

THE RETRIEVER BELIEVER

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association

Volume 27, Number 10, October 2010



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President's Message

Recently, while training with a friend, we began discussing our club affiliations and what we hoped our clubs would provide. Clubs provide information. They provide the opportunity to pursue and advance in a chosen interest. They also provide companionship in that interest. In fact, it is to be hoped that when a problem arises, the club will come together, support each other and problem solve. This is what I hope for PSLRA.

I hope that our members will come together to find solutions. In August, there was honest dialog on the chat list concerning the specialty. Our specialty is probably our single most complicated event. It is just for Labradors. It requires a location able to handle the many needs of those traveling to attend. It requires judges selected well in advance. It requires sponsorship and a coordinated effort from many individuals. This is definitely a club Event. Next year's specialty will be our twenty-first. As with any coming of age, we are experiencing growing pains. It is time to gather together, listen to each other and problem solve. A specialty survey will be available soon. It will be announced in the newsletter and available on the chat list as well as our web page. Please take the time to participate in this survey. Even if you have already shared your thoughts, your statistics will be needed to accurately compile the data. If you live out of state, this still concerns you. If you are a PSLRA member who has never attended the specialty, your voice needs to be heard. If you do not have a computer, find a friend who does. Go to our web page, print a copy and mail your survey to a board member. Just take the time to participate. Let's be a club and work together.

Just a quick reminder that the tracking test on Oct. 24, will be held at the Canine Country Club on highway 203 between Carnation and Fall City. Fred Drennan (fmdrennan@netscape.net or 425-486-4293) is chairing this event and will need track layers and drivers. Track layers need to be early risers, as tracks need to be aged before the dogs are tested. However, watching a dog follow your track and find the ultimate prize of a leather glove is hugely rewarding. Also mark your calendar for the fall agility trial on Nov. 6-7 to be held at Argus Ranch. Contact Gail Gegg (mggegg@msn.com or 253-862-0877) to volunteer.

Thank you to Marlys Swanson and Bea Ferguson for putting together the fall WC at Greenleaf's on Sept. 25. Thank you also to MJ Sarbaugh and Nina Mann for another successful health clinic. This is also the time of year that our nominating committee goes to work finding board members. The board approves all budgets, judges' selection, and policy issues. In short, ultimately, the buck stops here. If you would like to be involved in the club at this level, please let it be known. In the meantime, remember to watch for the survey and take the time to respond. The making of a good club is everybody's job. — Terrie

IMPORTANT DATES

**October 24, tracking test,
Canine Country Club,
Fall City, Fred Drennan**

**October 27, Membership/
Board, General Meeting,
Mitzel's in Fife**

**November 6-7, Fall agility
trial, Argus Ranch, Gail
Gegg**

**November 17, Board
Planning Meeting**

Newsletter Information:

Publishing of an article or advertisement

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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. 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 litter advertising must comply with the PSLRA Code of Ethics.

Editor: Fran Seagren

Layout: Chris Roth

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:

Liz Moir, Membership Chair

311 North Forest

Westport, WA 98595

lizzybster@gmail.com

club business

September board meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. on Sept. 22, 2010, by President Terrie Sato, at the Issaquah Highlands Fire Station. Officer/board attendance: Terrie Sato, Ron Perry, Gail Gegg, Stephanie Harris, Nancy Harney, Dave Lawniczak, Brenda Hubbard, Toni Leitao, and Sarah Fischer. Absent: Jill Mahoney, Nina Mann, Mary Jane Sarbaugh and Shelah Frey.

Officer Reports

President: Terrie greeted everyone. She said that a donation had been made to Rescue in memory of Les Bloom by his training group. Les diligently kept the grounds at Greenleaf's farm trimmed and cut so that people could use it as a training ground.

Secretary: AKC acknowledged close-out of the fall hunt test.

Treasurer: Current balance in checking is \$10,125.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to health clinic co-chairs Nina Mann and Mary Jane Sarbaugh for their work on Sunday's health clinic and to Marlys Swanson and Bea Ferguson for co-chairing this weekend's Training Day and Working Certificate.

Committee Reports

Membership: New/renewing member, Jim Charboneau.

