

Published Quarterly by:
Patricia Collom
Spring 2015

CCLRC NEWSLETTER

“Sniffing Tails”



It's about our lives and love of this versatile breed

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- President's Message
- Listing of Current Officers and Board Members
- Membership
- Highlighted Member
- Rosettes and Ribbons-Show, Working and Obedience Awards
- Club Events-Shamrock Specialty & WC/WCX Test
- Upcoming Activities and Club Sponsored Events
- Topic of Interest to our Members-Hazardous Plants, Long-hair Labradors
Genetic Disease Tests, Pet Insurance
- Message from the Editor

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Spring 2015

Greetings CCLRC members and friends! Since I last wrote a President's message, so much has happened. You can be very proud of your Central California Labrador Retriever Club:

- Our second annual **SHAMROCK SPECIALTY** was bigger and better than our first! Entries were up by about 40 dogs and the day went off without a hitch thanks to so many that pulled together to make it happen. THANK YOU to the show committee (Christine Tye and Pat Collom, show chairpersons) and all our club members who contributed time, talent and donations. More information on the show in this newsletter.
- We recently installed our 2015 Board of Directors, welcoming an old friend back to the board (Candy Templeton) and our rookie member (Katy Bazarro). Thanks for volunteering ladies! The entire membership of the board is listed in this newsletter. Contact any one of us with your suggestions and ideas.
- Our 8th annual Working Certificate weekend was a great success earlier this month. What fun to see our Labradors doing what they were bred to do! We watched 5 dogs earn their Working Certificate and 2 dogs earn Working Certificate Excellent—congratulations! Watch for this fun event next year and join us!

Thank you to everyone for renewing your membership and encouraging others to join us. CCLRC is just over 10 years old and we now have 68 members! I'd like to welcome those that joined us since our last newsletter:

Laura & Mo Dickenson—Candyview Kennels

Sonya Dudder—Dolce Vita Labradors

Cindy Ellis—Spirithawk Labradors

Elaine Dalbon—Fiesta Labradors

Sherry Manning

Brent and Monica Frame

Karen Spooner

We look forward to getting to know you and your Labradors better!
Happy Spring to all, Patty Gallagher

LISTING OF CURRENT OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

2015 OFFICERS:

President	Patty Gallagher	joe.patty.g@gmail.com
Vice President	Katy Bazurto	stageunltd@aol.com
Treasurer	Steve Schwartz	stevelillian@unwiredbb.com
Secretary	Candy Templeton	ectemp@aol.com

BOARD MEMBERS:

Pat Collom	pat@windroselabradors.com
Christine Tye	christinetye@vom.com
Chris Bunch	chrisbunch7@gmail.com
Robin McBain	sweeth20labs@aol.com
Tim Chong	timchong@gmail.com

2015 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Public Education Coordinator	Pat Collom	pat@windroselabradors.com
Legislative Liaison/Membership	Chris Bunch	chrisbunch7@gmail.com
Shamrock Specialty Chair	Christine Tye	christinetye@vom.com
Newsletter and WC/WCX Event	Pat Collom	pat@windroselabradors.com
Webmaster/Puppy Referral	Tim Chong	cdrcweb@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Current Members as of May 2015 :

We have 68 members with seven new members this Quarter.



HIGHLIGHTED MEMBER

Editorial Note: We are repeating in the Spring Newsletter Steve Schwartz, our current Treasurer, as the highlighted member for current members who may have missed it last quarter and our many new members to enjoy.

Steve Schwartz is the member in the spotlight this issue! Steve has been a member of CCLRC almost as long as anyone. He joined the founding members, Pat and Ed Collom, Carol Burns and Chris Bunch about a year after the club was founded. He was quickly nominated to be treasurer, a position he has held since. Here is his story:

I have ALWAYS had a dog. As a kid, my dog was a terrier mix I named Happy. She was the first love of my life. We were inseparable for a lot of years. I have a lot of fun memories of Happy and me. I will tell you how much I loved that dog. When Happy was old and declining, I wished so much that I could make her well. One day she and I were home alone. At that time, I had one other thing I loved as much as I loved Happy- my banty chickens. I was saving some chicken eggs in my sock drawer to put them under a hen at brooding time. Those eggs were worth their weight in gold as far as I was concerned. Well, Happy looked

so sad and sick that I thought good nutrition from fresh eggs surely would perk her up. I got the eggs from my drawer and cooked them up for Happy. She was too sick and did not eat them.....but you can see my devotion to Happy if I was willing to give up my precious banty chicken eggs for her.

My next dog was Freckles, an English Springer Spaniel. My mom bred and showed English Springer Spaniels all her life. Her kennel name was Craiglind Kennels, and she finished several dogs in her show dog career. She was active in the Sun-Maid Kennel Club for years, and one year she was chairman of the Sun-Maid Kennel Club's All Breed Show in Fresno. That club has been around for a long time and I am glad that CCLRC has supported them with Supported Entry for the last several years.

