

The Retriever Believer

Monthly Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association

Volume 36, Number 5, June 2020



Find the Joy in a One-Eared Rabbit

I don't know about the rest of you, but for me, this May will go down as one of the WORST months I've had the displeasure of suffering through. In these mere thirty-one days, I buried my sixteen-year-old, home-bred Labrador, Flash. I was involved in a vehicular collision that

took the life of the motorcyclist responsible—I was with him when he took his last breaths and his memorial at the end of my driveway will be a constant, life-long reminder of our brief and tragic encounter. I buried two still-born puppies in an already meager litter of four. My brother died and resurrected a slew of buried emotions and memories along with his passing. As an Appaloosa Horse Club national Director, I had to vote to cancel our prestigious National and Youth World Show, disappointing ApHC members across the nation. I watched as every single one of my vacation trail rides and dog shows scheduled this year thus far were canceled, one after another after another. I'm sure there are

many of you who can relate, at least to the last experience on my list. I found throughout the month that I was getting rather skilled at feeling sorry for myself and wallowing in grief and "why me's." But then...I saw the rabbit.

This little guy is no ordinary lagomorph. He was one of last year's offspring, one of whom I'd gotten acquainted over the summer months, one who was easily identified as he was missing his left ear. It wasn't a birth defect. Prior to his injury, I couldn't discern him from any of the other rabbits enjoying the abundant clover in my horse pastures. One day, this changed. My juvenile friend hopped out as I fed my horse, his left ear shredded and mostly missing, dried blood encrusted along the ruffled and tattered edges and smeared on his head. Since he was a wild rabbit, there was not much I could do but monitor his healing from afar. He healed well and the last time I saw him was late last fall, completely healed and sporting a single ear as if all rabbits only had one.

I was out feeding the horses yesterday, and who should cross my path but my little friend, Bun Gogh. Here was living proof that while we may encounter horrible, devastating experiences, we are still here in this world. Yes, we may carry the scars, but we are stronger for surviving the turmoil. We can sit and feel sorry for ourselves for what we've lost or cry about how life has disfigured us (literally or figuratively), or we can stop licking our wounds and realize that the world is still full of clover and other bounty worth taking.

And we can still do it...even if we only have one ear.

Kris

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Secretary's Minutes

PSLRA meeting 5/20/20

Started at 6:34

Marcy, Scott, Rob, Cindy, Jim, Becky, Brenda, Terrie, Jill, Diane

Cindy treasurers report. Donations to rescue in Joni Willings name. Need to send thank you note. Becky or MJ. Questions about where to hold our money.

Spring hunt test cancelled

Supported entry at Lynden cancelled

Specialty still planning, using new rules. Obedience needs fewer stewards, etc. Committee is being careful about any expenses that can't be refunded.

Need to remember to invite Laura Steward to the Zoom meeting for health clinic info next time.

Agility trial rescheduled for Aug 22. Need to decide by July whether to open entries or cancel.

Friday July 24 the fall hunt test needs to make decision because entries will open July 28. We don't want to be refunding checks if we can avoid it.

Wenatchee supported entry, need to find a sweepstakes judge.

Discussion about board approval for all expenses. Would be more efficient if committees could come up with a budget for their events and let the board approve that rather than each item. Cindy is able to give line-item budgets from last year for them to work towards.

Cindy will send last years budgets to all the committee chairs, names are listed on the website.

Long discussion regarding the safety of holding the specialty.

Adjourned at 7:31.

Submitted by PSLRA Secretary, Becky Dannaker



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

Quarantine Fun!

Color-a-Lab

from WearWagRepeat.com



Share your finished creation on social media #WearWagRepeat

Sad Farewells



Hope Nicole Roberts

May 23, 1968 - April 19, 2020

Sleep Softly, Rest Peacefully

PSLRA member, Hope Roberts, passed away April 19th at Harborview after battling stage 4 liver disease for the last 13 months

