



Retriever Reflections

Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.

March/April 2009

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

O.K. tons of stuff going on and information to put into the newsletter. A new version of AB1634 has reared its ugly head - SB250. Hopefully all of you who have internet access have signed-up for the news and updates with at least one of the several great websites devoted to tracking legislation related to pet ownership, breeding, etc. [see list in section under discussion of SB 250] and have already voiced your opinion.

We have a match, obedience show-n-go, and Canine Good Citizen test scheduled for the end of May.

There is a new column by Jennifer Kelly highlighting various things that GGLRC or GGLRC members have been doing during the last month.

Lots of other stuff too!!

Melinda Grosch, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our President is at sea once again but sends this message.

On occasion I give my students vocabulary and try to make it relevant to their lives. This got me thinking about the words that can be defined by our Labrador's behavior (particularly if you have more than one). I have compiled a short list of some of these words and the Lab definitions. Please excuse my facetiousness and mild anthropomorphism.

Alacrity: the level of interest shown when you pick up the leash
Hyperbole: the look labs have perfected that says "I haven't eaten in a week" when you are eating any of their favorite foods
Sinecure: best describes the Labrador job in our house
Eschew: what I see happen when the nail clippers come out
Cacophony: what I hear when someone comes to the door
Adroit: a Labrador when sent to retrieve a bird
Hubris: displayed by one dog who has a toy or bone that the other dogs want
Assiduous: Labs at their food bowls
Altruistic: a therapy dog at work
Poignant: watching a therapy dog work
Halcyon: that new puppy
Perspicacious: my dogs when I pick up my car keys
Lugubrious: when left at home after I pick up the car keys
Surfeit: the love we receive from our Labradors.

Go out and have fun with your dog!!

Allen Garfinkle
President

Publisher's Statement:

Retriever Reflections is a publication of the Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. (GGLRC). The articles and information provided do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or opinions of the editor, the GGLRC Officers, or Board of Directors. Contributions are most welcome.

The newsletter is published bi-monthly. The closing dates for each issue are: January 15th, March 15th, May 15th, July 15th, September 15th, and November 15th.

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Newsletter Fees:

Subscriptions	\$25 per year
Litter Listings:	\$10 to Labrador Rescue.
Stud Dog Registry:	Members Only
Brags/New Titles:	Members Only
Advertising:	Members and dog-related businesses only. Photo-ads \$15. Business Cards \$15 per year. Classified Ads \$1 per line.

The Labrador In Northern California Booklet

Copies of the Club's publication, The Labrador in Northern California, are available from Terri Herigstad for \$5 each. These are handy references and are great for handing out to new Labrador owners.

Litter listing requirements:

Members may submit litter listings for their dogs or bitches. As stated in the GGLRC Breeders Code of Ethics, before a litter will be listed in Retriever Reflections, you must submit health clearance information for both the dog and the bitch: OFA or Wind-Morgan clearances and certification by a board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist that the dog has been examined and found free of hereditary eye disease within the last year. You must indicate whether or not the parents have met the Code of Ethics performance requirement (CD, one championship point, JAM, field title, WC, or GGLRC Retrieving Dog Elementary certificate). We require a \$10 donation to Golden Gate Labrador Rescue for a litter listing. Each listing may appear twice. Please submit listings in writing to Editor, Melinda Grosch. Make checks payable to GGLRC and send to:

The litters or sires listed here belong to members in good standing of the Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. (GGLRC), but in no circumstances does GGLRC guarantee the services of said members. Buyers should review any contracts and/or guarantees with the breeder.



Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc.

Placing Labs in loving homes since 1986

Web Page:

<http://www/labrescue.org>

Web Master: Joy Rabins

415 Area Code

Liz 415 898 9402 Novato
Donna 415-433-3828

650 Area Code

Holly hollystill@sbcglobal.net or 650 322-9888 Menlo Park

510 Area Code

Ryan 650 233 7105
Judy 650 359-0981

707 Area Code

Kathleen 707 257-1326
Robin 530 448 4811

925 Area Code

Paula 415-785-8114 or pwner001@gmail.com.

408 Area Code

Paula 415-785-8114 or pwner001@gmail.com

831 Area Code

Judy (831) 831-622-0577 Pebble Beach

If you like the work we do in helping to save Labs ...you can help us to help the dogs by sending a tax deductible contribution to:

GGLRR 2515 Lexington Way, San Bruno, CA 94066

Lab Rescue is an all volunteer organization GGLRR has been granted nonprofit/tax-exempt status by the IRS under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All donations made to GGLRR are deductible from your personal tax returns to the extent allowed by law.

