



BOLLETTINO

SUMMER 2015

VOLUME 2

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Ah Summer! Well it is here. Here are some words from a song from the 50s that all my Lagotto friends can relate to.

Summertime, Summertime

*It's time to head straight for the hills
It's time to live and have some thrills
Come along and have a ball
A regular free-for-all*

*Well, are you comin' or are you ain't
You slow-pokes are my one complaint
Hurry up before I faint
It's summertime.*




We have some great stories about having fun in the summer with our humans, about traveling on boats, planes, RVs, and going to dog shows, and also some new and interesting things about our breed and our club. We have photos of outdoor fun in the sun, and becoming fully recognized by the American Kennel Club (AKC)!

There have been some awesome changes in our club website and all club members have access to the member-only section, where there is a discussion group, a page with announcements from the Board and lots of other good stuff.

We have interesting information on genetics written by two of our club members who are professionals in the field. We are fortunate to have folks with this expertise, sharing information with us.

I am such a good dog and would never eat anything inappropriate, but we have an item about toxic plants. And, I am much too refined to ever misbehave but, we also have our regular Q & A by a club member who is a professional trainer. BTW, I patiently posed for photos with a silly hat and props, pretended to eat trash, and also raided the food bin. I don't eat trash, but certainly would raid the food bin, if given the chance!

This will be a great time to get out with your family or friends and plan some great adventures with your furry friends. I want to hear about all the fun you have this summer! 

Adrina sitting in for Judith Martin, Editor

Would you like to submit an article for the Fall issue? Please email submissions for the following topics: News and Events, Health, Breeding, Tips on Training, Nutrition, activities or Fun Photos. Please include any representative photos with your submission, along with your dog's name, age, and a photo caption. Email your submissions to:

Bollettino@LagottoUS.com

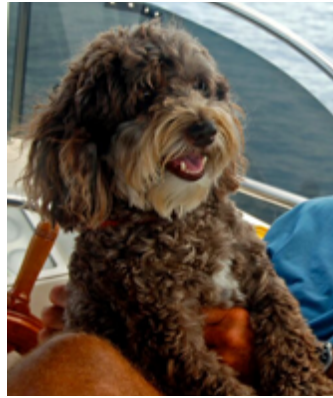
Deadline for next issue:
August 20, 2015

Sea Dog - Adventures with Coco

Eddie and Glenn Tuttle



Keeping watch



Hello, I would like to introduce myself and my parents to all of my brown nose buddies and their parents. My name is Coco and my parents are new Lagotto Club of America members, Glenn & Eddie Tuttle from Punta Gorda, Florida. I crossed the Rainbow Bridge in May of 2014 and want to share with you my adventures at sea. I lived most of my life on a boat in South America.

I was born in 2002 as a Havanese, but I looked like, according to many, a small Portuguese Water Dog. I think there was much “hanky panky” on those docks with the water dogs in Spain, Portugal, Italy and Cuba. I was 21 lbs, had a big brown nose, a brown curly coat, loved to dig, play at the beach, and meet people. So why am I writing this story in a Lagotto magazine? Well, my parents began to search for a new puppy and found that the Lagotto breed was well suited for their life style on a boat and traveling. I am going to be the new puppy’s guardian angel and teach him or her how to be a real sea dog.

In the next issues of the Bollettino, I will tell you some stories about my adventures and the escapades of the new Lagotto puppy as my parents travel. This is how it all began. After my parents retired, they decided to really go cruising on their motorboat, a 46 foot Grand Banks trawler. My parents had been living full time on first a sailboat, then our trawler for 20 years before I joined the crew. I was born in September 2002 and 13 weeks later I was aboard our boat in Marco Island, Florida. We spent the next 8 years cruising down the Eastern Caribbean, Venezuela, Colombia, Panama and the North-west Caribbean. After returning to the United States in 2010 we continued to cruise Florida. In 2011, my parents bought a house they call the “Dockbox” in Punta Gorda, Florida. I took my last big trip on the boat up to Annapolis, Maryland in 2012.

I look forward to helping my future brother or sister as they discover all the things I liked about going to sea. We met so many people and creatures of all kinds in many countries. I became somewhat of a celebrity or ambassador as we traveled. On many of these islands, dogs are primarily raised on the street and work at guarding property. Everyone seemed to like my friendly personality. On a beach outing in Isla San Andres Colombia, gorgeous models asked me to be in a photo shoot. My Dad was pleased as it was a Swim Suit magazine. The Kuna Indians in Panama’s San Blas islands were very curious about me. My parents had to watch me very carefully as there were many bad dogs around on these islands. I did have many boat dog friends. My Mom would make hats with the Venezuelan flag, for all of my friends at Christmas.

I also had many cruising little people who were crazy over me. One little girl on a sailboat would read books to me. I went ev-



Me and my family



I loved meeting Kuna Indian children in Panama

Continued next page



Protecting my family from dolphins!



Safe in my life jacket



Whreeeee!

everywhere with my parents. They had a ventilated dog back pack that I took naps in. I rode buses, stayed in hotels, went to markets and looked around in museums. I got to go on a mule ride and after that, I had my first big chicken chase. Wow, that was fun! The lady never caught me with her broom because my Mom soon got me on a leash. I liked anything with feathers. There was also a big chase in Trinidad of birds. After the next episode at the out door café in Margarita, Venezuela, my parents never let be near another feathered creature. My parents and friends were eating lunch with me behaving like always as a good dog under the table. Three men sat down next to us and put a gunnysack on the ground that was moving. I alerted my parents who were clueless. This went on for a while, until my parents realized the men had a sack of live chickens. It was quite a lunch. My parents later learned that my breed, the Havanese, helped put the chickens in the hen house at night in Cuba! I was only trying to help! My favorite thing about the boat was the dolphins that would come to talk to me. They would swim besides the boat and I would bark like crazy. I could hear their whistles long before my parents could see them. Another sailor, Susan Fox was an artist and drew a cartoon about my escapades with the dolphins.

To insure that I did not jump or fall overboard, my parents had lee cloths installed on all the side decks. There were many rules. I was not allowed on deck at night if we were underway. I always had my Outward Hound orange life jacket on when exiting the boat or getting in the dinghy. It had a handle, which made everything easy and safe. I thought all of this was ridiculous as I could swim like a fish. But if I hit my head or got near a propeller, it could be big trouble. Sometimes I wore it just to feel safe from thunderstorms. Another big rule, if my parents left the boat with me loose on deck, I had to have my life jacket on. They printed my name and the boat name on the life jacket. Yes, I did speak Spanish and even went to dog school in Venezuela. My trainer only spoke Spanish. My parents thought I controlled the boat so every day the trainer came to the marina and taught me. Many of my Spanish friends called our boat “barco de Coco” when they did not know the English name. By the way, I was in school so long, my friends put PhD behind my name.

Many of these countries have immigration rules about dogs. I did not have a problem anywhere in my travels. The rules are primarily for people flying on airplanes, so boat travel is less restrictive. The islands and countries with “no dog” rules are usually, former British colonies, like the British Virgin Islands and Trinidad. In most of these places my parents did not want me ashore in the towns due to many diseases and other perils. So we quietly went to remote beaches for my running.

I have to warn you that in the tropics there are many ticks, which carry a deadly disease known as Ehrlichia. The Vets in South America are very good and routinely do a blood test for this disease. I had a wonderful life at sea and enjoyed all of my experiences. I intend to watch over the new puppy as he or she learns how to go to sea and travel. Stay tuned to the adventures of the new Lagotto Sea Dog. 🐶

80,000 miles in the “LagottoBago”

Judith Martin



Ah the open road! We first set eyes on the Rialta Winnebago in early 2000. It looked like the perfect dog show and travel van. In 2004, we were finally able to get our hands on this Recreational Vehicle, and logged 24,000 miles in the first 10 months. We chose the Rialta because it had 2nd row seats that could be removed, and we could bolt in two large and one medium crate with room for an extra cooler. The Nylabone crates (sadly no longer manufactured) collapse so we can fold down one or all three, if not needed. Our dogs are raw fed so there is space for an extra cooler to keep their food fresh. When traveling with four dogs, we also use a soft side crate. When we traveled with a cat, his crate was on top of the two stacked crates. We really managed to get a lot into this RV.

Over these 11 years, we have traveled with 3 different Wheat-en Terriers and 6 Lagotti and have covered over 80,000 miles with our dogs and sometimes with the cat. While we waited for our new house to be completed, we also lived in our little 23' Rialta, dry camping on our property with 4 dogs and a cat. That was a memorable experience!



I much preferred vacationing and traveling from Arizona north to the end of the road to Jasper and Banff in Canada, or from AZ to Morrow Bay California, and traveling up the coast to Vancouver Island in Canada, across Southern Canada to our old home state of Michigan to visit family, and returning home via the northern states. We were able to visit families with our puppies and several Wheaten and Lagotto friends and breeders. On that trip, we were gone for two months. We left our boy Vando with friends during this trip as one of our girls was coming into season.

We have also traveled from AZ to Pennsylvania for dog shows, again giving us the opportunity to visit many dog loving friends. On that occasion, we traveled down the East coastal route, stopping along the barrier islands and returning along I-10 through Florida and across Texas. It is always great to visit family and friends around the country. We have also traveled on several occasions into Mexico and the dogs love the freedom of playing on the sandy beaches in the Sea of Cortez.



