

TOP LINES

KEYSTONE LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB

Spring / Summer 2025

2025 Officers:

President: Karen Vare

Vice President: Mickie Kelly

Secretary: Jody Parisi **Treasurer:** Ann Tyler

Board Of Directors:

Shirley Spinelli, Gail Scatton,

Carol Fiorito, Nancy Guerrini,

Georgann Syphard

Committees:

Conformation: TBD (Chair)

Obedience/Rally: TBD (Chair)

Field Day: TBD (Chair)

Judges: TBD (Chair)

Hospitality: TBD (Chair)

Website: Sara Thornton

(WebMaster)

Membership Coordinator: TBD

Sunshine Club: TBD

AKC Relationship Coordinator:

Club Secretary

Trophies: Mickie Kelly (Chair)

Historian: Shirley Spinelli

Newsletter Editor: Kathy LaFrana;

email:vixenscup@yahoo.com

Facebook: Mickie Kelly

Annual Dinner: Mickie Kelly

Nominating: TBD

Photographer: Jody Parisi



Submitted by Jody Parisi:

Here is my girl Nia earning her WORKING Certificate Intermediate at MJLRC's WC trial on June 21, 2025 at Blue Spring Kennels in NJ. The WCI requires the dog to perform a double retrieve on land and water and deliver to hand, and also to honor the next dog retrieving.



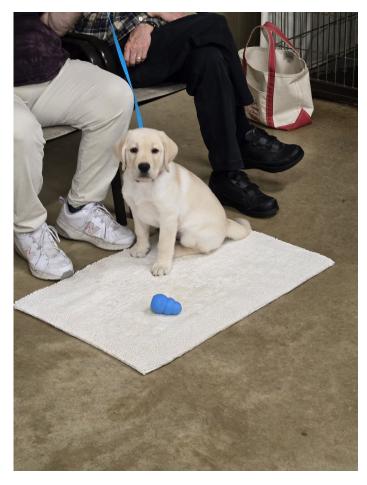


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Submitted by Kathy LaFrana:

I now have a new puppy which came to live with us on May 24, 2025. His name is Sunny (Ivyline Little Ray of Sunshine). He did well in Puppy Kindergarten and I hope to show him in Obedience and Rally in the future!









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Submitted by Julie McKeever:

After completing another year as therapy dog at Central Montgomery County Technical HS, Dutch and I have started to get back out there! He successfully earned his Fetch Dog Novice and Farm Dog Companion titles so far this Summer.









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Submitted by Nanci Alldred:

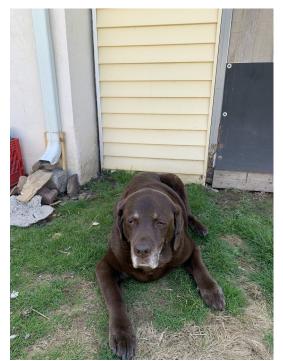
My Dover, who is now 13.5 years old.















PHOTOS Cont'd on next page

Submitted by Nanci Alldred:

Ransom visiting with my dad who is almost 101 years old.





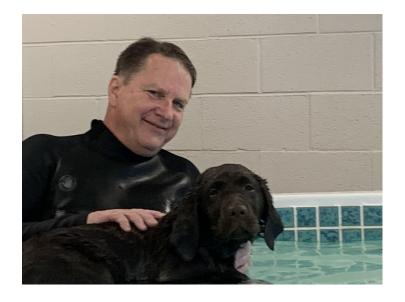






Submitted by Nanci Alldred:

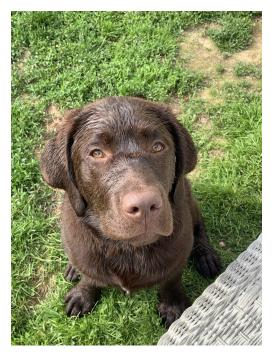
Bonus came home with us in January and we are loving him so very much!!!







