



The NLRC was organized in 1996 with the idea of creating a national club that would preserve and promote the Labrador Retriever. Everyone in the Labrador community is welcome...from pet owners to old timers.

We are a National Lab Club formed by the members, for the members, working together for the preservation, betterment and service to the Labrador Retriever.

## What Keeps You in the fancy? What Motivates You?

Best wishes from the NLRC Board! We appreciate each and every member and thank you for your dues and donations to fund the research for our beloved Labrador Retrievers.

This 'editorial' wrote itself. Members were asked to respond to the following questions about motivation and the need to help each other.

1. What keeps you in the fancy?
2. What are your reasons to continue showing, breeding, keeping your Labradors?

Hopefully, the responses below will motivate and help each of us to lend an ear, a hand, some time to those who need us.

Without the help of our mentors and those we mentor we would be ships without a rudder.

Thank you all for your participation.

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### What keeps you in the fancy?

For me showing, in addition to a breeding program helps me know I'm doing things right and the congregation of so many other dog lovers offers in one spot, on any given weekend, an endless pool of knowledge from others. Not to mention the countless friendships I have acquired in the sport of dog showing. But Honestly the #1 Reason - I LOVE my Dogs and spending time with them! A day at the show with my dogs is like a "family outing".

### What are your reasons to continue showing, breeding, keeping your Labradors.

As a fellow breeder and lover of the Labrador - I continue the endeavor of showing and breeding to improve the breed of the beloved Labrador. I'm always excited about comparing my dogs with other good competitors, to make sure my own breeding program is running well and on course. Beside how else could I boast about and showcase my Fido.

Sincerely,

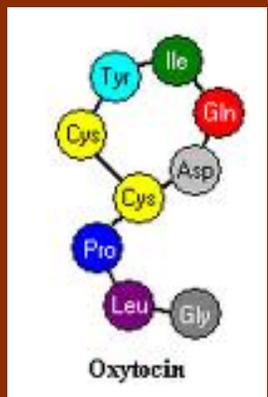
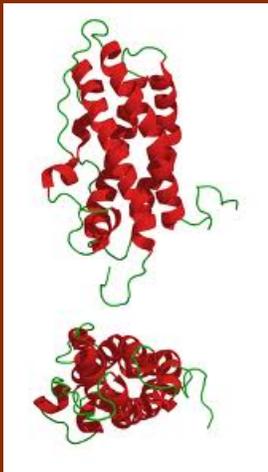
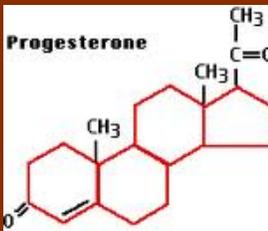
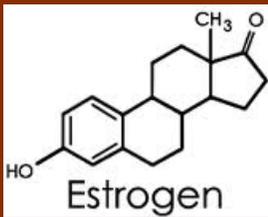
- JEFF MOORE, RAMBO RUN LABRADORS

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## Maternal Behavior by Bretaigne Jones, DVM



One of the best traits a bitch can have in the eyes of a breeder is good mothering ability. Unfortunately, it is not a trait often considered when choosing a bitch to breed; or the female relatives (especially mothers and daughters) of the stud dog to be used. Mothering ability has a strong hereditary aspect, but other factors exert influence as well.

There are four hormones that trigger aspects of mothering behavior: estrogen, progesterone, prolactin and oxytocin. Estrogen is the most active hormone in reproduction from its primary actions in stimulating the physical and behavioral changes associated with estrus (swollen vulva, bloody vulvar discharge and pheromones to attract male dogs), to its secondary role as it also acts as a priming hormone for the other three in preparation for mammary development, lactation and maternal behavior. In order for the estrogen molecule to trigger a response, the target tissue must have estrogen receptors on the cell membranes. The location of the receptors within the brain, and the concentration of the receptors, will determine the type and strength of the response. Progesterone is recognized as the pregnancy hormone. The ovarian follicular cells start to change after ovulation and secrete progesterone to maintain pregnancy. It has some effect on inducing maternal behavior, particularly when its receptors are primed with estrogen. Just before birthing progesterone levels drop abruptly, with a concurrent rise in prolactin. The combination seems to be largely responsible for stimulating immediate mothering behavior such as nesting, and protective maternal aggression. Prolactin's function is largely stimulatory for lactation. Both actions of prolactin, maternal behavior and lactation, are enhanced if estrogen has "primed" the tissues. Lastly, oxytocin is released from the pituitary gland in response to the physical pressure of a puppy against the cervix during labor. One of the actions of oxytocin is to synchronize contractions of the uterus in birthing, and to stimulate the let-down of milk. In conjunction with the other hormones, it stimulates maternal recognition of her pups and care behavior.

