



# RETRIEVER REVIEW



MARCH 2012

WWW.LRCSOCAL.ORG

## *President's Message March 2012*

*Hi Everyone,*

*There are sure a lot of things coming up in the next two months to keep us all busy, and our dogs happy campers!*

*On March 25, the General Meeting will be held just before the WC Practice Day at Prado Dog Training Facility. Come on out and bring your favorite lab for a fun day in the field or just for the swimming! (See flyer on page 7 for info). Nominations will be taken for the Officers and Board of the club. Here is your chance to become a part of the decision making process.*

*April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> are our Hunt Tests. We need help with poppers, throwers, and marshals. Experienced gunners are also welcomed. On Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> the WC will be held and we need help there also. Come on out and get involved in the Hunt Test Program.*

*Finally, on April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> LRCSC host our two-day Specialties. There will be Conformation, Obedience, and Rally, a little something for everyone. Get involved and help the show committee put on the very best shows ever. When you are a part of something, you will find a great satisfaction in its success. Check out the list of committees needing your help. Your club with thank you, but you will gain a lot too.*

*See everyone at the WC Practice Day*

*Margaret*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- OFFICERS ..... 2
- MEMBERSHIP..... 2
- WINNER'S CIRCLE..... 3
- PUPULATION INCREASE..... 4
- LRCSOCAL NEWS..... 5
- ARTICLES..... 8
- CALENDAR OF EVENTS..... 18

The Retriever Review is published monthly by the Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California. Contributions to the Review are accepted at the Editor's discretion, do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or of the LRCSC and are included as items of general interest only. Letters, Winners Circle, Pupulation Increase information for publication in the Review must be received by the Editor by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month prior to publication.

Retriever Review Editor:  
Celeste Young, finnmarks  
viddalabs@hotmail.com



**2011 - 2012 LRCSC OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Margaret Standard 1192 Foothill Blvd. Santa Ana, CA 92705	714.832.8549 mstanard@cox.net
<b>Vice President</b>	Jane Babbitt 11149 Pickford Way Culver City, CA 90230	310.391.3396 jane@norfieldlabradors.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Joe Cook 336 E. 22nd St. Costa Mesa, CA 92627	949.548.8755 josephco@sbcglobal.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Denise Coler 5 Via Latigo Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688	949.295.1642 coleriverlabs@cox.net
<b>Board Member</b>	Tania Brodowski 11596 Lokia Drive Cypress., CA 90630	714.903.0515 k9lablady@mac.com
<b>Board Member</b>	Sandra Flanigan 18612 Sussex Road Riverside, CA 92504	951.789.0890 kintralabradors@roadrunner.com
<b>Board Member</b>	Irma Fox 16535 Flower Glen Drive Hacienda Heights, CA 91745	626.961.4306 rfoxpac@verizon.net
<b>Board Member</b>	Ron Morelos 2708 Canary Dr. Costa Mesa, CA 92626	714.437.1282 ron.morelos@gmail.com
<b>Board Member</b>	Marty Rice 755 E. Sierra Madre Ave Glendora, CA 91741	626.335.9345 hawkettlabs@hotmail.com

Check us out on the web

[www.lrcsocal.org](http://www.lrcsocal.org)

Please direct any website related items to our webmaster: Ron Morelos

[ron.morelos@gmail.com](mailto:ron.morelos@gmail.com)



We're on Facebook!

Have you joined the LRCSC's email list at yahoo groups.com?

Share upcoming events and news with fellow LRCSC members via our own email list.

This list is intended for the use of the members of the Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California. Please use this list to keep current members up-to-date on pertinent Dog News and Information.

It's easy to subscribe! Send an email to: [LRCSC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:LRCSC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Contact Ron Morelos at [ron.morelos@gmail.com](mailto:ron.morelos@gmail.com) for any questions

From the Membership Chair

Bryan Brodowski

bandt4ever@mac.com

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW  
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS!

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW  
FULL MEMBERS!

The following people have applied for Associate membership with the LRCSC and have had their application read to the board:  
(none)

The following people have applied for Full membership with the LRCSC and have had their application read to the board:  
(none)

*If you have any objection to the above mentioned persons joining the club, please voice your concern at the next Board meeting.*

Lab Rescue Organizations:

Fetching Companions, Inc.

[www.fetchingcompanions.org](http://www.fetchingcompanions.org)

FCRR Message line 888.412.3382

[www.sclrr.org](http://www.sclrr.org)

[sclrr@sclrr.org](mailto:sclrr@sclrr.org)

PO Box 4188

Irvine, CA 92616-4188

1.888 . 55 .4.A LAB

**REMINDER:**

LRCSC Club dues are due!

If you haven't already, please remember to send it in as soon as possible.

[bandt4ever@mac.com](mailto:bandt4ever@mac.com)

THANKS!!



