secretary's Report:

—February minutes approved by email.
—Match Judges approved by email.
—M/S/V to allow Heather Wiles-Fone to make her own travel arrangements.
—Edith Bryan approved to chair a possible CGC test at the Specialty.
—M/S/V to give the old PSLRA sweatshirts to agility trial volunteers.

Correspondence:

—AKC notice that Spring Hunt test approval was withheld as two judges were ineligible for lapsed seminars.
—AKC notice that the Spring Hunt test has been approved.
—AKC notice that our rally trial is pending approval of our regular obedience trial.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking/savings balance: \$23,788.79.

Acknowledgements:

Thank you to Dan Selthofer for chairing the agility trial and also to all the people that came out and volunteered at the trial.

Committee Reports:

—Terrie Sato reported that the 5-series is on track. Bryant Meyer will pick up the birds for the event. Ribbons have arrived. More volunteers are always welcome. The use permit issued to the club no longer covers parking for participants so everyone must have an access permit displayed in their vehicle.

—Dave reported for Tracking Chair Jennifer Baerlocher that Fred Drennan will be chief tracklayer at the trial. Stephanie reported that the premium has been uploaded to the website.

Old Business:

—Dave gave a wrap up on the agility trial. The grounds worked out well even though they got pretty wet. Exhibitors gave it a favorable review.

—The protocol for board votes via email was discussed. It was M/S/V to have a 48-hour deadline to cast votes. If quorum is not met, the motion will be tabled.

—Stephanie Harris presented some more information on the possibility of holding the annual awards banquet at the Muckleshoot Casino. No final decision on the location was reached but it M/S/V to approve the \$375 deposit to hold the room if it was refundable.

New Business:

—The Hunt Test committee requested approval for a gift certificate for the Chewning family who will be hosting our out of state judges for the Spring Test. It was M/S/V to purchase a \$100 gift certificate.

—A discussion about the proposed informal get together/barbeque was held. All the board members felt it would be a great way for new members to get to know people but there was some question as to any liability the club might incur. Stephanie will talk to Jan Skewes about any possible problems with our insurance coverage.

—Stephanie presented some information from the American Rottweiler Club regarding a challenge they are putting out to all clubs. They would like each club to provide a table at events to offer fliers on Breed Specific laws. Details of this Challenge can be found at <http://www.amrottclub.org/bslchallenge.pdf>. It was M/S/V to do this.

—Nina Mann reported that almost all of the old inventory of sweatshirts are gone and was given the ok to offer the old stock of t-shirts at a reduced price.

—Ron Perry reported that some maintenance and upgrades are needed for the field equipment. Wingers need new bungees and popper guns need to be repaired. Someone has volunteered to make 10 new blinds so material and rebar must be purchased. It was M/S/V to approve up to \$400 for these upgrades.

Stephanie Harris reported that the website domain is due for renewal. It was M/S/V to renew for five years.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Carole Jensen

Memoir

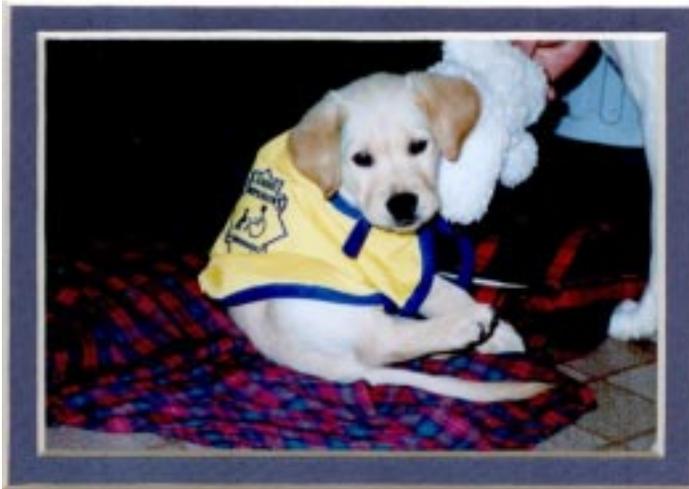
by Jan Skewes

How do you gauge? CCI dog, pound dog, champion, guide dog, master hunter, MACH agility dog, rescued mutt who comforts a person in need or becomes a seizure alert dog? There is no gauge, at least when you stop to think, when you have personal experience. They live for the day and we live every day remembering them and what they've done.

Eleven years ago, when I first shared my friend with all of you, this special group, I wrote about giving him up for advanced training with Canine Companions for Independence. I wrote in the PSLRA newsletter that year that I got a status call from the

CCI trainers, which you always do when your dog is in advanced training. They

were very pleased with how his training was going along and his socialization. But they asked me where he might have learned the counter surfing behavior. My exact words were, "I don't know where



he learned that behavior," and they never said anything again.

