



RETRIEVER REVIEW

NOVEMBER 2010

WWW.LRCSOCAL.ORG

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

This phrase best describes the positive motivation and efforts of the three regional clubs, San Diego LRC, High Desert LRC, and LRC Southern California that came, planned, and worked together as a TEAM with LRC Inc. to host the 2010 National.

The 2010 National included many firsts: the first time three regional clubs worked together to host a National, the first time a "Go Green Regional Specialty" was held prior to the National, the first time a "Top 20 Conformation Tribute" was held, and the first time "The Challenge" was offered.

The National Events week began with Master, Senior, Junior, and Working Certificate tests at Prado Dog Training Facility. Exhibitors welcomed "California Fun Unleashed" at the "Meet & Greet" at the Doubletree Ontario and continued the fun at Prado Regional Park by competing in Tracking, Agility, Obedience, Rally, and Conformation events. The evening Mexican Fiesta and Beach BBQ Banquet provided additional opportunities to visit and laugh with new and old friends. The band played great music and unleashed energetic, wild dance moves. Participants traveled to the National from the East, Mid-West, West, Northwest, Alaska, and New Zealand to celebrate the versatility of the Labrador. The atmosphere ringside at all events was warm, supportive, and friendly. Folks cheered and clapped for everyone. The National was a gathering of Labrador family members from all over the country.

As National Chair, I thank these individuals for serving with me as co-chairs from the beginning two plus years ago to select the host hotel and show site. As Grounds Chairs, Joe Mata and Charlie Lewis were responsible for transporting club equipment trailers, designing, setting up and taking down the rings, canopies, equipment, tables, chairs, sound system and were everywhere helping everyone else. Gary Plotkin coordinated all the events, rooms, and judges hospitality at the Doubletree Ontario Host Hotel. Margaret Stanard served as Events Chair and coordinated the lunches and dinners at both the

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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 3rd Friday of the month prior to publication.

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Check us out on the web

www.lrcsocial.org

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

ron.morelos@gmail.com



We're on Facebook!

Have you joined the LRCSC's email list at yahoogroups.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

Contact Ron Morelos at ron.morelos@gmail.com for any questions

From the Membership Chair
Celeste Young
finnmarksviddalabs@hotmail.com

**WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING
NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS!**
(none)

**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:
Jenna Hollister

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

FCRR Message line 888.412.3382

www.sclrr.org

sclrr@sclrr.org

PO Box 4188

Irvine, CA 92616-4188

1.888. 55 .4.ALAB



The Winner's Circle

The Winner's Circle entries are any **1st 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.

MHR Autumn's Dark Mystic MH

(FC Topgun Agitator x Autumn's Back in Time MH)

Breeder: Katie Quarles, Handler: Joanne Perler, Owner: Joanne Perler & Joseph Cook

10/10 - 17 Qualified Master Hunter, Master National Retriever Club's, Master National Hunt Test – Judges: Mary Williams & Bill Cummings

Deltadawn Journeymans Tuff As Nails

(Twin Maples Speed of Sound x Deltadawn-Venture Hoot-N-Anni)

Breeder: Sue Vose, Owner: Debbie Quast & Sue Vose

10/13 2nd Place Sweeps 6-9 Puppy Dogs Any Other Color, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge Faith Hyndman

10/13 2nd Place Regular Class 6 to 9, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Betty Graham

10/14 2nd Place Sweeps 6-9 Puppy Dogs Any Other Color, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Ms Jennifer Stotts

10/14 2nd Place Regular Class 6 to 9, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty

Deltadawn Charlie & Me

(Twin Maples Speed Of Sound x Deltadawn-Venture Hoot-N-Annie)

Breeder/Owner: Sue Vose Breeder

Place 10/14 3rd Place Regular Classes 6 to 9 Puppy Bitches, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Claire White Peterson

Deltadawn Down On The Bone Docks

(CH Baja Weiken Moonking x CH Venture-Deltadawn Hoot-N-Holler)

Breeder: Sue Vose & T Boyle, Owner: Harkie Ford & Sue Vose

10/13 3rd Place Regular Class Amateur Handler Dogs, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Betty Graham

10/15 3rd Place Regular Class Amateur Handler Dogs, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Kendall Herr

Deltadawn Good JuJu Deltadawn Charlie And Me

(Twin Maples Speed Of Sound x Deltadawn-Venture Hoot-N-Annie)

Breeder/Owner: Sue Vose

10/13 4th Place Regular Classes 6 to 9 Puppy Bitches, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Pluis Davern

Deltadawn Journeymans By The Book

(CH Baja Weikenlin Moonking x CH Venture-Deltadawn Hoot-N-Holler)

Breeder: Sue Vose, Owner: Debra Quast

10/13 3rd Place Open Dog Chocolate, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Betty Graham

10/15 3rd Place Open Dog Chocolate, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Kendall Herr

Deltadawn-Venture Hoot-N-Annie

(CH Wilcare Leisure Suit Larry x CH Venture-Deltadawn Hoot-N- Holler)

Breeder/Owner : Sue Vose

10/13 2nd Place Regular Class Open Chocolate Bitch, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Pluis Davern

10/14 3rd Place Regular Class Open Chocolate Bitch, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: **Ms. Claire White-Peterson**

The Winner's Circle (Cont'd)

New Title!