While I lived in Pacifica many years ago, I got my first Labrador. It was a black puppy boy from Jack and Kay Isherwood of Sherwood Kennels who were in the Bay area at the time. I named him Tony. Unfortunately, Tony developed severe hip dysplasia at 8 months of age. The Isherwoods replaced Tony with a yellow boy named Rex. Rex was the best upland game hunting dog I've ever owned. We were a great team and had lots of fun hunting together. Rex lived to be 15 years old. I have fond memories of the Isherwoods who were there at the beginning of my love affair with Labradors and got me hooked. Over time I got three more Labradors, all yellow, from Sally McCarthy of Shamrock Acres in New York. My love affair continued.

After I moved to Fresno several years ago, I got to know Pat Collom, Beth Davis and Chris Bunch. My next Labrador, and first show dog, was a boy named Blue from Beth's Sailin Labrador Kennel (Sailin's Briuiser). He was something special; another 'love of my life' dog. Blue loved everyone, loved life, and it showed in the ring. So much of what makes a dog appealing in the ring is attitude and body language, in my opinion. Blue's first time in the show ring, handled by Beth, he was WD for a 4 point major. Blue went on to finish his championship quickly-what fun we had! Blue was also an excellent hunting companion. He learned hand signals and we made a great team in the field. He also lived to be 15 years old.

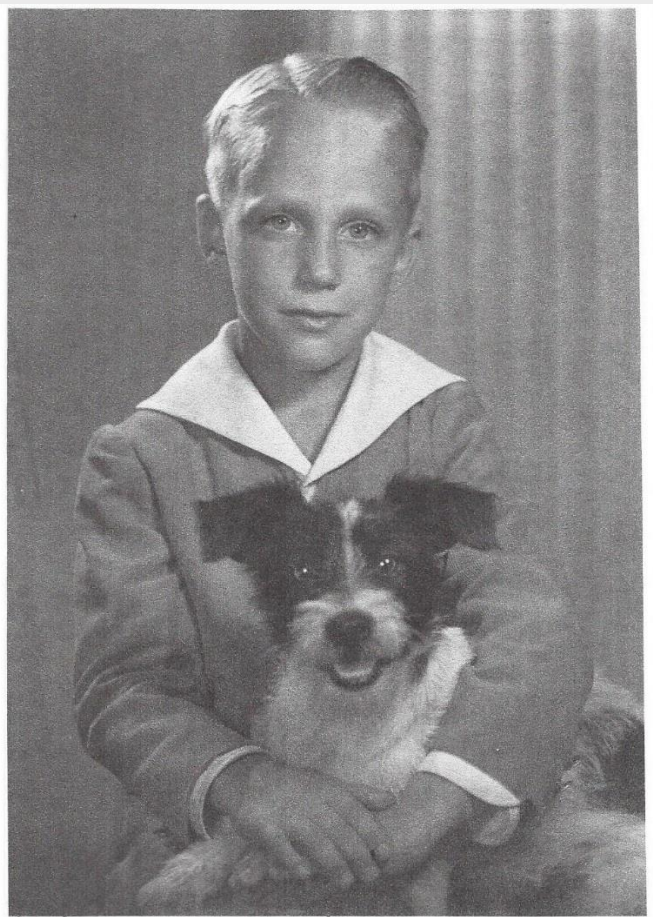
After Blue passed on, I got a bitch named Maggie from Beth Davis. At 4 years old I bred Maggie to Pat Collom's Bruno (Winnie's Frankfurter Team) and she whelped 12 puppies. From that litter we kept Cindy. Cindy and I ventured into the world of Search and Rescue training and had a good time at that. Cindy

was a natural. Unfortunately, Cindy's and Maggie's lives were cut short by an accident. To this day, it is hard to talk about it.

From Maggie's litter Beth had bought 2 bitches, one of whom went to New Mexico. That bitch did not have an ideal life there and she came home to Beth. Beth told me that the returned bitch was shy and skittish around people. I went to visit and to Beth's surprise, the girl walked straight up to me. I knelt down and she nuzzled into my chest as if to say "I'm yours". I named her Cinder.

Cinder's first litter, a singleton, was sired by Pat Collom's Casper (Ch Winnie's Block Buster MH). We did a re-breeding following that. Most everyone in the dog world has a horror story of a difficult whelping, and this one is mine. In short, we went to the ER clinic in the middle of the night. Four pups were angels and 8 survived. Then the real work began. None of the pups could nurse. I tube fed those eight beautiful puppies until they were on solid food.

Today my wife, Lillian, and I have Cinder and Cinder's daughter, Angie. Labradors will always be a part of our lives. I very much enjoy being part of CCLRC. I have lived through the growing pains of this club and know that what we have accomplished is something to be proud of. This club means a lot to me.



Steve and Happy!