## *The Winner's Circle*

The Winner's Circle entries are any 1<sup>st</sup> place, a qualifying score or leg, a placement at a specialty or LRCSC supported entry or a new title in the last three (3) months. Non AKC titles will only be listed in regular format, but no individual wins for non AKC events will be listed. Please only submit title, date, and location where the title was completed. Match wins are not eligible for publication in the Retriever Review, but may be listed if space is available. Entries are listed in alphabetical order by the dog's registered name.

### **Coleriver's She's Got It All CGC WC RN**

(Ch Talimar's Trendsetter X Gingerbred Cookie Jar Cash, CGC CD RN JH )

Breeder: Denise Coler and Greg Coler, Owner: Denise Coler & Tania Clark, Handler: Denise Coler  
2/19/12 4th Place, Open Yellow Bitch, San Diego Labrador Retriever Club, Judge: Linda Bednarski

### **Coleriver's Special Request CGC WC CD RN**

(GCH BISS Sure Shot Hyspire Impressive X Gingerbred Cookie Jar Cash, CGC CD RN JH)

Breeder: Denise Coler and Greg Coler, Owner: Denise Coler & Tania Clark, Handler: Denise Coler  
2/19/12 4th Place, Bred-by Exhibitor Bitch, San Diego Labrador Retriever Club, Judge: Linda Bednarski

### **Gingerbred Cookie Jar Cash CGC CD RN JH**

(BISS Saddlehill Struttin inthe Moonlight X Hennings Mill Gingerbred ATM)

Breeder: Christine Tye, Owner: Denise Coler & Tania Clark, Handler: Denise Coler  
2/19/12 2nd Place, Veteran Bitch, 1st Place, Brood Bitch, San Diego Labrador Retriever Club, Judge: Linda Bednarski

### **Saddlehill Irish Luck**

(GCH Hyspire Shahli Hotter Than Blazes X Saddlehill Cinderhill Ready Willing N Mabel)

Breeder: Susan Eberhardt & Cindy Braley, Owners: Susie Gallagher & Susan Eberhardt  
2/18/12 PASS (3rd PASS), Monterey Bay Hunting Retriever Club Hunt Test, Judges: Kit McClurg & Tom Quarles



## POPULATION INCREASE

Only verifiable screening information will be listed and only certification numbers are provided. The following organizations will certify the certifications that they have issued. You must know either certification number of the dog or its AKC number. If no certification numbers are listed, it does not necessarily mean that the dog has not been screened. Prospective buyers should inquire for further information from the breeder of the litter.

Canine Eye Registration (CERF)  
317.494.8179                      [www.vmdb.org/inquiry.html](http://www.vmdb.org/inquiry.html)

Orthopedic Foundation of America (OFA)  
573.442.428                      [www.offa.org](http://www.offa.org)

Optigen  
607.257.0301                      [www.optigen.com](http://www.optigen.com)

Note: These litter listings are provided as a service and information exchange for full members of the LRCSC. The listing will run in two (2) consecutive issues, only. One (1) extra month costs \$5.00, payable to LRCSC before the ad will run. No effort is made to verify the information provided, nor does the LRCSC as an organization enforce these litters. It is the responsibility of the consumer to certify information, ask questions, and evaluate guarantees and contracts as should be done before making any significant purchase.



All Black Litter \* Due \* 2/2/2012  
Sire: MBISS CH Saddlehill Late Knight Scramble  
OFA: LR-192280G24M-VPI  
LR-EL50607M24-VPI,  
CERF- LR-58101/2011  
Cardiac LR-CA4661/18M/S-VPI ECHO 10/2/2010  
Optigen Clear /Normal By Parentage  
EIC- Clear  
Dam: Kintra's Ain't Misbehavin  
OFA, LR-194226G31F-VPI  
LR-EL51995F31-VPI  
CERF- LR-55145- (09,10,11)  
Optigen Normal  
Contact: Alexandra Flanigan 951-789-0890 e-mail [Kintralabradors@att.net](mailto:Kintralabradors@att.net)

All black Litter 6D 3B born December 28th 2011  
SIRE : MBISS Ch. Lawson's Rush In ( Luke)  
OFA Hips-LR-187004G24M-VPI- Good  
Elbows LR-EL-4698M24-VPI Elbows- Normal  
CERF- Clear, Annually.  
CARDIAC- Color Doppler- Normal Clear.  
DAM : Kintra's Midnight Storm  
OFA Hips-LR-179406G25F-VPI- Good  
Elbows LR-EL42039F25-VPI -Normal  
CERF- Annually 09,10,11. Clear

Contact: Alexandra Flanigan 951-789-0890 e-mail [Kintralabradors@att.net](mailto:Kintralabradors@att.net)



## **LRCSC NEEDS YOUR HELP IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS**

### **TROPHY DONATIONS – DIANE MATSUURA - 626 335-8010**

CALL TO RESERVE YOUR FAVORITE CLASS OR JUST GIVE A SET AMOUNT TO THE FUND. YOUR GENEROUS DONATION ALLOWS THE CLUB TO CONTINUE TO AWARD OUR TRADITIONAL ARMETALE TROPHIES.



