

OBEDIENCE TRIALS, cont.

- Oct. 6 Capitol Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C.,
Montgomery Co. Cooperative Agricultural Center,
16 Chestnut St., Gaithersburg, Md. (unbenched),
Crowe.
- Oct. 20 Portsmouth-Chesapeake Obedience Training Club,
Tidewater Community College, Frederick Campus,
Portsmouth, Va. (unbenched), Mrs. Cynthia Lee
Hussey, Trial Sec'y., 110 Sandpiper Dr., Ports-
mouth, Va. 23704
- Nov. 16 Dauphin Dog Training Club, Pennsylvania State Farm
Show Bldg., Cameron & Marclay Streets, Harrisburg,
Pa. 17120 (unbenched), Keller.

TRACKING TESTS

- Oct. 13 Berks County Dog Training Club, Tulpehocken Farms,
Sinking Spring, Pa., Mrs. Leroy D. Behney, Sec'y.,
Schoffers Rd., R.D. #3, Box 393, Reading, Pa.
- Oct. 19 Town & Country Dog Training Club, Laura Harding's
Bayonet Farms, Holmdell, N.J., Mrs. Dorothy Mikus,
Sec'y., 14 Harold Johnson Place, Cranford, N.J.

FIELD TRIALS

- Aug. 17 James River Retriever Club, Bowling Green, Va.,
Lewis W. Brothers, Jr., Sec'y., 4100 Bremmer Blvd.,
Richmond, Va. 23228. (Qualifying)
- Oct. 4-6 Maryland Retriever Club, Rock Hall, Md., Dr. Paul
Kiernan, Sec'y., 5401 Western Ave., Washington, D.C.
20015
- Oct. 18-20 Del Bay Retriever Club, Smyrna, De., Kenneth D.
Knotts, Sec'y., R.D. 2, Box 770, Smyrna, De. 19977

MAY CLUB ACTIVITIES

(Not completed by deadline)

The Club's Show Handling Class was held on May 5, 15,
22 and 29 at the Navy Elementary School in Fairfax, Virginia.
Mrs. Constance Barton, a Club member and professional handler
whose skill is well known to us all, was the instructor.

The LRCP held a Sanctioned B-OB Match on Sunday, May
26, at Springfield Farms in Middleburg, Virginia. Mr. Jerry
Weiss of Huntington, L.I., N.Y. judged conformation. Mrs.
Katherine Blair of Sterling, Virginia (sub-novice and novice)
and Mr. B. Nolan Dale of Gaithersburg, Maryland (utility,
graduate novice and open) were the obedience judges. A
report on the match will appear in the next issue.

SAFE SWIMMING FOR YOUR LAB Deborah Kobilis

Hot weather, water (from puddles to oceans) and Labs are a natural combination which can spell disaster if a few simple precautions are overlooked. The adage, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," certainly applies to the Lab owner taking his dog swimming.

Safety starts even before leaving the house. Necessities include first aid and snakebite kits, plenty of fresh water and towels. Also advisable is an extra set of dry clothes for the owner who may find himself obliged to play the I-WANT-TO-SEE-YOU-GO-OUT-AND-FETCH-THE-DUMMY game our Labs sometimes play.

Many times the only available water hole for swimming will be a pond or dammed up stream. Such a seemingly serene haven for Labs probably contains more potential dangers than any other kind of water. The most obvious menaces are usually man-made. Broken glass, tin cans, fishing lines and hooks, contaminated garbage and nails protruding from boards are common sights. The list is almost endless. An area heavily littered with such debris should, of course, be avoided. If your or your dog, however, discover a fishhook unexpectedly it can be easily removed by pushing down firmly and pulling out. Should the point of the hook nearly protrude opposite from where it entered, cut the shank of the hook and push it through. Seek medical treatment immediately if any injury to the eye area occurs.

