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Photos contributed by:
Barb Burri, Toni Leitao, Lorraine Yu, Lou Leitao, Misha Abbenhouse, La-vonne Hara, Christine Tye

2014 National Specialty information is available online at: www.thelabradorclub.com.
Thanks to all the volunteers and we look forward to your participation

THE LRC NEWS GOES GREEN!
We’re going electronic!
SAVE PAPER and CONSERVE TREES!
So far, 51% of our renewing members have GONE GREEN!
You can download your electronic newsletter off our website (www.thelabradorclub.com). Click the link for NEWSLETTER in the drop down menu then insert your member ID and password.
Help us go green—get your member ID and password from Joan Kerr jlk-errenterprises@jps.net
Welcome—New Editor!

Greetings fellow Labrador enthusiasts. My name is Meredith Kuhn and I acquired my first Labrador in 1982. It didn't take long for me to realize what a wonderful, versatile breed Labs are and that I was hooked. I started with obedience, then discovered hunt tests and in 1994 titled my first Junior Hunter. Since then, I have earned CDs on seven dogs, one CDX, ten Junior Hunters, five Senior Hunters and two Master Hunters.

My background includes degrees in zoology and animal science, and a Master's in Journalism. I think that all of these factors make me a good fit for the newsletter editor. I have been in Iowa and have recently moved to NE WA and plan to assume my editor duties with the Fall issue. Many thanks to former editor, Lorraine Yu, for covering for me this summer.

I have met many of you in person or via email friendships. I hope to meet many more. Thanks for your support.

LRC, Inc Quarterly News Mission Statement

Approved by the Board of Directors, June 14, 2013, Eau Claire, WI

- To function as the communications vehicle from the Board of Directors to the membership
- To report on current research in health issues affecting the Labrador Retriever and to inform members of all medical testing and screening that is available to help protect our breed
- To keep the members informed of upcoming LRC, Inc. events
- To report on national specialty shows, field trials, hunting tests, and companion dog events
- To report the latest developments in research into diseases and hereditary defects of concern to the breed
- To report on legislative efforts that ensure the continuation of a purebred dog registry and the American Kennel Club as the primary keeper of said registry
- To report on member successes in AKC national-level events such as the National and National Amateur retriever field trials, the national obedience, agility, and tracking trials, and the AKC Eukanuba national conformation show
- To report on rescue efforts funded by the disaster relief fund
- To encourage and showcase successes of Junior Handlers of Labrador Retrievers

WANTED

!READERS!

To review books for the LRC NEWS
If you like to read and want to share a good book, send your book review to: newsletter@thelabradorclub.com. Include title, author, and publisher with your email address for responses

Don't miss a single issue of the LRC NEWS!

Please forward any change of address information to Joan Kerr
jikerrenterprises@jps.net
Be sure to include your summer/winter addresses and dates.
LRC Mission Statement

- To maintain a Standard that will preserve the character and breed type of the Labrador Retriever.
- To preserve the Labrador Retriever as a working retriever and promote its multipurpose function.
- To conduct national specialty shows, field trials, hunting tests, and companion dog events under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.
- To provide educational programs that promote the health and training of the Labrador Retriever, and responsible ownership and breeding practices.
- To identify the diseases and hereditary defects of concern to the breed, and to contribute to research and health programs that will benefit Labrador Retrievers.
- To support the American Kennel Club as the primary purebred registry of the Labrador Retriever by encouraging breeders and owners to complete AKC registrations and to participate in AKC approved events.
- To support legislative efforts that will ensure the continuation of a purebred dog registry.
- To collect and preserve the history of the Labrador Retriever in the United States.
- To support AKC licensed regional Labrador Retriever clubs by encouraging membership in these clubs, and to endorse their sponsorship of AKC specialties, hunt tests and companion dog events.
- To support Labrador Retriever rescue organizations in a declared disaster with relief funds.
- To maintain programs that educate and encourage Junior Handler participation in AKC events.
- To encourage all Labrador Retriever breeders and owners to conduct themselves in an ethical and sportsmanlike manner, keeping in mind that their behavior and actions can influence others to do the same.

About the Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.

The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. (LRC) is a nationally based club dedicated to preserving the integrity of the breed. It is the single organization officially recognized by the American Kennel Club as the national parent club of the Labrador Retriever. Incorporated in October 1931, in the state of New York, the LRC, Inc. is not affiliated with any other association titled or claiming to be the National Labrador Retriever Club.

The Labrador Retriever Club has a rich history with past and present members and Labradors. Our Constitution and Bylaws are published here and include information on becoming a member of the Club.

Events
The Club sponsors a National Specialty Event week in October of each year that includes a specialty show, obedience and agility competitions, retrieving tests and educational seminars. In addition, the LRC, Inc. hosts two hunting retriever tests and two field trials annually.

The Club has an introductory test for novices interested in training their dog for field work called a Working Certificate test. A Working Certificate will be issued to any 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 (dog must be at least one year old).

Both these programs are open to intact Labradors, 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.

Publications and Contributions
We publish a quarterly newsletter and an annual Yearbook. The LRC also provides educational material for new owners, breeders, and potential judges of the breed.

The Labrador Retriever Club's Breeders Directory is available online. It has been made available for prospective Labrador owners who are looking for reputable breeders of puppies and older dogs. The Breeders Directory is indexed by name, location, and "kennel" name.

In addition, we donate funds toward breed specific health issues and are always working towards educating the public about our breed.

Brief History
Today, the Labrador Retriever is America's most popular breed. But it was not until 1917 that the first Labrador was registered by the American Kennel Club. According to records the first retriever field trial licensed by the AKC was held December 21, 1931. That same year, on October 24, the Labrador Retriever Club was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York by a group of sportsmen led by Franklin B. Lord.

The Club's first annual specialty show was held on May 18, 1933 in New York City. Mrs. Marshall Field, Judge, awarded Best in Show to Mr. Lord's Boli of Blake, who, on November 1, 1933, became the first Labrador to earn his American championship.

Thank you for visiting our web site. Visit often as we add to our web site periodically.

You can now purchase official LRC, Inc. clothing and accessories with the LRC logo. Visit retrieveroutfitter.com to see the full line of products.

Let's Go Shopping!
**AKC Policy Update: Conflicting Show Dates**

At the February 2014 meeting the Board of Directors approved the following policy which modifies the conflict distance policy requiring 200 miles between shows.

Dog shows may not be held closer than 200 miles in distance on the same day, except a club may be approved to hold a show within 200 miles of another club which has established its show on the same date, only if in each instance it obtains the written permission of the club with the established date and submits the written permission along with its show application. The American Kennel Club will only enforce any agreements between the clubs if they are in writing and signed by officers of the respective clubs. It is the club’s responsibility to ensure the length of their commitment to the show location is consistent with the written permission they receive from the established club.

