

The Retriever Believer

Monthly Newsletter of the Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association

Volume 36, Number 9, December 2020



The Little Things



Thanksgiving is now just a memory and Christmas fast approaches. Nothing seems the same any more and it is becoming easier to be more complacent and idle. Once upon a time, I would put in a full day at work, load up Brach and drive an hour further south to attend dog training class, sometimes squeezing in a phone meeting on the commute, drive the 1 1/2 hours home, feed all of the animals, do the dishes or some other quick chore and then collapse in bed to ready myself for another similar day. Now, I'm struggling to keep up at work, coming home and tossing the toys for the dogs a few times before turning in, without doing any of the extracurricular tasks in which I previously engaged—no formal dog training (virtually no training at all), no Reading With Rover therapy visits, very few dog shows or events. Even the laundry and dishes sit undone. This holiday season will present more of the same with continued COVID-imposed isolation and avoidance of others. There is a general loss of connection and it can be a depressing time for many even in a good year.

I admit, I was feeling pretty down, but then I saw this photo. It was a reminder to be more like the dogs we love—to delight in the little things, to find the joy in a tiny snowflake, to embrace being alive. Things may be different this year, but just because we can't do everything we had planned to do, doesn't mean we stop living. So, get the dogs out for a romp. Embrace the sloppy face kisses that you both temporarily forgot were forbidden. Get on the floor for a good wrestle. Live in the Labrador moment!

And if you still feel a loss of connection, consider contacting your local nursing home. Many of their residents are lonely and forgotten, even when COVID isn't an issue, and many have a letter writing program. Reaching out to someone else might help make you feel more human again. Share your passion with others, tell them fun stories about your dogs, and share photos. It is remarkable the impression a photo can make.

Happy Holidays to You and Yours,

Kris

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2020 Calendar of Events

December 16 *Board Meeting—6:30pm*
Teleconference

PSLRA is sorry to inform our membership that the holiday awards banquet and membership meeting has been canceled due to COVID restrictions on gatherings.

Please stay tuned for our newsletter announcement celebrating our award winners!

Do you have an event approaching?

Please submit your dates to PSLRANewsletter@yahoo.com so we can update this calendar.



CARLY THOMAS | PHOTOGRAPHY

2020 All-Around and Versatility Dogs

The board has extended the
deadline for all around
awards and versatility awards
to December 15



Email for information and submission:
labsix@whidbey.com

For your convenience, the form is included on the following page.

2020 Membership Announcement

Due to the current economic and COVID-19 situation, the PSLRA Officers and Board of Directors have voted to forgo Membership Renewal Dues for 2021, for all PSLRA Members who are current as of 2020 and in good standing.



This decision to forgo Membership Renewal Dues for 2021 is a one-time occurrence.



PLEASE NOTE:

The furlough of Membership Renewal Dues will not affect any years of membership, nor accumulation toward Life Time Membership. All membership calculations will proceed as if membership was paid in 2021.

2020 Breeders' List Update

As this year has made it difficult for members to participate in events, much less volunteer, the Board has voted to forgo the volunteer requirement for 2020 to be eligible for the 2021 Breeders List. This only affects Club Members who are currently on the 2020 Breeder List. This decision to forgo the volunteer requirement for the Breeder List renewal is a one-time occurrence.

The \$15.00 annual Breeder List Renewal fee will continue to be due as of January 31, 2021. Members currently on the Breeders List will be included on the 2021 Breeder List after paying the \$15.00 annual fee.



Club Members who were not on the 2020 Breeder List, but have met all the qualifications to join effective 2021, may apply through the PSLRA website as usual at Join PSLRA Breeder List

Please Note: You must be logged in as a Member to access this page on the Club's website.



PUGET SOUND LABRADOR RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION

Promoting the All-Around Labrador

ALL-AROUND & VERSATILITY DOG AWARDS

Application for All-Around or Versatility Awards

I would like to apply for an All-around Labrador or a Versatility Award (circle one) for:

(PRINT full name of dog including titles)

Who for an All-around award has:

- A) earned an AKC, CKC, International or other conformation championship
- B) earned an AKC, CKC or other Obedience or Rally, Tracking or Agility title
- C) earned a Working Certificate, or AKC, CKC, or other hunt test title or a JAM at a licensed field trial OR, for a Versatility Award has earned a title in any three of the following areas:
AKC, CKC or other Obedience or Rally, Tracking, Agility, Hunt Test or Field Trial or a Therapy Dog Certification from any organization approved by the Board of Directors.