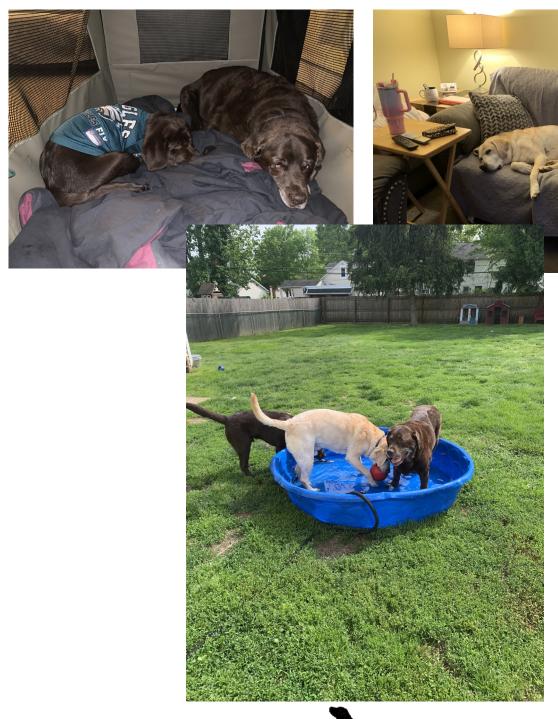






Submitted by Nanci Alldred:

All of my boys together! Dover, Ransom and Bonus!



UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

General Membership Meetings

September 13th or 14th, 2025

At Lehigh Valley or Berks Kennel Club show following Lab judging (Depending on when Labs are in the ring. Stay Tuned!)

November 7th or 8th, 2025

Location and date to be decided

(Details will be emailed closer to the event)

Upcoming Supported Entries

Valley Forge Kennel Club

December 6th and 7th, 2025

Our club will also be supporting both Obedience and Rally



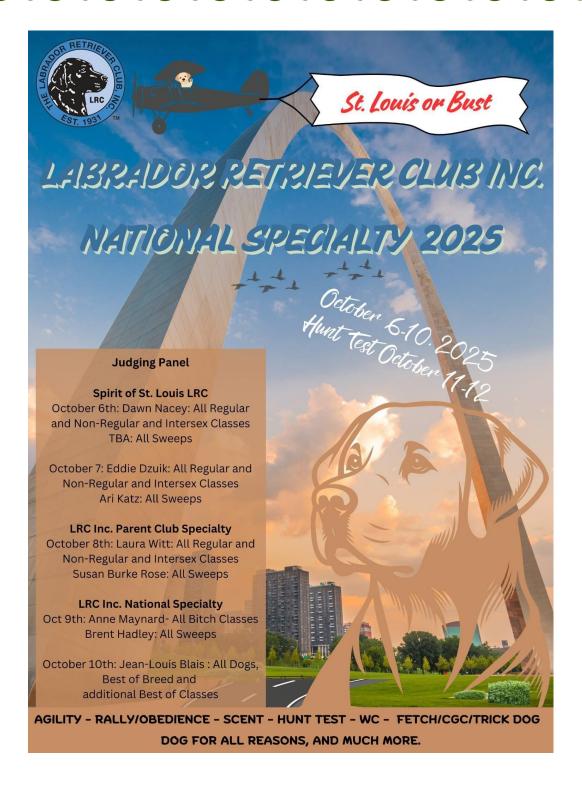




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UPCOMING EVENTS (CONT'D)

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EVENTS continued on next page

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONT'D)

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FRI, OCT 24

BARE BONES

Independent Specialty

Breed Classes: Marion Daniel (Mar-Moye) Sweepstakes: Stephanie von Jess (Handy Hill) Jr Showmanship: Cully Leck (Vagabond)

SAT, OCT 25

LIZ CLARK SPECIALTY

Designated Specialty with Middle Peninsula KC of VA

Breed Classes: Ron Morelos (Stonewall)
Sweepstakes: Dianne Ammerman (Casbar)

SUN, OCT 26

Supported Entry with Middle Peninsula KC of VA Judge: Jim Bowron (Fortune)

All panels pending AKC approval
Superintendent: MB-F (www.infodog.com)



EVENTS continued on next page

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONT'D)

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Blue Mountain Cluster



FOUR DAYS OF ALL BREED SHOWS
&
SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