Specialty: Toni gave a summary of the show's "post mortem" conducted by the show committee. Linda Maffett is completing a web-based survey to poll members on ideas for improving the specialty. There were compliments on the grounds, local dining, quick set-up and tear down, good hospitality. The Senior Showdown was popular and fun. Parking on the grounds required monitoring, and loading zones needed better signage. Prepaid lunches were a bit of a hassle. The board discussed whether the KISS part of the specialty should be budgeted separately, mostly to show its costs. Gail volunteered to be judges' liaison next year. A specialty chair is needed for next year. A Judges Selection Committee will begin in October to suggest judges for the 2012 and 2013 specialties. As is customary, the previous show chair will chair the committee.

Fall Hunt Test: The test cleared approximately \$2,000, with a few bills left to pay.

Scholarship Committee: The board suggested that the committee raise the GPA requirement to 2.5 and that applicants submit a single page essay (about 200 words) on how Labradors have affected their lives. An award of \$300 should not be split.

Fall Working Certificate: Bea Ferguson and Marlys Swanson submitted a budget for the event, which will include a training day before the WC. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the budget.

Tracking Test: No new report. It will be held at Carlson's on October 24. The premium has been mailed.

Fall Agility Trial: Gail said the trial is on track. For entries, there is a link on the PSLRA web site. The lower fees approved by the board are proving to be popular based on feedback from handlers.

Rescue: Brenda reported that two females are available for adoption. Anyone interested should contact her or Edith Bryan.

HRT Judges Selection Committee:

Members include Fred Drennan, Jean Fowler, Chuck Hilton, Julie Germano, Anne Swindeman, and Terrie Sato. Ron Perry will chair. Ron distributed (1) a list of AKC requirements for HRT judges; (2) a new draft of committee guidelines; and (3) a list of HRT judges in WA, ID, OR, and MT. The committee has begun to review the list in order to pick judges for next years two hunt tests.

Old Business

Specialty Survey: The survey should be available online in October.

Merchandise: Nina sent a request to the board to suggest a price tag for navy blue polos with the club logo. \$20 was suggested. It was moved, seconded and approved to donate any kids-sized merchandise in inventory to the Scholarship Committee.

Master National Recognition: It was moved, seconded, and approved to give club pins to all members who had qualified a dog to go to this year's Master National Hunt Test.

New Business

Master National Business Meeting: Ron asked for the board’s input on two items to be voted on at the annual business meeting. (1) Region 4 judge for the 2011 Master National: Dave Illias or Wendy Pennington. The board suggested voting for Wendy. As an extra judge, the Region 4 judge nominee was Jim Morris, the only one meeting the selection criteria. (2) A proposed amendment to the MN Constitution would allow professional handlers to judge in the future. The proposal came from Umpqua Retriever Club, Rainier Hunting Retriever Club, and PSLRA. The board recommended an affirmative vote.

Nominating Committee: Terrie announced the membership of the committee: Cindy Freeman, chair, Jan Palumbo, and Dave Lawniczak. Chantel Nahoopii will be an alternate.

Other

Google Ad: Stephanie and Toni will continue to check out options for advertising the club web site on Google.

Future Meetings: The next meeting will be a general membership meeting and is scheduled for October 27 at Mitzel’s Restaurant in Fife. The November board meeting will be held on November 17.

Research Donation: Terrie urged members to start thinking about which research project should receive a donation from the club.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



Quarterly General Meeting on October 27

Our South-end Quarterly General meeting will be Wednesday, Oct 27, 6:00 p.m. at Mitzel’s in Fife. Mitzel’s is a short distance from the I-5 freeway at exit 137. Following are directions:

Take I-5 to exit 137 in Fife.

—Coming from the north: At the end of the exit ramp, turn right and go one block to the stoplight at Pacific Highway E. Turn right and in less than a block take another right turn into Mitzel’s.

—Coming from the south: Take the left lane of the exit ramp (to 54th Ave E./Hwy 99) so that you cross over the freeway. Then stay in the right lane and turn right at the stoplight at Pacific Highway E. Turn right and in less than a block take another right turn into Mitzel’s.

October 2010						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2010						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2010						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- Oct 24 Tracking Test (Fred Drennan)
- Oct 27 Board & membership meeting
- Nov 6-7 Fall Agility Trial (Kristi Clark)
- Nov 17 Board Planning Meeting
- Dec 11 Holiday Party (Brenda Hubbard et al.)