CH Hunterleigh Stonewall Gabby WC

(CH Borador's By George x Can CH Hunterleighs Gracie)

Breeder: Norbert Wewer, Owner/Handler: Ron Morelos

10/10 Qualified WC, LRC Inc. National Working Certificate - Title Judges: Cynthia Trotter, Candy Ferner

CH Hunterleigh Tabatha Headline CDX JH

(CH Tabatha's Hunterleigh Gaudy x Hunterleigh Janie O'Tabatha)

Breeder: Jane Wewer, Owner/Handler: Ron Morelos

10/9 Qualified Junior Hunter, LRC Inc. National Hunt Test - Judges: Mickie Shannon, Nancy Brandow

10/15 1st Hunting Dog, JAM Judges Award of Merit - LRC Inc. National Specialty - Judge: Kendall Herr (handled by Kristina Cordiero)

*Dog For All Reasons Award Winner

*Medal Winner "The Challenge"

Lawson-Ventures Never My Love

(Lawsons Best Man x Gingerbred-Lawson Silver Linin)

Owners: Terri Boyle & Shawna Lawson, Handler: Shawna Lawson

10/13 3rd Sweeps 12-15 LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge Mrs Faith Hyndman

10/14 2nd Sweeps 12-15 LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge Mrs Jennifer Stotts

10/14 4th place 12-18 bitch LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge Mrs. Claire White-Peterson

New Title!

Saddlehill Irish Luck WC

(CH Hyspire Shahli Hotter Than Blazes x Saddlehill Cinderhill ReadywillingnMabel)

Breeder: Susan Eberhardt & Cindy Braley, Owner/Handler: Susie Gallagher

10/10 - WC, National Labrador Hunt Test/Working Certificate, Judge: Candy Ferner & Cynthia Trotter

10/13 - 2nd place 6-9 Mo. Sweeps, LRC Inc, Go Green Specialty, Judge: Ms. Faith Hyndman

10/13 - 3rd place 6-9 mo. Dog, LRC Inc., Go Green Specialty, Judge: Mrs. Betty Graham

10/14 - 4th place 6-9 mo. Sweeps, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Ms. Jennifer Stotts

10/15 - 3rd place 6-9 mo. Dog, LRC Inc, Regional Specialty, Judge: Mrs. Kendall Herr

Stonewall's Twilight WC

(CH Windfall's New England Patriot x CH Hunterleigh Stonewall Gabby WC)

Breeder/Owner: Ron Morelos

10/13 2nd 15-18 sweepstakes LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: Faith Hyndman

10/14 LRC Inc. National Specialty, 3rd 15-18 sweepstakes Judge: Jennifer Stotts

10/16 1st Open Yellow, WB, BOW, BOB Cabrillo Kennel Club, Judge: Anthony Dinardo

10/17 1st Open Yellow, RWB, Cabrillo Kennel Club

CH Venture-Deltadawn Hoot-N-Holler

(CH Tom Jones x Venture Return To Sender)

Breeder: Terri Boyle, Owner: Sue Vose & Terri Boyle

10/13 1st Place and BOS Sweeps 8 to 10 Veteran, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, **Judge: Ms. Faith Hyndman**

10/13 2nd Place Regular Class Veterans, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, **Judge: Mrs. Betty L. Graham**

10/14 2nd Place Sweeps 8 to 10 Veteran, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, **Judge: Ms. Jennifer Stotts**

10/14 4th Place Regular Class Veterans, LRC Inc. Regional Specialty, Judge: **Ms. Claire White-Peterson**

PUPULATION 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

Orthopedic Foundation of America (OFA)

573.442.428 www.offa.org

Optigen

607.257.0301 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 Born 10/4/10 4M, 4F

Sire: BISS CH Nipntuck Hyspire Unforgettable
OFA: LR-172558E26M-VPI LR-EL37902M26-VPI,
CERF LR51678, Cardiac LR-CA3032/28M/c-VPI-
ECHO

Dam: Lands End Gets What She Wants SH
OFA, LR-171829G26F-PI, LR-EL37482F26-PI, Cerf
LR-57290/2010--59, Optigen Normal

Contact: Lauren Bullock 714-628-9807,
landsendlabs@yahoo.com

YELLOW litter, Born Sept.15th (6M 2F)

Sire: Ch. Kintra's Tatonka at Pathfinders
OFA LR-516219E24M-PI, OFA-EL29141M24-PI,
CERF LR-41298, Optigen Normal, Heart Cardiologist-
Echo normal

Dam: Kintra's Beithe of Bitacula
OFA LR-180874G26F-PI, OFA-EL42988F26-PI,
CERF LR-55836 8/10. Optigen A by parentage.

