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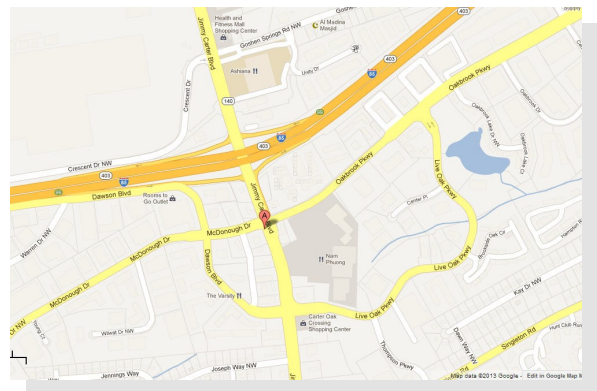
SEPTEMBER CLUB MEETING

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 17TH.

New 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.

New Members

Our President, the board of directors, and the members of the club welcome Nicole Hare as a new member to the club.



BRAGS

CAN CH VAN DALEN'S DISCO BISCUIT @ RAMBO RUN



Disco finished her Canadian Championship on August 15th and then took Best puppy in specialty show at the Labradors Retriever Club Of Ontario.

Disco is out of our litter from Sierra and Blaze and owned by Jeff Moore in Pennsylvania.

Laura



GALRC SANCTIONED B MATCH

Match Date: Sept. 29, 2013
Location: Tumlin Park.
400 Chestnut Hill Rd. Marietta, Ga.
Entries: \$10. per dog. Entries will be taken from 12:30 - 2:00 PM
Judging Start time: 2:00 PM
Match Judge Tom Ohern

Match Entry Form

Entry fee: \$10.00

Dog's Name:

Sex:

Class (circle one)

3 to 6

6 to 9

9 to 12

Adult

Owner's Name:

Please bring this form to the match



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anyone with raffle items for our specialty should call Dale at 404-626-1835.

Members interested in next years' board please contact Tom O'Hern at oherntc@bellsouth.net



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.



Invites you to join us in Florida for a Parent Club Regional Specialty Friday,

December 13, 2013

Orange County Convention Center

Orlando, Florida

Judge: Mrs. Marion Lyons, Chocorua Labradors

Juniors Judge: Mr. Chuck Winslow, Bartestree Labradors

Superintendent: Jack Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC

www.onofrio.com

also, Visit our award winning Meet the Breeds Booth

www.thelabradorclub.com

Don't miss at the same location:

December 10th Space Coast KC of Palm Bay

December 11th Brevard KC

December 12th Central FL. KC

December 14-15th AKC/Eukanuba



USDA/APHIS REGULATIONS

Background

Why is APHIS making changes to the Animal Welfare Act?

Regulators at the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) have received numerous complaints about substandard/unscrupulous Internet sales of pets and have been tasked with addressing that issue. The AKC shares their concerns about substandard operations.

What is a rule change and how does it work?

A rule or regulation is different from legislation. The law is already on the books so we *have to work within the confines of an administrative—rather than legislative—process*.

The administrative process involves a public comment period in which stakeholders and concerned individuals have the opportunity to comment on a proposed rule, before the rule is finalized. AKC has been very involved in this process since the announcement of the proposed rule in May 2012.

When did AKC first learn about this? Has the AKC done any outreach?

Since the rule was first proposed in May 2012, the AKC has made significant efforts to educate APHIS on the concerns. This includes [a petition with over 70,000 signatures](#), [providing alerts](#) to breeders and dog owners encouraging them to participate in the public comment period, and [submitting extensive comments to APHIS](#). This is in addition to reaching out to key members of Congress, the US Department of Agriculture, and the White House.

The AKC continues to work with APHIS to communicate questions and obtain clarifications. We appreciate that APHIS has continued to communicate with us and help us answer questions on this regulation. Keep checking this page for the latest information and updates.

What is the background of this rule and is the AKC opposed?

The United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)'s finalized version of [new federal regulations that expand the definition of a "retail pet store"](#) is designed to license and regulate internet-based pet breeders and sellers as "dealers" under the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The rule expands USDA oversight of pet breeders to include people who maintain more than four "breeding females" of any species and sell even one pet "sight unseen" by *any* means. The rule was initially proposed in May 2012 and has since that time been the subject of extensive objections by the AKC and other groups and individuals concerned about the future of responsibly bred dogs and small/hobby breeders. The final version of this rule remains largely unchanged in content, although certain key clarifications have been made with respect to the concerns of breeders.