Steve with Cinder and Angie



Ch. Sailin's Bruizer Blue

OFA Excellent

ACVO Clear

Dutch Ch. Cranspire Skytrain
 Eng. Sh/Am Ch. Receiver of Cranspire
 Pollys Pride of Genisval
Am/Can Ch. Sailin's Proud Dimension
 Ch. Sailin's Gold Doubloon
 Ch. Sailin's Me Ballou Too
 Am/Can Ch. Elysium's Sailin Cat Ballou

Am/Can Ch. Monarch's Black Arrogance CD, WC
 Am/Can Ch. Davoeg Silky Beau
 Briary Marzipan
Ch. Sailin's Cinder Ona Retrieve
 Ch. Sailin's Jolly Roger
 Sandcrest Sailin' Scat Kat
 Ch. Janlen's Marci WC

Three out of four in the Raisin Circuit! Loves to hunt pheasant!

Owners:
Steve Schwartz and Beth Davis
 3740 North Academy Avenue
 Sanger, California 93657
 (209) 875-7931

Handler:
Don Smith

Breeder:
Beth Davis

ROSETTES & RIBBONS

Spring 2015

<p>Award: Sr. Hunt Test, 2nd Pass Dog: Saddlehill Irish Luck, WCX, JH Sire: GCH Hypspire Shahli Hotter Than Blazes Dam: Saddlehill Cinderhill Ready Willing N Mabel Breeder: Susan Eberhardt & Cindy Braley Owner: Susie Gallagher & Susan Eberhardt Handler: Susie Gallagher Event: LRCSC 2015 Spring Hunt Test Date: April 11, 2015 Judges: Susie Terpsta & Larry Saavedraq</p>	<p>Award: Sr. Hunt Test, 3rd Pass Dog: Saddlehill Irish Luck, WCX, JH Sire: GCH Hypspire Shahli Hotter Than Blazes Dam: Saddlehill Cinderhill Ready Willing N Mabel Breeder: Susan Eberhardt & Cindy Braley Owner: Susie Gallagher & Susan Eberhardt Handler: Susie Gallagher Event: LRCSC 2015 Spring Hunt Test Date: April 11, 2015 Judges: Al Strasrpka and William Winshowski</p>
<p>Award: Best of Breed Dog: GCH Gingerbred Party Animal Sire: GCH Hypspire Shahli Hotter Than Blazes Dam: Ch Gingerbred Party Shoes Breeder: Christine Tye Owner: Katy Bazarro Show: Golden Gate Kennel Club Date: January 2015 Judge: Debbie Claussen</p>	<p>Award: Select Dog Dog: GCH Gingerbred Party Animal Sire: GCH Hypspire Shahli Hotter Than Blazes Dam: Ch Gingerbred Party Shoes Breeder: Christine Tye Owner: Katy Bazarro Show: Golden Gate Kennel Club Date: January 2015 Judge: Jan Granneman</p>
<p>Award: Best in Veteran Sweepstakes Dog: GCh Wallcrofts Ruby at Windrose CGC RN CD Sire: Ch Windrose Cosmic Connection Dam: Talimars Jewel at Wallcroft Breeder: Nancy Wall Owner: Pat Collom, Nancy Wall Show: LRCSC Specialty Date: April 2015 Judge: Carrie Eberhardt</p>	<p>Award: Select Bitch Dog: GCh Wallcrofts Ruby at Windrose CGC RN CD Sire: Ch Windrose Cosmic Connection Dam: Talimars Jewel at Wallcroft Breeder: Nancy Wall Owner: Pat Collom, Nancy Wall Show: LRCSC Specialty Date: April 2015 Judge: Lisa Weiss</p>

<p>Award: Best in Sweepstakes, Best Puppy Dog: Candyview's Harvest Moon Sire: Ch Wallcroft Windrose Victory Bear, WC Dam: GCh Ducktails Aria JH Breeder: Laura Dickenson, Diane Villa & Teresa Keller Owner: Laura & Mo Dickenson Show: LRCSC Specialty Date: April 2015 Judge: Lisa Weiss, Carrie Eberhardt</p>	<p>Award: Best in Sweepstakes, Best Puppy, Winner's Bitch Dog: Candyview's Harvest Moon Sire: Ch Wallcroft Windrose Victory Bear, WC Dam: GCh Ducktails Aria JH Breeder: Laura Dickenson, Diane Villa & Teresa Keller Owner: Laura & Mo Dickenson Show: LRCSC Specialty Date: April 2015 Judge: Judy Chambers, Sonya Dudder</p>
<p>Award: Working Certificate Dog: Windrose Wallcroft Just Do It Sire: GCh Saddlehill Late Knight Scramble Dam: GCh Wallcrofts Ruby at Windrose CGC RN CD Owner: Mike & Rebecca Russler Handler: Ed Collom Event: CCLRC/SJVLRC Working Certificate Test Date: May 2015 Judge: Linda Brooks</p>	<p>Award: Working Certificate Dog: Windrose Shotgun Rider Sire: GCh Gingerbred Celestial Thunder JH Dam: Windrose Wallcroft Winner Takes it All Owner: Brent Frame Handler: Brent Frame Event: CCLRC/SJVLRC Working Certificate Test Date: May 2015 Judge: Linda Brooks</p>
<p>Award: Working Certificate Dog: Windrose Here Comes The Sun Sire: GCh Gingerbred Celestial Thunder JH Dam: Windrose Wallcroft Winner Takes it All Owner: Pat Collom Handler: Pat Collom Event: CCLRC/SJVLRC Working Certificate Test Date: May 2015 Judge: Linda Brooks</p>	<p>Award: Working Certificate Excellent Dog: Misty Mountain Smoke Stack Lightning JH Sire: GCh Gingerbred Celestial Thunder JH Dam: GCh Ghostone The Devil Wears Prada Owner: James Coletti Handler: James Coletti Event: CCLRC/SJVLRC Working Certificate Test Date: May 2015 Judge: Linda Brooks</p>

