

Lagotto Bollettino

Lagotto Club



**Dec.
2013**

**Vol.
4**

2014 Lagotto Romagnolo Calendars!

The 2014 Lagotto Romagnolo calendars are still available for purchase on our website! . These full color, 13 month calendars are ready to ship and make great presents for the dog enthusiast in your life! Get yours now before they are sold out!
<http://lagottous.com>

*Happy Holidays
Judith Martin - Editor*

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Another year has almost passed and soon it will be 2014. This last issue of the Bollettino is a celebration of Christmas and the New Year. We have introductions of our Editorial group and greetings from our membership. Check out the "New Faces" and be sure to send photos of your pups under 1 year of age to Bollettino for future issues.

Contest: Our last winner, Liz Reese from Arizona found a whole lot of errors but finally found the "end of item" icon of our new logo. The little dog head at the end of Lisa Sobon's bio was upside down.

Our contest for this issue will be two word games. Much easier than the last contest which was to find our planted error. Send your answers to Bollettino@LagottoUS.com. If we have more than one winner, we will draw among the names. Get your pencils out!



President's Message Adrienne Perry

The biggest news this month is that we have a date for our first AKC Open Show! This is one of the requirements that the club has to fulfill in order to move to full status out of the miscellaneous class. We have been warmly welcomed by the Fiesta Cluster in Scottsdale, Arizona. This is a 4 day cluster (Friday-Monday) and our show will take place ½ hour after Best in Show on Saturday, March 1, 2014! We have hired Blue Ribbon Dog Shows to be our show secretary (blueribbondogshows.com), and shortly we will have premium lists/entry forms. Scottsdale is a lovely place (usually!) to be in March. With 4 all breed shows (including obedience and rally, as well as

New Faces

Introduce your puppy to the club. Send us a good photo of your puppy born after Jan. 2013 to be featured in our next issue. Include registered name, call name, date of birth and location



CryOut Emilio Mario "Cooper" Was Born May 15, 2013. His owners are the Corrazinnis and his breeder is CryOut Kennel in Italy..

agility trials onsite), our Open/FSS breeds show makes Five opportunities to earn points toward a Certificate of Merit (CM). The Fiesta Cluster also offers a wide variety of health clinics on the show site: OFA screening for hips/elbows, cardiac, and CERF eye exams are available Check the cluster's premium list for more information. Superintendant is Jack Bradshaw. What is an Open Show you ask? An Open Show is the club's way of demonstrating that we can handle the requirements of putting on a show (we are able to staff and run the show according to AKC regulations). If you have ever been to a Sanctioned B match for a new all breed kennel club, the atmosphere is similar. Professional handlers are NOT allowed to show (even if they are the owner of the dog) so new handlers get a chance to shine and learn as well. The classes are slightly different than regular miscellaneous class competition as well: 4-6 month, 6-9 month, 9-12 month, and Open in both sexes will give us all a chance to show even more of our promising young dogs. Breeds who can compete are all Miscellaneous Class breeds as well as those breeds that are still in FSS and have not moved up to Miscellaneous status yet. Those of us at Eukanuba got to see a vast array of these dogs: Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen, Russian Toys, Peruvian Inca Orchids and more.....in my area we are sure to attract some American Hairless Terriers too. So come on out to beautiful Scottsdale! Help support the club's endeavor, support the wonderful Fiesta Cluster who have been so welcoming, and show your dog in any (or all!) of a variety of events. And yes, we could use some volunteers!! Please contact me or Lisa Sobon if you'd like to be part of this historic event.



Meet the Bollettino News Team

Judith Martin



I have been involved with showing and breeding purebred dogs since 1993. My first breed was the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. I have had the pleasure of owning and breeding several champions, including a Welsh Terrier champion. Wheatens are afflicted with a genetic anomaly that can lead to death. Until recently there was no method of DNA testing for this condition. At that time, I began a search for another breed that could be similar in size and coat type, but not prone to a life threatening disease. I started researching the Lagotto in 2003 and joined Mel Sykes' Yahoo Group in 2004 and read every post. After lots of inquiries, we finally got our first Lagotto in early 2005 from Croatia and our second from Italy in 2006. At that time there was rapidly growing interest in the breed and plans to do an introduction in Dog Fancy magazine in May 2007. With the help of Mel and the Yahoo Group,


Homemade Doggie Ice Cream

Here is a simple & easy to follow recipe for the commonly enjoyed "Frosty Paws," frozen pet treats found in local grocery stores.


