

# The Retriever Believer

Monthly Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association

Volume 36, Number 4, April 2020



## Social Distancing ≠ Physical Distancing



I'm not so sure we should be using the term, "social distancing." Humans are, by nature, social creatures (some more than others, I tend to be more introverted myself). Many of our coping mechanisms require the engagement of another human, such as conversations to express feelings/concerns or tactile involvement such as a hug or pat on the back or shoulder. Forcing humans to undergo a stay-at-home quarantine demand is not natural, causes increased stress in an already complicated time and, I fear, will have its own sad repercussions. It is a necessary action to curb disease spread, but in the meantime, we must ensure we take care of ourselves so we can see that each and every one of us survives this pandemic. Not just the virus, but also the emotional, psychological and financial complications that accompany it.

Reach out to that friend you haven't heard from in a while, arrange a Zoom video meeting with a group of your dog show friends so you can actually see each other and talk (take it a step further and share a virtual happy hour!), put a post on Facebook and offer children to read to your dog via Skype, order online and support a small, independent business...be creative! You can still "touch" a human without actually touching. So, stop it with the "social" distancing (yes, still embrace "physical" distancing) and have a positive effect on your family, friends and neighbors today. We need each other more than ever.

Finally, get out with those dogs and play. Throw the bumper, ball, perhaps a basic stick. It doesn't really matter to a Lab. They are experts in finding joy in the smallest things. Learn from them...*and be happy.*

*Kris*

### resource contacts

#### LRC Western Time Zone Coordinator:

Barbara Gilchrist  
Blackthorn@q.com 360-273-5462

#### Field Chair: Jim Olson

cindyto@q.com 253-833-8739

**Litter Listings:** Rebecca Bloom  
litterlisting@pslra.org

**Webmaster:** webmaster@pslra.org

**Membership:** membership@pslra.org

**Labrador Rescue:** Edith Bryan  
e.bryan760@gmail.com

### PSLRA OFFICERS

**President:** Scott Dannaker  
sdannaks843@gmail.com  
425-466-8145

**Vice President:** Jill Mahoney  
Mahoney@wwdb.org  
253-630-4810

**Secretary:** Becky Dannaker  
nipntucklr@gmail.com  
484-429-1272

**Treasurer:** Cindy Olson  
cindyto@q.com  
253-833-8739

### PSLRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Brenda Hubbard** 253-661-9443  
Brooke-lynn@msn.com

**Marcy Johnson** 206-510-3467  
Marcy@soundviewlabradors.com

**Cheri Levine** 425-241-4307  
Cherimlevine@hotmail.com

**Linda Maffett** 360-961-5269  
SunnydazeLabradors@hotmail.com

**Jim Olson** 253-833-8739  
cindyto@q.com

**Rob Parkins** 208-569-5397  
rob@rpoutside.com

**Angela Rogalla** 360-982-1510  
rogalla2@comcast.net

**Terrie Sato** 425-788-6628  
wdsato@cablespeed.com

**Jan Skewes** 360-678-4362  
janskewes@whidbey.com

**Katie Somers** 509-398-1470  
Katie\_somers@msn.com

**Diane Sullenberger** 206-419-8736  
harlequinlabradors@yahoo.com

# Secretary's Minutes

In lieu of meeting minutes, here is an important announcement from Colin Ching and Ben Thompson regarding the use of Jerry's Place for dog training. As you may or may not know, Jerry Leitch is immune compromised at this time and we all want him to stay safe. If you feel like dropping Jerry a card or calling him, he would love to hear from you. Address is: PO Box 790, Monroe, WA 98272. Thanks, Jean Fowler

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Hi All,

*The times are a little crazy so I hope that all of you are safe and well! With the changes and restrictions going on, we wanted to inform you all of a couple of concerns for Jerry and Sheila.*

