

# Lagotto Bollettino

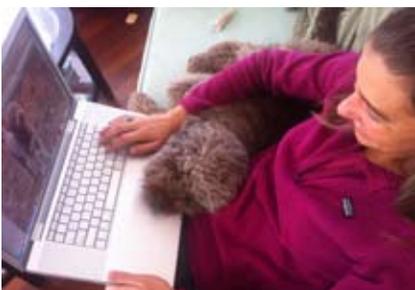


Early  
Summer  
2012

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Would you like to submit an article for the next issue? Please email submissions for the following topics: News and Events, Health Update, Breeder's Corner, Tips on Training, or Fun Photos. Please include any representative photos with your submission, along with your dog's name, age, and photo caption. Email your submissions to [jenniferdavit@mac.com](mailto:jenniferdavit@mac.com)  
Deadline for next issue:  
July 27!



Jennifer and her editorial assistant, Enzo

## News

### Photo Request for 2013 Calendar!

The Lagotto Club of America is gearing up to produce the second ever Lagotto calendar for the LCA.

#### Guidelines:

- Pictures must be submitted by July 31!
- You may submit up to 10 pictures
- You must have the full rights to those pictures... you must have a release if it is from a professional photographer (they will not be compensated)
- You agree that you will not receive any compensation for your photo should it be included
- The photos must be in their highest resolution
- Include your name and your dog's name in the body of the email with the picture.
- The dog should be the main subject... No people, dates etc. in image

We received over 300 submissions last year and while it was fun to see all your dogs, it will help us if you can follow these guidelines. The resolution is critical! We expect the calendar to be available in early November.

*Email pictures or questions to Lisa at: [thesobons@yahoo.com](mailto:thesobons@yahoo.com)*

### Membership Report

Submitted by Ken Weiss

Membership By The Numbers  
As of June 6, 2012

The Lagotto Club of America has 170 current memberships  
158 are U.S. memberships  
12 are foreign memberships

Of the 158 U.S. memberships, 68 are Individual memberships  
64 Dual memberships, and 26 are Associate memberships.

Since dual memberships represent 2 persons, the total number of individuals currently paid up as members is 234.

Note: You can renew your membership online at  
<http://www.lagottous.com/index.php/membership/fees-payment>

# Events

Submitted by Mel Sykes

## June

\*Meet the Breeds – Greenwich Kennel Club - June 9. Norwalk, CT - Come meet the Lagotto and several other breeds, too!! Contact Alvina Estes at: [ame11@comcast.net](mailto:ame11@comcast.net)

\*Breed Introduction – Norwalk, CT – June 9 - Learn more about the breed at this Education seminar. Contact Mary Lynch at: [hclewmd@yahoo.com](mailto:hclewmd@yahoo.com)

\* These events held in conjunction with the Greenwich Kennel Club show.

Board of Directors meets via Skype – June 10, 7:30 PM Eastern time. Contact: [Secretary@LagottoUS.com](mailto:Secretary@LagottoUS.com)

Meet the Breed – Kalamazoo, MI – June 14-17 – This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet the Lagotto and their owners face to face in a relaxed setting. Plans include a dinner evening. This is the right place and time to ask questions about the Lagotto. And you can help cheer us on! This event is held in conjunction with the UKC Premier Show where the best of the best come each year to compete. Info from Adrienne Perry at [cubrienne\\_rottweilers@hotmail.com](mailto:cubrienne_rottweilers@hotmail.com)

## July

Effective July 1 – Lagotto Romagnolo can participate in AKC sanctioned Open Show!

Find one near you at <http://www.akc.org/events/search/index.cfm>

Beginning July 1 – The Lagotto Romagnolo will be eligible to compete in Canadian Kennel Club conformation events as a “listed breed”!!

Board of Directors meets – via Skype – July 10, 7:30 PM Eastern time. Contact: [Secretary@LagottoUS.com](mailto:Secretary@LagottoUS.com)

## August

Board of Directors meets – via Skype – Aug. 12, 7:30 PM Eastern time. Contact: [Secretary@LagottoUS.com](mailto:Secretary@LagottoUS.com)

## September

AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day - September 22 \_ Events will be held around the country. Follow this link to find one near you. Join in the fun! <http://www.akc.org/clubs/rdod/events/>

SW Radudo- September 15- Prescott Arizona. More details coming soon!

