Volume 5, Issue 4 October 2012 OCTOBER 2012

OFFICERS PRESIDENT BARRY STAPLES

VICE PRESIDENT SHANNON CARLTON

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY JULIA KUNI

RECORDING SEC-RETARY LINDA REHKOPF

TREASURER KRISTINE HAMPSON

DIRECTORS LUNDI JOHNSON SYLVIA GAY LINDA JORDAN

LAB E G E R

Barry Staples





	The Carlot of th
INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT	2
GALRC SPECIALTY WINNERS	3-4
MEMBERSHIP AND WEB	5
CERF	6-7
DEVOCALIZATION; POINT	8-9
DEVOCALIZATION; COUNTERPOINT	10-12
BRAGS	13
PUPPIES AND OLDERS	14
REQUEST AND THANKS	15
GA CANINE COALITION	16-18

PRESIDENT'SLETTER

October has been a very busy month for the Club. Our Specialty show and supported entry have been successfully completed, our Club year has come an end and our new board and officers have been nominated.

Thank you to all of the people who helped make this year successful. It is not only the service of our officers and Board that makes us better. Many of you worked tirelessly behind the scenes. You don't always get the recognition you deserve, but without your help, we would not have been able to function. We appreciate the fact that you all have lives apart from Labradors and we are grateful that you took time out from your primary activities to help us.

Thanks to the many people who showed and thanks all of you who came just to support us and did not show. We were very glad that you came and we hope you will all come back next year. It is good to see you each year.

It has been a pleasure for us to work with our members and we are looking forward to the upcoming year.

Barry Staples

GALRC Specialty Winners 10/18/2012

Best of Breed - 2012

CH Briarwood's Eye On The Prize M Hendricks & S & P Sellers

Best of Opposite to Breed - 2012

CH Seawind's Christmas Bells

P Ireland

Best of Winners - 2012

Carriage Hill's Whoops A Daisy

N & J Martin

Winners Bitch - 2012

Carriage Hill's Whoops A Daisy

N & J Martin

Reserve Winners Bitch - 2012

Upland's Dance On Ice

B & D Staples

Winners Dog - 2012

Dutch Hollow's High Roller S McMillian & D Jamison

Reserve Winners Dog - 2012

Gemstone's Prospector At Oseay

D Eddy

Best Veteran - 2012

CH Valcar's Lights Out At Stoney Brook

B & D Staples

CONT.....

GALRC Specialty Winners 10/18/2012

Best Puppy - 2012

Upland's Shop Til You Drop

B & D Staples

Best in Sweeps - 2012

Lochbuie Carenna Islay

J Kuni

Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Sweeps - 2012

Moonlit's King Of The Night

S Bennington

Best Bred By - 2012

Upland's Dance On Ice

B & D Staples

Shannon Carlton
Sheabourne Labradors
www.Sheabourne Labs.com

MEMBERSHIP & WEB

Membership DUES Reminder

NAME.

Our membership dues for 2013 will be due starting 11/1/12.

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

TYTUVIL.	
ADDRESS:	
PHONE:	
EMAIL:	

Please make checks out to GALRC and mail to Julia Kuni

5145 Kent Rock Rd Loganville, GA 30052

GALRC WEBSITE

The GALRC website is getting a facelift thanks to member Jean McLain. Included in this revamping will be a new member breeder's directory. This will allow the public to locate breeders who are club members. To be included, please send the following information to Jean at jean@galrc.com, using the following format.

Kennel Name:

Contact Person:

Website:

Email Address:

Phone:

General Info: brief

Puppies Available: Dates – Yes/No – Frequency

CERF

October 5, 2012

Dear CERF Breeder,

In light of the recent OFA press release, CERF would like to take a moment to share some information on how this may affect your registration process.

OFA and the ACVO Board of Regents have partnered to establish a new Eye Registry through OFA. This new registry is a separate organization from CERF. CERF will continue its working relationship with OFA, ACVO Diplomates and continue to service our dog breeders. You can continue to request CERF examinations when making appointments with your ACVO Ophthalmologist. The Canine Eye Registration Foundation through its purebred and hybrid registry and research data bases provides breeders and Veterinary Ophthalmologists unique tools by which to help ensure the ocular health of dogs as well as a means to investigate potential ocular diseases in dogs. Only through your continued support of CERF are we able to collect these data and to provide these valuable services.