BRAGS

LINDSEY'S SEASHELL PUPPY (PARIS)

(CH Gaetacreek Joyful Jasper x Drycreek's Shotgun Shelby)
Breeders: Tara Aschwanden & Laura Fletcher
Owners: Heather Sanchez & Bonnie Sanchez

Dec 28, 2009 San Mateo Kennel Club
Winner's Dog/Best of Opposite Sex/1st. Open Yellow Dog
Judge: Mr. Peter A. Baynes

AND

Dec. 29, 2009 Santa Cruz Kennel Club
Winner's Dog/Best of Opposite Sex/1st. Open Yellow Dog

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

When you provide information for brags please include the

Dog's Full Registered Name, Sire & Dam, Call Name, Breeder:
Owner, Event, Date, Award, and Judge's Name.

LITTER LISTINGS

All chocolate litter due 4-4-09
SIRE: Champion Thornwood's Resolution
OFA LR-154123G24M-PI, LR-EL28055M24-PI CA Cleared,
CERF LR41956, Optigen A1
DAM: Thornwood's Puppy Love (Champion Thornwood's The Achiever daughter)
OFA LR-163557F24F-PI, LR-EL32824F24-PI, CERF LR-42629
Contact: Cheri Conway (541)723-2467
forlabs@centurytel.net
This litter does not meet the GGLRC performance criteria.

Black and yellow litter due 4-9-09
SIRE: Champion Ghoststone's Louie Downtown
OFA LR99038G24M-T, LR-EL8973-T, LR-CA114/12M/C-T
CERF LR-20804/2007-118, Optigen A1
DAM: Champion Thornwood's Singular Sensation (Champion Dickendall Davaron Gable daughter)
OFA LR-166269G24F-PI, LR-EL-34315F24-PI, CERF LR-42622
Contact: Cheri Conway (541)723-2467
forlabs@centurytel.net

A QUOTE I LOVE!

"No matter how little money and how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich." Louis Sabin

CAUGHT IN THE WEB

A very complete and detailed Field Events Calendar can be found at Dogs Afield's website.

<http://www.dogsafield.com/eventlist.asp>

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MINUTES FROM THE GENERAL MEETING

Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Club

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 11, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by vice president Terry Herigstad AT 10:50 A.M.

MINUTES: The minutes of the December 14th meeting were approved with the notation that the director's insurance was discussed and by consensus it was decided to keep the policy as is with the exception that there may be further review in the future.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Allen Garfinkle is still away at sea, but sent a report summarizing the year and thanking the club for their support.

TREASURER: Nancy Yamada submitted a written report and stated that the money from the CD would go into the general fund this week. We are a non-profit corporation however we are not tax exempt.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Sho and Go: The match will be held on the Cal State East Bay Musical Lawn on May 31st. Nancy Yamada asked for Cal State's confirmation for the filing of liability insurance. Marilou Garfinkle will handle conformation, judges are Beth Wilkerson and Madeline Hill. Entries forms will be out early and we will try to publicize the event.

Specialty: Dan Clark will judge sweeps and Aryum Ellis will do breed. Lora Cox and Dorin Ladd will judge obedience. NORCAL will cover Dorin Ladd's travel and lodging. Obedience will start one-half hour early. The high in trial trophy was presented at the meeting, it will be in honor of Dorothy Donnally.

Field: Sharon Ventura reported that Cathy Mason wants to do training days possibly every six weeks with focus on beginners.

Nominating Committee: The proposed slate of officers are: Allen Garfinkle, president; Vice-president Terry Herigstad; Connie Holm, secretary; and Nancy Yamada, treasurer. Marilou Garfinke will train to assume the position of treasurer.

The board includes: Denise Klemm, Melinda Grosch, Sharon Ventura, Marilou Garfinkle, and David Rowinski.

Newsletter: After the next six newsletters, Jennifer Kelly will assume the position of newsletter editor. Everybody likes having hard copy newsletters.

Election of Officers: The slate of officers and board members was voted in by the membership.

Election of New Members: The following persons were voted in as members of the club: Beverly Bambach, Tabbitha and Joshua Walker, Jennifer and Michael Baucico, Barbara Wener, Natasha Gelfland, Bonnie Lea Sanchez, and Abraham Tiso.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Lab in Northern California booklet: Ready for distribution. Allen suggested at \$3.00 charge to pet stores and vets. A copy will be available to each member. It was suggested that we try to get more advertising.

Website: Mike Bashista stated that the website server has passed away, he is trying to get the contact back up. E-mail is through Dreamhost. It was suggested that we get the calendar and Sho and Go entries on the website.