Hypothyroidism In Labrador Retrievers – A Diagnosis To Keep In Mind

Here are a few scenarios:

- Your dog is getting older and is slower and lazier now, but you figure it is just due to her arthritis. Pain medications help some, but she just doesn't move around like she used to and doesn't play anymore with the other dogs in your kennel/house.
- Your dog has gained weight. You have reduced his food volume and even tried the diet food the veterinarian recommended, but the weight stayed the same. He barely eats a cup of food a day and doesn't really desire more food. You tried to exercise him more, but he doesn't want to jog/walk with you (or gives up and lies down in the middle of the walk) so you figure it is a losing battle to lose weight on him since he won't exercise due to the obesity.
- The once thick, nice coat has slowly gotten thin, especially on your dog's sides by his waist. The skin may also be flakey and has an odor. He may also be more prone to itching and allergies. The veterinarian has diagnosed seborrhea and given you a special shampoo for the skin oil and flakes. You have tried several diets from premium dog food, home-cooked diet, and raw diet, and even added omega fatty acids with fish oils in a vitamin supplement, and still the coat looks awful. You figure the dog's conformation show days are over.
- A combination of these scenarios.

If this sounds familiar about one of your dogs, there is a possibility your dog is suffering from hypothyroidism. Hypothyroidism is a condition where the thyroid glands are not putting out enough thyroid hormone that the body needs. Dogs, like people, can develop this condition and this is not an uncommon condition in dogs. Retrievers (Goldens and Labradors) seem to have a higher incidence of hypothyroidism than some other breeds, but any breed including mix breeds, can develop this disease.

The thyroid glands are a pair of glands that sit on each side of the trachea (windpipe) in the middle of one's neck (any species). The hormone they put out influences one's metabolism, and thus energy and skin and hair health. It can also influence fertility. So when there is too little output (various reasons this happens and some of it is still speculative), metabolism is low and caloric need is lower than normal leading to weight gain and tiredness. Depending what species you are dealing with, the doctor tests either T4 levels (the circulating hormone) or a panel of T4, TSH (something the pituitary in the brain puts out to tell the thyroid to release thyroid hormone), and other precursors to the hormone. Personally I mostly screen dogs by doing a T4 level since it is cheaper than the panel and quicker. If the T4 is low and the signs match, I try supplementing with the hormone (the medicine is cheap and, if the dog is truly hypothyroid, is given and needed for the rest of the dog's life). If T4 is normal and has signs consistent with hypothyroid, I may then do the panel. There is also a condition where either certain drugs (cortisone and Phenobarbital, as examples) or diseases will suppress the thyroid hormone and you would probably not supplement since this is not a permanent condition (or the main issue), but that is something I won't go into here now (your veterinarian is aware of these issues).

When putting a dog on thyroid supplementation, you are not giving some artificial drug but the hormone the body needs to function properly (I have had this conversation periodically with my clients since I practice acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine along with conventional medicine). Your veterinarian will want to retest the T4 level after putting your dog on the medicine three or so weeks later to make sure the dog is at the right dosing level. There is a normal T4 range where one aims for the middle level of the range. Over supplementation (too high T4 level) is bad in that it will stress the organs over time (heart rate racing, agitation, increased drinking and urinating, ravenous appetite, getting too lean, etc) and give too little supplementation (below normal levels) and you have not resolved the dog's hypothyroid signs

There are instances where the T4 level comes back very low normal and the signs really match hypothyroidism and there are no diseases or drugs that should be interfering with the dog's levels. Then I will do low dose supplementation (vs. the full recommended dose per weight), and recheck signs and T4 levels in three weeks. Remember any laboratory's normal T4 range is an average normal range, and not everyone falls within averages. A dog (and person as I have had some clients admit this happened with them) can be symptomatic at very low normal range because they have a greater individual need. If this is what is happening, the dog will show improvement in the concerning signs at the three week recheck and not signs of excessive supplementation. If no signs have improved at all, we stop the supplementation and look elsewhere.