The AKC's concerns stand regarding the lack of definition of a breeding female, the overly broad nature of this reg-



ulation, and the imposition of commercial standards on small hobby/ breeders, and a variety of other issues. [Read AKC's latest Legislative Alert](#) for more information on our specific objections to the rule.

What changes did this rule make to the Animal Welfare Act?

It redefines the term "retail pet store" and removes certain exemptions allowing breeders who sell pets at retail (as opposed to wholesale) to avoid USDA commercial breeder/dealer regulation.

It increases the hobby breeder exemption from 3 to 4 the number of "breeding females" that a person may maintain on their premises and from which they may sell offspring as pets, either at retail or wholesale, without being subject to USDA regulation. [View the "Details on New Rule" for more information on what this means and how it applies to those who sell puppies sight unseen.](#)

Details on New Rule

Is this rule retroactive? When does the new rule go into effect?

The rule is not retroactive and will go into effect 60 days after it is published in the Federal Register. APHIS has committed to working with breeders to help them understand the new rule and whether they need to come into compliance. There is no need to make immediate and drastic changes. Please review these FAQs and other resources [on our resource page](#) to understand if the rule will apply to you. For specific questions, we encourage you to contact Dr. Gerald Rushin with APHIS at (301) 851-3751.

How do I know if this rule applies to me?

This rule applies to those who ***maintain more than four "breeding females" AND sell a puppy as a pet "sight unseen" or sell to a third party (wholesale).*** This means that the buyer must actually see the puppy in person prior to the purchase. If you are concerned about buyers coming to your home, you may arrange a location to meet the buyer and allow them to see the puppy.

If you have fewer than five breeding females, and/or allow buyers to see the puppy in person prior to purchase, then this rule does not apply to you.

If you wish to own more than 4 "breeding females" and sell the offspring as pets and do not wish to be regulated, you may avoid regulation by selling all your dogs in a face-to-face transaction. A face-to-face transaction includes one where the seller and buyer are physically present and the buyer has the opportunity to observe the animal before taking custody of it.

Are there any exemptions to this rule?

The new definition of dealer subject to USDA licensing and regulation includes *"any dog... for research, testing, experimentation, exhibition*, or for use as a pet, or any dog sold at the wholesale level for hunting, security or breeding purposes"*. (*exhibition as defined in the AWA excludes purebred cat and dog shows).

The rule seems to indicate that if you are selling a dog as a breeding prospect, to maintain bloodlines, or for



hunting, working, or security, you would be exempt. If you are selling the dog as a pet, you would not be exempt. It is important that the seller be able to clearly demonstrate their purpose in selling the dog at the time of sale. ***However, additional clarification from USDA is needed on this point.***

You are also exempt if you sell the dog in a face-to-face transaction.

Will this rule limit the number of dogs I can own?

No. The rule does not limit the number of dogs a person may keep, breed or sell. It is designed to regulate under the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA) those who sell dogs as pets over the internet or "sight-unseen".

Enforcement

What if USDA identifies a breeder as being subject to licensure and out of compliance?

After the rule goes into effect, USDA has told the AKC that they understand there will be a significant amount of time needed for them to prepare to enforce the rule and is not providing a time certain by which breeders must come into compliance.

The USDA has indicated that when they locate a person they believe to be out of compliance their first step will be to send a letter asking for information and to help determine whether they need to be licensed. They will then work with that person to come into compliance. You will not be immediately fined or punished. For more information on pre-licensing visit the USDA/APHIS Animal Care website: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/

How will APHIS find out if I fall under this new rule? Will AKC be providing registrant contact information?

All of AKC's records are confidential and AKC will not share your information. The AKC urges all responsible dog owners to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

My state regulates breeders. Will this supersede state law?

This will depend on your individual state laws. Contact the appropriate state agency for specific questions. AKC encourages breeders and dog owners to be in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations and laws.

What should I be doing right now if I think this rule will apply to me?

USDA/APHIS is asking individuals who believe they may fall under the new rules to self-identify and have indicated a commitment to work directly with individuals to determine whether their particular case would make them subject to new regulation. You will not be punished or targeted if you contact them. They are committed to answering questions and helping breeders understand the rule, not targeting specific dog owners who are genuinely trying to understand and be in compliance.

For specific questions, contact Dr. Gerald Rushin with APHIS at (301) 851-3751.



HEALTH NEWS

PRA in the Labrador Retriever update August 27, 2013

A recent article in the [Purina Pro Club](#) newsletter highlights the importance of both DNA and clinical eye exams to ensure the visual health of Labrador retrievers. Although the vast majority of PRA cases in the Labrador retriever are due to the prcd-PRA mutation, there is growing evidence that at least one other form of PRA occurs in the breed. This is just one reason that OptiGen strongly encourages owners to have their Labradors examined by veterinary ophthalmologists, even after prcd testing has been completed. OptiGen supports ongoing PRA research through Free DNA testing of pedigreed Labradors (and other breeds) that have been diagnosed with PRA by a board certified veterinary ophthalmologist. For more information see [OptiGen's Research page](#).



