



RETRIEVER REVIEW

SEPTEMBER 2010

WWW.LRCSOCAL.ORG

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Everybody,

The week-long Labrador Retriever Club National that the three Southern California regional clubs will host this October at Prado Regional Park, is not that far off, and volunteers are needed. Contact Margaret Stanard for specifics.

Those of you who are not interested in showing your dog, or who may have a spayed/neutered Labrador, might be interested in the Conformation Certificate offered at the National. Details of this program can be found at the parent club website www.thelabradorclub.com. Click on "Programs" and then "Conformation Certificate".

In preparation for the Working Certificate and the Conformation events, LRCSC will hold training opportunities. WC practice days will be Sunday, September 12 and Sunday, October 3 at Prado Dog Training Park. Conformation handling classes (starting around 9 am) will be held prior to our B-OB match on Saturday, September 11 at Tewinkle Park. Don't forget the match raffle and picnic. Raffle donations are appreciated!

Some of you have inquired about the Fun Day. We plan to offer it again in 2011 - probably in June or July and possibly in a slightly different format. Let us know what you have found the most helpful/interesting/enjoyable in the past.

Breeders keep in mind that again in 2011 our Futurity will be held at the Saturday Specialty. Litters born November 1, 2009 - October 30, 2010 are eligible. Contact Trudy Soneson if you have not yet entered your litter. Futurity rules are on the LRCSC website.

We have a busy Fall coming up. Hope to see you at some of these activities!

Jane

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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.

2010 - 2011 LRCSC OFFICERS

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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!

From the Membership Chair
Celeste Young
finnmarksviddalabs@hotmail.com

**WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING
NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS!**

Sheila Thornburgh
Amanda Wong
Ellie Larez-Brault
Cathy Banks
Becky & Roger Pike
Dale & Kathy Nelson

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

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:

Jason Armison
Diana Kudell

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

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



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.

Lands End On My Mind

(BISS CH Nipntuck Hyspire Unforgettable X CH Lands End Whatever She Wants CDX MH RN)

Breeder/Owner/Handler - Lauren Bullock

7/31/2010 WB,BOW,BOB - Lompoc Valley Kennel Club, Judge-Sandra Goose Allen

8/1/2010 WB, BOS - Lompoc Valley Kennel Club, Judge-Donna Buxton



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.

BLACK AND YELLOW litter, due July 20, 2010

Sire: BISS CH Danbridge Henry J

OFA LR-179444G24M-VPI, OFA-EL42065M24-VPI, CERF LR-54968, Optigen Normal, Heart normal

Dam: CH Thornwood's Singular Sensation

OFA LR-166269G24F-PI, OFA-EL34315F24-PI, CERF LR-42622-10

Contact: Cheri Conway (541)723-2467 forlabs@centurytel.net

ALL CHOCOLATE litter, due August 10, 2010

Sire: CH Thornwood's Resolution

OFA-LR-154123G24M-PI, OFA-EL28055M24-PI, CERF LR-41956-10 Optigen Normal, Heart normal

Dam: Thornwood's Friendly Persuasion

OFA LR-185933G24F-VPI, OFA-EL46284F24-VPI, CERF LR-51812-10

Contact: Cheri Conway (541)723-2467 forlabs@centurytel.net

CHOCOLATE MALE AVAILABLE, D.O.B. 10/31/09

CH Thornwood's The Achiever son.

Nice boy, great temperament

OFA hip prelim good, OFA elbows normal, CERF LR-56820/2010-7

Contact: Cheri Conway (541)723-2467 forlabs@centurytel.net

YELLOW MALE AVAILABLE, D.O.B. 4/8/09

CH Gingerbred Celestial Thunder x CH Lenches Teddy Bear daughter. Nice boy, great temperament

OFA hip prelim good, OFA elbows normal, CERF LR-56819/2010-14

Contact: Cheri Conway (541)723-2467 forlabs@centurytel.net

WHAT'S UP???

What fun things and new experiences have you and your dogs been up to? Send in photos and short write-ups to the editor at: FINNMARKSVIDDALABS@HOTMAIL.COM



MY FIRST DOG

Share your first dog experiences. Send in a short story, or just a few sentences about your experience with your first dog that got you introduced to competition - conformation, agility, obedience, hunt- a reminiscent story of how wonderful your first dog was accompanied by amusing antidotes. There just seems to be something so special about our first dog.



DONATIONS NEEDED

4 old simple slip-in style eye glass cases for the LRC Nationals Tracking Event.