With thyroid supplementation, the energy level, appetite, and weight will start to respond within the three weeks, but the skin/coat issues take months to resolve. It took months (or years) for the skin/coat to deteriorate with lack of the hormone, and so it will take time for a new coat and skin layer to grow in that benefited from the correct hormone level.

Hypothyroidism can come about due to a variety of factors. Auto-immune and immune-mediated disease can damage the thyroid. Possibly chemicals and environmental factors may play a role. As with a lot of medicine, we do not understand every disease fully, yet. It is felt there can be a genetic factor in some breeds, including Labradors, so if you find down the line several puppies of a litter

have been diagnosed as hypothyroid, you may want to reconsider repeating that breeding. OFA has a genetic testing/registry for hypothyroidism; I have yet to have someone send into that and I am not sure yet how well it works for screening out for the hereditary factors. It has been out for a while and not pushed in circles outside of OFA like the hip registry is, but then it took a few decades of selective breeding with the OFA screening to see less hip dysplasia now than 25 years ago (polygenetic factors, which means more than one set of genes involved, take a long time to breed out of lines). Time proves anything to either be beneficial or not.

So when I see an older dog come into my clinic referred for acupuncture for arthritis or skin issue that fits one of the above scenarios, or one of my regular clients, I make sure they have had a recent thyroid level check (T4 on the thyroid panel). You would be surprised how much better a dog can deal with its arthritis if its thyroid levels are in the normal range. Clients see their pet become almost like their old playful selves again. And if their levels are normal on the test, well then we move onto that diet or other treatments for their problems. Not every dog with obesity is hypothyroid, and not every dog with a skin issue is hypothyroid, but if they are and you are not treating the hypothyroidism, you will not make good headway clearing up their issues.

Michelle Schraeder, DVM, MEd, FAAVA, Bellingham, WA

Owner of "Rollie, the Conehead in my younger years," Applejax Sir Walter Raleigh TDX, RE, and various AKC agility titles; and "Bones," Sharay Buckley Bone-A-Parte, TD, RE, and his own AKC agility titles

PS - Neither of them has developed hypothyroidism and both are 9 years of age.



2010 Fall WC

by Marlys Swanson

Our judges for the day were Kristi Clark and Ron Perry. They did a fantastic job of setting up a fair test and made it enjoyable for those running their dogs. We had a total of 21 runs and of these we had 10 qualifiers. Congratulations!

A special thank you to our wonderful gunners who did a great job, Brad Aker and Chuck Hilton. This is the second year running for Brad to gun at the fall WC. Laura was going to gun for us this weekend, but, unfortunately, Laura hurt her back and wasn't able to gun. Fortunately, Chuck was available and made quite a team with Brad. Thanks to Harvey Hazen for being prepared to be a back up gunner if needed. It was great knowing you were there to help.

I would also like to send a thank you to Terrie Sato, Sharon Hilton and Darlene Pado who provided coaching for the training sessions prior to the WC. Great job, ladies. Oh, and Ron provided the intro at the beginning of the day. Kawai Nahoopii set up a table to sell muffins and drinks for those participating. All profits will go to support our Juniors—a wonderful cause. Thanks for supporting them.

Thank you to Brenda and Gary Hubbard, Chantel and Kawai Nahoopii, Laura Berger and Toni Leiato for taking photos. There were many who helped throughout the day whenever asked. I sincerely hope I don't leave anyone out. Apologies if I do. Bea Ferguson and I chaired this event, but I feel Ron Perry was crucial to putting this event together. Ron found the birds, picked up the equipment and returned it to the hunt trailer. Ron, I can't tell you how much Bea and I appreciate all this help. You make chairing this event so easy.

As you can see it truly takes a huge team to put on these events and we couldn't do it without all the help we get. Also, thank you to the board for supporting these types of events. I understand there are a couple of new members that will be signing up. Great news! Congratulations to all the qualified. It was fun watching all the smiles on everyone's faces when you reached your goal.