### **RAFFLE DONATIONS-SANDRA FLANIGAN- 951 789-0890**

DO UP A BASKET OF ITEMS WITH OR WITHOUT A THEME, OR AGAIN A CASH DONATION ALLOWS US TO BUY A BIGGER ITEM FOR THE SILENT AUCTION. THE DONATION DOES NOT HAVE TO BE DOG OR LAB RELATED. A GIFT YOU WANT TO REGIFT IS GREAT TOO!

### **SPECIALTY SET UP AND TAKE DOWN-MARGARET STANARD - 714 832-8549**

HELP!!! THE SHOW COMMITTEE REALLY NEEDS SOME MEN WHO CAN BE THERE ON THURSDAY AT 2:00 PM TO HELP SET UP CANOPIES AND RINGS. WE ALSO NEED SOMEONE TO TOW THE TRAILER TO CANYON RV, AND TOW IT BACK TO PRADO ON SUNDAY. WE WILL NEED GUYS AND GALS TO HELP WITH UNLOADING AND SET UP.

### **HOSPITALITY –TANIA BRODOWSKI - 714 903-0515**

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY BREAKFAST SET-UP AND CLEAN UP IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON. SHE WILL NEED HELP ON THURSDAY FOR SETTING UP THE AREA, AND HELP THROUGHOUT BOTH DAYS FOR KEEPING THE AREA CLEAN AND FULL. ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON AFTER LUNCH, THE AREA NEEDS TO BE CLEANED AND PUT AWAY FOR THE WINE & CHEESE HOUR. PLEASE CONTACT HER IF YOU CAN HELP IN THIS AREA.



### **ADVERTISING – RON MORELOS - 714 437-1282**

WHEN YOU PLACE AN AD OF ONE OF YOUR WINS OR A MEMORIAL TO YOUR FAVORITE DOG, YOU ARE HELPING THE CLUB WITH THE PRINTING COSTS OF THE CATALOG, AND IT IS A FUN WAY TO BE PART OF YOUR CLUBS HISTORY AS WELL AS LETTING FOLKS KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING. EACH CATALOG IS SAVED IN THE CLUB'S ARCHIVES. RON WILL HELP YOU WITH YOUR AD IF YOUR NEED IT.



# Proposed Slate of Officers & Board Members for LRCSC 2012-2013



**PRESIDENT .....MARGARET STANARD**

**VICE-PRESIDENT .....JANE BABBITT**

**SECRETARY .....DENISE COLER**

**TREASURER .....RON MORELOS**

**BOARD MEMBER .....TANIA BRODOWSKI**

**BOARD MEMBER .....SANDRA FLANIGAN**

**BOARD MEMBER .....BRYAN BRODOWSKI**

**BOARD MEMBER .....DIANE MATSUURA**

**BOARD MEMBER .....MARTY RICE**

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**DENISE COLER, DIANE MATSUURA, BRYAN BRODOWSKI**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH LRCSC CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS WILL BE TAKEN AT THE MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> PRACTICE DAY AND GENERAL MEETING . IF THE PERSON BEING NOMINATED IS NOT PRESENT, A LETTER OF INTENT TO RUN WILL BE NEEDED.**

# Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING *and*

WORKING CERTIFICATE PRACTICE DAY

Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Prado Dog Training Park, Euclid Avenue, Chino, CA

**Exit Euclid Avenue from the 71 freeway and head east.  
Turn right into the Prado Dog Training Park, across from the shooting range.**

The General Membership Meeting will begin at 8:30am,  
followed by the WC Practice at approximately 9:30am

**\*\*Nominations for the 2012/2013 LRCSC Board of Directors will be accepted at this General Meeting. If you wish to nominate someone for a Board position, but neither of you will be able to attend the meeting, please forward your nomination (include name and Board position) along with a separate email from the nominee acknowledging their acceptance for the nomination, to Denise Coler at [coleriverlabs@cox.net](mailto:coleriverlabs@cox.net)\*\***

**\*There is a \$15.00 gate entry fee to Prado\***

**(Fee is per person or married couple plus up to 2 dogs. There is an extra charge for extra people/dogs.)**

*Bring a chair, your dog's crate, collar, leash, and fresh water for you and your dog.*

*Please call Denise Coler at (949)295-1642 or e-mail to [coleriverlabs@cox.net](mailto:coleriverlabs@cox.net) to RSVP*

*We'll need your phone number and the number of dogs you will be bringing to ensure we have enough birds.*

Please note the following:

Cost for training day: \$10 for LRCSC/HDLRC/SDLRC members or \$15 for non-members  
(does NOT include your gate entry fee)

**\*\*Prado Dog Training Park is a training venue. Guns, live ammunition, e-collars and birds may be used by some trainers on their own dogs for training purposes.\*\***



# Ichabod Goes Hunting

printed with permission by IVRC Member Byron Slater

“My” dog went hunting over the weekend. He decided to take me along (I suspect) out of exhaustion of options. I knew I was in for an interesting day with him.