Contact: Celeste at
finnmarksviddalabs@hotmail.com



National Specialty Photography Contest

Enter photos of your Labradors in the National Specialty Photography Contest. You don't even have to attend or enter the shows to enter the Photography Contest. Just following the simple rules on the following link from the National Specialty website and submit photos to me at my email dmatsuura@canidae.com or you can send them to me in the mail. So far I have only received a handful of entries and I know there are more great Labrador photos out there that you have taken. So share your love of Labradors as seen through the lens of your camera and let's make this years National Specialty better than ever.

http://www.thelabradorclub.com/subpages/show_contents.php?page=Photography+Contest

Sincerely,
Diane Matsuura

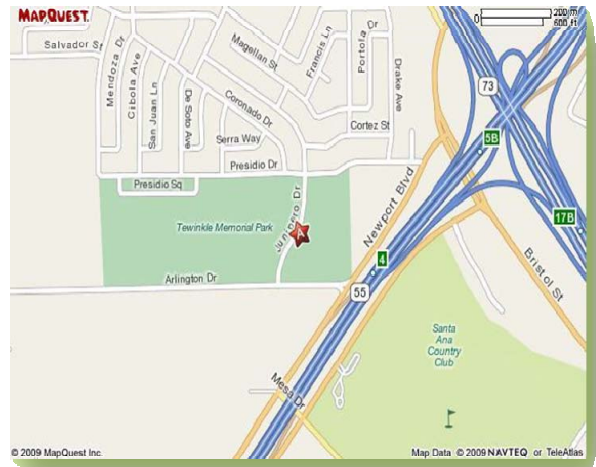
The Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California

AKC B-OB Match

September 11, 2010

Tewinkle Park, 970 Arlington,
Costa Mesa, CA

From the 405 fwy N or S, take the Fairview exit. Go to the west. Left at Arlington Dr. (just before the fairgrounds). Left at Junipero Dr. (cuts across the park). Turn right into the parking lot. The "Bowl" is the grassy area beside the parking lot.



Judges

Ms. Lauren Bullock – Conformation and Junior Showmanship
TBD - Obedience

Pre-entry deadline is September 4th. Please send entries to:
Irma Fox, 16535 Flower Glen Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Classes Offered:

Conformation: 4-6m. puppy, 6-9m. puppy, 9-12m. puppy, 12-18m., Bred by Exhibitor, Open Black, Open AOAC

Obedience: Sub-Novice, Novice A, Novice B, Open A, Open B, Utility, Grad Novice

Junior Showmanship: \$1.00 Ringside, classes divided as necessary

Futurity: No Futurity offered this year.

Entry Costs: Pre-entry \$6.00 per entry and \$4.00 additional class per dog

Day of Match \$8.00 per entry and \$5.00 additional class per dog

Additional Information

Judging will begin at 10:00a.m. with Junior Showmanship and Obedience.

Pot-Luck Picnic in the Park: LRCSC will provide sandwich fixings and cold drinks. Please bring your favorite food to share.

Bring your own chairs and dog equipment (crate or x-pen) and shade.

Reminder: Professional handlers may show only their own dogs. Dogs with major points toward their Championship are not eligible for match entry.

Only Labradors may be entered in this Match.

To **VOLUNTEER** or **Match information** contact:
Tania Brodowski, k9lablady@mac.com

LRCSC Match Entry Form

Send pre-entries to: Irma Fox, 16535 Flower Glen Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

All Pre-entries due by September 4, 2010

Entry number _____

AKC Name of Dog: _____

Color _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Owner(s) Name: _____ Phone# _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

First entry per dog \$6.00 Additional class per dog \$4.00

Breed Class (circle one) 4-6m. 6-9m. 9-12m. 12-18m. BBE, Open Blk, Open AOAC

Obedience Class (circle one) Sub-nov, Nov A, Nov B, Open A, Open B, Utility, Grad Nov

I/We agree to hold the LRCSC, it's officers, members, and agents harmless for any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused to any person or thing while upon the match grounds.

Owner Signature _____ Total Paid: _____

LRCSC Match Entry Form

Send pre-entries to: Irma Fox, 16535 Flower Glen Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

All Pre-entries due by September 4, 2010

Entry number _____

AKC Name of Dog: _____

Color _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Owner(s) Name: _____ Phone# _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

First entry per dog \$6.00 Additional entry per dog \$4.00

Breed Class (circle one) 4-6m. 6-9m. 9-12m. 12-18m. BBE, Open Blk, Open AOAC

Obedience Class (circle one) Sub-nov, Nov A, Nov B, Open A, Open B, Utility, Grad Nov

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Owner Signature _____ Total Paid: _____

Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California

WORKING CERTIFICATE PRACTICE DAY

Sunday, September 12th, 2010*

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.