Along with our built in crates, we carry a small grooming table, two Xpens and ground mats to help keep the dogs clean in woodland or beach camping. We have an outside shower, so we can give the dogs baths as needed.

When we arrive at a campsite, we first put out the Xpens and ground mats so the dogs can stretch their legs while we set

Continued next page



up camp. Since we share rather cramped quarters, they can keep out of our way, although they have learned how to keep from being stepped on, often retiring to the front seats or in their crates. We taught the dogs early on to be quiet until we get up in the morning and to stay quiet if we get up in the night. They are great passengers and love to travel, meet new people and see new things.

Our dogs have ridden on ski lifts, ferries and boats. They have swum in rivers, ponds, seas, lakes and two oceans. They have visited large cities, small towns, historic landmarks and lots of wonderful parks. They have been in woodlands climbed mountains, and run on sandy beaches. They have been in almost every state in the continental USA.



Having traveled into Canada and Mexico, we always carry their vaccine log, records & photo, in little doggy passports with us in the motor home. We enjoy taking our dogs with us when we travel, and they are fun to take along. People love to come and chat at campgrounds, so we get to meet lots of new people from all over the world. The dogs always seem to attract attention and we frequently have people ask us about the breed and are always pleasantly surprised when they actually know about the Lagotto.

As soon as our dogs see us packing the RV, they are right at the door anxiously awaiting the next new adventure on the open road. 🐶



Italian dogs, Italian wine, Italian cheese! Having a Lagotto day at Fort Funston Dog Beach near San Francisco, CA on our trip north

Lagotto In The Skies

Alana McGee

Flying can be nerve wracking to the best of us humans, but when it comes to our dogs flying, that's when then anxiety really sets in- for humans and dogs alike. There are things you can do to be prepared and ease stress if travel plans are in your future. First, understand your travel plans & time of year you are traveling. Many airlines will not fly dogs in extreme conditions. Also, (and I'll be opinionated here) not all airlines are created equal when it comes to flying our precious cargo. For destinations they service, I strongly recommend Alaska Airlines. From my own personal experience (recounted below) and from that of my colleagues, we all agree they are one of our preferred airlines. Dogs are flown all the time for rescues to be adopted in other locations, as part of military & customs k9 teams, and as pets, but being a first time flyer I wanted to make sure I had all my ducks in row. Lolo had never been on a big plane prior to January of this year and needless to say I was nervous. Most adult Lagotti will ride in cargo. They are too large to fit in the cabin, as was Lolo who is a standard sized female. We were headed on a short flight from Seattle to San Francisco for work, but as far as I was concerned we were headed to Timbuktu. I consulted friends and colleagues on what to do. I wanted Lolo to be as happy and calm as possible on her flight. Lolo travels extensively but it is mostly by car and Cessna wherein I am relatively in control of the situation. Flying on a major airline, you have to relinquish that sense of control. The good news is most airlines take very good care of your pets, and understand they are family members. It was also helpful that Lolo is crate trained and she rides in her crate for travel so her crate is a safe happy space for her. This diminished some of the stress for both of us. To prepare for our trip we took some extra steps to make sure we both had a relaxed time throughout this travel experience. This included things like decorating her crate to make sure it stood out and attaching a bio of her in a clear plastic sheet on the top & front of her crate so anyone she met would know a little something about her and put everyone at ease. We met many friends this way. It also, more importantly, included my contact information and what flight we were supposed to be on, should we be separated for any reason. All of the staff we encountered on this journey were super friendly and walked us through the process. They escorted us through the special security line, and Lolo got free cookies for being such a good sport. After Zip-tying the crate shut and waving her good-bye to get loaded on the plane, I went to wait to board at the gate. When I boarded the plane I had a little tag on my seat letting me know Lolo was on board.

We even had a big delay/ flight cancellations coming back from SFO on one trip, and it was approaching a time frame of Lolo in her crate, out of my sight that I was uncomfortable with. The flight & gate crew were wonderful, checking on her and reporting back to me with updates. Had the delay lasted any longer the crew was going to go get her and bring her up to the termi-



Continued next page

nal for me so she wouldn't have to be contained until we could figure out other travel plans. They went out of their way to make sure she was safe, and got us on another flight with due haste! They kept her out of the sun, had fans, gave her treats and water. I was very grateful to the folks at Alaska for watching out for my little one. As we have done this a few times more this year we both are getting more and more used to flying on major airlines together, but knowing what to do and when to ask for help is key! We look forward to our future trips even further afield to more exotic locations, now that we are comfortable in the skies!

Here is a travel checklist of things to bring and to prepare:

- Research airlines and the protocols & regulations regarding air travel regarding your dog flying well in advance of your departure.
- It varies by airline but prior to departure (for us it was within 10 days and within 30 days of return date) you must have a health certificate from your Vet saying your pup is safe to travel and up to date on vaccinations.
- Call the airline after booking tickets to confirm they have set aside space for your dog in the cargo hold, and that it will be a pressurized/ temperature controlled cargo hold.
- Find a crate big enough to comfortably house your Lagotto. They should be able to stand up, turn around, lie down without crouching or having their heads hit the top of the crate. If it looks crowded, it is. You need to make sure the crate is airline approved.
- Once through special security, make sure you zip tie the doors of the crate shut. You do not want your pup to be wandering around the cargo hold. Then board your plane and check with the flight crew to make sure your pup is on board.

Day of Flight Checklist

- Dog
- Health certificate (2 Copies. 1 with you, and one with the crate)
- Dog ID/Story attached to Crate
- Article to put inside crate from home during journey. This is to make your dog feel more at ease, with your odor on it.
- Airline approved Crate
- Bedding in crate (with non-skin material under pad to prevent slippage)
- Food Dish/ Water dish (one each)
- Extra bag of food/treats inside a zip lock attached to crate
- Extra Zip ties in the plastic bag outside the crate
- Corkscrew in the plastic bag attached on the outside of crate (to cut the zip ties and open the crate if necessary by airline staff in emergency)- also for unforeseen wine emergencies!

When in doubt or anxious, ask the flight crew/ airline staff for assistance. This counts is for when you depart, and when you arrive at your destination.



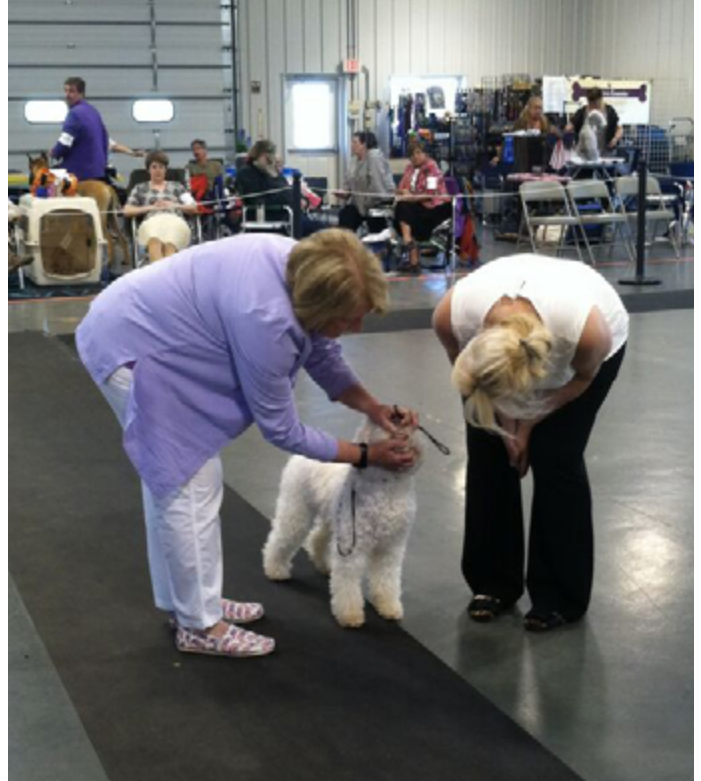
On The Road - Showing Your Lagotto

Mary Lynch

Have you ever wondered about what is involved in showing a Lagotto in a conformation dog show and think you might like to try?

Since the Lagotti Romagnoli are going to be fully recognized as “Sporting Dogs” in conformation on July 1, 2015 in AKC some of you Lagotti folk may be curious as to what is involved in showing a dog and may even want to try showing your LR yourself. The two main venues in the USA to show your dogs are The American Kennel Club (AKC) and the United Kennel Club (UKC) where Lagotti are known as “Gun Dogs”. Here are some things to do before you take the plunge. First try to find a show handling class by you and take a few lessons so you are comfortable going into the show ring. Usually they are offered by obedience training or all breed clubs in your area. Look on the AKC or UKC websites to find one. Next you need to find some shows to enter your dog. You can find shows and dates on either club website. A third option and an easy way to find most AKC shows nationwide is at www.infodog.com. Go to “show calendar” and then to “upcoming shows”. You can enter the shows online here too. AKC shows have to be entered 2 1/2 weeks ahead on that Wednesday before noon. UKC shows can be entered ahead or on the day of the show. All information is on the club websites and also anything you need to know to enter your dog in the right age and class. Now that you have all that taken care of you have to think about supplies so your Lagotto will look his/her best and wow everyone they meet. There are many resources for supplies you will need. One of the best, especially for beginners, is www.cherrybrook.com. Along with grooming supplies you will need a show lead for the ring. An inexpensive one is made by Resco and you can find them at Cherry Brook. I like a slip lead best. Later on you can get fancy bejeweled ones on line or at the larger AKC all breed shows. You can even have them custom made for your dog. Make sure your dog is nice and clean and neatly groomed with short toenails and gleaming white teeth. It is good to look a bit on the professional side yourself and be sure to wear sneakers or safe rubber soled shoes. The kind your mother would call sensible shoes. Bring a metal comb, a slicker or pin brush, something to spritz the curls with along with a grooming table, crate and water and snacks for the dog (and yourself). At least in the NE you need to bring your own folding chairs. Most AKC shows have some food vendors and the bigger shows have lots of good shopping as well.