MACUNGIE MEMORIAL PARK
50 Poplar St. Route 100
Macungie, Pa. 18062

Rau Dog Shows, Superintendent

SUPPORTED ENTRIES & SPECIALTIES

POCONO MT. KENNEL CLUB Thursday & Friday Conformation and Obedience

LEHIGH VALLEY KENNEL CLUB
Saturday
Conformation - Obedience & Rally
National Owner Handled Series
4 to 6 Month Puppy and Pee Wee Events

BERKS COUNTY KENNEL CLUB
Sunday
Conformation - Obedience & Rally
National Owner Handled Series
4 to 6 Month Puppy and Pee Wee Events

INDOOR TOY BREED JUDGING

Saturday & Sunday

NEXT TO BUILDING
RESERVED DAY PARKING FOR TOY BREEDS (LIMITED)

GREAT VENDORS
RESERVED DAY & RV PARKING
RESERVED DAY

Best in Show Winners from all four days compete for..

"BEST IN CLUSTER"



EVENTS continued on next page

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Delaware Valley Havanese Club All Breed Health Clinic



When: October 26, 2025 Time: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Where: Macungie Memorial Park 50 N. Populart St. Macungie, PA 18602

Pre-Registration is required!

Deadline October 16th

To Pre-Register, access form through the DVHC website: www.delawarevalleyhavaneseclub.com or email us at: dvhcclinic24@gmail.com

Payment options: Checks and Square

Please mail checks to: 1169 Darrah Rd Warminster, PA 18974 Check payments must be received by: 09/21/2025

> CARDIOLOGY Megan King VMD,DACVIM Echocardiogram (Doppler) \$310 Auscultation \$55

BAER TESTING **Judy Pawlusiow DVM DipACVIM** (SAIM) \$55

EYES Brad Holmberg DVM,MS,PhD, **Diplomat AVCO** \$50



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Canine Heat Injury Fast Facts

Veterinary Tactical Group



 Body temperature is not a good predictor of heat injury in dogs. That is, the number alone can't tell you if a dog is getting "too hot."

Some athletic dogs can tolerate working temperature of 106° F and higher, while less fit dogs may suffer severe heat stroke at those temperatures. The best predictor of getting "too hot" is their behavior: uncontrollable panting, tongue hanging out and "floppy:" (look for subtle loss of muscle tone in the tongue), slow to respond or ignoring commands, shade seeking, subtle loss of coordination like small stumbling or tripping.

When a dog incurs heat injury, rapid cooling is the most important life-saving step.

There's an unfortunate myth that "cooling too fast could put them into shock." They have heat stroke: they are already in shock! In heat stroke, BODY HEAT is the immediate lifethreat: there is **no benefit** to leaving them HOT for an extended time. By doing this you are essentially allowing the life-threatening problem to continue "cooking" and causing further harm to the dog.

3. Cooling methods: Ice water is okay, wet towels are okay. Anything that is cooler than the dog is okay!

Another unfortunate set of myths is that certain cooling methods are harmful, slow down cooling, or even cause the dog to get warmer. Some methods of cooling *are* faster than others, and we recommend using those if available (cold/cool running water, water troughs, ice water, etc.) but in reality, anything that is colder than the dog will cause the dog to cool down to some degree. Wet towels do trap in tiny bit of heat ("wetsuit effect") but cannot actually cause the dog to get warmer. Ice water on the skin does cause some vasoconstriction but not enough to slow cooling or cause any other significant medical complications. Cool the dog down with whatever you have available in your immediate environment. Stop cooling at 104° F (40° C) ("Safe temperature") and continue monitoring the dog's temperature as they may drop below normal (below 99° F/ 37.2° C) and need to be rewarmed to keep within a normal range.

4. Cool first, then transport.

A 10-minute trip to the veterinarian without first cooling to "safe temperature" (104° F /40° C) is ten minutes longer that you've let the dog "cook." If you don't have a thermometer, allow at least five minutes of any rapid cooling technique before transport. Remember excessive **body heat** is the immediate threat to life. The veterinarian is no more skilled at hosing down a dog than you are in the field! Veterinary treatments like IV fluids and antibiotics are secondary treatments that are important, but not intended to stop the *immediate life-threat*. You can do the best life-saving treatment with rapid, immediate cooling.



