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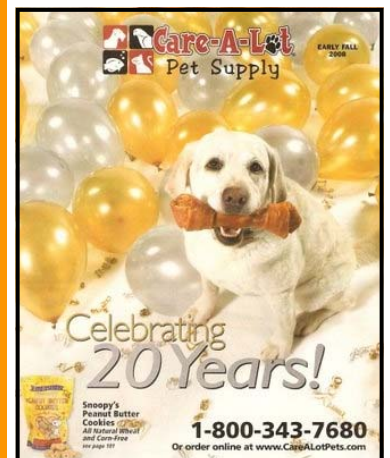
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See pgs. 17 &
18 for the
brags behind
the pictures!



THIS OLD HOUSE

Dave and I live in what I consider to be a very lovely home. However, it certainly didn't come about easily. Dave was a bachelor when I met him four years ago and this house looked like an episode of Junkyard Wars. If he had been featured on Trading Spaces, he would have been stepping it up a notch if he had traded with, say, Oscar the Grouch. Maybe that's a little harsh, but I am not exaggerating when I say that I make Monica on "Friends" look like a disorderly freshman in her first apartment on campus. My obsessive-compulsive behaviour is border-line manic and I deem the house a disaster area if a newspaper is scattered haphazardly on the coffee table. Pass me a cold compress if it is also out of its synchronized order. I vacuum myself out of a room so as to avoid footprints and if I detect fresh ones within two hours of said vacuuming, a state of emergency is declared and I call Molly Maid for back-up. Dave has somewhat resigned himself to this atypical behaviour and doesn't even complain anymore when I erect the velvet rope barriers around our living room. NEWMAN, however, has caused me to triple my medication and seek counsel from an OCD therapist. How can one dog be so messy? I now feel as though my part-time job is working eight hours a day at my law firm and my career is cleaning up after the Oscar Madison of chocolate labs. It's a wonder that I actually chose a dog that is the colour of dirt. Had I been thinking, I should have purchased an albino, shedless Wheaton Terrier or else had Newman hermetically sealed in a Ziploc baggie. Let me now share with you the things I miss the most about our home when it was pre-Newman.

I miss being able to see out my patio door windows. We have a lovely two-tiered deck at the back of our house that over-looks a green space. I used to like to watch the Robins in our birdbath and the Sparrows at our feeder as they joyfully cavorted in the sunshine. But there are now a series of snotty nose prints on my windows that resemble a Picasso abstract painting. When I try to look outside, it is like viewing the world through a lens that has been smeared with Vaseline. George Clooney could be standing on my patio with a bouquet of red roses but, through my window panes, I would wonder why the Puffs marshmallow man was on my deck carrying a polar bear. It goes without saying that our car windows look like a child's finger painting of mucous and saliva. A psychiatrist could use them as ink blots and people would be diagnosed as having delusional thoughts of being Eddie the dog from Frasier.

I miss surfaces that don't have paw prints on them. You would think that I was strictly talking about the floor, but I am surprisingly not. My kitchen looks as though Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly were two Border Collies who had tap danced their way across my walls and countertops. You would

surmise from looking at my linoleum that, not only had I brought home Newman, but that I had also adopted his seven brothers and sisters and they had all played drunken Twister in chocolate pudding. If not for gravity, my ceiling would look like the Jungle Room at Graceland. I miss unstained carpeting and area rugs. As you know, puppies do not have any bladder control and, therefore, they pee whenever the mood strikes them. The urine stains on my living room rug look like a scattered jigsaw puzzle. Together with the poop stains and the ghosts of barfings past, I may as well re-do the carpeting in the pattern of a giraffe's pelt. I was not opposed to cleaning up these messes while Newman got the hang of house-training, I just wish he had digested more fragrant items like After Eight dinner mints or Sambouca. As luck would have it, Wally the Cat has the stomach of a mom-to-be in her first trimester and I would watch both feline and canine compete for rug space. Dave thought himself rather clever when he pulled out the "Deliverance" soundtrack and blasted "Duelling Banjos" from the stereo.



I miss smooth surfaces. The most oft-heard query in our house is "Ewwwwww...what the hell is this?" while hopping around on one foot and examining the bottom of the other. More often than not, you have just stepped in what I like to call the "kibble and water" floor stew. But "Today's Special" can also be eye crust, poop from someone's unwiped paw, Milkbone granola, undigested grass, peanut butter from an overstuffed Kong ball or chewed-to-oblivion-but-not-swallowed remnants of carrot. There is also what I refer to as "A Day in the Caribbean", which is when Newman creates a replica of a tropical beach by snorfling around in Wally's litter box and then walking into our bedroom and sneezing. You would think I could anticipate this sandblast, because there is always the tell-tale sign of a granule moustache and goatee on his snout just before he explodes. I miss a hairless environment. As an OCD survivor, I try to come to terms with the fact that fish gotta swim, birds gotta fly and I will never get this dog hair out of my eye. We currently have blue/gray carpeting in our home (a leftover bachelor statement, along with the milk carton speaker stands) but we are going to replace them shortly and install hard-wood floors in a "chocolate Lab brown" stain that will hopefully conceal Newman's hair. Perhaps then my family room will not look as though a thousand dead Christmas trees had shed their stubby, brown needles everywhere or that a herd of giants had plucked their eyebrows.

I miss an immaculately groomed lawn. Dave and I are both golfers and we like our lawn to resemble the Pebble Beach Golf Course. A perfectly coiffed, Bermuda grass checker-board pattern is what we aspire to, but what we live with is akin to a pock-marked teenager's face. If the NASA astronauts were to view our backyard from space, they would

wonder why we've chosen to do a landscape of the Phantom of the Opera's hideous visage. Farmer's fields have the inexplicable and baffling crop circles, which inspire endless debates about the mysteries of the universe and a greater being. We have crap circles, which inspire me to pave our backyard with asphalt and paint it green. And let's not forget Newman's Petey the Penguin pool, which has been moved around the yard so often that we now have the Olympic Games symbol permanently embedded in the grass.

If Newman can't adjust to my compulsive nature pretty soon, I'm going to have to shave him bald, disinfect him, spray him with Lysol and put one of those "this dog has been sanitized and deodorized for your maximum ownership pleasure" signs around his neck. If that doesn't work, he and Dave are going to have to rent a bachelor pad and be forced to live amidst their own wet-dog smell and footprint infested shag carpeting.

Dee Clair
Calgary, Alberta

Centronuclear Myopathy (CNM)

Centronuclear Myopathy (CNM) is a grave disease that has been of concern in **Labrador Retrievers** globally since the 1970's. **The CNM DNA mutation was identified, and a DNA test developed for it by Drs. Laurent Tiret and Stephane Blot research teams.**

CNM is found in both field and conformation Labradors in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom as well as Germany, France, Sweden, and many other countries globally. Research has confirmed that the disease is identical in all countries. See the **Clinical** and **Genetics** links for more information on the disease. CNM used to be called Hereditary Myopathy of the Labrador Retriever (HMLR), Autosomal Recessive Myopathy (ARMD), Type II deficiency Myopathy, Labrador Muscular Myopathy and other names.