When you enter your dog in AKC you will get an entry in the mail with a list of the day’s events including the ring and approximate time your dog will be judged. The number on the



Showing the bite



Examining the structure

Continued

entry is the number you will get from the steward at your ring. Take a couple of the rubber bands from the steward's table and put the number on your left arm above your elbow. You now wait for your number to be called. All puppies go first by age group beginning with 6 to 9 months. Males always go first in each class (yes even at dog shows) and bitches follow. There are several categories or classes but OPEN is most common. Go in the ring when your number is called, try to remember what you learned in handling class, then try to relax and show off your dog. Most judges are more than willing to help new people and believe me they do know you are new to showing. It helps to watch some judging of other breeds as it will give you an idea of the procedures judges use in moving and examining each dog. Our breed is always to be judged and examined on the ground not on a table. Confusing? It can be in the beginning but you will get the hang of it soon. It is also a good idea to bring your dog to a few shows just to walk around and get it used to things before you enter a show yourself. On the big day try to relax and have fun. You will meet new people and learn new things and get to show off our breed. Even at dog shows few people have seen or even heard of our great breed. Very few judges have actually met a Lagotto so may have some questions for you. Although you can not show a neutered/spayed dog in AKC you can show them in UKC shows. Also UKC shows are usually smaller and less formal so for some they may be a good place to start. Both AKC and UKC have Obedience, Rally, and Agility as well as other competition sports where you can compete with your dog. All dogs are welcomed in the sports competitions, neutered or not. Why not try this too. You may find getting involved in some kind of dog shows will give you a great way to enjoy spending time with your dog in ways you had not considered before. Hope to meet you at a dog show soon 🐾.

Mary Lynch with Per Fortuna's Zeta Del Tiglio RA CD CGC.

(Editor's note: See page 24 for more info on AKC shows)



Judging with other breeds in Group Competition



Proud of our winning ribbons



Summertime is party time with the Morehouse clan in New Mexico

GO GO Lagotto!

Cathy Dronen

Summer is approaching and millions of people are planning vacation and holiday travel schedules. Great getaways includes the four paw members of the family so be sure to add their safety and comfort to the planning checklist.

FRIENDLY SKIES Airlines love holiday and vacation seasons. Seats sell fast so if you plan to fly with your Lagotto book arrangements early. The rules for traveling with dogs change season to season, check with your specific airline to ensure you are aware of the stipulations. There are three types of airline transport for dogs

- Passenger cabin travel
- Excess baggage travel
- Cargo travel

Regardless of the type of ticket you request for your dog (or any pet) you must book a reservation.

Passenger cabin travel-all airline carriers limit the specific number of animals per cabin per flight. Availability is offered on a first come basis. There is also a weight restriction of about 15 pounds or less to consider. Animals traveling in the passenger cabin of an airplane must fit in an approved, soft carrier, and remain stowed under the passenger's seat at all times. Fees for carry-on pets vary from airline to airline. Special provisions for passengers traveling with animals protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act apply to all airlines operating in the US.

Excess baggage travel-most airlines will allow ticketed passengers to check their pet as "excess baggage." Reservations are required and the fee is based on the size and weight of the animal. Airline approved crates are mandatory. You should make arrangements for a water source for the pet. The animal will arrive at the oversize luggage area of baggage claim.

Cargo travel -is an option if you are not traveling with your pet. Animals shipped by cargo transport follow most of the same guidelines as those traveling as excess baggage. Airline approved crates must be used and a water source should be included in the crate. Drop off and pick up points vary from airport to airport. Confirm the designated destination for cargo check in or pick up with your airline of choice.

Federal law prohibits airlines from transporting live animals as excess baggage or as cargo if the pet is exposed to temperatures that are below 45° F or above 85° F for more than 4 hours upon arrival, departure, or during connecting flights. Most airlines require documentation of rabies and up-to-date vaccination records before they will permit your pet transport. It is also necessary to provide very clear owner information (name, address, phone number, destination address, in case of emergency contacts) on the outside of the crate. A certificate of health is required by most airlines. The document must issued by a licensed veterinarian no more than 10 days prior to transport. Many foreign countries require periods of quarantine before they will release your pet for travel within the country.



Where are we going?



Are we in there, yet?

RIDING THE RAILS If your travel plans include transporting your pet by bus or train you may need to consider other arrangements! Amtrak does not permit animals on any of their trains (there are exceptions for service animals protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act). Bus travel is equally restricted for travel with pets. Bus companies that travel interstate highways are prohibited from transporting pets. Service animals are exempt from “animal transport policies”. Local bus and mass transit lines including subways running service from airports establish their own pet policies. If you are going to depend on bus or train service for any portion of your trip check with the carrier, you will use to confirm the rules for your pet.

HIT THE ROAD If you choose to travel with your Lagotto (or any pet) by car, remember it is the law in some jurisdictions that animals in moving vehicles must be crated. Crating is safer for the pet and provides most dogs with a higher level of security. In the event of an accident or during a pit stop, the dog is less likely to accidentally escape if crated. Add a comfy mat and a favorite toy to the crate. Make sure you stop along the way for a stretch/potty break and provide a drink of water. Depending on the length of the trip, you may consider withholding food until you reach the day’s destination. Most Lagotto love a road trip, but if your dog isn’t a seasoned car traveler you may want to take a few short road trips before traveling longer distances. Your veterinarian can prescribe tranquilizers or recommend anti-nausea treatments if indicated.

Keep the vehicle adequately ventilated. NEVER let a dog hang his head out of the car window. It is dangerous and can lead to eye, ears, or nose injuries. NEVER let your dog ride in the back of an open pickup truck.

HOME AWAY FROM HOME If you are going to stay in a hotel during your travels, plan ahead. Check with reservation agents or review pet policies for specific hotel chains. Lodging establishments and restaurants are required to observe the service dog protection laws under ADA. Local hotels practice individual policies regarding pets. Respect the rules and be considerate of other guests. Walk your dog in designated areas. Clean up any debris your dog leaves behind and dispose of it properly. Keep him quiet and crated when possible. Hotels allow pets as a guest courtesy - not an obligation. By practicing good pet conduct, those considerations are much more likely to continue.

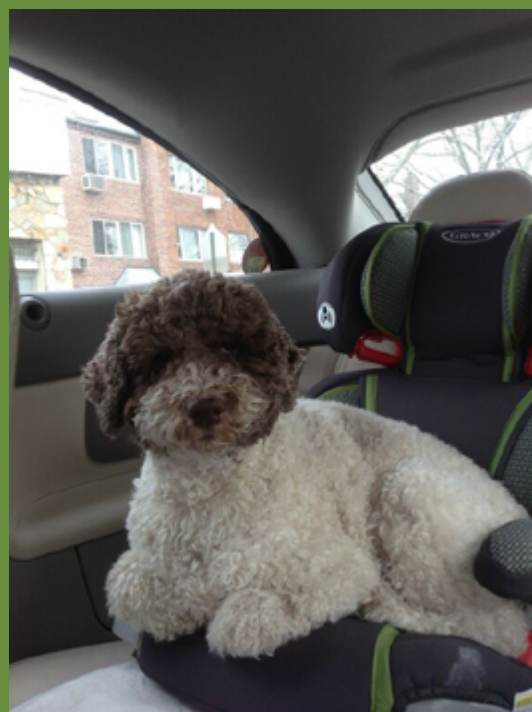
SAFETY TIPS

- Fit your dog with a good, sturdy leash, collar, harness, and if indicated muzzle for travel. Remember he is going into unknown territory and may be frightened. Practice safety for your animal, yourself, and fellow travelers.
- Check collars for current identification and rabies tags. Some jurisdictions will fine pet owners for walking dogs in public places without rabies verifications.
- Pack medications, food, bowls, and bottled water.
- Make a pet safety check of the environment where you and your dog are staying. Look out for hazards such as exposed electric cords, garbage cans, plants, toys anything your dog may eat! •
- NEVER leave your dog unattended in a hot car! What is too hot? If you need to ask-DON’T DO IT!

With a little planning and preparation this summer season - including the travel - will be fun filled for you and your Lagotto!



Ava and Kodi arrival from Italy



Meta jumped into the car seat!