<p>Award: Working Certificate Excellent Dog: Wruck's Mighty Gauge JH Sire: Dan's Stormin' Thunder Jack Dam: Dan's Shot Shell Zoey Gurl Owner: Jim Wruck Handler: Jim Wruck Event: CCLRC/SJVLRC Working Certificate Test Date: May 2015 Judge: Linda Brooks</p>	<p>Award: Beginner Novice (BN) Dog: Windrose Never Stop Rocking CDX BN RAE CGC WC Sire: Ch Windrose Cosmic Connection Dam: Hennings Mill Euro Standard Owner: Sara Lopez/Patricia Collom Handler: Sara Lopez Date: April 2015</p>
<p>Award: Rally Novice (RN) Dog: HK's Dark Waters of Encore BN RN CGC Sire: Gingerbred's Doolin Desperato CDX RAE CGC Dam: Kadys Seppin Out Owner: Sara Lopez Handler: Sara Lopez Date: April 2015</p>	

Special Note: We know that our club members are very active with their Labradors in many different pursuits. Please be sure to submit your achievements to the editor on a regular basis. Should your accomplishments not be included in this edition, please email your information to the editor for inclusion in the next newsletter edition.

CLUB SPONSORED EVENTS

Spring 2015

SHAMROCK SPECIALTY- CHRISTINE TYE, CHAIR

Perfect Weather! Fabulous Dogs! Enthusiastic Members! Great Guests!

What could be better for our 2nd Annual CCLRC Specialty in Turlock?

Patty got us organized months earlier with AKC – filing our paperwork.

Starting off on Saturday night (March 14th) with a Kim catered Irish dinner hosted by the club and enjoyed by all. Corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes and a big salad – followed by a personally designed PADDY cake chosen by Robin! We called in our special kitchen crew Patrick and his buddy to carry it in.

The next morning (March 15th) just at sunrise Susie and Candy arrived with a gourmet breakfast and our treasured coffee, bringing everyone out of their trailers and RV's in their PJ's to enjoy!

8:00 AM brings on our Stewards – including special member Carol to organize the rings, armbands, ribbons and prizes. The excitement begins – handlers dressed in green to celebrate the theme and fabulous dogs in black, chocolate and yellow. The lucky dogs that win 1st-4th places were awarded lovely big fat walking leads embossed with CCLRC and PADDY. Thanks to the generosity of members and friends and the money raised by the diligent Robin (over \$1,000) the winning awards are unique and above the standard for Specialty shows across the country.

CCLRC raises the bar with Rosettes for 1st – 4th place – demonstrating the very special generosity of Shelly and Patty. The winner's line up in front of the newly constructed PADDY markers – thanks to the creativity of Diane's husband Todd and the generosity of Shelley for donating the cost. Huge blanket throws were awarded to the "best of..." in each category. Kim embroidered a huge PADDY on each throw. Best of Breed received a chair with PADDY – CCLRC - Best of Breed – again the embroidery talents of Kim.

Kim surprised us all with a "POP-UP" lunch – leftovers – what a treat!

The judging continues - Fabian enjoying the darling puppies, Tom closely judged the stunning bitches and our very special Best of Breed class. Because of our huge entry, we recruited Nancy at the last minute to come to our rescue with the handsome dogs.

The activity outside the rings – surrounded by huge tents donated by Katy – was incredibly interesting. Steve and Ed ran the store with PADDY vests and PADDY hats. Patty headed up the big ticket item silent auction (raising a record \$3,000+) with the help of Sue, Sherry and Val. They were able to freely hand out puppy toys and hand cream by the hundreds – a "find" donated by Katy.

Judging completed... names of the new winners will be engraved on the personally designed trophies by Sue, Candy, Christine, Georgia, Chris, Pat, Robin, Toni and Lorraine.

Katy's big rigs arrived to tear down the scene but not erase the memories – with the help of Katy, Patty, Chris and various members still with energy!

Our expert photographer Toni kept the memories alive with winning photos with the judges.

Our 2015 CCLRC 2nd annual WRAP is complete – the show was rated EXCELLENT!

We have a batch of new ideas for an even better, more exciting and efficient 2016 CCLRC Specialty. There are jobs and assignments for all of our members. Come join the fun. **SAY YES** when asked to participate. As a CCLRC member this will count towards your 2016 WORK points.