Cow Palace: A breed info table will be set up and manned by club members. The booklet will be available.

Calendar: The 2009 calendar was passed out. We will try to have field training every six weeks, but the dates have not been posted. Board meetings will be 3/11, 5/13, 7/8, 9/9, and 11/11. The Christmas Party/General meeting will be in December. General meetings will be held at the Sho and Go/Math and at the field training day in September.

Supported Entries: We have eight supported entries for 2009. Elinor Diehr will help with these entries.

It was also noted that GGLRC will donate trophies to other clubs.

Dimity Mueller from NORCAL has suggested Larry and Pauline Andrus as obedience judges in 2010. This was agreed unless there was a change in our arrangement with NORCAL

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30.

Submitted by: Connie Holm

MEMBERSHIP

Please make the following changes to your membership roster.

Shelley Ellison has a new e-mail address:
www.shelquinlabradors.com

There was an error in the information for new members:
Jennifer & Michael Bauccio
5883 Foligno Way
San Jose, CA 95138
Home phone: 408-270-3792
Cell phone: 408-892-9347

SPECIALTY MATCH AND SHOW & GO

The Club's annual Specialty Match and Show & Go has been move up to Sunday May 31, 2009 and will be held a Cal Sate East Bay (Hayward). Marilou Garfinkle will chair conformation and Connie Holm will chair obedience.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event	Date(s)
Board Meeting	May 13
Show & Go/Match and General Meeting	May 31
(California State East Bay A.K.A. CalState Hayward)	
"Woofstock"	June 4 - 7
(Skyline/Contra Costa shows supported entries)	
Board Meeting	July 8
Richmond Dog Fanciers supported entries	Aug 1 & 2
CERF Exam Clinic - Terri Herigstad's	Aug TBA
Board Meeting	Sept 9
Field Day/WC/General Meeting	Sept TBA
GGLRC Specialty/Obedience & Rally Trial	Oct 16 & 17
Del Valle Dog Club Supported Entries	Oct 18 & 19
Board Meeting	Nov 11
Holiday Party & General Meeting	Dec TBA

OUT & ABOUT ... MARCH, 2009

By Jennifer Kelly

This is a new column for Retriever Reflections. It is designed to give a glimpse into what you can do with your Labs at GGLRC organized events, as well as other dog club functions. You can also find out what happened on the occasions you miss an event.

If you have never attended a GGLRC field day, you and your dogs are missing out! Saturday March 21, Cathy Mason led the day of retrieving at Jones Lake in picturesque Pescadero, helped by Sharon Ventura and Jan Hepper. It was a fantastic day for those with beginning and intermediate dogs. Cathy gave suggestions to handling a dog waiting in the blind, coming up to the line, and during the actual retrieve. She pointed out the good that the dogs did (super important to the handler's need to have a positive experience :), as well as giving suggestions to improve weaknesses so lessons could be learned. For example, JJ, who had never been to a field event, was good at marking (seeing) the fall, but didn't run back with the bumper like she usually does when playing with tennis balls. Sharon put a long line on her. We used it to guide JJ right back once she had the bumper in her mouth, to teach her that was what we expected her to do. We learned other tricks, like treating the waiting blind like a kennel. (Teach your dog to sit stay in front of you, looking out at you and not in the direction where the birds are falling). People took turns throwing the bumpers and shooting the guns.

We started with land singles on the flat ground through a series of decoys. It was followed by singles up a hill. More advanced dogs, like Sharon's, were able to run them as doubles. As the rain started to fall, we moved to water. Each dog was given two separate sessions of retrieves. For the puppies not used to water, it was an exciting introduction by following the experienced dogs like Martie and Alice into the water for fun bumpers. For the more advanced dogs they were able to practice water retrieves at various distances and land to water to land retrieves. During lunch, we enjoyed cupcakes brought by Ruthie to celebrate Jan's birthday!

Attending this field event were: Cathy Mason with Martie;

Sharon Ventura with Tess, Dillon, & Mimi; Jan Hepper with Alice & her trio of Sussex spaniels; Marion Bashista with Ella; Marlene Majewska with Clifford; Yolanda Busby with Jessie & Rosie; Ruth Hertzog with Me Me & Norman; Vivian Poole with Molly & Mina; Jennifer Kelly with Naruto, Star, & JJ.

