



October 2009

**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

November, 2009

Officers and Directors 2009-2010

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

Directors:

Lois Engel, Andrea Newman, Annmarie Wilson, Jan Lemire

Newsletter Staff

Editor	Kelly Rome
Newsletter Committee	Ann Huntington, Jan Lemire
Webmaster	Lois Engel
	Email: showdogs@charter.net

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.

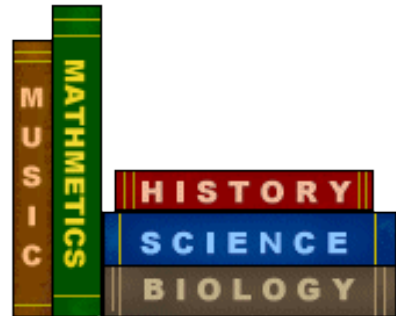
Contacting the LRCPV

www.lrcpv.org

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

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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

December Meeting

Puppies Available

Yellow and Black puppies available. Ready to go mid-January 2010

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. Laura Lafreniere 413-623-5055 westhilllabs@aol.com is available 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.

Chocolate Males & Females puppies available.

Contact Cindy at ToursLabradors@aol.com 413-237-1150

Yellow and Black puppies available. Ready to go mid-January 2010

Laura Lafreniere 413-623-5055 westhilllabs@aol.com

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

WWW.LRCPV.ORG

LRC Partners with AKC

The LRC has partnered with the AKC to provide new puppy owners with background information on the breed. This in-

Newsletter Needs Your Help!!

If you have any interesting news, articles, etc. please e-mail them to Kelly Rome at Calsamlabs@cox.net



LRCPV's Annual Christmas Party

December 5, 2009

Place: The Vermont Room at Storowtown Tavern 1305 Memorial Avenue , West Springfield, MA Telephone: 413-732-4142

Time: 6 p.m. Social Hour 7 p.m Dinner

Instead of our usual gift exchange, please bring with you a raffle item to be used for our January Match. Please arrive at 6pm to help with stuffing Match flyers.

DINNER CHOICES:

All meals come with Soup of the Day, Fresh Bread Basket, Tossed Salad, Seasonal Vegetable, Garlic Mashed Potato, and Ice Cream Puffs for dessert.

Please ck selection

- Chicken Picata with lemon and caper sauce \$34.00
- Broiled Salmon with creamy dill sauce \$34.00
- Roast Prime Rib of Beef au Jus. \$36.50
- Eggplant Rollatini w/ spinach & ricotta stuffing w/ marinara. \$34.00

LRCPV Members take \$10.00 off your meal price

Price of meal includes sales tax and service charge. Total Amount

Enclosed:

Make checks payable to LRCPV. **by November 28th**

Mail to: Laura Lafreniere, P. O. Box 131, Middlefield, MA 01243

Up Coming Club Events

December 5th - Meeting & Holiday Dinner Storowtown

January 3rd - No Meeting - Match at Exercised Finished

February 7th: Meeting Canine flu by Correy from Schering/Intervet

March: 7th Meeting Supplements and OA in Labradors by Meagan from Nutramax

April: Awards Dinner Date & Time TBD

May 2: Meeting - Prep for Shows

May 14th & 15th: LRCPV Back to Back Specialties

LRCPV supported entry June 25, 2010 in Socrates, NY

Braggs



Tootsieroll Wilson Brownstone, CD, RN (Toots) earned her CD title with a first place win at Queensboro Kennel Club trials in W. Springfield as well as her Rally Advanced title at the Thanksgiving Cluster. She moved up in class the next day and took third place earning her first leg toward her Rally Excellence title.

Wilann's Candy Cane (Candy) got her first leg toward her RN title with a score of 91 out of 100 at Nathan Hale Obedience Club trial in Coventry. Candy also earned her Canine Good Citizen designation at 11 months.

LRCPV goes GREEN.

In keeping with the drive to eliminate unnecessary paper and save trees the LRCPV had decided all future newsletters will be send via email. (Those without email will continue to receive hard copy). This allows members to read the email on their computer and only print out pages they may need. As a Club this supports efforts across the nation toward a paperless society and helps reduce the waste in landfills. As an added benefit our dogs will appreciate us saving trees.