Dr. Laurent Tiret, Project Director and Principal Investigator, and the CNM research team, continue to be integrally involved not only in the test analyses, but also with the continual research related to the CNM disease. Their commitment to more deeply understanding the disease is of great benefit to the breed as well as ultimately to humans. **This approach is significantly different from a laboratory that is simply routinely characteristically doing an analysis developed elsewhere.**

Clinical Symptoms and Histological Signs

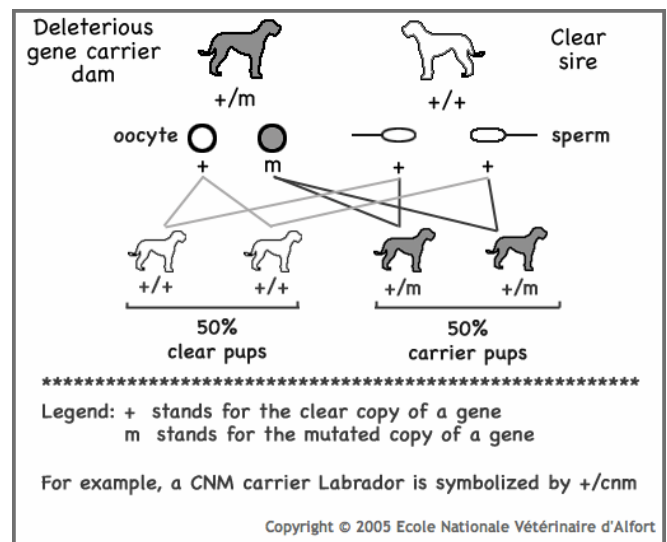
**Excerpt and modified from Article by Drs. Tiret and Blot
Published in Retriever Field Trial News and Retrievers On Line ; winter 2005**

CNM Affected Labradors

Pedigree of a CNM affected Labrador

There is only one way to produce a CNM Affected Pup. It happens when two carriers are bred together. We do not recommend breeding carriers to carriers for any reason.

The following chart illustrates the statistical probabilities for the pups when two carriers are mated.



Individual litter percentages from two carriers vary but all have the possibility of producing an affected pup. A major objective in the CNM Project is to protect potential puppy owners from finding they have adopted an affected Labrador. It is very important to know the genetic status for the CNM mutation of the two parents.

There are only two reliable ways to determine if a Labrador is a carrier. The first is to have the CNM DNA test. The second way is that if the male or female has been the father or mother of an affected pup, they are carriers. Carriers have no physical symptoms of the CNM disease. Muscle biopsies will not identify carriers.

Testing of both parents should occur well before the expected time of the mating.

Identification of Affected Labradors

If a litter is suspected of being the result of two carriers being mated, it is highly recommended that the breeder test the entire litter before placement. Placing an affected pup is a potentially tragic situation for the family.

There are a few selected dedicated owners that choose to raise a CNM affected Labrador. They have varying personal reasons. Sometimes it depends on the severity of the disease as it can be from mild to severe. There is no clear answer as to whether a CNM affected pup should be raised or euthanized. It is an individual decision of the owner. Often the breeder and a veterinarian is consulted. Many do choose to euthanize.

At birth, affected puppies are indistinguishable from their littermates, but from two weeks of age, a progressive significant weight loss is observed. At one month of age, the absence of tendon reflexes is noticed and usually weight gains are less than littermates. These symptoms can be used as an early and fairly reliable diagnosis. However caution should be kept in mind that occasionally these symptoms could have other causes. Therefore it is best to have the CNM DNA analysis for a firm diagnosis.

The age of onset of the disabling phenotype varies between 2 to 5 months, with an awkward gait and a decreased exercise tolerance, associated with a generalized muscle weakness worsened with cold. The pup will never recover from this disabling disease. A movie (in the Clinical section) of how a CNM pup looks when trying to move will give the reader a clear picture of why one would want to avoid ever having an affected pup in a Labrador litter.

Clinical signs are progressively accentuated and generally stabilized at one year of age. In adults, the most striking macroscopic feature of the disease progression is the atrophy of temporal, cervical and leg muscles, leading to a ventroflexion of the neck, abnormal postures and movements.

As of today, the oldest affected dog known to our laboratory is 8.5 years old. No significant premature death in the colony could be observed. Nevertheless, dogs require medical care, essentially because they suffer from respiratory complications due to megaesophagus. For more information, please see the Clinical page.

Care of A CNM Pup

We wish we could give you some easy answers or recipes for raising a CNM affected pup, but there are none at this time. There are no medications that will reverse the process or cause the missing muscle fibers to repair, regain strength, or replace themselves. The disease is life-long. At this time a research team at the Alfort School of Veterinary Medicine, as well as other research facilities, are working on stem cell, bone marrow transplants, and gene therapy that is looking promising --- but there are no medical interventions available at this time nor expected momentarily.

Not only are the muscles of the legs and neck affected -- the so-called skeletal muscles -- but the oesophagus is also affected. The reason lies in the fact that in dogs, the muscular layer of the oesophagus is made with muscles that are structurally very similar to skeletal muscles. In CNM dogs, the muscular tone of the oesophagus is weakened and leads to a megaesophagus that can be easily seen on a X-ray picture. Functionally, this causes the pup to have difficulties swallowing. Small pieces of food may get into the lungs and cause respiratory complications such as pneumonia. Medication is necessary for recovery. Therefore, the most two significant features of a CNM affected pup are its swallowing difficulties and its inability to use its legs in a normal way. This latter causes him to fall easily and tire quickly.

There is no specific recommended food but a good quality should be chosen. Your veterinarian can help you make some choices for feeding. There is little concern that the dog might ever become overweight. Vitamin supplements are not necessarily recommended but they cannot hurt if chosen with sound advice from your veterinarian. Many different brands vary. Care must be taken not to overdose with fat soluble vitamins.

Dishes that are placed high so the dog does not have to reach down for food and water aide many of the dogs to eat more efficiently with less chance of the food getting into the lungs. These dishes can be bought in some pet stores as they are also used for many geriatric dogs. It is also possible to build your own raised eating and drinking area.

CNM affected Labradors typically have increased problems with muscles in cold weather. Sweaters or coats designed for dogs help to keep the dog walking more easily. Airing areas in cold weather should be protected from the wind with the snow shoveled down to the grass level.

The sleeping area should be comfortable and keep at a normal house temperature. Except in extremely warm climates, the CNM affected Labrador cannot be kept comfortable in an outdoor run.

Activity levels need to be designed for the particular condition of your Labrador. Some are able to do simple short retrieves of ten to twenty feet a few times on a cut lawn. Others can barely walk well enough to air. Stairs of more than a few steps are typically impossible.