***A follow-up training day will be held on
Sunday, October 3rd, at the same location**

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

We will meet at the picnic area at 8:30 AM

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

*We'll need to know your phone number and
the number of dogs you will be bringing so that 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 field. Guns, live ammunition, e-collars and birds may be
used by some trainers on their own dogs for training purposes.***

LRC NATIONALS

Hi Everyone,

On behalf of the LRC Inc. and the three regional clubs providing support and assistance, San Diego LRC, High Desert LRC, and LRC Southern California, I invite you to the 2010 LRC Inc. National to be held to be held at Prado Regional Park and Prado Dog Training Center in Chino, California. The theme is "California Fun Unleashed."

The 2010 National Specialty Events week begins on Saturday, October 9 with the hunting retriever/working certificate tests and ends with the National Specialty Best of Breed competition on Friday, October 15, 2010. A GO GREEN Simplified Regional Specialty will be held on Wednesday, October 13. The Top 25 Agility Exhibition will be held on Wednesday and the Inaugural Top 20 Conformation Tribute & Exhibition will be held on Thursday.

The LRC Inc. 2010 National Combined Events Premium List is posted on the LRC Inc. website (www.thelabradorclub.com) and on Jack Bradshaw, Dog Show Superintendent's website (www.jackbradshaw.com) The Premium List WILL NOT BE MAILED due to its 56 pages and postage costs. Postcards have been mailed to exhibitors publicizing the National and listing the Premium List websites.

The National rotates across the time zones each year. This is the FIRST TIME the National will be in Southern California. The members of the three host clubs need to work together to ensure the National's success. Here are some things you can do:

- Volunteer to serve as a steward in the Rally Ring or help with the raffle, T-shirt or catalog sales, hospitality, decorations, and event setup/take down.
- Volunteer to help with hospitality at the morning coffee table or Friday lunch.
- Bring a basket or item for the Raffle Table.
- Pre-order T-shirts, sweatshirts, and catalogs on order form in Premium List.
- Reserve tickets for Mexican Fiesta on Wednesday and BBQ Banquet/Live Band on Thursday on order form in Premium List.
- Attend the educational seminar on EIC on Tuesday at the Doubletree Host Hotel.
- Attend the "Meet and Greet" at the Doubletree on Tuesday evening.
- Reserve room at the Doubletree Hotel or camping spot at Prado Regional Park
- Enter the Hunt and/or Working Certificate Tests.
- Enter Agility, Tracking, Rally or Obedience
- Enter the GO GREEN OR NATIONAL Conformation Competition

Information for all of the above events is in the Premium List posted on the websites. All of the evening dinners and events will be held at Prado Regional Park. The seminar and "Meet and Greet" will be held at the Doubletree Hotel. The National Committee has worked hard to keep all of the events affordable. Contact Margaret Stanard at 714-832-8549 or mstanard@cox.net to volunteer a few hours of your time. ENTRIES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 15, 2010. HUNT TEST ENTRIES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 29, 2010.

The National is a celebration of Labrador friendships and the versatility of our breed. Enter your Labrador, join the fun, and enjoy "California Fun Unleashed" with us.

BARBARA NOWAK, NATIONAL CHAIR



Heading West . . .

The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. 2010 National Specialty Events Week

Prado Regional Park and Prado Dog Training Area, Chino, California (Southern California)

October 9 through October 15, 2010

Deadline for catalog advertising September 5, 2010.

Entries for Conformation, Companion Dog Events and the WC and CC close September 15, 2010.

Entries for the Hunting Retriever Test close September 29, 2010.

Food and Entertainment with—

- “Meet & Greet” Hospitality Night • Mexican Fiesta Night • On site Barbeque Night with Band

A Hunting Retriever Test with—

- TWO Juniors • TWO Seniors • A Master
- Working Certificate Test (WC) • Conformation Evaluation (CC)

Tracking Test—

- TD and TDX tracks.

Workshops with—

- Educational Seminars • Health Screening Clinics • Judges’ Education Seminar

Companion Events with—

- TWO Agility Trials • TWO Obedience Trials • TWO Rally Trials

Conformation Events—

- TWO dog shows
- Sweepstakes • Jr. Showmanship

Host Hotel will be the **Doubletree**, Ontario, California.

