President’s Report, by Pauline Mortier

Our Fall 2003 Specialty is fast approaching and hope to see ALL OF OUR MEMBERS there. Even if you did not enter a dog, please come and enjoy the company of our club members and all exhibitors, as well as some spectacular Labradors! We ask that all members lend a hand at the end of the show and clean up all areas.

Thank you to all those who sent best wishes for a speedy recovery of my husband, Maurice “Spike” Mortier, who is now out of the hospital and ticking with a new pacemaker.

Our General Membership meeting for September was very relaxed at the new meeting site, Hartland Community Education Building, in the gym where puppies & dogs are welcomed and it is easy to do a clean up if an “accident” occurs. Come join us!

Looking forward to next winter, Michelle VeuCasovic is planning a very special program with a guest speaker on the topic of all the “legalities” involved in breeding dogs. Bring your questions on contracts and legal obligations as well as the advantages or disadvantages of being an LLC (Limited Liability Corporation). Michelle is hoping to have this special program sometime in February. Stay tuned for details and location.

Anyone with program ideas please contact Cathy Culpert or Frieda Paison for details. How to contact? Use your membership booklet or wait for the new booklet to come out at our Fall 2003 Specialty. Our latest membership booklet has been compiled and will be published & ready for you at our Specialty—another good reason to attend & have some fun!

It’s also not too early to contact Gail Shearer, our Show Chair for our Fall Specialty 2004, to volunteer your help. Call Gail at 502-314-4140 or email her at bonaventurelabs@peoplepc.com

Have you forgotten to get your raffle item to Stacy Quake or Cassandra Barrett? Bring it on down to the specialty and buy a ticket for our silent auction item. What will the silent auction item be? Come and find out! See you Friday September 26th at Monroe County Fairgrounds on M-50 about 15 minutes east of US 23.
October Membership Meeting

The October Membership Meeting will be held on Friday, October 3rd at 7:30 pm, at the Heartland Community Education building.

10235 School St
Hartland, MI 48430

Directions:
US-23 to M59. M59 east to Hartland Rd (at 1st traffic light turn left). Follow Hartland Rd. into Hartland to School St (turn right onto School St.) The second building on your left is the Community Ed Building, a one story brick building with bright blue doors. Enter through the blue doors and the meeting room will be the first door to your right.

Membership Dues . . .

Membership Dues were due on May 15th, 2003. Membership have lapsed if they were not paid by August 30th. Once a membership has lapsed, you must re-apply for HRLRC membership. Yearly Membership Dues are as follows:

- Family $40
- Single $30
- Newsletter only $25
- Website Breeders Directory $25

Membership Dues must be submitted to the Treasurer at:
HRLRC Treasurer,
c/o Al Reich
5558 Sunkist
Oxford, MI 48371

The following members have paid their dues for 2003-2004. Names printed in italics and underlined indicates that the member has also paid the Breeder Directory Dues.

Mark & Cindy Adler, Jeanine Asch, Ruth Achterhoff-Aust, Katherine Almirall (newsletter only), Cassandra Barrett, Stella Blair, Karen Brines, Helen Bronson, Kim Bryson, Terry Bryson, Lu Capra (newsletter only), Nancy Chargo, Annie & Ron Cogo, Gary Cooper, Cathy Culpert, Jeff & Theresa DePorter, Mary Evans, Angela Ewald, Mark Foster, Kristi Fruchey, William Gardner, Carrie Gati, Carol Lynn Johnson, Nancy Manning, Steve & Mary MacLean, Mike & Judy Merians, Laura Michaels, Pauline & Maurice Mortier, Pam Nichols, Sheila Norgren, Freida Paison, Barb Paveglio, Matt & Sandy Pius, Stacy Quake, Mike & Deborah Rathsburg, Laura & Al Reich, Dolores Richards, Heath Roy, Diane Russell, Michael Sapienz, George & Beverly Schnell, Larry & Roseanne Seiler, Gail & Tom Shearer, Cindy Skiba, Pam Smith, Marsha Standler, Janet Stolarevsky, Nancy Todd, Judy Trevino, Michelle VeuCasovic, Lorry Wagner, Patty Wayne, Cheryl Wellnitz, Patricia & Jeffrey York Sr., Madge Ziesow

HOW DOGS TRACK PEOPLE

Bloodhounds have been used since at least the 14th Century to track human beings.