Materials Needed:

*32 fluid ounces of Vanilla Yogurt
1 ripened Banana or 1 5 ounce jar of banana baby food
2 tablespoons Peanut Butter
2 tablespoons honey (optional)
1 ice cube tray/Styrofoam egg carton/Silicone Cup Cake Wrappers.*

Directions: Mix yogurt & mashed banana together. Stir in peanut butter, or save to use as a "swirl" before freezing. Stir in honey. Spoon into ice cube tray/egg carton/Silicone Cup Cake Wrappers. Freeze for approximately 3 hours; you may want to briefly thaw the treats to pop them out of the tray. Serve them to your pup and watch them enjoy! Variations of this recipe can include adding fruit flavored yogurt, pieces of fresh fruit, and increasing/decreasing the amount of peanut butter used. The dogs would also love cooked liver flavor with plain yogurt instead of fruit.

in desktop publishing. Currently I am a trauma RN. While my computer skills are a bit 'rusty', I am very excited to be part of the newsletter/publication team. My goal for the newsletter/publications committee is to be part of a fantastic team and bring a fun, informative newsletter that the membership of the Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America will enjoy. 

we found a group of motivated persons to form a Board of Directors, began the Lagotto Club of America, and established a website in preparation for the onslaught. I served as Founding President, and with our Founding Board and Charter Members, our club began to grow. Since that time, I served as Membership Chair and on the Health/Education Committee. I love Lagotti and am committed to our club to protect the breed in any way I can.

Lifelong Michiganians, my husband and I retired to sunny Arizona in 1997. My main career has been in Graphic Design and Illustration with part time teaching experience in grades K-12 through college. We currently have 4 Lagotti, 3 imports and a homebred puppy. My goals for the newsletter will be to provide a good communication and educational tool for the club, with input from the membership. We have a great editorial team and I look forward to the challenges and rewards of working for the Bollettino. 

Robin Simi

I have been involved with loving, showing, breeding Bichon Frises since 2003. I had heard of the Lagotto breed on a flight from Seattle to JFK in 2009, and began an 'informational' quest. And finally, in 2013, I have finally brought a lovely show girl into my home; Revi, from Larcen Lagotto. In addition to being in the ring, we are also working with her on obedience and rally. This breed is a lot of fun and is keeping me on my toes. I am excited to be part of this club as we work towards full AKC recognition, and public education, not only for this breed but for responsible dog ownership and canine health and well being in general. In my past career, I have worked in IT as a project management, database development and



Baci's Biscuits

These biscuit treats can be made the traditional way with whole wheat flour, OR it can be made to accommodate a Lagotto on a grain free diet. Instead of using whole wheat flour, you can use equal amounts of buckwheat flour or millet flour. Please note, millet flour will create a more tender biscuit. The cinamon listed in the biscuit contains antioxidants and anti-inflammatory properties. The pumpkin is a miracle food for dogs in moderate amounts. However, be sure to use canned pumpkin, not raw or pumpkin pie filling. Pumpkin is loaded with fiber and beta-carotene and converted to Vitamin A when digested.

3 cups whole wheat flour or one of the grain free options listed above
1/4 cup oats (if dog is on grain free diet, sub an extra 1/4 cup grain free flour listed above)

3 Tbsp peanut butter

1 15 oz can pumpkin puree (NOT pumpkin pie filling)

2 eggs

1/2 tsp cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In small bowl, stir together the flour, oats, and cinnamon. In a separate large bowl, whisk together the eggs, pumpkin and peanut butter until combined. Combine ingredients from both bowls together and stir. Pour mixture onto a floured surface and roll dough out to 1/2 thick. Don't be surprised....your dough will probably be sticky. Sprinkle some flour on the dough if too sticky. Cut out dough using a cookie cutter of your choice. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes until golden brown. Remove from oven and cool. Your biscuits will harden as they cool.

Kerin Jacob-Schwartz

Kerin Jacob-Schwartz

My husband and I were first introduced to the Lagotto Romagnolo two years ago at Meet the Breed in New York City. After much research and honest assessment of what we could offer a dog/what we wanted from a dog, we became the proud owners of two amazing Lagotti from Terra Incognita. This has become a life changing adventure for us. Presently, we are working towards achieving the Canine Good Citizen title with Rosalie, our 5 year old. Baci, our 8 month old, recently earned AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy distinction and has started agility and nose



work training. The Lagotto has opened a wonderful world for me. So much so, I am currently enrolled in an online accredited college program to become certified as a Veterinary Assistant. Within my studies, I am interested in learning about how traditional and integrative medicine can merge together to 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 Club of America. I recently became a member of the Newsletter and Publication committee. This has proven to

be an exciting opportunity where I am drawing on past professions. My career experience includes several roles that require professional writing skills for marketing copy, drafting speeches, client relations and business letters. Currently, I am the Business Development Director at BIO Analytics, a provider of business intelligence software and services. This position requires the creation of marketing and sales materials for the company's products and services. In past positions, I was responsible for drafting speeches and copy for a Senior Executive at Morgan Stanley. I have also written HR policies and handbooks for a non-profit organization that was responsible for the creation and management of charter schools in underserved communities. I am excited to be a part of this Club as it becomes fully recognized by the AKC, and to contribute to the education and public awareness of the Lagotto Romagnolo.