Will there be any differences between the OFA's Eye Certification Registry and CERF? Yes! OFA will use their existing policy for posting exam results. Their policy is: All normal/passing results are considered public domain information and will post and display on the OFA's website. Dogs with observable, but passing conditions (currently known as Breeder Option Codes) will have their results posted and released into the public domain, including the specific notation.

Cerf will continue using their current policy for posting exam results. The breeder has the option to release or withhold their registration information to the public.

We are in the process of redesigning our databases, expanding our web presence and adding other features to improve access to CERF data. We have hired an external consultant for a fresh perspective and assessment of the areas in which we can improve. We are firmly committed to providing the highest quality of service. I strongly believe that CERF has the knowledge and experience needed to provide a superior experience.

CERF is now on Facebook!! Please take a moment to "like" our page and check back for any updates. http://www.facebook.com/pages/Canine-Eye-Registration-Foundation-CERF/130747340405526
Canine Eye Registration Foundation- CERF. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your continued support,

Robert Malinowski, DVM, DACVO President VMDB/CERF

CERF

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING CERF AND THE NEW OFA EYE CERTIFICATION REGISTRY

Is the OFA Eye Certification Registry (ECR) replacing CERF? Is CERF going away?

CERF and OFA have always had a collaborative working relationship. However, this new registry is a separate organization from CERF. <u>CERF is not merging with OFA</u>, nor are we being acquired by OFA. CERF will remain an independent entity and will continue its close working relationship with OFA and ACVO Diplomates.

How will this transition affect those breeds including CERF as one of their CHIC requirements? CERF will continue to send a weekly submission to OFA that still meets CHIC requirements.

<u>Will the OFA continue to display CERF results on their website?</u> OFA has stated they will continue to accept and display all CERF registration information.

Is my Ophthalmologist aware of the transition? All ACVO Diplomates have been notified of the new OFA Eye Registry and they will now have the choice of what Eye Registry they prefer. You can continue to request CERF examinations when making appointments with your ACVO ophthalmologist.

Are there any differences between CERF and OFA's Eye Certification Registry? CERF allows our breeders to make an informed choice as to whether they would like their CERF results made available in the public domain. OFA is following its existing policy for posting results which is: All normal/passing results are considered public domain information and will be posted and displayed on the OFA's website. Dogs with observable, but passing conditions (currently known as Breeder Option Codes) will have their results posted and released into the public domain, including the specific notation. There is no option to keep a passing observable breeder option code condition confidential while releasing the passing certification number. Non-passing results will only be posted and released if the owner authorizes disclosure. The exam protocol, interpretation of results, and fees are all the same.

Since there are no significant differences in registering results with CERF or OFA, what are the benefits of one over the other? CERF has over 30 years of experience and valuable data; we have the knowledge and expertise needed to provide superior results. CERF is currently in the process of redesigning our databases, expanding our web presence and adding other features to improve timely access to CERF data. Earlier this year CERF went to a "live" statistical database and our reports are available as we get our research data from the ACVO Diplomates.

<u>How can I request a report from CERF?</u> You can send in a web request at <u>www.vmdb.org</u> or you may contact the CERF office at 217-693-4800. All reports are free of charge to any breeder that has a current registration on file.

change.org

Started by: Sue Perry

It's hard to believe, but some vets actually cut the vocal cords of dogs and cats just to suppress their voices. We know because it happened to our dogs before we adopted them. They're two very different breeds—a Newfoundland and a Chihuahua—and we live in two different states. We joined with Coalition to Protect and Rescue Pets, which led the successful campaign to ban devocalization in Massachusetts, to make sure no other dog or cat anywhere is subjected to this horrific surgery.

Porter, a gentle giant, was devocalized and just two years later, his owner no longer wanted him so gave him to a rescue group. It's painful to hear him rasp, cough and gag throughout the day like a chain smoker.

Though an experienced vet devocalized Porter in the <u>least</u> invasive way, scar tissue formed in his throat, making it difficult for him to breathe and swallow; we have to water down his food so he won't choke to death, and he risks heatstroke even when it's not hot. Devocalization permanently damaged his larynx too. We worry constantly that Porter may inhale food, liquids, even vomit into his lungs and die of pneumonia.