Contact: Alexandra Flanigan at 951 789-0890



Attention LRCSC Members!

If you are the breeder of a litter that was born (or will be born) between November 1, 2009 and October 31, 2010, and that litter meets the LRCSC Futurity requirements, you may enter it (retroactively if necessary) into the 2010 Futurity. You will have to provide all the necessary documents and fees to the Futurity Chair, Trudy Soneson. Requirements for entering a litter can be found on the club website www.lrcsocal.org. Scroll down the left side and click on "Futurity". The 2011 Futurity competition will be held at the LRCSC Specialty on April 30, 2011. In addition, each individual dog that you wish to compete in the Futurity must enter the appropriate Futurity class at the LRCSC April 30 Specialty (Saturday) by filling out a Specialty entry form and submitting it together with the Futurity class entry fee (\$4) to Sharon Licciardi, Event Secretary, by the closing date. Futurity entries do not have to be entered in any other Specialty class.

In addition to the usual division of monies among the class winners, LRCSC will contribute substantial cash awards to Best in Futurity, BOS in Futurity and Breeder of Best in Futurity.

LITTER SUBMISSIONS FORM

Note: 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.

Due Date:			Colors expected:			
Date Born:						
	Black	Choc	Yellow			
# of Boys						
# of Girls						
Name of SIRE						
Name of DAM						
<u>Clearance Information</u>						
	OFA HIPS #	OFA ELBOWS #	CERF #	OPTIGEN #	HEART #	Other
SIRE						
DAM						
<u>Contact Information</u>						
Name:						
Email:						
Phone:						
Website:						

*** REMINDER ***

HIGH DESERT LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB OF CA., INC

www.hdlrc.com

9th SPECIALTY SHOW

Sweepstakes, Veteran Sweepstakes, Junior Showmanship

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2010

10th SPECIALTY SHOW

Sweepstakes, Veteran Sweepstakes, Obedience Trial and Rally Trial

OBEDIENCE TRIAL and RALLY TRIAL are OPEN TO ALL BREEDS

Obedience entry is limited to 33 total ~ Rally entry is limited to 80 total

(NO Obedience Classes offered for Shetland Sheepdogs at this trial)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2010

THOUSAND TRAILS SOLEDAD CANYON PRESERVE

4700 Crown Valley Road, Acton, CA

ENTRIES CLOSE 6:00PM(PST) WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2010

IMPORTANT NOTICE ~ PREMIUM WILL NOT BE MAILED

~ TO VIEW THE PREMIUM AND INSTRUCTIONS ONLINE ~

www.hdlrc.com or www.slicciardi.com

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PREMIUM MAILED TO YOU PLEASE CONTACT:

SHARON LICCIARDI, EVENT SECRETARY

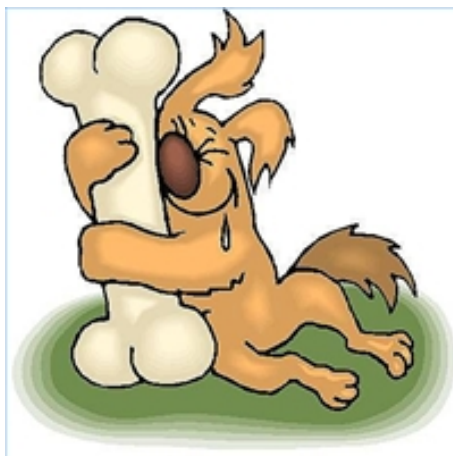
38513 12th Street E., Palmdale, CA 93550, 661-273-1240, motherhen@pacbell.net

Fun Recipes

Cool Yogurt Treats

32 oz yogurt
1-2 bananas or 1/2lb cherries
2T peanut butter
2T honey
1 t cinnamon

Mash the bananas in a bowl. Add the yogurt, peanut butter, honey and cinnamon. Mix well the spoon into ice cube trays and freeze. When frozen, unmold and put 1 or 2 into your dog's bowl to lick.



inside for at least 3 hours or overnight to harden. Store in an airtight container at room temperature.