Toni Kay-Wolff

My name is Toni Kay-Wolff, and I am owner of The Well-Mannered Dog, Inc.® in Southbury, CT. I'm committed to teaching others how to enjoy their dogs in a way that is safe, fun, and rewarding for all dogs and their families. Using a balanced training program that includes positive training methods, leash and collar work, clicker training for those who



are interested, my clients come away with an understanding of their puppies and dogs that is very different from when they first come in. The dogs and their people are more relaxed, happier, and have a closer relationship and bond with their dogs.

Learning to communicate with your puppy or dog is the first step in having a positive relationship and getting the kind of dog you long for. Helping you have a dog who will always want to be with you, will work hard to please you, and will do so with a positive attitude and joy for life can only be gotten through understanding, patience, time and commitment. I enjoy helping you accomplish whatever you want to have in your relationship with your dog. I hope to share my experience and knowledge training thousands of puppies and dogs as well as teaching their people within our Lagotto community. Having litter tested several Lagotto litters in the last 5.5 years, choosing puppies from litters who best match the families looking for their forever friends, and training several Lagotti over the years as well as owning and showing our Tillie, 21 month old

Shivaree Allegre Toroncini, to her CM this year, I feel I can offer my expertise in training and living with Lagotti and look forward to doing so in our Bollettino.

We have also welcomed our fabulous new baby boy, LK Peter Pan "Volo", who will start his AKC show career in early 2014, and are planning to breed Tillie to a wonderful boy (to be announced soon!) in early 2014.



Santa delivers a new home - Rescue

He tolerated the trip from Europe to the USA okay, his new family seemed okay; however, he ended up spending most of his days and nights outside in a kennel – all by himself. Eventually, he escaped, was found on the streets, and picked up by animal control. They thought he was a doodle. He cleaned up pretty good, was neutered, and a new family took him home. They wanted a playmate for their dog. He was such an exuberant playmate that the family's dog eventually grew weary of his intensity, and after a few months, he ended up back in the shelter. This cycle repeated itself one more time, so that within one year, he had been in and out of the shelter 2-3 times. He had an unreadable chip so that was no help.

He just could not help himself. As a young pup, he never bonded with humans, never gained a sense of his place in the human pack. When he interacted with other dogs, he so intensely wanted to be a part of the canine pack, not the human pack, that his new families (and their dogs) were overwhelmed with his intensity. He just needed some redirection, patience, and a family that understood and, most of all, loved him.



One day, a member of the Lagotto Club of America was at this shelter, registering her dogs, when the shelter staff asked her to verify that what they had in the shelter was a doodle or a Lagotto Romagnolo. She was uncomfortable saying the dog was not a Lagotto as he was the right size, coat, tail, ears, nose, and eye rim color. She could not say 100% that the dog was a Lagotto, but felt pretty strongly that he was. He was reserved, got along good with other dogs, no aggression. She contacted the Lagotto Club of America. There was a lot of discussion regarding whether or not he was an actual Lagotto; however, after receiving several photographs of him and feedback from the person in the area, we were convinced that he was indeed a Lagotto Romagnolo. In the meantime, a family was found that wanted to look at him and see if he was a dog for their family. Within 24 hours, almost a dozen Lagotto lovers wanted him. What a lucky guy!! His prospective family looked at him, fell in love with him, and went home to get everything in place to pick him up.

After arriving at his “forever” home, he had so much to do:

- Learn a new name
- Heel and walk
- Where to go potty outside
- Learn about snow
- Meet all the new dogs in the neighborhood

His family just adores him. He only barks to get their attention; he has plenty of food and water all the time and gets to follow them around the house on a leash. He also has a big crate to call his own and a nice comfy bed to settle into. His new family keeps telling him “I can’t believe someone would return you, not want you, you are so loveable!” It just took the right family.



Submitted by Christine Anne Gornik, Chair LCA Rescue

Edited by Bolletino team. While the true history of this dog might not be known, this story illustrates how Rescue can bring deserving dogs and loving families together. Watch for more in-depth information on Rescue in an upcoming issue.



