



March 2011



The Labrador Retriever Club of the Pioneer Valley, Inc.
Kelly Rome
5 Fawn Drive
Granby, CT 06035



LRCPV Member

WWW.LRCPV.ORG



The Labrador Retriever Club of the Pioneer Valley, Inc

March 2011

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 e-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

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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

L.R.C.P.V Monthly Meeting -- March 6, 2011

6:00 at WEU Store at 526 College Highway, Southwick MA.

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.

There are currently no puppies listed by club members

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

WWW.LRCPV.ORG

Here is the slate decided on by the Nominating Committee for 2011:

President: Lois Engel

Vice President: Gretchen Boss

Treasurer: Laura Lafreniere

Corresponding Secretary: Judi Dorsett

Recording Secretary: Laura Bauver

Board Of Directors: Tina Stone, Lauren Simpson, and Annmarie Wilson

*past president will also be a board member

Up Coming Club Events

April 2011 - ANNUAL MEETING & Awards Dinner

April 9th - Check website for additional details

May 2011

May 13-14, 2011 - L.R.C.P.V. Back to Back Specialty Westfield Fairgrounds, Westfield, MA

June 2011

June 5, 2011: L.R.C.P.V Monthly Meeting, 6:00 Suffield Veterinary Hospital

L.R.C.P.V. Supported Entry, Shawangunk Kennel Club, New Paltz, NY

Jim Sacia - Illinois State Representative - 89th District
Jim's Column 1/27/11

If you sent them money once, shame on them. If you've sent them money more than once, shame on you. You should have checked them out.

I'm referring to HSUS, the Humane Society of the United States. I've written of them before and the appeal they have for your money. Over the Christmas Holidays their ads were everywhere. Beaten down dogs, one eyed cats (and of course it was a big sad eye), and a lame, old, starved, and debilitated horse. And you, the concerned citizen, could fix all of this for a mere \$19.00 per month sent to them to help care for these beaten, downtrodden animals.

Had you taken the time to do the research, you would have learned that the \$19.00 per month translates to \$228.00 per year and of that \$228.00 total sum, \$1.03 would have reached an actual hands-on animal shelter. By comparison, HSUS had 555 employees and paid them \$37.8 million in 2008. This includes over \$2.5 million contributed to employee pension plans. HSUS' chief executive, Wayne Pacelle, made just over \$251,000 in salary and benefits.

This agency just must receive closer scrutiny. Using Ohio as an example, "HSUS made zero donations to Ohio pet shelters in 2007 and 2008 and gave just \$5,200 in 2006. This year, however, the organization is gearing up to spend millions of dollars in Ohio on the anti livestock farming ballot initiative." (The Center for Consumer Freedom, not your local Humane Society, go to humane watch.org.)

My blood boils when I see you, the consumer, bilked out of your hard earned money by appealing to your sense of compassion and kindness. No one wants to see an animal starved and we all get a good feeling sending that money to such a noble cause. What a travesty!

The good news is the IRS has been investigating HSUS for over two years. Compounding the problem of completing their investigation, the IRS has never had to deal with allegations of tax fraud by a "public charity" as large and as complex as the HSUS.

You can help. Contact the United States Treasury Inspector General at 800-366-4484 (press 5) and respectfully request that case number 55-1005-0025-C be brought to conclusion.

Most importantly, give your money to shelters in your area and don't ever be sucked in by these predators

NEWS FLASH!!!

We will be piloting the new AKC **4-6 month puppy class** - see premium for details



Invites you to:

Back-to-Back Specialties!

May 13th & 14th, 2011
Westfield Fairgrounds, Westfield, MA

Unbenched - Outdoors

| Class | Friday May 13 th | Saturday May 14 th |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Sweeps & Veterans | Linda Farquharson Fhinnonlach, Scotland | Bob Robotham Canada |
| Bitches & Non-Regular | Sue Willumsen Willcare, USA | Margaret Brown Ramsayville, Scotland |
| Dogs & Intersex | Margaret Brown Ramsayville, Scotland | Sue Willumsen Willcare, USA |
| Junior | --- | Sarah Crepeau |
| Obedience | Nancy Withers | Patricia Hess |
| Rally | Patricia Hess | Nancy Withers |

Friday, May 13 the obedience and rally trials will be held from 8 am until noon. At 12:30, the Holyoke Kennel Club will hold all-breed obedience (judge Patricia Hess) and rally (judge Nancy Withers) trials on the same site. Labradors may enter both trials, potentially earning two legs in their event in a single day, with a third leg available on Saturday.