**LETTER FROM LRC**

Dear Local Club:

In April, the Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. sent a letter to all AKC judges approved to award champion points to the Labrador Retriever. This letter was the Parent Club Board’s response to a "call for action" from its members, Labrador enthusiasts, including breeders both here and abroad, and kennel clubs outside the US. The "call for action" was for the parent club to address primarily the "physical condition" of Labradors exhibited in conformation events and awarded both class wins and championship points.

The general conformation population and some judges have misinterpreted the focus to be on the height disqualifications and weight guidelines, which are also part of the Standard. After much Board discussion, it was determined that education must be the answer. The Board decided to focus its first "education" effort on all AKC judges approved for Labradors. This letter can be viewed on the LRC, INC. web site.

The AKC Standard is the blueprint for the breed and is a guide for breeders, judges, and exhibitors. The Standard states that a Labrador should be shown in "working condition, well-muscled and without excess fat" and be physically fit to perform its primary purpose as a working retriever.

The LRC Inc Education Committee requests that local clubs share this letter with their members. We need your suggestions on the most effective ways to educate judges, breeders, and exhibitors in all performance events. Ideas for workshops, seminars, video presentations, and printed material are welcome and appreciated. Education is the key and our responsibility for preserving the integrity of the breed for future generations. We look forward to receiving your suggestions and working with you. Please send your ideas to (okaklabs@frontier.com).

Thank you,

Marilyn Little, Co-Chair
Juxi Burr, Co-Chair
Executive Education Committee
Barbara Nowak, Barbara Ironside, Nancy Brandow, Ann Vaughn and Tony Emilo

**LRC, Inc. Membership Applications**

Membership applications to join the LRC may be downloaded from the LRC website: [www.thelabradorclub.com](http://www.thelabradorclub.com) or requested from the Membership Coordinator or any Club Director.

Applications should be sent with two letters of sponsorship to the Membership Coordinator:

Nancy Stewart
10608 County Rd. #525
Mansfield, TX 76063
membership@thelabradorclub.com

Applicants are encouraged to review their experience in the breed as well as consider volunteering their time and talents in an area appropriate to their experience or profession.

*Membership applications may take up to three months to process.*

**IN MEMORIAM**

Mary Margaret Feazell
December 12, 1936 - May 20, 2014

**IN MEMORIAM**

Burri’s Lofty LadyHawke, CD
BN RE THD CGC CC
“Hawke”
Owner: Barb Burri
5/20/2000 – 5/16/2014
Congratulations to LRC Pres Fred Kampo and FC AFC Bumble CC, “Stinger,” for finishing the National Amateur Retriever Championship! The trial started with 104 dogs and only 21 completed the full trial (10 series). Note: Stinger was awarded a conformation certificate at last year’s NARC in Wisconsin.

Other LRC-member finalists FC-AFC Dominator’s High Spade (Ace), LM, Mark Medford FC-AFC Candlewoods Life Is A Highway (Freeway), LM, and FC-AFC Mercy Mercy Mercy Me (Mercy), LF, both John Stracka FC-AFC Trumarc’s Hollandaise (Holland), LM, Ed Aycock

CONGRATULATIONS to all of you.

Newly titled "at both ends" CH Oasis Diamond Del Rio, MH. Bred by Molly Bogan, Trained by Kay Scott. Sire: CH Yellow Rose’s Rio Bravo, Dam: CH Oasis Southern Charm

High Combined award and 1st OTCH point. Crash was co-bred by Darlene Pado and Don and Barb Ironside. Crash’s registered name is ReiMur’s Juz Crashin Thru VCD UD JH TDX RE NAP NJP WC CC CGC Delta Society Certified Therapy Dog.

Gingerbred Cookie Jar Cash, CD RN JH CGC
Sire/Dam: BISS CH Saddleshill Struttin’ in the Moonlight x Hennings Mill Gingerbred ATM
Owner: Denise Coler & Tania Clark
Breeder: Christine Tye
Handler: Denise Coler
Friday, April 25, 2014
Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California
Win/Placement: 1st Place ~ 7-9 years Veteran Bitch
Sweepstakes; Best Bitch Veteran Sweepstakes
Judge: Beverley Sidor ~ Tormentil Labradors
Win/Placement: 3rd Place ~ 7-9 years Veteran Bitch
Sweepstakes
Judge: Linda Maffett ~ Sunnydaze Labradors

Dog Name: Coleriver’s She’s Got It All, CGC WC
Sire/Dam: CH Talimari’s Trendsetter x Gingerbred Cookie Jar Cash, CD RN JH CGC
Owner: Denise Coler & Tania Clark
Breeder: Denise Coler, Greg Coler
Handler: Denise Coler
Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California
Friday, April 25th
Win/Placement: 2nd Place ~ 7-9 years Veteran Bitch
Sweepstakes
Judge: Beverley Sidor ~ Tormentil Labradors
Win/Placement: 3rd Place ~ Open Yellow Bitch
Judge: Joyce Love ~ Rickway Labradors
Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California
Saturday, April 26, 2014
Win/Placement: 2nd Place ~ 7-9 years Veteran Bitch
Sweepstakes
Judge: Linda Maffett ~ Sunnydaze Labradors
Win/Placement: 4th Place ~ Open Yellow Bitch
Judge: Linda Vaughn ~ Simerdown Labradors

Dog Name: Coleriver’s Good Vibrations
Sire/Dam: Banbury Vincent x Coleriver’s Special Request CD RN WC CGC
Owner: Denise Coler & Tania Clark
Breeder: Denise Coler & Tania Clark
Handler: Denise Coler
Saturday, April 26, 2014
Labrador Retriever Club of Southern California
Win/Placement: 1st Place ~ American Bred Bitch
Sweepstakes
Judge: Linda Vaughn ~ Simerdown Labradors

All members in good standing with the LRC can post their brags for free.

New conformation champions must have completed the requirements for a Working Certificate.
Marcia Lucas will be the program administrator for the Versatile Producer of Merit award. The Board feels a Director should oversee the program during its pilot phase (January 2013 - December 2017). Marcia’s contact information is on the website, under the Programs (VPM) tab and under the About LRC (Contact) tab.
Official Invitation

Travel to the historic Gettysburg, PA, area and surrounding locations to Celebrate the 2014 LRC, Inc National Specialty Events Week!

Flash!!!
Join us at lovely Rebel Ridge in Elkton MD
October 3, 4 and 5 for an LRC, Inc. Field Trial and October 10 and 11 for an LRC, Inc. Hunt Test

Planning is underway for yet another great round of events showcasing our wonderful breed and all the variety of activities we enjoy participating in with them in the Northeast!

Folks are coming up with some great ideas for even more ways we can showcase our breed. Keep those ideas rolling in!

Please email Edie Castor at ediecastor@gmail.com the 2014 National Specialty Events Week Chairperson or Nancy Brandow at cedarwood@myfairpoint.net the LRC, Inc. Board Liaison for the event to let them know how you would like to help with the 2014 National Events Week.

