



BLRC Newsletter

News from our members...

News from Susan Leonard



Ch. Tedco The Promise at Sandstone "Dillon" (Am/Can Ch. Beechcroft Study In Black x GCh. Isthmus Terlingua of Tedco) bred by Brenda & Randle Toepfer and owned and shown by Susan Leonard earned the title of Grand Champion on November 15, 2014. Dillon will continue to be Specialized in 2015.

Sandstone The Ghost of Tom Joad "Clifford" (GCh. Tedco The Promise at Sandstone x Sandstone Devil's Arcade) bred, owned and shown by Susan Leonard was Best of Breed 4-6 month Beginner Puppy at the HOTLRC Specialty show in October 2014, and Best of Breed 4-6 month Beginner Puppy and Sporting Group 2 at the Conroe Kennel Club All Breed show in November 2014. Clifford looks to continue his winning ways when he makes his debut in regular classes at the Fort Bend KC shows in January 2015, and wishes his littermates the best of luck as they start their show careers.

Peggy Stevens reports...



Toastie earned her 6th title in 20 months in November when she finished her CDX with second place at the Western Waukesha County obedience trial. She earned two Jumpers with Weaves qualifying scores in December to add to the Standard Agility pass she got at the LRC Nationals in October. She got a first and second place ribbon, too. I have discovered

that most of the dogs who pass at the lower agility levels get ribbons because passes are so few and far between, and the jump heights are judged separately, unlike obedience where they are all lumped together. Everyone may know that Toastie qualified in Open Obedience, Novice Agility, and Junior Hunter at the National Specialty to earn the silver medal plaque for points earned in the Up to the Challenge competition (40+ entries). Our next goal is to complete the two agility titles, go on to Open Agility, and be ready to enter Rally Excellent by spring. After that, there's Utility. Toastie is only 4.5 years old, so we have a number of years to pursue our goals.

Jake has come back from his surgery to trim three herniated discs that were pinching off his spinal cord. He qualified in Senior Hunters at Manitowoc KC and the LRC Nationals, earned a second and a third place in Veteran's Obedience, and was third in a special conformation class for dogs entered in the Challenge competition to earn his second LRC Challenge medal. I was told that he earned the 7th highest number of points in the Challenge competition. Not bad for a dog that no longer jumps! Vega qualified in Rally Advanced, Junior Hunter, and finished third in the same competition that Jake did, except, of course, for girls, so she also got a Challenge medal. We are working on her CDX and RE.

**Badger Labrador
Retriever Club**

Issue #1

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Fetch News...

- 🐾 Four new breeds have been recognized by AKC. They are the Spanish Water Dog, Cirneco dell'Etna, Bergamasco, and Boerboel. The Spanish Water Dog is a multi-purpose farm dog that is originally used for herding, hunting, and fishing and has been placed in the Herding Group. They are high-energy and intelligent and have a curly coat that does not shed. The Cirneco dell'Etna is a hound from Italy that uses both scent and sight to hunt and resembles an Ibizan or Pharaoh hound. Also from Italy, the Bergamasco has a long matted coat and is a livestock guardian placed in the Herding Group. The Boerboel is a mastiff-like working dog from South Africa once used as a farm and protection dog.
- 🐾 Dr. Gretchen Carlisle, a researcher at MU College of Veterinary Medicine's Research Center for Human-Animal Interaction reports that pets help autistic children to improve their social skills, encouraging interaction with other children when animals are present in the home, classroom, or other social settings. Some organizations that train assistance dogs for people with physical handicaps also train autism assistance dogs. Custom Canines based in Madison is one such organization.
- 🐾 Purina has developed a new dog food for oldsters displaying signs of cognitive dysfunction. Called Pro Plan Bright Mind, it contains medium-chain triglycerides (MCGs), nutrients found in coconut oil, which provide a source of energy for dogs with brains that, due to age, may no longer be able to use glucose efficiently. Thinking takes a lot of energy! If your dog is showing signs of disorientation, reduced activity, pacing, change in sleeping and wakefulness, loss of house training, lack of appetite, stiffness, and inability to climb stairs, consider this food. Read about it on the Purina website.
- 🐾 According to a Business 2 Community blog, a recent study from a researcher at the University of Missouri (MU) as published in the Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders finds that having pets such as cats, rabbits, and other animals as well as dogs in the home may help children with autism improve their social skills. Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disorder that manifests during the first three years of life. The disorder is characterized by impaired social interaction and verbal and non-verbal communication and by restricted, repetitive, or stereotyped behavior. ASD currently affects one in 68 children in the United States. Previous studies have found that pets help encourage social interaction and that pet dogs may help children with autism develop their social skills. Dr. Gretchen Carlisle, research fellow in the MU College of Veterinary Medicine's Research Center for Human-Animal Interaction (ReCHAI), explains that children, including autistic children, tend to interact and talk to each other more with animals present in the home, classroom, or other social setting.
- 🐾 **Designer developing product to help dogs recover from hip dysplasia surgeries:** According to AAHA NEWStat, an industrial designer from Israel is developing a new product for dogs recovering from hip dysplasia surgeries. Designer Galia Weiss worked with a veterinarian to design a full-body harness for dogs that have undergone hip dysplasia surgery, wired.com reported. The product - called the Hipster Harness - fits around a dog's chest and stomach and wraps both of the back legs like a cast, with the goal of pulling up and strengthening the hip muscles to keep the femur in position.