Qualifiers	Registered Name	Call Name
Chantel Nahoopii	Himoon's Facing Future At Koa	Iz
Morris Ferguson	B-Mor's Artesian Spring Water	Rubee
Sharmin Dominke	Shadowland's Pause For Applause at Tristar	Sidney
(Golden)		
Sharmin Dominke	Valor's Jack Of All Trades at Tristar	Jackson
(Golden)		
Maurita Motland	MacHaven's Pepper Jack Chez	PJ
Greg Fulwider	Blackthorn's Pure Infatuation	Crush
Susie Johns	Evenlight Ghost Of A Chance	Tigger
Tamaria Hartman	MyKiss Rebate Floats R Boat	Reba
Darlene Pado	Can CH Fawnhaven Mischief Maker Delphi SH, AM/Can CD, RN, Can. JH, AM/Can. WC, Can WCI, CGC	Murphy
Darlene Pado	Can CH Reimur's Juz Fulla Myself SH RN Can JH Can WC	Fergus

Braggs

Our black boy, Strider, received his MACH 2 at Marymoor Park. This title is achieved by having 20 perfect days for 20 Double Qs and 750 points. These points are the number of seconds under the standard course time as determined by the judge. He had such an outstanding weekend that he qualified in every run this weekend (total of six runs) to achieve two more Double Qs toward his MACH3! He is now, MACH2 Windycanyon's Dark Ranger CD RA JH OF.

My Dreammeyers Chocolate Addiction, Addi, earned her first UKC hunt test title, HR, in the UKC at Pepper's with qualifying scores both on Saturday and Sunday in Finished. Finished is the top level in hunt tests for UKC. Addi also received her Excellent Standard title and her Excellent Fast title at Marymoor Park. Addi is now Dreammeyer Chocolate Addiction SH AX OAJ XF HR.— Submitted by Cheri Levine

RWD and BOS Sweeps. Sunnydaze Playing With Fire, Arson, handled by Linda Maffett



B-Mor's Rise-N-Shine, Hannah, received her Junior Hunter title at the August hunt test. I am so proud of her. Hannah passed four out of four to get her title. Hannah is bred, owned and loved by Bea Ferguson.

On Sept. 21, Katie and Callie earned Grand Champion for the Junior Age Group (third to fifth grade) in obedience, so they were invited back to compete against the other Grand Champions of the 12 days of competition at the State Fair in Puyallup.

Katie was nervous but you could not tell. She and Callie again performed awesomely with a score of 196 and earned the title of State Grand Champion 2010 for the State of Washington Junior Age Group.

I think Chris and I were more excited than Katie. Katie has done all the obedience training with Callie. So now they are on to Novice—which is comparable to AKC CD.

Thank you for letting us share our brag! Submitted by the very proud parents of Katie and Callie—Kimberly and Chris Dotson.

Jerry is now Can Ch Fawnhaven Tribute To ShaRay JH. He finished his Can CH at Osoyoos Lake on Sept. 11 and 12. Jerry was bred by Sharon and Ray Edwards and is owned by Don and I.

Henry, Fawnhaven One Of A Kind, got his second JH wing at the Loon Lake HR test and his third JH wing at the Sand & Sage hunt test. Henry is co-bred and co-owned by Rose Goche and us and is trained and handled in the field by Chuck and Sharon Hilton.—Submitted by Barb Ironside

Winroc Walking on Air, Corey, OA OAJ NAC finished her AKC Open Agility and Open Jumpers titles and her NADAC Novice Agility Certificate, all first place Qs.

Winroc Racey Rosalie, Rosie, AX, MXJ, OF, RN, EAC, O-EJC, NATCH-Tunnelers, O-WV-E, TG-N, HP-N, NCC, P1SNK, P1GAMB, Pet Partner placed first in Elite Jumpers (NADAC agility), running 6.52 yards per second, the fastest time of any qualifying dog in Jumpers.

Corey (21 months) and Rosie (7 years) are trained and handled by Kate Schottman, loved by Kate Schottman and Phyllis Miller, and bred by Lee Foote.—Submitted by Kate Schottman

Brag from Helena, Mont., submitted by Barb Ironside

Jerry—Can Ch Fawnhaven Tribute To ShaRay JH—four point major and two Rally Novice legs (second place both days)—bred by Sharon and Ray Edwards, owned by Don and I.

Kelly - Fawnhaven Celtic Woman O'Reimur RN JH—4 point major—bred and owned by Darlene Pado, Don and me.



BCLRC Saturday August 21, Best In Sweepstakes, Sunnydaze J Walkin', JJ, handled by 5 year old Olivia Maffett.