Few CNM Labradors will be capable of swimming. There are some reports of individuals putting life jackets on their dogs and letting them swim in water that is at least 70 degrees.

It is recommended that the dogs be spayed and neutered at an early age. They are capable of reproduction and so accidental breedings should be avoided. Great care must be taken with anesthesia. Please discuss the possibility of surgery very carefully with your veterinary surgeon.

Keep in mind that the disabling condition may be confusing to your dog. Their mind is still that of a typical Labrador with all the typical Labrador instincts and traits. You may observe them continually trying to do what their head and the balance of their genetics tells them is natural. It is up to the owner to control the environment.

The owner who chooses to raise their CNM pup will have many personal rewards as well as many difficult days ahead of them. Each person has to examine themselves and their own situation before making the decision regarding what to do with their CNM affected pup.

We welcome stories of your pup or your experiences, good or bad, that you would allow us to add to this public web site. Please send them to the Communications Coordinator and we will open a section from owners in the beginning of 2007.

Questions to, or discussion with, the CNM Project Staff is encouraged through e-mail to the [Communications Coordinator](#) who will direct you to the most appropriate person. info@labradorcnm.com

(YouTube has a video of a CNM affected pup. Very sad!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RY1DWQqoac0>

Is Debarking Dogs Inhumane?



Debarking is a surgery performed on dogs that removes their ability to bark loudly. The procedure, which cuts into the vocal cords while the dog is under general anesthesia, is fairly simple and rarely has complications. Yet many believe that debarking dogs is not only unnecessary but also inhumane, that it does not fix underlying problems causing the dog to bark, and that it is simply cruel to take away the ability of a dog to vocalize.

The surgery used in debarking dogs is fairly straightforward. After the dog is anesthetized, a veterinary surgeon either reaches in through the mouth of the dog or makes a small incision in the larynx. Using a laser or surgical tools, the surgeon then cuts part of the vocal folds off, and then closes the wound. Primary risks of the surgery include infection, bleeding and pain. Some dogs also may re-grow their vocal folds, regaining their ability to bark after a few months. Others may grow excessive scar tissue over the incision, leading to a need for additional surgery.

People usually opt for debarking dogs when the animals chronically or habitually bark. A loud barking animal can certainly be a nuisance to owners and neighbors, especially if the problem is consistent. It is quite easy to see why frustrated owners search for a way to silence their noisy pooch permanently, especially if the animal does not respond to behavioral training or tends to bark constantly when left alone.

Opponents of debarking dogs insist that the surgery is inhumane, and takes away from the dog exhibiting natural behavior. Dogs bark to give warning or express needs, and concerned pet lovers feel that debarking a dog may lead to its needs being ignored by owners. Also, debarking does not remove the ability to make any sounds, so the large booming bark may be replaced by an equally irritating perpetual rasping gasp.

In some cases, when neighbors complain to authorities or the situation is unlivable, owners may be unsure of what to do other than have their dog debarked. Other solutions, such as sound-activated shock collars or muzzles seem equally cruel. Some owners may even choose to kill or abandon their pets instead of dealing with the problem. Yet therapists and dog trainers insist that most barking problems are fixable with proper training.

Some vets refuse to perform debarking procedures on the grounds that the surgery does not fix the problem and may cause continual pain for the animal. Yet others insist that the surgery is preferable

to the animal being mistreated, abandoned or killed because of its problem, and will agree to conduct the surgery. Debarking dogs is truly a controversial issue in the animal community for both owners and doctors. While the frustration of owners unable or unwilling to train their pets out of bad barking habits is understandable, many experts question the suitability of owning a pet which you cannot properly take care of.

MOST KENNEL COUGH WILL RESOLVE WITHOUT TREATMENT

BY ANDREA S. MULLEN, DVM

Kennel cough sounds worse than it is—in more ways than one. The name sounds like an ominous problem. And the cough itself has a deep honking and gagging that is often reported to veterinarians as: “My dog has a bone stuck in his throat.” But dog owners can breathe easy, because with a little care and patience, these dogs can recover without lost sleep or big vet bills.

Kennel cough gets its name from the obvious problem of getting the condition during a kennel stay. It is most commonly associated with a bacterial infection, with 80-90% due to *Bordetella bronchiseptica*. This tiny but nasty bug can infect a dog’s windpipe through contact with hands, clothing or air. It is most likely to effect dogs under stress.

Shelter dogs are particularly at risk. The time periods for kenneling and vaccinations can make it almost impossible to prevent. But treatment is easy and should not be a deterrent to adopting a dog that will recover quickly and make an excellent pet.

State law requires dogs usually be held in a shelter six days before they can be adopted. During this time, the stress of shelter life and exposure to airborne bacteria make shelter dogs prime candidates for kennel cough, even if vaccinated. Although the symptoms can occur in three to five days from the time of infection, some veterinarians report the actual coughing does not begin for seven to 10 days. Because even the fastest acting vaccines don’t provide protection for at least four days, shelter dogs may often look perfectly healthy at the shelter and start coughing almost as soon as they get home.



Kennel cough is usually what veterinarians call “self-limiting.” That’s a fancy way of saying you probably don’t need to take your kennel cough dog to the vet. The problem will resolve all by itself in 10 days to three weeks. Although it is caused by a bacterium, antibiotics are generally not needed. Remember that the condition is contagious, so sick dogs should be isolated from other dogs.

Treatment is Easy

Most dogs with kennel cough will do fine without going to the vet. Try some Robitussin DM, a human cough suppressant available at any drug store. Use as directed for people, but use just 1 teaspoon per 20 pounds of dog. Don’t overdo it—DM can be pretty strong stuff. Some vitamins can help speed recovery, especially Vitamin C. And remember to isolate the infected dog—they are contagious as long as they are sick. That’s it. Good food, clean water and a loving home will help get them through, too.

What about vaccines for kennel cough?

There are two types of vaccines for kennel cough. One is given by injection; the other is sprayed into the nose. The injection provides for longer protection, but needs longer to take effect, usually 10 to 14 days. The nasal spray takes effect quicker, usually within four days, but it doesn’t last as long. Unlike vaccines for viruses that can give immunity for years, these bacteria-fighting vaccines last only about six months. Shelter dogs in Los Angeles are vaccinated, but due to the time periods involved, the vaccines cannot prevent the condition from spreading. Although dogs who are vaccinated can still come down with kennel cough, it is usually less severe and shorter lasting than dogs who are not vaccinated at all. The vaccine allows them to shed the bacteria quicker.

When Do I Need to See a Vet?

Although kennel cough usually resolves by itself, if you see any of these symptoms, take your dog to the vet:

- Your dog does not want to eat.

The Good News: Treatment is Probably Not Needed

- Your dog develops a runny nose WITH discolored discharge.
- Your dog is hot to the touch.