The Host Hotel will be the Eisenhower Hotel and Convention Center in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Overflow hotels and hotels in the Elkton, MD, area will also be listed on the Club’s Website under the National Specialty Tab. Activities will be at the Eisenhower Hotel and the surrounding areas. This scenic and historic area of the country will make a great setting for our National Events Week. So, mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Follow the planning on the Club’s Facebook page LRC National. Information will be updated on the LRC, Inc. Website listing events and other vital information about the 2014 National Specialty Events Week. This week celebrating our breed has something to offer everyone, come and join the fun, volunteer to help put on this great week of events!

See more details later in this newsletter.

1. FC AFC Lubys and Whitewaters Pirate’s Jewel, SR559263/05; Sire FC AFC Land Ahoy; Dam: Field of Dreams Willow D’One; Breeder: Brad and Patty LaFave; Owner Jeff Schuett and Lydia Fekula
2. AFC CAFC Jazztime Bluegoose’s Skatch; SR521485/02; Owner: Larry Clavert

NATIONAL SPECIALTY
REGULAR CATALOG ADVERTISING

Deadline—Wednesday, AUGUST 29, 2014

Use this opportunity to showcase your dogs, your kennel or retriever related products! Advertise your web site or pay tribute to a special dog with a quarter page or business card size ad!

- Inside Front or Inside Back Cover (includes one photo + catalog) $85
- Full page (includes one photo + catalog) $50
- Facing pages $90
- Half page (no photo or catalog) $30
- Quarter Page (Business card – no photo or catalog) $20
- Second photo (on full page ad only) $10

ADVERTISING COPY RULES

HARD COPY: Send your ad information and original photos to the Advertising Chair. We will prepare your ad and, if there is time, we will e-mail you a proof. Black and White photos are preferred.

ELECTRONIC: Ads must be submitted on disc/stick. There are several acceptable formats. Image area is 4.5 inches x 7.5 inches. No bleeds are accepted.
1. (Preferred) High-Resolution PDF in Grayscale, TO SIZE, 300 pixels/inch.
2. 300 pixels/inch grayscale .jpg or .tif TO SIZE.
3. Word document, with images embedded AND included as a separate .jpg or .tif.

Be aware, your selected fonts may not be available. We will substitute fonts as close as we can match. NOTE: If you lay out your ad in Word at 8.5x11 size, it will NOT come down in proportion to a catalog page. Reduction in width will make the ad very short on the page.

NOT ACCEPTABLE FORMATS: Word Perfect, PowerPoint, Works, Publisher or Excel. These formats will not import into our layout program.

NAMING CONVENTION FOR ALL ELECTRONIC FILES: Make the FIRST word of every file your last name. This will automatically group all your files together. If you have more than one page, name each file with a 1, 2, etc. following your last name to indicate which page the file is for. All ad hard copy and labeled photos will be returned at the Specialty. If you will not be at the Specialty Show and wish to have your photos returned, please include a SASE. Please put your name and address on the back of all photos and type all copy to avoid errors!

Checks payable to LRC, Inc. in US funds MUST accompany the ad. All catalog ads should be sent to:

Robin Anderson
20 Fairway Drive, Seekonk, MA
(508) 761-7927
grampianlabs@comcast.net
Understanding Canine Epilepsy
Originally Published to the AKC Canine Health Foundation

Introduction
Epilepsy is the most common neurological disease seen in dogs, affecting up to five percent of the canine population. However, this statistic is somewhat misleading as epilepsy is not a single disease. Instead, the diagnosis of epilepsy potentially refers to any one of a number of conditions that are characterized by the presence of chronic, recurring seizures. These conditions may be inherited (genetic, primary or idiopathic epilepsy), caused by structural problems in the brain (structural or secondary epilepsy), result from metabolic problems or a toxic exposure (reactive epilepsy), or stem from an unknown cause. Determination of an appropriate treatment regimen for canine epilepsy depends on an accurate diagnosis of the type and cause of seizures, only after which appropriate therapeutic options can be identified.

Diagnosing and Classifying Canine Seizures
Although classification systems exist for human seizures, there is not yet a widely accepted classification system available for seizures in dogs. While human systems are sometimes used to describe canine seizures, this can be problematic. Human classifications are not always clearly applicable to canines, and there is often confusion about the meaning of specific terminology in the veterinary setting. This is particularly true of those classification elements which require subjective reporting of symptoms. For example, while dog owners may notice a specific behavior that typically precedes a seizure and is indicative of a behavioral change, there is no direct way to determine the presence of a pre-seizure event as sometimes diagnosed in humans.

Recently, a multi-axial classification was proposed for veterinary seizures, which is similar but not identical to the current human classification system. Using this system, seizures would be described based on the seizure characteristics (Axis One); the brain location responsible for generating the seizure (Axis Two); the probable cause of the seizure, if one is known (Axis Three); and other clinical signs caused by the seizure disorder that could affect treatment choice and progress (Axis Four).

Seizure Classification
Seizure description is the most critical information needed for the diagnosis of canine epilepsies, and there are several basic types of seizure. Most seizures that owners observe will be motor seizures. These seizures involve involuntary muscle movements or sudden losses or increases in muscle tone. Motor seizures may affect either localized areas of the body, in which case they are known as focal or partial seizures, or they may be more generalized. Automatisms are another form of motor seizure, involving a repetitive behavior that may look like a voluntary behavior, such as barking, chewing, or paddling the legs.

Although non-motor, or sensory, seizures may occur in animals they are more difficult to detect. These types of seizures involve the dog perceiving a sensory stimulus that is not actually occurring, which could be reflected in a change in behavioral pattern such as “fly biting” or staring at an empty space. Some dogs also experience seizures involving changes in their autonomic functions, such as their heart rate or ability to control urination.

Commonly Used Terminology

Automatisms – repetitive movements that appear to be under voluntary control, but actually reflect seizure activity

Atonic seizure – a sudden loss of muscle tone lasting several seconds or more, not following a tonic or myoclonic event

Cluster seizures – a group of seizures within a shorter than normal interval, such as over the course of a day

Focal seizure – seizures affecting only part of the brain and therefore also only part of the body, also known as partial seizures

Generalized seizure – seizures affecting both hemispheres of the brain

Idiopathic epilepsy* – epilepsy of unknown cause, typically assumed to be genetic. See also primary epilepsy

Interictal period – the time between seizures

Myoclonic seizure – sudden, brief contractions of a muscle or group of muscles

Postictal period – the time immediately following a seizure, where sensory or behavior changes may be observed

Primary epilepsy* – epilepsy with no identifiable structural or reactive cause, typically assumed to be of genetic origin. See also idiopathic epilepsy

Refractory epilepsy – seizures that occur even during treatment with therapeutic doses of antiepileptic medication, i.e. the medication stops being effective

Status epilepticus – a serious condition where seizures follow closely on one another without a break, or where a single seizure lasts more than 5 minutes

Tonic seizure – a sustained increase in muscle tone lasting up to several minutes

Tonic-clonic seizure – a seizure where the tonic phase is followed by shorter, myoclonic, contractions

The terms idiopathic or primary epilepsy are applied inconsistently in veterinary medicine at the current time. Some veterinary neurologists consider all idiopathic epilepsy to be of genetic origin (similar to human medicine) whereas others consider it to be of “unknown origin,” particularly in cases that occur outside of an expected age range for genetic-based epilepsy.