Cool Chicken Treats

1 qt water
1/2 lb chicken
1 garlic clove

In a large saucepan, combine the water and chicken. Bring to a boil and cook until chicken is done. Remove chicken and chop into small pieces then return to pot. Let the mixture cool then spoon into ice cube trays or Dixie cups and freeze. When frozen, unmold and put into your dog's bowl to lick.

Flea Terminator Dog Treats

3 cubes beef bouillon
1 1/2 cups boiling water
2 cups whole wheat flour
1 cup cornmeal
2/3 cup brewers' yeast
2 tablespoons garlic powder
2 egg yolks

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Dissolve beef bouillon cubes in boiling water, and set aside. Grease cookie sheets.

In a large bowl, stir together the whole wheat flour, corn meal, brewers yeast, and garlic powder. Add the yolks, then gradually pour in the bouillon water while stirring. Mix thoroughly to form a firm dough. On a floured surface, roll the dough out to 1/4 inch thickness. Cut into desired shapes using cookie cutters. Place cookies one inch apart onto cookie sheets.

Bake for 20 minutes in the preheated oven, then turn the oven off, and leave the cookies

Diabetic Dog Treats

1/2 cup whole wheat flour
2 eggs
1 1/2 pounds beef liver, cut into pieces

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line a 10x15 inch jellyroll pan with parchment paper.

Place the liver into a food processor. Pulse until finely chopped. If you have room, add the flour and eggs, and process until smooth. Otherwise, transfer to a bowl, and stir in the flour and eggs using a wooden spoon. Spread evenly in the prepared pan.

Bake for 15 minutes in the preheated oven, or until the center is firm. Cool, and cut into squares using a pizza cutter. The treats will have a consistency similar to a sponge. Store in a sealed container in the refrigerator.

Hypoallergenic Dog Food

Courtesy of www.freedogtrainingarticles.com



Hypoallergenic dog food is supposed to be less irritating to dogs with allergies. Although there is no scientific proof that exists nor official certification from any government authority. The hypoallergenic term was first used by a cosmetics firm in 1953. Based on the Greek prefix hypo meaning "below normal" or "slightly", hypoallergenic is a term coined by advertisers and not the medical community or dietitians. Many dogs, just like their human counterparts, are subject to allergic reaction to something that is normally harmless to many. Allergies present themselves in dogs as itchy dry skin and eruptions, commonly on the lower back near the dog's tail but can occur anywhere.

Some parts of the body such as inflammation of the ears, upset stomach and regurgitation, and anus and genitals are also suspected symptoms. Two common immune disorders that are often mistaken for allergic reactions are hyperthyroidism and inflammatory bowel disease. Immune disorders have been traced to vaccinations, cortisone drugs, and commercial food ingredients.

Common food ingredients that can cause an allergic reaction in dogs are beef, wheat, milk, cheese, eggs, nuts, fruits, tomatoes, carrots, yeast, and preservatives. I don't know if you noticed but all of those items are in most commercial dog foods. So regardless of the claims of any dog food manufacturer, it usually boils down to determining what items your dog may be allergic to and finding a dog food with out these items as ingredients.

A good way to find out just what may be causing the allergic reaction is to make some homemade dog food that is known to have specific items that have no history of causing allergic reactions. There are two popular recipes that can help you figure out this puzzle.

The first one is a turkey and mullet based homemade dog food recipe:

Ingredients

- 6 cups of mullet
- 3 pounds of raw Turkey
- 2 1/2 tablespoons of bone meal
- ¼ cup of vegetable oil

Boil 8 cups of water and add the mullet. Cover and simmer for 25 minutes until soft. Add other ingredients and mix well. This makes enough for 3-5 days for average dog.

The next one is a rice and lamb mix:

Ingredients

- 4 cups of brown rice
- 3 pounds of raw lamb
- 2 1/2 tablespoons of bone meal
- 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil

Boil 8 cups of water and add the rice. Cover and simmer for 40 minutes until soft. Add other ingredients and mix well. This makes enough for 3-5 days for average dog.

Chances are your dog will love either one of these recipes. Both of these recipes will need to be refrigerated and can last up to 4-5 days if properly stored. You could also give daily multiple vitamins that do not have any preservatives or yeast.

Try the diets for at least 2 weeks to see how your dog reacts and make sure no other food is provided.

Once you see that these recipes reduce or eliminate your dogs allergic reactions, you can then look for a commercial food of the same ingredients. There are several turkey or lamb based foods available. Your veterinarian might also have some suggestions on specific brands based on their content.

But also consider that it may be something in the dog's environment (inside and outside), water, or even other animals. Determining exactly what might be causing the allergic reaction can be quite a challenge once food is taken out of the mix.

Feeding hypoallergenic dog food of some type can be beneficial in other ways. Many commercial brands of dog food have some nasty ingredients like food dye, preservatives, and by products as fillers that have no food value. There are some that may not even provide the daily nutrition you dog needs to be healthy or and ingredients that are actually bad for your dog's health.

