

# LAB LEDGER

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## Happy Father's Day!



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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I was watching the weather channel about the recent round of tornadoes and flooding this week. I saw several warnings about having a disaster plan and being prepared in the event of an emergency. I thought it might be good to see if there was an emergency plan for Labs as I thought about being in a room in the basement with 15 or so Labs, no food and no crates. While that is not very likely, I can still remember the heartbreaking story told to me by a breeder during Katrina who said as the water rose above the doors in her house, her husband pushed their Labs out to try to swim away into the flood. We all know those stories. Anyway, there is no one answer. Here are some things I saw that might be helpful, If you have other or better ideas please share them.

### Before Disaster strikes:

1. Keep your Lab's license current and make sure that you have his collar and I.D. tag if you have one on him. If you don't have that you will want to consider getting a microchip and keep the papers in your car..
2. Train you Lab to come when you call (Good Luck). You can give him treats to enter the crate until he crates up on command. From personal experience I know how difficult it can be trying to load up a number of dogs in the face of an impending tornado when time is short, they are frightened and so are you. The Lab who comes on command is much safer on the side of a road or in a strange and dangerous place than one who has no idea what he needs to do.
3. Have a place to go. You should know before bad things happen where you can go with your labs and it will be safe for them in a tornado or a flood. These things rarely happen without any warning and you should take these warnings seriously. Leave early you don't lose points for being safe. You will also want your friends and neighbors to know how many animals you have and what to do if you are not home and disaster occurs.
4. Have a first aid kit. Many of you who exhibit Labs and travel with them already have this in your car. Keep basic bandages, ointments, special medications, hydrogen peroxide scissors, eye wash, ear cleaning solution, elastic tape and the like. Many places and catalogues sell these.
5. Have enough food and water for each pet for a week.

### In case of Disaster:

Remember Red Cross shelters do not accept pets, neither do some hotels. You will need to keep an alternative list of places that will accept your troop . While no one wants to leave their lab behind, if you have to, Leave a large sign in the window saying how many pets are there. Leave enough water in container that can't be tipped over. If you can get a time release feeder your pet will not eat a week's worth of food in a day. Do not tie or cage your lab as his chances for survival are greater if he can escape the danger easily.



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

If your lab is lost contact the neatest animal shelter and report him missing. When it is safe to return look for him- post missing animal posters visit local vets, continue searching, tell police, service workers, mailmen, utility company workers if they see him to call.

Have a disaster kit:

Keep a crate and leash for each Lab.

Keep his shot records, papers and ID where you can get them.

Keep 7 days food and water; have some dog treats and dog toys.

If you give canned dog food have a can opener

Keep a supply of litter bags

Keep his special medication handy

Take a photo of your Lab and keep it on your cell phone

Keep your first aid kit (see above)

Keep a first aid book

Phone numbers for local emergency vet; shelters; hotels that accept pets

X pen

Newspaper and/or paper towels large garbage bags

Emergency numbers

Flashlight, radio, cell phone, batteries, matches, lighter,

A blue plastic tarp or two

You probably already have thought of this, but if you have not I hope this will give you some ideas. If you never have to use any of this it will be great. If faced with danger for your animals, leave early while there is plenty of time. If you can't go-be prepared for the worst and hope for the best.

Your Lab's chances are much better if you are prepared



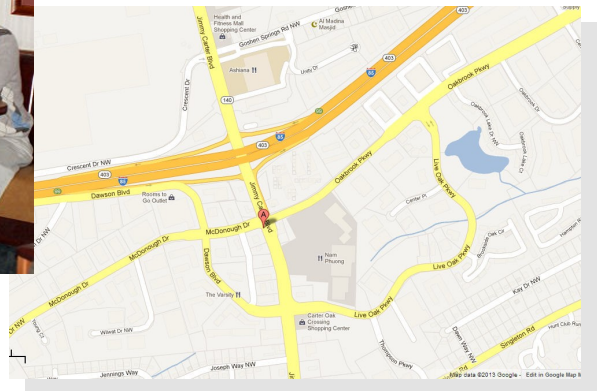
## JUNE CLUB MEETING

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 17TH.

**Location: Cracker Barrel restaurant at Jimmy Carter Boulevard (exit 99) off I-85.**

Directions: Going North on I-85 it is to the right and coming south you turn left cross over 85 and it is on the right.

Address: 6175 McDonough Dr, Norcross, GA (770) 446-1313



The regular monthly meeting of the Club will be held on the third Tuesday of each month. Board members will commence their meeting at 7:00 p.m. and membership will meet immediately following at 7:30 p.m. As always members are invited to the Board meeting.

We hope to see you there!