We got to the blind while it was still dark. On the way out, he made quite a game of taking short hikes then standing about 50 yards out waiting for me to panic and look for him. I think I even caught him chuckling at one point but he could have had something in his throat.

We set up on a dike between two man-made duck ponds. The ponds were about a half mile long and 200 yards wide and varied in depth from around the knees to just above the waders. I found that out the hard way. Our assigned spot was about a quarter of the way down the north-south running dike.

Once we had set up, Ichabod took his place in the blind and lay patiently waiting for the legal shooting time to come. When it did, a small group of birds flew in toward our decoys. We quacked a few times to which the dog shook with anticipation. We jumped up and fired. The dog jumped up to watch some beautiful pintails with some feathers knocked off appear to fly away. The dog turned to me and gave me a look that clearly said “didn’t I teach you to shoot better than that?” He grudgingly returned to the blind, flopped down in his place, and made a perfect “harrumph” noise that let us all know we were true disappointments.

Well mannered in the blind is not what I would call Ichabod. The next time a shot went off, he was so hyped up that he tore a hole in the blind material to get out so he could look for the downed duck. On the next duck, I tried tying him to my chair but when I stood up to shoot, the chair went with him through the tear. Things went much better after that because now we had a dog door he had installed.

As the morning went on, we continued to see a few small groups and took 3 ducks but I’m sure some of the ducks were wearing Kevlar under their feathers. We would knock feathers off but the ducks would just keep flying.

Toward the end of the day, there was a flurry of shooting and we knocked down 5 more with Clear Kill





shots. I sent Ichabod on a long straight blind retrieve. Upon reaching a shallow spot in the middle of the pond about 50 yards out, he made a sharp turn left. I whistled him to stop. He sat in the water looking at me. I gave the back command and he immediately went left again. This went on for several minutes with me using all his alternative names. These are the common alternate names every dog owner has for his headstrong pooch. He eventually reached a small pile of brush in the shallows in the middle of the pond where one of the other dogs had also spent some time but gave up after a minute and returned to the handler.



Ichabod started climbing all over and around the brush pile. He stuck his head in it in every conceivable angle. He launched himself off the top of it away from us several times only to climb back on it. Eventually, my loud discussion of his ancestry must have gotten through to him so he reluctantly came back off the pile and finished the blind retrieve. (I told him things like “his mother must have been a cat” etc.) However, on the way back, he looked longingly at the brush pile again.

Later, we had a flurry of shooting and Ichabod made several good retrieves after the other dogs couldn't or wouldn't find the birds.

My hunting partner went after a cripple on the far side of the east pond with his dog. There was a downed bird on the other side of the west pond. It was the end of the hunting day so I walked Ichabod over to the dike on the other side. He kept trying to go in the water well short of the location where the bird fell. I kept dragging him back and eventually sent him on a diagonal entry into the water to my right. He jumped in the water. Much to my dismay, he made a sharp left turn. He ran back along the dike we had just walked to the spot where I had dragged him away from the water. He made a sharp right turn into the water and tulies. I watched as the tulies crashed around as he plowed through them. About a minute later, he came back with a crippled duck that we had lost earlier in the day. It was still alive but wounded. When he handed me the duck, he came to heel aligned with the duck I had first sent him after. I gave him the go signal. He charged off on the diagonal I had sent him on in the beginning and picked up the duck I thought we were after. Obviously, I was wrong. We were after two ducks and my order was incorrect.

On the way back, I was pleased with my dog so I let him wander around as we made our way back along the north dike where we met up with my hunting partner. He was down because his dog had chased the cripple they were after around but the duck dove and never came

up. As we were talking, my dog kept moving along the path my partner had just traveled. Suddenly, we heard a splash and looked to see my dog making a beeline for the spot about 50 yards away where the duck had dove.

We watched as he arrived at the spot, put his nose in the air and promptly stuck his head in the water. He came up with the duck and proudly swam back to the dike then trotted back to us. We just stood there mystified. We had no idea how he knew the duck hadn't been retrieved and we knew he had never seen the duck go under.

We were all pretty happy after that and started collecting decoys in the fading dusk. The dogs were wandering about. I was out in the water picking up decoys when one of my partners called to me and pointed back at the brush pile. I turned to see my dog back out there poking around again. Before I could tell him to come back, he stuck his head into the pile and out popped a cripple. He launched himself off the pile and with a flash of teeth



and feathers, he grabbed the duck. He brought it back to me. It was still alive. The duck was looking at me as if to say "so you had to bring this dog to ruin my day, huh?" My dog sat there smugly looking at me with an "I told you so" look on his face. I took the duck and praised my dog greatly. He looked up at me with a smile, his tongue hanging out the side of his mouth. He gladly accepted the scratching, praise, and rubdown.

We left the pond that night, a proud hunter and his thoroughly re-educated gunner.