Although not as easily seen as the man-made ones, the natural dangers must not be ignored. Water snakes pose less of a threat than most people realize, and fortunately most of our Club area is too far north for the poisonous water moccasin. Park naturalists in the Washington area maintain that the water moccasin does not extend north of Richmond; occasionally one may be released further north in the summer by someone who trapped it in the south. The only snakes you are likely to encounter in the water in most of our area are the brown water snake, Natrix taxispilata, or the glossy water snake, Natrix rigida. You can recognize the brown water snake by his rather heavy body, yellow belly with crescent-shaped dark spots and the square markings on the back. The glossy water snake will have a yellow belly also but with two rows of black spots. He differs on the top from the brown snake in that he has two parallel brown stripes. Unless you frequent an extremely muddy area you are not likely to find the secretive mud snake, Farancia abacura. Black back, red belly and sharp, spine-like tail distinguish this fellow from his cousins.

While your dog waits in the car for you to check the swimming hole you will probably scare off any snakes and other wildlife nearby. If in spite of this precaution your dog encounters a snake and is bitten, simply clean the wound and don't let him go back into the water until you are sure the snake has left. Few dogs are allergic to non-poisonous snake bites. Should your dog, however, be allergic to the

SAFE SWIMMING, cont.

identify the snake and then get to the vet quickly. While it is not a water snake there is a possibility of finding a copperhead cooling itself near the water on a hot day. This, of course, is a poisonous snake.

Not nearly as wary of intruders as the snakes and inflicting an even more serious wound is the snapping turtle. You may never find one reaching the maximum weight of 35 pounds, but don't let the 3 or 4 pound fella fool you. His bite can be painful. One other point is worth mentioning. They are extremely hard to spot. As the years pass their shells become covered with algae, and they are almost indistinguishable from rocks in the water until they spot their prey or you step on them. They prefer quiet, muddy water.

Lucky is the Lab whose master provides the comfort of a backyard swimming pool. The dogs seem to enjoy and use a pool just as much, if not more, than their masters. Remember, however, that a dog can't escape from a straight-sided pool. Unless he can use the ladder it is a death trap for him. Caution should be exercised in showing the dog how to climb out of the pool when first introducing him to it. This is easily accomplished by g-e-n-t-l-y guiding the dog towards the ladder and letting his fore paws come to rest on the top step. Once he quits paddling he will naturally try to climb out of the water. You are there to tell him he's a good boy and guide him as he becomes accustomed to the ladder.

If one could poll the Labs as to their favorite place to swim, I would guess that the unanimous vote would go to the ocean. There is something about the salty air and incessant sound of the breakers that seems to excite the dogs. I personally don't believe in taking young puppies to the ocean for their first encounter with water. Whereas an experienced swimmer might find the rushing waters challenging, a puppy quite possibly would be terrified out of his wits. Also you must consider the undertow, which can easily overpower and drown a young pup. Even if the pup survived such an ordeal, he might never want to go near moving water again.

The only real threat to my dogs' safety I've come across at the beach has been dead fish. They are sure to attract a dog interested in anything that smells edible, but a fish bone lodged in the throat can spoil the whole outing. To avoid the unpleasant experience of removing a wedged bone I simply cover the fish with enough sand to help mask the odor and avoid that particular spot. If there are too many dead fish, I move out altogether. I have heard of one rare instance of a dog that would seek out and catch crabs! Surprisingly enough he was never bitten. Should your dog be bitten by a crab, treat it as you would any other puncture unless, of course, it is very serious. It should then be treated as any serious wound should--by a veterinarian.

Have a happy and safe summer!

CRUFTS TRIP: INNOCENTS ABROAD George Bragaw

The 12-member contingent of the Labrador Club of the Potomac blew into Heathrow outside London on the heels of a 150 mph gale just after 8:00 on a bright, sunlit Sunday morning, February 3, ending an overnight flight from New York. It was nearly 11:00 by the time we had cleared customs, retrieved missing bags and wound our way by chartered bus to our hotel. Our group included a couple of Ladds, Martha Tower, some Bragaws and some Weiss for spice. Also along was a Chesapeake type, Susan Souther, and PeaWee, who needs no introduction.

Shortly after arrival we had our first hint of the fantastic hospitality we were to receive from the English Labrador breeders. Minutes off the bus, we received word that Mims and Leo Kinsella (Brentchase) were waiting for us in the lobby. "What would you like? Mr. Kinsella began, spreading his hands. "We are at your disposal." They and others were to prove these words throughout the week to a hardly to be credited.