An alternative to traditional treatment, plus it soothes irritated airways:

MANUKA HONEY

Honey has been used for medical purposes by the ancient Egyptians for thousands of years. However, with the advent of antibiotics, most people began to regard honey as merely a home remedy. Recent studies are now indicating that a special type of honey only found in the New Zealand region called, "Manuka Honey" actually has more healing properties than antibiotics and has been effective in treating antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria. This is a major breakthrough in the medical industry as Manuka Honey is now being recognized by medical professionals as a viable alternative to conventional forms of medicine.

The Benefits of Manuka Honey

- Manuka Honey has natural antibacterial, antimicrobial, antiviral, antioxidant, antiseptic, anti-inflammatory and antibacterial properties
- Manuka Honey creates a moist healing environment that allows new skin cells to grow across a healing wound flush with the surface of the wound, preventing deformity of the skin and scarring
- Manuka Honey rapidly clears infection by destroying bacteria
- Manuka Honey repairs damaged skin and regenerates new skin growth
- Manuka Honey hastens the healing process
- Manuka Honey eliminates malodor by destroying the bacteria that cause it
- Manuka Honey can heal Staph infections and destroy antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria such as MRSA and VRE
- The viscosity of Manuka Honey provides a protective barrier to prevent wounds from becoming infected
- Manuka Honey causes scabs and dead

skin cells to lift off the surface of the wound, leaving a clean healthy wound bed in which the regeneration of skin tissue can occur

- Manuka Honey stimulates the growth of tissue involved in the healing process
- Manuka Honey stimulates the formation of new blood capillaries and the growth of fibroblasts that replace the connective tissue of the deeper layer of the skin and produce the collagen fibers that give strength to the repair
- Manuka Honey has an anti-inflammatory action that relieves pain
- Manuka Honey has antifungal properties that can cure ringworm and other fungal conditions such as athlete's foot, jock itch and nail fungus
- Manuka Honey is all-natural and organic
- Manuka Honey has no known side effects

Antibacterial Properties of Manuka Honey

Manuka Honey has an antibacterial activity, due primarily to hydrogen peroxide formed in a "slow-release" manner by the enzyme glucose oxidase present. Some honeys are no more antibacterial than sugar, while others can be diluted more than 100-fold and still halt the growth of bacteria. The difference in potency of antibacterial activity found among the different honeys is more than 100-fold. Manuka Honey is the only honey available that is tested for its antibacterial activity. It contains an additional antibacterial component found only in honey produced from *Leptospermum* plants: what has been called the "Unique Manuka Factor" (UMF). There is evidence that the two antibacterial components may have a synergistic action.

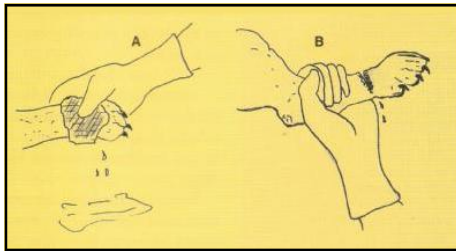
Courtesy <http://www.benefitofmanukahoney.com/>



Pet First Aid: External Bleeding

Any signs of steady bleeding should be considered as a possible emergency. The animal should be kept as still as possible, and taken immediately to the closest veterinary clinic. If the injury is severe, or the dog is reacting in pain, a muzzle should be placed over its mouth. A temporary one can be constructed out of any material on hand be it a tie, scarf, and so forth. Place it over, then secure it under the mouth, and tie it directly behind the ears. This is for our own safety. When in pain, the most mellow of animals will bite.

You want to access the situation. What type of bleeding is this? There are three types:



Arterial:

This is a serious condition, where one of the major arteries is nicked. The blood is bright red, and spurts out in rhythm with the heartbeat.

Venous:

Here a vein has been severed. The blood is darker, and seeps in a steady flow.

Capillary:

Less serious, this can only prove harmful if there is an extensive wound. Here the smaller vessels have been nicked, and the flow of blood is slow with no pattern or rhythm present. It tends to ooze.

Bleeding can be stopped by using direct pressure on the wound itself, by pressing down on the blood vessels, with a tourniquet, or by placing force on the pressure points around the dog's body.

To apply a tourniquet, take a piece of cloth or rope, and tie it above the wound, making sure to place it between the injury and the heart. It needs to be loosened every five to ten minutes to prevent muscle tissue from dying. This technique is primarily used for arterial injuries.

If there is steady blood flow, it can be slowed by applying a cloth on the injury, and firmly holding it in place. Direct pressure can be used, as long as its gentle and firm. The temporary bandage should

not be removed, so if the blood begins to seep through, simply place a new cloth over the old one.

Pressure points can be used; however the individual needs to be familiar with their locations for this to be effective. There are three points. The first one is near the jugular vein along the side of the neck. There is groove which runs down the neck where you can actually feel the vessels. Press your fingers at the point where the neck meets the shoulder. It will control the bleeding on the same side of the body. The second point is on the inside of the dog's thigh where the artery passes over the thigh bone. Pressing down on this area will stem bleeding on the hind legs. The third point is located directly above the elbow on the front leg. It crosses over the bone, so direct pressure on this spot will stop bleeding on the front leg.

During the drive to the animal hospital, stay focused and calm. Attempt to keep the animal still to prevent further injury. If possible, call the vet ahead so that staff can be ready to assist you when the patient arrives.

Kids and Dogs: A Common Sense Approach

Understanding dog bites: how they occur and how to prevent them

This article by Vicki DeGruy, originally published in *Dog Owner's Guide*, was the winner of a 1993 Dog Writer's Association of America Maxwell award for best article in a canine newspaper.

Question: *I'd like to get a medium to large breed dog for my family but I'm worried. I've heard so many stories about dogs biting children. How can I be sure that it will be safe for my kids?*

Answer: You have good reason to be concerned. Statistics show that most dog bites causing serious injury involve medium to large sized dogs and children under the age of five years. The dog is usually known to the child or is the family's pet.

To understand how these bites occur, what causes them and how to prevent them, a little education in the nature of dogs and the nature of small children is in order. A dog's temperament is first inherited, then

modified by events in his life and proper training. Some breeds and certain bloodlines within breeds are friendlier, more tolerant and more adaptable to training because they were bred to be that way. A responsible breeder wisely puts emphasis on good temperament when selecting breeding stock. Breeders without adequate knowledge of dog behavior may not understand what a correct temperament is and use unsuitable dogs for breeding. Unscrupulous breeders sometimes deliberately breed dogs with poor temperaments. There are some dogs, just like there are some humans, that are mentally disturbed or have an illness or physical defect that affects their behavior. A dog's basic temperament, instincts and training have the biggest effects on how that dog reacts to the world around him and his levels of tolerance.

Very few bites happen without provocation -- but the provocation may exist only in the dog's mind! We need to realize that dogs are not little people in furry costumes. They don't think in the same way that we do. They look at the world around them with a different perspective. Most of their actions are instinctive. A dog will react to situations according to what his instincts tell him unless these instincts are overridden by the consistent training and socialization he needs to receive from his owner throughout his life.