Canine Good Citizen Test Available Both Days 11-1

Show Chairman

Ann Huntington, DVM
LRCPV
2800 Mountain Road
West Suffield, CT 06093
www.LRCPV.org

Show Superintendent

MBF
PO Box 22107, Greensboro, NC 27420
Phone: (336) 379-9352
Fax: (336) 272-0864
www.infodog.com



L.R.C.P.V. MEMBER DUES AND SPONSORSHIPS

Make checks out to LRCPV and mail to Laura Lafreniere, PO Box 131, Middlefield, MA 01243

DATE: _____ NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES: (DUE May 1 annually): _____

\$30.00 Individual, \$35.00 Family.

Members who have worked a minimum of 4 hours at two events may deduct \$5.00

L.R.C.P.V. TROPHY SPONSORSHIP - DEADLINE MARCH 25, 2011

Make checks out to LRCPV and mail to Annmarie Wilson, 6 Dara Lane, Suffield, CT 06078

DATE: _____ NAME: _____

AMOUNT _____ EMAIL: _____

BOB, BOS, High Combined, HIT, BOW: \$50.00;

Other 'Bests' excluding Sweeps: \$40.00

All others, including Sweeps: \$35.00

General Trophy Fund (suggested): \$25.00

Please be sure to email Annmarie with your desired sponsorship and how you want the catalog entry to read. Questions: Contact Annmarie Wilson at annmarie@wilannlabradors.com

L.R.C.P.V. CATALOG ADVERTISING - DEADLINE MARCH 25, 2011

Make checks out to LRCPV. Mail to Gretchen Boss 24 Amherst Rd, W. Springfield, MA 01089

DATE: _____ NAME: _____

AMOUNT _____ EMAIL: _____

Back Cover \$90.00 Inside Back Cover: \$80.00 Full Page: \$40.00 Half Page: \$ 25.00

Quarter Page: \$20.00 Business Card: \$12.50 Pictures, add an additional \$10.00

Please be sure to email Gretchen with your ad specifications as well as ad copy if possible. Alternatively you can mail the information to Gretchen at the above address.

Questions: Contact Gretchen Boss at cgnbboss@yahoo.com

LRCPV Meeting Sunday, March 6, 2011 at WEU Store, 526 College Highway, Southwick, MA

Meeting was called to order by Lois Engel at 6:10PM

Attendance: Lois Engel, Judi Dorsett, Haley Clement, Cindy Clement, Laura Cook, Laura Lafreniere, Tina Stone, Sandy Masek, Ann Huntington, Hazel Holman, Laura Bauver, Annmarie Wilson

Guest: Joyce Hanosek

Treasurer's Report:

Laura Lafreniere presented information on the Club accounts. Bills and Bank Statements are reconciled. We have a 6 month CD coming due, Laura will check on rates and renew CD for another 6 months. Motion to accept Treasurer's report made by Ann H, Laura Cook seconded. Passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report : Gretchen was not present, however Lois read in the application for Joyce Hanosek. Hazel and Laura L. introduced Joyce and spoke to her many involvements to benefit dogs in general including rescue and fund raising for shelters.

Joyce's membership was approved by all present members. Welcome Joyce!

ADOA – nothing to report.

Awards Dinner: April 9 at Ann H's house. Potluck dinner at 5:00PM. Laura L. will send a beverage/meal sign up sheet around to members. Please everyone REPLY ALL when responding.

Litters: Tina and Cindy Stone have three chocolate females available, they are now 8 weeks old.

Club History: Annmarie reported there are no new acquisitions.

LRC: Ann H. reported on the meeting held February 27th. Host hotel for the National Specialty is near full, additional rooms and hotels are being pursued. RV's will be available with water/electric hookups to rent for the week. Former LRCPV club members Doug and Jose will be gunners for the hunt test.

Eye Clinic: Nothing to report

Match Events: Tina reported she has contacted Exercise Finished to request a date change to the second Sunday in January, January 8, 2012. She is waiting to hear back.

Specialty: Laura L has secured a Tent for the raffle. The Tent is being rented to us for \$175 both days. We also need to rent 3 sides, Laura will contact the tent folks for that.

Heavenly Edibles have been contacted, waiting for their confirmation.

Brown Barn behind trophy tent will be available to us to lock raffle items or other items of concern during the evening.

Laura has secured 6 rooms at the Holiday Inn Express for judges, still waiting to hear if the Scotland judges are renting a car or will need a ride from the airport.

Judges have been secured for our Special 4-6 month puppy class. They are Kathy Mines and Janet Farmilette.