BCLRC Sunday August 22, Best In Sweepstakes, Sunnydaze J Walkin', JJ, handled by 5 year old Olivia Maffett.

Happiness is a perfect hunt test

by Fran Seagren

The weather was about perfect for our August hunt test. Something that just doesn't happen often enough for our tests. It was not too warm, a little cloudy, a small breeze now and then, perfect.

Our gunners worked as a "gunning team" like I've seldom, if ever, witnessed before. They were astoundingly accurate and their experience was obvious. I can't thank them enough for running safe, well-coordinated, first-class shooting, gun stations. The volunteers and judges from our club were the best. If we had a "Best Volunteer" award, it would go to Richard Ramay. Richard turned up to help on Friday for set-up and he worked like we were paying him holiday wages! Richard came back both days of the hunt test arriving before I got there each day. He worked non-stop loading, hauling, setting up and tearing down equipment. He also helped shoot in the gun station. Richard's hard work and great sense of humor landed him in first place for the "Best Volunteer-ever" Award – if we had such an award. We also had great kids working for us. I'm sure there must have been SOMETHING that went wrong; I just don't remember what it could have been.

It was nice to hear lots of laughing, as well as serious discussion at the various stakes. A hunt test—where the time and training we put into our dogs is literally "put to the test"—is pretty impressive to watch, especially if you've never been to one before. One of the nice features of hunt tests is that they aren't a competition. It's a pass or fail test, and we, as handlers, owners, and trainers, get to (honestly) cheer for our friends. But, the very best part for me is watching our retrievers do what they were born to do—retrieve. You can see the sheer joy on their faces as they're coming to the line. Even the very well behaved dogs (I've never had one, myself) are working to control their excitement and anticipation of retrieving birds. I've heard it said the reason our dogs are "so high" at hunt tests is that they pick up our nervousness as handlers. But, I'm not so sure that's how it works. I'm beginning to think we pick up their excitement. And, then we get nervous.

We're at the line with a dry mouth and a jittery stomach and we're wondering, Why are we doing this? But here we are, with our dog sitting (or in my case "sort of" sitting) next to us waiting for the game to start. So, we take a breath and signal the judges. And, then, our dog does everything right—just like as we trained for. Suddenly, we're having fun and at that moment, nothing feels better. My dog and I did it as a team.

Most people will agree that training is a lot more fun than running in a hunt test. But, if we didn't "test" our dogs, why train? And, for those that hunt, there's everything to be gained by that extra field training that is required to pass a hunt test. There's no substitute for a well-trained hunting dog. And I guess that's how hunt tests got started. Somebody told somebody else that they had a better hunting dog . . . and somebody said, "prove it" . . . and the rest is history.

I hope everyone that came out to our hunt test enjoyed the weekend. I got to meet some new dogs and some new people. I laughed and talked a lot. I got to watch dogs run all three levels of the tests. After all these years, it was as impressive as the first time I watched a hunt test— and got hooked.

Thank you to every single person that helped Rhonda and me put on the August hunt test.



Fran Seagren with her new friend Tsuki at the Junior hunter stake. "You should have seen the judges faces when I got to the line. I tried to convince them Tsuki was a silver lab with a docked tail. They didn't buy it." Tsuki, the Weimaraner, is owned and loved by Gail Gegg, our PSLRA treasurer."

Time to put names on the plaques

As usual, PSLRA members earned a lot of new titles for their dogs in 2010. Here is the list of those who qualified for All-Around and Versatility awards. We will be purchasing the plaques right after Thanksgiving and presenting them as usual at the annual banquet. If anyone earns another title this fall, please let Nina Mann know before then so the additional title can be shown on your plaque. One plaque will be awarded to PSLRA member breeders and owners — if you want to buy an additional one for co-owners or non-member breeders, let us know. Congratulations, everyone! — Nina Mann