---

## Debunking Myths About Remote Training Collars

by Joe Arterburn with Keith Benson

<http://www.gundogsonline.com/Article/debunking-myths-about-remote-training-collars-Page1.htm>

There are so many myths and misconceptions about remote training collars that a lot of people are hesitant to use them, robbing themselves of a valuable training tool, according to Keith Benson, general manager of Triple Crown Dog Academy, America's premier dog training, boarding and event center in Hutto, Texas.



### Safe Training Devices

"Probably the most prevalent myth about remote training collars is that they are not a safe training device; that they are cruel and inhumane, and that simply is not true," Benson said. "They, as well as most types of training equipment, are very safe and very effective when used in the right manner.

"With a good training program and understanding of proper use, the collars become very easy to use and very effective."

And the electric stimulation applied by the collar is not the jarring, painful charge of electricity that some

people imagine. Nor is it physically harmful to the dog. "It's not like a shot from electro-convulsive therapy or a wall outlet like some people think," Benson said. "In fact, the levels of stimulation we use when training dogs is like the static charge you get when you rub your feet on the carpet and then touch something," he said.

The idea is not to make the stimulation painful, but just enough to communicate with the dog, he said. "We just want it to be uncomfortable for the dog, like when you bump your elbow on a table."

You should always work your dog with the collar set at the lowest stimulation, just enough so the dog can feel it. The key, Benson said, is to set it so the stimulation produces only a curious look from the dog as though the dog is saying 'Hey, what was that?'

Of course, if distractions increase, then the stimulation level may have to increase. For instance, if a rabbit runs across the road, the dog is not likely to be paying as much attention to the trainer, Benson said. But still the stimulation level should be nudged up just enough to get the dog's attention.

### The Importance of a Snug Fit

Another myth is that remote training collars can burn a dog's neck. "Not true," Benson said. "The stimulation that a collar can output from the battery that's housed inside is not high enough to physically burn even if it is set on a high level for long period of time," he said.

The collar must fit snug so that it does not rub back and forth, which could wear away hair on the dog's neck. If the collar is not clean and is rubbing into the neck then hot spots could develop and create a sore that could be mistaken for a burn, he said. Or maybe the collar was left on too long or it was too loose and an infection began to appear.

### The Dog Learns How to Listen

Myth No. 3: Using a remote training collar is more stressful on the dog; that it is not as humane a training method as traditional methods of a leash and choke chain.

Again, not necessarily so, Benson said. Typically, dogs at Triple Crown are trained with collars set in a low-level continuous stimulation mode, meaning that the stimulation is being sent until the dog performs the correct behavior. "The faster he responds to the command the quicker the stimulation stops," Benson said. "Then we give the dog plenty of praise and reward."

Therefore, the stimulation level has to be low so the dog is able to think and learn. "I'm teaching the dog to problem-solve, how to listen to my command and shut off the stimulation," he said.

But back to the stress myth. "I'm using an escape conditioning technique where I teach the dog to shut the collar off. Therefore, the dog is in control and goes through less stress. And he learns much faster," Benson said. "This is based on sound learning principles."

### No, They Are Actually Easy To Use





## Retriever Training - Blinking Birds - How to Avoid It



by Amy Dahl, Ph.D.

<http://www.gundogsonline.com/Article/Retriever-Training—Blinking-Birds—How-to-Avoid-It-Page1.htm>

*Amy Dahl is also the co-author, with her husband, John, of [Retriever Troubleshooting](#) - Strategies & Solutions to Retriever Training Problems.*

Amy Dahl, Ph.D.

BLINKING, OR DELIBERATELY avoiding downed game, is a fault that renders retrievers useless. If your prospect did not show adequate bird interest when you embarked upon his [retriever training](#), you probably would have sought another dog. We assume, then, that the problem was created.

What can you do to a dog that will prevent him from wanting the bird? Lots of things. Let's begin with force-fetching. If your dog is a particularly tough assignment at this stage, you might introduce birds too soon. We try to prevent souring during force-fetching, especially where birds are concerned. For this reason we force-fetch on objects other than birds, such as [dog training dummies](#) or wooden dowels. Done correctly, of course, force-fetch training will increase enthusiasm for whatever objects you are using.

Premature exposure to hunting conditions can also cause blinking. Suppose you knock down a cripple and your dog takes a beating from the wings of a strong goose or a scratch from the spurs of a cock pheasant, causing lasting fear. The need to introduce your youngster to live birds in training is obvious.

During her [retriever training](#), FC Oakhill Exponent frequently made retrieves through live game, mostly geese, on some training ponds. As a result, birdy as she was, she ignored shackled ducks when first introduced to them. She must have thought they were local wild birds not to be retrieved. A little work with shackled ducks solved the problem and she quickly learned to pick up crippled ducks in hunting and field-trial situations.