With 220 million scent receptors in their noses (compared to 5 million in humans), they are able to detect odors at vastly smaller concentrations than we can. They are able to smell the microscopic pieces of skin—like unseen dandruff—that are constantly shedding from the human body by settling on the ground.

A tracking dog may work in a back-and-forth pattern over the scent trail. Some dogs—like search and rescue dogs—may specialize in tracking any human scent. Others are trained to search for cadavers. Tracking dogs can track a specific person’s scent, picking it out among hundreds of thousands of other scents in the same area.

Bloodhounds have been used since at least the 14th Century to track human beings.
Disclaimer Clause: This list is for litters of our members that are in good standing with our Club and the American Kennel Club and has been made available for your assistance in finding a new puppy. But: The Huron River Labrador Retriever Club, Inc., makes no warranties, expressed or implied as to the condition of any dogs being offered for sale, standards or practices of any breeder, the quality of their animals or the accuracy of any of the information contained within the HRLRC, Inc., newsletter listing, or within the HRLRC, Inc., website or any links from the website. HRLRC, Inc., does not endorse, recommend, or guarantee any kennel, breeder or dog listed.

Reminder: Send $5 litter ad fee per month/per ad to Al Reich, 5558 Sunkist, Oxford, MI 48371. Please indicated in memo section of check the month that you are paying for. These litter ad fees go towards the HRLRC Rescue Account. Please call (248)969-6998 or email laura@lor-allabs.com to renew or update your ad. Deadline is the 15th of the month. NEW POLICY: No litter ad will be published without receipt of the fee. Also beginning July 1, 2001, for ACTIVE MEMBERS fee remains the same ($5 per month/per ad). NON-ACTIVE MEMBERS fee will be $100 per month/per ad. Refer to the Minutes in the March 2001 newsletter for detailed explanation of ACTIVE and NON-ACTIVE MEMBERS.

Epoch’s Edward of Bonaventure
Bonaventure Lubberline Viscount
Classique’s Count on Me
X

Coldwater’s CK Catamaran

Born: August 22 blacks & chocolates
Available: October 17th
Tom & Stacy Quake 269-278-1034 Three Rivers, MI
Web: www.huntmorlabradors.com
Email: huntmorlabradors@earthlink.net

Am/Can Ch Inselheim Ty Breaker
Alegra Jalisco
Alegar Clara
X
Oaklea Lubberline Lord Nelson
Limelites Lady of the Rings
Limelites Cloud Dancer
Whelped: July 22 2 chocolate males
Bill Gardner (248) 437-8016
Milford, MI

Lor-al’s Direct Deposit WC CGC
Lor-al’s Direct from Tantara
Wolvercote Galaxy Girl of Kimvalley
X
Tullamore’s Just One Look
Northmarks Excitement
Inselheim Pineview Saffron JH
Due: September 22 Yellows
Karen Brines (989) 832-9528
Midland, MI
Email: kbrines@tm.net

Keepsakes Windfall Solar Flare
Guideline’s Monthly Review
X
Keepsakes Flaming Banner
Kellygreen’s Lady in Red
Due: September 8 Yellows
Nancy Chargo (810) 686-0967
Clio, MI

The following members have recently forwarded a change in their contact information. Please mark these changes in your Membership Directory. All changes have been published in the new membership directory to be distributed at our September Specialty Show.