Mims immediately launched us on a two-car lightning tour of London that left little to be discovered on our scheduled tour of that city's fabulous sights later in the week.

What made our trip was that we had lined up a series of visits to some of England's best known Labrador kennels with the Cruft's show--the world's largest with some 11,824 entries over two days--as the finishing touch. Our first visit was to the northwest of London through the rolling English countryside which was surprisingly green and balmy at 60°. We had left Washington in the rain in the high 40's and New York in snow and sleet perhaps another 10 degrees colder.

We arrived at Sandylands cottage in a misty rain, and Gwen Broadley graciously produced a parade of dogs with names familiar in many American pedigrees: Ch. Sandylands Tands, Mark, Gary and a number of stunning young males and bitches, mostly yellow, and a handful of well bred puppies. Over Mrs. Broadley's cozy fireplace hung a lovely Maud Earl Pointer, which reminded us that Gwen numbers some Pointers among her 50 English champions--a tremendous feat in a nation which has less than two dozen championship shows in the course of a year. We lunched that day at a country inn dating perhaps from the 15th century. For those who remember their nursery rhymes, we had Banbury buns by Banbury Cross--hot cross buns offer little competition to these.

Our next visit was to Harold and Margaret Clayton (Ardmargha) near Oxford. Mr. Clayton is best known in the U.S. as editor of the English version of the Labrador pedigree book, The 1972 Labrador Book. His Ch. Ardmargha Goldkrest of Syrencot, owned by Liz Clar, has been highly successful in the Eastern shows. Likewise, Ch. Faith of Ardmargha is currently one of the more successful dogs in England.

Tuesday morning found us on the moors of East Anglia near Sudbury at Lawn House, the lovely home of Major and Mrs.

CRUFTS TRIP, cont.

Aikenhead. Mary Aikenhead, a descendent of Pocohantas, has the Powhatan kennels and has been very successful in eliminating dysplasia and PRA from her lines. (She raises her puppies in four separate environments, never giving the young ones the opportunity to leap on their hind legs or slip on tractionless floors.) Her dogs, including Ch. Powhatan Solo, like those in all the kennels we visited are hunted heavily and run in local gun dog trials.

Next we visited Mrs. Peggy Rae near Braintree, Essex (Cornlands), where we saw Ch. Cornlands Kimvalley Crofter, a hard-going type who, despite his 11 years, was frisky as a puppy. Crofter can probable be best identified by most American as a full brother to Ch. Kimvalley Crispin, a Best-in-Show import owned by Mrs. Clark. He is also the sire of Ch. Cornlands My Fair Lady, another yellow of whom Mrs. Rae is justly proud.

Last, but by no means least, on our agenda was the Kinsella's. They are to be found near Colchester, the oldest town in England, where they have the largest all-bitch yellow kennel in England. Mims judged on the New England circuit last summer, and our Potomac Club was privileged to have Leo judge a match for us last summer during their American visit. (Mrs. Broadley also did a sanctioned match for us in November.) Unfortunately, we arrived at the Kinsella's at night. Mims triumphed over this by inviting 10 full grown Labrador bitches to join us for a gourmet buffet in the Kinsella living room. Amid chicken coronation, creamed brocolli and other culinary delights the most well behaved group of dogs I've ever seen made our acquaintance.

We had scheduled a visit to Mrs. Bridget Docking (Ballyduff) near Norfolk, but the length of time required for a long trip from London forced cancellation. It was who judged the Labrador entry of 302 at Crufts that next Saturday.