For the hotel reservations link, event details, judges and more information visit the LRC, Inc. web site at www.thelabradorclub.com.

A very BIG THANK YOU to the members of the three regional Southern California clubs—the Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California, the San Diego Labrador Retriever Club and the High Desert Labrador Retriever Club—that have provided their support, recommendations and manpower to help make the 2010 National Specialty Event Week an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Come Join the Fun!

Ellen and Goldie

By LRCSC Member Joanie Shugar



Stonecreek Native Gold Dust, "Goldie" and her Jr. Handler are really celebrating lately. Owner Joanie Shugar has known Ellen since she was 8 years old. Ellen has grown up with Goldie when we brought Goldie home from Stonecreek Labradors at 7 weeks old. When Goldie was old enough to start obedience school, Ellen went with us. As Goldie got in her doggie adult years, she waited at the gate for Ellen to come home from school and play with her. They were quite the pair. I started showing Goldie in obedience

when she was two years old and Ellen would go with us. She admired the Jr. Handlers and wished she had her own dog to do that. I researched it and called the AKC. They said I could register with her as "Friend of Mother." When Ellen turned twelve I got permission from her parents. We were really excited. Nan Moher, her mother had to sign a letter stating it was o.k. for me to take her to dog shows. I got Ellen in handling classes and we were on our way. Ellen excelled in it and loved going to the matches and shows. After winning a few Best Junior at matches we went for the AKC shows.

Ellen is also registered with Goldie in Therapy Dogs International for her school volunteer hours she has to meet before high school graduation. She will be a sophomore this year. It has taken us two years of showing to complete her three firsts in competition for her Novice title. She earned that at the Summerfest Dog Show in Ventura on July 11, 2010. I was able to get an RN title with Goldie and have been trying for the CD. Goldie would much rather be in the ring with Ellen than "Mom." She is a different dog with Ellen. With me she is thinking, " Oh No! You are no fun in the ring!" We have seen Ellen grow into a lovely young lady. She is 15 and a half now and showing Goldie has given her confidence in herself.



Vaccinations for Your Dog: A Complex Issue

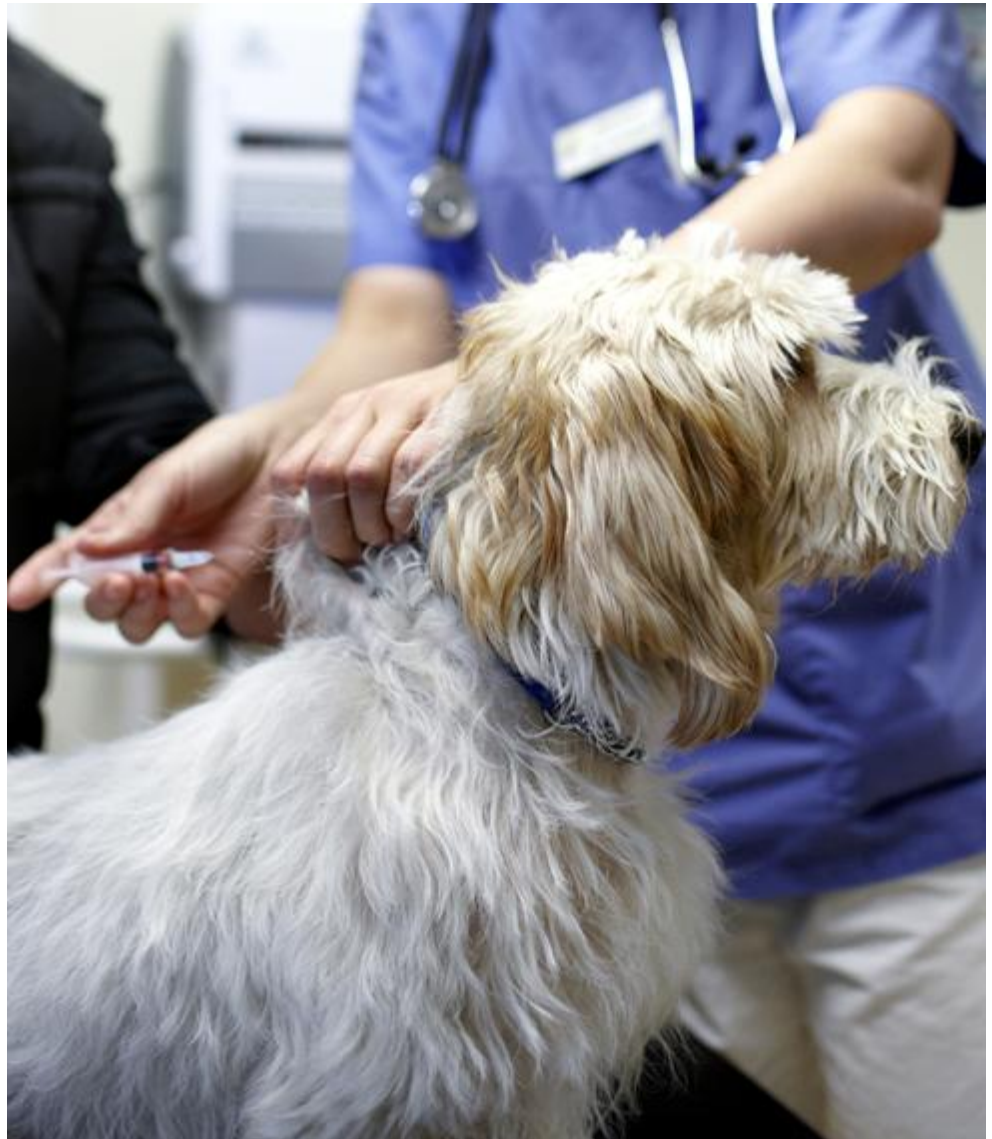
Reprinted from: <http://speakingforspot.com/blog/?p=1119>