Susan Emery's Lagotto "Ella" at work with THERAPAWS of Las Cruces, NM. Susan and Ella have a passion for this work.



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Robin Simi and Revi*

Keeping Puppies and Dogs Safe During the Holidays - Helpful Hints

Toni Kay-Wolff

"It's the most wonderful time of the year". This may be true for humans. Who doesn't love bringing in the Christmas tree, having houseguests, giving/receiving gifts or baking all sorts of holiday goodies? While some of us may enjoy it, this time of year can be filled with stress and confusion for puppies, and even for our adult dogs. Keeping our resident dogs safe and healthy is at the top of my list... so what is a responsible owner to do? Christmas Puppy? That's a big "Maybe..." I used to tell everyone I could get to listen that getting a puppy for Christmas was a terrible idea. Not only does the holiday season take us away from our normal day-to-day activities, it adds stressors we do not have to deal with during other times of the year. Family, friends, parties, shopping... you get the idea. Since very few people I know listen to the professionals about this subject, and most have little humans in their ears begging and pleading for a new puppy for Christmas, we might as well suit up and help them the best way we can. After all, who wouldn't want to bring home a new Lagotto puppy for Christmas??!! Here is a list of Do's and Don'ts that will help these puppies and their families navigate through the holidays with little to no upset.

Do's:

- Be sure you have time for the puppy you bring home. It takes precedent over everything else you might have on your "To Do" list. Everything. If you can't hold out, gather all the puppy items you will need and wrap them as gifts for the children. Get the puppy when the holidays are over. I promise they will have just as much fun, and waiting those extra two weeks will spread the holidays out even longer! As a 7 year old, I got a wonderful letter from my parents explaining that we were finally getting the puppy I had dreamed of since I was about 3 years old and could verbalize just how crucial it was that I have one. I wish I had that letter today. It is still one of my favorite memories. Consider this as opposed to having your very special Lagotto puppy come home during the busiest time of year.
- Set up your home environment before the puppy comes home. Having a quiet place that is "puppy-proofed" is crucial to the pup's safety and your sanity. That means creating a space away from the Christmas tree, gifts, etc. You can use an Ex-Pen (puppy exercise pen) or baby pen surround that is movable and can surround your tree and gifts ~ the same way you would keep a toddler away from the dangers that lurk. Here is a great link for an ex-pen or baby pen. Here are links to a site that has a variety of pens: <http://www.petco.com/product/122186/Precision-Pet-Eight-Panel-Silver-Wire-Pen.aspx>, <http://www.petco.com/product/121615/Iris-White-Eight-Panel-Pet-Containment-Pen-with-Door.aspx>
- For the holidays, I would recommend setting up the puppy's area in a room other than the kitchen. There are too many foods being prepared this time of year that will make a puppy sick. Try a laundry room or small bathroom, and again, puppy proof!

Don'ts:

- It is generally a bad idea to bring the neighborhood over to meet your new puppy before it has been in your home for at least a week, if not two. Everyone will be anxious to meet your new little one, but with all the activity, food, and gifts, it can lead to overwhelming your new pup. Waiting a bit can only help, and never hurt. If you can't hold them off, try to bring in only 2 people at a time. Spread out the visits so there are no more than one visit a day. Be sure to keep the pup away from your front door by using gates to keep them contained safely. Your new puppy will have no idea how to get back to you should they run out during a visit. Open doors are serious dangers for new puppies or untrained dogs.
- Watch out for food and snacks falling on the floor. Again, as a general rule, we prefer our dogs not eat from the floor, as there are many foods we eat that are toxic to dogs. This is not always possible, and if I am going to be honest, I do not mind my gang cleaning up what I drop as long as it is safe. During the holidays, however, there is a lot of baking (baking chocolate is not just toxic but could be deadly to puppies and dogs!), as well as fatty foods being prepared. Fatty foods can lead to pancreatitis. This can make a puppy very, very

ill and have you visiting the animal emergency clinic. Scary and expensive. Be sure no one is feeding your puppies or adult dogs from the table during the holiday feasts. In fact, crating them in another room or part of the house is the safest thing you can do. Uncle Jeremiah will be sneaking snacks to the pups. You know it, as well as I do! Your mealtime may coincide with the puppy's potty break. During those necessary potty breaks, you can bring your Lagotto out to potty, and then bring them right back to their crate or enclosure. Bring the puppy out when only the last few people are left in the house and all the food has been put away. Again, so as not to overwhelm the puppy. If you can't stop the masses from dragging your puppies or dogs out around the house, leave out a few small doggie snacks in bowls and let everyone know that if they'd like to give the dogs a treat, these are the only ones they are allowed to have.