Other than the behavior exhibited in the estrous cycle and breeding, these are not behaviors specifically associated with pregnancy until the dam nears labor and delivery. At that time she will exhibit nesting behavior, typically searching out a protected, private place where she can feel safe.

Once the puppies are born, if appropriate hormonal activity has occurred, the dam will begin her mothering by licking them. Initially it is the scent of her amniotic fluid that communicates that the puppies are hers. The dam performs the licking in order to stimulate breathing, and dry the pups' coats. Later she will lick the genitalia of each pup to stimulate urination and defecation since the pups won't eliminate on their own until about 3 weeks of age. The bitch will also use licking on the heads of the pups to ... continued next page

## Maternal Behavior... continued from previous page

guide them nurse.

Some behaviors post-partum are undesirable. Dams may be aggressive to their pups, especially when the pups are making noise. Causes of this aggression can be varied. The first consideration is if the bitch is in pain. Mastitis is a condition that can cause pain, which can trigger aggressive behavior towards the pups. Sometimes the problem is that the bitch does not recognize the pups as her own. Inadequate levels of oxytocin can influence this, as the hormone makes the brain receptive to the amniotic fluid smell immediately after birth and pheromone secretion. Another factor is if the pups are removed as soon as they are born and cleaned up so thoroughly that when returned to the bitch they don't have the amniotic fluid scent to identify them as hers.

Aggression can escalate to cannibalism of one or more of the pups. This type of cannibalism is called kronism. Again, pain can be the cause, and as before, mastitis needs to be considered. Pre-eclampsia, a condition where the bitch's blood calcium (unbound) is too low, but she isn't yet exhibiting the classic signs of seizures, fevers and weakness - can be triggering the aggression. Other causes can be hereditary (lack of estrogen receptors which would negatively impact the action of other hormones), psychological (first time mom, very nervous, etc), and physiological (too much noise, too much foot traffic in the nursery, over-crowding in the nursery area, etc) that results in continued neurotransmitter release

On a less aggressive level, rejection of the pups can be a problem. If it is just one or two pups, it may indicate something is wrong with those particular pups, whereas if it is the entire litter, the problem usually lies with the dam. It can be more common in first litter bitches. Usually if it involves just one or two pups, they may be cold, or too still. The three big threats to the survival of neonates is hypothermia, hypoglycemia and dehydration. If caught soon enough, the pup can be slowly warmed, or if dehydrated, bottle fed to stimulate activity. Do not attempt to feed a cold puppy. They are not capable of swallowing and may aspirate the milk into their lungs instead. Once the puppy has re-established a normal body temperature, the dam will accept it. It is important to note that occasionally rejection will escalate to cannibalism.

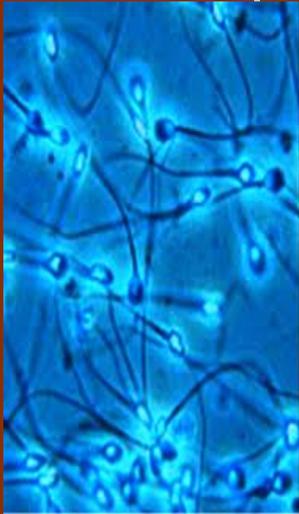
In summary, lack of appropriate maternal behavior can be a result of hormonal imbalance, pre-labor caesarian surgery (lack of pressure on cervix during labor), genetic propensity for inadequate hormone receptors, lack of experience, elevated neurotransmitter release due to stress, or in reaction to pain.

*Reprinted with permission: Bretaigne Jones, DVM Bretaigne.Jones@royalcanin.us*

*Scientific Communications with Royal Canin USA*

submitted by: Sandra Underhill

## At the American Kennel Club Website.....



Just seen posted at the American Kennel Club's entry page at [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org) this month (April 2011) was the notice that effective back on 11/09/09 the AKC Board of Directors changed the requirements for registering a litter resulting from artificial insemination using fresh extended semen. The requirement that the extraction be done by a veterinarian has been removed. "Litters conceived using fresh extended semen may be registered online" the announcement stated.