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Cathy Dronen

Does your garden grow Lagotto-and all other pets-friendly? Your lush oasis may be a toxic environment for the fur members of the family. In many cases, a curious dog will eat a simple, common plant that an innocent owner tenderly tucked in their garden. The result may be serious, costly, and in some cases deadly. Plants that sprout from bulbs are especially toxic. Dogs love to dig the bulbs and, of course, eat their prize. The bulb is the most dangerous part of the plant as it contains the most poison. Common, popular but toxic garden plants include the list below.



VALERIAN -or heliotrope plant is not only pretty, it smells delicious. The scent is described as smelling like cherry pie. No wonder a dog would be curious about the taste!

Symptoms of ingestion to watch for:

Vomiting or Diarrhea

Tremors

Anxiety

Depression



AMARYLLIS-A showy flowering plant grows beautifully both indoors and out. The colors of the blooms may be red, pink, orange, yellow or white.

Symptoms of poisoning include

Vomiting or Diarrhea

Tremors

Hyper salivation

Anorexia

Depression



CROCUS-The crocus is one of the first early spring flowers to appear as the earth warms. Typically an outside plant the crocus blooms may be purple, mauve, yellow or white.

Symptoms of poisoning include

Irritation of the mouth

Bloody diarrhea

Shock

Multiple organ damage

Bone marrow suppression



DAFFODIL (Narcissus)-The pretty, happy little blooms are often referred to as jonquils or "Easter Flowers." Daffodils are typically yellow, orange or white. They are hardy flowers and may be seen in cultivated gardens or growing "wild" in fields. Poisoning symptoms are

Gastrointestinal disorders

Convulsions or Cardiac arrhythmias

Shivering or Muscle tremors

Dermatitis

Hypotension (low blood pressure)

Continued next page



ELEPHANT EARS (Caladium)-This plant does not flower but is a hearty, green plant with large “elephant ear” shaped leaves. The elephant ear or caladium is very popular as a container plant as well as a border plant for yards.

Dogs exhibit symptoms if poisoned such as:

- Irritation and intense burning of the mouth, lips, and tongue
- Excessive drooling
- Vomiting
- Difficulty swallowing



GLADIOLAS –One of the most popular flower garden plants, gladiolas bear a string of colorful flowers and bloom long into the summer months. Colors range from white to bright red, orange, cream, purple and often colors are variegated within blooms.

Symptoms of poisoning in dogs are:

- Abdominal pain
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Hypersalivation
- Depression



HYACINTH-The hyacinth is a robust plant with a purple plume of blooms. Typically used as border for sidewalks and fences this little beauty is also a popular choice for window sill containers and pots. Colors of the fragrant flowers include red, blue white, orange, pink, purple and yellow.

Dogs will eat the flower, leaves or bulbs, and experience:

- Intense vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Depression
- Tremors



IRIS-the showy Iris takes its name for the Greek word meaning rainbow. Iris flowers produce fan-shaped, six-lobed blooms. The highest levels of toxicity are in the rhizomes.

Poisoning symptoms include:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Hypersalivation



TULIPS-are herbaceous herbs with showy flowers and are members of the lily family. The bulbs prove a delight for an interested Lagotto digging for treasures.

Eating tulips may cause:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Hypersalivation
- Loss of appetite
- Depression




LILY OF THE VALLEY (*Convallaria majalis*)-plants are delicate, beautiful, innocent looking, little killers! From the bell-shaped blooms and thick, waxy leaves to the spider-like roots every part of this plant is toxic if ingested.

Dogs may experience:

- Vomiting
- Ataxia (loss of muscle control)
- Cardiac arrhythmia
- Coma
- Seizure

DEATH

There are more than 700 plants identified that produce toxic substances in sufficient amounts to cause harmful effects to pets. Protect your animals and learn to identify and avoid potentially dangerous situations. A comprehensive list of toxic plants is available at Dog First Aid 101 and on the ASPCA website .

Cathy Dronen is the author of "I Am A Truffle Dog" under the name of C. D. Watson.

Beautiful but deadly wildflower

Growing wild around our area is a lovely plant named Datura, sometimes called Jimson Weed, Moon Flower or Sacred Datura

All parts of all Datura plants are poisonous and can be fatal if ingested.

This stout, branched, sprawling perennial has long, gray-green, ovate leaves up to 6 inches long, which are covered by tiny smooth hairs. It may grow up to 2 feet high with impressive large trumpet shaped flowers. Thorny, globose, walnut-sized fruit (1-1/2 inches in diameter) has many small, slender spines.

Datura is a member of the Deadly Nightshade Family, and the seeds have been eaten as an hallucinogen, causing death on occasion. Seeds and plants are sometimes sold by nurseries.

We remove all plants of this type from our dog areas.

Judith Martin



Questions? We have Answers!

Toni Kay-Wolff



Toni will answer training questions and will seek advice if she doesn't know the answer. You can post a question to Toni to Bollettino@LagottoUS.com or direct a question to her on FaceBook or the Lagotto Yahoo Group to be discussed in our next issue.

QUESTION: Our 12 month old Lagotto will “alert bark” whenever someone walks past our corner lot house, in the middle of the night. She’ll go out and bark and then come back in the dog door and bark 3-5 more times. Ideas on curbing alert barking? She doesn’t bark when someone is at our door ringing or knocking.

ANSWER: This one is fairly easy to fix, unless you tell me there is a medical reason why you can’t do what I’m about to suggest. First, everyone needs to know if they don’t already, Lagotti are EXCELLENT watch dogs. I actually didn’t know this first-hand as our Tillie is quiet as a mouse. Volo, on the other hand, feels the need to let me know even when Larry is home from work! The only one he doesn’t bark at is me. Silly boy! So first, we have to always look at preventing a dog from practicing a behavior we want to extinguish. That means not allowing her to go outside at night at all. There actually is no reason I can think of that she should be out at all hours anyway, unless, as I said, there is a medical reason for her to have access. My suggestion would be to first, close up that doggie door at night. Then I’d consider either crating her if she continues to bark, or have her in your room overnight where she can’t hear/see anyone passing by your corner lot. Remember, the more practice she gets at barking at passers-by the better she’s getting at it. We need her to not do it at all. If it continues, I would definitely try crating her in a quiet room but perhaps leave the tv or radio on for her so it muffles the sounds from outdoors. I’m guessing it’s a visual as well as auditory stimulus that gets her going, so we have to prevent both. I would try this for a month, see how it goes, and then get back to me and let me know so we can tweak or modify this if you need more help.

QUESTION: My Winnie is two and very food motivated (though not food aggressive). We’ve been doing some heavy yard work and I’ve had to leave her inside when we are operating the heavy machinery. Twice now she has gone after a food source she knows is off limits. First the trash and then her food container. Both days she had plenty of exercise and interaction. Any thoughts or advice? In the meantime, I’ve already put in an Amazon order for a new food container.

ANSWER: When I hear “...knows is off limits” I think “confused, anxious, worried, bored, stressed, etc.” It may be that under most circumstances she knows that if she goes for the forbidden foods she will be reprimanded in some way, even as much as a sideways glance can be enough for some dogs. That doesn’t

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mean, however, that in all situations she'll remember this. Keep in mind, too, that dog behavior is always evolving, and not always in the direction we want it to. When I have a dog who is making a mistake when I thought they "understood", I simply look for the holes in my training. What didn't I teach them, or was I clear enough for them, or did I practice what I wanted enough for it to really stick. So if you have only experienced this twice, ask yourself has she been in this situation before, where the food was available, but she wanted to be with you and went for it anyway? Or could the loud machinery have stressed her? Along with that I'd ask when the last time was she had a full vet check with bloods done, thyroid, etc. Not sure where you are, but are you in tick country? "Tick ick" can make a normally level-headed dog more stressy, and stressed dogs often do things they've never done before. So since I'm not there and you are, I'd start by asking myself these questions and try to figure out where her head is. And with dogs, it's generally not a "spite" thing, it's something we don't quite see yet wink emoticon Good idea preventing the behavior by getting a new container! 🐾

Toni Kay-Wolff has been a professional companion dog trainer for over 25 years and lives in CT with her two Lagotti Tillie and Volo, her Lab, Carter, and her English Shepherd rescue, Glory. She owns The Well-Mannered Dog, Inc and breeds Lagotti under the kennel name dei Allegre Lagotto Romagnolo