Some of the things we must teach our retrievers for competition may cause blinking. The "poisoned bird" test is an example. If this test is taught incorrectly, that is, if direct collar pressure is used to discourage the dog from picking up the "poison" bird, blinking may result. A foundation in handling should be adequate to ensure successful handling away from a tempting bird before this test is introduced. If your dog's handling is hazy, and he is in the act of picking up the poison bird when you nick him with the [dog training collar](#), you may break him not only from picking up that bird, but also others. FC Banjo XXXVI was so susceptible to this kind of training that a mere command of "No" before sending her past a poison bird would cause her not only to avoid the bird on the initial send, but also to blink it when sent to pick it up. We never solved the problem, but we were guaranteed that she wouldn't pick up the poison bird if we said "No bird."

Some field-trial judges have carried poison birds and associated tests to unreasonable extremes. We have seen pheasants placed directly on line to a blind retrieve. Another test that bears mention consists of a shot bird as part of a multiple mark. The shot bird is picked up by the gunners while the contestant retrieves another. You are then required to send your dog for the picked up bird, allow him to establish a hunt, and then on the judges' OK, handle your dog to a blind in another area. We think it is unnecessary to confront dogs in field trials or hunt tests with such confusion, and we are sure that if we train on such stuff we can create blinking.

Excessive heat and grinding on marking tests can cause blinking. Frequently a dog who has encountered too much failure in marking will appear to give up, showing little interest in finding game. Dogs in this state are apt to take another unwanted step by intentionally steering clear of the fall.

Occasionally dogs will blink birds for reasons other than an accumulation of training errors. Lack of familiarity with the game to be retrieved can be a factor. We have participated in hunt tests in which chukar partridges were used. Several dogs that retrieved other species well blinked the chukars, perhaps because of unfamiliarity. We have had dogs that blinked doves on their first dove hunt. rudge, FC Oakhill Exponent, when sent from the boat on her first Canada goose, showed surprise when she got to the twelve-pound bird, but retrieved it flawlessly.

Dogs (males, that is) will frequently blink a bird if sent to an area in which bitches (females, that is) in heat have been working. Testosterone takes over and bird interest disappears. We make a practice of periodic [training](#) with dogs on ground on which bitches in heat have been worked. You don't need to make ~ a steady practice of this, for fear of creating other difficulties. Our method employs the [electronic dog training collar](#). When the dog puts his nose down to enjoy bitch scent, we say "No, Here!" accompanied by a nick with the collar. Then we move to the bird and command "Fetch," perhaps with an accompanying ear pinch or collar nick if he has been forced with the collar. Usually a few repetitions will serve to ensure your dog's retrieve, even though he encounters heat scent along the way.

In cases in which the training off bitch scent requires considerable pressure, you will likely find that your dog will refuse to breed. This is an issue that can usually be resolved with expert handling. Some dogs will only breed in a specific setting, such as the back yard. But this is preferable to having your dog yield; to the "call of the wild" when there are birds to be retrieved.

Probably the most common reason for bird blinking is "burnout." Dogs, just like people, have a breaking point, and it is our business as trainers to avoid passing that point. D. L. Walters once made the comment that it was his opinion that most amateurs train too much. There is much to be said for quitting before exhaustion begins to affect dog or trainer. Most pros, owing to their number of trainees, do not over-train. Short, to-the-point sessions with regular frequency are the answer, not long, belabored harangues.

Blinking, in general, can be treated by first removing the cause. Whether it is a result of overwork, confusing [retriever training](#), or other mistakes, remove it. Add more bird work to your dog's training. Shot fliers and lots of work with birds he especially likes are good. Be sure to give your dog an abundance of the birds you are likely to encounter while hunting or in formal events. Of course, if you're invited to a sandhill crane hunt, you'll simply have to rely on luck.





## **How To Train a Pheasant Dog**

Friday, February 10, 2012



If you've never done it before, the hunting dog training process will probably teach you more about yourself than it will about your dog. You'll learn about the dog's temperament and attention span just as you will discover your own threshold for patience. Your approach to hunting dog training should begin with realistic goals; What do you expect out of your dog? How much time are you willing to devote? What do you already know about training and what advice should you try to get from someone with more experience?

### **Hunting Dog Starting Points**

Almost every dog trainer agrees that the "come," "heel" and "whoa" commands are among the most important. "Whoa" basically means "Stay here until I tell you to move." It's important for a dog to hold tight for a number of reasons, but especially for safety. You don't want an unleashed dog running out in traffic, nor do you want him breaking just as you raise your gun to fire at a flushed bird.

Puppies of just about any breed can be expected to be pretty frisky and not want to give you their undivided attention for very long, so plan on spending no more than fifteen minutes for early training sessions, but shoot for 2-3 per day, rather than just one to ensure the experiences remain fresh in a pup's mind.

During training periods, as well as anytime a command is directed toward the dog, the trainer should be deliberate and firm, showing he or she is in control of the situation. Remain positive throughout the session and avoid scolding to ensure the puppy will look forward to obeying you each time.

Remember that you shouldn't expect much out of a pup during his first year. Even if he has demonstrated obedience with the "come," "heel" and "whoa" commands, he'll still need experience afield to get used to real hunting situations. The good news is that dogs bred for pheasant hunting have amazing natural instincts to track down and point at birds -- and you won't have to teach a good dog much beyond obedience, once his instincts come alive. If you hunt 10-20 days each year, it's possible for your hunting dog to reach maximum potential by the middle of his second season.