Sandy will get 3 sheets of plastic lattice to use for show pictures. Plans are to use the side of the brown barn.

Trophies have all been ordered and/or bought. We will have the same glasses as last year.

New Business: The River Swim will be July 10 at 1:00PM, more details to follow.

Motion to Adjourn made by Sandy, seconded by Ann H. Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM

Respectfully Submitted

Annmarie Wilson

Club Historian

Cornell Canine Research -- Looking for Blood Samples

Dear Dog Owner,

I am a geneticist at Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine working to understand growth control in purebred dogs. My laboratory hunts for genes that make dogs big or little. Because dog breeds vary enormously in size, they are a powerful resource for finding these genes.

I'm writing to ask for your help in this work. Would you be willing to donate blood samples from your purebred dogs, or do you know other owners who may help? Contributing samples is easy. Please see the details below and contact us if you're interested.

Thank you very much for helping to make our dog genetics research possible!

With kind regards,

Nathan Sutter, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Medical Genetics
Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine
C1-118, Vet Medical Center
Ithaca, NY 14853

Phone: 607-253-3592 Email: sutterlab@cornell.edu
<http://www.vet.cornell.edu/faculty/Sutter/research.htm>

How you can contribute:

Email us back to learn more about our research or arrange a mailing. We'll send you instructions, a consent form and empty blood collection vials in a convenient mailer that is approved by the postal system. Blood can be shipped back to us at ambient temperature (no cold packs are needed). Most people ask their veterinarian to collect the blood during a routine visit.

For our genetic research we also ask you to collect a set of body measurements of each dog; we will send you a measuring tape and set of illustrated instructions. Measurement takes 20-25 minutes. Finally, we ask for a pedigree so we can avoid studying close relatives. This is also why, if you should provide samples from more than one dog, we'll ask for dogs that are not closely related (no shared parents or grandparents). Note, we will NOT identify any of your dogs by registered name or owner name in any of our scientific or lay communications about our work.

About our lab:

We helped to find the first identified body size gene in the domestic dog. This gene, insulin-like growth factor-1, is known to also play roles in human height, cancer, growth and aging. We are currently continuing the search for dog size genes and also looking for retrotransposons, which are a kind of mutation common in the dog genome. Retrotransposons are known to cause several different diseases in the dog (a sleep disorder, myopathy, eye disease, etc.). For both the size and retrotransposon studies we need samples from a wide variety of dog breeds. We are also collecting samples from the Yorkshire Terrier breed to enable us to study the genetics of protein-losing enteropathy, an extremely debilitating disease.

Although I am a dog geneticist, my research in body size genetics has broadened out in the last three years: my lab now also studies size in horses and rabbits as well as in dogs. If you own purebred horses or rabbits and might like to contribute samples from them, please contact us for more information. Thanks!

Sutter lab members who may correspond with you: Jeremy Allen, Eve Waters, Carissa Smith, Maryanne Luther, Mytien Nguyen, Nikki Kimura and myself.

Canine Bloat

Canine bloat is a very serious health condition that affects dogs and can become a life-threatening emergency. Bloat is the second leading cause of death for dogs, after cancer. Understanding warning signs, prevention and treatment is critical to help reduce the risk of death if bloat should occur.

How does bloat occur?

The medical term for bloat is gastric dilatation-volvulus (GDV) and it is also referred to as 'stomach torsion' or 'twisted stomach.' In the bloated stomach, gas and/or food stretches the stomach abnormally, causing severe pain. The stomach then has a tendency to rotate and cuts off the blood supply and all possible areas for gas to exit the body.

When stomach gases cannot get out, they expand. If untreated, toxins build up and stomach tissue begins to die because it is too tight to allow blood to circulate. The liver, pancreas and other organs may be compromised and shock from low blood pressure can set in. If the stomach ruptures, peritonitis can result.

Some of the signs of bloat include a rapid heart rate, salivating, vomiting (or retching), restlessness, a swollen belly and weakness. If a dog is suspected to be suffering from bloat, it is critical to get immediate veterinary care. A dog cannot recover until the stomach is untwisted and the gases released. Even after a dog with bloat has been stabilized, there can be many related complications such as shock and heart failure.

Once diagnosis has been confirmed, medical treatment might be sufficient, however, most cases require surgery. If tissue damage is severe, the spleen and part of the stomach might be removed.

When abdominal surgery is performed, it allows an assessment of the stomach and surrounding organs and a chance to reposition and suture the stomach (called a gastropexy), to help prevent twisting in the future. Post-operative care depends on the severity of the disease and the treatment methods used to date.