He came back to live with us when he retired and ran to the beach every day with his pack mates. I had my knee replaced a couple months ago and, because he was a service dog, asked him to pick up something for me I had dropped. He looked up at me and walked off. He was definitely in retirement.

We miss him as do his pack mates. He was the best kayaking dog ever. He was loved and so cared for. As he walks over the rainbow bridge to meet his friends and Carol, whom he assisted, he will be like all of us, the same as street sweepers, senators, doctors, carpenters or friends. The same as a pound dog or a champion. He will be loved with all.

In loving memory of Longaberger Skewes Kligge

February 10, 1995 - March 29, 2007
(Please say hi to Abe.)

Help Wanted: PSLRA Hunt Test

YES! There is still time to volunteer to help at the spring hunt test on May 5 and 6. Ideally we would like to sign up people to work half day shifts. We need people to work at the pop and throw stations at all levels (juniors, seniors, etc.) and we need blind planters, too.

If you can help, please contact Ron Perry at perrylab@aol.com or 206-523-1615 or Cindy Meyer at rockingmlabs@qwest.net ASAP.

We APPRECIATE our volunteers, and we serve them free meals, snacks, and drinks (pop, juice or water only!). No experience necessary.



Some puppies don't need spring weather to sun themselves

Members

Change of Address/Email:

Joni Willing, hwilling@comcast.net

Bruce and Karen Willing,
preskyle@comcast.net

Cindy Freeman, QRLabs@yahoo.com,
7704 Creekside Lane SW, Rochester, WA
98579 Phone: 360-273-7218

Liz Gibson (Scott), liz@telopialabs.com

Web Stats

Stephanie Harris

In 2006 30,581 people visited
106,225 pages on the PSLRA
website.

PSLRA WEB SITE TOP 10
VISTED CATEGORIES 2006

1. Breeders - 15,876
2. Puppy Referral - 9,175
3. Rescue - 5,752
4. Frequently Asked Questions - 4,684
5. Photo Album - 4,317
6. Find A Breeder - 3,773
7. Club Events - 3,467
8. What is A Lab? - 2,675
9. All Around Labs - 2,432
10. Calendar - 1,734

AVERAGE HITS

The club Home Page is visited
every 8.9 minutes!

Breeders Page is every 16.55
minutes!

Puppy Referral Page is visited every
28.64 minutes!

Out of the Box—And Into the Puppy Playpen!

(Or...A Labrador's Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste)

by Anne Swindeman

I bred my first litter 12 years ago. It was a “textbook” whelp (a very good thing in retrospect!), though surely I wasn’t prepared for a litter of *10*. All went well until the pups were about 3 weeks old when the darling little black girl “with an attitude” scaled the first 12” panel on my whelping box front and landed on the rug outside, somersault style. She shook herself off, unharmed and seemed so very pleased with her accomplishment. I patiently put her back in the box with the others explaining to her where she belonged, but it was soon made clear that “out” was where she preferred to be. I added the second panel, building the box up to the full 24” height. Surely, that would discourage her from escaping...well, not really...and the distance of the potential fall was now very dangerous! I quickly realized I’d not planned this part out very well, and outside to the roofed kennel they went. It was June, so the weather was not a concern, but I was never happy having my puppies out of eye or earshot. I ended up spending countless hours out with them, trying to think up things to keep them busy, assessing their behavior and development...and, yes, disposing of copious amounts of pottied-on newspaper before the wind would whisk it away. There had to be a better way. (Note: the little black girl with the attitude stole my heart—she is now my very white muzzled, yet still full of attitude, Great Grammy Gala!).

Puppy Headstart?

Over the next several years, I became more involved in competition and bred two more litters in that time frame. I read some interesting articles regarding the influence of early puppy socialization and stimulation along the way. The basic idea was to introduce as many new

concepts, textures, noises, etc., to puppies while they were still very young to help build their cognitive function and adaptability...a puppy Head Start program of sorts. I set out to design a better puppy playpen which I eventually set up in the front half of my attached and fully insulated garage, near my big dogs’ crating area. This is adjacent to my family room and office (my work is home-based), so I’m almost always within earshot—and near my phone and computer. I transition the pups from their whelping box in my basement, to the pen, over a matter of a couple of days between the ages of 3 and 4 weeks (after the risk of herpes virus and chilling, yet before they get too stinky and/or try the Gala somersault from the box!).

Setting up the pen: The ability to keep the pen very clean is a big priority to me as I try hard to have potty training accomplished early. I first line an area (about 12’ by 12’) of the cement floor in my garage with plastic sheeting, and cover that with hop sack burlap which I get for free by the 500# bale from a local hops processor. The hop burlap not only provides good footing and cheap bedding for the puppies, but the hops resins have a natural calming effect—something much appreciated with an active litter! I then add a 5’

plastic swimming pool with one third of it cut down to about 4” height so the little ones can step in easily. It’s filled with two bags of great smelling woody pellets specifically sold as animal/stall bedding at the local Cenex store.