Email Address & Name Change:
Beverly Schnell bjschnell@klondyke.net
Cari Gati gunnerlabs@comcast.net

Web Address Change:
Judy Trevino www.alegralabradors.com

Address Change:
Helen Bronson 7129 Crosswinds Dr.
Swartz Creek, MI 48473
810-630-0515

Matt & Sandy Pius sandpius@hotmail.com
Members in attendance were:
Frieda Paison, Stella Blair, Dolores Richards, Mike & Judy Merians, Mary MacLean, Pauline Mortier, Cassandra Barrett, Annie & Ron Cogo, Sheila Norgren, Al Reich, Cathy Culpert, Bill Gardner, Nancy Chargo, Jeanine Asch, Judy Trevino. **Guests:** Kenny Barrett, Juanita Pyles, Jan Knell and Greg Lemanski

Meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m. by president Pauline Mortier.

The minutes from the August general membership meeting were approved as read.

President’s Report
No news to report.

Corresponding Secretary’s Report
No news to report.

Treasurer’s Report
The treasurer’s report was approved as read.

Membership
No news to report.

Fall Specialty
There was a slight hold up due to an issue with the obedience judge. The situation has been resolved. There will be an area at the Monroe Co. Fairgrounds designated for Labrador exhibitors. Annie is working on securing the airline tickets for our judges. Anyone wishing to place a catalog ad should contact Annie. We are still waiting on our deposit refund from Newport Fireman’s Park. Nancy Chargo has received approximately $280 in trophy donations.

Judy Merians made a motion for the club to issue a check to Sheila Norgren for $250 to be used to purchase raffle items at K9 Specialties. Motion passed.

Field Report
There will be a WC hosted by the Great Lakes Labrador Lovers held September 21 in Fowlerville.

New Business
Michelle mentioned she has found a speaker who will discuss dog contracts. This presenter will probably be scheduled for the February meeting. We would like to have this planned well in advance so that other dog clubs can be invited to attend.

The October 3 and November 7 general membership meetings will be held at the Hartland Community Education Building.

As the guest speaker for tonight’s meeting was unable to attend, Annie will check into obtaining a chiropractor to do a presentation in the future.

Michelle mentioned she is now an approved CGC evaluator. We may want to have her conduct CGC testing at future club events.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanine Asch, Recording Secretary

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**Club Meeting Schedule . . . Mark Your Calendars**

**Membership Meetings begin at 7:30 pm., Board Meetings begin at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted.**

**September 18 — Board Meeting**
Valley Family Restaurant (Miller and Linden Roads. in Flint)

**October 3—General Membership Meeting**
Hartland Community Education Building

**October 21—Board Meeting**
Max & Erma’s (I-75 & Baldwin Rd)

**November 7—General Membership Meeting**
Hartland Community Education Building

**November 18—Board Meeting**
Max & Erma’s (I-75 & Baldwin Rd)

**December 5—General Membership and Board Meeting**
Held at Cindy Skiba’s home for a festive holiday gathering.

**January 9—General Membership Meeting**
Hartland Community Education Building

**January 20—Board Meeting**
Location to be determined

**February 6—General Membership Meeting**
Location to be determined

**February 17—Board Meeting**
Valley Family Restaurant (Miller and Linden Roads. in Flint)

**March 12—General Membership**
Location to be determined.

**March 17—Board Meeting**
Location to be determined.

**April 2—General Membership Meeting & Elections**
Location to be determined.

**April 20—Board Meeting**
Location to be determined.

**May 14—General Membership Meeting**
Location to be determined.

**May 20—Board Meeting**
Held at Cindy Skiba’s Home
Contact zone – The areas on a contact obstacle that are painted yellow to designate that they are safety zones. Missing a down contact zone is faulted under all agility rules; some agility organizations to not judge all of the up or ascent contact zones.

Popping – Hopping off a contact before reaching the safety zone, hopping out of the weave poles before completing performance, or knocking down a jump bar.

The Obedience Corner

Diane Carr of Elsmere, Kentucky, is one of the top handlers of obedience dogs in the Cincinnati Ohio area. Her Border Collies, frequently win high in trial awards and have participated in the country’s premiere obedience competitions.

How does she do it? Well, since “precision obedience can be a bore,” she does it with games.

“Dogs love games,” she said. “The idea is for the dog to play with the owner, not by himself. The dog doesn't set the pace, the owner does.”