The AKC Procedures for Registration matters booklet located online at [www.akc.org/pdfs/rulebooks/RREGS2.pdf](http://www.akc.org/pdfs/rulebooks/RREGS2.pdf) - page 5 - Effective January 1, 2010 states that the form [AKC litter application] includes a space for certification of the "person authorized to extract and extend the semen" is to sign.

Submitted by: Sandra Underhill

Please feel  
free to forward  
our  
newsletter to  
interested  
family and  
friends

## NLRC Membership -- Open Enrollment

Membership in the National Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. is open to all Labrador enthusiasts; however, to join you must be in good standing with the American Kennel Club, Inc. and should consider the guidelines set forth in the [NLRC Code of Ethics](#) when engaged in any activities involving the breeding, exhibiting and selling of Labrador Retrievers.

Two types of annual individual memberships are offered:

Full (voting member)	\$30
Associate (non-voting)	\$20

Click the below links for NLRC Membership forms:

[NLRC Membership Application Form \(that can be printed and mailed in with your membership fee\)](#)

Or to both apply and pay online

[NLRC Membership Application](#)

Are you listed in our [NLRC Breeders Directory](#)?

NLRC Members with full membership rights can apply to participate on the NLRC website Breeder Directory by completing the applicable section on the PDF membership application and submitting a \$10 fee.

Any questions? Contact our Membership Chair:

Deb Arnold 262-849-0962  
[twin\\_cedars@prodigy.net](mailto:twin_cedars@prodigy.net)



**Support TVD Research!**

Visit the [National Labrador Retriever Club Website](#) for more info!

## The 2010 Safer Pet Vaccination Seminar

The DVD of The 2010 Safer Pet Vaccination Seminar is available.

The live 2010 presentation of W. Jean Dodds, DVM is almost two hours in length and was edited by event organizer Jan Rasmussen to pack in important information and remove questions and answers that were applicable to only a few audience members attending the seminar.

You will hear the 2010 Q&A session with Dr. Dodds' and world-renowned scientist Ronald D. Schultz, PhD., plus there is bonus footage from the 2009 NE Rabies Challenge Fund Benefit Seminar plus audio from Dr. Dodds' audio interview about canine thyroid disease.

Included is the 57 page program guide with articles from Schultz and Dodds' plus a year's subscription to "Dogs Naturally Magazine."

The DVD is appropriate for dog "parents" and trainers, groomers and veterinarians.

Sales of this DVD benefits the Rabies Challenge Fund for rabies vaccine studies.

You may visit the Rabies Challenge Fund website at:

[www.RabiesChallengeFund.org](http://www.RabiesChallengeFund.org)

The DVD of the 2010 Safer Pet Vaccination Seminar can be purchased at: [www.Dogs4Dogs.com](http://www.Dogs4Dogs.com) submitted by: Becky Bailey



 Rabies Challenge Fund



## BELQUEST ULTIMATE LATTE – “LATTE”

Vicky Creamer's (Belquest Kennel) Belquest Ultimate Latte - "Latte"

4/14/2011 2nd Open Chocolate Labrador Retriever - Club of the Potomac Judge Linda Porter (Lindall Labradors)



## **BELQUEST MARIE CLAIRE AT WATERBERRY – "CLAIRE"**

Vicky Creamer's (Belquest Kennel) Belquest Marie Claire At Waterberry - "Claire"

4/14/2011 WB Labrador Club of the Potomac under Judge Linda Porter (Lindall Labradors) 5 pts

4/15/2011 BOW at the Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac under Judge Clair Senfield (Allegheny Labradors).



## BISS AM AKC GCH GATEWAY'S NOTHIN' BUT TROUBLE

Vicky Creamer's (Belquest Kennel) BISS AM AKC GCH Gateway's Nothin' But Trouble - "Trouble"

4/14/2011 - Winner of Stud Dog Class Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac Judge Gunilla Ek (Attikonak Labradors)

4/15/2011 - Award of Merit Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac Judge Clair Senfield (Allegheny Labradors)



## UKC CH ANNUAL'S NOSTALGIC AT HILLDREAMS – "SPENCER"

Vicky Creamer's (Belquest Kennel) UKC CH Annual's Nostalgic At Hilldreams - "Spencer "

4/14/2011 2nd Open Yellow Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac Judge Gunilla Ek (Attikonak Labradors)

Fergus' Photo not yet available  
Fergus' sire, Trouble and Dam, Fergie are below



