



August 2010



The Labrador Retriever Club of the
Pioneer Valley, Inc.

5 Fawn Drive

Granby, CT 06035



LRCPV Member

WWW.LRCPV.ORG



The Labrador Retriever Club of the Pioneer Valley, Inc

August, 2010

Officers and Directors 2009-2010

President	Ann Burns
Vice President	Lois Engel
Corresponding Secretary	Gretchen Boss
	24 Amherst Rd., West Springfield, MA 01089
	Email: cgnbboss@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary	Lauren Simpson
Treasurer	Laura Lafreniere

Directors:

Laura Cook, Judi Dorsett, Kenin Strout, Annmarie Wilson

Newsletter Staff

Editor	Kelly Rome
Newsletter Committee	Ann Huntington, Jan Lemire
Webmaster	Annmarie Wilson
	Email: Annmarie@wilannlabradors.com

The Newsletter is mailed to all LRCPV members at no fee. Newsletter subscriptions to non-members are \$15.00 per year. Club activity or committee reports, editorial, or general articles of interest to Labrador Retriever owners are always welcome. Any opinions or reports contained herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the membership, the Board of Directors or the editors. Please address all correspondence to the Editor at the address below:

Newsletter Editor, LRCPV

Kelly Rome, 5 Fawn Drive, Granby CT 06035

Email: Calsamlabs@cox.net

The purpose of this Newsletter is to give members an overview of Club activities and to keep them informed on breed related issues. The Newsletter is published 10 times per year, or whenever the editor can manage it.

Contacting the LRCPV

www.lrcpv.org

Email: LRCPV@aol.com LRCPVRESCUE@aol.com

Inside this issue

Meeting Notice	2
Litters	2
Up Coming Events	3
LRCPV Rally Match Update	3
Tribute	4
Dues Notice	6
Tackling Osteosarcoma	7



Newsletter Submissions

The Newsletter also welcomes articles for possible publication.

Please send submissions to

LRCPV Newsletter

5 Fawn Drive, Granby, CT 06035

E-mail Calsamlabs@cox.net

Deadline by the 10th of each month.

Labrador Retriever Club of the Pioneer Valley, Inc.

Meeting Notice

September 5th 6:00 pm Suffield Vet

Puppies Available

Note: In order to list a litter you must be in good standing with the club and work at a minimum of 2 club events during the current calendar year. Members who are unable to meet this requirement may list a litter after paying a \$50 litter listing fee. Regardless, you must submit proof of eye, hip and elbow clearances to the Treasurer before your litter can be listed in the newsletter or on the website.

Breckin Labradors
Black Males Available
Parents have Clearances
Please contact [Gretchen Boss](#) for more information.
Phone: 413-736-5606

Chocolate Males and Females Available
Sire: Majestx Call Me Mr. Tibbs
Dam: Gigi
Parents have Clearances
Please contact [Kenin Strout](#) for more information.
Phone: 413-426-1113



Bittersweet Labradors
Chocolates due August 12
Sire: CH Thornwood's Resolution (Chance)
Dam: Bittersweet's Mischief Maker (Annie)
Parents have Clearances
Please contact [Susan Brownell](#) for more information.
Phone: 518-393-5572

For up-to-date information on puppies & adult dogs visit

WWW.LRCPV.ORG

Up Coming Club Events

September 12th: Supported entry Carroll County

September 19th: Wellness Clinic at Suffield Vet

September: Big E - date TBD

Rally Match Update

Our annual Rally Match went off without a hitch on Sunday, August 15, 2010. There were 30 individual dogs entered, many twice. Several members entered their dogs, and two (Sandy Masek and Lauren Simpson) earned qualifying scores. Twenty dogs qualified. Total income from entries is \$328, which I think is the highest ever.

The hardest working members there were our excellent judge Deb Brunell, my match co-chair Tina Stone and her amazing mom Cindy Stone. Close behind them in the effort department are Annmarie Wilson, Lauren Simpson, Sandy Masek, Gretchen Boss, and Fran Cain. I appreciate everyone's help for another successful event.

Ann Huntington



Braggs:



From Kristen Hurwitz:

Cedarwood's Blazing Pursuit of the Ruthless Bandit STAR, RLP (AOE) "C.J." completed her APDT Rally Puppy title in 3 straight shows with 3 first places, one perfect 210 and picking up the title distinction, Award Of Excellence. She has accumulated 87 national ranking points (30 points more than the #1 puppy last year). All this before her 1st birthday! I couldn't be prouder of this little working girl.

From Susan Brownell

My boy Duncan, Rockycreek Bittersweet Drambuie JH WC, took Bred By at the supported entry Kathy Mines his breeder and coowner was showing him I couldn't make it down to see everyone ... but did get down there on Sat ... he took the point on Sat ...