- Tinsel is sparkly and shiny and fun, and puppies love to play. As with toddlers, everything goes in the mouth! Keep tinsel, breakables, and edibles away from your puppy. Swallowing even a bit of a broken ornament or a piece of tinsel can cause serious internal issues that may, again, have you at the emergency clinic and potentially looking at surgery. Taking precautions with your new puppy will save you a world of trouble, and there are a myriad of ways to keep everyone safe, happy, and still have fun! The Tree! The Tree! You bring a tree into the house and you expect me not to eat it or pee on it? What is a Lagotto to do? If dog owners could read their Lagotto's mind, he/she would probably be thinking something along those lines. Think about how confusing all of our "traditions" must seem to our dogs. We bring trees into the house and put them in yummy bowls of water. However, this water bowl is off limits to them. We lay exciting boxes under the tree that may contain interesting smelling objects but our dogs are forbidden from making them their new chew toys. Our schedules become hectic. Visitors come and go. That UPS man won't stop ringing our doorbell. Yummy smells coming from the kitchen. Many of us enjoy bringing our Lagotti on holiday trips. The list goes on and on. How can we help our Lagotti cope? Here are some questions and answers that should help. Are holidays really stressful on my dog? Everyone is so happy and lively. How can that be stressful? How can I ease that burden? Excellent question. This is an easy assumption to make. Things that stress some of us out have no effect whatsoever on others. The same is true for dogs. Since most pet dog owners are not



Christmas Word Search Puzzle I

Can you find the word STOCKING in this stocking?
It appears just three times.



particularly clear about doggie body language and what our pups or dogs are trying to tell us, it would serve us all well to use a preventative approach as opposed to hoping that our dogs will do well with a houseful of virtual strangers.

Some of the things that will help get your puppy or dog through the day are:

1. Plenty of exercise before the day gets too busy. Make sure they are tired, empty, and get some training time in if you can. Mentally tiring out a dog is amazingly effective.
2. Having a crate set up in a location where most visitors won't be tempted to let them out "just to say hello". Covering a crate like a canary cage can help puppies and dogs settle in nicely. Most people don't know this little dog trainer's trick, but once they try it, everyone's happier!
3. Playing some calm, soothing music can often help drown out the voices so that pups don't feel like they are missing anything or feeling isolated.
4. What foods are poisonous to my dog? Many, but for the holidays I'd prevent them from

- getting anything fatty (can cause not just loose stools, but potentially pancreatitis). So no turkey with dressing, onions, chocolate, ham... and watch not just the Poinsettia plants, but a few others as well. From <http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/>: The milky white sap found in poinsettias contains chemicals called diterpenoid euphorbol esters and saponin-like detergents. While poinsettias are commonly “hyped” as poisonous plants, they rarely are, and the poisoning is greatly exaggerated. Far more worrisome are holiday bouquets containing lilies, holly or mistletoe. Even bouquets brought into the house by holiday guests should be thoroughly inspected, as lilies are the #1 flower often used by florists. Just one or two bites from a lily can result in severe acute kidney failure in cats – even the pollen is thought to be poisonous! Other yuletide plants such as holly berries, mistletoe, and rosemary can also be toxic to dogs and cats. When Christmas or English holly is ingested, it can result in severe gastrointestinal upset thanks to the spiny leaves and the potentially toxic substances (including saponins, methylxanthines, and cyanogens). If ingested, most dogs and cats lip smack, drool, and head shake excessively due to the mechanical injury from the spiny leaves. As for mistletoe, most of us hang it high enough so it’s out of reach of our dogs and cats – nevertheless, it can also be toxic if ingested. Thankfully, American mistletoe is less toxic than the European varieties of it. Mild signs of gastrointestinal irritation are seen, although if ingested in large amounts, collapse, hypotension, ataxia (walking drunk), seizures and death have also been reported.
5. “I have guests coming over and not sure if I should use this as a time to socialize my dog? If not, what should I do? Again, avoiding stress is important, but it’s hard to say “no” to family and friends who want to see or meet your puppy or beloved family dog. I recommend that after most of your guests have left you bring your dog out, on a leash, first to potty and have a drink of water if they are interested. You can let just a few people pet and hold your puppy, or play with your dog IF your adult dog is familiar with them. For goodness sakes, if you know your dog does not do well with strangers or high levels of stimulation, or has shown signs of aggression of any kind, now is not the time to “help them get over it”.