March was also the month of two big conformation events... the San Joaquin Labrador Retriever Club specialties in Turlock. For those new at this sport, specialties are "just Labrador" shows, usually judged by a peer (meaning a fellow Lab breeder who is an AKC judge). Some GGLRC members attended not only to compete, but to enjoy the Saturday night barbecue and karaoke, and to take advantage of the heart echo clinic given by Dr. Kienle. It was a GGLRC member who won Best of Breed the second show. Trudy Rose's beautiful, stunning, gorgeous Stella won that top honor!! Because of this win, she can now add a BISS in front of her name. It stands for Best in Specialty Show. She is now BISS CH Talimar's Stellar Performance!!

CALIFORNIA SB 250 - THE 13TH VERSION OF AB 1634 TAKE ACTION!

The following alert was sent out by the Cat Fanciers Association - please feel free to pass on.

ACTION IS NEEDED NOW- from all California clubs and pet lovers.

California is considering yet another mandatory spay and neuter law. SB 250 mandates sterilization of most dogs and cats in California. By creating new crimes and imposing new duties on local animal control agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program upon local governments.

This bill has been assigned to the Local Government Committee. IMMEDIATE ACTION IS NEEDED from clubs/organizations *on their letterhead* to be included on the opposition list. We anticipate the deadline will be 4/8/09.

ACTION TO TAKE:

ORGANIZATIONS (clubs, rescue groups, etc.) must get on the Bill OPPOSE list by April 8, 2009 - there is not much time!! Send your faxes NOW to be received by the Committee Consultant, Peter Detwiler to be included in the Bill Analysis OPPOSE list. He will be preparing a bill analysis that will list by name supporting and opposing organizations.

INDIVIDUALS NOTE: It is important for individuals to fax short opposition too - individual opposition will also be noted as a total in the bill analysis.

Please also copy the five Local Government Committee members and as a courtesy copy the bill's author, Senator Dean Florez.

Contact information for the California Senate Local Government Committee and examples of discussion points in opposition follow. Please fax your opposition TODAY.

- 1) Send your letters on Organization or Club letterhead. Mail or fax -hard copy is important.
- 2) Reference the title - " Re: OPPOSE SB 250 - An act to

add Section 30804.6 to the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to animals."

- 3) Begin your letter by asking that your club (state name) be included on the opposition list for SB 250. If you are an out of state breed clubs with members in California, please be sure to note that fact.
- 4) Don't worry too much about substance; the goal is to be listed as an opposition group. One page is ideal - 2 pages are OK.
- 5) Put comments in your own words so the letters do not appear to be "form". You may use the samples below - make only a few brief points.
- 6) Conclude your letter by again requesting inclusion in the listed opposition for the Bill Analysis; thank the Senator for his/her time and ask for a NO vote on SB 250.

SUGGESTED POINTS:

** SB 250 is an unfunded mandate on local government. Every local jurisdiction in California would have to determine how to change ordinances and how to comply with these new requirements. The cost of enforcement will be high and California taxpayers will ultimately pay for this legislation. It will only further burden the counties and municipalities and divert limited resources that would be better utilized elsewhere.

** Jurisdictions that have imposed mandatory spay/neuter laws have found them to be costly and unenforceable. Analysis of a similar measure last year (AB 1634) by the California Department of Finance showed animal control costs are likely to rise, euthanasia rates increase, and pet licensing drop-off. Money will have to be taken from other vital local services.

** Those who "possess" intact unlicensed cats are often feral cat caretakers who have not yet been able to trap and sterilize. The fear of punishment will mean these cats will be ignored and continue to reproduce unchecked - shelters will see more cat intakes in the future.

CONTACT LIST: Contact information for the Senate Local Government committee, the committee consultant, and the bill's author are as follows:

Senate Local Government Committee
ATTN: Peter Detwiler, Consultant
State Capitol Room 5046
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: 916-322-0298

Author:
SENATOR DEAN FLOREZ
State Capitol, Room 313
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 327-5989

Senate Local Government Committee Members:

SENATOR PATRICA WIGGINS (Chair)
State Capitol, Room 4081
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 651-4002
Fax (916) 323-6958

SENATOR DAVE COX (Vice Chair)
State Capitol, Room 2068
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 651-4001
Fax: (916) 324-2680

SENATOR SAM AANESTAD
State Capitol, Room 3063
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 651-4004
Fax: (916) 445-7750

SENATOR CHRISTINE KEHOE
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 651-4039
Fax: (916) 327-2188

SENATOR LOIS WOLK
State Capitol, Room 4032
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 651-4005
Fax: (916) 323-2304

Still need something more for your letter?

ADDITIONAL SB 250 OPPOSITION POINTS

Prepared by Margaret A. Cleek Ph.D.