New genetic cause of blindness in dogs

n collaboration with a foundation that breeds service dogs for the visually impaired, researchers at the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Padova in Padova, Italy, have identified a novel variant associated with progressive retinal atrophy in three Labrador retrievers.

In most animals, humans included, vision starts in the retina, where the layers of cells at the back of the eye receive light and convert it into electrical signals that are sent to the brain to create the visual images that are "seen." Disruption to this process, often the result of inherited retinal diseases (IRDs), can lead to a variety of visual impairments, including blindness, in humans and other mammals such as dogs.

In a recent study published in <u>Scientific Reports</u>, researchers at Penn Vet and the University of Padova in Padova, Italy, found a genetic mutation in three Labrador retriever littermates affected by progressive retinal atrophy, the most common classification of IRDs in dogs

These dogs were brought to the attention of <u>Leonardo Murgiano</u> and <u>Gustavo D.</u>
<u>Aguirre</u> of Penn Vet and their collaborators by a foundation that breeds service dogs for the visually impaired.

"We have been providing services to guide dog organizations since 1989," says Aguirre. "When these organizations reach out to us, our aim is to find the mutation and develop a diagnostic test for it so that they can use it to breed dogs without this condition in the future."

Specifically in this study, the researchers identified a 3-bp deletion in the coding region of GTPBP2, a gene that encodes a G-protein expressed in several tissues—including canine retina. They found that this deletion was linked to the loss of a highly conserved alanine well outside of the GTPase domain of GTPBP2, where the activity of the protein is regulated, toggling it "on" and "off." Therefore, this finding indicates that loss of this alanine affects a different aspect of the protein, possibly its cellular localization.



UNUNUNUNUNUNUNUNUNUNUNUN ARTICLES (CONT'D)

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An analysis of 91 non-affected Labrador retrievers from the same kennel and 569 from the general U.S. population identified 16 carriers—all from the original kennel. All other dogs were wild-type—that is, they carried the "normal" version of the gene—highlighting the rarity of this variant.

Mutations in this gene have also been reported in humans; however, these human GTPBP2 genetic variants are associated with Jaberi-Elahi syndrome—human patients typically have neurologic abnormalities such as motor alterations, seizures, and intellectual disabilities as well as general morphologic abnormalities. In contrast, the affected dogs in this study showed no other symptoms other than retinal degeneration/blindness.

"What we report here is a variant that appears to be less severe in our dogs than what is reported in humans, possibly occurring in a different region of the protein—closer to its terminal part," explains Murgiano. "We have observed this before in genes attributed to syndromes—not all mutations in those genes lead to syndromes. Phenotypes can be flexible,

and what we report here is an example of a flexible phenotype. This could have relevance in a general medical genetics landscape."

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Cellular localization of normal (wild-type [WT]) and A536del mutant GTPBP2 proteins. Cells were transfected with WT (a,b) or with A536del mutated GTPBP2 cDNAs (c,d).

(Image: Eylem Emek Akyürek and Roberta Sacchetto; courtesy of Leonardo Murgiano and Gustavo D. Aguirre).

Gustavo D. Aguirre is a professor of medical genetics and ophthalmology in the Department of Clinical Sciences & Advanced Medicine and co-director of the Sylvia M. Van Sloun Laboratory for Canine Genomic Analysis at the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania.

Leonardo Murgiano is a senior research investigator in the Department of Clinical Sciences & Advanced Medicine and co-director of the Sylvia M. Van Sloun Laboratory for Canine Genomic Analysis Penn Vet.

Other authors are Jessica Niggel of Penn Vet and Eylem Emek Akyürek and Roberta Sacchetto of the University of Padova in Padova, Italy.



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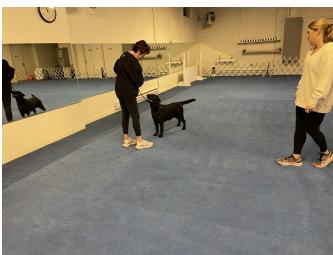


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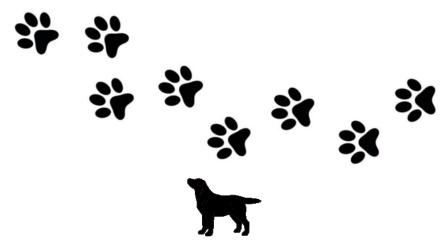
We want to thank all who came out to participate in our conformation matches, and support KLRC. A great time was had by all.