Thanks to all for the hard work! Your co-chairs – Christine and Pat



CCLRC Store Inside



Show Ring



CCLRC Store Outside



Dinner, Saturday Night



Show Ring



Silent Auction



Show Ring



Trophies



Dinner, Saturday Night



Silent Auction



Show Ring

SHAMROCK SPECIALTY RESULTS- BY ROBIN MCBAIN

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA LRC "SHAMROCK SPECIALTY"—MARCH 15, 2015

SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE: **FABIAN NEGRON**

BEST IN SWEEPS: Picadilly Hidden Illusion at Hyspire

BEST OPPOSITE SWEEPS: Picadilly Hyspire Hidden Paradise

BEST VETERAN SWEEPS: GCh Summerlin's Charmed And Dangerous JH

BEST OPPOSITE VETERAN SWEEPS: Harlequin Quarterback Sneak

CONFORMATION JUDGES: **NANCY TALBOTT (DOGS), TOM SHEARER (BITCHES & INTERSEX)**

WINNERS DOG: Pipestone's Special K

RESERVE WINNERS DOG: Niptuck Get In Line

WINNERS BITCH: Blackthorn's All Gussied Up

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH: Caercreek Passionate Kisses

BEST IN SPECIALTY SHOW: GCh. Shalimar's The Animator

BEST OF WINNERS: Blackthorn's All Gussied Up

BEST OPPOSITE: Ch. Hyspire Va Va Voom

SELECT DOG: GCh Sunnydaze Running Across The Miles

SELECT BITCH: Janlon's Hearts Afire

JAMS: Belgold A Shore Thing For Montview, GCh Rancho's II Commendatore, Can Ch/GCh Saddhill Late Knight Scramble, Ch. Misty Mountain Bull Durham At Ghoststone, Pipestone's Special K

BEST PUPPY: Sunnydaze Blaze of Glory

BEST BRED BY: Blackthorn's All Gussied Up

WORKING CERTIFICATE- PAT COLLOM, CHAIR

The eighth annual CCLRC/SJVLRC Working Certificate Test was another huge success this year despite limited of water for the Labradors to perform the swimming portion of the exercise as required.

Eighteen Laboradors turned out for the practice or the test day with 26 participants including gunners, marshals and judges supporting the effort.

Working Certificates were earned by:

- Nike, handled by Ed Collom
- Circe, handled by Pat Collom
- Jake, handled by Brent Frame

Working Certificate Excellent were earned by:

- Gauge, handled by Jim Wruck
- Gibson, handled by James Coletti

The clubhouse was filled to capacity for the event and delicious meals were prepared by Pat Collom, Candy Templeton, Patty and Joe Gallagher.



Brent & Linda-WC Award
Jake



2015 Participants



James & Linda-WCX Award
Gibson



Field Gallery



Pat & Linda-WC Award
Circe



Jim, Emma & Linda-WCX
Award, Gauge



Gallery



Water Test Gallery



Gunners-Mo, Matt, Kevin

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
June, 2015	World Dog Show, Milan, Italy
July 2015	Rose City LRC Specialty, Portland, OR
August 2015	Puget Sound LRC Specialty, Seattle, WA
August 2015	Sierra Vista LRC Specialty, Grass Valley, CA
October 2015	LRC Southern California Fall Hunt Test, Chino, CA

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERS

PALNTS THAT CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR DOG?

Submitted by Patty Gallagher

Do you know that eating certain plants can make your dog sick or worse? Be aware of plants within reach of your dog. Below are some of the plants that can be harmful.

May cause vomiting, abdominal pain and/or diarrhea:	May cause varied reactions:
Almond	Angel's Trumpet
Apricot	Azalea
Balsam Pear	Hydrangea
Bird of Paradise bush	Jasmine
Cherry	Lillies
Daffodil	Lupine
Delphinium	Morning Glory
English Holly	Nightshade
Foxglove	Nutmeg
Horse Chestnut (Buckeye)	Perriwinkle
Japanese Plum	Philodendron
Larkspur	Rhubarb
Mock Orange	Spinach
Wisteria	Tomato Vine
Yew (American, English, Western)	Water Hemlock

DO LABRADORS COME IN LONG HAIR?

Submitted by Katie Bazurto. Source: The Retriever, Dog and Wildlife Guide



Yes. The purebred dog in the picture above is a Labrador. And you may have seen a dog like this one on this blog before. Remember, Ch. Zelstone?

Zelstone was born in 1880, and he became a very important sire in the old wavy and flat-coated retriever breed from which both golden retrievers and modern flat-coats descend. Tracer, his son and full brother to Ch. Moonstone, was bred into the strain of yellow wavy-coated retrievers at Guisachan. Moonstone, when bred back to his mother produced a red-gold puppy, which meant that Zelstone carried the recessive red color.



[Zelstone's ancestry ran right through Henry Farquharson's kennels](#)— and he was mostly of St. John's water dog ancestry. Farquharson was a major importer of dogs from Newfoundland, and although most of his dogs were of the larger type, he evidently had some of the smaller St. John's type. It is likely that some of these were long-haired dogs. Lambert de Boillieu, a trader working Labrador during the 1850's, [mentions that long-haired dogs were of no use to the fishermen and hunters of Newfoundland and Labrador, and they were eager to have them sent off to Britain:](#)

The dogs sent to England, with rough shaggy coats, are useless on the coast; the true-bred and serviceable dog having smooth, short hair, very close and compact to the body. I sent to England a fine specimen of these, but unfortunately the vessel which bore it had the misfortune to be wrecked on the north coast of Ireland, and all hands were lost (243-244).