Augie Carver greeting her grand-puppy



Essentials of Dog Genetics

Shyra Gardai and Alecksandr Kutchma, Health Committee

The modern domesticated dog is a creation of humans. Breeding methods employed over the past thousand or so years have formed dogs into what they are today. When researchers compare the DNA of domesticated dogs to that of multiple varieties of wild dog they found that unlike our diverse pets, these varied wild dogs have very similar DNA profiles. The similarity in their DNA profile is reflected in their very similar phenotypic traits, meaning that they all look alike. They are all medium sized with yellowish coats and have upright ears and curly tails. Thus, it has been theorized that all dogs today would look both physically and genetically the same had humans not intervened. Fortunately, typical pet breeding practices have yielded dogs exhibiting an exciting variety of colors, coats, sizes, behaviors, and temperaments. On the down side, the inbreeding utilized to preserve these traits in specific breeds has also led to increased prevalence of inherited genetic diseases as well. In fact, Alison Schaffer, a researcher at the University of California at Davis' Veterinary Genetics Laboratory said that "there are over 350 known, inherited diseases among purebred dogs, and that's pretty scary," Of these 350 diseases, only about 20 or so have been traced back to a single specific gene. Genes are the unit of heredity, made up of DNA molecules in all living organisms that encode the instructions for our physical as well as behavioral traits. Because humans and dogs are diploid organisms (having two chromosomes) our genes come in pairs (alleles) and one allele from each parent is passed to their offspring. These chromosomes are mixed producing new sets of chromosomes in the offspring that are a 'combination' of the genes from the parents. There are two types of genes, dominant and recessive, which can influence specific physical or disease traits. Dominant conditions are expressed in individuals who have just one copy of the gene. Recessive alleles are seen only when both genes carry the recessive characteristic. When an individual contains both a dominant and recessive gene copy the individual physically exhibits the dominant trait, while still being a carrier of the recessive trait. These are essentially the rules of inheritance originally formulated by the Gregor Mendel. As an example, see figure 1, (SF Chronicle, Todd Trumbull) illustrating how dominant and recessive traits are transmitted. A dog with a pair of dominant genes for brown color (B) mates with a dog with a pair of recessive genes for golden color (g). 100% of the puppies will be brown but carry the recessive gene for golden color. If two dogs with a Bg combination of genes, each carriers for the recessive gene for golden color were to mate, each puppy has a 1 in 4 chance (25%) of receiving the two recessive genes (homozygous affected) and therefore being golden. 50% of the offspring will be autosomal heterozygous (unaffected carrier of the recessive allele) and 25% will be homozygous for the dominant (unaffected) allele.

HOW TRAITS ARE INHERITED

The basic laws of inheritance were formulated by the Austrian monk Gregor Mendel in the 1860s. Although Mendel experimented with peas, his findings are essentially the same for all complex life forms. The laws explain how individuals may function as carriers for a certain trait or disease; that is, they do not display the trait themselves but can pass it on to their offspring.

■ **Mendel's Law of Segregation:** Parental traits do not blend in offspring but remain separate and are controlled by genes that occur in pairs. Dominant genes are always expressed in offspring, while recessive genes are expressed only if they occur in pairs.

For example, a dog with a pair of dominant genes for brown color mates with a dog with a pair of recessive genes for golden color:

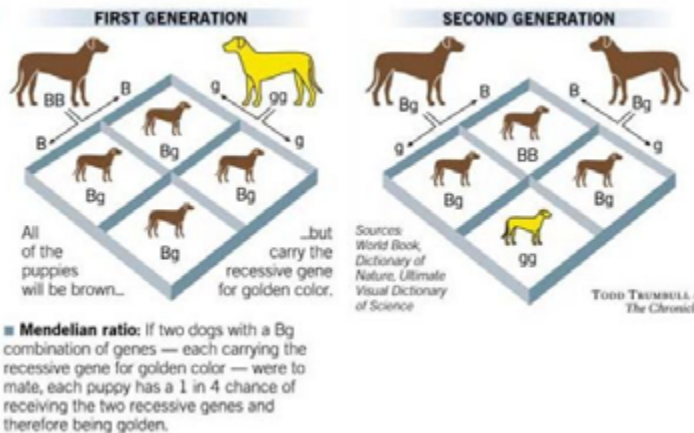
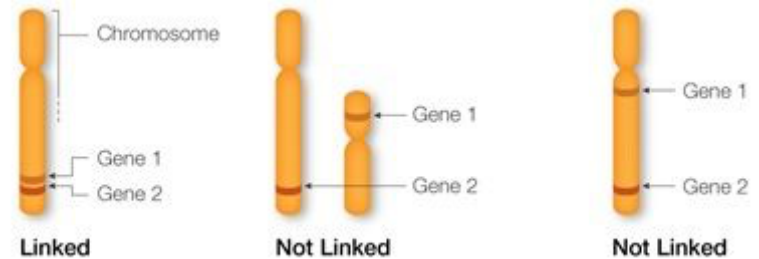


Figure 1: Most populations are diverse for phenotypic traits, from fur color to blood type. The phenotype most common in a particular natural population is known as the wild type allele and any form of that allele other than the wild type is known as the mutant form. We typically associate 'mutant' genes with something bad or harmful, and rightfully so since most diseases are due to recessive mutated genes. It may also be the case, however, that a mutant form of a gene can confer a selective advantage to the individual and therefore can actually be very beneficial. All of us would not have evolved into what we are without these 'beneficial' mutations; indeed it is the foundation for Darwin's theory of evolution. Many traits follow a single gene pattern of inheritance (Mendelian inheritance). A real world example is the phenomenon of 'improper coat' (IC), which has been linked to the R-spondin 2 gene (RSPO2) in the Portuguese Water Dog and Lagotto. Dogs with IC lack 'furnishings', a condition characterized by short hair on the head, face, and lower legs, rather than a thick even coat covering the whole body. While furnishings is a key feature of the Lagotto breed, this trait is actually due to a 167 bp insertion in the untranslated region (UTR) of the RSPO2 gene (J Hered. 2010 Sep-Oct; 101(5): 612-617). What is interesting is that mutated upstream regulatory region causes changes in regulation of the wild type gene product and this is what is responsible for furnishings. The mutation in the RSPO2 regulatory region is inherited via traditional dominant Mendelian inheritance meaning that dogs only need to inherit a single copy of the mutation from one of their parents in order to

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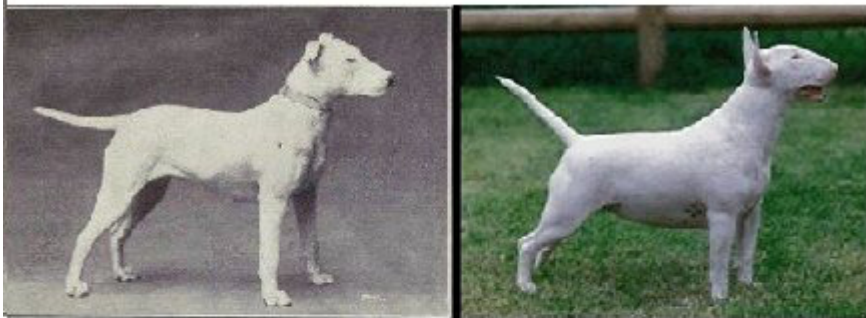
develop the characteristic, long facial hair. In this case it is the wild type form of the *RSPO2* regulatory region that is recessive and thought to be responsible for IC. This also helps us understand that it would be incorrect to assume that all undesired traits or diseases are inherited from recessive mutant alleles. Specific characteristics are important for every breed and these traits are actively selected for. However, traits with a single gene Mendelian inheritance pattern that can be screened make up a small percentage of the inherited phenotypes/disease traits. Most phenotypes are known as complex traits and are usually controlled by not one, but many different genes; they are polygenic. Many complex traits are also affected by environmental factors, such as location and lifestyle. A trait that is influenced by both genes and the environment is described as being multifactorial. Common examples of these complex inherited traits in dogs include hip dysplasia, canine atopic dermatitis, epilepsy, cancer, gastric dilatation-volvulus (bloat), and a variety of autoimmune diseases. All of these diseases likely occur due to a combination of hereditary and environmental risk factors and thus are more complicated to breed for as they are not controlled by a single gene. Even when traits are inherited in a single gene Mendelian manner, one can inadvertently select for undesirable or harmful characteristics as we select for particular traits in the breed. While each gene is inherited as a single unit, they exist within the complex gene rich environment of the chromosome. Genes that are in close proximity with other genes on a chromosome will typically be inherited together resulting in what is known as linked genes. Because the process of homologous recombination during reproduction will typically occur intermittently along the chromosomal sequence, the closer genes are, the more likely they will be inherited together. For this reason, genes on separate chromosomes are never linked (Figure 2, center), but not all genes on a chromosome are linked. Linked genes sit relatively close together on a chromosome making them likely to be inherited together (Figure 2, left) and not broken apart by homologous recombination. Genes that are farther away from each other are more likely to be separated during a homologous recombination (Figure 2, right). Figure 2: As discussed above, inheritance of traits is typically not associated with just a single gene and actually encompasses a complex genetic environment that we are just beginning to grasp.



Often breeders have the best of intentions when they may only select for desired traits or when they attempt to select against objectionable traits. Unfortunately, due to gene linkage, polygenic, and multifactorial inheritance patterns other beneficial traits can actually be selected against in this process. Even worse, harmful traits may be selected for and unintentionally reinforced. Over time the combinatorial effect of selecting for traits driven by complex genetics will undoubtedly result in a breed that significantly diverges from the original breed (see image to left),.

Bull Terrier, 1915

Bull Terrier, Modern Day



German Shepard, 1915

German Shepard, Modern Day



Alecks Kutchma-Bachelor of Science in Microbiology, M.S. Molecular Biology, M.S. Bioinformatics, 20 years working in the biotechnology industry specializing in molecular genetics and past 7 in genome sequencing and human genetics.

Shyra Gardai-Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Microbiology from the University of Idaho Doctor of Philosophy in Immunology from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center Spent 6 years at a large biotech company using molecular and cellular techniques including RNA sequencing to assess the progression of human neurodegeneration Currently working on the genetics of cancer biology

They are married and live on Monroe, WA. They have an older Cattle Dog who is truffle trained along with their Lagotto, Montagna del Mare Capi.