SB 250 is AB 1634 This is basically the final revision of AB 1634, one of the most acrimonious and time consuming bills in history which was roundly defeated in 2008. It was demonstrated by opponents and supported by legislative analysts that the bill was fiscally unsound. Do we really want another go round about OWNED animal's gonads considering the serious problems we currently face?

SB 250 and cost to municipalities This bill will neither reduce the costs to AC nor decrease the euthanasia rate. This will lead to disastrous consequences and as with the Hayden bill, municipalities will appeal to the state to cover the costs incurred.

SB 250 will not reduce shelter costs to California because the greatest percentage of AC costs are fixed costs. Over 90% of AC costs are facilities, administration, bare bones staffing and vehicles. Animals in the shelter are a variable but very small cost. Even if reductions occur costs would increase as the Hayden bill provides that animals be cared for if space is available. Killing is significantly cheaper than providing board and vet care.

SB 250 will have disastrous consequences because it assumes all animal-related problems are the result of intact animals. This is patently untrue, pets, bite, scratch, run, poop, dig, with body parts other than their reproductive organs. Since response to complaints is lucrative for ACs AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS under this bill, ACs may ignore valid and serious complaints regarding altered pets and focus on harassing breeders and owners of licensed unaltered animals.

SB 250 will lower licensing of unaltered pets. This bill provides that the ownership alone of an intact animal who is the subject of any allegation (which need not be investigated and deemed

true) is subject to civil penalty and fine. Thus the act of licensing your pet is an act of self-incrimination. License compliance is low already. This provides a further disincentive to license.

SB 250 also will entail significant costs to every one of the 536 jurisdictions in the state AR groups have already in public meetings expressed willingness to be gonad vigilantes. There will be significant increases in cost of complaints. There may be revenue from civil penalties, but only if AC only responds to calls where the home has intact licenses on file. This creates a vicious cycle as citizens will write "deceased" on license renewals of intact pets so as not to target themselves.

SB 250 cannot be effective without incurring substantial enforcement costs. Research on compliance indicates that if the scofflaw rate is above 5% enforcement is required. With dog license compliance at less than 20% and cat at less than 3%, Enforcement for SB 250 will require vet reporting which would reduce rabies compliance, or door to door canvassing which is an invasion of privacy, requires self-incrimination, and the cost of which society will not bear considering the other issues we face such as drunk driving, illegal immigration, crime and drug use.

SB 250 will result in law-suits. This law violates the 5th,6th,8th,14th amendment. There is no due process, there is no right to confront your accuser, you can be fined and have property taken without compensation based on minor infractions or allegations of infractions. Eventually suits will be brought by organized groups and individuals and municipalities will face the cost of legal defense.

SB 250 destroys the fabric of society. This bill allows for witch hunts and vindictive reporting. It violates the constitution and puts responsible owners of intact animals at risk for false accusation by members of the public or false action on the part of ACs or PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS. (I do not know if this is the case with SB 250 it was with AB 1634)

SB 250 allows private organizations to collect and keep civil penalties. This law allows shelters and SPCAs to levy and collect civil penalties, which not only can result in abuse, but funnels public revenue to private coffers. (I do not know if this is the case with SB 250 it was with AB 1634)

SB 250 provides job security for AC officers and this is why they will support it. In this economy does anyone believe that the AC officers would support a bill that promises to put them out of a job if it really works? ACs recognize that this will result in more AC costs and expenses as more animals will be relinquished by owners and enforcement expenses will be necessary.

SB 250 is redundant and unnecessary. Licensing is already in place for dogs and a differential for unaltered licenses is in place. This bill provides for Draconian and frankly disturbing and invasive punishment for minor infractions. There is not equal impact under the law. If a chronic offender who owns a mixed breed is charged under this law, no real cost is incurred. If a valuable show dog is let out by a meter reader this law would require ALL the breeder's animals altered for this single infraction. A 30 year, hundreds of thousand dollar investment in a breeding line could be wiped out, which is the real intent of this bill in the first place.

SB 250 sets punishments which are excessive. Mistakes happen but this law provides for extreme and invasive consequences for minor infractions. It is on par with putting out the eyes of anyone who misses a stop sign or cutting off the hand of a child who steals a candy bar. This level of punishment and targeting of breeders whose animals and their offspring seldom or never show up in shelters, not just people who in fact dump animals in shelters is a very disturbing aspect of this bill, and demonstrates the true intent of its proponents. It is about making it impossible to breed animals, not about reducing euthanasia or its cost to taxpayers. The proponents of this bill have already volunteered (for AB 1634) to provide vigilante style enforcement. This is clearly dangerous and divisive.