The long-haired dogs likely comprised the vast majority of the dogs imported to Britain, where they were used to found the wavy-coated retriever. It is often said that the long-coats on these dogs derived from crossing the smooth-coated St. John's water dog with the setter. However, this doesn't theory hold up with much scrutiny. If one breeds a dog that is homozygous for the smooth-coat to a dog that is homozygous for the long-coat, you will get smooth-coated puppies. The vast majority of retrievers derived from St. John's water dogs or "Labradors" in the British Isles during the nineteenth century were long-coated and were called "wavy-coated retrievers." These dogs were sometimes crossed with setters or collies, but as a rule, they were almost always long-coated.

The Rev. Thomas Pearce (“Idstone”) wrote in [*The Dog*](#) (1872) that smooth-coated retrievers that were of this St. John’s water dog ancestry were quite rare in England, but it was possible to get puppies with both coats in litters. The smooths were always associated with imports from Newfoundland, but they were good workers:

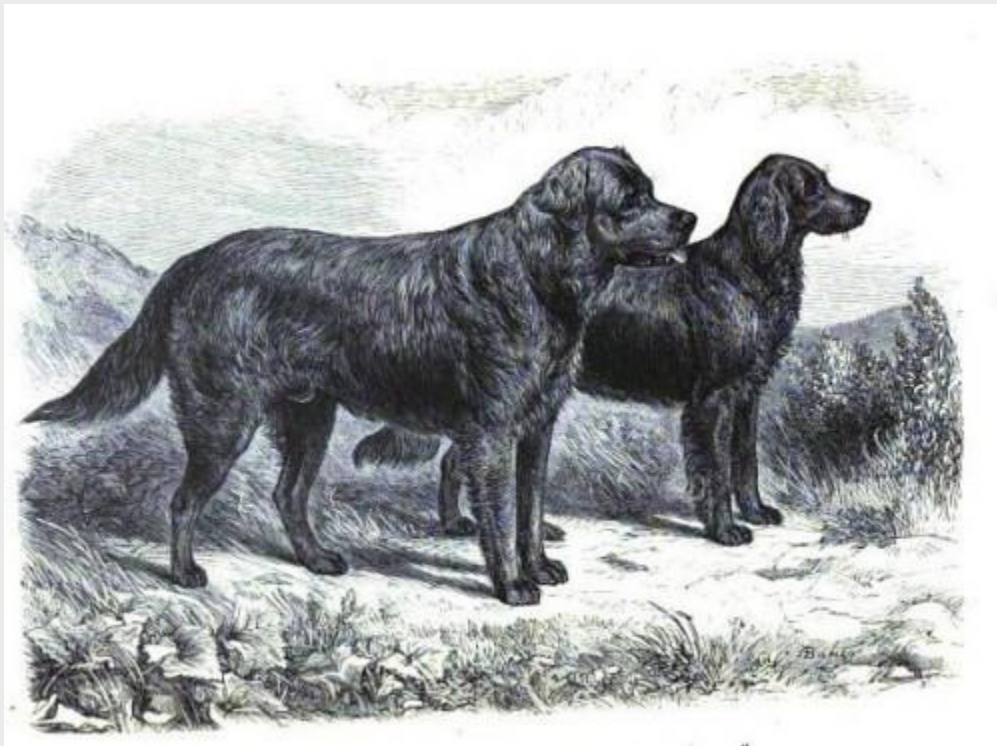
The flat and shaggy, and the smooth-coated—I mean as short in the hair as a Mastiff—are sometimes found in one litter, and one of the best I ever saw was thus bred from Mr. Drax’s keeper’s old “Dinah” (imported), the father being also from Labrador. “Jack” acknowledged no owner but Mr. Drax, and died in his service at Charborough Park. During the time he was in the squire’s service he must have carried more game than any team, or half-a-dozen teams, could draw, since every year he went the circuit of Mr. Drax’s manors and estates, and the two were as much heralds of each other in Kent, Dorset, or Yorkshire, as Wells and “Fisherman” when a Queen’s Plate was to be run for. Beaters gave him a wide berth, for he was not to be induced to give up game to them, and woe betide any of the number, whom he knew by their dress—a white gaberdine with a red cross in it—if they approached to familiarity, or intercepted him whilst he tracked his game liked a Bloodhound, and stooped to his line amongst the underwood, or tried to knock over crippled game after he had viewed it and was racing it down.

He was just like his rough brother ” Tom ” —or, in fact, like “Snow,” in all but length of coat . As they,” Snow” and “Tom,” came out of the lake when we were shooting teal and widgeon, drenched with half-frozen water, I have frequently been struck with the family likeness.