In all, those of us on the tour learned a great deal and saw a large number of superior specimens of the breed. Some comments are obvious; others require more thought and are probably subject to disagreement. The English, for example, keep their dogs differently than we do. They keep fewer animals and are very bitch conscious. The typical American kennel I think of has 6' X 4' X 15' or longer runs attached to a building or containing separate dog houses. The runs rest on a large concrete or stone apron. In the English style kennel we saw dogs in box stalls adjacent to large outdoor (sometimes partially covered) runs of 20' X 40' or longer. This was supplemented by fenced fields of an acre or so. The dogs are then exercised a few at a time so every one gets a chance to romp free every day. The dogs are seldom fed a complete dog ration, which most English breeders will tell you is not sufficient for a working dog. Cooked organ meats, vegetables, and whole grains are mixed according to recipes favored by the owners. The "big" kennels in England are small by comparison to some of our large breed-

CRUFTS TRIP, concl.

ing kennels in this country. Gwen Broadley, for example, probably didn't have more than 30 and that included the puppies. "If you have the quality," one breeder sagely put it, you have no need for large numbers."

That brings us to quality and the reason we took the trip in the first place. I, for one, found the quality exceptionally high, especially in the bitches. Our best dogs, I believe, compare favorably with theirs, not surprisingly because almost all of our top producing show lines stem from English lines either directly or via Australia. Beyond the top dogs, however, I can't see our dogs fairing too well. Quality puppies are much less expensive in England than in the U.S., and stud fees for top dogs are a fraction of ours. These people breed closely within their lines, and when they go out, they go out to closely bred lines as well. And they talk about their failures! Faults in specific dogs and lines were discussed openly, and while the English are probably no more immune to political pitfalls than we are, I didn't see much evidence of it--at least in the breed judging.

Sandwiched in between the kennel hopping and the show there was time for shopping, more sight seeing, theatre going and the hoisting of a glass or two. While it rained a bit most every day, it was usually clear by 11 (except the day we went to the changing of the guard, naturally). The temperature was in the 60's, and we weren't affected by the energy shortage although we heard considerable talk of the abbreviated train schedule and saw the dimmed lighting and the hurricane lamps the shops used in the afternoon. In all, our trip was filled with good people, good dogs, good food and good times.

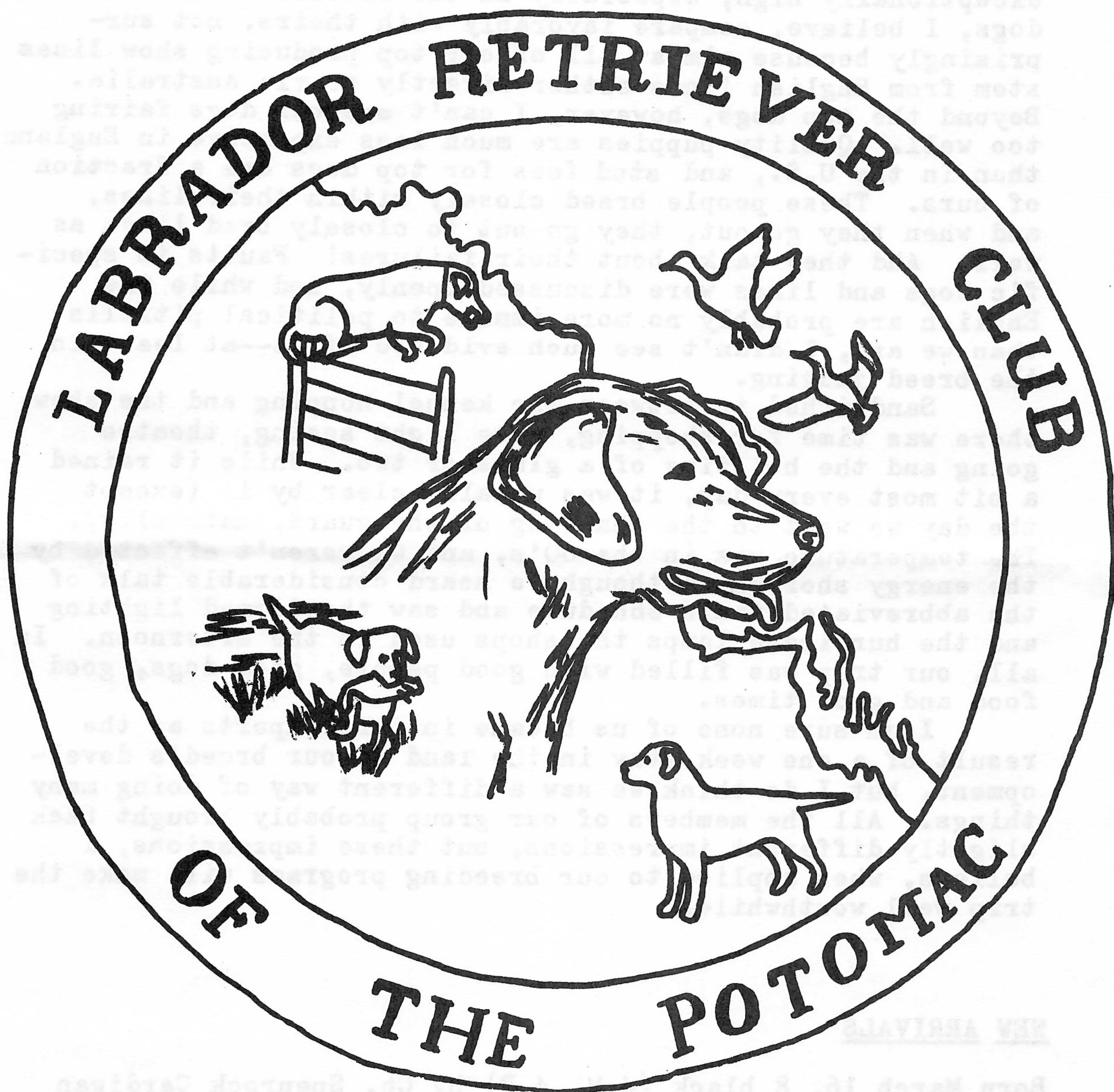
I am sure none of us became instant experts as the result of a one week stay in the land of our breed's development, but I do think we saw a different way of doing many things. All the members of our group probably brought back slightly different impressions, but these impressions, I believe, when applied to our breeding programs will make the trip well worthwhile.