WEBSITES DEVOTED TO ANIMAL LEGISLATION

PetPAC
<http://petpac.net/>

National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA)
<http://www.naiatrust.org/index.htm>

Concerned Dog Owners of California (CDOCA)
<http://www.cdoca.org/>

WORDS OF WARNING

By: Melinda Grosch

O.K. here is a word of advice from an experience I had recently. I grew up in a very small town on the eastern (Sacramento Valley) edge of the Mendocino National Forest. Hot, dry and nothing like the western side that most people think of. The area is know for beautiful wildflower displays in the open rolling hills and valleys, particularly Bear Valley off of Highway 20. Anyway I had a moment of homesickness a couple of weekends ago and took the Labs and headed up there. There is a nice manmade lake called East Park Reservoir which is managed by the BLM just south of Stonyford, my home town. It was a hot 80° F day and East Park Reservoir is located in a wide open space, with very short, grazed grass, and no shrubs or trees or land masses obscuring long beaches with nice clean water and no leash restrictions. So the dogs all got set free to run and swim. A great time was had by all and I did my part by cleaning up some plastic water bottles and beer cans. On the way home after about a two hour drive we came to a nice rest stop right before taking the Interstate 505 cutoff from Interstate 5 so everyone got out of the car again. To my horror my male, Justin, could barely stand, was dribbling urine continuously, and was having a hyper response to being touched. It looked like a reaction to something toxic so I called a friend who is a veterinarian (not currently practicing) and she agreed that it sounded like something toxic. She looked up the UC Davis Veterinary Teaching Hospital phone number for me as it was the closest emergency clinic that I was positive would be open and could handle anything. They agreed that it sounded like he had gotten into something toxic and that I should bring him in. Fortunately from where I was Davis was less than 45 minutes away. Urine and blood were drawn and soon the report came back - marijuana!!! O.K. you are all thinking how could she be so careless!?!?! Well you have to understand that I never saw him pick-up or eat anything. Also I

have never even been drunk much less stoned so may not be the best person to recognize a joint or marijuana brownie if I saw it - but again I never saw him eat anything while we were at the lake (the only time they were out of the car except at the rest stop). UCD flushed his system with fluids and gave him activated charcoal and finally at 10 pm they said I could take him home. Fortunately pot isn't too toxic for dogs so there will be no long term effects. However, I will not be eager to take my dogs to public lands again no matter how nice the swimming is, duuuude.

On a related note: I got an e-mail with the following title.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY "BLOAT" STUDY

there were no credits or references in the e-mail but reviewing some of the information on the Purdue website it appears that this is a compilation of several studies that have been ongoing at the University.

Recent studies are shedding more light on gastric dilatation volvulus (GDV), otherwise known as bloat. GDV, is the second leading cause of death in large-breed (50 to 99 pounds) and giant-breed (100 pounds and over) dogs. Approximately one in four large-breed dogs and one in five giant-breed dogs may develop GDV during their lifetime, with some breeds at even higher lifetime risk. GDV strikes suddenly and has a mortality rate as high as 30 percent.

In GDV there is a rapid accumulation of air in the stomach, causing distention and often rotation of the stomach, cutting off blood supply at both ends and causing the dog to go into shock.

GDV is an acute emergency and rushing the dog to immediate veterinary care is essential. The risk of a dog developing GDV increases with age. Other factors that increase a dogs risk are having a first-generation relative with a history of GDV, having a deep and narrow chest or abdomen, being thin, experiencing a major health problem before age 1, and having a fearful or nervous temperament.

Research primarily at Purdue University by Dr. Larry Glickman, VMD, Ph.D, (an AKC Excellence in Canine Research Award winner), and Dr. Malathi Raghavan, DVM, Ph.D. has identified a number of feeding management and dietary factors that increase the risk of GDV. These include eating only one meal a day, feeding only dry dog food, feeding food with only small particles, and feeding a large volume of food per meal. Other feeding factors found to increase the risk of GDV were eating rapidly, increased physical activity before and after eating, restricting a dogs water intake before and after eating, moistening dry food before feeding, and eating from a raised feeding bowl. Thus, some of the recommendations commonly made to prevent GDV were shown by the research to actually increase the risk of GDV.

In the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Vol. 17, No. 10, Glickman wrote, "In addition, in univariate analyses, many of the recommendations commonly made to prevent GDV, such as raising the food bowl, moistening dry food prior to feeding, and restricting water intake before and after feeding, were associated with a significantly increased risk of GDV. Recent research, not yet published, has shown an increased risk of GDV in dogs who consumed dry foods containing fat among the first four ingredients, and an

increased risk in dogs who consumed dry foods listing citric acid as a preservative with this risk rising when foods with citric acid were moistened.