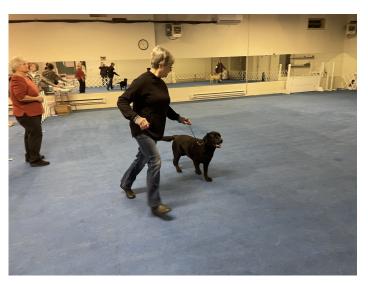


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Our annual awards banquet was held on March 30, 2025. The presentation, raffle and food were all fantastic and we had a wonderful time. If you didn't make it this year we hope you can make it next time! It's not to miss!



Congratulations to all the title winners



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Awards

Carol Fiorito

AKC BEGINNER NOVICE RIDGEWAY'S MAY BELL, TKN, BN

AKC CANINE GOOD CITIZEN
RIDGEWAY'S MAY BELL BN, CGC, TKN

AKC COMPANION DOG RIDGEWAY'S MAY BELL BN, CGC, TKN, CD

Jody Parisi

AKC JUNIOR HUNTER

NARNIA OF DUNLUCE CASTLE, RN, CGC, WC,
TKN, FDC, JH

AKC BCAT NARNIA OF DUNLUCE CASTLE, RN, CGC, WC, TKN, FDC, JH, BCAT

AKC FECTH NOVICE

NARNIA OF DUNLUCE CASTLE, RN, JH, FDC,
CGC, TKN, BCAT, FTN

AKC FECTH INTERMEDIATE

NARNIA OF DUNLUCE CASTLE, RN, JH, FDC,
CGC, TKN, BCAT, FTI

AKC CANINE GOOD CITIZEN

MCQUILLAN OF DUNLUCE CASTLE, CGC



Nanci Alldred

AKC FIT DOG BRONZE

DOVER VINCENT ALLDRED, CDX, PCD, BN, GN, RE, FDC, CGCA, TKA, FDB

AKC FETCH NOVICE

FIX'S HOLDING MY HEART FOR RANSOM, CD, PCD, BN, RI, FDC, CGCA, TKA, FTN

AKC FIT DOG BRONZE

FIX'S HOLDING MY HEART FOR RANSOM, CD, PCD, BN, RI, FDC, CGCA, TKA, FTN, FDB

Nancy Guerrini and Mickie Kelly

AKC DOCK JUNIOR EXCELLENT 2

TREASURYS THE FUN IS IN THE CHASE UD, BN, DXJ2, DS, TKI, FTI, CGC, FDC

AKC UTILITY DOG

TREASURY'S THE FUN IS IN THE CHASE, UD, BN, RA, FDC, DS, DKX, CGC, TKI, FTN

AKC FECTH INTERMEDIATE

TREASURY'S THE FUN IS IN THE CHASE, UD, BN, RA, FDC, DS, DJX, CGC, TKI, FTI



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Karen Vare

AKC BEGINNER NOVICE SYMPHONY'S EASY ON THE EYES, BN

AKC COMPANION DOG SYMPHONY'S EASY ON THE EYES BN, CD

AKC BEGINNER NOVICE SYMPHONY'S MAKE ME A STAR, BN

AKC OBEDIENCE MASTER 1
WYNDALE'S CHASING BUTTERFLIES UD, BN,
OM1

AKC UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT
WYNDALE'S CHASING BUTTERFLIES UD,
OM1, BN, UDX



KLRC ANNUAL BANQUET (CONT'D)











KLRC ANNUAL BANQUET (CONT'D)

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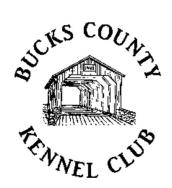




Another great Awards Banquet is in the books!







Bucks County Kennel Club Supported Entry May 3, 2025

Another Successful Day!

We had a great day in May at the Bucks County Kennel Club show. It was our privilege to support the entry of Labrador Retrievers entered in Breed and Obedience classes. We thank BCKC, all exhibitors, judges and ring stewards, and extend our congratulations to all the winners and qualifiers.