## MEMBERSHIP

### **Membership DUES Reminder**

Our membership dues for 2014 will be due starting 11/1/13.

Please completely fill out this form and return it with your check so that we can keep our records up to date.

\$20.00 individual ~ \$25.00 family ~ \$15 Associate

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to GALRC and mail to:

Jim Griffin

130 Hickory Pointe Dr.

Athens, Ga. 30605

### **Member's breeder directory**

To be included in the breeder's directory of the club's website, please e-mail the following information to our Website master: [Jean McLain](#)

Kennel name, Contact person, Website URL address, e-mail address, phone number and a brief description of your practices. You may include any updated information about current litters.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shannon and I are doing the Specialty Raffle in November again this year. Thanks to all of you and many generous friends and companies we had a wonderful response and it is our goal to beat that this year! So please start looking around at stores, shows and even attics and basements for items to donate. Nothing is too small - the \$1.00 table was a huge hit!!! So let's get started early and start collecting!!!! You can call Shannon or me with any questions.

Thanks so much in advance!!!!!!

Dale

## AKC Expands Therapy Dog Titling Program

*(Monday, May 12, 2014)*

**New York, NY** – In an effort to honor the thousands of therapy dog teams that make a difference in the lives of others daily, the American Kennel Club® (AKC®) has added four new titles to the popular AKC Therapy Dog™ program.

In addition to the AKC Therapy Dog (ThD) title (awarded after 50 visits), the AKC now offers:

- AKC Therapy Dog Novice (ThDN) – Awarded after 10 visits
- AKC Therapy Dog Advanced (ThDA) – Awarded after 100 visits
- AKC Therapy Dog Excellent (ThDX) – Awarded after 200 visits
- AKC Distinguished Therapy Dog (ThDD) – Awarded after 400 visits

“The AKC heard from many dog owners whose dogs had already earned the ThD title and who wanted additional formal recognition of their ongoing commitment to volunteering to help others. We’re pleased to expand the AKC Therapy Dog program as a result of these requests,” said Doug Ljungren, Vice President of AKC Sports and Events. “We’ve also added a way to acknowledge beginning therapy dogs, hoping that this will encourage even more dogs and owners to participate in therapy dog work.”

Dogs who are registered and approved by recognized [therapy dog organizations](#) may apply to earn the AKC Therapy Dog titles, which will be listed on the dog’s AKC title record. Any dog, including mixed breeds, can earn AKC Therapy Dog titles as long as the dog is AKC-registered, listed with [AKC Canine Partners](#) or enrolled in the Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) program. AKC does not train or certify therapy dogs.

Applications for the new titles will be accepted beginning June 1st, with titles awarded beginning July 1st.

To apply for a title or learn more about the AKC Therapy Dog program, visit <http://www.akc.org/dogowner/therapy/index.cfm>.





## DON'T LEAVE YOUR DOG IN A HOT CAR!



When it's only 80 degrees outside, a car can heat up to more than 120 degrees in just minutes. In that kind of heat, a dog could easily die. That's why the American Kennel Club recommends that dog owners never leave their dog alone in a car during warm weather.

For additional tips on canine summer care, request AKC's *Canine Summer Safety Tips* by contacting Customer Service at (919) 233-9767 or [orderdesk@akc.org](mailto:orderdesk@akc.org).

[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)



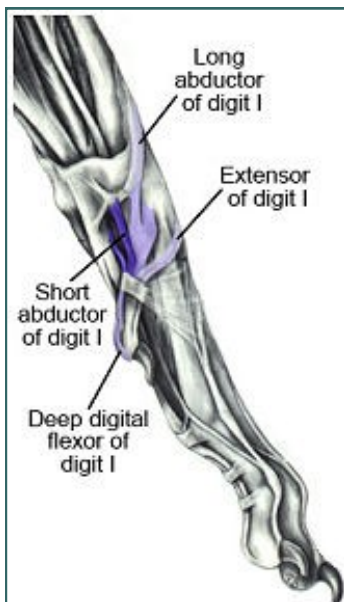
AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB™



## DO THE DEW(CLAWS)?

M. Christine Zink DVM, PhD, DACVSMR

I work exclusively with canine athletes, developing rehabilitation programs for injured dogs or dogs that required surgery as a result of performance-related injuries. I have seen many dogs now, especially field trial/hunt test and agility dogs, that have had chronic carpal arthritis, frequently so severe that they have to be retired or at least carefully managed for the rest of their careers. Of the over 30 dogs I have seen with carpal arthritis, only one has had dewclaws.