If you have any trouble with the newsletter attachment, please contact Annmarie Wilson at 860-668-4908

2009 AWARDS APPLICATION

Registered Name of Dog: _____

Owner(s): _____

Breeder if LRCPV member: _____

New Obedience & Rally Titles: (Circle) CD CDX UD UDX UDT RN RA RE

Scores: _____

Agility Titles: (Circle) NA NAJ NAP NJP OA OAJ OAP OJP MX MXP MJP AX
AXJ AXP AJP MX MXJ MXP MJP MACH

Breed Titles: (Circle) CH Group One Specialty Win

Total Points Earned: _____

Field Titles: (Circle) JHSH MH QAA

Tracking Titles: (Circle) TD TDX VST

Other: (Circle) CGC TD TDI

NOTE: If you have earned other titles please submit them for the committee to look at and evaluate. It is possible you have won one that is not listed here.

*This includes NON-AKC titles!

DOG WORLD AWARD

This Award is given to the member who helps in Club activities and functions and is basically there whenever needed.

Nomination: _____

Reason: _____

AWARD FOR GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

This Award is given to the member that shows class in both the assistance they give the Club and its members and others as well as their sportsmanship in competition with their Labradors.

Nomination: _____

Reason: _____

Submit Form before January 31, 2010 to:

Ann Huntington, 2800 Mountain Road, West Suffield, CT 06093

Questions? Call Ann at 860-668-6849.

Pet Safety and Protection Act of 2009 (Introduced in Senate)

S 1834 IS 111th CONGRESS 1st Session S. 1834

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally.
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

October 21, 2009

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. MENENDEZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Pet Safety and Protection Act of 2009'.

SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF PETS.

(a) Research Facilities- Section 7 of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2137) is amended to read as follows:

'SEC. 7. SOURCES OF DOGS AND CATS FOR RESEARCH FACILITIES.

'(a) Definition of Person- In this section, the term 'person' means any individual, partnership, firm, joint stock company, corporation, association, trust, estate, pound, shelter, or other legal entity.

'(b) Use of Dogs and Cats- No research facility or Federal research facility may use a dog or cat for research or educational purposes if the dog or cat was obtained from a person other than a person described in subsection (d).

'(c) Selling, Donating, or Offering Dogs and Cats- No person, other than a person described in subsection (d), may sell, donate, or offer a dog or cat to any research facility or Federal research facility.

'(d) Permissible Sources- A person from whom a research facility or a Federal research facility may obtain a dog or cat for research or educational purposes under subsection (b), and a person who may sell, donate, or offer a dog or cat to a research facility or a Federal research facility under subsection (c), shall be--

'(1) a dealer licensed under section 3 that has bred and raised the dog or cat;

'(2) a publicly owned and operated pound or shelter that--

'(A) is registered with the Secretary;

'(B) is in compliance with section 28(a)(1) and with the requirements for dealers in subsections (b) and (c) of section 28; and

'(C) obtained the dog or cat from its legal owner, other than a pound or shelter;

'(3) a person that is donating the dog or cat and that--

'(A) bred and raised the dog or cat; or

'(B) owned the dog or cat for not less than 1 year immediately preceding the donation;

'(4) a research facility licensed by the Secretary; and

'(5) a Federal research facility licensed by the Secretary.

Continued

`(e) Penalties-

1) IN GENERAL- A person that violates this section shall be fined \$1,000 for each violation.

`(2) ADDITIONAL PENALTY- A penalty under this subsection shall be in addition to any other applicable penalty.

`(f) No Required Sale or Donation- Nothing in this section requires a pound or shelter to sell, donate, or offer a dog or cat to a research facility or Federal research facility.'

(b) Federal Research Facilities- Section 8 of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2138) is amended--

(1) by striking `Sec. 8. No department' and inserting the following:

`SEC. 8. FEDERAL RESEARCH FACILITIES.

`Except as provided in section 7, no department';

(2) by striking `research or experimentation or'; and

(3) by striking `such purposes' and inserting `that purpose'.