AKC Recognition

Adrienne Perry, Board President

(Breaking News! Since writing of this page, LRCA has received notice from AKC that we are NOW licensed!)

What does AKC Full Recognition and Licensing mean to our club members? It's an exciting time for US Lagotto lovers! Our wonderful breed is moving up into fully recognized breed status with the American Kennel Club as of July 1, 2015. But what does this mean?

For the casual pet owner, you'll now be able to point to a Lagotto Romagnolo (and root for him or her) when you watch the Westminster Kennel Club Dog show this coming February! There's a half a chance that people will stop asking if your dog is a labradoodle, golden doodle or poodle mix, or an "Obama dog"! Don't worry this happens to all of us. Last year, someone asked me if Terzo was a labradoodle at the Eukanuba National Championships! Now if you are interviewing a breeder, you won't have to wonder about the requirements of this registry or that one, earning AKC titles and participating in their events and sports are easily verified by anyone doing their homework on the breeder's participation.

If you're a working dog person you've been able to compete in AKC companion events for quite some time (agility, obedience, tracking, rally) but now the parent club has the possibility of working up a truffle hunting test and having it recognized as an AKC title too. And with more of us at the show, maybe the obedience judge will stop talking our ears off in between exercises too!

If you're a conformation (breed ring) person, you'll be sighing with relief that our dogs can now earn championships under judges who've had to study our standard and pass exams proving that knowledge. An AKC Championship requires dogs to win points by defeating other dogs of their own breed and –on at least 2 occasions- defeating a significant number of them (these are called major wins). No dog can become a champion in less than 3 shows, so it's harder and it means more. And it isn't perfect, but it's one of the best systems out there!

If you're a breeder, this is your chance to see how your dog compares with others of the breed (there is almost a guarantee that serious exhibitors will travel to more shows, and we'll all have to band together so that we have the required number of dogs --or bitches--to make those majors). This is a fascinating time to see dogs you've not seen before, to meet new people (in person!) perhaps for the first time. To see what the other dogs in our country are like. Networking with others will help you see the strengths and the weaknesses within your program, teaches you new skills, and develops your eye.

In short, more recognition brings more opportunities to show case our dogs' talents, strong points, and to network with others and show everyone what the Lagotto Romagnolo has to offer. The AKC has a vast network of events to participate in and enjoy. And they also have the support system to help our club do a good job preserving our breed and helping us grow.

At the same time that our breed has been accepted into full recognition, the LRCA itself has applied for Licensed Status (on which

Continued next page

Summer Fun and Dogs in Shades



Marco Reese



LluviaWilliams



Lluvia's friend

Continued

we are waiting to hear the AKC's decision). This will mean the club has been judged able to hold our own events. This is the club's (not the breed's) final step in preparing to host events like a National Specialty, and next to last step before Preparing for Member Club Status. So two different things are happening, 1) the breed is moving to full recognition (based on the work of the parent club in our work on registry, participation and membership AND 2) the club itself is moving from one level of responsibilities (Sanctioned level status) to fully licensed. We have applied for licensed status in both conformation and obedience/rally. As we progress in our ability to plan and host events and have members with the experience, we can also apply in agility and tracking as well as any parent club titling events that we develop.

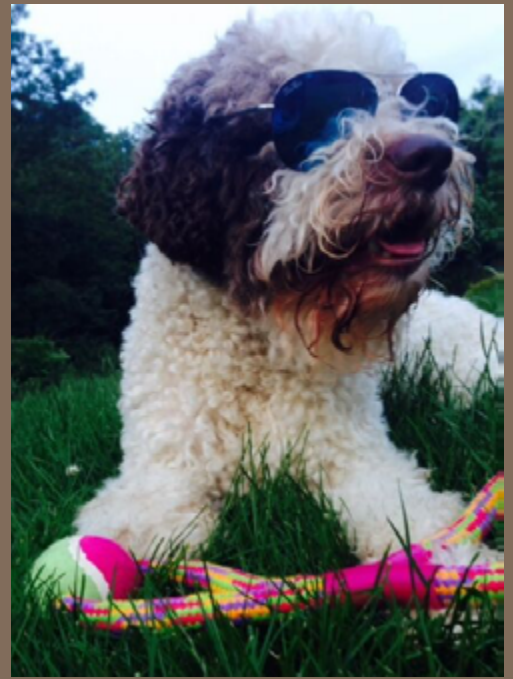
There is a downside to all this, however. A higher profile comes with responsibilities. Those of us who have been in the breed for awhile often talk about what will popularity do to the Lagotto? So the big question is: Will unscrupulous people breed Lagotto and hope to cash in on the latest new breed craze? Yes. In fact, there are already people doing so.

AKC recognition does NOT in itself create problems. Exposure, especially if we are not ready for it, can lead well meaning folks to some less than desirable practices. It is more important than ever for us to continue to educate potential puppy buyers on what to expect from their breeder, to remind them that they are buying the breeder and not the puppy. We must continue to educate our newbie breeders that breeding is making a life-long commitment to the puppies you bring into the world and their families. If you can't make that kind of a commitment, please don't breed puppies!

It is important, too, while we are in excitement mode about our wonderful breed to be up front about what the breed is NOT. They ARE adorable, fun, agile, trainable. They are also busy, too smart for their own good, destructive diggers, and potentially vocal. They need a heavy and consistent dose of socialization well throughout their first year and they NEED to be in training. They are very far from being cuddly stuffed animals (though they can mature into that) and most definitely NOT for everyone. Turn people away that should be getting a Labrador or a Chihuahua instead! Be willing to lay out the "challenges" of the breed---every breed has them.

If you want to be a breeder and to help the breed, this is the time to step up to the plate and come out to the shows. Participate in whatever activity you find rewarding, talk to people (lots of folks come to dogs shows/events to "interview" breeders). You don't even need to be a breeder to help! Every person who participates in dog sports with their Lagotto showcases our breed---sometimes even better than the "beauty contest" of the breed ring. Attracting other established dog sport competitors from other breeds is great for us, this is a breed that has the basic "hardwiring" and instincts to excel in many venues. What a fulfilled life a competition/working dog has!

In short, we are coming up on a period of intense public exposure. The best thing we can do for our breed is to participate fully, talk about our dogs honestly, and if we are breeders, place our puppies scrupulously. And we MUST as club members rigorously adhere to our Code of Ethics in our breeding practices. We must breed from the best knowledge, support each other, and screen, encourage, and guide those who want to join us on this journey! 🐾



Volo Wolff



Gucci Morehouse




Fusilla Morehouse

LRCA Website launched!

*Kerin Jacob-Schwartz,
Corresponding Secretary*

Drum roll please...It's here! The new LRCA Website has been launched! Please visit www.lagottous.com to see the fresh new look, user-friendly navigation and valuable content.

By now, all members should have received an user id and password to the new LRCA website. This will allow members to have access to a wealth of information on the Breed and the Club. Members are able to manage their membership information, keep contact information current, as well as handle their membership renewals. Board and Committee contact information are listed on the site, as well as Board meeting documents. Additionally, members will find an Events calendar that helps to map out the year ahead for the Lagotto. Another great addition to the website is a Blog that allows the Board to post important messages to Visitors and Club members. Members will also have access to archived Bollettinos and a Dog Event Forum, where one can network and share with other Lagotto lovers. Another great addition for all visitors to our website is access to extensive reference materials on the Lagotto.

Visitors can read up on Puppy/Dog Training, Grooming, Care & Training, etc... People who are researching the breed can find Breed Information as well as the LRCA Breeders List. These are just a few exciting features we are proud to introduce to you. We encourage all members to explore and visit often. New information will become available frequently, and additional website features will be released over next few months. If you have any questions regarding the new website, please reach out to either Leslie Arner, Recording Secretary - secretary@lagottous.com or Kerin Jacob-Schwartz, Corresponding Secretary - correspondingsecretary@lagottous.com 

AKC Registration

Theresa Nehemiah, Director


We have received exciting news from American Kennel Club (AKC). On June 1st 2015, the Lagotto Romagnolo breed will be fully recognized by AKC and will now be part of the Sporting Group. We will be able to participate in AKC Conformation Events starting in the month of July. The AKC will be converting your dogs Foundation Stock Service (FSS) registrations to AKC registrations in the month of June and you should receive these in the mail. If you have not received your new registration and you would like to enter in a Conformation or Companion Event, you can use your FSS number, as it will remain the same on your new AKC registration. If you do not receive a new registration, it may be for one of the following circumstances and you may send the corrected information by email or mail to AKC. Do not send in corrected information until the end of June as it will not be processed.

1. Your address on file with AKC may not be correct. You must send the owners name(s) of the dog(s) with the corrected address, the FSS number and the registered name of the dog (s) to fss@akc.org or mail to; The American Kennel Club P.O. Box 900058 Raleigh, NC 27675-9058

2. Your dog(s) are 5 years or older. You must send a request for the registration with your name(s) and address along with the FSS number and the registered name of your dog(s) to fss@akc.org or mail to; The American Kennel Club P.O. Box 900058 Raleigh, NC 27675-9058

3. Any dogs without a three generation pedigree will not convert to full AKC status. If your address is correct on your current FSS registration and your dog(s) are not 5 years or older, then you may not have a three generation pedigree. If you know your dog does have a three generation pedigree and you think it may be listed wrong at AKC then you will need to contact LRCA Director Theresa Nehemiah at; TheresaNehemiah@yahoo.com Any dogs without a three generation pedigree will stay in FSS and will not be eligible for AKC Conformation Events. However the dogs remaining in FSS can continue to compete in Companion events and be used for breeding stock. The Certificate of Merit Events will no longer be available for Lagotto Romagnolos remaining in FSS. Any dogs that have earned Certificate of Merit titles will retain them.