Always read the labels on any dog food and chose one with the better and more natural ingredients, even the ones labeled hypoallergenic dog food. Don't let your dog eat cat food or other animal feed either. The requirements for dogs are quite different than cats. Cats are more carnivorous in nature of diet and don't need the vegetables and carbohydrates a dog does for a healthy diet.

Being Your Dog's Leader is Key to Training – by Lee Asher

Courtesy of www.freedogtrainingarticles.com



Dogs, in their natural state, are pack animals. We tend to think of them simply as autonomous pups and don't often consider their immutable core nature as pack animals, however. This failure to take into account the true nature of dogs can make training more difficult. Likewise, understanding what it means to be a pack animal can unlock one of trainings greatest secrets.

Dogs, in packs, have leaders. The leadership role in dog packs is one of great influence. Other dogs in the pack naturally subordinate themselves to leadership and will look to their leader for guidance and instruction.

Of course, domesticated dogs don't travel in packs. Instead, they build a pack based on those with whom they regularly interact. In essence, the owner and the owners family members or close friends become the dogs pack.

This creates a wonderful opportunity for dog trainers. By casting yourself as the leader of your dogs pack, the dog will naturally tend to follow your lead, will naturally feel inclined to respect you and will demonstrate an instinctive need to learn from you. Since a dogs real social structure will always be seen through the innate canine perspective of packs and leaders, it only makes sense for trainers to take advantage of this by assigning roles for both pet and master that will make dog training especially effective.

There are several things a trainer can do to emulate being a pack leader. These techniques will allow your dog to find what he will rightfully feel is his place in your familys social order and will make him substantially more amenable to your training. Some may say it is as easy as as making sure the dog knows who is the boss, but that is an oversimplification. Being bossy is not the same as being a leader. Simply trying to enforce your will on a dog does not necessarily communicate to him that you are truly the pack leader. The talented trainer will understand this and will take specific actions to emulate a pack leader.

Some expert-recommended techniques include:

Consistency

Good leaders are consistent enforcers of rules and regulations. Leaders who too often look the other way are not taken seriously. A dog will notice whether your rules and expectations are consistently maintained and may even test your mettle upon occasion, pushing the boundaries of established behavioral norms to determine who is really in charge. By being a wholly consistent leader, you are likely to establish yourself as being the head of your pack and your dog will then be much more apt to follow your lead.

Respect

Leaders are respected not just as an arbitrary outgrowth of their assigned position but because of how they behave in that role. A firm, but fair leader is far more likely to be admired and followed. One must be firm with their dog when training, but cannot hold unreasonable expectations or enforce their rules with violence or punishment. A good pack leader can still use the positive-reinforcement techniques that have been proven the core of successful training. Being a respectful leader will create a respectful follower in your dog. Their submission to you should be premised in respect and appreciation, not in fear or humiliation.

Interaction

The successful pack leader will interact with his dog in ways that reinforce the notion of the social hierarchy. Dogs, for instance, look for cues from leadership in the eyes. By maintaining eye contact with your pet during training, he will better understand your role as leader. Likewise, it is desirable to occasionally demand your dogs attention while walking, playing or during more intense training sessions. By commanding your dog to heel and to look at you, for instance, you will further reinforce your position as pack leader.

Unlocking the power of being a pack leader can make training much more effective. With roles clearly established, one can avoid much of the struggle others may experience while training their pets. Additionally, by assigning yourself the role of pack leader you create an environment in which your dog will naturally look to you for its guidance. Pack leadership is an essential component to any fully optimized training program.

Tricuspid Dysplasia: A Cardiologist's Perspective

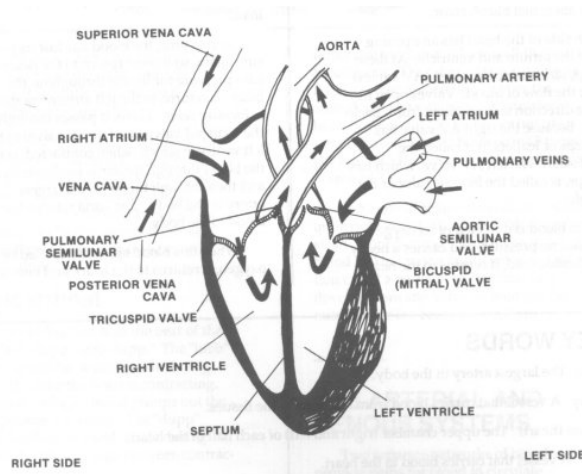
By Lori Seimens, D.V.M., DACVIM

courtesy of: <http://www.theretrievernews.com/Library/Articles/Veterinary/TricuspidDysplasia>

Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia (TVD) is a congenital, heritable heart defect that seems to be increasing in prevalence in Labrador Retrievers. The tricuspid valve is one of four heart valves and allows blood to flow in one direction from the right atrium into the right ventricle. If a puppy inherits the gene

(or genes) responsible for the defect, its tricuspid valve will be malformed in utero. The medical term for malformation of a valve is "Dysplasia". Thus, the puppy will have a dysplastic valve at birth that does not shut tightly, allowing blood to leak (regurgitate) back through it. The size of the leak will dictate the severity of the disease. A puppy with mild regurgitation will likely have a normal life span. If the regurgitation is severe, the puppy may not live to see its first birthday.

Severe TVD causes the right side of the heart to progressively enlarge. The blood leaking backwards into the right atrium eventually causes the pressure inside this chamber to rise. Since veins returning from the liver connect to the right atrium, the pressure in the veins of the liver also increases. The high venous pressure causes fluid to ooze from these liver vessels which then accumulates in the abdominal cavity. This fluid is termed "ascites" and is a form of congestive heart failure. The onset of ascites indicates advanced, end stage cardiac disease. Medications can help palliate the symptoms, but it is considered a terminal condition.



How can you tell if your dog has TVD? Fortunately any leakage from a dysplastic valve that is significant enough to cause health problems should be detectable on a physical exam. Most of the time, a heart murmur will be heard with a stethoscope.

Occasionally a gap between the valve leaflets will be so large that rather than producing an audible heart murmur, the leak can be felt by placing a hand on the right side of the chest- the palpable buzzing sensation is called a "thrill". If a heart murmur or thrill is detected in a young dog, chest x-rays and an ultrasound of the heart (echocardiogram) should be done to confirm the diagnosis and stage the disease. Labradors can have other congenital heart defects besides or in addition to TVD, so a full cardiac work-up for these dogs is important.

The diagnosis of TVD is controversial only when attempting to screen asymptomatic breeding animals for the disease. This becomes problematic because TVD is expressed on a continuum: Severe, Moderately Severe, and not affected. It was originally believed that all dogs with TVD would have a heart murmur, but it has since been discovered that occasional dogs in the Mild range do not have an audible heart murmur. The small amount of leakage combined with the fact that tricuspid regurgitation has a low velocity means that a soft murmur may not be

(cont'd on page 13)

(TVD Cont'd from page 12)

able to penetrate through the chest wall. Even if a murmur can be heard in perfect conditions, there may be extenuating factors, which cause it to be missed by the examining veterinarian. These factors would include ambient noise, panting, wiggling and individual variation in sensitivity to different frequencies of sound. For these reasons, I personally believe that echocardiography (cardiac ultrasound) is the best tool for screening for TVD. The heart should be examined with 2 -D ultrasound which gives a black and white 2 dimensional picture and just as importantly, with color Doppler. The latter uses Doppler technology to show blood flowing through the heart. It highlights abnormal blood flow such as leakage from a valve.

We cardiologists are in the process of perfecting our ability to evaluate the canine tricuspid valve with ultrasound. The tricuspid valve is a complicated structure. It has several components: the leaflets, the chordae tendinae (string like attachments connecting to the leaflets), and the papillary muscles (protrusions from the heart muscle that anchor the chordae tendinae). The valve is in constant motion, which increases the challenge of evaluating these structures. This is why only an experienced echocardiographer should be solicited to screen for TVD.

At this time, we are still trying to come to a consensus as to how much leakage is normal for a dog's tricuspid valve. With the advent of better ultrasound technology, we can detect even minute amounts of valvular regurgitation. Two facts indicate that the presence of very mild amounts of regurgitation is a normal variation, especially if the valve itself appears structurally normal. The first is that we humans (one study found as many as 50% of the population) have small tricuspid leaks that are considered normal. Secondly, other breeds of dogs that are not predisposed to TVD have individuals with detectable amounts of tricuspid regurgitation. The major difficulty occurs when attempting to differentiate Labs with subtle TVD from those normal variations in valve anatomy and tricuspid regurgitation. Medicine has many "gray zones" and this issue is certainly one of them. For dogs that fall into this gray area, we give them a grading of "Equivocal" This describes a dog who is not obviously affected with TVD but whose echocardiogram is abnormal enough to

not pass with flying colors. This gray zone should become more narrow as greater numbers of Labs are echoed, but will likely never be eliminated altogether.

The equivocal grade frustrates many breeders who desire a "yes or no" answer. Even human cardiologists experience the same dilemmas and are always reassessing what normal really is, as newer technologies become available. The good news is that we are still advising that dogs with equivocal grades be bred, especially if they have cleared their other screening tests.