What causes bloat and how can it be prevented?

Typically, dogs with deep and narrow chests are said to be more at risk, but even small dogs, such as Dachshunds and Chihuahuas, *can* be affected by bloat. (The depth-to-width ratio of a dog's chest represents the amount of room for stomach movement in the abdomen, behind the ribcage.) Bloat can occur in dogs of any age or breed, although it usually is found in dogs over the age of seven.

It's important to note that not all cases of bloat happen in the same way and bloat occurs as a *combination* of factors. There are several known causes of bloat, including risk factors relating to stress, eating and exercise habits, heredity, behavioral traits, build and disposition. A dog with a first-degree relative that has bloated is considered more at risk for bloat. Male dogs seem to suffer from bloat more often than female dogs. Spaying and neutering does not appear to affect the risk of bloat.

Diet composition is key in avoiding bloat. A dog's mealtime environment should be stress-free and as peaceful as possible. Discuss with your veterinarian the *types* of food your dog should eat, (e.g. dry versus moist, raw meat, fiber, etc.) as well as specific *ingredients* to use or avoid (e.g. protein, fat, acids, carbohydrates, etc.). Every dog is different and should be evaluated individually regarding specific diet needs and his risk of bloat.

Dogs fed only once a day - as opposed to multiple small meals - are said to increase their risk of bloat. And, dogs that eat too quickly or exercise too vigorously or too soon after a meal might also be more at risk. Discuss with your veterinarian your dog's breed characteristics and predisposition to bloat, as well as how many meals (and what portion size) he should have each day, and the specific recommendations for his exercise regimen.

Canine Bloat Continued

In addition, some veterinarians believe that there are higher risks of bloat when certain sizes and types of dogs use *elevated* feeding bowls, while others disagree. Ask your veterinarian about this issue and whether or not floor level or elevated feeding bowls are appropriate for your dog.

Prevention is always preferable to treatment. Avoid situations that can create anxiety and allow your dog access to fresh water at all times. Some veterinarians suggest that owners of 'susceptible' dogs keep a product on hand containing simethicone to slow gas, if bloat should occur and to 'buy more time' to get to the clinic. A supplement of acidophilus is said to promote 'friendly' bacteria in canine intestines which prevents the fermentation of carbohydrates that can cause gas and quickly lead to bloat. Be certain to discuss these options with your veterinarian.

What research is being done?

The [AKC Canine Health Foundation](#) (AKCCHF) is currently studying ways to prevent bloat as well as genetic factors and other related issues.

One of the veterinarians the AKCCHF has worked with is [Dr. Leslie Monroe](#) of the [University of California at Davis Veterinary School](#). Dr. Monroe's [podcast](#) on bloat is posted as part of the AKC's Genome Barks podcast series. The series provides responsible breeders and pet owners with a close look at the work being done by the foundation.

Many other veterinarian researchers have also conducted comprehensive studies on bloat. Two of them are Dr. Larry Glickman at the [Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine](#) and Dr. Catriona MacPhail of [The Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences](#).

Know the risks and be prepared

Bloat is a serious, life-threatening emergency that can occur quickly. Talk with your veterinarian in advance about your dog's characteristics and chances of developing bloat -- and what steps you can take to avoid it.

Veterinary costs for treating bloat can add up quickly and having pet insurance can help cover the financial expense. Here at PetPartners, the exclusive provider for the [AKC Pet Healthcare Plan](#), a sampling of some recent bloat claims we've reimbursed have been for \$1,495, \$5,000, \$3,327 and \$1,238. Another bloat claim reimbursement, for \$3,572, included a splenectomy (removal of the spleen). For more information on our other illness benefits and entire range of healthcare plans, call us at 866.725.2747 or visit: www.akcphp.com.

Become knowledgeable about the signs of bloat. If you suspect your dog has bloat, do not attempt home remedies and contact your veterinarian immediately, calling ahead so that the veterinary staff can prepare for your arrival.

Understanding your own dog's risks, prevention, symptoms and the need for prompt treatment can help avoid the risk of death if your dog should suddenly develop bloat.

Source Pet Partners

http://www.barkingbulletin.com/newsletter/2011/q1/Is-your-Dog-at-Risk-for-Bloat?jmid=23369&j=257202164&MassEmailID=257202164&utm_source=JangoMail&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=%25%25FirstName%25%25--+Your+AKC+Barking+Bulletin+%28257202164%29&utm_content=annmarie4cw%40snet.net