## **BELQUEST FERGUS N TROUBLE@SNOBO – "FERGUS"**

Vicky Creamer's (Belquest Kennel) Belquest Fergus N Trouble@Snobo - "Fergus"

By CH Gateway's Nothin' But Trouble with CH Belquest Lovely Lady Lumps

4/12/2011 2nd 12-15 Sweepstakes Yellow Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac - Judge Dan Clark (Everwood Labradors)

4/13/2011 1st 12-15 Yellow Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac—Judge Gunilla Ek (Attikonak Labradors)



## UKC CH STORMY C'S BLACK RAIN – "RAIN"

Christina Trojak's (StormyCLabradors) UKC CH Stormy C's Black Rain - "Rain"

Rain, (Enterprise Great Adventure x Casbar's Red Hot Chili Pepper). was awarded WB/BOW (4 pts) at the MJLRC supported show, under judge Wendy McNaughton (Kazorp), March 26, 2011.

The day prior she went RWB under Rune Fagerstrom. At Potomac Rain went 2nd in 12 - 15 black sweeps and 3rd in her regular class. Breeder/owner/handler - Christina & Steve Trojak (Stormy C Labradors)



## STORMY C'S TRUFFLE SHUFFLE – "CHUNK"

Christina Trojak's (StormyCLabradors) Stormy C's Truffle Shuffle - "Chunk"

Chunk, (Enterprise' Great Adventure x Stormy C's Bittersweet Symphony) achieved his UKC champion title and also went BISS at the ULRA specialty January 23, 2011. At Potomac Chunk went 3rd in his 9 - 12 mo chocolate sweeps class. Breed/owner/handler Christina & Steve Trojak (Stormy C). Co-owned with Claudia Vaigl.



## CASBAR'S A HART ACT TO FOLLOW – "ECHO"

Jeff Moore's (Rambo Run Labradors) Casbar's A Hart Act To Follow - "Echo"

First Place in the 6-9 month puppy Sweepstakes, under Judge Mr. Dan Clark

First Place 6-9 month Puppy Regular Class, under Judge Mrs. Gunilla Ek whose critique reads: *"What a gorgeous puppy! Everything in the right place, kindest of heads, floating into the neck, shoulders, topline, tailset and his tail. SUPER! Shows and moves like a grown up champion, standing on super bone and neat feet. Must have a brilliant future!"*

Best of Opposite, Sweepstakes, under Judge Mr. Dan Clark

April 12-15th Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac



## SCARLAW'S SASSY SOUL SISTER – "SASSY"

Jeff Moore's (Rambo Run Labradors) Scarlaw's Sassy Soul Sister - "Sassy"

First Place 6-9 Month Puppy Sweepstakes, Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac under Judge Dr. Christine Kofron - April 12 - 15th 2011

Second Place 6-9 Month Puppy Regular Class, Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac under Judge Mrs. Linda M. Porter - April 12-15th 2011



## RAMBO'S CHARMING CINNABAR – "CARLEY"

Jeff Moore's (Rambo Run Labradors) Rambo's Charming Cinnabar - "Carley"

Second Place 12-15 Month Puppy Regular Class, Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac, under Judge Mrs. Linda M. Porter - April 12—15th 2011



## GINGERBRED PARTY ANIMAL – "Belushi"

Katy Bazurto's (Bazurto Labrador Retrievers) Gingerbred Party Animal - "Belushi"

Belushi was bred by Christine Tye

Winners Dog - Saturday, April 2, 2011 - Silver State Kennel Club - Judge Beth Sweigart - 4pt major

Winners Dog - Saturday, April 3, 2011 - Silver State Kennel Club - Judge CE Trotter - 5pt major



## BAZURTOS LETS GET THE PARTY STARTED – "LIZZY"

Katy Bazarto's (Bazarto Labrador Retrievers) Bazurtos Lets Get the Party Started—"Lizzy"

Lizzie was bred and is owned by Katy Bazarto

San Mateo Kennel Club, Inc - Saturday March 26, 2011 - Reserve Winners Bitch

1st place in the 12-18mo bitch classes on 2/5/11 & 2/6/11 and BEST IN SWEEPS under Judge Anthony Leitao  
Sun Maid Kennel Club, Fresno, CA on Feb. 6th, 2011



## SUN COUNTRY FIRE AND REIGN – "JAMES"

Julie Brady's (Sun Country Labs) Sun Country Fire and Reign - "James"  
(CH Hunterleigh Tabatha Headline, JH, CD x Chablais Noelle of Sun Country)  
Reserve Winners Dog - April 30th 2011 at the Southern California Specialty!