Tiny Lola also was devocalized before being abandoned; we fell in love with her despite her strange voice. Lola struggles to force out a bark and doesn't always succeed. When she does, she often sounds like a bird chirping and whistling. Like other devocalized animals, Lola coughs and gags a lot. One day she may have to face the same \$2,000 reparative surgery Porter needed to save his life.

That's brutal punishment for the "crime" of communicating!

THE AVMA SHOULD TAKE AN UNEQUIVOCAL STAND AGAINST DEVOCALIZATION!

As the nation's leading veterinary association, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) has the influence to put an end to this horror. We urge it to do so.

Though devocalization is widely considered an act of cruelty, the AVMA continues to condone it as a "final alternative" to manage barking. That leaves animals vulnerable to and legitimizes this dangerous, needless surgery.

CO										
GU	NI	 _	 _	_	_	_	_	_	_	

No vet can possibly know if devocalization is a "<u>final</u> alternative," and some won't ask. Even receipts from a trainer or behaviorist don't mean the advice was followed consistently or at all; devocalization is easier for lazy or impatient owners.

And just as devocalization didn't keep our dogs from becoming homeless, it hasn't prevented the surrender, abandonment and euthanasia of countless other devocalized dogs and cats. Animals face tremendous risks without any benefit.

WHY IS THE AVMA'S POSITION SO IMPORTANT?

Devocalization should be illegal everywhere as it is in Europe and Massachusetts. But though other states have tried to ban it, they failed. We wish veterinary associations had supported laws that would have prohibited vocal cord surgery except to treat a physical illness, injury or birth defect.

Instead, they opposed this humane legislation, using the AVMA's "final alternative" position to justify cutting an animal's vocal cords to deal with barking or meowing.

Why would any vet condone such cruelty? It's obvious that some devocalize dogs and cats because it's profitable. Others won't devocalize but oppose banning it anyway. It could be they fear these laws would lead to prohibition of other unnecessary, mutilating surgeries like declawing, cropping ears and docking tails.

Please don't let this brutality continue. Tell the AVMA: There is no ethical reason to cut vocal cords just to stifle an animal's voice—ever. Devocalization is an act of cruelty that no animal deserves, no vet should perform, no veterinary association should sanction, and no civilized society should allow.

Click here to sign Sue Perry 's petition, "Tell Veterinarians: Devocalization is Mutilation!".

You can also check out other popular petitions on Change.org by clicking here.

If you have concerns or feedback, click here to flag this petition.

Sue Perry and Karen Mahmud, who created this petition, is not affiliated with Change.org. Change.org did not create and is not responsible for the petition content.

When Porter, a 123-pound black Newfoundland, attempts to bark, it comes out as a raspy cough. When Lola, a 6-pound long-haired Chihuahua, tries, she emits only a whispery squeak.

Both dogs have been "devocalized," or surgically muffled, using a controversial procedure regarded as either barbaric mutilation by lazy pet owners -- or as the last resort of animal lovers desperate to keep their furry companions.

Porter's owner, Sue Perry, a 58-year-old Connecticut bookkeeper, and Lola's owner, Karen Mahmud, a 43-year-old New York nutrition blogger, fall squarely into the first camp. They're part of the Coalition to Protect and Rescue Pets, an activist group that helped get the practice known as "debarking" or "devoicing" outlawed in Massachusetts two years ago. Now they have set their sights on the American Veterinary Medical Association.

"I was just horrified by this," said Perry, who adopted Porter from a rescue agency five years ago. "When he tried to bark, I was, like, 'What the heck?"

Though they've never met in person, the two women have joined to launch an online petition demanding that the AVMA, the nation's leading group of veterinarians, condemn devocalization when the organization reviews its policy on the procedure later this year. So far, more than 125,000 people have signed onto their cause.

"It's very, very upsetting," said Mahmud, who also got Lola from a rescue group and says she watches the tiny dog suffer with constant coughing and acting like there's something stuck in her throat. "I would never think that it's OK to put a dog under needless torture. If a dog barks, a dog barks."