8. Any tips for ways to entertain or keep dogs out of mischief? Yes! Exercise and then down time in the crate. Repeat throughout the day. If you are having just a few people at you home that are known to your dog, you can use interactive toys like Tug-A-Jug to let them eat their meals while playing with the toys. Loads of fun and kills lots of time!

Any tips for traveling with my puppy/dog over the holidays?

I’d recommend making other arrangements if your not is not a good traveler. For those dogs that enjoy travel, here is what I do:

1. My dogs are all micro-chipped and registered.
2. They all have collars and tags on them with their name, my cell number and another number (home, friend) on the other side of the tag. Having 2 tags is not over-kill. Tags fall off. If one falls off, the other is still on.
3. I put the same information (including my address) on my dogs’ crates in the car. If we are in an accident I want them protected by the crate, as well as preventing them from running out of the car if they are frightened. Emergency personnel will NOT go chasing after your dogs if you are in any kind of danger or need assistance. I tether dogs who are either too big to crate or if your vehicle cannot handle a crate. A simple leash tether is a good idea to prevent your animal from running about in the car or potentially jumping out of an

Christmas Word Search Puzzle II

If you’re ready for a tougher challenge, try this one! Look for the TOYS in the stocking. This time you’ll have to figure out how many times the word appears.



3. cont.

opened car door while you are getting assistance after an accident. If you have a dog who is in the front seat with you (and I do not recommend it), be sure the airbag on that side is turned "OFF". These airbags could easily and severely damage your dog.

4. I would also put an envelope inside the glove compartment that includes your dog's ID, owner's contact information and your vet's information.

5. Make sure your dog or puppy has their leash on before you open the car to get them out for potty breaks at rest stops. I also avoid ANY areas that say "potty your dog here". I want them where no other dogs have been, so as to avoid potential illness or disease. I would rather be reprimanded or pay a fine if I am caught ;).

6. As a "just in case", I'd make copies of 2 photos of your dogs to bring with you when you travel. One a head shot, the other a side shot, showing specific markings if there are any. If one loses a dog, the first thing is to get photos of them up all over the area where they were last seen. Time is of the essence, so having 10-15 copies of the photos will save time and potentially get your dog back to you very quickly.

Do you know of any helpful websites to find pet friendly hotels? One of our members, Kerin Jacob-Schwartz, recommends www.bringfido.com. Another good one is www.petswelcome.com. This site allows you to enter cities along your route and will make recommendations to match your location.

My dog drank the water in the Christmas tree stand. Should I worry?

You might need to worry. It depends. For instance, not only can the tree itself be problematic, sometimes things are added to the water to preserve the tree. From <http://vetmedicine.about.com/od/toxicology/f/christmastrees.htm> site: "Preservatives, pesticides, fertilizers and other agents, such as aspirin, are commonly used in the tree water to keep the tree fresh. These may have harmful or deadly consequences for cats and dogs (and children) who drink the water! A covered tree water dish is the safest." Remember, puppies and dogs can't make these decisions for themselves. We have to protect them as we would a child. I hope these suggestions help keep your pets safe, healthy and happy during the holidays!

***Thanks to Kerin Jacob-Schwartz for her input and assistance!*

Toni Kay-Wolff is a professional dog trainer living in Southbury, CT, with her husband Larry, their Lagotti Tillie and Volo, as well as their Labrador, Carter, and English Shepherd, Glory.