Describing Seizures
When observing seizures, it is important for dog owners to keep a diary of detailed information including: 1) affected body parts 2) when seizures occur 3) how often seizures occur, and 4) how long they last (see attached diary template for record keeping). Doctors and owners should also pay close attention to how dogs behave after a seizure has passed. Although some canines will quickly return to normal, during the postictal period, others will experience difficulties standing or moving; problems understanding visual, aural, or other stimuli; or other changes in behavior. These symptoms may last for varying amounts of time, and can affect treatment choice.

In some cases, seizures will occur as the result of exposure to a specific stimulus, such as an illness, exposure to a toxin, or problems with metabolism. Any potentially precipitating events should be brought to the attention of
the treating veterinarian, as such reactive seizures are not generally treated with standard anti-epileptic drugs. Reflex seizures, which are seizures that occur consistently after a particular exposure, such as to a loud noise, a flashing light, or a more complex movement or behavior, have also been reported in dogs.

**Types of Canine Epilepsy**

It is not always possible to identify the cause of canine seizures; however, canine epilepsies can generally be categorized into one of three types. Primary epilepsy, or idiopathic epilepsy, is defined as epilepsy without an identifiable structural cause and having an assumed genetic origin (see Commonly Used Terminology for more information about primary versus idiopathic epilepsy). Repeat-ed seizures in 1-5 year old dogs with a normal neurologic examination, where there are no known structural abnormalities of the brain, metabolic diseases, or toxin exposures, are often assumed to be a form of primary epilepsy. The designation of idiopathic epilepsy suggests that the seizures are of unknown origin. However, the causes of such epilepsies can sometimes be determined, for example when seizures are the result of a specific genetic defect known to occur in certain breeds.

Structural epilepsy is the diagnosis for seizures that occur because of observable damage to or malformations of the brain. Structural epilepsy is also referred to as secondary epilepsy, because the condition is the result of another problem rather than the primary disease. For example, structural epilepsy may occur after an inflammatory disease of the brain, growth of an intracranial tumor, or after trauma to the head. It can also be the result of congenital malformations or a vascular event, such as a stroke. The brain changes that cause structural epilepsies can sometimes be detected using an MRI or by analysis of cerebrospinal fluid. Testing for structural epilepsy may be indicated if a dog exhibits neurologic abnormalities between seizures or if the dog falls outside the typical age range of onset for primary epilepsy. Interictal changes are less common in dogs with primary epilepsy.

Reactive seizures, seizures which occur in response to specific stimuli (such as a metabolic derangement or a toxin), are not considered to be a form of epilepsy.

**The Genetics of Canine Epilepsy**

A large number of genetic mutations have been associated with epilepsy in both humans and mice. In humans, the inheritance of epilepsy is generally complex, meaning that it involves interactions of one or more genes with each other as well as potentially with environmental factors, and this is likely true of epilepsy in dogs as well. However, the extent of inbreeding within specific dog breeds has allowed the identification of certain animals that are at particularly high risk of seizure development. No fewer than 26 dog breeds have shown at least some evidence of heritable, primary epilepsies.

Gene mutations have been identified, many of which include a group of diseases known as neuronal ceroid-lipofuscinoses. These are storage disorders where mutations lead to the abnormal accumulation and storage of a cellular product within cells, eventually leading to the dysfunction or death of neurons. One gene for an inherited epilepsy has been identified in Lagotto Romagnolo dogs. That gene, LG2, is similar to the previously identified human epilepsy gene LG11, and scientists believe that a number of heritable epilepsies may have similar causes in humans and canines. Research into potential similarities between dog and human epilepsies has also led to the identification of several candidate genes that may predict the efficacy of anti-epileptic treatment in some breeds.

**The Etiology of Epilepsy**

The specific biochemical mechanisms that cause seizures to occur are not yet fully understood in either dogs or humans, although seizures are known to result from dysfunction in the brain’s electrical activity. It is generally believed that epileptic seizures are caused by an imbalance between excitatory and inhibitory activity in specific areas of the brain, leading to either excessive brain activity or activity that is unusually depressed. However, in the absence of structural damage or metabolic insults, the causes of such dysfunction are not clear. There is some evidence suggesting that abnormal excitatory processes may be caused by functional abnormalities in neurons, specifically mutations in the ion channels that are essential to cells’ electrical function, but that explanation is likely to only apply to a subset of primary epilepsies. Further research into the specific causes of various forms of epilepsy is still needed; current understanding is incomplete.

**Medical Management Options**

The information provided below is for information purposes only and cannot replace the advice of your veterinarian. Do not give your dog any medications without a prescription from a veterinarian.

Anti-epileptic drugs (AED) primarily work by inhibiting the action of excitatory neurotransmitters, stimulating inhibitory pathways, or altering ion channel function. Not all drugs work equally well in all animals, and their safety profiles are somewhat variable. A single, isolated seizure is not usually seen as a reason to begin treatment with AEDs. Treatment with these drugs is usually indicated when multiple generalized seizures have occurred within a 24 hour period, a dog has had at least two seizures within a six month period, or the dog has unusual or severe signs during the postictal period.

Once treatment has been declared necessary, the process of choosing the right drug requires balancing effectiveness and tolerability. Although many short-term side effects can be managed by titrating medication dosages, some AEDs have the potential to cause significant adverse effects. Therefore, it is important for medications to be chosen and tested with care and to recognize that not all epilepsies are amenable to drug treatment.

**Anti-Epileptic Drugs**

Phenobarbital, a first generation AED, is one of the drugs most used in veterinary patients, because it is relatively inexpensive, well-tolerated, and easily dosed. Serious side effects include blood cell loss (cytopenias) and liver toxicity. There is also the potential for long term toxicity with phenobarbital, and dogs are susceptible to withdrawal effects as physical dependence develops over time.

Potassium bromide, or bromide, is another first generation AED that is often used to treat canine epilepsy. When used in combination with phenobarbital and other AEDs that are metabolized in the liver, dosages of those drugs can potentially be lowered to reduce the risk of liver damage. Bromide may also be useful in resolving some...
cases of epilepsy that do not respond to phenobarbital monotherapy. The final class of first generation AEDs are the benzodiazepines, which include diazepam and clonazepam; although these drugs are less commonly used in dogs. When needed, clonazepam is a longer acting variant of diazepam and allows veterinarian to avoid some of the problems associated with that drug, such as a short half-life. However, chronic use of benzodiazepines in dogs comes with a significant risk of withdrawal seizures, and patients on these drugs can develop tolerance to the medications over time.