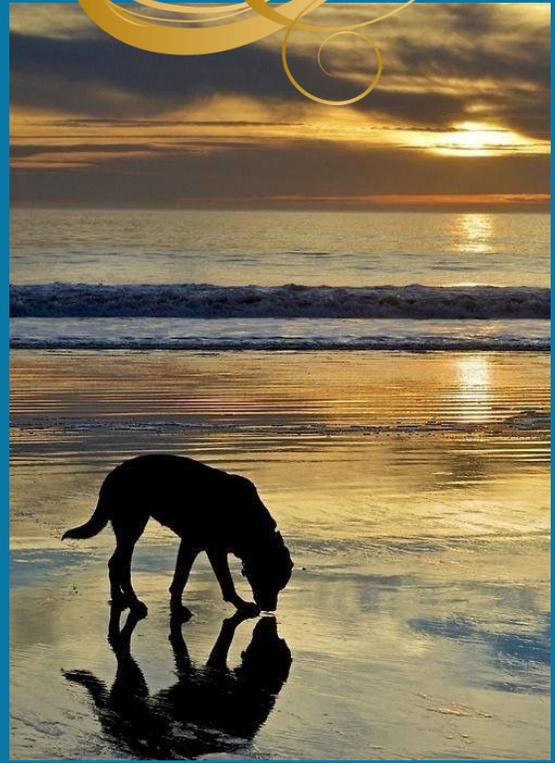
Hope had been a member of PSLRA since 2006 and volunteered her time and services in our educational booths at both the Sportsman's Show and the Seattle Kennel Club Dog Show. PSLRA members have ensured that her two lovely Labradors have found their ways to loving, caring homes.

Haileta Willing

“Joni”

“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.”

Thucydides



I am writing about one of the greatest generation classy ladies. One of the best of the great ones. It has taken me a while to put my thoughts and memories to words. There is so much to say about Haileta Willing, “Joni”. It is mind boggling and a bit incomprehensible to hear what all people of her generation went through. Born in the 1920’s she missed the Spanish influenza but was there for all the rest. Enduring hardship & challenge every decade made that generation the tough old birds they were. In Joni’s case, I would call her an Eagle among birds. My first thought was Peacock because of her grace and beauty, but I have no idea if a Peacock is tough enough to stand up to the Joni I knew.

Tom and Joni met and married during WWII. Tom was an AF Pilot, so an officer. Their children were John Thomas II, Richard, Bruce and Karen. Later in life Joni happily reconnected with her daughter Marty, who was born during the war before Joni met Tom. Joni always told me she would live to be over 100. If doctors wouldn’t have messed up I believe she would have had those last 5 years. It wasn’t that many years ago that she was river rafting with her grandkids in Costa Rica.

While Tom was often away in the military, Joni ran her own tight ship at home. She shared with me how she drove alone, back and forth across the United States to Virginia to visit Tom’s family. Shared about white knuckle driving through mountain snow storms, and horrible heat in the deserts with four kids with windows down in a station wagon. She was very proud of her strength and perseverance. Joni was also a school teacher during her military travels. Joni taught 6th grade at Fairview Memorial Elementary school in Fairview Massachusetts while Tom was stationed at Westover Airforce Base. Don was not in her class, but after discovering this connection, Don always called her “Teach”.

One of our excursions to the Potomac Specialty had us all searching until we found a restaurant that served Blue Crab. We piled everyone in one rental car and drove over an hour so Joni could put that bib on and eat us all under the table in “All you can eat” soft shell Blue crab buffet.

Sad Farewells (Cont'd)

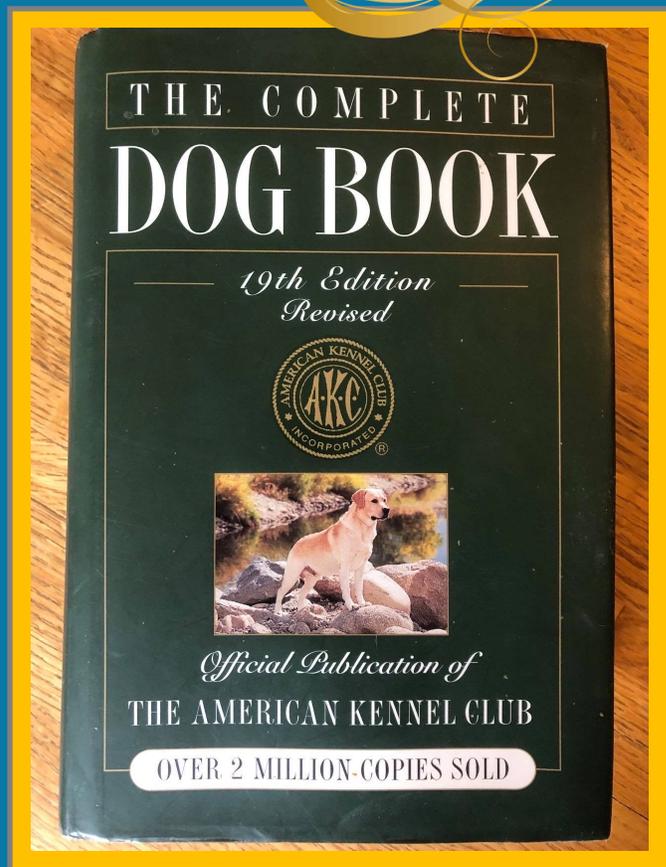
I met Joni in 1987 at the Enumclaw dog shows. This well-dressed, obviously educated lady came up to me and asked if we could talk about my girl, Velvet. She had been admiring Velvet winning at the shows and wondered if I had a litter planned? I remember sitting at that picnic bench talking dogs for hours. It was the beginning of a very long-time, dear friendship. Joni already had two beautiful well-bred black boys, Buster and Teal. We always laughed about how those two well-trained boys stayed in their 24 inch x-pen. It was their puppy pen, but they never considered stepping over it. Eventually my first litter was born and Joni got a yellow boy, Ch Sharays Trace of Copper CD WC. Joni was always a proud woman and Tracy met all of Joni's expectations. One of her proudest moments was when the AKC Complete Dog book hit the shelves and it was Tracy on the cover. (See the photo)