(c) Certification- Section 28(b)(1) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2158(b)(1)) is amended by striking `individual or entity' and inserting `research facility or Federal research facility'.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.The amendments made by section 2 take effect on the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Library Update:

We have a new book and new DVD's. Control Unleashed by Leslie McDevitt, MLA, CDBC, CPDT . This is a paperback book with a set of 4 DVD's as well. We also have the National Geographic special 'In the Womb: Animals' This DVD follows the development of three different animals from conception to birth. The animals are: Golden Retriever, Elephant and Dolphin. Currently Control Unleashed is on loan (to your librarian).

Beef Heart Treat

Boil whole beef heart/lung in pan with some garlic.
Slice thin and bake in slow oven, 200 degrees for approximately 1 hour.
Remove when dry enough for your pocket but moist enough to cut into small treats.
Healthy, and your dogs will love them!

Canine Influenza Vaccine

With influenza and swine flu being mentioned in the media on an almost daily basis, many pet owners are asking questions about the canine influenza virus (CIV) vaccine which is now available by Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health. The vaccine, made from killed virus, is intended to aid in the control of disease associated with canine influenza virus infection, type A, subtype H3N8. Studies indicate that the vaccine can reduce the incidence and severity of lung lesions, as well as the duration of coughing and viral shedding. The product is administered by injection, and is recommended for use in healthy dogs at six weeks of age or older as an aid in the control of disease associated with canine influenza virus infection. (At present, there is no vaccine for cats.)

Currently, this vaccine is not considered a required (core) vaccine by many veterinarians. Administration of the canine influenza virus (CIV) vaccine may be considered for your dog if he/she is in a higher risk category. Higher risk pets include those that are boarding/kenneling, traveling, in shelters, or going to dog shows frequently. Only your veterinarian will know whether or not your pet should receive the CIV vaccine. So, if you are considering this for your pet, you should speak with your veterinarian regarding the risks and benefits of receiving the vaccine.

Dog of the Year Passes Away with Honors



On October 29, a very special 8-year-old black Labrador Retriever arrived at New York City's Pierre Hotel and charmed a ballroom full of people while receiving the ASPCA Dog of the Year award. The Lab was Archie, assistance dog and social lifeline for Iraq war veteran Sergeant Clay Rankin. The event was the 2009 ASPCA Humane Awards Luncheon.

Archie's talents and warmth were clearly recognized by the ASPCA. His humane hero description read: *Archie's loyalty and perseverance in helping Sgt. Rankin accomplish his daily tasks has allowed the veteran to regain his confidence and independence, move forward with his life and continue serving the country he loves.*



It was when Sgt. Rankin took to the podium to accept Archie's award, however, that the depth of their relationship became clear. "Archie helps me to walk. He helps me to maintain my balance. If I need something, he gets it for me," began the Sergeant. "He also wakes me if I'm having nightmares and touches me with his nose if I start going into a flashback." He then told a powerful story about one soldier who'd been sent home with a bad injury. When he met Archie during a hospital visit, he smiled for the first time since being deployed. "There is life after injuries," the Sergeant assured the rapt audience, who gave him a standing ovation.

On Thursday, November 12, while returning home after visiting soldiers at a VA hospital in San Antonio, TX, Archie passed away from an apparent heart attack. His death was unexpected.

Dog and man came together in October 2006, after Sgt. Rankin returned from Iraq with spinal injuries. As Rankin suffered daily pain and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Archie quickly became his primary caregiver and social safety net. Trained by [Patriot Paws](#), a Rockwall, TX-based organization that works with service dogs and matches them with disabled veterans, Archie was also the first canine graduate of the Army Wounded Warriors Program, which assists and advocates for seriously wounded, ill and injured soldiers, veterans and their families.

"I only met Archie once, this year at the Humane Awards Luncheon," says Arielle Greenberg, ASPCA Special Events Manager and member of the committee that chooses each year's heroes, "but it was enough for me to see that he was not only essential to Sergeant Rankin, but a ball of happy energy all on his own."

We honor Archie and Sgt. Rankin, and the model of the human-animal bond that they displayed.



LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB OF THE PIONEER VALLEY SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010

B-OB BREED SPECIALTY MATCH WITH OBEDIENCE FOR ALL BREEDS

SANCTIONED BY THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

(WINS CARRY NO AKC POINTS AND SCORES DO NOT COUNT TOWARD ANY OBEDIENCE TITLE)

INDOORS AT "EXERCISE FINISHED" CHICOPEE, MA

35 N CHICOPEE ST, CHICOPEE, MA 01020, 413-533-0049

** Limited Obedience Classes – Pre Entry Requested – Please see Entry Form Attached **

ENTRIES OPEN: CONFORMATION and OBEDIENCE: 8:00 A.M.

ENTRIES CLOSE: All entries Close 15 minutes prior to start of judging

ENTRY FEES: Pre-Entry Obedience: \$9.00 per dog, 2nd entry of same dog: \$5.00 per dog. All
Conformation & Same day Entries in Obedience: \$10.00 per dog, 2nd entry \$6.00 per dog including Sweeps

JUDGING STARTS Obedience: 9:00 Conformation: 10:00 (puppy sweepstakes)

JUDGES:

Obedience: Open A & B and Utility A & B – Donna Blews

Novice A & B, Graduate Novice, and Open overflow – Kristen Hurwitz

Conformation: Puppy Sweepstakes: Robin McGee, Windy Ridge Labradors

Regular Classes: Heather Johnson-Lamarche, Nycoma Way Labradors

HANDLING CLASS: There will be a FREE half-hour breed handling class at 9:00 a.m.

**Bring chairs - Limited crating space - NO Ex-Pens - Free parking & Admission
Lunch will be available for a small fee.**

OBEDIENCE – PREENTRY

Judi Dorsett, 4 Brittany Road, South Hadley MA 01075 judedors@aol.com

Obedience entries will be limited to 25 per class. Pre-registration is the only way to assure your entry!

There may be only 1 first entry and 1 repeat entry for a given dog per class. All repeat entries must be non-competitive. Title-Holder must be competitive only in the next highest class.

CLASSES OFFERED

Obedience: Utility A & B, Open A & B, Novice A & B, Graduate Novice

Puppy Sweeps: 3-6 mos., 6-9 mos., 9-12 mos., 12-15 mos., 15-18 mos.

Regular Conformation: 3-6 mos., 6-9 mos., 9-12 mos., 12-18 mos., Novice, American-Bred, Bred by Exhibitor, Open, Veterans

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

OBEDIENCE: Dogs must be at least 6 months of age; no bitches in season! No bait allowed in rings.

CONFORMATION: All breed classes divided by sex except for Best of Breed. No dogs with Majors.

Professional Handlers may show their own dogs only. Puppies entered in Sweeps **MUST** also enter Breed.

DIRECTIONS TO EXERCISE FINISHED, CHICOPEE, MA

From the South: I-91 north to I-391 to Exit 4. Turn left off the ramp. See below "I-391 Continued."

From the North: I-91 south to Exit 16 (Route 202), turn left off the ramp. Turn right at the fifth set of lights (ball field on right corner), this road turns into I-391. Proceed on I-391 to Exit 4B, turn right off of ramp. See below "I-391 Continued."

I-391 Continued: Proceed down the hill, following signs for 141 West. Turn right at the bottom of the hill. Proceed straight through the next 3 sets of lights. At the fourth set of lights (next to Sunoco Mini Mart and 1.3 miles from where you exited I-391), turn right and go underneath a railroad trestle. At the next set of lights (Unique Motors on the left corner) turn left, and make an immediate left into the driveway located directly behind Unique Motors. Follow driveway straight back to the tall brick building.

From the Mass. Pike (I-90): Exit 5, bear left on the ramp after the toll booth, and turn right at the end of the ramp. Proceed straight through the first set of lights. At the second set of lights, Unique Motors is on the opposite left corner, go straight through the intersection, take the first left into the driveway located directly behind Unique Motors. Exercise Finished is in the tall brick building that is set back off the road.

FMI: call match chair Ann Burns at (508) 248-3618 or email Paddington@charter.net.