Second generation AEDs used in dogs include levetiracetam, zonisamide, felbamate, gabapentin, pregabalin, and topiramate. Levetiracetam is considered to be a particularly safe treatment option with a wide range of safe dosages, however it efficacy remains unclear. Further, co-administration with phenobarbital can affect how long it remains in the bloodstream. Zonisamide is metabolized by the liver and can cause liver toxicity, although this is rarely observed. It is well absorbed, works via multiple mechanisms, and has shown to be effective against a variety of seizure types in humans. Because it interacts with phenobarbital, zonisamide doses should be increased when the two drugs are used in combination. Topiramate is another human epilepsy drug that can be used in dogs. Its half life is quite short, although most adverse events are mild.

Felbamate has been used to treat seizures in dogs. It has the potential to cause both blood and liver toxicity, therefore monitoring with complete blood counts and chemistry panels is recommended on a regular basis. Pregabalin has been suggested as a potential add-on drug for refractory seizures in dogs, with limited, recognized adverse effects. The second generation human epilepsy drug lamotrigine is not recommended for use in dogs because it can cause heart arrhythmias. Several third generation AEDs are currently under development and may turn out to be useful in the treatment of canine epilepsy. Lacosamide has been shown to be well tolerated in people, and some canine-specific data exist to support its use in dogs. Rufinamide, a novel AED that is unlike any existing AEDs on the market, may also have some potential for canine treatment. Finally, several other types of drugs are also under investigation for epilepsy treatment, including drugs that directly address inflammation, synaptic plasticity, and other brain health concerns, but they are not yet ready for general use.

**Drug Dosing**

Determining the appropriate dose for an AED is an extended process. While initial dosing is determined by weight, different dogs metabolize these drugs in different ways. Therefore, a series of blood tests are often needed to evaluate serum drug levels over time in order to make certain that levels remain high enough to be therapeutic but low enough not to be toxic. While serum level of AEDs is a useful monitoring tool, drug levels are not a substitute for clinical assessment when determining the appropriate drug type and dose for any individual dog.

**Refractory Epilepsy**

Drug resistant, or refractory, epilepsy presents additional treatment challenges both in terms of dosing and in drug choice. Refractory epilepsy is diagnosed when treatment with two appropriate AEDs has failed and occurs in 30-40% of all dogs with epilepsy. It can occasionally be dealt with by the addition of second or third generation drugs, such as gabapentin, zonisamide, levetiracetam, or pregabalin in a multi-drug regimen. There are some dogs for whom seizure control may remain elusive.

**The Future of Canine Epilepsy**

Researchers continue to investigate the causes of canine epilepsies, both inherited and acquired, along with new treatments to more safely and effectively treat canine seizures. Furthermore, they do this not only to improve the health of dogs with epilepsy, but also to help their human counterparts. Epilepsy in dogs and humans is similar enough that canine epilepsy research not only has direct impacts on dog health, it also has the potential to improve the lives of human epileptic populations.

Translational research elements, those that bridge the species gap, can be observed across a broad range of clinical areas. Many of the types of familial epilepsy seen in dogs are similar to those that cause inherited human seizures, and drug research has been shown to be beneficial to both species. Canine epilepsies have also been used as a testing ground for new therapeutic options that can help dogs and humans alike. For example, preliminary research on intracranial electroencephalography (iEEG) in dogs suggests that the technique might be a way to predict seizures, which has the potential to be incredibly helpful for individuals who currently suffer from seemingly random epileptic events.

There are limits, of course. Canine epilepsy isn’t identical to human epilepsy, and several drugs have already been shown to have differential toxicity in dogs and humans. Additionally, owners have a limited ability to monitor their dogs’ seizures, particularly when compared to how well people can report on their own seizures. Still, the extent to which naturally occurring epilepsy in dogs is similar to epilepsy in humans presents a unique opportunity to use canine epilepsy as a research model to help dogs and their owners alike.

**Acknowledgements**

The AKC Canine Health Foundation thanks Drs. Chris Mariani, Ned Patterson and Mary Smith for review and editing of this educational document.

**Reference List**

How to Handle a Seizure in Your Dog
Original publication to the AKC Canine Health Foundation November 2011

Observing your beloved dog in the spasms of a seizure the first time is a harrowing experience—something you don't want to ever happen again. Don't panic. With this information you can learn more about the mechanism of the seizure, what you can do for your dog, what causes seizures, and the type of treatment available.

“A seizure is an abnormal, uncontrolled burst of electrical activity in the brain,” says Edwin Darrin, VMD DACVIM, head of neurology at the Center for Animal Referral and Emergency Services in Langhorne, PA. “A seizure disorder is any abnormal process that causes the brain to produce seizures.” Seizures can look like almost anything from a twitch to uncontrollable shaking and last less than a minute. But when they last longer than four or five minutes, it's usually considered an emergency.

At the onset of a seizure, some dogs will get a dazed look in their eye or seem a little unsteady on there feet. Dogs might also hide, seem confused or stare off into space. Even if you're quite observant, you may not notice anything out of the ordinary before the onset of a seizure in your dog. So you have to watch the behavior and attempt to interpret from what you see. Then, determine the mechanism of the seizure.

Dr. Darrin says, "Anything that irritates or damages brain cells can cause a seizure. This includes toxins, imbalances in blood chemistry, infections, or direct trauma." A trip to the veterinarian's office for a routine appointment can trigger a seizure for some anxious dogs. Seizures can be classified as central or generalized, depending on whether they affect only a part or the entire body. Of importance, the part of the body that moves during a seizure also corresponds to where the abnormal brain activity is registered.

"A grand mal seizure is typically where a dog will fall on the ground and is usually unconscious," explains Tom Irwin, DVM of Newport Mesa Animal Hospital in Costa Mesa, Calif. "Partial or petit mal only involves a body part such as a leg or head twitch without being unconscious." "There is also the psychomotor seizure that involves biting at the air, staring at something, circling or barking," says Dr. Irwin. "Bizarre behavior that only lasts a couple of minutes." The most common cause of seizures is idiopathic epilepsy, a disease or condition of unknown origin that arises spontaneously. In this state, the brain cells are too excitible. Other known causes of seizures include brain tumors, inflammatory diseases of the brain, toxins, and metabolic diseases.

During a Seizure:
1) Don't let yourself be hurt. Avoid the dog's mouth and head.
2) Don't let your dog hurt himself. Move the dog away from stairs, furniture and sharp objects.
3) Don't put anything in a dog's mouth. Dogs won't swallow their tongues.
After a Seizure:
1) Do watch your dog to make sure he recovers. This may take minutes to hours.
2) Do let him hear your voice and feel your touch. When dogs wake from a seizure, they need reassurance.
3) Do remain calm and speak softly. Animals are better at sensing feelings and emotions than humans. If you're anxious, your dog will also become anxious.
4) Do record when the seizure occurred, how long it lasted and what the dog looked like. This helps your veterinarian manage the problem better.

"Most of the time, the seizure is over by the time you get to the veterinarian," says Dr. Darrin. "This is why it's so important to be observant and describe what you saw during your dog's seizure." If a seizure lasts more than four or five minutes, or if there are three or more seizures within a 24-hour period, considered this an emergency. "The longer a seizure goes on, the more likely it is that the dog's body temperature go up. Increased temperature may damage the dog's brain," reports Dr. Irwin. The goal of veterinary treatment is to reduce the severity and frequency of the seizures. To do that, your veterinarian will want a complete physical and neurological examination of your dog. Plus, Dr. Darrin suggests a complete blood count (CBC), and serum chemistry.