Who for a Versatility award must have earned a title in three of the following:

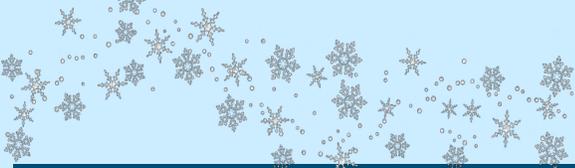
- Hunt Test or Field Trial
- Obedience or Rally
- Agility
- Tracking
- Therapy Dog Certification (must have documentation signed by director of program)

Name of Member/Owner _____

Name of Member/Breeder (for All-around only) _____

Please attach copies of all certificates and send everything for 2020 to Mary Jane Sarbaugh, 5062 Wynter Pl, Langley, WA 98260 by December 15, 2020. This form will be updated for 2021.

Fall Agility Photos





Madison



After a hiatus of shows, Madison came out to play at Whidbey Island Kennel Club. Just 3 months after a litter of 9 she was awarded back to back Best of Opposites under Judges Joyce Vanek and Joan Savage to earn her 5th & 6th Grand Champion Majors to become ...

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

(pictured with her kids Koa's What's One More "Party" and Koa's Pour Me Another One "Diesel")

Submitted by Chantel Nahoopii

Braggs

CH SHR ReiMur's March Madness JH DN WC CC



Luna

Luna finished her championship by winning WB/BOW for her 3rd major at the Whidbey Island Kennel Club show under Joan Savage 11/15/20. Two weeks earlier she won WB for 2 points at the Coeur D'Alene shows under judge Richard Lewis. Luna is the 5th AKC Champion in 3 litters total bred at ReiMur and is now CH SHR ReiMur's March Madness JH DN WC CC. We are also proud of her working titles and look forward to what the future brings. Luna is bred, owned and loved by Darlene Pado.

Braggs

UMBIS UMRBIS UBISS EGCH UWP URO₁ UCD RUNN WBC-B

Sunnydaze For Peep's Sake

BN PCD CD RE FDC RATN CGCA CGCU TKE THDN SPOT-ON

Pet Partner/Reading With Rover



Total Dog x 3!
New Titles!

Brach

After a hiatus to raise her daughters, Brach re-emerged onto the show scene as strong as ever at the CAPBTC shows over Halloween weekend. She earned a Group 1, 2, 3, and 4 over the course of the four shows, adding legs to her Grand Champion quest for more gemstones. She also demonstrated qualifying pulls in three out of the four weight pull competitions to earn more points towards her Advanced Puller title. With the performance qualifications and conformation wins, Brach also added three more Total Dog accolades to her achievement wall.

Brach and I took the opportunity to present our Trick Dog Elite Performer video submission to evaluator, Val Piltz, that same weekend and completed our titling track with that demonstration (because her name doesn't take up a full sheet of paper...yet!). She also successfully completed her evaluation to earn her Canine Good Citizen—Urban and the UKC version of the CGC, her SPOT-ON (the "ON" is tacked on to those dogs who demonstrate outstanding performance. We would expect no less from our Overachiever!).

Finally, we have completed our orientation for virtual Reading With Rover visits. The need to reach out to each other is greater than ever and Brach and I are anxious to do our part.

Brach is owned, shown and loved by Kristen Reiter

Introducing, TONKS!



SunDog Don't Call Me Nymphodora TKN

Tonks made her show debut at the CAPBTC show in Longview on Halloween weekend. Of the four shows, she won two **Novice Puppy Reserve Best in Show** placements and one **Novice Puppy Best in Show**. Many thanks to judges Steven Melgreen, Claire Mancha, and Amy Turner for recognizing my girl in a lineup of fine puppies.

In true Overachiever Retriever style (she *is* Brach's daughter, after all), Tonks also earned her Novice Trick Dog title. The evaluator told me our tricks were too advanced for Novice level and to save the more difficult ones for later! So, I scrambled to remember more basic commands she has learned and we submitted those for her first title. All this and she was only five months old! I'm so proud of my first home grown pup in over a decade and am excited for what her future holds.



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All is Calm