FARM DOG CERTIFICATION TESTS

On May 31st Mid-Jersey Labrador Retriever Club and Keystone Labrador Retriever Club held two Farm Dog Certification Tests. The tests were open to all AKC registered dogs (any breed) 9 months or older.















FARM DOG EVENT 2025(CONT'D)





















UNUARY MEMBER'S MEETING MINUTES UNUARY MODERNO DE SUR DE

KEYSTONE LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING(ZOOM) JANUARY 26, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 by Georgann Syphard

In Attendance: Georgann Syphard, Karen Vare, Jody Parisi, Rocco Spinelli, Shirley Spinelli, Carol Fiorito, Gail Stratton, Anne Tyler, Nancy Guerrini, Mickie Kelly, Nanci Alldred, Faith Hyndman, Kathy LaFrana

Treasures Report: Total in Bank \$7653.98 Reported that several checks for membership, Valley Forge December show, and sponsorship for classes for the Trenton show in May are still to be deposited!

Secretary's Report: No suggested revisions.

Conformation Match: Has been rescheduled to February 23 at Suburban Dog training due to snow for original date! Judges remain the same: Jody Parisi and Stephanie Wolfinger.

Banquet Update: Mickie is going to confirm the date as March 30th at North Hills Country Club. We will still be charged 25 people minimum so please spread the word to members to bring a guest, so we can meet the minimum! It will remain a sit-down event and we are given a break in price by using the lunch option for our meal choices. A surcharge will be applied to anyone ordering the beef option. Discussion of attendance gifts options of pins or possibly key chains as Mickie has a friend with a 3D printer that may enable us to put the KLRC logo on the gift. Awaiting prices. Anyone with ideas was encouraged to forward to

Bucks/Trenton Supported Entry: Date is May 3, 2025. The judges are Kimberlee Silva (Shadowbrook Labradors) for breed and Bob Skow (Glacieridge Labradors) for Sweepstakes. The need for new Trophy Sponsorships was discussed as several members who have sponsored in the past are no longer able to due to changed circumstances. Several members spoke up to be added as a sponsorship and/or increase their sponsorship, and Mickie will be sending out an updated list. A big thank you to the members who are sponsoring a breed, obedience and /or rally class!

Farm Dog: The date is May 31,2025 at the Spinelli Farm! We will be holding a combination with MJLRC once again this year so a new title is attainable in one day. Georgann Syphard has agreed to judge for KLRC this year and Shirley is awaiting information on the 2nd judge from MJLRC. Jody Parisi has applied to AKC to be a Farm Judge and is awaiting word. Faith Hyndman has also applied for a Farm judge and is awaiting word. Several names were given to Shirley Spinelli as potential Farm Dog judges.

Slate For New Positions for 2025: President: Karen Vare, Treasurer: Ann Tyler, Directors: Shirley Spinelli and Gail Scatton. There were no nominations from the floor for any positions listed. Voting will take place at the March meeting.

Old Business: None

Mickie!

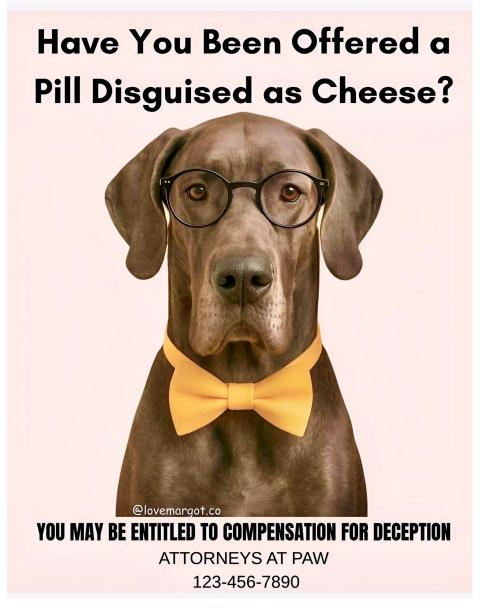


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Dock Diving: No updates. Brief discussion of MJLRC having Dock Diving at Sunshine June 28th.