*1 - Please do not group train, train as a group or congregate with others while on the property until further notice. If you choose to train alone or with other members of your residence please do so but as you all know we are very visible from HWY 203 and while we would like to keep the property available for folks to use we don't want to draw any unwanted attention from passers by. This could lead to multiple undesired results so please keep that in mind and while you may be practicing social distancing it may not appear that way from the road. Please help us pay back the generosity of Jerry and Sheila by not giving anyone cause to question our commitment to adhering to the current restrictions.*

*2 - Last week there was a homeless person sleeping under the eaves of the garage during the middle of the day. Pretty brazen, luckily he moved on fairly quickly and without much incident. This does however bring the subject to the forefront of our minds and we would like to let you all know to keep an eye out for anyone who's "not supposed to be there" and what to do if you spot someone. If you see someone in the act of trespass on the property please call 911 and report the violation. Jerry has a "Criminal Trespass Letter" with the Sheriff's Dept. that allows them to eject trespassers without him being there. The sheriff's department should respond and proceed accordingly. Please reach out to Colin or Ben if the situation arises where you spot someone in the act of trespass after you have notified 911 so that we can support in any way possible.*

*I hope that all of you are staying safe and sane. Here's to hoping for better times to come! Feel free to reach out with emails, calls or texts. We really appreciate if you would pass this message on the applicable folks as there are just too many to do individually.*

Thanks,

Colin Ching  
(425) 330-4228

Ben Thompson  
(307) 761-0235

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Please Submit Articles and Advertisements to:

Kristen Reiter, Editor  
160 W Crescent Harbor Road, Oak Harbor, WA 98277  
Newsletter@PSLRA.org

**Submissions must be received by the editor by the 20th of each month.** Please use "newsletter content" 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.

**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:

**Membership:** membership@pslra.org

# Dilute Genetics



## Dilute genetics ... stud dog owners beware!

Let me share a new story with you stud dog owners. Since the dawning of shipped chilled semen, the process of getting bitches bred has sped up and often times we don't ever lay eyes on the bitches we are breeding. We must now slow down this process - I share my current story in an effort to keep Silvers from creeping further into our bloodlines.

I had a lovely lady contact me who was interested in breeding her chocolate bitch to my chocolate sire. In our emails back and forth, I told her what I required for breeding. She, like so many new would-be breeders with their AKC Labradors on Full Registration, had no clue about all the clearances. I told her what to do and she sent me all the clearances about 6 weeks later, having easily passed her hips/elbows/cardiac/eyes. I had her also send me a copy of her AKC registration papers and a copy of her pedigree, which I would see was hand-written. I then went to find the dogs in the pedigree and some history of who bred this bitch. Things started to get a little fuzzy with my exploration of the pedigree; so after explaining about Silvers and the connection to the dilute gene (although I did not "see" any Silvers in the pedigree), I requested that this woman send in a dilute gene test to Pawprints, which she did immediately.

About two weeks later, the bitch came back as a carrier of the dilute gene ... I told her she could not use our chocolate dog. I felt badly for her, but she did thank me graciously for the "Big Education". I encouraged her NOT to breed her Chocolate bitch. I can only hope she takes my advice and does not breed her bitch elsewhere with an unsuspecting stud dog owner, but I cannot further control what happens.

In short, as reputable breeders we can no longer just accept that the AKC registered bitch that presents to our sires for breeding (who AKC has deemed to present Full Registration papers) and who looks just like a Labrador, should be bred. We must be strict with ourselves and not take the stud fee money but rather slow down the process by doing our own research to ensure with the owners of bitches who use our sires that those bitches are truly 100% Labrador Retriever.

I accept the responsibility for any bitch owner who uses my sires. Would I make my fellow breeder friends who I know personally and who are in the regional Labrador clubs do a dilute test before using my sires? If they have signed a Code Of Ethics - not at this time, but a time may come when we are forced to dilute test all our dogs. I for one am preparing to test all my current breeding stock for the dilute gene. I know there are a few reputable breeders who are ahead of me on this curve and I tip my hat to them.