This will serve as the puppies “potty pool” (think of it as a big litter box). Along the one wall of the

area are two extra dog crates, one of which I make accessible right away for the puppies to “pile in.” I remove the door, and fill it with soft fleecy blankets and toys to encourage the pups right off the bat to “kennel up.” I fit two expandable x-pens fairly snugly around the pool and the crates at first as this aids in “training” the puppies to use the potty pool faster (give them fewer choices of potty spots). The entrance to the pen is fitted with a short “grate” that mom can hop over while she is still nursing. Once mom gives up on nursing, I simply tuck the one end of the x-pen into the slot between crates and bungie it shut to the crate vents.

Introduction of Potty Pool: Since my pups have been pottying on a newspaper area in their box prior to this, I take some of that soiled newspaper and lay it over the pellets on one side of the pool at first to make it “smell” right to the pups. On the other side of the pool, I’ll put one of their blankets... That way if they want to



Sniff, Sniff. So THIS is a potty pool.

sleep in the pool, they can... it may remind them more of their box, and if so, they are right there when they wake up to potty! After a few days, the newspapers and blanket are removed and the puppies become accustomed to potty directly onto the pellets. (Note: I’ve never had my pups want to eat the pellets). As the pellets get wet, they turn to sawdust, which is conveniently scooped out and disposed of. It sure is a huge improvement over the messy (and stinky) shavings!



Introducing crates to play area gives puppies a den to sleep in.

Once the pups are accustomed to the pen and are grasping the basic concept of potty training, I slowly expand the area of the pen enough to place an agility tunnel (actually a 4' length of 12'' black corrugated/perforated and easily disinfected drainage tile) alongside the pool. I don't leave any running room between it or the ex-pen, so the pups are forced to go through the tunnel from the one direction. Most of the pups are happily tunneling by around 4 or 5 weeks, at which time I'll hang a brass bell there so as they brush by it on their way out of the one end, it clanks (noise desensitization). Near the back end of the



After sprinting through tunnels, this pup decides it's easier to nap halfway through.

tunnel, I'll "ramp up" some hop sacks so they can climb up a little hill, and hop into the pool safely to potty or just play "king of the mountain" (and it is a soft landing into the pellets if they get a little rambunctious!). After a bit, I'll remove that "hill" and open up an area for a runway all the way around the pool—it is too funny to see them running laps thru the tunnel and around the pen! I add a fluffy dog bed about that time too, mainly for ME, so I can go in and sit and snuggle with the puppies at night and morning.

On the subject of noise, I start banging two by twos together as they eat their meals very early on, by 5 weeks at least. I also introduce them to the Dremel noise, and begin to dremel their nails every other time at least (clip the other). The pen is surrounded by carpet runners, so the pups quickly get used to the vacuum cleaner noise as well. I play a radio and leave the TV on in the family room in the evenings with the side door open to the garage area as well. When I come and go,

they grow accustomed to the noisy garage door opener too.

To facilitate potty training, all areas outside of the pool must be kept as clean as possible, so this may mean changing out the burlap flooring and disinfecting the underlying plastic a few times the first couple of weeks. Once the pups are more "reliable" about potty training at about 5 weeks old, I will lay down some show (rubber) matting so they get used to that smell and texture as well, taking care to make sure ends are tucked underneath the pool, crates, and pen, so the matting isn't chewed on by naughty puppies! I introduce the pups to a mirror at about this time as well. This dovetails right into my structural evaluation set up since I use a piece of the show matting to stack my puppies on, with the mirror behind them, so I can better see what they look like. I begin photographing stacked pups after they've gotten comfortable with the process and I can bribe a friend to help, at about 6 weeks old.

Several toys, balls, and dolls of various textures get rotated in and out with the puppies over the period of time. I'll even toss a dumbbell and metal utility article into the pen to see who are the budding retrievers of the group, and tie a quail or chukar wing on a string to a stick and test their prey drive and instincts. A couple puppies at a time are allowed out of the pen to play on a dog ramp (kept on the floor for safety), and other "dog walk" type objects (4''x 12'' plank, etc.). I play retrieve with toys, bird wings, and eventually live pigeons between 7 and 8 weeks. Depending on the weather, I try to get the pups out into my yard or field to play daily after they reach 5 weeks old as they learn to run through the "cover" (my bushes, etc) after one another without hesitation. I also allow my puppies to play regularly (one or two at a time at first) with my other dogs—I think it is very important for the babies to interact on a regular basis with all of my adult dogs, especially when mom is trying to wean them; the burden is taken off her as the big dogs help to properly discipline the "brats" if needed. I should note that all of

my dogs are related and the family unit is very strong here. They are gentle, yet effective in "mothering" the youngsters, and I've never had to worry about aggression or roughness.