A serum chemistry profile, much like a CBC, is a panel of tests that provides a broad database of your dog's general health. The results can confirm abnormalities found during a physical exam in the veterinarian's office, as well as bring to light previously unknown and untreated health problems. Depending on the severity of the case, the veterinarian may also want an EKG, CAT scan, spinal fluid analysis and an MRI. After the tests are evaluated, your veterinarian will probably prescribe either phenobarbital or potassium bromide. Two newer drugs being used are KEPPRA (levetiracetam), which is an antiepileptic drug and Zonisamide, an anticonvulsant drug.

Although there is nothing a dog owner can do to protect your dog from having a seizure, there are some things that may help. "If your dog is diagnosed with a seizure disorder and is on medication, make sure he gets his medications and don't skip dosages," says Dr. Irwin. "If there are circumstances that trigger a dog's seizure, avoid those situations." Any breed of dog can have seizures, however, some breeds are more susceptible to seizures than others. This group includes: Schnauzers, German Shepherds, Collies, Retrievers, and French Bulldogs.

Knowledge is power. The more information you have about dogs and seizures, the better you will be at handling the unexpected real life situation of seizures in your dog.

AKC Rescue Network Highlights

- People are often surprised to learn it's possible to find a purebred that fits your lifestyle AND is also in serious need of a loving, forever home
- The AKC Rescue Network is the largest network of dog rescue groups in the country, and was officially recognized late 2013
- 160 unique breeds are currently represented within the network
- More than 450 AKC Rescue Network groups are located across the United States
- AKC’s “National Breed Clubs” spearhead the bulk of these rescue groups, and it’s often breeders and fanciers that are at the heart of these rescues, rehabs and re-homes
- The AKC Rescue Network’s groups are unique in that the fostering/rehabilitation period lasts as long as is necessary before the dog is rehomed
- Foster volunteers provide intimate, transparent knowledge about the dog’s history, temperament, health concerns and special needs that allows them to place the dog in the best-fitting home
- According to a recent AKC Rescue Network survey, rescue volunteers said the top three reasons cited by owners for surrendering their dog are change of lifestyle, not the right breed for them, and lack of time to spend with the dog. They also said that the biggest issues they face are the lack of foster homes, manpower, and funding.
- You can find a full list of AKC Rescue Networks organized by breed at akc.org
- Carol was on the show with "Bocephus." Bo is a 9-year old yellow male Lab who is available for adoption. Bo is a very loving boy who loves people. He knows "sit" and "shake". Bo had always lived with his buddy, Moonshadow, a cat. Because they are bonded, Lab Rescue took them both in. They are looking for a home where they can stay together.

Lab Rescue of the LRC was established in 1991. The show aired on June 14 and you can view it here http://wjla/1p4VJGD

The rescue clip starts at 9 min 30 seconds.

We thank AKC Public Relations for reaching out to us, and we sincerely thank Lab Rescue of the LRC for representing purebred Labradors in the DC viewing area.

LRC Rescue T-Shirts Available

Terri McFadden, LRC Rescue Coordinator
Show your support for the LRC Rescue Fund by purchasing t-shirts. You will find them here: http://www.tshirtotherescue.com/products-t-shirts/lrc.html (lower right corner of the array of available shirts) or from LRC Rescue Task Force Members via email rescue2@thelabradorclub.com. The T-shirts are $20 with all proceeds going to the LRC Rescue Fund.

The LRC Rescue Fund provided financial assistance to three organizations last fall and is currently working on another one. The financial assistance usually ranges from $1000- $3000, depending on the depth of the rescue organizations' needs. In the event of a natural disaster or a large rescue, the LRC Rescue Fund provides financial assistance to local rescue organizations who are strained when rescue of multiple Labradors (10 to 55) is required.
Book Review: IN A DOGS HEART
Originally published to Retriever Life

In a Dog’s Heart continues educating readers on understanding dogs but more from a “wants and needs” perspective. The book is interspersed with lessons through personal stories that help cement the concepts she is trying to teach. Jennifer shared more opinions in this book than the last, allowing it a more person effect upon the reader. An example of this is her views on the “alpha” and dominance and how it has negatively impacted our relationship with dogs.

The first chapter sets the stage with a modified version of Maslow’s pyramid where physical needs like safety are necessary before one can attain attachment, contentment and eventually a “good life”. There were some horrific stories contained within this book on the negative ways in which dogs are treated and unfortunate outcomes of irresponsible or ill educated owners – and even by professional trainers. Jennifer is a believer of Choice Teaching where she has found that dogs who are given the opportunity to comply willingly, as opposed to via force or fear, are “quicker to learn a behavior, more eager to work on it, and more likely to repeat it in the future. The beginning of this book was a little slow reading for me as it talked about basics such as: food, water, vet visits, choosing a puppy, and choosing an adult dog. But I encourage 1st time or soon-to-be puppy or dog owners to read in detail. In the rest of the book, Jennifer shared good training tips- like the “leave it” and “take it” exercise. She explains how and why shy dogs may do and react to what they do. Understanding the why helps you figure out how to address the issue.

Another thing that Jennifer discusses throughout is that a lack of awareness, understanding, and communication between the owner and their dog can lead to unfortunate and unnecessary loss and conflict. Such as, she describes a situation where a young girl throws a stick that lands at the feet of a golden retriever puppy, the dog and child reach down to pick it up at the same time, the puppy’s sharp teeth slightly puncture the girl’s hand and parents react so severely that the puppy is euthanized. It is stories like these that are heartbreaking due to the loss of life but these are also the stories that truly emphasize the importance of making the effort to understand and work proactively and compassionately with your dog.

Throughout the book Jennifer encourages people to view yourself and your dog as a team, as opposed to an alpha and their omega. From her first book: Dogs Do Not Speak Human, she illustrates how dog do not purposefully do things to anger or frustrate us, rarely does a dog “know better” than to do whatever he is doing at present. She explains the benefits and use of redirection rather than correction, because it is easier to teach a dog what TO DO than what NOT TO DO. Dogs are hyper aware of context and they already know you are the boss.

She also encourages us to establish a routine, show respect to expect respect in return, find an activity you and your dog both enjoy. If you have realistic expectations of your dog and plan accordingly, your life together will be much easier (for both of you) – try to see the world from a dog’s perspective, understand that your dog’s perspective is quite different from your own, don’t scream or hit (agression leads to aggression), and to “listen” to your dog. Dogs are much like toddlers, their actions are more a reflection of our leadership than their character. She also discusses common issues such as boredom, separation anxiety, and thunderstorm phobia and how to address them.