During my last year of veterinary school, I recall how scary it was when a new canine virus—parvovirus—seemed to appear out of nowhere. Highly contagious, it spread like wildfire throughout the United States, causing severe illness and often death. It was a downright frightening time for veterinarians and the clients they served. Fortunately, an effective vaccine was rapidly developed, and this horrible new virus was downgraded from a rampant deadly infection to a preventable disease. Thank goodness for vaccines! They provide a remarkable means of preventive health care for dogs.

As invaluable as vaccinations are for protecting canine health, determining which vaccines are appropriate and how frequently they should be administered are no longer simple decisions. In my book, vaccinations are no different than any other medical procedure. They should not be administered without individualized discussion and consideration of the potential risks and benefits. Gone are the days of behaving like a “Stepford wife” when it comes to your dog’s vaccinations — it’s no longer necessarily in his best interest to vaccinate simply because a reminder postcard has arrived in the mailbox.

Consider the following:

- There are currently 14 canine vaccinations to choose from! Back in the days when I was just a pup there were only five, and decision-making regarding vaccine selection for an individual dog was far less complicated.



- Over the past decade we’ve learned that, for some vaccines, the duration of protection is far longer than previously recognized. In the past we vaccinated for the core diseases (distemper, parvovirus, and rabies) annually. We now know that these vaccinations, when given to adult dogs, provide protection for a minimum of three years and, in some cases protection is life-long.

- The duration and degree of immune protection triggered by a vaccine is variable, not only based on manufacturer, but from dog to dog as well.

Show Your Dog (or Cat) You've Got Their Back... With Massage!

By Pam Holt, RVT

(Reprinted from "The Pet Press" Vol. 11 – Issue 10)

Thankfully, our beloved animals are living longer these days. The downside of this blessing is age-related afflictions like arthritis, but you can help your friends with two things: your loving hands! Massaging your animal will provide endless benefits for them, and will also positively affect your own immune system while lowering your blood pressure and deepening your bond with your precious companion. The priceless knowledge you gain from regular massage is learning what feels normal on your animal so that you will be alerted to anything abnormal earlier.

Even the lightest massage releases endorphins, the body's natural pain relievers. Toxin elimination and circulation of blood, lymph, nutrients and oxygen to the tissues are increased by massage, encouraging healing and preventing injury. Massage stimulates the parasympathetic nervous system, allowing relaxation. Massage has been shown to safely increase levels of the brain's "feel good" transmitters, dopamine and serotonin, as it reduces stress hormones, cortisol and adrenaline. Seniors find massage especially helpful, but growing young animals, competitive and working dogs, recovering animals and fearful and stressed animals can also greatly benefit. In general, massage promotes healing for all animals.

The contraindications for massage include fever, shock, and vomiting. Avoid massaging over sores, rashes, skin infections, tumors and lumps. Massage never takes the place of proper veterinary care. Please always consult your trusted veterinarian for any persistent problems bothering your animal.