By the time my pups are ready to go in for puppy CERFs and well checks, they've been exposed to so much and handled so often, not much fazes them! Even the rectal thermometer has been no big deal! The puppy potty pool doesn't totally replace house training, of course, but I've had my own "keeper" run into the garage and use it if needed. It also comes in handy for those folks who need to kennel puppy for longer periods through the work day, as they can buy a little kiddie pool (3' or less) and use it as a litter box. I am also more than happy to send some of the stinky pellets home w/ folks who wish to train their pup to potty in one area of their property.

This obviously isn't the EASIEST way to raise a litter, but I do think it's worth the effort if you have the time and energy to do it, particularly if you are keeping a future performance prospect (or screening for other performance



Hey look! There are twice as many labs here!

homes). I feel it has greatly improved my ability to accurately assess each pup's temperament; basic conformation is factored into that equation as well. I then can place them accordingly into the best homes—the confident, driven ones with balanced structure go preferentially to competition or active hunting homes, whereas the more laid back ones go to appreciative pet homes. I believe all of the fun extras my pups are exposed to also helps make the socialization period through 4 months much easier, too!

Puppy Packets...Icing on the cake!

by Jennifer Hajny

Bringing a puppy home can be such fun! The day that the puppies go to their new homes is bittersweet for the breeders...hard to let them go, but nice to get some much needed rest. The expressions on the family's faces when they arrive to get their new puppy are unforgettable. Such joy, with a hint of nervousness, but the nerves seems to fade away the instant you show them the "puppy packet." For me, giving a well thought-out packet for my puppy buyers is one way to show them that I care about the puppy's future. After all, most puppy buyers are new to having a puppy around and need a little more advice than your average veteran dog owner. Getting a puppy is great, but getting instructions that go with the puppy...well that's icing on the cake.



Some people use folders or manila envelopes for their packets, which work great! I even know of breeders who put all the information on a CD (except the contract), and do away with all the paper copies. This is a great way to save money! My puppy packets are in a three ring binder. I have our farm logo on the front of the binder, and the first thing they see when they open it is a picture of their new puppy. Three ring binders are also great because things can be added to them if the buyers find more information that is useful, still keeping the information all in one place. Our puppy packets are part of a "gift bag" that we give to each family. They get a new leash and collar (this is good in case the puppy needs to potty on the way home and they didn't bring a leash of their own), a brush, a towel that the litter has been sleeping on for a few days to give comfort to the puppy, and a few puppy toys. My puppy packets are FILLED with articles that can help the new owners. I actually go through my puppy packet with the buyers so I can answer any questions they might have. My puppy packets are divided into sections:

Section One- The "must have" information

There are basic things that a puppy packet should include: registration application, health record, your puppy contract, and puppy instructions. The first two are pretty self explanatory. The contract is the agreement you set forth with your puppy buyers in regards to your expectations for the puppy (i.e., placed on a limited registration, spay/neuter clause, what would happen if

they could no longer keep the puppy...even if it has grown into a dog). It should also outline your specific guarantee as a breeder in regards to the health of the puppy. Puppy instructions are a guide that helps the buyer care for their puppy. It might include instructions on feeding, food brand recommendations, puppy's sleeping schedule, shot and worming record, and the physical needs/limits of the puppy. Some might think it's silly to send a puppy home with instructions, but it is definitely one thing that I feel is a must have! A few other items that a puppy packet should have are the puppy's pedigree (with a key to deciphering the titles and acronyms found on a pedigree), a copy of the sire and dam's clearances, and a copy of its own eye clearance.

Section Two- The "extras"...things that you don't necessarily have to give the puppy buyer, but things that really help make a difference in bringing the puppy home.

I provide a plethora of articles on crate training, house breaking, puppy schedules and needs, chewing, kennels and fencing, training (obedience and hunting), and socializing. I give lots of information because there are so many different ways of approaching all of these issues that I feel it is better to have too much information than not enough.

Section Three- A healthy dog is a happy dog!

In this section the buyer will find general information on hip dysphasia, PRA, Optigen, spaying and neutering, bathing, nail trimming, dental care, poisonous plants, problems with overweight dogs, flea and tick control, microchipping, and pet first aid.



A few other things that I choose to include are pictures of the sire and dam, as well as pictures of the puppy at different stages from birth to eight weeks, a list of recommended books, a PSLRA membership

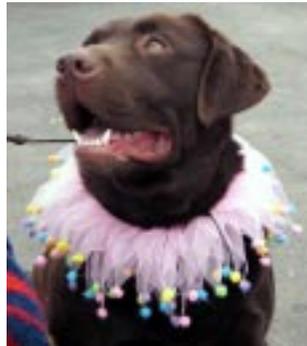
application, and contact information for poison control. I also think that the puppy packets that are given out by dog food manufacturers are of great value. It goes along with the same idea of giving lots of information and letting the buyers decide what works best for them.