Vehicle Magnets: Georgann has not received and response from the person who was contracted to make the magnets. Will pursue legal action if no contact soon due to \$840 being paid upfront for the magnets.

New Business: Next meeting will be March 9, 2025 Zoom at 12 noon. Meeting was adjourned at 12:38 by Shirley Spinelli seconded by Karen Vare





KEYSTONE LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING(ZOOM) MARCH 9, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 12:12 by Georgann Syphard

In Attendance: Georgann Syphard, Karen Vare, Jody Parisi, Rocco Spinelli, Shirley Spinelli, Carol Fiorito, Gail Scatton, Anne Tyler, Nancy Guerrini, Mickie Kelly, Nanci Alldred,

Maryanne Fletcher, Kathy LaFrana

Treasures Report: Total in Bank \$9267.41 Match was a bust, lost \$230

Secretary's Report: No suggested revisions.

Conformation Match: Jody Parisi and Stephanie Wolfinger were the judges! Poor attendance

and lost \$230!

Banquet Update: Mickie confirmed the date as March 30th at North Hills Country Club. We will still be charged 25 people minimum so please spread the word to members to bring a guest, so we can get closer to meeting the minimum! It will remain a sit-down event. A surcharge of \$10 will be applied to anyone ordering the beef option. Clarification that the chicken option is Chicken Piccata. Mickie and Nancy are asking that anyone with pictures from events, titles, brags or just Labrador fun pictures send to them so they can add to the slide show! Rocco and Shirley are also encouraging anyone with new titles to please send the required forms ad pictures to them ASAP!

Bucks/Trenton Supported Entry: Date is May 3, 2025. The judges are Kimberlee Silva (Shadowbrook Labradors) for breed and Bob Skow (Glacieridge Labradors) for Sweepstakes. Several members spoke up to be added as a sponsorship and/or increase their sponsorship, and Mickie will be sending out an updated list. She noted that we are doing okay with members stepping up to sponsor classes! A big thank you to the members who are sponsoring a breed, obedience and /or rally class! The prizes are a labrador etched lantern and leash rack for WB and WD, and smaller prizes for Rally and Obedience winners! Jody Parisi will be coordinating the food for the show, and she will be bringing coffee and the fixings for coffee and blueberry lemon muffins. Georgann has volunteered to bring bagels and cream cheese again. Closer to the date we will firm up food donations. Asking also for volunteers to take pictures as Mickie will be running between the confirmation and obedience ring areas and will not be able to take pictures!

Farm Dog: The date is May 31 ,2025 at the Spinelli Farm! Shirley has sent in the application to AKC. We will be holding a combination with MJLRC once again this year so a new title is attainable in one day. Georgann Syphard and Joanne Summers have agreed to judge for KLRC this year. Jody Parisi has been approved by AKC to be a Farm Judge. Everyone is encouraged to advertise and talk it up at their other clubs to get more entries.



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Slate For New Positions for 2025: President: Karen Vare, Treasurer: Ann Tyler, Directors: Shirley Spinelli and Gail Scatton. There were no nominations from the floor for any positions listed. Vote of approval was cast by Jody Parisi.

Old Business: Dock Diving is on hold as Sunshine Dock Diving facilities has not posted the schedule as of this date. Georgann has received about 2/3 of the magnet order after contacting the Better Business bureau. She received the Labradors running and standing, but not the car magnets with the logo on it, was told the order will be ready in July. The supplier sent a few chocolate magnets.

New Business: Beginning plans for a Obedience Mega Match and a Fetch test were briefly discussed. Date and location to follow.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:35 by Nanci Alldred seconded by Nancy Guerrini

Despite all the bad days and mean people, I still believe in good days and kind people. Plus, there are always dogs.



Please Plan On Joining US!

General Member's Meeting September 13 or 14, 2025 After Judging at the LV or Berks KC Show

General Member's Meeting November 7 or 8, 2025 Location and date TBD

* * * * If you know of any club members who are experiencing a loss or illness or needs a pick-me-up please contact our Sunshine Club (Ann Tyler: tylers12@verizon.net) and she will make sure they are not forgotten.

Don't forget to visit our club website at www.keystonelrc.com
or on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/KeystoneLRC

A quote to remember....

"...He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion..." Unknown