But the smooth-coated dog has a lighter eye—a pale hazel with an intensely black pupil, occasionally very like what is known as a “china” or “wall-eye.” Be that how it may, they are the best of all breeds for boating; they can stand all weathers, and though men unused to them call them butchers’ dogs [a common complaint was that St. John’s water dogs with smooth coats looked like bulldogs], I think them handsome, and I know that they are sensible, and that the punt and shore men, living by adroit use of the long stauncheon gun and “flat,” look upon them as a part of their household, and in some cases—to quote the words of one old sporting farmer, to a duke who wanted to buy his horse— “no man has money enough to buy them” (pg. 128-129).

Idstone believed that the setter was the primary ancestor of the wavy-coated retriever, but we now know that during the early days of this kind of retriever in the nineteenth century that they were primarily of St. John’s water dog ancestry.

The famous depiction of Paris and Melody from an edition “Stonehenge’s” [*Dogs of the British Islands*](#). Paris was said to have been a pure “Labrador” or “St. John’s water dog.” He also had long hair. Melody was a setter cross, and she looks more like a setter than even the modern flat-coated retriever, which had some Irish setter crossed in at a later date to make them even more refined.



The modern flat-coated retriever also has more or less the setter's coat, which lacks the very, very dense undercoat that is associated with golden and Labrador retrievers. Because of this coat type in modern flat-coats, it is much more likely that the wavy-coated retrievers were primarily of St. John's water dog ancestry— with only occasional outcrosses to setters.

When Stonehenge provided a depiction of a St. John's Newfoundland or Labrador dog in an edition of [*The Dog in Health and Disease*](#) (1879), he chose to use an image of a long-haired one.



Now, the long-haired dogs would be instrumental in establishing the old wavy-coated retriever, which eventually became the golden retriever and the modern flat-coat. These were the dominant retrievers in the British Isles through the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. The founding president of the Kennel Club, Sewallis Shirley, was a major patron of this retriever, and he and Dr. Bond Moore, who often called his dogs “Labradors,” were instrumental in establishing the old wavy/flat-coated retriever as defined breed. These were all long-haired dogs, but because there were only two varieties of retriever, the curly and the wavy, there was some interbreeding between those two types. Smooth-coated retrievers were very uncommon at this time, which also strongly suggests that the founding population of St. John’s water dogs that were used to found the wavy-coated retrievers were of the shaggy-type that Lambert de Boilieu mentioned. If the founding dogs were smooth-coated as the later St. John’s water dogs were, then most of the retrievers that were derived from these dogs would have been smooths. But the bulk of the evidence shows that the British retriever in the nineteenth century was almost universally long-haired.



A modern long-haired Labrador retriever in profile. Its resemblance to the old wavy-coated retriever is uncanny.

One needs to understand that the dog that these texts call a “Labrador” isn’t necessarily the same as the breed called the “Labrador retriever.” The modern Labrador retriever traces to the 1880’s, when the line of smooth-coated retrievers that was kept by the Dukes of Buccleuch was combined with that of the Earls of Malmesbury. This was the only British retriever to be selected for the dominant smooth coat. Modern Labrador retriever are almost universally smooth-coated dogs.

However, very rarely, a long-coated puppy is born. These dogs are extremely rare– much rarer than Labradors with tan points or brindling.

The exact origin of these modern long-haired Labradors isn’t exactly clear.

They could have always been hidden within the smooth-coated St. John’s water dog bloodlines that eventually gave us the Labrador retriever, but if this were so, it probably would be more common in the breed than it is today. I think a much more likely source for this coat is cross-breeding. Labrador, golden, and flat-coated retrievers were considered varieties of a single breed, and interbreeding the varieties was very common. When the Labrador retriever needed fresh blood, it was occasionally bred to wavy or flat-coated retrievers, which may have included dogs we would call golden retrievers. The Dukes of Buccleuch and the Earls of Malmesbury tried to keep their dogs from being bred to long-haired retrievers, which is one reason why they were so eager to import more smooths from Newfoundland. However, other breeders certainly did outcross.



Long-haired Labrador retriever puppies.

Long-haired Labrador retrievers are a sort of atavism. The dogs look very much like the old wavy-coated retriever and the long-haired St. John's water dogs, which were essentially the same breed. They also point to the simple reality that Labrador, golden, and flat-coated retrievers are much more closely related than one might assume.

GENETIC DISEASE TESTS FOR LABRADORS

Submitted by Patty Gallagher. This is provided for informational purposes and is not an endorsement of one vendor over another.

VetGen has been helping Labrador Retriever breeders test for coat colors since the late 1990s. Most of this testing has been for the B and E loci that determine black, chocolate, and yellow. In recent years we have added tests for K (tan point carriers) and D (silver carriers) as well as coat length.

On the disease front, we have been testing for Centronuclear Myopathy for the last few years. Now, we would like you to know that we have added several new tests for both hereditary diseases and conformation for your breed.