Here is one of the most commonly reported scenarios in a bite case: A very young child sees a pretty dog he'd like to pet. The dog may not want to be petted. The dog's first instinctive reaction is show his displeasure by giving a warning -- growling. The growl means that something more unpleasant will follow if the warning isn't heeded. The type and number of warnings given can vary. Many dogs faced with a child like this would just walk away. Walking away can be considered a warning. If the child keeps trying to pet the dog, a sterner warning, usually a growl, will follow. Some warnings are more subtle -- a stiffening of the body, for example. Few dogs bite without giving some indication beforehand.

Small children (and some adults) don't recognize a warning when they see or hear one. A very young child (under age six) doesn't know what a growl means. What may be obvious to an adult isn't understood by the child. The child continues to pet or follow after the dog even though the dog has now clearly told him what will happen if he doesn't stop.

Dogs instinctively set up an invisible "fight or flight" boundary around themselves. The size of

this boundary depends on his level of confidence and tolerance. A fearful dog will give itself a wider area than a more stable one. When someone who the dog perceives as threatening or unwelcome enters that area, the dog has two choices -- it can run away or it can defend itself. If it feels that it can't run away, it will fight instead, no matter how afraid it might be. Some dogs will choose to fight first, rather than run.

A small child that's petting or hugging a dog has already intruded well within the dog's flight or fight boundary, the dog's safety zone. If the dog has tried to leave or has issued a warning with no response from the child, the dog (in his mind) has no other recourse -- he bites. This is normal, instinctive behavior -- to the dog. He is responding to what he perceives as a threat and is doing what his instincts tell him to. Remember that dogs don't think in the same way that people do. A child's innocent action, petting the dog, can be provocation for a bite when seen through the eyes of the dog.

There are other circumstances that can provoke a dog to bite a child. Running, playing, screaming kids can trigger an instinctive predator-prey reaction in some dogs. Children who rough house and wrestle with dogs unknowingly encourage them to use their teeth. Dogs equate this kind of play with littermates or other dogs where using teeth is allowed. Startling a sleeping dog or petting him when he's eating can also provoke a bite.

What can be done to prevent dogs from biting children? I feel that, first, it's essential to understand that almost any dog will bite under the right circumstances. Second, a dog is a dog, an animal whose behavior isn't the same as humans and can't always be predicted with 100 percent accuracy, no matter how friendly or reliable he is. Obedience training and socialization are absolute musts for a dog who'll be spending time with children. Remember that a dog will act according to his instincts if he doesn't receive proper training or if that training isn't kept up through regular practice. The dog needs to be taught to obey commands under all conditions no matter how distracting. Just as responding to the command to "come" could save the dog's life someday, an immediate response to the command "leave it!" could save a child from serious injury.

Just as children need to be taught how to be well-behaved around other people, they need to be taught to be well-behaved and respectful around animals. They need to learn what kinds of games

are appropriate, how to touch the dog properly, how to interpret the dog's body language and when the dog is not to be disturbed. When they're old enough to understand, kids should be involved in the training process. They should learn to give the dog commands and be able to enforce them. Adult supervision is essential! Small children should never, ever be left alone with any dog, no matter how reliable the dog has been before. A responsible adult needs to be on the scene to prevent any aggressive behavior by the dog and to keep the child from putting him or herself in danger. Telling the toddler to stay away from the dog isn't enough! Remember that young children don't recognize when they may be in trouble. It's up to the adult to keep them safe from the dog and to keep the dog safe from the children. I can't stress enough that adult supervision around children and dogs is absolutely critical! If you can't be right there to handle whatever might come up or if you have any doubt about the dog's behavior around children, the dog should be put away out of reach of the kids.

Almost all of us would agree that it would be nice for our children to grow up with a dog. Kids and dogs are wonderful, almost an American tradition. If you're thinking of getting a dog for the children or already have one, here are some guidelines: Consider postponing the purchase of a dog, especially a large one, until your children are at least six years old.

1. **Take your time when looking for a dog.** Do your homework. Learn the differences in the various breeds and choose one best suited to your lifestyle and experience.
2. **Be honest with yourself about the amount of time and work you're willing to put into a dog.** If you don't have time to raise and train the dog properly, don't get one.
3. **Buy your dog from a reputable, responsible breeder who puts priority on good temperament and health and consistently produces dogs that excel in those areas.** Choose a breeder who's experienced and willing to guide and advise you about care and training throughout the dog's life.
4. **Train and socialize your dog properly!** Get help if you run into problems. Don't fool yourself into thinking the dog will "outgrow" it or that the problem will go away on its own.

5. **Teach your children how to behave correctly and safely around animals and to respect them.**
6. **If your children are too young to understand, it will be up to you to physically supervise them and protect them from potential harm.** Don't take chances with their safety! If you can't be right there to take care of a problem or if you can't control your dog or your child -- put the dog away.
7. **Remember that what your dog tolerates from your own children may not be tolerated from someone else's.** You need to take extra safety precautions when other children visit and make sure that the children obey your ground rules.
8. **Never, ever leave a child alone with any dog, no matter how harmless the dog seems.**

Kids and dogs are wonderful together -- when adults use common sense and put safety first.

Vicki DeGruy

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October Is Adopt-A-Dog Month

Big dogs, small dogs, adult dogs, and puppy dogs - - you can find them all at your local shelter or breed rescue group. And each one is guaranteed to enhance your life, make you smile and rock your world.

Millions of dogs are surrendered to our nation's animal welfare organizations every year, not because they are bad or unlovable, but because their owners just couldn't take care of them anymore. Now these dogs are homeless, and they need a second chance.

We encourage everyone to visit their local shelters, learn about the services they provide and -- best of all -- see all the wonderful dogs they have ready to be adopted.

Having a dog rocks. Experts say dogs promote exercise, help lower blood pressure, prevent heart disease, and fight depression and loneliness. Plus,

dogs often can serve as “social aids,” helping people get to know others, sparking conversations, and encouraging increased social contact and greater bonds between people.

Rudy’s Rescue

Upstate New York’s Only Labrador Retriever Rescue Organization

Just a reminder to all ILRC members and Lab lovers, that Rudy’s Rescue is alive and well. This fantastic organization has found loving and forever homes for hundreds of Labs in need. It is a non profit organization which depends on volunteers and donations to do its wonderful job. The following excerpt is taken from the Rudy’s Rescue web site www.rudysrescue.org :

What We Do

Rescue dogs of good temperament and find them new homes

Cooperate with and assist other rescues, shelters, and animal control

Educate the public about the "good" ways to obtain a companion animal

Assist with common questions and referrals

Rudys Rescue will also assist and hopefully contribute to the growing interconnection between rescue groups, shelters and others working with homeless animals. We will publish contact information for rescues and shelters in our area.

We strive to convince the public to consider adoption first. If that is not possible we encourage the public to obtain a puppy or older dog from a responsible/reputable breeder.