Cara's Story

I would like to start a series in which members tell us about the memorable Labrador personalities they have known, either their own dogs or ones they knew well. I don't want you to write about achievements in the ring, but about the strange and/or amusing quirks or antics of the dog. Let's start with dogs from years past that other members would not have known well. I'll begin by telling you about one of my foundation girls, Ch Campbellcroft Cara CDX JH WC (1981-1995)

Cara came to me when she was seven weeks old, a stunningly beautiful puppy who thought she kept the Earth rotating. She kept me in order for 14 years, or at least that's what she believed. Cara had no crate at first. She spent the nights in the bathroom and had only one or two accidents in the house. She greeted us enthusiastically every morning and went everywhere with us, remaining in the car while we did whatever we were doing. We lived in central coastal California, so there was no really hot or cold weather to keep her from going along.

When Cara was a puppy, I was working in the evenings at the marine biology lab belonging to UC Santa Cruz. Cara went along, but she had to wait in the car as dogs weren't welcome in the research building. The lab was surrounded by a huge field of Brussels sprouts, which was entered by a gate that was locked at night. The only development near the gate was a gated trailer court where visitors were warned to keep out. One night I was working late, leaving Cara locked in the cab of my pick-up with a window cracked for air. I finally finished my work and started home, driving the half mile through the sprouts to the gate, unlocking it, and driving through. I got out to close the gate, closing my truck door behind me to prevent Cara from getting out. When I got back, I discovered that Cara, in her enthusiasm at my return, had stood on the lock. There I was, parked in the middle of a dead end street late at night, motor running, puppy bouncing around in a locked truck, no place to go for help nearby except that gated trailer park or the distant marine lab. This was long before the age of cell phones! In my initial panic, I forgot the crack in the passenger window I'd neglected to close. Finally I remembered it. It was excruciatingly painful, but I managed to reach the lock through the window and rescue my puppy from the locked cab. Cara had another misadventure with a truck much later. I was parked at the top of the hill at the Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial grounds. The hill slopes steeply down to a pond at its foot. I must have not gotten the gearshift firmly anchored, because Cara knocked the car into gear, and it sped down the slope into the pond with me running after it as fast as I could go.

Fortunately the pond was not deep and there were plenty of witnesses to help pull me out and give me a hard time about it afterwards. The truck never smelled quite the same, however.

Cara had strong ideas about how things should be and took noisy exception to things that "weren't right." The first time I realized this we were in a park and a woman came toward us carrying a baby in a back pack. Cara yelled "Two-headed monster" in dog language and only stopped barking when the woman obligingly took the back pack off and showed her what it was. Later she took on a delivery person pushing a cart loaded with a pile of boxes taller than he was so that from Cara's perspective the boxes were moving by themselves. She didn't like the bust of a benefactor that graces the lounge in the biology building. Fireworks were not acceptable, either. The biggest event she took on was an earthquake. She didn't know which direction to bark in, but by God, that should not be happening in her house!

I trained Cara in obedience and the field, and it was always a bit of a negotiation. She tried to convince me she knew best, but she yielded with grace if I insisted that we do it my way. I believe that she already had a CDX leg before the trial during which she realized that she didn't need to go around the post on the figure eight exercise because I would come back to where she was waiting. She had a very pleased expression on her face when I got back to her. Needless to say, we had a conversation about that after I got her out of the ring, and she never did it again. We learned about hunt tests together and had a number of NQs, some her mistake, some mine. Eventually we qualified in four straight tests, but Cara never stopped bank running. In one test the retrieve was in running water, a really easy mark. Cara, however, ran the bank, requiring her to push her way through a heavy stand of brush and cattails, and to go right past the well-hidden gun station. She was considerably delayed, but eventually got to the bird. She had learned her lesson and came back by the water. She went hunting with one of my students. They got two birds. One fell right in front of them, about twenty feet away. He let her retrieve it. Then a duck sailed into a field of heavy cover. He sent Cara and she ran into the field and then turned in the opposite direction from where he had marked the bird. He blew his whistle to try to get her to go where he wanted, but Cara had not been trained to handle and, of course, ignored him. Then she came back with the bird in her mouth. It had been running, and she was trailing it.