But that point of view is vigorously opposed by groups such as the National Animal Interest Alliance, an animal welfare organization in Portland, Ore., and by dog experts such as Charlotte McGowan, a Boston-area dog breeder and noted American Kennel Club honoree who has judged at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show.

To advocates, the procedure is a rarely performed, simple operation that can allow an owner to quiet incessant barking that may lead to eviction, friction with neighbors or stress so intense it makes them want to get rid of the pet -- or worse.

"It's giving a tool to someone who really loves their animal and is at the end of their rope," said McGowan, who refers to the procedure as "bark softening" and says it doesn't totally eliminate a dog's ability to make noise.

McGowan, 68, said she has had dogs debarked herself during more than 40 years of breeding and believes the procedure is both safe and effective, with no lasting damage to the animals.

Though there are behavioral interventions and techniques to stop problem barking, some dogs are resistant to training, McGowan said.

"You hate to take a dog out of a home where it's loved just because it barks," she said.

On the surface, the new petition, posted by Change.org, is aimed at influencing the AVMA's policy on debarking. The group currently opposes the practice in general, but says devocalization may be used when other efforts have failed as a "final alternative" to relinquishing or euthanizing an animal.

Perry and Mahmud believe the AVMA's reach is so broad, representing more than 82,500 veterinarians in the U.S., that the group should take the lead in opposing devocalization in the U.S. In Europe, they note, debarking is illegal.

"Until the AVMA changes their position, they're condoning it, saying it's OK as a last resort," Perry said.

But Sheilah Robertson, a veterinarian and assistant director of the AVMA's Animal Welfare Division, notes that the AVMA may have influence, but it has no ability to set laws or enforce bans.

"We just make strong recommendations," Robertson said.

Other animal groups in the U.S., such as the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, or ASPCA, do oppose the practice outright. That group "does not support the use of surgical procedures that attempt to circumvent the behavior issue while exposing pets to unnecessary discomfort and risk," the agency said in a statement.

At issue is the procedure known as venticulocordectomy, which involves removal of an animal's vocal cords either by going through the mouth or through an incision in the throat, according to the AVMA.

It's used to quiet dogs -- and cats, some say -- who are too loud or incessantly noisy. Experts say dogs bark excessively for many reasons: poor training, boredom, social isolation, in response to external stimulation, to protect territory and because of anxiety or compulsive disorder.

Though debarking is regarded as a simple, fairly inexpensive procedure -- about \$400 to \$500 -- critics say it deprives animals of their natural ability to communicate and poses physical problems from scar tissue that can impair breathing, eating and other normal activities.

Many veterinarians refuse to perform the procedure and Robertson said it's no longer taught in veterinary schools. That's because it's rarely a medically necessary procedure, said Joel Woolfson, a veterinary surgeon in private practice in Medway, Mass.

"My feeling is very strong that this procedure is done strictly for the convenience of people who don't want to hear or are annoyed by their pet's vocalizations," said Woolfson. "It has nothing to do with the health of the animal."

Rather, Woolfson added, the procedure is performed by pet owners seeking a "quick fix" who don't want to spend the time and energy to address the actual cause of the problem.

"It's the ones that are just too lazy to try other approaches," he said. "Or they are just insensitive to the fact that it's a procedure that can cause some suffering."

No one knows for certain how many devocalization surgeries are performed in the U.S. each year. It may be less than one-tenth of all dogs seen for office visits, according to background material for Ohio legislation aimed at banning debarking of vicious dogs.

Four states -- Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio -- have laws banning debarking under certain circumstances.

In Massachusetts, the law passed in 2010 was championed by the Coalition to Protect and Rescue Pets, the volunteer group that includes Perry and Mahmud.

In McGowan's view, such groups are often made up of activists who hold extreme views and rely on scare tactics to advance their goals.

"I found that the emotion and irrationality of the people opposing this was really hard to fathom," she said. "I got people who called me up and said We know where you live.' It was quite frightening."

McGowan notes that many of the same people are ardent supporters of spaying and neutering pets, both invasive surgical procedures that could be viewed as being performed because they benefit humans.

"Talk about what's cruel here," she said. "A convenient surgery is neutering your dog."