We work with the public to stress the importance of spay/neuter programs and do not allow any pet(s) to leave our rescue without first being spayed or neutered.

I urge all of you to help Rudy’s Rescue in any way possible. I feel this is an especially important responsibility for us as Lab lovers. What can you do? It can be as simple as donating crates, bedding and other supplies. Your time and volunteer efforts at fostering would be especially helpful and, money is ALWAYS needed.

Go to the web site and contact Amy at dawgs4kids2@rochester.rr.com to help in any way that you are able.

ILRC is very proud to have Amy Holtz, founder of Rudy’s Rescue as one of our members!

A Prayer For Animals

**Hear our humble prayer, O God,
for our friends the animals,
especially for animals who are suffering;
for any that are hunted or lost or de-
serted
or frightened or hungry;
for all that must be put to death.
We entreat for them all Thy mercy and
pity,
and for those who deal with them
we ask a heart of compassion and gentle
hands and kindly words.
Make us, ourselves, to be true friends to
animals
and so to share the blessings of the
merciful.
-Albert Schweitzer**



Cassidy



Princess



Tucker

Just three of the Labs that have been rescued by Rudy’s

Rescue. Please help.

Phyllis

Your Lab's Horoscope



The Libra dog is happy when loved and showered with attention. This dog does not like to be alone and it is strongly suggested if you must work allot that you get your Libra dog some kind of pet. A need for grooming and attention is very strong in this sign. The Libra dog can get confused at times and you should be very clear about what you expect or it will just sit and look at you with a weird expression. The Libra dog will try to get along with others in its environment and usually will relate well to all other pets in the home. Don't forget to say I love you at least once a day to your Libra dog and expect lots of kisses.



The Scorpio dog will die for you and be extremely protective and possessive. Unless this dog is introduced into a home as a puppy where other pets exist, there may be some problems introducing other pets or even children into the home without some special training and explanation. A highly intuitive canine, the Scorpio dog will sense something is wrong before it happens and may whine and try to warn you. It will also know if you have been disloyal to it if you are a single person and you are dating a new significant other. Powerfully psychic, the Scorpio dog is the one who would find its way home if lost across country.

Book Review Corner

***Tell Me Where It Hurts:
A Day of Humor, Healing and Hope in My Life
as an Animal Surgeon***

Nick Trout

This book was amazing. The tales of profound love between humans and animals was heart warming. Although there are many good animal books out there, this one was exceptional. It was incredibly



well-written. Dr. Trout captures the humor, pathos and all in-between of the human-animal bond. The main ingredient is the total celebration of the bond and great love between humans and their pets. Although there were many, one story that captured me was the old man whose German Shepherd, Sage, had surgery for GDV. The man's wife had died and Sage was all that he had. Their story is poignant and brought tears to my eyes. There are other unforgettable characters in this book, human and animal.

"Speaking for Spot"

A review

By Kathie Meier

There's a new paw on the shelf in the dog book world – **Dr. Nancy Kay's** *Speaking for Spot*, published earlier this year. Dr. Kay's mission in writing the book is to teach dog owners how to be effective advocates for their four-legged friends as they traverse the world of both routine and emergency veterinary care with their pet.

The author brings a wealth of knowledge to her subject. A graduate of Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Kay completed her residency in small animal internal medicine at the University of California, Davis. She is a board certified specialist in internal medicine, and the staff internist/owner of a 24-hour emergency/specialty care center. As a practicing veterinarian she saw the need to support emotionally owners of critically ill pets and responded by establishing **Animal Care Center Pet Support Group**. Her experience in this context is evident throughout the chapters of this book.

Speaking for Spot covers the entire spectrum of caring for our pets with topics that include finding the right veterinarian, the vaccination debate, questions to ask the vet and questions the vet will ask us, understanding surgery and other options, explanation of the myriad of diagnostic tests and new technology currently available to our pets, knowing when to see a specialist, financial concerns, whether or not to purchase pet health insurance and how to go about selecting a carrier, dealing with a cancer diagnosis and ending with a very compassionate and thought provoking discus-

sion on the end of life process and euthanasia.

Dr. Kay cared for my Gretl for four years, most recently during her final illness with malignant histiocytosis. I was privileged to read a pre-release copy of the book, and regretted as I read that I had not had this book to consult during my previous 29 years with Berners. The author addresses so many of the questions and issues that I, and I'm sure many dog owners, struggle with in seeking veterinary care.

There are many books available on dog health care. Some are in the category of veterinary textbooks of medicine, good as a reference when we need to look up something specific. Others focus on a single disease or a few related areas of dog health care (*e.g.*, reproduction and neonatal care). While all these books have their places, I don't think that you will find a more thorough, understandable and go-to-it-often reference than *Speaking for Spot*.

If you are curious, you can read excerpts from several chapters on the book's website www.speakingforspot.com, as well as a number of interesting reviews, including this one by Amy Tan, author of *The Joy Luck Club* and *The Kitchen God's Wife*. Tan writes, "This is the book I wish I had when dogs first entered my life. . . . It's the other best friend you need when making routine veterinary decisions for your dog or potentially heart-breaking ones."

While you are browsing the website, take a look at the section entitled "Advocacy Aids." There is a terrific selection of downloadable health forms and templates that will help you organize your dog's health care and medications. This is typical of the level of information and support that you will find in the book.

It isn't often that I read a book, and want to tell the world about it – but this is definitely one in that category. It is that good! And for me – the timing is perfect. After all, it is time to think about holiday shopping!

This book review was published in The Berner Beat, the newsletter of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Northern California. Permission to reproduce is granted by the author.

Thanks to Leslie Kayser for sending this to me!

Recipe Corner

Howl-oh-ween Apple Cinnamon Drops

1 large apple
1/4 cup honey
1/2 cup of water
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup oatmeal
1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
1/8 cup whole wheat flour



Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 ° F (180 ° C).

Core, slice and mince the apple (use a food processor if you have one). In a large bowl, combine the minced apple bits, honey, water, cinnamon, and oatmeal. Gradually blend in the wheat flour, adding enough to form a stiff dough.

In a small bowl, add 1/8 cup wheat flour. Spoon the dough by rounded teaspoon onto ungreased baking sheets, spacing about 2 inches (5cm) apart. Using the bottom of a glass dipped in the wheat flour (to prevent sticking), flatten each spoonful of dough into a circle. Adjust the size of the drops based on how big a treat you like to feed your dog. Bake for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and flip each cookie to brown evenly on both sides. Reduce oven temperature to 325 ° F (180 °C). Return to oven and bake for an additional 30 minutes. Let cool overnight.

Makes about 3 dozen crunchy cookies, depending on how big you make them.

Thanksgiving Treat

2 lbs. ground turkey
2 eggs
2 cups cooked rice
8 oz. peas
3 carrots, diced
1 apple, diced
2 cloves garlic, minced



Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In mixing bowl, combine all ingredients. Mix well by hand. On baking sheet, form into the shape of a large dog bone. Bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes. Let cool and serve.