Thanks for listening,

Barb Gilchrist  
Blackthorn Labradors



# Take Action! Dilute Testing



## *Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.*

*Established 1931*

March 16, 2020

### *President*

Fred Kampo  
1701 Murmuring Waters Ln.  
Oshkosh, WI 54901  
(920) 378-5396

### *Vice President*

Frances Smith DVM, PhD  
5162 Union Lake Road  
Lonsdale, MN 55046  
(507) 744-2284

### *Secretary*

Nancy Brandow  
1117 Main Road  
Bradford, ME 04410  
(207) 356-1353

### *Treasurer*

Madelyn Yelton  
295 Woods Road  
Elkton, MD 21921  
(610) 517-6307

### *AKC Delegate*

Anthony Emilio  
56 Babbitt Hill Road  
Pomfret Center, CT 06259-  
1700  
860-974-1583

The Labrador Retriever Club has been working for years to resolve the spread of the "Silver Retriever" into our gene pool. Silvers have been approved by the AKC for almost 40 years. As we know, AKC registration is based on parentage we could not disprove (at that time) were not pure bred Labradors but now we have the Dilute Genetic Test.

LRC Board Member and Delegate to AKC, Tony Emilio (Tonmar Labs), has been working to disallow these mixed breeds. His goal is to have over a thousand Dilute Test results from pure bred Labs and as many Silvers results as can be obtained to present as evidence to push the AKC into action. The goal is to have these results for the September Delegates meeting.

Just as important as the Clear Dilute test results is the Carrier test results and so if anyone has results showing Carrier results please be sure and include them. If there are lines of communication with anyone you know that would share the results with a little nudging, please feel free to put them in contact with me (Barb Gilchrist at [Blackthorn@Q.com](mailto:Blackthorn@Q.com)).

I have secured a Special Discounted Rate for our Labrador community. Pawprint Genetics is giving us a price of \$48.00 per dog which is a wonderful thing! Starting right now thru August 31st use the Code at Check out DLOCUS to get that special rate. The test is on their website and is called D Locus (Dilute) at [www.Pawprintgenetics.com](http://www.Pawprintgenetics.com). All results need to be sent to Tony in a timely fashion at [Tony@majilly.com](mailto:Tony@majilly.com). Please take this opportunity to let your voices be heard!

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Barbara Gilchrist  
Board Of Directors L.R.C. Inc.

# 2020 Calendar of Events



- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>April 15</b>         | <i>Board Meeting—6:30pm</i><br>Teleconference   |
| <b>May 2 &amp; 3</b>    | AKC Hunt Test<br><b>CANCELLED</b>   |
| <b>May 13</b>           | <i>Board Meeting—6:30pm</i><br>Teleconference   |
| <b>May 16</b>           | <i>Mt. Baker Kennel Club Show</i><br>Lynden, WA<br><b>CANCELLED</b>                       |
| <b>June 19 – 21</b>     | <i>AKC Agility Trial</i><br>Pending further information                                   |
| <b>June 28</b>          | <i>Conformation Fun Day</i><br>Pending further information                                |
| <b>July 15</b>          | <i>Board Meeting—6:30pm</i><br>Teleconference   |
| <b>July 31</b>          | <i>AKC KISS Specialty Show</i><br>Pending further information                             |
| <b>August 1 &amp; 2</b> | <i>Specialty Show and Obedience Trial</i><br>Pending further information                  |
| <b>August 1</b>         | <i>Board and Membership Meeting—6:30pm</i><br>Show grounds—specific area to be determined |