Robertson, of the AVMA, said the group's Animal Welfare Committee will consider many points of view, from scientific evidence to public opinion, when members review the debarking policy. Until then, although the heated discussion will continue, people who actually want to find a surgeon to debark a dog might have trouble, Robertson said.

"It's not commonly done," she said. "They'd have to look around pretty widely to find one."

By JoNel Aleccia, NBC News

BRAGS

Lochbuie Labradors is very pleased with our recent wins at our Greater Atlanta LRC and supported entry shows.

Lochbuie Carenna Islay was Best in Sweepstakes, owned and handled by Julia Kuni
Carenna Poppy, shown with Lochbuie Carenna Texas Tycoon and Carenna Lochbuie Texas Two Step won
the Brood Bitch class. Poppy was bred by Carol Quaif and owned by Julia Kuni and Carol Quaif.
On Friday, Lochbuie Carenna Texas Tycoon won the Open Black Dog class and was Winner's Dog. Owned
and loved by Karen Arlin ,and Julia Kuni. Handled by Lara Spears.

Cornerstone's Still Smoldering, bred by Sheree Paskert and owned by Carol Quaif and Sheree Paskert was Reserve Winners Bitch from the Open Yellow class under breeder judge Michael Wiest at the supported entry for Newnan Kennel Club on Sunday October 21.

We had a wonderful time last weekend:

Thursday - Specialty - Judge Pierrette McLean
Upland's Dance On Ice (Finley) won RWB
Valcar's Lights Out at Stoney Brook (Brighton) won Best Veteran for the 3rd year and retired the Trophy
Upland's Shop Til You Drop (Talbot) won Best Puppy

Saturday - Judge Sally Sasser Upland's Perfectly Wrapped (Christie) won WB and BOW to finish her Championship

DALE AND BARRY STAPLES

Saga, CH Bellathatch Story Continues, finished her Grand Championship, with Select Points at the GALRC Specialty, Oct 18, 2012.

Thanks! Flo Jones

PUPPIES & OLDERS

Lawrence and Marian Gardner, Dewberries Labradors, have the following Labs that need good homes:

Ruger Chocolate male; 1 1/2 years old; high energy and "driven"; obedient; fantastic leaper (not on people); would make a great working dog

Maria Chocolate female; 1 year old; high energy and "driven"; obedient and would make a great working dog; alpha, so prefer "only dog" home

Maynard Chocolate male; 6 month old; personality plus!

We also have 2 males, one Black (Banjo) and one Chocolate (Roux) in training with Chris Adams at Oak Bowery Kennels. They are started dogs and available for placement. You can see them on our website.

251-960-5317 www.dewberrieslabradors.com dewberries@gulftel.com

I have 4 6 mo. old black male puppies avail. All 4 are birdy but 2 in particular would be good enough for serious hunters or hunt test competitors wanting at least senior or master dogs.

Debbie Darche [leedspet@windstream.net]

REQUEST & THANKS

If anyone has had any experience with Addison's disease in puppies of any age or breed, please contact me. Debbie Darche DVM 205 640 7531 or leedspet@windstream.net

Thank you GALRC for inviting me to judge Sweeps on Sunday. I had a great time and really enjoyed having the privilege to go over some wonderful youngsters. Only one draw back to judging.... I would have liked to have given out more "first place ribbons"! Ooh and I have to mention my ring steward, I do not remember her name, but she did an awesome job and made everything flow smoothly. The best part was meeting back up with old friends I have not seen in a long time and meeting new ones!

Teresa Gordy

GA CANINE COALITION

October 6, 2012

Dear GCC Members,

As we look forward to the annual meeting on October 29, 2012, I wanted to take the time to thank our members for their support of the GCC during the past year. I also wanted to encourage other Georgia dog clubs to join us.

Our members are the strength of the GCC and the GCC could not do the work it does without your membership and donations. You are the reason we are able to continue the work of protecting our rights to own, breed and show dogs. Your donations make it possible for us to have an attorney on retainer who helps analyze legislation, write legislation we want to propose and assist with lobbying.