What I took away from the book is that I have a responsibility to give my dogs what they need and deserve – the basics like food, water, and shelter and quality of life (love, attention, routine, a job to do, etc.) and to understand why they do what they do so I can react and train them appropriately. Not all dogs are alike and have the same experiences so I shouldn’t treat them all the same. Each of our dogs has a special routine as well as a special place in our heart.

When we have dogs, we don’t own them – we owe them. We need to establish and cultivate a good/positive relationship, just as we would with our partners and friends. Dogs are there for us, so we need to be there for them. What they give us in return are gifts that are priceless.

HERE’S A SPECIAL 2014 LRC NATIONAL OFFER FROM PURINA!

For all Platinum Members of Purina’s Pro Club Program, Purina is pleased to offer One Free LARGE Bag of dog food per family for your stay in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania for the 2014 LRC, Inc. National Specialty. If you are not a Platinum Member but have submitted weight circles for at least 500 lbs of Purina food in the past year, you may order one small bag without... charge.

Please send your name, address with zip code, cell telephone number and PPCP membership number to Gold-enhse@aol.com, stating the amount and variety of food requested. Your request must be received no later than August 20th. You may pick up your dog food at the Purina booth beginning Tuesday, October 7th. The benefits of being a Purina Pro Club Member just keep getting better charge.

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Presents a Parent Club Regional Specialty December 12, 2014

Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida

Judges: To be announced pending AKC approvals

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"The Battle for the Best at Gettysburg"

**Schedule of National Specialty Events**
All events are open to Labrador Retrievers ONLY.

Join us at Lovely Rebel Ridge in Elkton MD
October 3, 4 and 5 for an LRC, Inc. Field Trial
October 10 and 11 for an LRC, Inc. Hunt Test

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3-4, 2014**
LRC, Inc. Field Trial • Conformation Certificate Evaluation
Rebel Ridge Farms • 295 Woods Road • Elkton, Maryland

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2014**
Field Trial Continues At Rebel Ridge Farms • TD/TDX Tracking Test
Redding Farm • 1085 Table Rock Road • Gettysburg, PA 17325
“Celebrating Performance” Welcome Party 4-6 pm at the Show Grounds,
Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2014**
Agility Trial I • Obedience Trial I • Rally Trial I • CGC Testing • TD Testing
Therapy Dog Parade • Service Dog Parade • Rescue Dog Parade •
Chicken BBQ - Obedience TOP 25 Tribute

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2014**
LRC, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting • Agility Trial II • Rally Trial II • Agility Top 25 Tribute • Working Certificate
Worker’s Party hosted by LRC, Inc. BOD • LRC, Inc. Annual Meeting • Evening Hospitality

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2014**
LRC, Inc. Parent Club Specialty • Judge’s Education Workshop AM • Ringside Mentoring PM
• CC Evaluation • Obedience Trial II • Genetic Screening and Health Education

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2014**
Sweepstakes Classes [Veteran and Puppy] • Conformation – Bitch Classes
The Challenge: Special Attraction Classes
LRC Banquet with Conformation Top 25 Tribute
Auction and Awards

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2014**
Junior Showmanship • Conformation—Dog Classes • Best of Breed • Best Puppy •
Best Bred By • Best in Sweepstakes • Best Veteran • Best in Field Trial Classes
Best in Retriever Hunting Classes

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2014**
Junior I • Senior I • Master Retriever Hunt Tests • Working Certificate Test
Conformation Certificate Evaluation,
Rebel Ridge Farms • 295 Woods Road • Elkton, Maryland

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2014**
Junior II • Senior II Retriever Hunt Tests • Master Test (continued)
Dog for All Reasons Presentations • THE CHALLENGE Medal Presentation

Veterinarian Microchip Verification for DNA Samples Available throughout the week.
Special Rate for DNA testing and OFA Registry Available
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The Singleton Syndrome
By Carolyn Russell Gold, spellbound24K@netzero.com
AKC Gazette columnist for the Gordon Setter Club of America, gsca.org

For breeders who have experienced the joy of the birth of a healthy singleton puppy, along with this joy come concerns about the inability of that singleton to receive proper socialization in the absence of litter-mates.

Lack of “normal” litter socialization can lead to a variety of idiosyncratic personality traits, ranging from minor to more serious problems, where the puppy feels he is the center of a universe he does not want to share with another being.

I have had experience raising four singletons—three from AI breedings, and one from a live cover. The dams were not directly related.

In two of the three AI litters (which I bred), the singleton was the only puppy developing in the womb. In the third AI litter, the resulting puppy had a littermate who died at birth, so he was not alone in the uterus. In the live-cover litter (bred by someone else), the singleton was the sole survivor from a litter of three—so again, was not alone in the womb.

I stress this latter point because it is an extraordinarily important factor for a singleton. Having littermate(s) share the uterus eliminates the potential for singleton problems of “owning the universe.”

The “cause” of a singleton birth is most likely not genetic. Most often it is probably the result of breeding too late; that is, breeding at the very end of the fertile period, when very few eggs are available for fertilization—or maybe only one. There are many other possible causes. These include an infection; an older dam who did not produce many eggs, even at the height of her fertile period; and/or eggs that were resorbed.

A properly taken ultrasound can show the dam is in whelp, but the number of puppies actually born can change if some or all are resorbed after the ultrasound was taken. Exact factors causing resorption of a developing fetus remain a mystery known only to Mother Nature.

My first litter was a singleton. Since it was my first, I had no idea how important littermates were in the mental and physical development of a puppy. I read as much as I could, talked to as many breeders as I could, and worked exceedingly hard at socializing my puppy in as many ways as I could.

However, it wasn’t enough. I learned you can never replace, replicate, simulate, or duplicate the myriad things a puppy learns from littermates.

It wasn’t until a few years later, when I bred my second litter, that I could vividly (and sadly) see just how much that singleton had missed because of not having littermates while growing in the uterus and after birth.

When my second singleton, Reigna, was born, I immediately knew I had to find a “foster litter” for her. I knew littermates were imperative to her proper development if any could be found.

Having a foster litter for a singleton to visit is by far the best for socialization purposes, especially if the foster pups are near the same age as the singleton. If the foster litter is too old, the potential for the young singleton to be injured increases. Separating the singleton from her mom and introducing her to a new mom and litter require thought and planning.

Reigna visited her foster litter as soon as she could be away from her mom for short periods. I decided on 3½ weeks, an age when (1) she did not have to be with Mom to keep her body temperature constant; (2) she did not have the need to nurse so often; (3) her ears and eyes were open; and (4) she was up on her legs, scooting around.

I call this part of the story “Reigna and the Redheads.” A friend had a litter of Irish Setters who were days older than Reigna. She generously offered, “Bring her to visit as often as you want.”

So began a fascinating and exciting learning saga for me, and life-changing experiences for Reigna. It was incredibly awe inspiring to watch this experiment unfold.
I began the weaning process a bit early with Reigna so she could be away from Mom. (The nursing turned out not to be an issue, as “Redhead Mom,” Brandy, accepted Reigna as her own and let her nurse with the gang of redheads.)