In providing a quality puppy packet, I hope that I give my puppy buyers knowledge and confidence that they CAN raise a healthy, happy puppy and not only have it as a family pet, but include it as a family member.

Braggs

We have another new Champion here at Cimarron! My Brodie x Penny daughter, Fancy, is now officially **CH Cimarron Slippery Shoes**. She has been back on the east coast for a while, with my friend, handler Darcie Beecroft and Anthony Cantor. They have done a great job with her. She finished Saturday at the Piedmont KC show in Charlotte, NC. She was WB, BOW, BOB and made the cut in Group! Laura Steward

Can./Int. CH. Cougar Creek Paint It Black, Mick, right, finished his CH. in BC on April 6, all points from the BBE class, including a Best of Breed over specials and several BOW, BOS wins. Mick is bred by/owned/handled by Cecilie Drege, Cougar Creek Labradors.



Our chocolate female **Can. CH. Cedarwoods Almond Roca Divine** recently received her two year OFA reports and is Elbows Normal and Hips EXCELLENT! Cecilie Drege, Cougar Creek Labradors.

Five PSLRA Labs honored: Whidbey Search Dogs has been awarded a 2007 "Real Heroes" award by the American Red Cross. The group was nominated for the honor by Island County Sheriff Mark Brown and the award was presented at a breakfast held by the Island County Red Cross on March 6. Among the 10 dogs active in the Whidbey Search Dogs group, five are Labs and all have ties to PSLRA! Included are Labs from ShaRay (Ruby and Sydney), Wyntercreek (Tess), Rocking M (Meg) and PSLRA Rescue (Sam). Whidbey Search Dog team members are volunteers who work directly with Island County law enforcement agencies to help with civilian searches for missing persons. The Red Cross awards recognize "the Real Heroes of Island County who have gone above and beyond their call of duty to help one another and their community." The dogs and handlers of Whidbey Search Dogs are very proud to be part of this year's awards.—Edith Bryan and search dogs Tess and Meg (with many thanks to Mary Jane Sarbaugh and Cindy and Bryant Meyer for allowing me to have these two very special girls.)

Blackthorn Frankly My Dear went WD/BOW for a four point major at the Rose City Classic shows! Floyd also went WD/BOW/BOS for two points at Vancouver KC and Reserve WD to a four point major at Puyallup, expertly handled by Allison Hillius. We are very proud of Floyd and Allison! Becky and Chuck Tufts

Can CH Sunnydaze Indigo, WC was WD, Best Bred by Exhibitor and received a JAM on day two of the San Joaquin Valley Specialty on March 17 and 18.

Can CH Sunnydaze It's All About Mee, JH picked up her last couple of points at the Oceanside show in Maple Ridge on March 30 and is now a Canadian Champion. She was also first in Hunting Bitch and fourth in a large BBE class at San Joaquin.

Sunnydaze Harlequin Southern Comfort, owned by Diane Sullenberger and Linda Maffett, was first in Open Chocolate at both San Joaquin shows.

Alex, **ShaRay's Alexander of Whidbey SH CD**, Delta Pet Partner qualified in the PSLRA 5 Series on his ninth birthday. At age 9, he is still a great marking dog.

Nick, **MBIS Am/Can CH ShaRay's Nikolas of Whidbey JH RN** took a group second at Oakland KC, a group second and a group third at Timberland Valley DFA, a Group Second and a Group Third at the Ephrata-Moses Lake KC shows. He also earned two legs toward his CD at the WSOTC obedience trials, earning third place and high scoring Lab in Novice on the second day. Ron Perry

Int Ch Daybreaks Chocolate Splash, CD, JH, WC, CGC is a little closer to becoming a Canadian Champion. Kainalu was WB, BOW and BOS at Mount Cheam in Chiliwack for three more points. She was handled in the ring by 9-year-old Kawai. **Can CH Koa's Top Gun, WC** was BOB and got a Group 3 at the same show. He also happily teamed up with Kawai for a second place in Junior Novice showmanship. Loved and spoiled by the Koa Gang.

Twister, **Skyfire's Cyclone In The Dark** was WB on Saturday at the Ephrata-Moses Lake KC Shows. Her 14-month-old son Axle, **Skyfire's Oughta Be Haulin** was RWD both days. Twister is co-owned by Stephanie and Jessica Harris and Sarah Fischer. Axle is owned by Sarah and Travis Fischer.