**Figure 1.** Anatomical diagram viewing the medial side of a dog's left front leg demonstrating the five tendons that attach to the dewclaw.  
--from *Miller's Guide to the Dissection of the Dog*

If you look at an anatomy book (Miller's Guide to the Anatomy of Dogs is an excellent one – see Figure 1 below)

you will see that there are 2 major, functioning tendons attached to the dewclaw. Of course, at the other end of a tendon is a muscle, and that means that if you cut off the dew claws, there are major muscle bundles that will become atrophied from disuse.

Those muscles indicate that the dewclaws have a function. That function is to prevent torque on the leg. Each

time the foot lands on the ground, particularly when the dog is cantering or galloping (see Figure 2), the dewclaw

is in touch with the ground. If the dog then needs to turn, the dewclaw digs into the ground to support the lower

leg and prevent torque. If the dog doesn't have a dewclaw, the leg twists. A lifetime of that and the result can be

carpal arthritis, or perhaps injuries to other joints, such as the elbow, shoulder and toes. Remember: the dog is doing the activity regardless, and the pressures on the leg have to go somewhere.

Perhaps you are thinking, "None of my dogs have ever had carpal pain or arthritis." Well, we need to remember that dogs, by their very nature, do not tell us about mild to moderate pain. If a dog was to be asked by an emergency room nurse to give the level of his pain on a scale from 0 to 10, with 10 being the worst, their scale





would be 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. Most of our dogs, especially if they deal with pain that is of gradual onset, just

deal with it and don't complain unless it is excruciating. But when I palpate the carpal joints of older dogs without

dewclaws, I frequently can elicit pain with relatively minimal manipulation.

As to the possibility of injuries to dew claws. Most veterinarians will say that such injuries actually are not very

common at all. And if they do occur, then they are dealt with like any other injury. In my opinion, it is far better to

deal with an injury than to cut the dew claws off of all dogs "just in case."



**Figure 2.** In this galloping dog, the dewclaw is in touch with the ground. If the dog then needs to turn to the right, the dewclaw digs into the ground to support the lower leg and prevent torque.

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Chris Zink DVM, PhD, DACVSMR, CVSMT, CAC

Zink Integrative Sports Medicine

Canine Sports Productions, Inc.



## LITTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Katons Coal and Mia



### 1 Black Female available

Sire: Katelyn's Coalhouse. OFA good, elbows normal, EIC carrier, PRA clear, and CNM clear.

Dam: Katons Miracle Mia. OFA excellent, elbows normal, EIC clear, PRA clear, and CNM clear.

Born March 20, 2014 and will be ready to go to their new homes in middle May.

Contact:

Jim Griffin at [katonslabradors@yahoo.com](mailto:katonslabradors@yahoo.com)



## LITTER ANOUNCEMENTS

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PUPPIES DUE JUNE 4TH. BLACK AND MAYBE A YELLOW OR TWO

Lachlan Oasis by Delian

OFA Good, OFA Elbows, EIC Clear, Cerf

By

BISS MEX & INT CH Hyspire Who Dat from Breckin

OFA Good, OFA Elbows, Optigen Clear, Cerf, OFA Heart

[www.lachlanlabs.com](http://www.lachlanlabs.com)

678-234-8841

[oherntc@bellsouth.net](mailto:oherntc@bellsouth.net)



## Newsletter Disclaimer

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Although GALRC believes the information on this newsletter to be correct and attempt to keep the information current, GALRC does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of any information. The information is not advice, and should not be treated as such.

GALRC makes no representations whatsoever about the products or prices asked in the Lab Yard Sale section. The representations are exclusively those of the seller and have not been investigated by us for accuracy. The ads are for the convenience of our members. All transactions are solely between buyer and seller.

### YOU OWN A LABRADOR RETRIEVER IF...

You have rust rings on all your kitchen counters from putting the trashcans up there.

You regularly clean out 50 tennis balls from under the couch.

All of your trashcans are bungy-corded.

Your gate is bungy-corded to prevent your lab from popping the latch again.

You have a big supply of bungy-cords for all occasions.

Every piece of clothing you own, the sofa, the bed, and anything soft has lab fur all over it.

You have a plastic kiddie wading pool in your backyard.

You regularly find big paw prints on your kitchen counters.

Every squeaky and fleece toy is missing the squeakers and stuffing.

You have broken or mangled at least one finger(or torn rotator cuff)on a lea sh when your lab spotted "prey" he wanted to chase.

You have to buy a bigger bed to accommodate the new lab.

You have to buy an extra pillow to accommodate the new lab.

You buy a SUV to take your lab and his lab friends to the lake/river/ocean.

Your backyard looks similar to an archaeological dig, complete with Dinosaur bones.

Your floor is covered with dog drool and/or water from sloppy drinking labs.

To Be Continued....