THE JOURNEY: GROWING AS A CARETAKER OF THE BREED

Part 3: Two Lists—Hard Facts and Wishes For Breeders

by: Denise Hamel

How do we grow into mature breed experts and leave our novice thought patterns behind? Why do some succeed while others, who seem to do many of the same things, fall short of the mark? How do we plan and achieve sustained excellence and depth of quality in our breeding programs? To conclude this series of articles, here is a collection of thoughts on those and other related issues.

Hard Facts

The superiority of either animal in a given mating cannot wholly compensate for lack of quality in the other.

A great, pre-potent stud dog, carefully chosen, can upgrade the offspring of a mediocre bitch considerably. This is very helpful in the slow process of "breeding up" one's breeding stock. However, the first generation of improved offspring will still face an uphill battle in competition against the same stud dog's get from top quality bitches.

Owners of poor quality bitches often count on luck to provide a miraculous nick in breeding, which will produce offspring of top quality. If such a bitch is unable to produce substantially better than herself in a mating to a known producer, however, expecting quality get from her constitutes self-delusion.

Decline in one's breeding program is inevitable if one doesn't pay attention to keeping the bitch line strong. Once deep quality is lost, the road back is a hard one. It's far better to swallow one's pride, and to buy new stock,

than to limp along breeding poor quality bitches. Breeding up is possible if one is ruthless and committed to a two to three generation plan to improve one's animals, but one may still find oneself behind the curve unless all breeding decisions have been exceptional. It's a fatal trap to care more about having one's kennel name on one's dogs, and to be listed as the breeder of record, than to remove one's ego from the equation long enough to acknowledge the decline in quality that has taken place, and to seek to remedy the situation.

Speaking of one's first dog or bitch as "my line" is an honest error made by many inexperienced dog people. Such a dog or bitch was undoubtedly purchased from others, and so represents other breeding programs than one's own. A line is actually the most advanced representation of a breeder's art, the point at which his or her stock has a recognizable type, and breeds true for certain dominant characteristics.



Conditioning, grooming, and presentation can have an impact on a dog's success in competition. Nevertheless, never confuse issues of weight, conditioning, and grooming with the hallmarks of quality in a dog. A good dog is always a good dog, whether overweight, out of condition, poorly groomed, or the converse—he can lose weight, and add muscle, and it will only enhance his natural attributes. By the same token, a poor specimen cannot be fundamentally improved by grooming techniques, extra weight, or his state of conditioning, because these superficial treatments cannot change his structure and lack of quality. By all means, present your dog as well as you can in order to be competitive, but never fool yourself into believing that he is better than he is.

Winning too easily from the start is a drawback to development as a serious breeder. Every fault displayed by one's first animals, every difficulty, and every misstep provide a valuable learning experience in the growth of one's maturity as a breeder.

Dollars spent on breeding are no guarantee of quality in the resulting litter. Similarly, the glamour factor should not dictate one's decision to keep a puppy. Just because the breeding was a costly one to an imported dog, or a dog located on the other side of the country, or the day's big winner, or one carrying a glamorous kennel name, it doesn't follow that the results will automatically be good.

The obvious, predictable choice for a breeding isn't necessarily the best. Just because many people have bred to a dog, or he's the current hot favorite, doesn't mean he's right for your bitch. By the same token, a local dog may offer convenience and lowered expenses, but may offer nothing else of value; far better to save your money, and do fewer, more thoughtfully considered breeding's.

Many people end up keeping only descendants of their original foundation animal. If any hereditary illness crops up, all their animals are related, and their entire breeding program is at risk. It's good to pay attention to the need for pedigree diversity.

It's poor form to complain to other breeders about the work involved in rearing a healthy litter. Always remember that it's far better to have puppies to care for than the alternative.

Making a profit on a litter is not a sin, and there's no particular virtue in going into debt on a litter. Just make certain that money isn't the only reason that litters have been bred.

The good son of a popular stud dog will serve as an advertisement for his sire. It's unlikely that his services will be used much if his sire is in the same area, unless his tail female line constitutes a positive offering for bitch owners.

Pretty on paper does not necessarily equal pretty in fact. If it did, we could all just show laminated pedigrees in the ring, and forget about showing actual dogs altogether.

Titles—of any sort—are not hereditary.