Fresh water should be offered before and after to help flush out toxins. Wash your hands, dim the lights, play calming music, light some candles (safely away from wagging tails), and get yourself and your animal comfortable. Close your eyes, take a deep breath, exhale slowly, letting go of all your worries, and enjoy this quiet relaxation time. Keep your breathing slow and relaxed. Keep both hands on your animal to maintain a constant connection. Always operate on their feedback, positive or negative, and adjust your intuitive touch accordingly. Massage both sides of the body for balance.

Begin the session with *effleurage* from head to tail. Effleurage is slow, long, gliding, continuous, soothing stroking with your flat, relaxed palm, alternating hands, and slowly increasing pressure. Effleurage warms and flushes the tissues: stretches muscle fibers and relaxes them for deeper work; can help identify spasm, swelling, and knots; and is used throughout to clear areas of lactic acid.

Ears contain many nerve endings and acupressure points around the base to the tip, so you can massage them accordingly around the base and use thumb strokes out to the tip for a calming effect.

Once the tissues are warmed up, use *friction massage* to break up adhesions and scar tissue (that causes painful limited range of motion) with fingers or thumbs across muscle fibers, following down fur line on both sides of the spine, and on other muscled areas.

Deeper massage, called *petrissage*, begins with gentle kneading and loose skin rolling, and then moves to wringing, picking up and squeezing relaxed, warmed muscles. Start superficially at the loose skin of the neck and back, and slowly work deeper with a gentle intuitive touch. Intersperse plenty of effleurage strokes to drain the metabolic waste. *Compression* softens tissue and is done with the heel of your hand, using rhythmic pumping pressure action on the bulky parts of large muscles.

Dogs automatically imitate people

Some dogs may look like their owners, but all dogs imitate their human companions.

By Jennifer Viegas, Discovery News
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/38446579?GT1=43001>

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, dogs often shower us with praise. New research has just determined dogs automatically imitate us, even when it is not in their best interest to do so.

The study, published in the latest Proceedings of the Royal Society B, provides the first evidence that dogs copy at least some of our body movements and behaviors in ways that are spontaneous and voluntary.

In other words, they can't really help themselves when it comes to copying people.

"This suggests that, like humans, dogs are subject to 'automatic imitation'; they cannot inhibit online, the tendency to imitate head use and/or paw use," lead author Friederike Range and her colleagues conclude.

It's long been known that humans do this, even when the tendency to copy interferes with efficiency.

"For example," according to the researchers, "if people are instructed to open their mouths as soon as they see the letters 'OM' appear on a screen, responses are slower when the letters are accompanied by an image of an opening hand than when they are accompanied by an image of an opening mouth."

In a scientific first, Range — a University of Vienna researcher in the Department of Cognitive Biology — and her team tested this phenomenon on dogs. Ten adult dogs of various breeds and their owners, from Austria, participated in the experiments.

All of the dogs received preliminary training to open a sliding door using their head or a paw. The dogs then watched their owners open the door by hand or by head. For the latter, the owner would get down on the floor and use his or her head to push up or down on the sliding door.

The dogs were next divided into two groups. Dogs in the first group received a food reward whenever they copied what the owner did. Dogs in the second group received a food reward when they did the opposite.

All of the dogs were inclined to copy what the owner did, even if it meant receiving no food reward.

"This finding suggests that the dogs brought with them to the experiment a tendency automatically to imitate hand use and/or paw use by their owner; to imitate these actions even when it was costly to do so," the authors report.

The scientists suggest owners would do well to match their own body movements, whenever possible, to tasks at hand during training sessions.

For example, if an owner is trying to teach a dog to shake "hands," the person might have more success if he stretched out his own hand to demonstrate. The observing dog would then be inclined to stretch out a paw, mirroring what the human did. At that point, a food reward could be offered to the dog, reinforcing the behavior.

The owner is reinforcing bonding and cooperation with the dog, too.

Massage (Cont'd from page 13)

Pent-up energy is stored in the feet and there are important reflexology points on the feet that correspond to the organ systems, making the foot massage so vital (and it helps one get used to handling for nail trimming). Start by squeezing the feet, then massage between the pads and stroke down each toe. Most of the energy pathways of the body called meridians begin or end between the digits, so these points are called "ting points" and can be stimulated by squeezing at the base of each toenail with your thumb and forefinger. I use this opportunity to give each toe a little stretch. Then gently bend all the toes together forward and back a few times before ending with another squeeze.

Stretching is valuable for such reasons as realigning muscle fibers, speeding up the muscle recovery process necessary after exercise in which massage is a passive form of, and opening up joint spaces to allow more fluid to be produced.