From Kelly Rome:

"Ditto" earned her AKC Championship title this month and is now Am/UKC Ch Casbar's déjà vu. RN,

"Chase" Calsam's Hot Pursuit of Casbar, earned his Canadian Championship title in one trip to Canada. He won a supported entry and under breeder judges Pat & Mike Lanctot.

Cindy Clement

"Tally" DUNE DANCER'S TALLADEGA TOUR went winners bitch, best of winners and best of opposite at the Great Barrington Kennel Club Show.



A Tribute to Sarah,, by Penney Baker

We said goodbye to Sarah yesterday. It was sad, angry, emotional, crazy and just wrong but time.

Sarah was over 14 and I wish I had her back. Sarah was my first labrador. Well, actually, second one if you count Lila, a product of a job I had just out of college. Lila was a lab cross and the sweetest thing. Of course that may have been because we got her at 11 but who knows.

I had decided way before then there were 3 things I had to have. A coach purse, a tattoo, and a labrador. I'm happy to say I managed to reach all of those goals in multiples, although the multiple thing people continue to have a hard time understanding.

Sarah's name was purposeful. My brothers and I are adopted and when my parents were being considered for adopting me, I was already named Sarah. I always said I would repay the adoption favor by naming my first girl Sarah. Little did I know it would be a dog and that I would never get the option of actually naming something with 2 legs instead of 4!

I discovered Sarah's breeder thru a friend of mine who had a lab. Ha ha, I thought the mother while pregnant with her litter was just a little excited when she saw folks. I didn't realize that in fact she was like that pretty much 24/7. I didn't realize what a "field trial" lab was. I was looking for the lab you saw in the toilet paper commercial, the one you saw with the construction workers that went with them everywhere in the truck and followed them religiously with never a leash in site. Did you know? there are not actually a lot of those around.

Instead, what I got was this 8 wk puppy who even then, was huge. But she was cute. I thought she was just excited on her way home as my mother drove us to my very cool condo. Little did I realize that up until the age of 13 she would go nuts in the car, and even more nuts if we drove on twisty roads, dirt roads, non highways. Barking so loud you couldn't hear yourself and people would hear us before they saw us. This girl had so much energy I would show up to dog events 2 hrs early to work her energy off her a little. Thank goodness I lived across from a grammar school - EVERY day, rain or shine, off to the school we would good to play, throw a frisbee, whatever.

We learned that no, you cannot catch a puppy that is running around a couch with stuff in their mouth. You can't, no matter how much you run or yell. we learned never to learn food in the sink, even frozen chicken breasts in the plastic bag. we learned that labradors have no shame, they would be happy to give that up and do it again some day. We learned that in fact some dogs will eat onions with cayenne pepper on them, no it does not stop them from grabbing stuff off of the counter. Sarah had very strange taste buds.

Tribute to Sarah, continued.

We learned, thru my mother, to hang bells on the condo sliding doors so that she could ask to go out since I couldn't see her staring patiently at the door. Despite her craziness in the car she was a good and quite girl in the house. We were very attached and followed me everywhere until the day she died. Forget about anyone else getting her to do anything if I was around. We learned that despite how hungry she could make her self look, you do not have to feed them the amt on the bag that it says, at one point she weighed almost 80lbs and she wasn't even 2 yrs old.

We learned that she needed a job. That's how I discovered doing field work and hunt tests. Did you know there are like a million other people who love labs? She was GOOD at it, except for the barking piece. Aha, there was that barking again. We managed to get a JH on her and we earned every ribbon like you wouldn't believe. I would train in the back yard, in the woods, in the fields. Her fathers owner, Nick Mickleson, was a well known lab person and hunt person. We trained every weekend rain, shine, snow, whatever. I learned to bring thermos' with tea (thats what Nick liked) and to enjoy being outside with my dog no matter what. Hence my love of doing agility outside not in. After our near friend Nick passed, we discovered agility. Talk about a sport that sucks you in. And guess what, she did not bark in agility. And she was good, once again. Back then, we were some of the few 24" dogs. Back then, she placed, was considered very fast. She placed in the rankings of Front and Finish despite me. She would have been an awesome obedience dog if I was a better trainer back then nand knew more things.

But what we really learned thru all of this was love and acceptance. Every person that came around she accepted. Every puppy I brought into the house she accepted and in retrospect helped teach and tell a story to. I didn't realize it at the time until she started really being "old" last year. The others seemed to be confused and get a little weird. Sarah was a quiet, strong, confident girl who didn't need to announce it. She would share her bones and her food literally, if she was eating Sidney or Lucy could come up and borrow the bone and start eating out of her dish. Pip doesn't share and Zenny just wouldn't think of it. What we learned was that every dog is NOT the same even though they are all black with pink tongues. We learned about easy adjustment. Sarah and I lived in 4 homes together. The house in Enfield was the biggest adjustment since she had never had a fenced in yard before. Eventually she learned to love it but it took a while. Our greatest joy there was discovering at the end of our dead end street a path to the Scantic river and woods that I grew up playing in. That is where we discovered the joy of hiking together.