Cost of registration;

As of June 1st, the cost of registering litters with three generation pedigrees will be increasing to \$25.00 plus \$2.00 per puppy and may be done online. This cost also applies to the litter registration of a two generation pedigree bred with a three generation pedigree, but these must submitted by mail. Both litters will receive an AKC full recognition registration. If a one generation pedigree and a two generation pedigree are bred together the previous FSS cost of \$20.00 for the litter registration will stay the same. The litter registration must be submitted by mail and you will receive a FSS registration. 

It is Official!

Kerin Jacob-Schwartz, Corr. Secy

The AKC has proudly informed the LRCA that we have been approved for holding licensed championship point events, as well as licensed obedience and rally competitions!

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CLUB?

We can now have our own events, the crown jewel of which is a National Specialty. Additionally we are able to hold obedience and rally events.

I AM A PET OWNER. I DON'T SHOW MY DOG. WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO ME?

We can hold events that EVERYONE can participate, in whether they have a show dog or a well trained pet. Along with the National Specialty comes the ability of having an annual meeting- live and in person- year end awards handed out in person, guest speakers, an awards dinner, and more. In a way, having a National brings us back to our “Raduno roots” of having lots of Lagotto specific interests all together over the course of a few days.

WHERE DOES THE LRCA GO FROM HERE?

We will not start out with the most elaborate affair, but this is our first step in that direction. We can grow to include conformation showing, obedience and rally trial, the annual meeting, maybe a guest speaker, a workshop, a health clinic, a CGC and/or temperament test and some annual awards. This wonderful news gives us the potential for rewarding conversations, meeting our email and Facebook friends in person and seeing dogs from all over the country. It helps breeding programs, which helps everyone who wants a well-bred puppy. Due to the fact we are licensed, when we hold these events together, it is an AKC recognized event and we will draw more members from around the country.

CONGRATULATIONS LRCA!!!!



Clara and Bella Bell discussing their golf game



Meta Rabin-Schutzman relaxing on the boat

Meet our newest Board Members

Bill Wilson

Bill is serving as club Treasurer. Born and raised in Los Altos Hills, Ca, Bill Wilson retired as a manager from Space Systems Loral (formerly Ford Aerospace) in 2009. In between his career in Aerospace, he also worked in the real estate industry as a realtor, and the wine industry as a grape producer. He also owned and operated an electronics assembly business in San Jose and Napa. When he lived in St Helena, he flew his plane daily to work in Palo Alto. Bill has 2 sons, Sean and Chad, and 2 grandchildren. Granddaughter, Morgan, heads off to college in the fall, while grandson, Gannon starts as a freshman in high school. Bill raised and bred Labrador and Chesapeake Bay Retrievers for field trial and hunting work, before he fell in love with the Lagotto Romagnolo breed. He with his wife Teresa, first acquired a Lagotto, (LK Kara Bella) Kara, in 2012. Coco (IGDM Consuelo) soon followed in 2013. Both Kara and Coco were actively shown in AKC conformation shows, each achieving points to earn their Certificates of Merit. Bill's hobbies include swimming, cycling, and running, fishing and shooting, as well as being an avid Kindle reader. 🐶



Kerin Jacob-Schwartz

Three years ago, my husband and I were first introduced to the Lagotto Romagnolo at Meet the Breed in New York City. After much research and honest assessment of what we could offer and what we wanted from a dog, we became the proud owners of two amazing Lagotti, and eventually, co-owners of a third with our breeder. This has become a life changing adventure for us. We have become fully immersed in the sport of Nosework with Terra Incognita dei Baci, who has passed ORT Birch Clove and Anise, in addition to obtaining his NW1 title. We will go for the NW2 title in the next few months. Our second Lagotto, Rosalie dei Boschi D'Oro, has just begun her own adventure in the world of Nosework. In addition to participating in sport activities with our Lagotti, we have volunteered at Meet the Breed events and participated in Raduni in the North East. Additionally, I am currently serving on the Website Committee, Breed Education Committee and Chair for the LRCA's Marketing Committee. Outside of the Lagotto community, my husband and I own an accounting software/consulting company, where I am employed as the Manager of Sales and Marketing. I am also an active volunteer with PAWS New England. I have obtained my certification as a Veterinary Assistant and continue to enjoy furthering my education in the area of intelligent integration of traditional medicine with integrative medicine to positively impact the state of a dog's health. My love for the Lagotto and desire to help maintain the breed standard has motivated me to contribute to the Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America. I am excited to be a part of the Club now that it has become fully recognized by the AKC, and contribute to the education and public awareness of this enchanting breed, the Lagotto Romagnolo. 🐶



We will introduce our other two new Board Members in our fall issue; Theresa Nehemiah and Leanne Mitcha.

AKC Point Schedule

Effective May 13, 2015

(Point schedules are subject to change every May---so this went into effect, before we were eligible-AP) Lagotto Romagnolo All Divisions (Right now all Divisions have the same requirements, this may not be true next year)

1 POINT	2 POINTS	3 POINTS	4 POINTS	5 POINTS
Dogs/Bitches	Dogs/Bitches	Dogs/Bitches	Dogs/Bitches	Dogs/Bitches
2/2	3/3	4/4	5/5	6/6

Division 1: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

Division 2: Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

Division 3: District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

Division 4: Florida, Georgia, South Carolina

Division 5: Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio

Division 6: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

Division 7: Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas

Division 8: Oregon, Washington

Division 9: Arizona, California

Division 11: Hawaii

Division 12: Puerto Rico

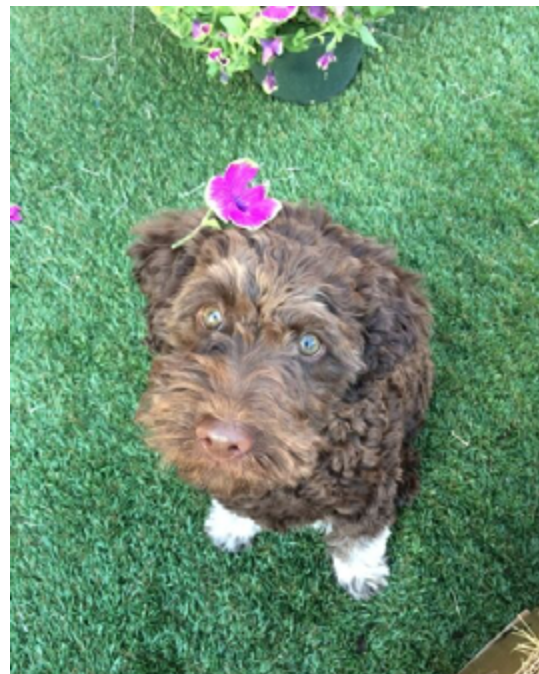
Division 13: Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming

Division 14: Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi

Division 15: Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin

So how does this work? For complete Conformation Championship requirements see Chapter 16 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. The Points toward a Championship shall be awarded to the Winners Dog and Bitch of each breed or variety based on the actual number of dogs or bitches competing in that breed or variety. If the dog designated Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is also awarded Best of Breed or Variety, the dogs of both sexes that have been entered for Best of Breed or Variety competition and that have been defeated in such competition, shall be counted in addition to the dogs that completed in the regular classes for its sex in calculating championship points. If the dog designated Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety, the dogs of its own sex that have been entered for Best of Breed or Variety competition that have been defeated in competition for Best of Opposite Sex, shall be counted in addition to the dogs that completed in the regular classes for its sex in calculating championship points. After points have been computed for Winners Dog and Winners Bitch subject to the above two stipulations, the dog awarded the Best of Winners shall be credited with the number of points calculated for Winners Dog or Winners Bitch, whichever is greater. In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all awards are withheld shall not be included. Any dog which shall have won fifteen points shall become a Champion of Record, if six or more of said points shall have been won at two shows with a rating of three or more championship points each and under two different judges, and some one or more of the balance of said points shall have been won under some other judge or judges than the two judges referred to above.

(From the AKC Website) 



Penne Morehouse loves flowers



Kara and Bill Wilson relaxing!