**Obedience Pre-Entry Form
The Labrador Retriever Club Of The Pioneer Valley
January 3, 2010
Must Be Received By December 30, 2009**

Name.....

Address.....

City, State, Zip.....

e-mail address.....

Dogs Name.....

Breed.....DOB...../...../.....

SEX M F.....Jump Height.....

All dogs must be at least 6 months old

OBEDIENCE – Starts 9:00AM Sharp

First Entry \$9.00 Second Entry Same Dog \$5.00

Ring 3 - Judge: Donna Blews

Open A.....Open B.....

Utility A.....Utility B.....

Ring 2 - Judge: Kristen Hurwitz

NoviceA.....NoviceB.....

Graduate Novice

Entries are Limited so please pre-enter – if we have space you can enter on the day, first entry \$10, second entry same dog \$6

**Mail All Entries with your check to:
Judi Dorsett
4 Brittany Road
South Hadley, MA 01075**

Make checks payable to L.R.C.P.V.

Congratulations on your new Labrador Retriever puppy!



The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. wants to help you enjoy your new canine companion by giving you some basic background information.

An Introduction to the Labrador Retriever

Since its inception over 60 years ago, The Labrador Retriever Club has been dedicated to preserving the integrity of the breed as a retriever gun dog that is equally at home as a hunting companion, at a dog show, or sleeping on a child's bed. Given the breed's popularity, it is remarkable the degree to which Labradors have retained their ability as working retrievers. That achievement is a measure of the health and vitality of the breed. As a new Labrador Retriever owner, we would like to provide you with some basic information about the breed and how to care for your new canine companion.

History

Despite the contradiction in name, the Labrador Retriever's origins can be found in Canada. Early in the 19th century an Englishman, Lord Malmesbury, purchased several Labradors (or Lesser Newfoundland or St. John's Dogs as they were called) from Newfoundland. He was attracted to the dogs because of their highly developed retrieving instinct and their willingness to please, and he developed a breeding program to preserve those characteristics.

From this early beginning the dog developed into the Labrador of today—one that excels in a variety of uses beyond the hunting field. The adaptability and trainability of the breed finds it utilized in many dog guide and assistance programs, as well as excelling in substance detection or search and rescue work. And, of course, with proper training and socializing, Labrador Retrievers are wonderful family companions.

Because the Labrador was a dual-purpose dog, the breed soon attracted the attention of sportsmen in this country and it came back to this continent in the early part of the 20th century. Today the Labrador Retriever is the most popular breed in the United States and it has held that position since 1992.



General Appearance

The Labrador Retriever is a strongly built, medium-size, short-coupled dog possessing a sound, athletic, well-balanced conformation that enables it to function as a retrieving gun dog. It has the substance and soundness to hunt waterfowl or upland game for long hours under difficult conditions. The most distinguishing characteristics of the Labrador Retriever are its short, dense weather-resistant coat; an "otter" tail; a clean-cut head with broad back skull and moderate stop; powerful jaws; and its "kind," friendly eyes that express character, intelligence and good temperament.

Temperament

Ideal Labrador temperament can be described as friendly and outgoing, indulgent with its peers, strongly human-oriented and tractable.

Young Dog Needs

1. Proper diet at regular intervals
2. Regular checkups and inoculations by your veterinarian
3. Clean, roomy housing
4. Daily exercise—this is an active breed
5. Regular grooming
6. Companionship and love
7. Early training to develop into a canine good citizen
 - Crate training
 - Puppy Socialization
 - Obedience Class

Crate Training

Crate training will become a significant milestone in a puppy's early regimen. Your puppy will learn to accept its crate happily and the crate will become a mobile "home" so there will never be a problem about where to keep your dog when you travel. Finally, should your puppy require time at the veterinarian's office because of an illness, it will not be additionally stressed if it is placed in a crate during a hospital visit. In addition, the puppy will be much easier to house train if you confine it to a crate when you cannot watch it. Puppies do not want to soil their bed so the puppy will wait until you take it outside to relieve itself. However, do not allow the crate to become a substitute for valuable time spent in play and socializing. There are many types of dog crates available. They can be made of plastic, wood or wire. A collapsible wire version is often the crate of choice if it is to be used within the house or when traveling by car. The puppy cannot chew it, ventilation is good, and it allows viewing from all sides. You can

... with a blanket if you want to provide your puppy with a "den-like" environment. Airlines may require a closed (plastic) crate if you ship your dog by air.