Our mutual friend Melissa Newman handled Tracy, and the three of us put thousands of miles on our tires. Driving east one memorable trip to Calgary in Joni's Suburban we burned up the motor in the air conditioning. I am not sure if the 90 mph I was driving had anything to do with that. Then there were the multiple trips up and down I-5 to the legendary Labrador specialties in our RV's. Many times there were 4-7 humans and up to 17 dogs in my RV. Which

is probably why Joni & Tom got their own RV, and shared the dog show experience together as we all caravanned. There were many Labradors in Joni's life, most of them earning the PSLRA All Around Award. Joni was actively involved in our club and, of course, volunteered Tom. Tom & Joni worked at the HRT's where Tom was an accurate gunner. Joni was also very active with the club rescue program, taking in dogs and transporting. The last two puppies Joni raised were from a rescued litter. Joni trained those two pups until she deemed them ready to become family companions.

Joni and Tom were such a classy couple. Tom was always the southern gentleman. I recall many times he would quietly say, "That's enough, Joni." Joni loved a good party and wasn't afraid to enjoy life. She regretted telling me how she danced on the tables at the officers club in Hawaii! She regretted because I loved sharing the story to all of that wild side of our sweet little grandma! (Apparently Tom got a bit of a reprimand for that episode.) Our mutual friend Beckie Jensen met Joni in Monroe in 1990 at the first PSLRA specialty. Joni had her RV parked in the covered arena area. Beckie knew no one at that first show, but this kind lady opened her RV door and offered Beckie a cup of coffee. That's our Joni. Many years later in that friendship we were all together for dinner on Whidbey when Joni choked on a bite of steak and ran outside on the deck. Luckily Beckie was observant in our party crowd and followed Joni out and performed the Heimlich maneuver and saved Joni's life.

Joni & I shared both happy and sad. We shared holidays, specialties, some big brags and our family trials and tribulations. Joni experienced some very difficult times and many joyous events. Always, Joni pulled her boot straps up and kept going. Joni was definitely one of a kind. They just don't make them like that anymore. Joni was a gem, I will always miss her and be thankful for the Labradors who brought us together. I believe she had a very happy reunion with Tom and family at the Rainbow bridge, surrounded by all the animals in her life. As I kissed her good bye, my final words to her were "Say hi to Tom for me," and her face lit up with a smile.



Lovingly submitted by Sharon Edwards

2020 Calendar of Events

- June 19 – 21** *AKC Agility Trial*
Pending further information
- June 28** *Conformation Fun Day*
Pending further information
- July 15** *Board Meeting—6:30pm*
Teleconference
- July 31** *AKC KISS Specialty Show*
Pending further information
- August 1 & 2** *Specialty Show*
Pending further information
***NOTE Obedience and Rally Trials have been postponed until a later date. Watch for updates here
- August 1** *Board and Membership Meeting—6:30pm*
Show grounds—specific area to be determined
- 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

Calendar of Events

- 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** *AKC Fall Agility Trial*
November 1 Pending further information
- November 12** *Board Meeting—6:30pm*
Teleconference
- December 17** *Board Meeting—6:30pm*
Teleconference

Supported Entries



PSLRA Supported Entry Shows for 2020

October 17 & 18, 2020

Wenatchee Kennel Club

Two days of prizes and big changes to the venue.