Slow, fluid, gentle stretches are done ONLY after the muscles are warmed up, supporting both sides of the joint, never with force or past the point of resistance. Tenderly flex and extend the toes, wrists, elbows, ankles and knees. With the animal on its side, bring the front leg forward slowly for a shoulder stretch and back to its resting place for 4 counts of 8 seconds each, then back for a biceps/deltoid stretch for the same. Gently bring the back leg forward for a buttocks stretch, and then stretch the knee and pelvis by bringing the leg back gently (they usually help with this one). After stretching, gently shake out the limbs with vibrating hands, and do light percussion with relaxed hands and wrists, called *tapotement*.

Closure consists of slowing effleurage strokes, decreasing pressure. Use *passive touch* by placing your hands for short intervals without movement or pressure all over the body with a loving intent.

Space doesn't allow elaborating here on two important techniques: acupressure and TTouch, but I hope to have future articles to share these methods.

After the massage, your animal should urinate, drink and balance themselves out a bit. A nap for two would be next on the schedule, and you've got yourselves a perfect afternoon!

Hop you can make it to *My Pet... Naturally* on September 26th for an animal massage workshop where effective massage, TTouch and acupressure techniques will be taught.

(Pam Holt of Buddha Dog Animal Massage is a Registered Veterinary Technician and Certified Animal Massage Therapist. She handles marketing and volunteer coordinating for NBCAAM (National Board of Certification for Animal Acupressure & Massage). Visit her website at www.buddhadog.com for more info and her FREE animal massage booklet or call 818.300.4478)

Imitate (Cont'd from page 14)

"Researchers have known that human beings prefer the behavior of other people who subtly imitate their gestures and other affects," said Duane Alexander, M.D., director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child and Human Development.

Alexander worked on another study showing that non-human primates automatically imitate each other. Certain birds do this, too, but it may be very rare in the animal kingdom for one species to almost subconsciously imitate the behavior of a completely different species.

The dog-human bond may therefore have few, if any, parallels.

"Dogs are special animals, both in terms of their evolutionary history of domestication and the range and intensity of their developmental training by humans," Range and her team explain.

"Both of these factors may enhance the extent to which dogs attend to human activity," they added, "but the results of the present experiment suggest it is the latter — training in the course of development — which plays the more powerful and specific role in shaping their imitative behavior."

Vaccinations (Cont'd from page 12)

- Other than for rabies (state mandated), vaccination protocols are anything but standardized. There are no set rules veterinarians must follow when determining which vaccines to give and how often they are administered. Unfortunately, some vets continue to vaccinate for distemper and parvovirus annually even though we know that these adult vaccines provide protection for a minimum of three years. Some vets give multiple inoculations at once, others administer just one at a time.
- Increasingly clear-cut documentation shows that vaccines have the potential to cause many side effects. While vaccine reactions/complications are still considered to be infrequent, they can be life threatening.

What you can do:

So, as your dog's savvy and courageous medical advocate, what can you do to be sure that he is neither under or overvaccinated? Here are some guidelines for making wise vaccine choices for your best buddy:

1. Educate yourself about available canine vaccinations and the diseases they are capable of preventing (in some cases treating the disease, should it arise, might be preferable to the risks and expense associated with vaccination). Learn about duration of vaccine protection and potential side effects. Talk with a trusted veterinarian and read the chapter called "The Vaccination Conundrum" in [*Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life*](#). It provides detailed discussion about all aspects of canine vaccinations including the diseases they prevent, adverse vaccination reactions, and vaccine serology (blood testing that helps determine if your dog is truly in need of another vaccine). The American Animal Hospital Association's "Canine Vaccine Guidelines" is also an excellent source of information.
2. Figure out which diseases your dog has potential exposure to. A miniature poodle who rarely leaves his Manhattan penthouse likely has no exposure to Lyme disease (spread by ticks); however a Lab that goes camping and duck hunting may have significant exposure.
3. Alert your veterinarian to any symptoms or medical issues your dog is experiencing. It is almost always best to avoid vaccinating a sick dog — better to let his immune system concentrate on getting rid of a current illness rather than creating a vaccine "distraction." If your dog has a history of autoimmune (immune-mediated) disease, it may be advisable to alter his vaccine protocol or even forego ongoing vaccinations — be sure to discuss this with your vet.
4. Let your vet know if your dog has had vaccine side effects in the past. If the reaction was quite serious, she may recommend that you forego future vaccinations, necessitating an official letter to your local government agency excusing your pup from rabies-related requirements.
5. Consider vaccine serology for your dog. This involves testing a blood sample from your dog to determine if adequate vaccine protection still exists (remember, vaccine protection for the core diseases lasts a minimum of three years). While such testing isn't perfect, in general if the blood test indicates active and adequate protection, there is no need to vaccinate. Serology may make more sense than simply vaccinating at set intervals.
6. Ask your veterinarian about the potential side effects of proposed vaccinations, what you should be watching for, and whether or not there are any restrictions for your dog in the days immediately following vaccination.