The puppies born to equivocal dogs should be screened for heart murmur, and any puppy over 6 months with a persistent murmur should have an echocardiogram done. If we begin to see a pattern of equivocal dogs producing TVD puppies, then we would have to revise our current recommendations.

A few groups are collecting pedigrees of Labradors that are ultrasounded in order to establish the mode of inheritance for TVD. One of those interested in this research is Dr. Donald Patterson at the University of Pennsylvania. A recent comment by him on his findings thus far is that they need more echocardiograms, especially from mildly affected dogs, before they will be able to establish the mode of inheritance. Another large database is located at The Institute for Genetic Disease Control in Animals (GDC) which is located in Davis, CA. It is a non-profit open registry that has been accumulating numerous pedigrees of Labradors in their TVD registry. They have not yet analyzed their pedigrees for heritable patterns. However; for a small fee, they will issue a "Kin Report" This is composed of the pedigrees and the results of any screening tests done on the parents, siblings, half siblings and progeny of a given dog. For further information, call GDC at (530)- 756-6773.

It is impressive how diligently breeders are working to improve the health of the Labrador Retriever.

Acknowledging that there are problems and striving to cleanse the breed of them is the surest sign of true love for these wonderful dogs.



Retriever Handling Workshop

Dec. 11th – 12th

A dog can only be as good as its handler. The purpose of this workshop is to help you develop stronger skills that will make you a better handler and trainer, and in return, make your dog the best it can be.

This is a hands-on class, with every participant handling their own dog under my guidance. Topics will include: Reading your dog's body language so you know how to react and when to ask; making sure the basic training is sound enough to build on and how to build; and working on the handler's body language so the dog can understand and respond better. These skills and others will be taught while working on marks on land and water, and will be tailored to the level of each student, including handling drills and blinds appropriate to the level of the dogs.

There will also be time set aside for working on specific individual problems, so bring your questions and let's solve them together.

These are fast paced and fun, and you will learn not only from your own participation but from observing the other students as well. Be prepared to work hard and learn!

About Sharon Potter:



Team Huntsmith Instructor

Columnist for [Pointing Dog Journal](#) in partnership with [Rick Smith](#)

Other publications written for include: [Retriever Journal](#), Gun Dog,

Quail Unlimited, Dove Hunter, Pheasants Forever, International Arabian Horse,

The Arabian Horse Times, Bowhunter, Coonhound Bloodlines.

Assists Rick Smith with seminars across the USA, Canada, and abroad.

Gun dog owner and hunter for twenty five years.

[CONTACT MARY SARMIENTO FOR MORE INFORMATION: 619-659-9393 OR \[mary.sarmiento@sbcglobal.net\]\(mailto:mary.sarmiento@sbcglobal.net\)](#)

The 2010 LRC National Tracking Event

Congratulations to Marcia Lucas - Mountain Run Gracious Gift CD **TD** and Lynn Spears - Lakebound Gordon Bound4Glory VCD1 RE AX DAJ XF **TDX**. Good job!!!

Thank you to judges Sally Nesbitt and Ralph Swingle for all their hard work, in ensuring that this event was successful.

A **very special THANK YOU** to all my volunteers who gave up their Sunday, took off from work on Monday, camped in tents, were there at 6:00am in the cold & dark, braved the high heat of the day,

walked miles in the rough terrain, volunteered their vehicles and gave of themselves. It is because of these giving individuals that the 2010 LRC Nationals Tracking event was so successful.

Tracklayers: Laurie Aggas, Cathie Price, Vivian Steinman, Wendy Steinman, Bob Long

Cross tracklayers: Becky Pike, Janis Granneman, Ann De Toth

Judges Driver: Wendell Young

Other Drivers: Laurie Aggas, Irma Fox, Margaret Stanard, Rhonda Hensley, Lorin Sutherland

Hospitality: Margaret Stanard, Janene Edmiston, Wendell Young, Jason Lee

Thank you to the committee members for all of your support! Nina Mann, Julie Kirk, Barbara Nowak and Margaret Stanard.

Celeste Young,
Tracking Chair/Secretary



(Cont'd from front page)

field and conformation events. Margaret also recruited volunteers to help with a variety of tasks. Margaret was my reliable confidant and co-chair. I thank these co-chairs for their leadership at the club and National level.