Winroc Racey Rosalie AX AXJ FN RN OAC OJC OTC NCC NWC Pet Partner finished her Novice FAST title at the Hurricane Ridge Agility trial in April. She also had a great weekend at the Extreme Agility Team trial in April and finished her Open Regular title (with a first place and two second places), her Open Tunnelers title (with a second place run), and her Novice Weavers title (with a first place run).

Rocking "M" Emily AX AXPAXJ MJP EAC EAC-V EJC Outstanding EJC-Vet NCC ETC P1 CGC Pet Partner earned another Excellent B Preferred Jumpers with Weaves leg (ALL have been first place runs) at the Hurricane Ridge trial and earned two Elite Tunnelers and two Elite Veteran Jumpers legs (all four first place runs) at the EAT trial. Rosie and Emily's proud and grateful team mates are Kate Schottman and Phyllis Miller.

Puppy socialization expert Olivia Maffett shown with Sunnydaze pup.



Five Series

The PSLRA Five Series Singles, a field event, was held on April 7 at the Cherry Valley Wildlife Area. The weather cooperated and the exhibitors were cheery making for a pleasant day afield. Over 70 competitors signed up to run their dogs. There were 11 puppies and four Junior Handlers. Approximately 57 adult dogs were in competition for the first place trophy.

This year the entries were divided and a land series and water series were run simultaneously. Liz Gibson and Elaine Brock set up challenging land marks that included a long run to a flyer in an open field and a short pop and throw mark into cover. Many dogs had to hunt to recover the birds.

Fran and Scott Seagren set up a water mark that required a square entry through tules and a hunt on the opposite shore. When these three marks were completed

by all dog/handler teams, thirty dogs were called back for the final series.

Another long run to a retired flyer was the first challenge facing these dogs. Upon completion of this mark, the dogs were invited to the final water mark. This mark was set up with an angle entrance and angle exit and again, many dogs



Jason Biddle, Peter Colley, and Liz Scott show their awards.

had hunts to find this bird. At the end of the day the four high scoring dog/handler teams were: **Jason Biddle with Zoe in fourth place, Liz Gibson and Hudson in third place, Jason Biddle and Josey in second place and Peter Colley and his Golden Retriever, Ben, with first place.**

Puppies were judged by Marilyn Mark and Liz Skillingstad at about 10 a.m. The puppies had good marking experience with a live shot flyer, pop and throw, and a water mark. The junior Handlers also got to try these marks with their dogs. Many of the Juniors were new to the sport and some old dogs got to feel young again while retrieving birds for these great kids.

Many thanks to those who worked to make this event successful. Thanks to Rhonda Forman and Barbara Strauss for providing homemade refreshments. Thank you to Susie Sharp, Fred Drennan, Dan Selfhofer, Rhonda and Mike Forman, Cindy and Bryant Meyer, Sarah and Travis Fischer, Ian and Tristan Dempsey, Ron Perry, Pat Gould, John Willits, Doyle Lewis, Nelson Brown, Mark Levine, Darlene Pado, Marlys Swanson, Barb Sheard, Barbara Strauss, Nina Mann, Katie Mearns and Dale Worthington.

For the second year in a row PSLRA sent its trophy home with a Golden Retriever. The challenge is set for next year. Let's bring that trophy home!

Terrie Sato, chair



Peter Colley proudly displays the first place ribbon won by him and his Golden Retriever, Ben.



5- Series photos by Fred Drennan



LIST OF LITTERS BORN OR EXPECTED AS OF 4/18/07 that conform to the PSLRA Code of Ethics. Information is as submitted by owners and provided as a service to the public. Listings of litters are in no way an endorsement by PSLRA of any litter or any one litter over another. Litters are removed from the list after three months.

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

- Elbows and hips must be certified on both the sire and dam. Dogs and bitches whelped before 5/1/87 are exempt from elbow clearance requirements and will be marked OFEL N/A. Prelims are not acceptable! The board has recently agreed to accept PennHip clearances that score in the 50th percentile or higher, passing Wind-Morgan clearances, and clearances from the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) in Canada. Female Labradors (bitches) with a Wind-Morgan, Penn Hip, or OVC clearance must not be bred before the age of 20 months, or 24 months with an OFA clearance. Male Labradors (dogs) with a Wind-Morgan, Penn Hip or OVC clearance must not be bred before the age of 12 months, or 24 months with an OFA clearance.
 - Eye clearances on both parents annually. After the dog's examination at age 10, annual examinations are no longer necessary.
 - Heart clearances will be included in the listing at the discretion of the breeder.
 - A PSLRA member must own either the sire or the dam and must submit the listing for a non-member.
 - **Please contact Marlys if you need a Litter Listing form, to be used for ALL litters.**
 - All Breeders must update their litters each week with Marlys Swanson via email (mlswanson@verizon.net) as to the sex and color of puppies you have sold. The listing will be deleted after three months from the first litter listing date unless she hears from you.
1. Mail the completed form and a check for \$10 (operating expenses for Breeder Listing and Puppy Referral Programs) to: **Marlys Swanson, 3512 – 93rd Place NE, Marysville, WA 98270.**
 2. Your litter notice will appear in the next PSLRA newsletter **if** it conforms to the Code of Ethics.
 3. If you know that the Litter Listing and the Puppy Referral programs have helped you sell your puppies, **please send a donation to PSLRA** (c/o Marlys Swanson) to show your appreciation. These donations will all be used for Lab Rescue. **LITTER LISTING FORMS** available from Marlys Swanson