NEW ARRIVALS

Born March 16, 8 black (4 M, 4 F) by Ch. Spenrock Cardigan Bay--Ch. Shenandoah Spritely Diana. Kenneth and Doreen Anderson, 822 Copley Ave., Waldorf, Md. 20501.

Born May 8, 6 yellow (4 M, 2 F) by Ch. Rivermist Tweed of Spenrock--Cedar Misty Dawn. Ready after June 19. Ned and Irma Spencer, 10410 Crossing Creek Drive, Potomac, Md. 20854. (301) 299-4895.

Born February 12, 11 black (5 M, 6 F), 1 yellow (F) by Ch. Dickendall's Flip Flop C.D.--Baroki's Tara Tiptoe C.D. Sylvia R. Fisher, 1902 Ranson St., Staunton, Va. 24401



PROPOSED DESIGN FOR CLUB EMBLEM

Submitted by Mary Jane Stephens

LRCF MATCH, July 6, 1973

(The following is a story which was scheduled for the August, 1973, newsletter but which did not reach the editor until this issue was being composed. In spite of the delay the account of that match may still be of interest to members, since the judge, Mr. Leo Kinsella, has included his comments on the entries.)

I was thrilled to be invited to judge your match on Friday, 6th July, 1973, at the beautiful Springfield Estate. The weather and set were perfect.

It must have been most gratifying to the people who worked so hard to have such a good turn-out. There was no doubt in my mind that the breed will be well served by your Club. It was a pleasure for me to go over such a grand entry, so truly representative of the breed.

Best of the Match was Mrs. Janet Churchill's Lawnwoods Tamatar Trust. To me she is a lovely bitch and typical of the breed. Best Opposite Sex was Mrs. Sylvia R. Fisher's black dog Bravo's Ebony Trooper CDX. Best Puppy was Miss Linda L. Anderson's Joallamar's Churchill.

May I also express my sincere thanks to my two very able stewards, Mrs. Deborah Kobilis and Mrs. Connie Barton.

SUMMARY

3-6 Puppy dog (12 dogs shown)

- 1 - Joe & Sharon May, SHARIKIL'S ACE OF SPADES. A substantially built puppy, good confirmation, moved well.
- 2 - Margaret H. Crother & Margery Brainard, BRIARY BRACKEN. This dog had not the substance of the first.
- 3 - Mary & Sherwood Black, BRAVO BLACK MAGIC OF WORWILD.