The test of a true breeder is to look at a litter that he or she has spent a fortune producing, and had high hopes for, and to decide that there's nothing worth keeping in the bunch—and to be ruthless



enough to act on that realization.

Even the poorest pet quality puppy can be adorable. You must evaluate litters as a breeder, leaving emotional attachments aside. As a correlative, no matter how perfect you think your first litter is, there's probably a lot of room for improvement.

If you breed a litter with good ones in it, and can't sort the puppies out correctly, and choose the best, you still won't get anywhere.

The chance of any litter being "all show quality" is slim. Saying it doesn't make it so.

Dogs are living creatures, and nature is cruel. If you stick with breeding long enough, you will produce orthopedic, eye, and heart problems, and suffer your share of midline birth defects, bite problems, and less critical problems such as missing teeth and mismarks. These will happen no matter what precautions you take. To say, "I never have any health problems in my litters" is to reveal one's arrogance, grounded in inexperience.

Depth of health clearances on both sides of a pedigree is no guarantee that puppies will be healthy. Novices who expect breeding to be like preparing a simple recipe (Take one OFA Good dog, mix well with one OFA Excellent bitch, etc, etc) are destined to be disappointed. If one cannot cope with the very real potential of producing problems in every breeding undertaken, one should not breed, as it's definitely not an enterprise suited to the faint of heart or to control freaks.

No matter how much effort you've devoted to breeding, a problem-free litter isn't an entitlement, nor is it necessarily evidence of the superiority of the dogs involved, or your own moral superiority, or of your husbandry skills as a breeder. The most conscientious of breeders can and do have disaster litters.

Soundness is one of the essential elements to consider in dog breeding, but one needs to be sure that one is breeding more than clearances; one must, at all times, breed DOGS. As a correlative, just because a dog has many health clearances doesn't mean that it necessarily has enough quality to be bred.

Rigidity is a quality best suited to building materials, not to breeders' attitudes.

A sense of humor is essential.

Wish List For Breeders

May you start with a good enough, typical Labrador to have some success and not face outright discouragement from the start. May you have enough faults in your first dogs to teach you humility, and to force you to begin a lifelong quest to improve and learn more. May you discover the spark of commitment within that burns brightest in the face of adversity, and which has the power to light your way to becoming a true breeder. May you never think you know it all. May you never be satisfied with what you've achieved, or settle for mediocrity. May you never substitute jealousy over others' successes for work to make your own mark in the breed. May you have the courage to start over if necessary. May you savor the friendship and support of at least one experienced fellow breeder, whose judgment you trust, and one



who can act as a sounding board, provide objectivity, help with brainstorming, and who consistently challenges you to higher achievement. May your breeder friends celebrate your successes with you, and understand your burdens. May you face enough setbacks and obstacles to challenge you to study harder, and to force you to put down deep roots in the pursuit of excellence. The evidence of your hard work will be apparent to others when this deep foundation allows your breeding program to burst into full bloom. May you use the periods when successes are few and far between for reflection, changing direction if necessary, and to re-group. A fallow period used wisely can be prologue to a great leap forward.

Finally, may you be ever mindful of the fact that our actions today are shaping the Labrador breed of the future. May all your breeding endeavors be worthy of these noble dogs, whose fate, for good or ill, lies squarely in our hands.

-The End-



AVAILABLE

Puppy Announcement

Lachlan's Oasis By Delian is expecting puppies by CH Nipntuck Stocking Stuffer

Lachlan's Dark Song is expecting puppies by CH Hyspire Hotter than Blazes

Puppies due the first week in October.

Thank You

Tom

www.lachlanlabs.com

678-234-8841



Newsletter Disclaimer

The information contained in this Newsletter is for information purposes only and does not constitute a solicitation or an offer to sell products or services.

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.

WASTEBASKET: This is a dog toy filled with paper, envelopes and old candy wrappers. It is important to evenly distribute its contents throughout the house before your person comes home.

BATH: If you find something especially good to roll in, humans get jealous and they use this degrading form of torture to get even. Be sure to shake only when next to a person or a piece of furniture.

LEAN: Every good dog's response to the command "sit!" especially if your person is dressed for an evening out. Incredibly effective before black-tie events.

BUMP: The best way to get your human's attention when they are drinking a fresh cup of coffee or tea.

GOOSE BUMP: A maneuver to use as a last resort when the regular bump doesn't get the attention you require...especially effective when combined with the sniff. See above.

CHILDREN: Short humans of optimal petting height. Standing close to one assures some good petting. When running, they are good to chase. If they fall down, they are comfortable to sit on.

LOVE: A feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction. The best way you can show your love is to wag your tail. If you're lucky, a human will love you in return.