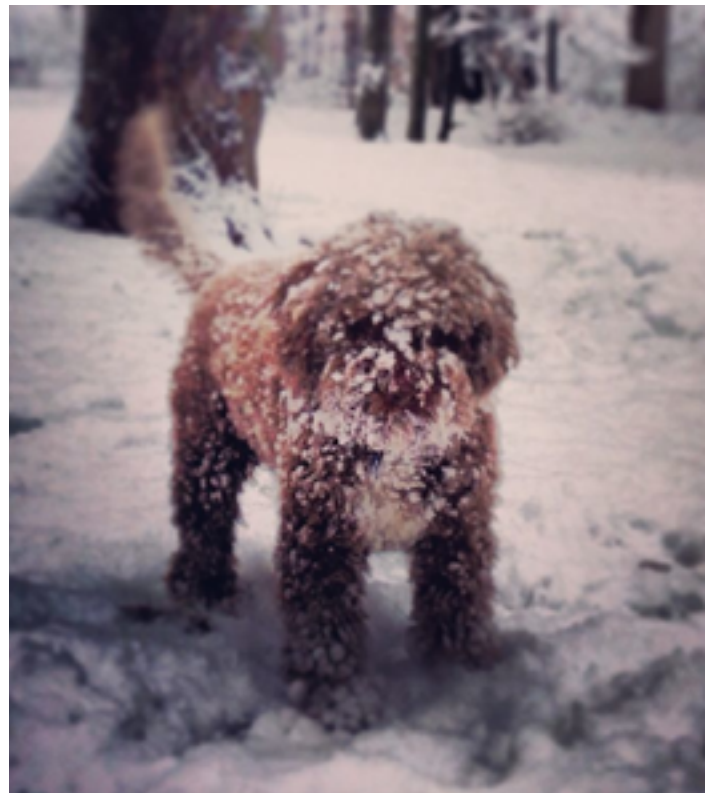


**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

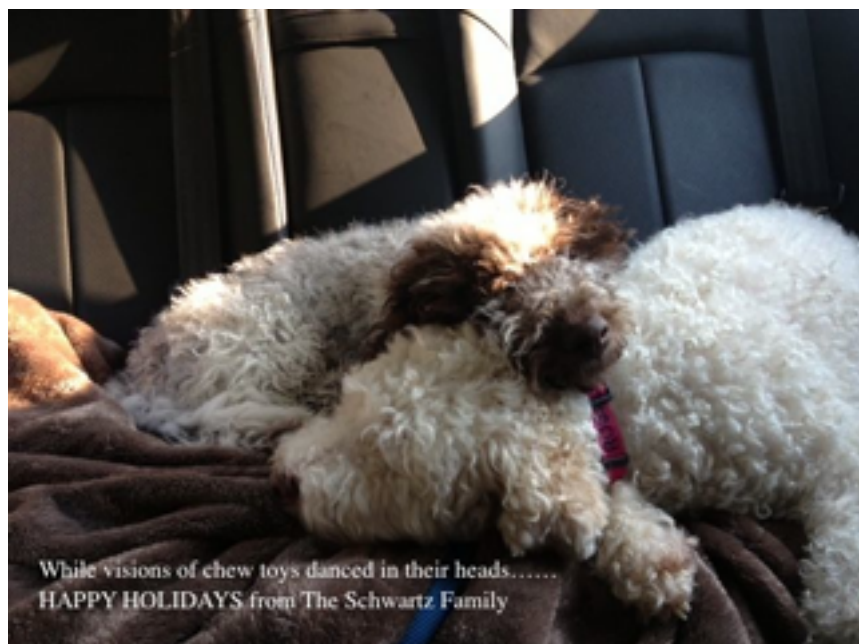
Merry Christmas to all! As I've said many times before, Terzo has really changed our lives in a number of ways. We hope to make our debut in agility this year....gee and didn't I get into Lagotto as my "retirement breed"? I think we've been more active than ever since these curly guys came into our lives! May your new year be the most rewarding one yet with your Lagotto no matter what your sport: agility, nosework, or snoozing on the sofa with your best friend! And happy belated Hanukkah to all who celebrated, from Adrienne Perry



Happy Holidays from Teddy in St. Louis! Ellie Hock



Benni Beckman of Bedford NY wants to wish everyone the best of the season. Sherry Beckman



Just for Lagotto Liver Treats

1 lb liver*

1 c. Flour

½ c Cornmeal

12 – 3 cloves fresh garlic Or - 3 TBS garlic powder

Or - 1 generous TBS minced garlic

*Can use heart, kidney or combination of all three

Puree the liver and garlic in a food processor. (You can use a blender, but it does not do as good a job and gristle from the liver gets wound around the cutting blades). Mix the liver/garlic mixture with the cornmeal and flour. You will have a stiff, sticky batter. Line a small cookie sheet (or pan) with aluminum foil and brush lightly with olive oil. Spread the mixture on the cookie sheet trying to keep the thickness even – try using a 9" x 9" or 9" x 10" pan, or not covering a larger pan entirely – you don't want the treats to be too thin or they will become a crumbly mess when you cut them up. If you are making a double batch, it nicely fills a 10" x 15" cookie sheet. Cook about 30 minutes in a 350 degree oven. When done, flip upside down onto a rack to cool for a few minutes. Peel off the foil – if the foil sticks try again in a few minutes. I put the peeled slab back onto the cookie sheet and cut it into small pieces (about ¼" to ½" square). To cool, I put the pieces on the fish/vegie cooker rack (small round holes) I use on the grill and then set this on a wire cooling rack. Stir occasionally and when down to room temperature, bag and freeze. One batch makes 1 lb 3 oz. A double batch nicely fills a 10" x 15" cookie sheet. These treats can be kept without refrigeration for several days without spoiling and then tucked back in the fridge. We use them for bait for training and in the show ring. You can thaw and refreeze with no problems. Just don't leave refrozen ones at room temp for more than a day or so – refrigerate if you are not going to refreeze.