Reigna’s own mom was very concerned when I took her puppy away. This was the hardest part in establishing what would become a routine five to seven days a week — for a few hours, then a half-day — until Reigna was 3 months old. Reigna had to adjust to being away from her Mom and her familiar smells and surroundings, and to a new whelping box, five red foster littermates, and a big, red foster mom — Brandy!

What I learned from this very first visit with the redheads was so astounding that I videotaped it. Reigna was understandably overwhelmed, through not terrified. I did not put her in the whelping box with the redheads, who were very accepting and nonaggressive, until the end of the visit. The redheads were six days older than she, and they were larger and had more-developed play patterns and body movements. I put Reigna outside the box, on the floor, on a “scented cloth” (see below), in plain view of the pups — but mostly for the sake of Mom Brandy to get used to an interloper and not feel threatened. Brandy was just as sweet, loving, and accepting as she could be. She thoroughly sniffed Reigna and tilted her head as though thinking, Hmm, I didn’t think there was another one — especially a black one — where could this one have come from?

Brandy’s owner presented Reigna to Brandy by holding her out to be examined, sniffed, and licked. It was important that the owner, and not I, present Reigna to Brandy so that Reigna was associated with a familiar human scent. Prior to this, we had taken a clean cloth and wrapped several of the Redhead pups in it and rubbed them to get their scent on the cloth. Then I rubbed Reigna with the “scented cloth” so that when she was presented to Brandy, Reigna was wrapped in the scented cloth and had a familiar odor, not a foreign or potentially threatening one.

We repeated this “sniffing exercise” several times in the course of an hour. After each, Reigna was placed back outside the box, on the cloth, for Brandy to “monitor.”

At first Reigna was quiet, a huddled lump. Gradually, she began to look around. When it was clear that Brandy was not going to be alarmed by Reigna (Mom did not even get out of the box), we placed her inside the box.

Again Reigna was a black, huddled lump. The redheads were very curious: they sniffed Reigna, jumped on her, pawed and pulled her ears, bit her neck, pushed her, and tried to play with her as with their own littermates.

Reigna did not respond. Being a singleton, she had no idea what they were doing. She let them crawl on her. Then they all piled together, with Reigna, and slept.

After the nap, Reigna got bolder, guardedly getting to her feet, and she slowly blossomed.

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**DONATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant 0278</th>
<th>Development of regenerative Medicine Technique to Treat Cartilage Disorders in Dogs</th>
<th>Dr. William Saunders</th>
<th>Texas A &amp; M</th>
<th>$25,000 from the donor advised fund.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grant 02102-a Stopping Tick Infestation to Prevent Human and Canine Disease</td>
<td>Dr. Weeks</td>
<td>University of Florida</td>
<td>$12,960.00 from Donor Advised fund.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant 01849 Health Implication of Early Spay/Neuter on Canine Health</td>
<td>Dr. Benjamin Hart</td>
<td>University of California Davis</td>
<td>$25,000 from LRC, Inc.</td>
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We have earmarked $15,00 to Morris animal foundation Grant to be determined from LRC funds.

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**STAY COOL THIS SUMMER**
ADVERTISING INFORMATION
Ads do not need to be camera ready, but it is helpful if they are. Please submit ad well in advance of publications deadlines, especially if they are not camera ready. Please enclose a check with your submission made to LRC, Inc.

Emailed ads are preferred. CD’s and memory sticks are accepted.

Email questions or ads to Lorraine at: newsletter@thelabradorclub.com

Half Page Ad: $40 per issue
Quarter Page: $25 per issue
Classified: $0.50 per word, 20 word minimum per issue. Ads should be for Labrador related products.

In Memoriam: FREE to LRC members in good standing. Dog’s registered name, call name, owner, DOB/DOD with photo. Emailed photos should be high resolution TIFF, PNG, or JPG formats.

BRAGS: FREE. Criteria for printing brags include: Person with brag must be a member in good standing of The LRC, Inc. New conformation Champions must have completed the requirements for a Working Certificate in accordance with the LRC, Inc. Constitution and Bylaws, ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1. Standards for Use of the Title “CH”. All other LRC, Inc. titles, certificates, AKC titles and certificates, and NAHRA titles will be accepted for submission.

The LRC Yearbook is printed once a year by The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.

If you want an additional copy you may contact Robin Anderson grampianlabs@comcast.net Members $10.00 Non-Members $15.00

Deadline for submissions is April 30, 2014

AUTHOR
The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. newsletter welcomes unsolicited articles about Labrador Retrievers for possible publication in the newsletter. Subjects may include health care, service dog stories, retriever training articles, unusual training incidents or special dog profiles. Articles will be screened for accuracy and appropriate content and will not be returned unless accompanied with a self-addressed stamped envelope. Photos may be included and can accompany an article. Authors will be notified of publication date of any articles used. Email submissions are preferable. Email Meredith Kuhn for more submission information: newsletter@thelabradorclub.com

The American Kennel Club is once again enforcing the parent club letter of consent as part of each area specialty clubs’ application to hold its specialty. To receive your club’s letter from LRC, Inc. please contact in writing the correct Time Zone Chair giving the name of the club, location, date(s), event(s) and all judges.

Thank you, we apologize for this inconvenience.

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The Canine Health Information Center assigns a CHIC number, automatically, to any Labrador that is tested for hips, elbows, and eyes and whose test results are public. Other testing can also be done but these three are mandatory to receive the CHIC designation. As of June 17, 2013, they also require Exercise Induced Collapse before the CHIC is assigned to a Labrador retriever.

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The Labrador Retriever Club and The LRC Quarterly seek to provide insight into various subjects regarding Labrador Retrievers.

We approach a subject based upon the powers and interests involved, leaving the moral and other judgments to the reader. The opinions of the various contributors to this website are their own opinions and are not necessarily the opinions of the Editors.

We reserve the right to accept and edit submissions to this newsletter to maintain the integrity of The Labrador Retriever Club and The LRC Quarterly.
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Please do not send your question to multiple people.
If you’ve moved or are moving, please let the LRC NEWS find you by filling out this change of address form and sending it as soon as you can. You don’t want to miss a single issue! You can also email your change to: jlkerrenterprises@jps.net

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www.thelabradorclub.com

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http://www.akc.org/kids_juniors/jrauth_request.cfm

If your club is having a Hunt Test or WC, please email it to the newsletter staff for publication at newsletter@thelabradorclub.com

The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc., Breeders Directory Program

The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc., offers its members the opportunity to be listed in a Labrador Retriever Breeders Directory. This directory is posted on the website for use by prospective puppy buyers and others interested in acquiring or breeding a Labrador Retriever. Enrollment information and application form are available for viewing or downloading off our website at www.thelabradorclub.com. Please select Apply for a Listing located under the Breeders menu option to access these documents.

Local Labrador Retriever Clubs and Contests

A listing of Local Clubs with their contact information is available for viewing or downloading off our website at www.thelabradorclub.com. There are numerous search options offered to assist in locating a regional club in your area. Please select Local Clubs located under the About LRC menu option to access this list.