9-12 Puppy dog (1 dog shown)

- 1 - Joe & Sharon May, SHARIKILL'S MATTAPONI MONK. Well-boned puppy, kind expression.

9-12 Puppy dog (2 dogs shown)

- 1 - Linda L. Anderson, JOALLAMAR'S CHURCHILL. Good boned, excellent condition, and should develop well. I made this dog Best Puppy of the Match.
- 2 - Patricia D. Whitlock, PAT'S TAWNY JUDGE

Novice dog (2 dogs shown)

- 1 - George Bragaw, SHOOKSTOWN SHERE KHAN. A soundly built dog, moved well, but sadly out of coat.
- 2 - Herbert I. Stern's chocolate dog. Not moving too well. Also out of coat.

Open chocolate dogs (none entered)

Open black dogs (2 dogs shown)

- 1 - Sylvia R. Fisher, BRAVO'S EBONY TROOPER CDX. A good type of Labrador, well built, excellent boned. Short coupled, good level top line and set of tail. I made this Best of Opposite Sex.

Summary of July 6, 1973 Match cont.

2 - Herbert I. Stern, HOLTON DAUPHINE

Open yellow dogs (4 entered, 3 shown)

- 1 - George Bragaw, SHOOKSTOWN GENGHIS KHAN. A good short-backed dog with a pleasing head.
- 2 - Sharon & Joe May, HEATHERBORN BRANDYBUCK. A little longer in the back than the first. Nice reach of neck.
- 3 - Barbara B. Starkey, GATHER GAME KYLE.

3-6 Puppy bitches (9 entered)

- 1 - Helen Warwick & Margaret H. Crothers, LOCKERBIE TORBELLINA. Well proportioned bitch with kindly eye, good top line and well set tail.
- 2 - Hary Babbitt & Sylvia Fisher, BRABO RAVEN OF BRIARWOOD. Lighter in bone. Head not so good as the winner.
- 3 - Sharon & Joe May, SHARIKIL'S BAG OF TRICKS.

6-9 Puppy bitches (1 entered)

- 1 - Mrs. Robert D. Clark, Jr., SPRINGFIELD PLUM PUDDING. Full of substance. Compact. Good expression and top line. Should develop well.

9-12 Puppy bitches (2 entered)

- 1 - Mrs. W. R. Dinwiddie, HY ACRE SEA MIST. Won its place on being the better balanced of the two entries. Failed in shoulders.
- 2 - George Bragaw, SHOOKSTOWN PUMPKIN PIE. Sadly out of coat.

Novice bitches (5 entered)

- 1 - Kenneth Anderson, SHENANDOAH EBON EMPRESS. A deep bodied bitch. A little short in leg which inclined to spoil the balance.
- 2 - Robin Garwood, KIMVALLEY ROWENA ROBBIE. Another well-bodied black. Good set of tail and in good over-all condition.
- 3 - J. F. Gerhold, WITCHES SPOOK.

Open chocolate (1 entered)

- 1 - Helen H. Biggs, DONLEN'S SUPER TARA SUZANNE. In good coat but lacking bone.

Open black (1 entered)

- 1 - Kenneth Anderson, SHENANDOAH SPRITELY DIANA. A well-bodied bitch with a pleasing head.

Open Yellow (5 entered)

- 1 - Janet Churchill, LAWNWOODS TAMSTAR TRUST. A lovely quality bitch, good top line, legs and feet, moved well. I made this bitch the Best of Match.
- 2 - Mary Cook & Mrs. R. V. Clark, Jr., SPRINGFIELD APRICOT WHIP. Lighter in bone than the winner. Nice level top line.

Summary of July 6, 1973 Match, concl.

3 - Barbara B. Starkey, KELHATCH TABITHA OF POWHATAN.

Veteran

A grand show of veterans, all a credit to the breed and carrying their years very lightly. I favored Mrs. Carolyn Bacon's CH. KIMVALLEY BRENTCHASE ANITA, bred by my wife, so therefore had to fight extra hard for her place.