Seasons Greetings from Robin and Walt Bell



Wilma (Dolce Vita Plenza) is one of our "new faces" and was born March 13, 2013. She is owned by Christine Stenner in Blue Bell, Pa. her breeder is Sandy Mignogna of Quakertown, PA



I believe in angels.

I believe that it is by His grand design that the leaves fall at this time of year, leaving the trees bare... and our attention is naturally drawn to the heavens. I

believe that the best gift we can give comes from the heart and is received with a loving spirit.

I believe it is possible for tomorrow to be better than today.

I believe our Father wants us, the World, to live in Peace. We wish your family a joyous Holiday Season and Peace and Happiness in the New Year!

*Mel Sykes and Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes
Lagotto del Tíglío*

Secretary's Report and Board Highlights

There was no December 8th Board meeting due to lack of a quorum.

- Adrienne Perry opened the floor for discussion of all committee reports as well as general discussion of planned club activities.
- It was noted that the newsletter has had a couple of excellent issues recently. Kudos to the team and many thanks to Jennifer Davit for her assistance in helping to make the transition go smoothly.
- Another Lagotto found a new home with the help of our Rescue and Rehoming committee and some caring club members. Details with photos in this issue of the Bollettino. There are no Lagotto in rescue at this time. On occasion we receive a call about a Lagotto that needs a new home. At that time the Rescue committee and the breeder network all get in the picture.

- ***Reminder to anyone who has made application for a rescue Lagotto:** Each year you are asked to fill out a new application, updating any information that may have changed in the past 12 months. Please do that soon so our information will be current. Email applications to Rescue@LagottoUS.com
- The date for our Open Show is March 1, 2014 in Scottsdale, AZ. Our event has been approved by the AKC and we will now be able to tell all our friends, neighbors, owners of other FSS and Miscellaneous breeds. They are all invited!! Points can be earned toward the AKC Certificate of Merit. If you would like a copy of the premium list sent via email, send your request to bluedogshows@gmail.com
 - Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes gave a report on the AKC/Eukanuba Meet the Breeds in Orlando, FL on December 14 and 15. With the help of our members this should be a great event. Hopefully we will be able to answer many questions about the Lagotto. The crowd is expected to be about 20,000 for the two days.
 - Lisa Sobon encouraged anyone who has not purchased a 2014 calendar to please do so now. Our sales have been behind last year, but we hope the numbers will be about the same when they are all sold. Start 2014 right, with a Lagotto calendar on your wall! <http://lagottous.com/index.php/membership/2014-calendars>
 - Membership - by the numbers: 268 members
 - We note with sadness the loss of two of our Charter members. Jocelyn Slatin of Prescott, Arizona and Kathleen Ryan of Oak Harbor, WA both passed away recently. Our thoughts are with the family and friends at this time.

Mel Sykes, Secretary, Lagotto Club of America, Inc.
865-988-5271 • LagottoTN@gmail.com



Calendar and Upcoming Events

2014 LCA Board Meetings are 2nd Sunday of each month at 7:30 pm EST

Jan. 15-19 Rose City Classic in Portland, Oregon

Feb. 8 1st Annual Masters Agility Championship at Westminster, New York City, New York

Feb. 10-14 138th Annual Westminster Dog Show, New York City, New York

March. 1 Lagotto Club of America: First Open Show - see page 14

March 6 - 9 Crufts in UK, Gundog Group on Mar. 9

*Happy
Holidays
and a
Wonderful
New Year
from
Toni
Kay-Wolff,
Tillie
and Volo*



*Merry
Christmas &
Happy New Year
from
Judith Martin
& the crew at
Shivaree; Ginna,
Vando, Pesca &
Adrina.*

*Dogs represent
the best of the
season with
non-stop love,
joy, and
forgiveness.*

LCA Board Members

President:	Adrienne Perry
Vice President:	Melanie Steele
Secretary:	Mel Sykes
Treasurer:	Kathleen Correll
Director:	Sandy Mignogna
Director:	Lisa Sobon
Director:	Jacki Barbieri

Visit our website to email any of our Board and Committee Members. www.LagottoUS.com

www.AKC.org

Advertising space available in the next issue!

Contact

advertising@lagottous.com

for more information.

Ads for next issue must be submitted by February 11!



*Season's
Greetings from
Bridget Flynn
and the crew at
Lagotto Kennels in
British Columbia,
Canada*

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 LCA Code Ethics to be sure that you are in compliance with the rules pertaining to breeding a litter and placing puppies?

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