Thank you judge, Mrs. Judith Charlton.



## SUN COUNTRY IL MIO SOLE' – "SOLE"

Julie Brady's (Sun Country Labs) Sun Country Il Mio Sole' - "Sole"  
(CH Zinfndel Brigham x Chablaise Noelle of Sun Country)  
First Place/W/BOB/BW (16 months old!)  
Shoreline KC - December 11th 2010



## CHABLAIS NOELLE OF SUN COUNTRY – "NOELLE"

Julie Brady's (Sun Country Labs) Chablais Noelle of Sun Country - "Noelle"

Mother to James and Sole' – a family affair! (AM CH Chablais Ouzo x AM CH Chablais Opale)

Second Place - LRC, Inc. National Specialty - October 14th 2010.

Judge: Ms. Claire White – Peterson – Thank you!

# What Keeps You in the fancy?

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Motivation: I am a naturally motivated person in everything that I do (except cleaning ;) I always strive to do the best job I can at anything that I do.

What keeps me showing, breeding, keeping labs: I have a fairly stressful life - stressful job, three children, working on a master's degree, 100 acre farm, horses, and a state licensed kennel. The dogs are definitely my outlet. I like to just sit and watch them run around the yard and go for walks or play with them. It is very calming and helps me to relax. I also love the unconditional love that they give.

Breeding is a labor of love. It is a lot of work, but the puppies are so much fun. I continue to show because I am naturally competitive and I strive to get better and better with what I produce and how I do in the show ring.

- IVY SPRINGS LABRADORS

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I really like that I meet so many people at dog shows that are always willing to offer advise or a helping hand. I went to the Potomac for the first time this year and participated in the mentoring program. It was absolutely fantastic. If it is offered anywhere else, I would definitely sign up and would encourage others who want more knowledge of the breed to do so also. I especially like that my mentors were so eager to share their vast knowledge of the Labrador breed. If someone new came into Labradors and asked me questions, I would be happy to share what I've learned so far.

....what keeps you in the fancy? The love of the breed is number one. I also love the diversity of my dogs. We love doing the conformation shows but sometimes we need a break. It great to be able to pack them up and go to a WC fun day or to obedience class or just stay home and play ball or lay on the couch watching TV.

....what are your reasons to continue showing, breeding, keeping your Labradors? My Labradors are part of my family. Showing them allows me to validate my breeding program and to show others what I am able to achieve and to contribute towards the continuation of a sound, healthy, beautiful Labrador that conforms to breed standards and is a solid working dogs also.

- KATY BAZURTO

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You would think after forty years I would ask these questions myself but I don't. I have dedicated a lot of my life to the betterment of Labradors because of the joy Labradors have given me. No where else can a person learn so much about themselves and what qualities are important has they can through the eyes of their dog.

The moment I knew I wanted to be a serious breeder was in the duck blind with my boss Dale Kaisersott and my fifth Labrador "Pumpkin" about 30 years ago. I asked Dale why he opened duck season with me every year he said "because unless I shoot a duck or pull a sandwich out of my lunch pail I never even know your dog is in the boat and that's the way it should be". Moments later 2 drake Mallards flew into the spread and Dale wounded one, Pumpkin was sent on a blind retrieve as she approached the duck the wounded Mallard dove with Pumpkin right behind him 25 yards to our right. With both the duck and the dog under water the surface became smooth and the slough became quiet and for what seemed an eternity there was nothing when to our left 25 yards the duck surfaced and started to swim when a pair of jaws came up and grasped the duck firmly. It was in that collection of a few days that stand out in a person's memory. A few years ago I was asked to evaluate a pedigree and there it was, Pumpkin was in the pedigree 5th generation and I told him this pedigree is OK because it has the best Labrador in history in it.

Continued page 22

*What do you get when you cross a Labrador and a phone?*

*A Labrador Receiver!*

*"If you are going through hell, keep going."*

- Winston Churchill

*"Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at the end of your arm ... As you grow older you will discover that you have two hands. One for helping yourself, the other for helping others."*

- Audrey Hepburn

# What Keeps You in the fancy?

continued from page 21

At 60 my days of slogging through mud to hunt ducks are over but I still enjoy training and competing so we show. But I will be the first to tell you even with all our wins, countless number of champions and so many great dogs through the years and becoming AKC Breeder of Merit my most vivid memories are remote fields on sunny days with my loyal four legged friends.