Judging Assignments pending AKC approval

Master Amateur Nationals



An Important Announcement to All MARC Members

2020 Master Amateur Invitational is Rescheduled

In early March the Board made the difficult decision that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent concern for the safety of all participants, the 2020 Invitational scheduled to be held in Corning, CA, April 19-26, 2020, had to be cancelled.

Since then the Board has searched for alternatives for the event. After considering all available options, and given the uncertainties created by the pandemic, the Board has determined that the best alternative is to reschedule the 2020 Invitational in Corning, CA for April 18-25, 2021. All dogs that qualified for the 2020 Invitational are automatically qualified for the rescheduled 2020 Invitational, as well as, the 2021 Invitational.

The originally scheduled 2021 Invitational will also take place as planned in Emporia, VA, May 16-23, 2021. Dogs that qualify during the 2021 qualifying period of March 1, 2020 to February 29, 2021, are also qualified to enter both events. Passes at each event will count as two credits for the 2022 qualifying year. A dog that passes both the rescheduled 2020 Invitational and the 2021 Invitational will have four credits toward the 2022 Invitational.

Braggs

Nipntuck True Blue Believer
CDX TD THDA TDU UD TKA SCA



Brody

Brody says when life is giving you LEMONS you need to come to the AID of our first responders! You can tell he is taking his job very seriously... waiting for his next customer.

He really wants this pandemic to be over so he can get back to his busy life of competing in lots of trials, doing tracking, attending dog classes and being a Hospice of Spokane Therapy dog.

Submitted by Don and Lynne Pammler of Spokane, WA

UMBIS UMRBIS UBISS EGRCH UCD URO1 UWP RUNN WBCH-G

Sunnydaze for Peep's Sake

BN PCD CD RE TKP RATN FDC CGCA, Total Dog, THDN



New Title: Therapy Dog Novice

Brach has settled nicely into her role as a children's therapy dog with the Reading With Rover program. Just before the quarantines prohibited visitation, she completed the hours necessary to earn her full certification with Reading With Rover, as well as her first AKC Therapy Dog title. She is dedicating the next few months to raise her family (perfect timing since the COVID is interfering with our shows, training and other versions of canine recreation anyway), but, like me, she eagerly awaits her return to the show ring and libraries once the quarantines lift.

Submitted by Kristen Reiter

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 April 15, 2020

Litter Expected: 04/15/2020

Available: All Yellow Litter

Sire: Niptuck All Aces

AKC: SR87656301

Hips = OFA24 Good, Elbows = OFEL24 Normal, Eyes = 11/19, Heart ECHO = Normal

Dam: Aiyerbrothers Stupifyin' Jones

AKC: SR89778703

Hips = OFA24 Excellent, Elbows = OFEL24 Normal, Eyes = 09/19, Heart ECHO = Normal,

PRA = Clear, CNM = Clear, EIC = Clear, DM = Clear, HNPk = Clear, RD/SD = Clear

Contact: Ramadas Vaidyanathan

Phone: (425) 283-3229

Email: aiyerbrothers@gmail.com

Website: www.aiyerbrothers.com

Date Listed: 04/13/2020



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

Older Dog Listing as of April 15, 2020

Tony

5 Year Old – Black Male

Neuter Status: Neutered

Health Information: Up to date on all vaccines.

General Information: Tony is a 5 year old Adult male Labrador looking for a forever home. He is trained in basic obedience, house broken, no counter surfing or laying on the furniture. He loves people and kids and has been around other dogs. He is a typical Lab with drive, so he does chase bunnies, deer, squirrels and occasionally a cat.



Tony is an amazing dog, but he does have some challenging traits when being introduced to other dogs. This is due to lack of early socialization. Please inquire for more detail.

Tony is being placed due to his family's need to relocate very soon. We are looking to place him quickly.

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

Contact: Rick Mullen

Phone: 360.303.3437

Email: rick@presentationart.com

Date Listed: 05/20/2020



Just a friendly reminder
as events start becoming reality again
(we hope!)



Please submit all of your
news,
Advertisements,
and committee information,
ready to plug into the newsletter (PDF,
Word, or JPEG formats) by the 20th of
the month.



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- **Learn from
our dogs**
- **Live in the
moment**
- **Make today
your best
day ever!**



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