Accolades also go to the following committee chairs from the three clubs for their dedication, commitment to purpose, enthusiasm, and hard work. These individuals "raised the standard" for future Nationals:

Bill Daley - Hunt Test Chair
 Wendy Pennington - Hunt Test Chair
 Lauren Bullock - Hunt Test Secretary
 Ron Morelos - Working Certificate Chair
 Denise Coler - Working Certificate Secretary
 Celeste Young - Tracking Chair & Tracking Secretary
 Lynn Spears - Agility Chair & Top 20 Agility Coordinator
 Pam Murphy - Obedience Chair
 Laurie Aggas - Rally Chair & Tracking volunteer
 Marilyn Parker - Raffle Chair
 Sandra Flanigan - Raffle Chair
 Susan Eberhardt - Ring Hospitality Chair
 Barbara Lewis - Decorations Chair
 Kimberly Nowak - Go Green Trophy Coordinator
 Jeff Lewis, Greg Coler, & Charlie Lewis – Labrador Planters
 Robin Mata - Ways & Means & Catalog Sales
 Mary Harris – Chief Obedience Steward
 Winnie Limbourne – Chief Ring Steward
 Dian Welle – Breed Ring Steward
 Sharon Licciardi – Breed Ring Steward
 Roger & Peachie Orton – Breed Ring Stewards
 Cheri Conway – Breed Ring Steward

Marty Rice – Club Lunch Coordinator
 Nancy Plotkin – Meet & Greet Coordinator
 Gary Plotkin – Hotel Coordinator & Judges/ Exhibitor "Check-In" Hospitality
 Dan Clark – Ring Setup & Transporting Shirts & Light
 Mike Jobke – Ring Setup & Take Down
 Sheila Thornburg – Floral Arrangement
 Diane Matsuura – Photo Contest Coordinator
 George & Judy McLachlan – Photo Contest Prize Sponsor
 Kelly Greenwood – Agility Course Builder & Hunt Test volunteer
 Nancy Talbot – Conformation Evaluation Certificate

Thanks to Scott Jacobson, Jeremiah Mendoza, Trevi Herr, Karen Jobke, Ellen Massie, Kim Jacobson, Donna Kurtz and countless others who volunteered with various tasks. Huge thanks to Kelly Greenwood for working where needed in the Hunt, Agility, and Obedience events.

I also thank LRC Inc. members Marianne Foote, Joan Kerr, Lee Foote, Nina Mann, Mary Feazell, Nancy Brandow, Terrie McFadden, Frances Smith, Juxi Burr, Nancy Stewart, Marcia Lucas, Sharon Grieves, Ann Vaughn, and NSEC Chairs for their guidance and expertise.

This National was truly a TEAM EFFORT - Together Everyone Achieves More. Thank you for your contributions to "California Fun Unleashed". It was an honor to work with our three Labrador club families to successfully accomplish a common goal.

Barbara Nowak, 2010 National Chairperson



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



<u>Date</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
NOVEMBER 2010			
11/6	San Gabriel Valley KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	City of Industry
11/6	Antelope Valley KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	City of Industry
11/13	LRSC	Board Meeting	Denny's in Brea
11/13	SCDOC	TOP DOG	
11/19	LRSC RETRIEVER REVIEW NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE		
11/20 & 21	Golden Retriever Club of Greater LA	Hunt Test	Chino
11/27	Golden Valley KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Turlock
11/27 & 28	Orange Empire Dog Club	Agility	Bloomington
DECEMBER 2010			
12/1	KC of Beverly Hills	All Breed, Obedience	Long Beach
12/2	Los Encinos KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Long Beach
12/3	Long Beach KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Long Beach
12/3	American KC	Agility	Long Beach
12/4	American KC	All Breed, Obedience	Long Beach
TBD	LRSC	Board Meeting	Denny's in Brea
12/10	Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Costa Mesa
12/11 & 12	Valley Hills Obedience Club, Inc	Agility, Rally, Obedience	Van Nuys
12/11 & 12	Golden Retriever Club of San Diego	Agility	Escondido
12/11	Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County	All Breed	Costa Mesa
12/12 & 13	Malibu KC	All Breed	Costa Mesa
12/17	LRSC RETRIEVER REVIEW NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE		
12/18 & 19	KC of Palm Springs	Agility	City of Industry
12/29	Orange Coast Rhodesian Ridgeback Club	Agility	City of Industry
12/30 & 31	Keeshond Club of SC	Agility	City of Industry
12/31	High Desert Agility Club	Agility	Pomona
JANUARY 2011			
1/7, 8 & 9	Palm Springs KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Empire Equestrian Park and Polo Field, Indio
TBD	LRSC	Board Meeting	Denny's in Brea
1/16	Belgian Tervuren Club	Track Test	Prado Regional Park
1/20	Channel City KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Ventura
1/21	LRSC RETRIEVER REVIEW NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE		
1/21	Simi Valley KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Ventura
1/22	San Fernando KC	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Ventura
1/23	Ventura County Dog Fanciers	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	Ventura
1/29 & 30	Orange Empire Dog Club	All Breed, Obedience, Rally	National Orange Show Grounds, San Bernardino