Labrador SD2

This is a conformation related test based on research done at the University of Bern in Switzerland. While originally described in Europe, we have detected this in the U.S. population, although too few dogs have been tested to know anything of frequency. This is a recessively inherited condition. Animals with two copies of the sd2 mutation have slightly shorter legs than normal Labradors resulting in animals with shoulder height slightly below breed standard. No other joint or ocular problems seem to be associated with this condition. It is found primarily in working lines.

Cystinuria

We offer a test based on the research done at the University of Pennsylvania which identified a mutation responsible for cystinuria specifically in Labrador Retrievers. Little is known about the frequency of this mutation because of its recent discovery. Affected animals develop cystine crystal and sometimes stones in the urine which can lead to blockage of the urethra. The disease is recessively inherited. Due to anatomical reasons rather than genetics, it is most often diagnosed in male dogs.

Pyruvic Kinase Deficiency

This test is also based on research from the University of Pennsylvania which identified a mutation in Labrador Retrievers that causes autosomal recessively inherited pyruvic kinase deficiency (PKD). Animals with two copies of the mutation usually exhibit severe recurrent anemia.

Hereditary Nasal Parakeratosis

A mutation for this hereditary skin disorder has been identified at the University of Bern in Switzerland. Affected animals develop a buildup of keratinocytes on their noses which result in scaling, crusts and fissures. The disease is inherited in an autosomal recessive manner.

Degenerative Myelopathy

This test is based on research from the University of Missouri that found a mutation that is highly associated with degenerative myelopathy. Degenerative myelopathy exhibits an autosomal recessive mode of inheritance. Affected animals generally develop spinal and hind end problems later in life. The mutant allele has about a 7% frequency in Labradors.

Congenital Macrothrombocytopenia

This form of macrothrombocytopenia is inherited as an autosomal dominant trait. It is characterized by low platelet values and the presence of some larger than normal platelets in circulation. Unlike acquired macrothrombocytopenia, this form does not respond to treatment. A mutation in the beta-1 tubulin gene has been identified as the cause in a number of breeds, including the Labrador. We have not tested enough animals to know anything about the frequency in Labradors.

Centronuclear Myopathy

Centronuclear myopathy (CNM) in Labrador Retrievers is a recessively inherited muscular disease. This disease was previously known as Labrador muscular myopathy. In a study of nearly 6000 U.S. dogs it was demonstrated that 10-15 % of Labradors are carriers of this disease. Researchers in France at The Alfort School of Veterinary Medicine discovered the mutation that is responsible for the disease. VetGen's is based on this discovery. This is not the same as Exercised Induced Collapse (EIC).

Hyperuricosuria

Inherited hyperuricosuria causes dogs to produce urine with very high levels of uric acid. This can lead to bladder stones, and less frequently kidney stones. The disease is inherited as an autosomal recessive trait. The VetGen test is based on research performed at the University of California Davis which

identified the mutation responsible for the disease. The frequency of this disease is very, very low in the Labrador, but carriers have been detected.

X-linked Myotubular Myopathy

This is a recently discovered myopathy with symptoms similar to CNM, but limited primarily to male dogs due to the sex-linked mode of inheritance. Unlike the original CNM mutation which is seen worldwide at a high frequency this disease appears to be very recent in origin and therefore isolated and rare. The only affected animals we know of are from western Canada.

Narcolepsy

Narcolepsy is a neurologic condition inherited as an autosomal recessive trait. The condition is quite rare in Labradors, but when present results in dogs which may exhibit cataplexy, a sudden loss of muscle tone and strength when overly excited. Affected animals also tend to sleep significantly more than is normal.

GR-PRA2

This form of PRA is primarily associated with Golden Retrievers, but has been seen in the Labrador Retriever as well. This is distinct from and much rarer than the PRCD that is commonly known.

Cord-1 PRA

This is another recessively inherited form of PRA that has been seen in the Labrador, but is more commonly associated with other breeds.

CONSIDERING PET INSURANCE?

Submitted by Patty Gallagher. A website for reference is <http://www.reviews.com/pet-insurance/>

I found the website to be thorough, easy to navigate and unbiased.

The Reviews.com research team compiled a list of 22 pet insurance companies and then selected 12 of the best to review based on 52 pet insurance features.

Pet Insurance features that are reviewed for each provider:

1. Medical Coverage (what is covered and what is not)
2. Pets Covered
3. Claim Management
4. Getting Started
5. Support
6. Wellness Coverage
7. Additional Coverage
8. Discounts
9. Learning Materials

Also on the same page are links to Expert Q&A such as “How does pet insurance work?” and “Is pet insurance worth it?”

At the end of the reviews, there is a ranking of The 4 Best Dog Insurance Providers, The 4 Best Cat Insurance Providers and The 5 Best Cheap Pet Insurance Providers.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

I know our members have diverse interests with their Labradors and are very busy. However, I would like to thank the club members who contributed to the newsletter this quarter. As you can see, we had some very interesting and informative articles included.

For our summer newsletter I would like to encourage members to submit a write up of a personal experience you have undergone. This could be a training problem, a whelping issue or how your dog has impacted your life. We can all learn from each other.

Submissions and letters to the editor can be sent anytime and don't forget to send your achievements for the Rosettes & Ribbons section..