Responsible Ownership

A key part of your responsibility as the owner of a Labrador Retriever is to make sure that your Labrador is not only trained, but also supervised. If left outside, your dog should be in a fenced yard or kennel run, not roaming the neighborhood. Loose dogs run the risk of being hit by a vehicle, causing an accident, annoying the neighbors or even being stolen.

Your dog should always be on lead when walking with you unless you are hunting or training. In urban and suburban areas, the responsible owner never fails to curb and pick up after his dog.

Training

Basic obedience training is an essential part of responsible dog ownership. It helps to establish a bond between you and your Labrador and makes him a welcome part of the family and the neighborhood. In urban areas, there are obedience training clubs that offer classes where you and your dog can learn the fundamentals of basic obedience training. These classes can range in scope from puppy socializing to advanced training for obedience competition. If training classes are unavailable in your area, there are numerous books and videotapes that can be purchased on the subject and many are available through your local library. Early training and consistency are the keys to having a well-behaved dog. If you plan to hunt your Labrador, basic obedience training is essential.



Health Care

Veterinarian care is an important part of your responsibility in providing for your Labrador. You should have already selected a veterinarian and had your new puppy examined and an immunization schedule set up. After the initial immuniza-

tions, your puppy should see the veterinarian on an annual basis for protection against regional health threats and early detection of debilitating disease. It is important to establish a relationship with a regular veterinarian in your area, so he or she can be contacted if an emergency arises.

A good diet is essential for keeping your Labrador healthy and strong. Most commercial foods are well-balanced and palatable. Discuss the options with your breeder and veterinarian. The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. recommends that all breeding dogs have health clearances through the OFA, Penn Hip and CERF to verify normal hips, elbows and eyes prior to breeding.

To Spay or Neuter

Not all dogs need to be bred to live a happy and fulfilled life. Spayed bitches and neutered males do not undergo personality changes by removing their reproductive capability. They often live longer and healthy lives free from cancer, uterine infections and perianal tumors. Because of the popularity of the Labrador Retriever, we have the added responsibility of maintaining healthy breeding stock free from hereditary defects and possessing the qualities that make this breed so versatile. Raising a litter of Labradors is a serious consideration and involves a significant financial investment. Through the years, a Breed Standard for Labrador Retrievers has been developed. It is an approved written description of the ideal Labrador; how it should move, look and act. The Breed Standard, as well as training and temperament characteristics, are used by conscientious and knowledgeable breeders to evaluate how closely they approach the ideal in producing quality Labrador Retrievers. Only Labrador Retrievers without known heredity defects or severe temperament flaws should be used as breeding stock.

If you know that your intent is to enjoy a long and healthy life with your new Labrador puppy without the complications and responsibilities associated with breeding, please consult your veterinarian about an appropriate age for neutering.

About the Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.

The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. is a nationally based club dedicated to preserving the integrity of the breed. The Club sponsors a National Specialty Event week that includes a specialty show, obedience and agility competitions, retrieving tests and educational seminars in October of each year. In addition, the LRC, Inc. hosts two hunting retriever tests and two field trials annually, as well as publishing a quarterly newsletter and an annual yearbook. The LRC, Inc. also provides educational material for new owners as well as breeders and potential judges of the breed, and donates funds toward breed specific health issues. For novices interested in training their dog for field work, the LRC has an introductory program called a Working Certificate Test. A Working Certificate will be issued to any Labrador that passes the basic test requirements. The Club also sponsors a Conformation Certificate program whereby a dog is

evaluated against the written Standard for the breed. Both these programs are open to Labradors of all ages, as well as spayed or neutered animals. It is also recommended that you have your dog pass a Canine Good Citizen Test sponsored by the American Kennel Club. A list of regional Labrador Retriever clubs that support similar activities on a local level can be found on our Web site at:

www.thelabradorclub.com