# Calendar of Events

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- August 19**      *Board Meeting—6:30pm*  
Teleconference
- August 22 & 23**      *AKC Fall Hunt Test*  
Jerry's Place and WDFW Cherry Valley Unit  
Pending further information
- September 17**      *Board Meeting—6:30pm*  
Teleconference
- September 20**      *Health Clinic*  
River Dog Canine Coaching  
Pending further information
- October 14**      *Board Meeting—6:30pm*  
Teleconference
- October 17 & 18**      *Wenatchee Kennel Club Shows*  
Wenatchee, WA  
Judges pending AKC approval
- October 31 to  
November 1**      *AKC Fall Agility Trial*  
Pending further information
- November 12**      *Board Meeting—6:30pm*  
Teleconference
- December 17**      *Board Meeting—6:30pm*  
Teleconference

# Supported Entries



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*PSLRA Supported Entry Shows for 2020*

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*May 16, 2020*

*Mt Baker Kennel Club*

*Sweeps: Angela Rogalla*

*Regular Classes: Katie Somers*

*October 17 & 18, 2020*

*Wenatchee Kennel Club*

*Two days of prizes and big changes to the venue.*

*Judging Assignments pending AKC approval*

# Spring Hunt Test



## Notice: PSLRA Spring Hunt Test

As you know the world has changed. As a result, the hunt test committee, in conjunction with the PSLRA Board, will be looking at the May hunt test to determine whether or not we will need to cancel the event this year. We will be considering not only the restrictions placed on us for Covid-19 but also the health/safety of our members/participants and the financial impact to our club. This is an evolving situation which we will be monitoring over the next few weeks.

The test registration is scheduled to open on April 7th and we are planning to have a HT Committee meeting prior to that date to be able to make a decision before the test opens. More to come as this situation continues to evolve.

Be sure to get out with your dogs and enjoy this early spring weather. Remember your “social distancing” and stay healthy.

# Master Amateur Nationals



It is with deep regret that the Board of the Master Amateur Retriever Club has determined that, in the best interest of all participants, the 2020 Invitational in Corning, CA is canceled. The decision is consistent with directives from the State of California regarding the cancelation or restriction on public events.

Entry Express will refund all entry fees. Dogs that have qualified for the 2020 Invitational will have those qualifications carried forward to the next scheduled Invitational. Those that have made reservations should cancel those as quickly as possible to avoid penalties. Questions should be addressed to your regional representatives or to the club at [masteramateurinfo@gmail.com](mailto:masteramateurinfo@gmail.com).

The spread of the corona virus and the uncertainty of risk exposure drove the decision to cancel. While the risk to any individual might be low, we can't ask participants to assume that risk. It is in the interest with an overabundance of caution that the event is being canceled. The Board is looking at alternatives should the risk of exposure be reduced. In the meantime, be safe and take all recommended precautions.

Sincerely,

MARC Board of Directors

# Braggs

Harbortop Misty Mountain Phoenix Firebird BN, CD, RM, RAE, CGC, TKN, TD (AKC & ASCA)



Harbortop Misty Mountain Phoenix Firebird BN, CD, RM, RAE, CGC, TKN, TD (ASCA) added to his titles an AKC TD at Chuckanut Dog Training Association's Tracking Test on March 1, 2020. Phoenix needed to get that TD if he was going to call himself a proper Harbortop dog and he hopes Nina Mann is proud of him 😊.

*Handler/owner: Michelle Schraeder, DVM*

AmCH/Can GCH/Int'l CH Koa's In A New York Minute  
CD RI BN Am/Can JH BCAT CGC



## Best Field Retriever in Group

Madison had fun in Canada at the Sporting Dog Club of BC.

She was Select Bitch from the field dog class and went on to win Best Field Retriever in Group under judge Tabatha Buckley-Bettis.

*Submitted by Chantel Nahoopii*

# Bragg

Can Ch Wyntercreek Blu Top  
I Like My Coffee Black



## Best of Winners

Jenn Hajny and MJ Sarbaugh have a big brag!!!

Can Ch Wyntercreek Blu Top I Like My Coffee Black AKA "Joe" was WD and BOW at CCLRC Specialty last weekend in California. A huge thank you to breeder judge Greg Lynch for such an honor, to Colleen Doll for her handling skills and Linda Maffett who aided in getting him to the shows with Colleen. This was Joe's second AKC major!