One of Carr’s favorite games is hide and seek. She'll hide anything — dog toys, treats, herself. The game teaches the dogs to use their noses (helpful in utility competition) and to concentrate on the task at hand (helpful in all obedience exercises, herding, agility, etc.).

She starts by placing the toy in plain sight, then revving the dog up to get it and bring it back. She increases the distance, then begins hiding it partly under furniture between sofa pillows, and other easy to get at places. She teaches the dogs to sit with their backs to the field of play so they cannot see where she hides the toy. If they turn around or move too soon, she stops the game until they wait as instructed.
The Basics of The Canine Good Citizen

If your Labrador has good manners, he or she may be eligible for an award from the American Kennel Club....

Started in 1989, the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) is a certification program that is designed to reward dogs who have good manners at home and in the community. The Canine Good Citizen Program is a two-part program that stresses responsible pet ownership for owners and basic good manners for dogs. All dogs who pass the CGC test receive a certificate from the American Kennel Club and as of January 1, 1999, they are automatically recorded in the AKC’s Canine Good Citizen Archive.

All CGC evaluators must be registered with the AKC and assigned an evaluator number. Evaluators must meet the outlined requirements before receiving approval to evaluate dogs and owners in a CGC test. Beginning in 2003, HRLRC member Michelle VeuCasovic has obtained the CGC evaluator status.

CGC Test Procedures
The purpose of the Canine Good Citizen Program is to ensure that our favorite companion, the dog, can be a respected member of the community. To receive the CGC certificate, dogs take the 10 item Canine Good Citizen Test. Items on the test include:

Test Item 1: Accepting a friendly stranger
This test demonstrates that the dog will allow a friendly stranger to approach it and speak to the handler in a natural, everyday situation. The dog must show no sign of resentment or shyness, and must not break position or try to go to the evaluator.

Test Item 2: Sitting politely for petting
This test demonstrates that the dog will allow a friendly stranger to touch it while it is out with its handler. The dog must not show shyness or resentment.

Test Item 3: Appearance and grooming
This practical test demonstrates that the dog will welcome being groomed and examined and will permit someone, such as a veterinarian, groomer or friend of the owner, to do so. It also demonstrates the owner's care, concern and sense of responsibility.

Test Item 4: Out for a walk (walking on a loose lead)
This test demonstrates that the handler is in control of the dog. There should be a right turn, left turn, and an about turn with at least one stop in between and another at the end. The handler may talk to the dog along the way, praise the dog, or give commands in a normal tone of voice. The handler may sit the dog at the halts if desired.

Test Item 5: Walking through a crowd
This test demonstrates that the dog can move about politely in pedestrian traffic and is under control in public places. The dog should not jump on people in the crowd or strain on the leash.

Test Item 6: Sit and down on command - staying in place
This test demonstrates that the dog has training, will respond to the handler's commands to sit and down and will remain in the place commanded by the handler (sit or down position, whichever the handler prefers).

Test Item 7: Coming when called
This test demonstrates that the dog will come when called by the handler.

Test Item 8: Reaction to another dog
This test demonstrates that the dog can behave politely around other dogs. Two handlers and their dogs approach each other. The dogs should show no more than casual interest in each other. Neither dog should go to the other dog or its handler.

Test Item 9: Reaction to distraction
This test demonstrates that the dog is confident at all times when faced with common distracting situations. The evaluator will select and present two distractions. Examples of distractions include dropping a chair, rolling a crate dolly past the dog, having a jogger run in front of the dog, or dropping a crutch or cane.

Test Item 10: Supervised separation
This test demonstrates that a dog can be left with a trusted person, if necessary, and will maintain training and good manners. Evaluators are encouraged to say something like, "Would you like me to watch your dog?" and then take hold of the dog's leash. The owner will go out of sight for three minutes.

Equipment
All tests must be performed on leash. Dogs should wear well-fitting buckle or slip collars made of leather, fabric, or chain. The owner/handler should bring written proof of rabies vaccines and the dog's brush or comb to the test.