L. S. Kinsella

TOP DOGS

Dr. and Mrs. Edwin A. Churchill report the following wins:
B.O.B. Harford County K.C. CH. SPENROCK'S CARDIGAN BAY
B.O.S. Virginia K.C. CH. SPENROCK'S CARDIGAN BAY
WD National Capital K.C. SPENROCK ANTHONY ADVERSE
RWD Harford County K.C. SPENROCK ANTHONY ADVERSE
RWD Shawnee K.C. SPENROCK ANTHONY ADVERSE

Martha Lee and Buddy Voshell report that their BROAD REACH'S ENGLISH MUFFIN had 14 points with 3 majors by April 21. Her wins are as follows:

RWB Spartanburg K.C. 2/15
WB, BOS Piedmont K.C. 2/16
BW, BOS Tallahassee K.C. 2/23
WB, BOS Thronateeska K.C. 2/24
WB, BOS Tidewater K.C. 2/17
WB Roanoke K.C. 3/18
WB, BOW, BOS Warrenton K.C. 4/17

In addition the Voshell's CH. ZIPPER'S HUSTLIN' WAHOO CD, went Best of Breed at the Valdosta K. C. sho in Valdosta, Georgia and the Thronateeska K. C. show in Albany, Georgia.

In the James River Retriever Club's Licensed Field Trial two of the Voshell's dogs, MOUNT'S TAR BABY & BROAD REACH KISS N' TELL, performed well. One of ten dogs out of 39 starters, TAR went to the last series in the Open stake. KISSY in this, her third licensed Derby, completed 5 series from 49 starters and received a Judge's Award of Merit.

SEPTEMBER ISSUE

How should you respond if you believe you are being harrassed by local authorities enforcing anti-dog laws? A recent issue of the American Dog Owners' Association bulletin tells you what your rights are. This information will be reprinted in the next Newsletter.

LAMENT OF A LADY WHO'S GONE TO THE DOGS
from Waggin' Tales, bulletin of the Fox
Valley Dog Training Club

There was a time, there really was,
When I was sweet and tender;
When Dog meant a Disney Star
and Bitch was not a gender.

I went to bed at half past ten;
I went to church on Sunday;
On Saturday I baked the beans,
and did the wash on Monday.

But then I got a certain pup,
an erstwhile friend said, "Show"
and so I did and so I do.....
Oh, what I didn't know!!!

I used to dress with flair and style
That was the life, don't knock it.
But now each dress from bed to ball
must have a good bait pocket.

I used to have a certain air,
I wallowed in perfume.....
I used to smell of Nuit d'Amour,
Now it's Mr. Groom.

My furniture was haut decor,
My pets a tank of guppies.
Now I've furniture unstuffed
snf erll sfjudyrf puppies!

Once I spoke in pristine prose,
In dulcet tones and frail....
But now I'm using language
that would turn a sailor pale!

I was taught to be well groomed
No matter where I went.
Now all the grooming I do
is in the handler's tent.

I used to long for jewels and furs
and a figure classed as SUPER,
Now the thing I yearn for most
is a nice new POOPER SCOOPER!

I adored a man who murmured verses,
through intimate little dinners,
But now the words I thrill to hear
are just three: "Best of Winners"!!

LAMENT OF A LADY, concl.

I rise at dawn and pack the car,
The road ahead's a long one.
The one I routed on the map
invariably's the wrong one.

I really love the doggy life
I wouldn't care to change it.
But when I get that best in show
I plan to rearrange it.

When my time on earth is done....
I'll go without much nudging....
Just give me a 3-week closing
date and let me know who's judging!

THIRD CLASS

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Editor, LRCF Newsletter

L. W. Marsh

THIRD CLASS

There are two ways to know who is really
your friend. One is to see how he
acts when you are not around. The other
is to see how he acts when you are
around. The first way is the better one.

I have no doubt that if you
were to ask me to write a letter
to you, I would write you a letter
that would tell you exactly what I
thought of you.

There are two ways to know who is
really your friend. One is to see
how he acts when you are not around.
The other is to see how he acts
when you are around. The first way
is the better one.

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