PUGET SOUND LABRADOR RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION

A Dog For All Reasons

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

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

2010 All-Around Labrador Awards:

Am/Can CH Cimarron's Star Talk RN WC CGC

bred by Laura Steward, owned by Chantel Nahoopii and Laura Steward

Intl. CH. Fawnhaven's Chantilly of Guns Up - Am/Can. JH, RN

bred by Don and Barb Ironside, owned by Cheri and Don Wildes

Intl. CH. Interlochen's High Ho Silver - MH, Can. MH, RN

bred by Walli Roarke, owned by Cheri and Don Wildes

Can CH Koa's Top Gun CH WC CGC

bred/owned by Chantel and Kawai Nahoopii

CH Niptuck Jumpstart JH RN WC

bred by Becky Jack, owned by Anthony Leitao

CH Riversedge Out Of The Blu RN WC

bred/owned by Sherri Lazaruk

Am.Can.Ch.Sharays Lady Daisy Delight OAJ OA OAP OAJP RE Pet Partner,CGC,WC

bred by Sharon Edwards, owned by Beatrice Ferguson

Int CH ShaRay's With Honor and Joy RN NJP WC

bred by Sharon Edwards and Barbara Sheard, owned by Tim, Shannon and Kerry Edinger and Sharon Edwards

2010 Versatility award:

CloverCreek Winchester JH RA Pet Partner

owned by Sebastian Tindall

In Memoriam

Les Blume passed away on Sept 15, 2010. He was the grounds keeper at Greenleaf's and a Hunt Trial Lab enthusiast. Les was always available to help beginners with their field training.

Members of his training group donated a \$100 to Lab Rescue in memory of Les Blume. The donation is made in his honor to help foster the breed that Les loved and admired.

The donation was made by:

Dixie Humble	Terrie Sato
Kris Hansson	Marilyn Mark
Matt Nugent	Don Aker
Sandy Clark	Bente Kongsore

Specialty Judges Selection Committee

We will be starting the selection processes for our 2012 judging panel soon. If you are interested in joining the selection committee and being a part of the selection process, please contact Jennifer Hajny — blutopfarms@hotmail.com or 509-859-2241. The committee will begin meeting around Oct. 15. Please do not assume that if you have been on the committee in the past, you are still on it. You must sign up with Jennifer before Oct. 15 to be on the committee. We encourage you to take part in selecting judges for our Specialty and let your voice be heard!

LIST OF LITTERS BORN OR EXPECTED AS OF 9/28/10 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 or Penn Hip clearance must not be bred before the age of 12 months, or 18 months with an OVC clearance, 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 Jill if you need a Litter Listing form, to be used for ALL litters.**
 - All Breeders must update their litters each week with Jill Mahoney via email (mahoney@wwdb.org) 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 **Jill Mahoney, PO Box 7454, Covington WA 98042**.
 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 Jill Mahoney) to show your appreciation. These donations will all be used for Lab Rescue.

LITTER NOTICE FORM (This information will also be available from Jill Mahoney)

Litter Born: 5/4/2010 (4 BM Available)

Sire: Skyfire Cimarron On The Run
OFA25G, OFEL25N, OFA Heart, Cerf 3/2010
Dam: Harbortop Skyfire Oughta Be Tops
OFA28G, OFEL28N, OFA Heart, Cerf 9/09
Contact: Stephanie Harris
Litter: 1BF, 9BM
Email: stephanie@skyfirelabs.com
Website: www.skyfirelabs.com
Listed: 5/29/2010, 8/25/2010

Litter Born: 08/05/2010 (3BM, 2BF, 1CF Available)

Sire: Ch. Erinhill's Guinness Stout
OFA24G, OFEL24N, OFA Heart Clear, CERF 10/09
Dam: Skyfire's The V Stands For Vendetta
OFA28F, OFEL25N, OFA Heart Clear,
CERF 9/2010
Contact: Jane Brugge 360 456-1799 Days/Evenings
Stephanie Harris stephanie@skyfirelabs.com
Litter: 4BM, 2CM, 2BF, 1CF
Email: highnoonfarms@wildblue.net
Website: www.highnoonfarms.com
Listed: 09/28/2010

Litter Born: 06/01/2010 (2BM Available)

Sire: Blackthorn's Yellow Jacket O'Spiritwood
OFA24G, OFEL24N, CERF 4/2010
Dam: Sunrise Desert Rose
OFA30G, OFEL30N, CERF 2/2010
Contact: Katie Somers 509-398-1470 D / 509-787-6093 E
Litter: 3BM, 2YM, 4YF
Email: Katie_somers@msn.com
Listed: 08/11/2010, 9/28/2010