Although not statistically significant, researchers found that a modest increase in risk of GDV was seen with the consumption of dry foods that listed more than one corn ingredient among the first four label ingredients, while in contrast, a pattern was observed of decreased GDV risk with an increasing number of protein ingredients of animal origin, including beef, poultry, lamb, and fish among the first four ingredients.

STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS

- * Feed two or more meals a day.
- * Feed no more than one cup per 33 pounds of body weight per meal when feeding two meals a day.
- * Feed an energy-dense diet, to reduce volume, but avoid a diet where a high amount of calories are from fats.
- * Feed a variety of different food types regularly. The inclusion of human foods in a primarily dry dog food diet was associated with a 59 percent decreased risk of GDV while inclusion of canned pet foods was associated with a 28 percent decreased risk.
- * When feeding dry food, also include foods with sufficient amounts of meats and meat meals, for example: beef, lamb, poultry, and fish.
- * Feed a food with larger particles, and include larger pieces of meat to the diet.
- * Avoid moistening dry foods.
- * If your dog eats rapidly, find ways to try to reduce his speed of eating.
- * Avoid raising the food bowl place it at ground level.
- * Try to minimize stress for your dog. Stressful events have been reported to be precipitating factors in GDV occurrence.
- * Restrict vigorous exercise one hour before and two hours after meals.
- * When you are not in close proximity to your dog, use a baby monitor to alert you if your dog is in distress.
- * Learn to recognize signs of GDV, which include pacing and restlessness, head turning to look at the abdomen, distention of the abdomen, rapid shallow breathing, nonproductive attempts at vomiting, and salivation.

These symptoms can progress rapidly to shock and death. Get to your veterinarian or emergency hospital the moment you suspect GDV.

THE CANINE BEHAVIOR SERIES

By Kathy Diamond Davis
Author and Trainer

BREEDING YOUR DOG

Do you know the signs of your female dog being in heat? Have you been considering breeding her? Does it seem like maybe it would be easiest to just let it happen and see how things go, rather than making a plan one way or another? That has worked out since time began for human babies, but will it have

the same happy ending with your dog?

Most people who breed their female dog one time wind up spaying her and never breeding again. They had no idea until they did it just how much it would cost, what a huge amount of work it would be, how hard it would be on the female dog, and the other problems. It's normal for a third of the puppies to die, sometimes more and sometimes fewer. The whole litter can easily get sick. When a breeder provides proper care to the mother and pups, a profit is unlikely.

Puppies and dogs bred from proven parent dogs are not part of our dog overpopulation problem. The puppies being produced that contribute to overpopulation are the ones with no special reason for being bred. The special ones have waiting homes. There are not enough properly-bred dogs to go around to the homes who want them. There are far too many dogs from untested, unproven parents for the homes willing to take them. Large dogs have big litters, and the large dogs are the most likely to wind up homeless when they come from poor breeding.

What's at Stake?

Female dogs of any age can die giving birth, and the risk is higher for those who are young or old. She might be a poor mother, too, further damaging the potential of the puppies by giving them a bad start in life. Breeding puts a female dog at risk of death, permanent illness from the stress, and negative changes in temperament.

Male dogs of small breeds are more difficult to housetrain when kept intact. If the small male dog is used for breeding, you may never be able to housetrain him. A male dog living in a house with a female dog in heat may not eat, may cry and show other signs of being miserable, and may even behave aggressively.

Even if they are going to be bred, the two dogs need to be kept apart to prevent injuries from an unsupervised mating. A knowledgeable person needs to attend the mating to aid the dogs, preferably with a helper for the second dog. It's typical for two matings to be done a few days apart. It only takes once, though, so don't bank on a tie that happens accidentally to be a miss when you didn't mean to breed.

The right male for your female is not likely to be a male that you own. It's normal for dogs to be carrying a recessive gene for a serious problem that won't show up unless it's combined with another recessive. Your male could so easily be carrying that other recessive gene to complete the problem and afflict the puppies with something serious. And there is no reason for it to be only one serious problem, since dogs have multiple genetic problems.

Most breeds should not be bred prior to a minimum of 2 years of age when basic testing can be done for things like hip dysplasia and eye disease. The world does not need any more dogs born to be disabled because their owners behaved irresponsibly in the breeding. The rate of hip dysplasia in dogs is shockingly high.