Vaccine Clinics

I will tell you right up front that I am not a fan of vaccine clinics - a “factory line” approach to vaccinating dogs. Their only redeeming quality seems to be their low cost that makes it possible for some dogs to be vaccinated that otherwise wouldn’t be. Know that, if you choose to use a vaccination clinic you may be sacrificing quality of care for your dog in the following ways:

- You may not receive adequate counseling about which vaccinations are appropriate for your dog based on his age and lifestyle.
- Serologic testing will not be an option.
- A thorough physical examination will not be performed prior to vaccination administration. Abnormalities such as a fever, irregular heart rhythm, or abdominal mass will go unnoticed. Not only might the vaccination do more harm than good in a dog that is sick, but a golden window of opportunity for early disease detection and treatment will be missed.
- Records pertaining to prior adverse vaccination reactions may not be available.
- The vaccination clinic veterinarian may not be available to tend to your dog should he experience an adverse reaction, especially one that occurs hours to days later.

Have you had difficulty figuring out which vaccines your dog really needs and how often they should be administered? If so, please share your story with me.

Now, here’s wishing you and your four-legged best friend abundant good health!

Nancy Kay, DVM

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Recipient, 2009 Dog Writers Association of America Award for Best Blog

Recipient, 2009 Eukanuba Canine Health Award

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Become a [Fan of Speaking for Spot on Facebook](#)

Please visit <http://www.speakingforspot.com> to read excerpts from *Speaking for Spot*. There you will also find “Advocacy Aids”- helpful health forms you can download and use for your own dog, and a collection of published articles on advocating for your pet’s health. *Speaking for Spot* is available at Amazon.com, local bookstores, or your favorite online book seller.

The articles published in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or of the LRCSC and are included as items of general interest only.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- 11** LRCSC B-OB MATCH – Tewinkle Park, Costa Mesa
11 LRCSC Board Meeting – following the match
12 LRCSC WC Practice day, Prado Dog Training Park
17 **Deadline for Retriever Review submissions**
 18 & 19 Sir Francis Drake KC – Vallejo
 OFA cardio, patella, hip, elbow, shoulder, thyroid, DNA testing – www.showdogmed.com
 CGC Test
 CoolBred Canine Services
 International Canine Semen Bank – info@icsbgrassvalley.com
 18 & 19 IVRC Fall NAHRA Hunt Test - Prado
 25 & 26 Santa Ana Valley, KC – Cerritos
 26 & 27 GWFCRC 2010 Hunt Test - Prado

October

- 2 & 3 Burbank KC, Van Nuys
3 LRCSC WC Practice day, Prado Dog Training Park
9 – 17 LRC Nationals – Prado Regional Park
 16 & 17 Cabrillo KC, Del Mar
 Black Mountain KC, Primm, NV
 Bakersfield OC, Obedience & Rally Trial, Bakersfield College
 17 Obedience Club of San Diego County, Markim Pet Resort
15 **Deadline for Retriever Review submissions**
 21 – 25 Golden Gate Labrador Club Specialty – Pleasanton, CA
 23 & 24 Hidden Valley OC, Escondido
 30 & 31 KC of Riverside, Perris
 31 Pasanita OC, Pasadena

November

- 6 & 7 San Gabriel Valley & Antelope Valley KC, City of Industry
 13 Top Dog, Orange Empire
 13 & 14 CSCRC Fall Hunt Test – Lost Hills
19 **Deadline for Retriever Review submissions**
 19 – 22 Tucson & Greater Sierra Vista KC, Tucson, AZ
 20 – 22 San Luis Obispo & Santa Maria KC, Paso Robles
 26 & 27 Golden Valley KC, Turlock
 28 & 29 San Joaquin KC, Stockton

Interested in TRACKING??

**Volunteer to be a tracklayer at the
LRC Nationals in October!**

Contact Celeste at finnmarksviddalabs@hotmail.com