### **Backyard Drills for Pheasant Hunting**

One of the easiest and best drills you can do to reinforce the "whoa" command is to simply throw a dummy into tall weeds or brush while the dog is holding tight. While he's expecting to hear his release command at any moment (usually the dog's name) try calling out other

names to make sure you're dog doesn't break. You can even run toward the dummy yourself to makes sure he doesn't follow you.

Pheasant hunting dogs that perform the best usually cover ground in an efficient, orderly manner. Here's a great tip for training your dog to anticipate which way you'll turn as you walk through a field; First, attach a 25-foot check cord to the dog's collar using a D-ring so you can walk on the left or right of the dog. In a field or other large space, walk about thirty feet straight ahead with the dog in front of you before making a 45-degree turn to the right and giving a quick tug on the check cord. Do the same thing turning left, alternating back and forth. The dog should figure out when and which way you're going to turn, and after incorporating this drill into your daily routine for a week or so you'll be able to take him off leash and start using a shock collar set on low, or a whistle.

The best general tip for hunting dog training can be summed up in one word: exposure. Make sure your dog is exposed to natural wilderness settings and birds as often as possible, even if he has to be taken to a pheasant farm. The more he smells and sees live birds, the more excited he will get to hunt them.

If you've never done it before, the hunting dog training process will probably teach you more about yourself that it will about your dog. You'll learn about the dog's temperament and attention span just as you will discover your own threshold for patience.

[Pet Article](http://pet-articles.blogspot.com) courtesy of <http://pet-articles.blogspot.com>.



**ACTINOMYCES / NOCARDIA Infection**

by [Dr. Paul W Dean, DVM](#), Diplomate American College of Veterinary Surgeons

[http://www.essfta.com/Health\\_Research/MeanSeeds/actinomyces.htm](http://www.essfta.com/Health_Research/MeanSeeds/actinomyces.htm)

Infection with the bacterial organisms *Actinomyces bovis* and *Nocardia asteroides* is seen not infrequently in our practice. Most commonly we see these infections in field trial and hunting dogs. Summer conditioning of these dogs, especially those taken to Canada or the Dakota's, seems to be associated with increased prevalence of infections. Both bacteria are found throughout nature, commonly in the soil (*Nocardia*), and in the oral cavity and bowel (*Actino*). Clinically, symptoms of infection with either organism cannot be differentiated and they will be discussed together. Route of infection appears to be either through penetration of skin, inhalation, or penetration of mucosal barriers after ingestion. Frequently, it appears the organism and infection is associated with contamination of a body cavity by a foreign body such as a grass awn (speargrass, foxtail). In the hunting dogs, it appears inhalation or ingestion of the grass awn are the primary modes of entrance, with subsequent migration of the awn to a body cavity. Several clinical syndromes of infection have been described; our focus will be on the two most commonly seen in our practice.



The thoracic form of infection occurs when a grass awn migrates via the lung tissue into the thoracic cavity. Dogs may present with a dry, non-productive cough, or simply be presented for exercise intolerance. Symptoms may be gradual in onset, especially in highly trained, athletic dogs. Chest radiographs may demonstrate fluid within the chest cavity (pyothorax) with a mass or masses within the lung lobe(s). Recently, I have seen two cases with a diffuse bronchointerstitial pneumonia rather than a mass lesion and pyothorax. Thoracocentesis in cases with pyothorax demonstrates a consistently foul-smelling, "tomato soup-like" fluid which is usually a greyish-yellow to reddish-brown in color. Granules may be noted in the fluid. When submitting cultures, be sure to notify the lab you are looking specifically for *Actino/Nocardia* infection as special culture media and a prolonged culture duration is required. Thoracotomy is usually indicated, with aggressive surgical debridement plus/minus lobectomy. Mortality rates of approximately 50% may be expected. Conservative treatment is not effective.

The cutaneous form is the other frequent manifestation of disease that we see. It may be characterized by a draining tract on the extremities, but more often we see a large abscess-type lesion on the thoracic wall, or just caudal to the last rib on the abdominal wall. Draining the abscess rarely results in a cure. Surgical exploration with aggressive debridement is needed. Identification of a foreign body markedly improves the odds of success, with success rates of 90% expected if a foreign body is found.

Recurrent infection, or persistent low-grade infection may be noted. Aggressive, long-term antimicrobial therapy is needed. Since the organisms are difficult to culture, treatment many times must be done in the absence of a definitive culture and sensitivity finding. Combination therapy with penicillin/amoxicillin plus sulfa-trimethoprim for one month is suggested. Alternatively, 11 mg/kg clindamycin BID, used for 30 days, is appropriate based upon recent communication with a veterinary microbiologist. Cost or side effects may dictate antibiotic choice.