Iroquois Labrador Retriever Club
8th Designated Specialty – Wine Country
Circuit
Sampson State Park, Romulus, NY
September 27, 2008

Sweeps Classes: Mrs. Geraldine Mines

Dogs:

6-9 months

- | | | |
|------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Startop's Highwayman | |
| 2 | Adventure's Turbo | |
| 3 | Kresland's Bam Bam's Tru | |
| Odin | 4 | Lincoln's Luke Skywalker |

9-12 months

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Lighthouse Sea Wall | |
|) | 2 | Willcare Page Turner At Ashfield |
| 3 | Blackoaks Russel Me Up | |
| 4 | Moonlit's Charmed At Startop | |

12-15 months

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | Hedgelawn's Sharper Image |
| 2 | Lighthouse's Caisea |
| 3 | Robne's Net Asset |

15-18 months

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Hi View Baron's Boothill |
| 2 | Gateway's Nothin' But Trouble |

Bitches:

6-9 months

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | Belquest Just A Dream |
| 2 | Skyview's Black Silk Sky |
| 3 | Bellburn's Rocky Mount |
| 4 | Lobuff Ottertail Noble Nissa |

9-12 months

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | Lochiel's Ricochet |
| 2 | Belquest Drive To Galador |
| 3 | Shalane Material Girl |
| 4 | Tapeatom Dream Awhile |

12-15 months

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Moonlit's By Gosh |
| 2 | Hedgelawn Maple |
| | Butter Blondie |
| 3 | Brenlorr Chance Of A Lifetime |
| 4 | Robnie's Shoo In |

15-18 months

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | Campbell Yard's Muddy Waters |
| 2 | Kesland's Charmed One |

Best in Puppy Sweepstakes

Moonlit's By Gosh

Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Sweepstakes

Hi View Baron's Boothill

Veteran Sweeps Classes – Dogs

7-9 years

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Ch. Graham's Grady of Jedland |
|---|-------------------------------|

9-11 years

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Ch. Lincoln's Alloway Jake |
|---|----------------------------|

11+ years

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | Ch Alloway's Joshua Lawrence |
|---|------------------------------|

Veteran Sweeps Classes - Bitches

7-9 years

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Pisgah's Ema-Lee At Bellburns JH |
| 2 | Ch. Willcare's Godiva . |
| 3 | Tabatha's Confetti |
| 4 | Brimar's Cadeau De Diamont CD, RN,AXP,AJP,OA,OAJ |

Best in Veteran Sweepstakes

Pisgah's Ema-Lee At Bellburns

Best of Opposite to Best in Veteran Sweepstakes

**Ch. Graham's Grady
Of Jedland**

Regular Classes:

Judge Mrs. Claire White-Peterson

Dogs:

6-9 months

- 1 Startop's Highwayman
- 2 Adventure's Turbo
- 3 Kresland's Bam Bam's Tru Odin
- 4 Lincoln's Luke Skywalker

9-12 months

- 1 Willcare Page Turner at Ashfield
- 2 Lighthouse Sea Wall
- 3 Blackoak's Russel Me Up
- 4 Endless Mt's Shakin Things Up

12-18 months

- 1 Lochiel's To Hot To Handle
- 2 Hi View Baron's Boothill
- 3 Lighthouse's Caisea
- 4 Hedgelawn's Sharper Image

Novice

- 1 Ironridge's Raising The Ante

Bred-by-Exhibitor

- 1 Danbridge Henry J
- 2 Hi View Beechcroft Moondancer
- 3 Adventure Pull The Trigger
- 4 Majestx Satisfaction

American Bred

- 1 Moonlit's Endless Mt. Romeo
- 2 Twin Cedars Cutless Treasure
- 3 Whispering Pines Agamennon
- 4 Goldenmoon Over Hayden Valley

Open Black

- 1 Tabatha's Adventure Score
- 2 Pinehaven's Blackhawk

- 3 Preton Caruso
- 4 Whispering Pines Simon of Eagleville

Open Yellow

- 1 Labslandings Winning Edge
- 2 Chocorua's Riptide
- 3 Cabin Creek Diesel At Labs Landing
- 4 Can. Ch. Broadway's Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

Open Chocolate

- 1 Can. Ch. Epoch's Louis Vuitton At Castlegar
- 2 Hedgelawn's Doc Holiday
- 3 Belquest Easy Rider
- 4 Bittersweet's Bold Move

Winner's Dog

Danridge Henry J

Reserve Winner's Dog

Labslandings Winning Edge

Bitches:

6-9 months

- 1 Endless Mt's Fine Linen
- 2 Endless Mt's Aim For The Stars

Stars

- 3 Skyview's Black Silk Sky
- 4 Belquest Just A Dream

9-12 months

- 1 Shalane Material Girl
- 2 Belquest Drive To Galador
- 3 Tapeatom Dream Awhile
- 4 Lochiel's Ricochet

12-18 months

- 1 Moonlit's By Gosh
- 2 Hedgelawn Maple Butter Blondie
- 3 Campbell Yard's Muddy Waters
- 4 Robnie's Shoo-In

Novice

- 1 Corrie's Keepin' Hope

Bred-by Exhibitor

- 1 Majestx Loves Me-Loves Me Not
- 2 Augustus Stonehill Suzie QT

- 3 Adventure's Ferget Me Not
- 4 Wiscoy's Jade

American-bred

- 1 Heybern's After Eight
- 2 Tabatha's Hampton Cinco De Mayo
- 3 Windswept Frivolous Gal
- 4 North Country's Faith in Calmark

Open Black

- 1 Seal Cove's Soliloguy
- 2 Poplar Forest Oh Whata Windfall
- 3 Broadway's Baby At Wayfield
- 4 Bigi's My Fair Lady

Open Yellow

- 1 Nyroca's Castlegar
Bewitched
- 2 Staghorn's Bearridge Cali-
ber
- 3 Legacy's Pandamonium
@ Willcare
- 4 Ambridge Lasting
Impression

Open Chocolate

- 1 Fortune's Outside The Bun At Grayson
- 2 Wilcare Here For The Party
- 3 Gleneries Marci At Blue Mtn
- 4 HiView Fudgy Wudgy @ Skyview

Winner's Bitch**Nycroca's Castlegar Bewitched****Reserve Winner's Bitch****Seal Cove's Soliloguy****Veteran Class 7-9 Dogs**

- 1 Ch. Rocky Creek's Lincoln Storm RN

Veteran Class 11-13

- 1 Ch. Ledgewood's Lazer

Veteran Class 7-9 Bitches

- 1 Ch. Willcare's Godiva
- 2 Tabath's Confetti

**Best of Winners - Nyroca's Castlegar
Bewitched**

Best of Opposite - Ch. Willcare's Godiva
**Best of Breed - Ch. Glenerie's
Great Hunter Orion**

High In Trial Augustus Conquest UD,

**Brag****Mary Kobis:**

Connie, Augustus Conquest UDX, RE, JH won the High Scoring Labrador at the Specialty from the Utility B class. It was very sad that there were only 2 Labs in the show.