Encouragement
Owners/handlers may use praise and encouragement throughout the test. Food and treats are not permitted during testing, nor is the use of toys, squeaky toys, etc. to get the dog to do something.

Failures - Dismissals
Any dog that eliminates during testing must be marked failed. The only exception to this rule is that elimination is allowable in test Item 10, but only when test Item 10 is held outdoors. Any dog that growls, snaps, bites, attacks, or attempts to attack a person or another dog is not a good citizen and must be dismissed from the test.

To learn more about the CGC, visit the AKC website at http://www.akc.org/love/cgc/index.cfm
The most common complaint of pet owners is that their dogs pull on the leash. Trouble is, most people don’t realize that they’ve been inadvertently rewarding their dogs for pulling on the leash their entire lives!

How’s that?! Well, any behavior that is positively reinforced (i.e., the dog gets something good) will tend to occur again. If the dog sits and you give him a treat, you’ve increased the likelihood that he’ll sit in the future. When most people put a leash on a dog and he pulls, they follow him! Because pulling on the leash gets him what he wants – to go – you’ve reinforced him for pulling, and hence, increased the likelihood that he’ll do it again. Since most people walk their dogs 1-3 times a day, that’s a lot of reinforcements by 6 months or a year! Pulling quickly becomes a very strong, well-reinforced behavior.

As with most training opportunities, if you teach the dog to walk on lead when she’s a puppy, you’ll see faster results. This is because the puppy hasn’t yet built up a long history of getting reinforced for pulling. Put the leash on the puppy and stand still with leash either around your waist (hands off) or clamped to your stomach so you can’t pull back. If the puppy pulls, do nothing. As soon as he looks back at you or lets the lead go slack, say “YES!” and immediately walk forward. Stop again as soon as the leash tightens. At first, you’ll find that you have to stop often. But most dogs figure out quickly that in order to get what they want, they’ll have to do it your way. We call this method “Be a Tree,” and that’s how you should act. Just firm and solid and unmoving – until you feel slack on the leash and go forward.

The other exercise you can work on involves large (20-30 foot) circles. With the leash around your waist (no hands), use a food treat in your left hand to lure the puppy into position at your left side. Click and treat (or “yes!”/treat) every few steps as long as
Sweet Rewards: Be Careful What You Reinforce—Continued

the puppy is on your left side with the leash loose. Gradually you can lengthen the time between reinforcements. Make your circles large and be sure to practice in both directions. If you combine both of these exercises and are consistent with your puppy (don’t let him pull you around sometimes and not others or you won’t make much progress!) you’ll have a dog who walks politely at your left side.

Training an adult dog who already has a reinforcement history for pulling works the same way, but will take a little longer because you must provide more reinforcements for not pulling than you already have for pulling! Consistency and patience will accomplish your goal (and a lot of treats and praise for what you like).

We train dogs every moment we interact with them, whether we intend to or not! So look at what your dog is doing and consider whether you might have inadvertently reinforced him for doing the things he does that you don’t like. If so, reverse the cycle! Don’t punish him – just stop reinforcing him, while at the same time reinforcing something else that you DO like! Pretty soon the old behavior will be extinguished for lack of reinforcement and there will be a new, acceptable behavior with a strong reinforcement history in its place.
Member Spotlight — Nancy Manning

My name is Nancy Manning. I was born and raised in the bay area of California. I was born with epilepsy and this has prevented me from driving. I have always had a dog with some part Labrador in them. The first dog was a German Shepherd/Labrador mix, George. I was about 5 years old. My two older sisters and I were at friends’ of my parents’. They live on a farm and had just had a litter of puppies a few months prior. Naturally, the friends believed that we should have a puppy. Us girls were all for that; however, at the time dad did not want a puppy. As we were leaving, the friends placed a puppy in the back of the camper with the three girls. By the time we arrived home in two hours, George was now our dog. George stayed outdoors and did not get to go anywhere except to the vet. George did not seem to get much activity or companionship unless us three girls were out in the back yard with him. George would jump the fence every once in a while and the chase would be on. We had him for 14 years. However, I did see my Dad do quite a bit of crying after George died, and they buried him deep in the backyard next to a Walnut tree.