Continue on next page...

Cara's Story

Cara had a strong feeling of responsibility. I could leave her in the car with a sack of groceries and be sure it would be untouched when I got back. She was getting up in years when I got a car with bucket seats to replace my bench seat pickup. Meanwhile, she was firmly established as my co-pilot and would have been insulted to ride anywhere except the front seat and certainly not in a crate like the other dogs. We made numerous trips to Maryland, Cara lying beside me on the front seat, her head in my lap. When I got a car with bucket seats I had to put something comfortable in the space between the bucket seats so that Cara could travel in the manner to which she had become accustomed. When I started packing for a trip, Cara knew what that meant and would watch for an opportunity to get into the car – I wasn't leaving without her.

Cara suffered a stroke during August. She couldn't drink, so I gave her ice to eat, but eventually her kidneys were shutting down. Saying goodbye to her was the hardest decision I've had to make about a dog. I didn't keep any of her puppies, but I was able to breed to her son. Solo is her great granddaughter. Unfortunately, none of her descendants, although dear in their own ways, have been able to replace Cara.

Badger Labrador Retriever Club

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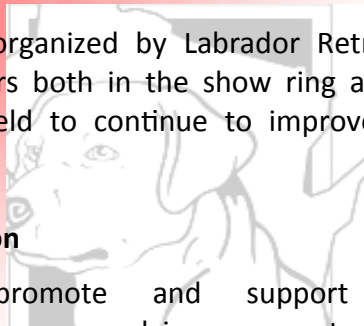
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About Us

Club organized by Labrador Retriever fanciers both in the show ring and in the field to continue to improve the breed.

Mission

To promote and support the maintenance and improvement of the quality of the Labrador Retriever.



Upcoming events 2/2015 through 5/2015 (WI, northern IL eastern IA)
Event types A= agility C= conformation F = Field O= Obedience R= Rally

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Closing Date</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1/30	Blackhawk KC	C O	1/14	Onofrio
1/31, 2/1	International KC	C O	1/14	Onofrio
1/31, 2/1	Timber Ridge DTC	O R	1/14	Club
1/31, 2/1	CarDunAI DTC	O R	1/14	Club
2/7, 2/8	Sheboygan DTC	O R	2/7	Club
2/7, 2/8	Gr Milwaukee Poodle Club	A	1/22	Bluestem Agility
2/23, 2/24	Doberman Pinscher Club of Milwaukee	A	2/6	Club
*2/28, 3/1	BADGER LRC	C	2/11	Roy Jones
3/7, 3/8	K-9 Obedience Club of Menomonee Falls	O R	2/18	Club
3/7, 3/8	Central Wisconsin Vizsla Club	A	2/20	Club
3/20,21,22	Wisconsin Rapids KC	A	3/4	Club
3/14, 3/15	Badger KC	O R	2/25?	Club
3/21, 3/22	Greater Racine KC	O R	3/4	Club
3/26, 3/27	Manitowoc KC	C	3/11	Roy Jones
*3/28, 3/29	Clinton KC	C O R	3/11	Onofrio
3/28, 3/29	Packerland KC	C	3/11	Roy Jones
3/28, 3/29	Lakeland DTC	O R	3/11	Club
4/3,4, 5	Oshkosh KC	A	3/20	Club
4/4, 4/5	KC of Yorkville	C O	3/18	Roy Jones
4/10, 11, 12	Medallion Rottweiler Club	A	3/27	Club
4/11, 4/12	Cudahy KC	O R	3/25	Club
4/17,18,19	Doberman Pinscher Club of Milwaukee	A	4/3	Club
4/18, 4/19	Fond du Lac KC	C O R	4/1	Roy Jones
4/25, 4/26	Timber Ridge DTC	A	4/15	Club
5/1	Wisconsin Rapids KC	A	4/17	Club
5/1	Badger KC	C O R	4/15	Roy Jones
5/2, 5/3	Timber Ridge DTC	A	4/17	Club
5/2	Janesville- Beloit	C O R	4/15	Roy Jones
5/3	Badger KC	C O R	4/15	Roy Jones
5/9, 5/10	Lyons Township DTC	O R	4/22	Club
5/16	Oshkosh KC	C O R	4/29	Roy Jones
5/16, 5/17	K-9 Obedience Club of Menomonee Falls	A	5/1	Club
5/17	Winnegamie DC	C O R	4/29	Roy jones
5/23, 24, 25	Sheboygan DTC	A	5/11	Club
5/29, 30, 31	Packerland KC	A	5/13	Club