Charlie Tolkien  
Goldberry Labradors

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....motivation....the need to help each other -- We definitely need to help one another. So many of us do not have mentors and have to compile information from many breeders and hands on experience. Hence the reason to support one another with honesty, sincerity and openness. With all of those things, comes more motivation.

....what keeps you in the fancy? The love of the Labrador as a loyal friend keeps me in the fancy along with the need to show folks here in the Midwest the importance of a correctly bred Labrador, and the rewards it reaps. The friendships I have made and the beauty of the beast itself.

....what are your reasons to continue showing, breeding, keeping your Labradors? Pretty much the same as above, along with the joy and pride going around the ring with a pup I have bred or trained.

- ANONYMOUS

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I just love the temperament of this wonderful breed and how they show their loving affection each day toward me... They are a true buddy type dogs and they love to spend each moment of life with us people...

I love the looks of our breed, their head, coat, and otter tail truly set them apart from the other breeds making them truly special... and I love the fact Labradors are the most trustworthy dogs for all to have... and breeding them for the families you know they can be trusted with children of all age group and trusted with adults of all age group as well... and they can be trusted with other types of animals such as cats, other breeds of dogs, and livestock... The Labradors prove themselves over and over again that they have the very best of temperament of any breed of dog and this is what keeps me with this breed.

Have a great day...

- KATHY

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*"Immature love says: 'I love you because I need you.'*  
*Mature love says 'I need you because I love you.'"*  
- Erich Fromm

*"The best portion of a good man's life is his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love"*  
- William Wordsworth

*"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."*  
- Winston Churchill

## What Keeps You in the fancy?

continued from page 22

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...motivation....the need to help each other

Since I've joined the obedience world I have been coached and helped by many great people. I in turn, now try to give back and also help people with training in obedience. I have been the Open/Utility instructor for our club and always enjoy when my students get a new title.

...what are your reasons to continue showing, breeding, keeping your Labradors

I have an absolute love for animals and have owned all kinds of animals all my life. My first lab, OJ came into my life at a crucial time and was the best dog I have every owned. From that point on my love of labs has just grown. I became addicted to the world of obedience with my Fritz who is now going to be nine. I love to see how my labs learn and how they think through each segment of training and work through problems.

I have only bred Stormee once and plan on breeding very shortly. She is such a great little girl and I breed to enhance all her qualities and keep the lab standard.

- JANE FRANTZ, WILLOWDALELABRAODRS.COM

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they love us and it shows, (they) don't ask for much

- DEB ARNOLD, TWIN CEDARS LABRADORS

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I do this because I love my puppy parents. Every time I put a pup in the arms of a new family I get a warm feeling that takes me back to my first Labrador. I love our pedigree work. My mentors taught me the importance of "who" a dog is from and my Grandfather taught me to always remember "who I am and Who I serve". Because of the pedigree work for the Labradors I did my own ancestry and my daughters and I are proud members of the Daughters of the American Revolution. All because of my Labradors. What keeps me doing this? My families and my mentors who consistently prop me up. My sweet Labradors. I truly need them because I love them so very much.

I love the people who so generously give me their time, be it ten years ago, last night, tomorrow. Without their guidance I would be a ship without a rudder. I owe Connie, Maureen, Sylvia, Becky, Abby and so many more for the hours invested in me. My mentors, I truly need them because I love them so very much!

- BECKY BAILEY, TARRAH LABRADORS

submitted by: Becky Bailey



**National Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.**

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The National Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. exists for the protection and betterment of the breed, to encourage education of the general public who may want to add a Labrador to their family and to meet a social responsibility to its members, the general public, and the Labrador world in particular. To this end, we adopted a [Code of Ethics](#) to serve as a guide.

Our Newsletter, The Labrador Connection, is published by the club periodically when sufficient material is received. The Labrador Connection's newest electronic issue is emailed to members when it is published and all issues may be viewed online at any time.

Visit our website online at [www.NationalLabradorRetrieverClub.com](http://www.NationalLabradorRetrieverClub.com)



The National Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. Membership list is viewable online from our website [MEMBERS](#) link. The NLRC membership list is intended for viewing by fellow NLRC members only. To access the membership list, please enter the user name: *nlrc* and then the password: *in08doNATE2tvd*  
Once the login window is displayed, enter the password *overview* to view the membership list.