When I got a little older in February 1992, I got a yellow Labrador and I named him Scrappy. He and I went to obedience class and after graduation, we both had ice cream. Scrappy was my pride and joy. However, once again, I was still at home, and Scrappy was an outside dog. Mom and dad did not allow the dogs to come in. And I was not stubborn enough to push the point. It is a good thing that the south bay area of California is such a mild climate. Scrappy just turned 12 this month. We spent much time in South Lake Tahoe, CA. He loves the water. My sister got a Golden Retriever, Scout, who Scrappy loved. My parents got a Labrador/Golden Retriever mix, Rosie, Scrappy adores Rosie. It’s great he has a pal. My parents took ownership of Scrappy when I moved to Michigan in January of 1998. Since then, my dad has become more and more devoted to the dogs and really loves Rosie. Now the dogs have a room with comfortable bed pads and come in and have a spot in the house with my parents. I see Scrappy about once a year. He always seems to know who I am.

In the fall of 1998, I joined Meijers as a Greeter. The store that I worked at was on 16 Mile Road next to Dequindre Road in Sterling Heights. In 2002, that store was closed and I transferred to the new one on 13 Mile between Dequindre and John R Road in Madison Heights. My significant other, Mark Foster, was quite often away on business trips. With me not driving, I would walk and take the bus to work, so that I would be gone up to 12 hours a day at times. This was not too rough on our two cats. However, I wanted a dog. Finally, Mark’s business trips slowed up. Next what color. Mark remembers his Coco-brown poodle from growing up. I wanted a yellow; he did not. That left a black Labrador. Mark did not know anything about the breed.

Mark found an ad at Meijer’s for black Labradors whelped on the 4th of July 2001. That is a good day for us. We went and they had two males remaining. Between the two, one was shorter in body versus the other being longer. We selected the longer, leaner one. Thus, on August 26, 2001, my significant other, Mark, and I got a 7 1/2 week old black Labrador; we named Dewey Theodore Keys. The breeder was Jeff York, who is a member of Huron River Labrador Retriever Club (HRLRC). Dewey has been a great addition to the family. This is my first black Labrador. He is so sweet and loving. The cats were not real happy for a while and still they just ignore him. Dewey did go to five puppy shows and always won a ribbon. But, Dewey does not match the AKC breed standard. Dewey is the taller, leaner, American or Sporting look. Dewey started agility training in the summer of 2002. Mark and Dewey have begun competing in agility. It has been very enjoyable for me to watch both the training and the competitions.

We had always said that we would someday get Dewey a companion. On June 2, 2002, our yellow Labrador, Yellow Dawg Krypto Doughboy, joined the family. He was 8 weeks old, and I got him from Mike and Debbie Rathsburg. But I wasn’t sure I was ready for another small puppy, and Mark was still not keen on a normal, yellow/brownish Labrador. Mike and Debbie had a male that was very much whithish in color; however, Krypto did have an overbite; no shows for him. This was the one that we got with Mike and Debbie’s blessings. I also love Krypto very much. I think that Labradors are the best breed around. Krypto has also started Agility classes. He’s great. We do get to see a brother and sister of Krypto’s and we have dog-watched them at our home a few times. Mike and Debbie did keep a brother; his name is Mac. Krypto has become terribly dependent on Dewey. When Dewey is away, Krypto is beside himself. I am already worried about what happens when Dewey’s gone for good.

The dogs have become our children. I am so glad we have them both. Krypto is also very loyal. These dogs have unconditional love for/from us. They seem so sorry when they have disappointed us. Dewey and Krypto are both house trained. Sometimes there maybe an accident by one of them, but they are always sorry. I am very happy both of these dogs have come into our lives. I love them so much. Dogs are the best; especially Labs.
Wag 'em if you got 'em!

We're on the Web:
www.huronriverlrc.com

See You at the Fall Specialty Show
Friday, September 26th, 2003
at
The Monroe County Fairgrounds!