Our other brag is Suzie, Augustus StoneHill Suzie QT, won 2nd place in the Bred-By class at the Specialty.

Kim Falker:

We've had a great couple of weeks here at Adventure At Ledgewood!!

We just got back from Mid-Jersey. Trigger, Adventure's Pull The Trigger, was 2nd in Open black on Thursday!

At the National, Radar, Ledgewood's Radar, was 4th in the Am-Bred class!

At the ILRC specialty, Score, Tabatha's Adventure Score, WC won the open black class!

At the ILRC supported entry, Fergie, Adventure's Ferget Me NOT, won the bred by class!

Under Beth Sweigart, Trigger, Adventure's Pull The Trigger, won the bred by class!

Under Beth Sweigart, Turbo, Adventure's Turbo, won the 6-9 puppy class!

Fil Craver:

On Friday, September 26th Wilson won his Am. Bred Class with 5 other dogs showing under Ms. Beth Sweigart. The real story however, was with a ring full of professional handlers, Paul Loveless, a new member of the Iroquois Labrador Retriever Club, was handling Wilson. A big thanks to Paul for showing Wilson and congratulations on the big win.

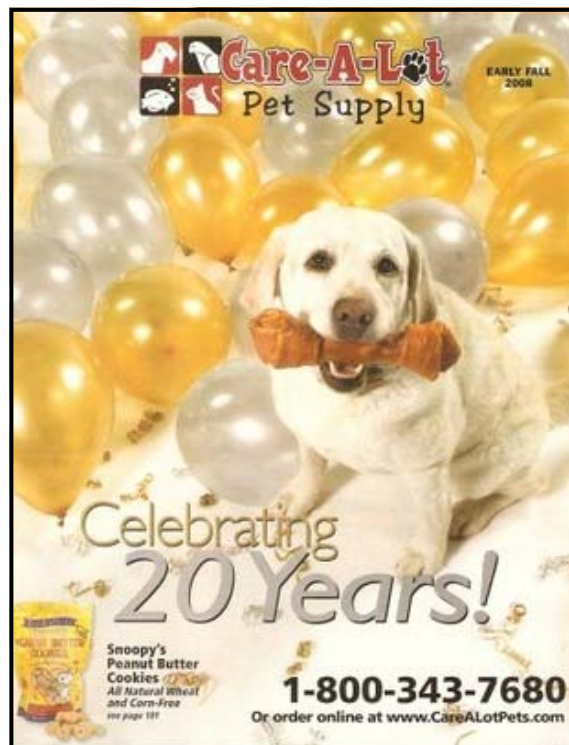


Paul Loveless and Wilson

Kathy Zipkin:

Winnie, Kathy Zipkin's yellow Lab, is pictured here on the cover of Care-A-Lot Pet Supply Company Catalog.

This was their 20th Anniversary Edition and the second time that Winnie has appeared on the cover. Her picture was also taken and is to appear on their company trucks.



Rebekah Loveless:

Piper (Kresland's Charmed One, CGC), our chocolate girl, won Best in Sweepstakes on Sunday, 9/28/2008, at Wine Country.

Odin (Kresland's Bam Bam's Tru Odin), an 8-month-old black boy of Sue Patrick's won 1st in the 6-9 month class on Sunday, 9/28/2008 at Wine Country. This was his first show, and I handled him as well as did all of his training.



Rebekah and Piper



Rebekah and Odin

Welcome

New members
Paul & Rebekah Loveless
powerof3labs@yahoo.com

Litter Box

Carol Pyne, Campbell Yard Labrador Retrievers:

Born August 28

11 puppies, 7 boys and 4 girls, all black except for one chocolate.

Dam is my Pica (Campbell Yard's Unexpected Pleasure) and the sire is my Hogan (Heybern's Master of the Game)

This is a line breeding on Ch Boradors Wilcare Master Copy (DJ) and his sire, Ch Willcare Masterpiece (Dennis)

Born Sept 9

7 yellow puppies, 4 boys and 3 girls

Dam is my Winter (Campbell Yard's White Russian) and the sire is HRCH Doubleplay Legacy's Reign, JR. Bond needs one more major for his championship and he is working on his Master Hunter title.

This is a line breeding on Winter's grandsire, Ch Balcroft Silonas Time to Reign.

ILRC Meeting Minutes for September 27, 2008



Attendance: **Terry Miller, Brenda Stidfole, Ellen Shearer, Lisa Hanley, Terri Fink, Kim Falker, Susan Patrick, Dr. Wendy G. Brown, Lynne and Jeff Worsfold, Larry and Pauline Nehring, Jim Smith, Carole Pyne, Leslie Kayser, Barb Corbelli, Becky Underwood**

Guests: **Paul and Becca Loveless, Linda Wyatt-deGroot**

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 by President **Carol Pyne**.

Before reading the slate of officers and Board members, Carole congratulated **Terry Miller** for an excellent job as chair and thanked everyone who helped. Positive comments about the decorations, the trophy table, the raffle, and the delicious lunch were shared by many members. The following slate was then read:

President	Carol Pyne
Vice president	Mary Kobis
Treasure	Becky Underwood
Secretary	Leslie Kayser
BOD	Mary Ellen Bittlinger
	Kim Falker
	Pauline Nehring
	Larry Nehring
	Barb Corbelli.

Nominations from the floor were open and after some discussion, **Dr. Wendy Brown** made a motion to pass which was seconded by **Kim Falker**.

Becky Underwood reported that current membership is at 48, a four year high. A first read was done for **Linda Wyatt-deGroot** and a second read was done for **Paul and Rebekah Loveless**.

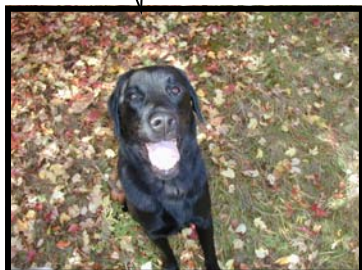
The meeting closed at 4:50 after a motion by **Terri Fink** which was seconded by **Lisa Hanley**.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Kayser



**Tape this to
your
refrigerator!!**



2008 ILRC Meeting Calendar

(all dates are Sundays except when noted)

January 12, 2008.
Hamburg show Site. ****SATURDAY!!!!****

March 9, 2008 11:00 A.M.
Genesee Fairgrounds, Batavia, NY
(DATE & LOCATION MAY CHANGE!!)

May 4, 2008. 11:00 A.M.
Genesee Fairgrounds, Batavia, NY

July 13, 2008.
Genesee Fairgrounds; picnic & awards

September 28, 2008. Wine Country
SATURDAY!!!! Check back as this may
change!!

November 1, 2008 1:30 P.M.
Genesee Fairgrounds, Batavia
Election of officers for 2009



PAWPRINTS

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FIRST CLASS

PLEASE FORWARD