Picola Wagner retrieving her ball

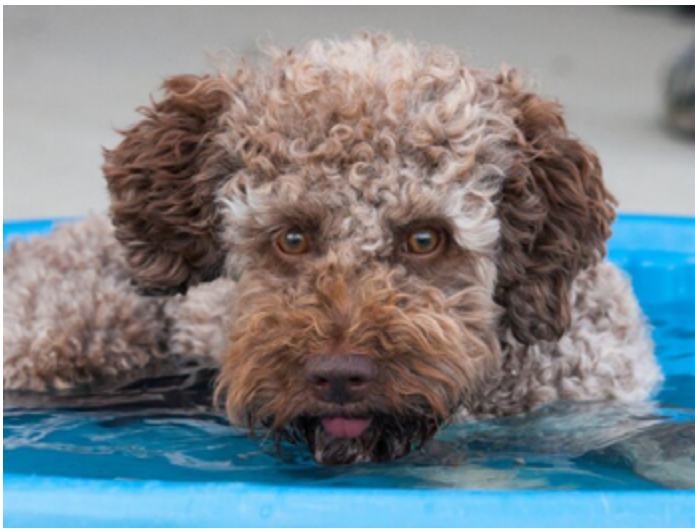
Summer Fun



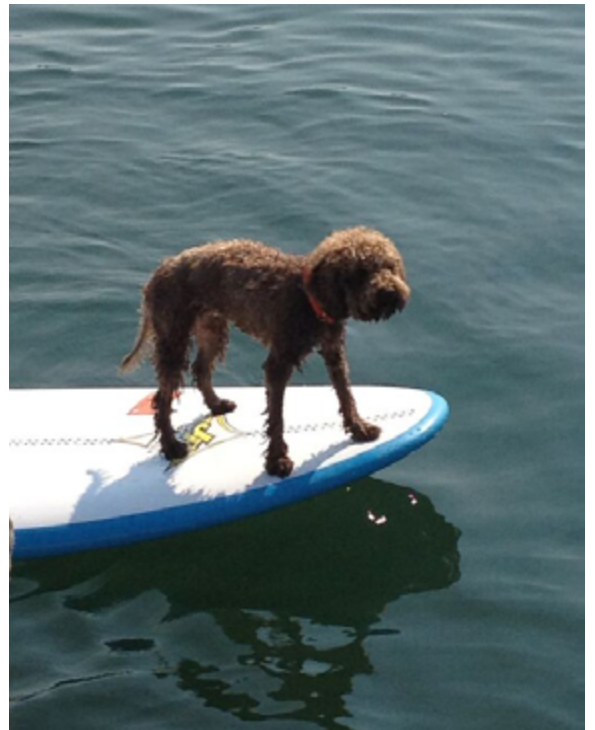
Adrina and Ginevra Martin chasing sticks in Lake Superior, MI



Bacia Modugno kayaking



Piccola Wagner in the pool



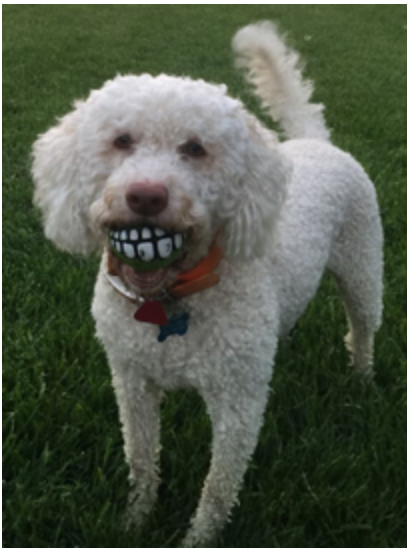
Zoe Trott-Reid on a paddle board in Cape Cod



Emerson Uhte (and Costello) says "Mom is a master groomer and just groomed me, but I needed to dig!"



Apollo McKnight Diving off the Dock. Jupiter is watching



*Rosa Deschert
loves to play with
her "teeth" ball*



Lucca loves boating



*Alana McGee's niece walking Ilario Drisdale on the dock in
Harbor WA*



*Lina Neumann loves camping.
There is so much to explore.*



Lolo McGee singing boat songs in Harbor, WA



*Apollo McKnight ready to launch in a dock dive.
Photo by Melissa Sheehan*



Zoe Trott-Reid on board in Cape Cod



Benni Beckman of Bedford, NY loves his birthday duck!

New Associate Members

April:

Martin Cherry - Bethesda, MD
 Sarah Massios - Seneca, SC
 Warren Steinborn - Carmel, IN
 Janice Wuebker - Summerfield, NC
 Patricia Michael - Richmond, VA
 Heather Holt - Minneapolis, MN
 Tim Franklin - Wayne, PA
 David Gold - Wayne, NJ
 Dave Birkhead - Richmond, VA

May

Kim Witt - Rockton, IL
 Gloria Rosenthal, Becket, MA

June:

Annalise Cottone - Weston, CT
 Steven Honigsbaum - Charlotte, NC
 Debi Fischer - Jenks, OK
 David Piemons - Durham, NC
 Susan Sikorski - Fairfax Station, VA
 Annie Sikorski - Fairfax Station, VA



Perfettos Pia "Prima" winning Best In Miscellaneous April 2015, with co-owner handler, Shelene Costello. Co-owned with Bonita Uhte.

LRCA Board Meeting Highlights

Collected by Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes

March 8 2015

1. The LRCA Meet the Breed booth took first place in the Miscellaneous Group booth competition at Westminster.
2. Work is proceeding on the new website.
3. Health Committee: Breeder listing application approved; currently listed breeders will be contacted and asked to complete the new application and return it with the required information within 30 days. Therese Williams, Chair, will be contacting all those who expressed an interest in serving on the Health Committee during the next 2 weeks.
4. Judges Education: A judges packet consisting of documents and an usb stick is ready to send to judges requesting judges education information.
5. Membership: Members received dues notices via email. The final date for renewal was March 1.
6. Rescue: Documents have been created for surrendering and adopting dogs as well as for rescue volunteers.

April 12, 2015

1. The application for Full Licensing for conformation, obedience and rally competition has been completed and sent to AKC
2. The new website has launched.
3. The Corresponding Secretary has sent dues notices to all members who failed to renew by the March 1 deadline.
4. Health: Breeder listing application approved. The Code of Ethics and Health Recommendations have been submitted to the President to present to the Board. Information regarding health issues and testing procedures and resources have been added to the website.
5. Rescue: The Board voted to provide start up funds in the amount of \$500 to the Lagotto Rescue organization once established.
6. Membership: As the Board voted to extend the period for renewal of membership by 60 days, dues notices were sent on March 11 to all members who had failed to renew.

May 17, 2015

1. Work is going forward on pictures and sound bites about the breed for the Westminster and Philadelphia shows' broadcasts. AKC is working on an introduction to the breed video.
2. Any members interested in volunteering to serve on the nominating committee should contact the Recording Secretary.
3. AKC will open the stud book for the Lagotto Romagnolo and will be moving registrations of eligible Lagotto from FSS to full registration in the upcoming month.
4. The Board voted to fund an expenditure of up to \$100 to cover the cost for the Recording Secretary to meet with a Parliamen-

Continued next page

Considering Breeding....?

If you are thinking of breeding your Lagotto, you need to consider the following:

1. Does your Lagotto have a good temperament?

2. Is he/she a good representative of the breed type and conformation?

3. Have you reviewed the agreement (if any) with your breeder to determine if your puppy was sold with a "restricted from breeding" clause?

4. Have you checked your AKC FSS papers to see if your dog has a limited (from breeding) registration?

5. Have you reviewed the LRCA Code Ethics to be sure that you are in compliance with the rules pertaining to breeding a litter and placing puppies?

Note: be sure to read the new mandatory requirements on LSD testing to make sure you are in compliance with future breedings.

tarian regarding Board related issues.

5. The position for AKC liaison will be open as of July 1 due to the resignation of the current liaison.
6. Health: The test for Lagotto Storage Disease is now commercially available through Genoscooper in Finland. The newly formed Health Committee is reviewing the Code of Ethics and the health requirements.
7. Judges Education: Jacki Barbieri has resigned. Adrienne Perry was appointed chair of the committee.
8. Rescue: Rescue has taken in one Lagotto, which is now in foster care undergoing assessment.
9. Membership: The extended period for renewal has closed. Currently there are 386 members including 318 voting members, 55 associate members and 13 international members. Email notices re renewal bounced for 4 members.



Official Minutes and Committee Reports from Board Meetings can be found by clicking here or in the members section of the club website: www.LagottoUS.com

Any club member interested in volunteering to serve on the nominating committee should contact the Recording Secretary: Secretary@LagottoUS.com

Notice

The items in the Bollettino are submitted by club members, or other persons with special information to share with the membership. These are strictly the opinions of the writers and do not reflect an official stance of LRCA. Items submitted are edited by the Bollettino team. Official club information from the Board of Directors and Committees will be signed with their name and Board Title.



Upcoming Events

July 2015

The Lagotto Romagnolo enters the Sporting Group with the AKC.

September 19, 2015

AKC National Responsible Dog Owner Day
NC State Fairgrounds Raleigh, NC

December 12-13, 2015

AKC/Eukanuba National Championship
Orange County Convention Center Orlando, FL

Board Meetings are held on 2nd Sunday of the month at 7:30 EDT. Contact club Secretary if you would like to attend. Secretary@LagottoUS.com

LRCA Board Members for 2015

President:	Adrienne Perry
Vice President:	Lisa Sobon
Recording Secretary:	Leslie Arner
Corresponding Secretary	Kerin Jacob-Swartz
Treasurer:	Bill Wilson
Director:	Theresa Nehemiah
Director:	Andrea Szegeti
Director:	Sandy Mignogna
Director:	Leanne Mitcha

LRCA Website: www.lagottous.com

AKC: www.akc.org

Bollettino Editorial Team:

Judith Martin, Alana McGee, Toni Kay-Wolff, Hllarie Gibbs-Sykes, Mel Sykes, Cathy Dronen, Eddie and Glenn Tuttle:

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