# PSLRA Litter Listing



## About the Litter Listing:

- The listing is of litters bred by PSLRA members born or expected as of the date noted.
- All litters listed must conform to the PSLRA [Code of Ethics](#).
- The owner of the Sire or Dam must be a PSLRA member.
- The information is submitted by the Breeder and provided as a service to the public.
- Listings of Breeders and litters on this site are in no way a guarantee or endorsement by PSLRA of any breeder/litter, or any one breeder/litter over another.
- The listing is updated by our Litter Listing Chairperson approximately every two weeks or more frequently if needed.

## Litter Listing as of March 21, 2020

### **Litter Expected: 3/7/2020**

**Available:** Blacks and Yellows Expected

**Sire:** JRL Firebird of Cougar Creek

**AKC:** SR80007509

**Hips** = OFA24 Good, **Elbows** = OFEL24 Normal, **Eyes** = 11/19, **Heart Ausc** = Normal, **prcd/PRA** = Clear, **EIC** = Clear,

**CNM** = Clear, **HNPk** = Carrier, **DM** = Clear, **RD/OSD** = Clear, **SD2** = Clear, **Dilute** = Clear

**Dam:** Cougar Creek Rock Star

**AKC:** SR93206502

**Hips** = OFA30 Good, **Elbows** = OFEL30 Normal, **Eyes** = 11/19, **Heart Ausc** = Normal, **HNPk** = Clear

**Contact:** Cecilie Drege

**Email:** [cougarcreeklabs@frontier.com](mailto:cougarcreeklabs@frontier.com)

**Website:** [www.cougarcreek-k9.com](http://www.cougarcreek-k9.com)

**Date Listed:** 12/17/2019



# PSLRA Older Dog Listing



## About the Older Puppies & Other Dogs Listing:

- Listing of available Older Puppies & Other Dogs offered by PSLRA members who are either the breeder or current owner. Other Dogs listed Do Not need to conform to the PSLRA Code of Ethics.
- Prospective buyers are encouraged to ask about the needs of Other Dogs, and why the breeder/owner have decided to place them.
- Many of the dogs listed have basic obedience and are house trained.
- Listings of Older Puppies & Other Dogs is in no way a guarantee or endorsement by PSLRA of any breeder, or any one breeder over another.
- The listing is updated by our Litter Listing Chairperson approximately every two weeks or as often as needed.

## Older Dog Listing as of March 21, 2020

### Friday

- **8 Month Old – Black Male**
- **Spay/Neuter Status:** Intact
- **Health Information:** Up to date on all vaccines.
- **General Information:** Friday has the classic sweet and willing Labrador temperament. He is very kind and gentle. He is house & crate trained.
- **Please Note:** Friday is not a rescue. He is being sold to an approved home.



### Sage

- **2.5 Year Old – Yellow Female**
- **Spay/Neuter Status:** Spayed
- **Health Information:** Up to date on all vaccines, and deaf; responds well to hand signals.
- **General Information:** Sage embodies all the sweet, happy and willing attributes of a good Labrador Retriever. She is a house dog and is potty, crate and leash trained. Sage is deaf and responds willingly to hand signals. She would do well in a home with another dog to pal around with.

**Please Note:** Sage is not a rescue, and is being sold to an approved home.

**Contact:** Lucy Isaacson-Logen

**Phone:** 206.423.6506

**Email:** [himoonlab.com](mailto:himoonlab.com)

**Website:** [himoonlabradors.com](http://himoonlabradors.com)

**Date Listed:** 2/08/2020





The Retriever Believer  
Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association  
Web address: [www.pslra.org](http://www.pslra.org)  
Kristen Reiter Editor  
160 W Crescent Harbor Road  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Celebrate  
Easter  
with the  
best kind  
of  
chocolate!