About a years ago Sarah started getting very old, her hind end difficulties progressed but she still plugged along. If she get a little frisky and started running around and fall down she would just pick herself up and shake it off and look at you funny. some of her personality started to change and that dog confusion thing started to kick in. Takes you a while to figure that out, at least it did for me. I thought she was being stubborn and difficult, in fact she was going deaf and really could not hear me and oh by the way, she didn't really recognize me some-times. Her breathing became worse and worse because of lar par and this year we had the air conditioners in at April. She just couldn't handle the humidity. Her field trips were limited to our backyard of 2 wooded acres or the vet but we had to stop those early this year also. I stopped having my mom watch her so that we could go away because she was a handful and my mom has her hands full already with my dad. Thank god for our dear friend Jess and Nina who because of them we were able to go away a few times and feel comfortable that all was well at the house.

and over the last couple of months things got progressively less pleasant. I got more upset, she got more confused, what a horrible horrible combination. More crying has been done because I felt that I was being a bad mother and owner. I tried but sometimes I just couldn't cope. I am not the most patient person,...

I'm so sorry Sarah, but this past 2 weeks was to much for me and to much for you. You were a dignified and wonderful girl and I just no longer knew what to do. I tried I really did. I'm not done crying, I don't know when I will be, don't look the crazy lady in the eyes because she will start crying for no apparent reason. I miss her so much and wish I had her back.

Penney

(a former long time member of the club)

2010 LRCPV Dues Notice

Fill in the following form **PLEASE HIGHLIGHT OR CIRCLE ANY CHANGES** and send it with a check payable to LRCPV and send to:

Laura Lafreniere
P. O. Box 131
Middlefield, MA 01243

Name(s): _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number (optional): _____

Single Membership (\$30) _____

Family Membership (\$35) _____

Activity Discount (\$5) _____ (2 Meetings & 1 Event)

Total Amount _____

....Do NOT send cash, send checks or M.O. only ...

Provide e-mail/website information here to be included in the Breeder Directory page of the LRCPV website.

Tackling Canine Osteosarcoma

From the Q3 2010 Edition

Osteosarcoma -- a bone cancer referred to as OSA -- occurs in dogs (and children) and is the eighth most common form of childhood cancer. The cause of OSA is unknown and accounts for about five percent of all canine tumors. It is the most common bone tumor found in dogs and is listed as a top health concern by dog clubs in the U.S.



Each year, eight to ten thousand cases of canine OSA are reported. It can affect all dogs, but the frequency is higher in larger dogs. An OSA tumor is usually difficult to diagnose until it has become quite large. Some symptoms of OSA can include decreased appetite, vomiting and general lethargy, as well as a swollen or lame limb.

OSA is characterized as a highly metastatic-type of tumor that typically grows quickly and can be very painful. Tumors can easily spread to the lungs and other areas of the body. Prognosis for recovery or survival of OSA varies by dog and is based on many factors.

Treatment of OSA for both dogs and children usually involves chemotherapy and amputation of the affected limb. Amputation can be a good option for an otherwise healthy pet and many go on to lead a quality life. (Dogs tend to do well with amputation because they do not experience the emotional response that humans often do after losing a limb.)

For more information on the AKC Canine Health Foundation, visit: <http://www.akcchf.org>

[The AKC Canine Health Foundation](http://www.akcchf.org) (AKCCHF) is currently funding two significant OSA research projects to:

- **Evaluate the efficiency of a potential drug** for treating the disease. This drug is using gene-based therapy that activates the immune system to prevent or delay recurrence and metastatic spread.
- **Identify genetic changes** in the bone tumors themselves. This will allow researchers to develop genetic tests for OSA, which will then lead to a better understanding of the disease, enabling development of more targeted treatment options.

Over the years, the AKCCHF has funded more than 20 individual grants for OSA, totaling nearly \$1.7 million. These studies have been successful in locating genomic regions associated with OSA in specific breeds of dogs.

This research is a significant accomplishment because researchers can use this information to work toward genetic tests for OSA that will allow treatments to be personalized to the affected dog. The research findings also provide valuable insights into *human* research because of the similarities between canine and human OSA. Other studies funded by the AKCCHF have investigated potential drugs to treat OSA.

For more information on OSA, visit: http://www.akcchf.org/pdfs/newsletters/spring_2010.pdf