This mailing includes a final report on the 2012 Georgia General Assembly Session. The GCC was very busy during the Session on your behalf. We spent hours working on getting changes made to HB 685, the Dangerous Dog Bill, which would make it acceptable to our membership. The GCC was asked to comment on this Dangerous Dog Bill by the Atlanta Journal Constitution. The newspaper sent a photographer out to take pictures of my training with the dogs and they ran the picture with the article and the GCC comments. We were also asked to write a guest editorial for the AJC on the Dangerous Dog Bill and I was privileged to write the article on your behalf. The GCC has copies of both articles and if your Club wishes a copy, please let me know.

With the support of all of our members, we can defeat the legislation that might be harmful for dog owners and help pass the legislation that would be good for dog owners.

If you are a Club, we ask that you support us with membership and donations, and encourage your members to become individual members of the GCC. If you are an individual member, we ask that you encourage your friends to become members of the GCC. The cost of an individual membership is \$15.00 a year, less than the cost of an entry into a dog show.

The GCC appreciates the generous donations that our member Clubs and individual members make to help support our ongoing work on your behalf. At the AKC Legislative Conference this past January, I heard of various ways Clubs were donating to support their state Coalition or Federation. A number of Clubs have added either fifty cents or one dollar to their entry fee and designated that money to support their state organization. An explanation of this fee is printed in their catalog and on a poster at the shows. The overwhelming response from exhibitors has been supportive. We want to encourage your Club to take the step to add either fifty cents or one dollar to your entry fee with the money earmarked to support the GCC. We would be happy to provide you with a statement for your premium list and catalog explaining what this additional charge represents.

CONT

CANINE COALITION

A number of our Member Clubs give scholarship money to the University of Georgia Veterinary School. The GCC is supportive of this endeavor, but a retired faculty member has recommended that those Clubs and individuals donating scholarship money reword their student qualifying requirements to eliminate the term "demonstrated a financial need". If there is any reference to financial need, that is the top consideration that the Honors and Awards Committee uses to pick the recipient. Therefore, your scholarship could well go to someone who has no interest in practicing canine medicine or surgery. By tightening the requirements, you may help prevent a scholarship from going to a student who leans towards animal rights and only plans to work in a spay/neuter clinic.

An example of a qualifying requirement could be the following:

"A \$1,000 scholarship presented to a student expressing an interest in canine medicine and surgery and who plans to go into small animal practice or canine research upon graduation".

I have looked through the 2012 Honors and Awards catalog and most of the wording for the Clubs and Individual donors would be fine with the removal of any reference to financial need.

And finally I would like to share an idea that came from Merry Carol and Mike Houchard. They give a personal scholarship at UGA

and they invite their student recipient to be their guest at the Conyers Kennel Club Dog Show. I had the privilege of meeting their student at the February show. He had never been to a dog show and was not only interested, but having a great time. What a wonderful way to introduce the Sport of Dogs to Veterinarian students. I would recommend that Clubs consider asking their student recipient to attend their show. With so many young Veterinarians being influenced by the animal rights movement, we need to introduce them to our side.

Information for our October 29 annual meeting, a membership form for the upcoming year and a final legislative update are included with this mailing.

I want to remind you that the GCC is available to speak to your Club about canine legislation and how to work with officials to influence canine legislation. Please call me or e-mail me to arrange a date.

Again, thank you for your support of the GCC. Without our member Clubs and individual members, there would be no GCC. I hope each of you will plan to be with us at the October meeting.

Sincerely,

Gail LaBerge President outland@laberge.org 770-271-7246 770-722-9371 cell

-	C			N	Tr	Т	١.														
- 4	יש	€.	,	N	4	ı			٠	٠				٠			 ٠		٠.		

CANINE COALITION

Georgia Canine Coalition, Inc.

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

Monday October 29, 2012

Golden Corral 915 North Point Drive Alpharetta, GA 678 867 2881

Dutch Treat Dinner at 7:00 Meeting around 7:45 RSVP 404 233 6735 Jody Allgood

Slate of Officers:

President Gail LaBerge
Vice-President Jody Allgood
Secretary Sharon Webb
Treasurer Clara Seals

Board Members:

Beginning two year term Mike Houchard

Maurice Woulfe

Sue Benkiser

Completing two year term Sandy Carman

Scears Hardie

Beginning one year term Frank Martinez