Litter born 11/26/06 (Available 1 YM, 2 YF)

Sire: Ch Ghostone Boomtown JH
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 1/21/06, OFA Heart, Optigen Clear
 Dam: Sunrise Get A Dream
 OFA 25G, OFEL 25, ACVO 8/19/06
 Litter: 7 YM, 3 YF
 Contact: Katie Somers (509) 398-1470, (509) 787-6093
 Email: Katie_Somers@msn.com Quincy, WA
 Listed: 2/26/07, 4/11/07

Litter born 1/10/07 (Available 1 YM)

Sire: Int. Ch. Rocking M Go For The Gusto KC RN CD
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, ACVO 2/26/06, Optigen Clear
 Dam: Int'l Ch. Rocking M' Little Miracle
 OFA 26G, OFEL 26, ACVO 2/26/06, Optigen Clear
 Litter: 6 Yellows
 Contact: Bryant or Cindy Meyer (253) 846-9583
 Email: rockingmlabs@rockingmlabs.com Spanaway, WA
 Listed 1/5/07, 03/22/07

Litter born 1/24/07 (Available 1 BM)

Sire: Am Can Ch. Timberline Big Ben At Fawnhaven SH RN
 Pennhip .39DI-13, Elbows GDC 22, ACVO 9/26/06, OFA
 Cardiac, Optigen Clear/Normal
 Dam: ShaRays Sounds Like Heaven WC
 OFA 25G, OFEL 25, CERF 3/16/06
 Litter: 2 BM, 2 BF, 2 YM
 Contact: Sharon Edwards (360) 341-1422
 Email: sharay@whidbey.com Langley, WA
 Listed 3/25/07

Litter born 2/6/07 (Available 2 CM)

Sire: Kingsland Rocky Top MH
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, ACVO 3/4/07, CNM clear
 Dam: Kingsland's Shell-be for Birds
 OFA 25E, OFEL 25, ACVO 3/4/07, CNM Clear
 Litter: 2 CF, 6 CM
 Contact: Teresa Meredith (253) 845-1311, cell (253) 376-3635
 Email: Kingsland_Labs@hotmail.com
 Listed 3/9/07, 3/23/07

Litter born 2/9/07 (Available 1 YM)

Sire: BIS Am/Can Ch. ShaRay's Nikolas of Whidbey JH RN
 WC CGC
 OFA 26G, OFEL 26, CERF 8/20/06, OFA Heart 24
 Dam: Cedarwoods Nick of Luck
 OFA 27G, OFEL 27, ACVO 9/7/06, Optigen Clear
 Litter: 5 YF, 2 YM
 Contact: Bill Hunstiger (360) 652-6076
 Email: billlabs@hotmail.com Stanwood, WA
 Listed 3/29/07, 4/11/07

Litter born: 2/18/07 (Available: 3BM, 1CM, 1BF)

Sire: BISS Ch SR Belgairn Pictionary RN JH WC
 OFA 29E OFEL 29, CERF 5/12/06, OFA Heart, Optigen
 Normal/Clear
 Dam: Brandymere Bittersweet Gudrun
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 12/8/06
 Litter: 5CF, 3CM, 3BF
 Contact: Terry McFadden (480) 834-4138
 Email: mstslabs@msn.com Mesa, AZ
 Listed 3/30/07, 4/11/07

Litter born 2/21/07 (Available 1 CM)

Sire: Stigs Out of the Rough
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 2/5/07
 Dam: Forest Lake's Trout's Angel Jo
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 2/5/07
 Litter: 4 CM, 1 CF
 Contact: Craig & Sylvia Weber (253) 846-5227
 Email: fllweber@netzero.com Eatonville, WA
 Listed: 2/22/07, 3/15/07

Litter born 3/06/07 (Available 1 BF, 1 BM)

Sire: BISS CH Boradors By George
 OFA 26G, OFEL 26, CERF 9/2006, Optigen Clear
 OFA Cardiac
 Dam: Can CH Sunnydaze Supernatural
 OFA 54G, OFEL 24, CERF 9/2006, Optigen Clear
 Litter: 4 BF, 2 BM
 Contact: Linda Maffett (360) 961-5269
 Email: SunnydazeLabradors@hotmail.com Bellingham, WA
 Listed 1/7/07, 3/28/07