Every parent dog should be carefully proven before being chosen for breeding. This means besides the health testing, the dog needs to be proven either as a championship conformation dog, an assistance dog to a person with a disability, a solid

hunting or field trial dog, drug-sniffing dog, or something else that justifies passing on those specific genes. Unless they are bred to be special, puppies from that litter just knock other homeless dogs out of their chance for a home.

In the case of a small dog, proven ability as an excellent companion dog is acceptable, provided the health clearances are done, because there is a huge need for small companion dogs. There is not a need, though, for dogs who bite, dogs who can't be housetrained, or dogs who will have painful and expensive medical problems. These dogs suffer, and that breaks people's hearts. If you want to breed dogs, make sure you're breeding dogs who have the best chance of being happy and making their families happy.

How to Do It Right

Every new breeder needs a mentor. This should usually be the breeder you got the pup from, who should know the bloodlines and be in a position to help you choose a mate whose genetics will be right for your dog. A reputable breeder will also have other breeders willing to breed to the bloodline. Responsible breeders will not get involved with an irresponsible breeding. They feel a duty to those puppies for life. That starts with making sure the genetics are what they should be.

Responsible breeding depends on your dog having the genetics to belong in a breeding program. Even when a dog is beautiful and trains well, if he or she is not from a carefully-bred genetic bloodline, that dog cannot be expected to breed true and pass down the good qualities. Good - and GREAT - dogs come from everywhere, including strays, rescues and shelter dogs. They can be heroes and do amazing things. But they can't be expected to reproduce their good qualities through breeding unless they come from stable bloodlines.

One place to start in finding out if your pups have the right genetics for good breeding potential is to contact the national breed club for your breed, and the national rescue. These people will be willing to help a serious-minded owner determine whether your pups are from suitable lines for breeding. Be patient about them getting back to you. They are all volunteers and are overwhelmed with the work they have on their hands. You can find their contact information on the American Kennel Club website, www.akc.org.

How does a good breeder operate? She or he is a highly committed person who does things like import dogs to bring in healthy new genes and shows the dogs to their conformation championships as well as various forms of advanced training. She conducts a socialization and training program with every puppy before they leave her, to prepare them during their critical developmental stages so they will be able to do well in life. She will take them back at any age if they ever need another home. So many people want her great dogs that she can always find a new home for one of them. She is an expert trainer and is always ready to help with one of the dogs she has produced.

Your Choices

There is clearly a great deal to consider in whether or not to go ahead and spay or neuter a dog. One thing is how serious you are about getting involved in dog breeding. If you are willing to do all the work of proving the dogs before breeding, willing

to take the risks of what can happen to the female, willing to bear the expenses, and willing to take those puppies back at any time in their lives, then maybe you need to try to keep your dog intact and the breeding option open.

No dog is so important to the breed that removing that dog from the gene pool would ruin the breed. The breeder may want the dog for a bloodline, and if you've made a commitment to breed the dog that is something to work out with the breeder. Certainly the dog's welfare should come first, and the dog's welfare may depend on fitting into your family.

Spayed and neutered dogs are safer for children. Spayed and neutered dogs can have richer social lives than intact dogs, because they do not have to be separated during heat cycles. They also experience less stress and fewer health problems. If you prefer life with a spayed or neutered dog, there is no reason to regret this decision. It's usually ideal to spay or neuter by around a year of age. Your veterinarian can help you choose the best timing for your dog.

If you have both a male and a female, leaving her intact and neutering him prevents pregnancy, but you'll still have to separate them when she's in heat to avoid injuries. A neutered male can still tie with a female dog, and for a short time after the surgery may even be able to get her pregnant.

A neutered male will still be stressed when a female in the household is in heat, and may be somewhat more aggressive than usual. Female dogs in the household are also more likely to fight when one of them is in heat. Having a female dog go through one heat cycle is enough to convince most loving dog owners that they don't want to go through another one!

A High Calling

Reputable dog breeders are needed, especially for the small dogs popular as family companions and for dogs who are needed to do important jobs. Dogs truly suited as assistance dogs for people with disabilities, as police dogs, for the military, and other essential functions are always in short supply.

If you have the desire to breed top dogs and the means to do it without expecting financial gain, you can make the world a better place by getting involved with dog breeding in the right way. That starts with finding a mentor to help select the right breeding dogs and to be there every step of the way for breeding, whelping, raising and placing pups in suitable homes. There is so much to learn!

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General Meetings

General Meeting - Specialty Match & Show & Go
CalState East Bay (A.K.A. CalState Hayward)
Sunday, May 31, 2009

Board Meetings

Board Meeting - May 13, 2009
Location: Denny's Pleasanton
Time: 7:15 p.m.



Retriever Reflections
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