Litter Born: 06/22/2010 (3YM Available)

Sire: Ch. Gaetacreek Joyfull Jasper
OFA24G, OFEL24N, CERF
Dam: Somersun Sharp Shooter
OFA24G, OFEL24N, CERF 9/09
Contact: Jessica Somers Harper
509-398-5719 Days/Evenings 509-710-3615 Evenings
Email: jessicaharper@eagles.ewu.edu
Litter: 5YM, 3YF
Listed: 09/07/2010, 9/28/2010

Litter Born: 07/08/2010 (1BM, 1YF)

Sire: BISS Ch. Nipntuck Stocking Stuffer
OFA24E, OFEL24N, Heart ECHO Normal,
CERF 9/09
Dam: Keesha Annes Heart of Gold
OFA29G, OFELN, CERF 6/2010
Contact: Sharyn Langston 360-794-7040 H
Litter: 1BM, 3BF, 1YM, 4YF
Email: sharynlangston1143@hotmail.com
Listed: 07/25/2010, 8/25/2010

Litter Expected: 10/1/10 (All Chocolates)

Sire: Int. Ch. Aristes' Rusty Hudson of Cougar Creek
OFA24G, OFEL24N, CERF 09/09, Heart Normal,
Optigen Normal, CNM Normal,
Dam: Char-Don Shelby of Cougar Creek
OFA24F, OFEL24N, CERF 3/2010, EIC Clear
Contact: Cecilie Drege
Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com
Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com
Listed: 09/07/2010

Litter Expected: 10/1/10 (All Yellow Litter)

Sire: Somersun Dangerous Snow Strom
OFA24G, OFEL24N, CERF 9/09
Dam: Blu Top's Shiloh Abiding Peace
OFA24G, OFEL24N, Heart Normal, CERF 7/2010
Contact: Sandy Mowry 208-664-7316
Email: aslan9@roadrunner.com
Listed: 08/25/2010

Litter Expected: 10/1/10 (All Yellows)

Sire: Am./Can. Ch. Gingerbred Celestial Thunder
OFA24G, OFEL24N, CERF 09/09,
Heart Echo Normal, Optigen Normal, EIC Clear
Dam: Int. Ch. Cougar Creek Smooth Jazz
OFA24E, OFEL24N, ACVO 10/09, Heart Normal,
Optigen Clear by Parentage
Contact: Cecilie Drege
Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com
Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com
Listed: 09/07/2010

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 prospective 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 Female 2 ½ years (Intact)

Very loving and sweet girl. Lacy will be a lap lady if let to be. Will do well with other animals and kids. Is somewhat timid. Micro-chipped and current on vaccinations. Will need to be spayed.

Contact: Bruce or Mary Robinson 509-968-3144

Email: robinsonfamily@fairpoint.net

Listed: 08/25/2010

Chocolate Female 11 months (must be spayed)

Beautiful girl, lots of energy, sweet, happy temperament. Healthy, crate trained, travels well, and leash trained. Micro chipped, has all vaccinations, eye clearances, champion parents.

Contact: Cecilie Drege

Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com

Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com

Listed: 09/07/2010, **9/24/2010**

Yellow Female 1 year (intact/must be spayed)

Pretty girl, some basic obedience training, crate trained, micro chipped, vaccinated, eye clearance, champion parents.

Contact: Cecilie Drege

Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com

Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com

Listed: 09/07/2010, **09/28/2010**

Chocolate Female 12 months (intact/must be spayed)

Very beautiful, sweet, avid retriever. Crate trained, travels well, some basic obedience training started. Micro-chipped, all shots, eye clearance. Parents have all health clearances. A happy and healthy girl.

Contact: Cecilie Drege

Email: cougarcreeklabs@peoplepc.com

Website: www.cougarcreeklabs.com

Listed: **09/28/2010**





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Web: www.pslra.org
Fran Seagren, Editor
17816 SE Green Valley Rd
Auburn, WA 98092

**Tracking test, Oct. 24, Canine
County Club, Fall City—can you
help out? contact Fred Drennan
at fmdrennan@netscape.net**

Watch for PSLRA Specialty survey on our web site.

General Meeting, October 27, Mitzel's in Fife.