Litter born 3/8/07 (Available 2 BF)

Sire: BISS Ch. Sureshot HySpire Impressive
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, ACVO 9/25/06, OFA Heart
 Optigen clear
 Dam: Am/Can Ch ShaRays Fair Emma
 OFA 24E, OFEL 24, CERF 9/26/06
 Litter: 1 YF, 4 BF, 1 BM
 Contact: Marlys Swanson (360) 658-7604
 Email: MLSwanson@verizon.net Marysville, WA
 Listed 1/9/07, 4/11/07

Litter born: 3/19/07 (Available: 1CF, 1CM)

Sire: BISS Ch SR Belgairn Pictionary RN JH WC
 OFA 29E OFEL 29, CERF 5/12/06, OFA Heart, Optigen
 Normal/Clear
 Dam: Char-Dons A Piece of Tyme
 OFA 24G, OFEL-24, Normal CERF 10/09/2006
 Litter: 5CF, 3CM, 3BF
 Contact: Terry McFadden (480) 834-4138
 Email: mstslabs@msn.com Mesa, AZ
 Listed 3/30/07, 4/11/07

Litter expected 4/5/07 (Available 3 BF, 2 BM)

Sire: Can Ch. Chablais Brookhill Joss
 PennHip 70th%, OFEL 24, ACVO 2/8/07, Optigen Clear
 Dam: Cougar Creek Cliché
 OFA 24F, OFEL, CERF 10/26/06, OFA Heart
 Litter: 1 YM, 1 YF, 3 BF, 2 BM
 Contact: Cecilie Drege (360) 435-0456
 Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com
 www.cougarcreeklabs.com Arlington, WA
 Listed 2/23/07, 4/11/07

Litter due 6/2/07 (Available Yellows)

Sire: Can/Int. Ch. Himoon The Duke At Clovercreek JH CD
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 9/26/06, OFA Heart, Optigen clear
 Dam: Int. Ch. Interlochen Clovercreek Comet JH
 OFA 24G, OFEL 24, CERF 2/25/07
 Litter: All Yellow expected
 Contact: Kimberly Dotson (253) 538-7972/(253) 278-1116
 Email: clovercreeklabs@msn.com Tacoma, WA
 Listed 4/18/07

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.

Yellow Male 5 years (Not intact)

Beautiful sweet and loving 5 year old neutered male who is house trained, crate trained, obedience trained. Great with children and cats. Has all clearances would make a great 4-H project and wonderful companion.
 Contact Sonya Dudder 360-653-1852
 Email: dolcevitalabs@hotmail.com Marysville, WA
 Listed 3/8/07, 3/23/07

Black Male 3 years (must be neutered)

Very sweet, mellow, small/stocky boy. Is a show champion, has OFA hips, elbows, CERF, cardiac normal, optigen normal. No health or behavior issues known. To a special, loving home only. We love him dearly.
 Contact: Cecilie Drege (360) 435-0456
 Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com
 Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com Arlington, WA
 Listed 3/9/07, 4/11/07

Black Male 3 years (DOB 3/13/04) (neutered)

Funny boy, he climbs on things like a billy goat. He also loves to cuddle. See him cuddling Bea on his webpage. <http://www2.whidbey.com/sharay/Chevy.htm>
 Placing because he is an Optigen carrier.
 OFA hips, elbows, CERF
 Contact: Sharon Edwards (360) 341-1422
 Email: sharay@whidbey.com Langley, WA
 Listed 3/25/07, 4/11/07

Chocolate Male, 9 month old Intact, must be neutered)

Limited registration, parents have hip, elbow and eye clearances no known health issues
 Contact: Gina Smith - 253-875-9502, or Barb Ironside 425-334-1076 Snohomish, WA
 Email: eglrdg@comcast.net or fawnhaven@comcast.net
 Listed 4/11/07

Labrador Retriever Club Of Canada**2007 Annual Specialty**

Location South Surrey, British Columbia
 Working Certificate: July 19, 2007
 Conformation, Junior Handling and Obedience
 July 20 & 21, 2007

Held in conjunction with British Columbia All Retriever Club-Judge TBD-on July 21, '07 & The Sporting Dog Club of British Columbia - David Hopkinson (Rocheby) on July 22, '07

National Website: <http://www.bclab.com/2007NationalSpecialty.htm>
 More Information: Janet Healy email: jandorlabradors@shaw.ca





The Retriever Believer
Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association
Web: www.pslra.org
Sarah Fischer, Editor
2716 Morris Ave S
Renton, WA 98055

**Conformation/Obedience/Junior Showmanship
Sanctioned Match, Saturday, June 16, 2007
Van Doren's Landing Park in Kent
Match entry forms & information available online
<http://pslra.org/uploads/show/shongo07.pdf>**