Awareness, early detection, and aggressive treatment of these infections improves success rates dramatically. Hopefully, this will serve to heighten the suspicion and recognition of *Actinomyces* and *Nocardia* infection.

by [Dr. Paul W Dean, DVM](#), Diplomate American College of Veterinary Surgeons  
[originally printed in Dr. Dean's newsletter 2000](#)



## Suryia and Roscoe live at the Tiger Haven/Sanctuary in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

The orangutan was in the rescue centre and was not doing well. The old hound was brought in truly emaciated and the orangutan took to him the moment the dog arrived. He stayed with the hound night and day until he was well and during the process found a reason to live.



They are now inseparable.



A dog's not just a man's best friend, he's an orangutan's friend too.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Club	Event	Location
<b>MARCH 2012</b>			
3/3	Boxer Club of SF Valley	Conformation, Obedience & Rally Fun Match	Woodley Park
3/3, 4	HDOC	Track Test	Prado
3/10, 11	Valley Hills Obedience Club	Competitive Obedience Seminar w/Catherine Zinsky	Canoga Park
3/16, 17, 18	Del Sur KC	All Breed Show Obed & Rally Trials	Bates Nut Farm
3/17, 18	Breeder's Veterinary Services	Health Clinic: OFA Heart, Hips, Elbows, Shoulders, Patellas, Thyroid blood test, DNA, Microchip	Contact: 707.495.6424 or BVS@sonic.net
3/24, 25	Basset Hound Club of SC	All Breed Obedience & Rally	La Habra Heights Park
<b>3/25</b>	<b>LRCSC</b>	<b>WC Practice &amp; General Meeting (see Flyer on p. 7)</b>	<b>Prado</b>
3/31	Kern County KC	All Breed Show, Obed & Rally Trials	Bakersfield
<b>APRIL 2012</b>			
4/1	Kern County KC	All Breed Show, Obed & Rally Trials	Bakersfield
4/14	Southwest Obedience Club	Obedience & Rally Practice Match	TBD
<b>4/14, 15</b>	<b>LRCSC</b>	<b>2012 Spring Hunt Test</b>	<b>Chino</b>
4/15	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club	Health Clinic: Heart & CERF 9a-1p	San Diego - Contact: cavalierclubofsandiego@yahoo.com
4/22	Lomita Obed Training Club	Obedience & Rally Practice Match	TBD
<b>4/27 &amp; 28</b>	<b>LRCSC</b>	<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Canyon RV Park</b>
<b>4/28</b>	<b>LRCSC</b>	<b>Specialty &amp; General Meeting</b>	<b>Canyon RV Park</b>
4/27	Golden Retriever Club of Greater LA	Specialty Conformation, Obed & Rally	Prado Regional Park
4/ 28 & 29	Lake Matthews Kennel Club	All Breed Show, Obed & Rally Trials	Prado Regional Park
<b>MAY 2012</b>			
5/ 5 & 6	Rio Hondo Kennel Club	All Breed Show, Obed & Rally Trials (Saturday only)	Cal Poly Pomona
5/6	HDOC	All Breed Show Obed & Rally Trials	Newhall
5/12, 13	Apple Valley KC	All Breed Show Obed & Rally Trials	Victorville
5/ 25 - 28	"the Mission Circuit"	All Breed Show, Obed & Rally Trials	Pomona Fairgrounds
<b>JUNE 2012</b>			
6/2, 3	Great Western Flat-Coated	2012 Hunt Test	Chino



	<b>Retriever Club</b>		
<b>6/ 2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>Kennel Club of Pasadena</b>	<b>All Breed Show, Obed &amp; Rally Trials</b>	<b>Brookside Park</b>
<b>6/ 15, 16 &amp; 17</b>	<b>Bahia Sur Kennel Club of Chula Vista</b>	<b>All Breed Show, Obed &amp; Rally Trials</b>	<b>Chula Vista</b>
<b>6/ 22, 23 &amp; 24</b>	<b>Great Western Terrier Assoc</b>	<b>Terrier Group Conformation, Obed &amp; Rally (Friday only)</b>	<b>Queen Mary Park</b>
<b>JULY 2012</b>			
<b>7/ 6, 7 &amp; 8</b>	<b>Channel City KC/Ventura Dog Fanciers</b>	<b>All Breed Show, Obed &amp; Rally Trials</b>	<b>Ventura Fairgrounds</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 2012</b>			
<b>9/ 22 &amp; 23</b>	<b>Santa Ana Valley KC</b>	<b>All Breed Show, Obed &amp; Rally Trials</b>	<b>Cerritos</b>
<b>OCTOBER 2012</b>			
<b>10/28, 27</b>	<b>LRCSC</b>	<b>2012 Fall Hunt Test</b>	<b>Chino</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 2012</b>			
<b>11/ 3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>San Gabriel Valley KC/Antelope Valley KC</b>	<b>All Breed Show, Obed &amp; Rally Trials</b>	<b>City of Industry</b>
<b>11/ 3</b>	<b>HDOC</b>	<b>AKC Tracking Seminar</b>	<b>More info to follow,</b>