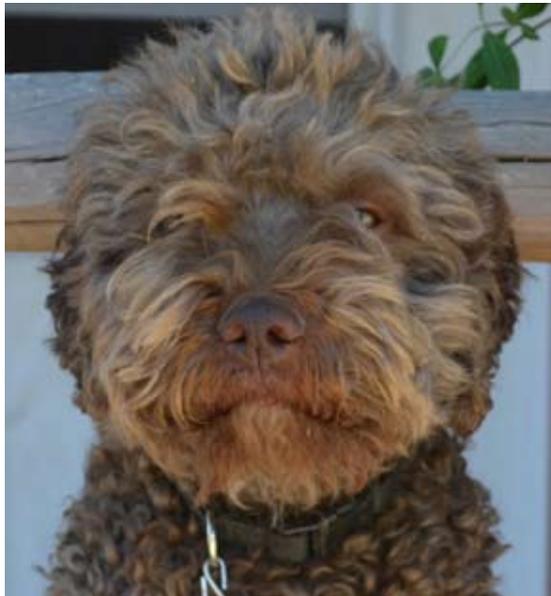
# Breeder Diary

*Text and photos submitted by Judith Martin [www.lagottoaz.com](http://www.lagottoaz.com)*

We recently bred and homed a wonderful litter of 5 puppies.  
For those who wonder how their puppy started its life, it could be something similar to this.

## **The decision on who to breed:**

We started by testing our youngest girl and were more than pleased when her final hip score came back OFA Excellent. That helped us to decide to use our own boy as the stud. He is clear for JE so we knew the puppies would not be affected. Both of the dogs had been shown in conformation, the boy has IABCA championship and the girl is pointed in UKC.



*Vando on left and Ginevra on right*

## **Confirming the pregnancy:**

Gestation only takes a couple months, so for the first month I mostly wondered if my girl was pregnant. She didn't act any differently in most cases. The one clue was "morning sickness". All my brood bitches have one day about 2 weeks post-breeding when she regurgitates her meal. We were happy when this occurred and took it as a sign of successful mating.

I decided to do an Ultrasound at the vet at four weeks to confirm that Ginevra was pregnant. I was so happy to see the vet count 5 walnut sized embryos. Ultrasound is not considered a method to count puppies but mostly to confirm the pregnancy. By this time Ginevra had gained a lot of weight, but not yet looking much bigger.



## **Time to breed:**

As Ginevra showed signs of coming into season, we went to the vet to do a blood test to determine time of ovulation (progesterone level) and best time to breed. At the proper time, we decided to take the pair to the vet to do an (AI) as they had not completed a mating on their own. The vet detected a stricture as being the possible cause. We decided to go ahead with the breeding as my other girl was able to deliver puppies in spite of a stricture.

## Breeder Diary...continued...

### Time passes:

Ginevra didn't change her activities much as she gained weight but when the time got closer to delivery she was more careful jumping up and off of things, as her balance was heading south with the load in her tummy. Gestation takes about 63 days.

### Getting close to Whelp date:

We used WhelpWise, fetal monitoring and Doppler for heartbeats in the past and this litter was no exception. Ginevra was very good about having the sensor strapped to her abdomen. A recording was being made which we then sent to the WW company via the phone for a report on the status of her contractions. We used the dopplar to locate puppies and check heartbeats.



*Ginna 5 weeks*



A few days before due date, we did an Xray to get a count on the puppies and a reading on their position and condition. The vet counted 5 puppies with one in a crossways position.



## Breeder Diary...continued....

### Labor begins:

GINNA'S temperature started to drop and the WW was indicating that labor had begun and that Ginna might whelp that night. Frequent readings were made via the sensor and we started to get concerned about 3:30 am. The Xray of the puppy crossways and the stricture were of some concern to us and to the WW folks. A call was made to our vet and we packed up our whelping essentials and made the half hour trip to the vet in the middle of the night. Another Xray and a digital exam indicated that all things seemed to be normal and that she would whelp normally in due time. The crossways puppy had found the correct path for delivery.



*Whelping supplies*



### Here they come:

Early in the morning, after what seemed like a very long time, the first puppy sac appeared and after another seemingly long time, I was able to assist Ginevra and pull the first puppy at 8:30 am. The next four puppies made their appearance in the next four hours, all healthy and hungry. The WhelpWise folks were on the phone with me through all the important moments and my husband John was right there to assist.

Tired as we were, we both took short naps during the day and I slept in the room with mom and pups for the next two weeks.



### Here they are:

Mom takes care of the babies for the first weeks and then starts letting us assist with the feeding and cleaning as they get bigger and start on solid foods. After a few weeks she seems glad to let us take over the duties and she assists us.

## Breeder Diary...continued...



L: Ginna and pups, R: first solid food



### Neuro-stimulation:

We follow a practice of Neuro-stimulation which was developed for dogs heading to high stress military jobs. It has proved to be a plus for breeders of all dogs

and is a series of mild stimulations that the breeder conducts from day 3 to 16. I put a video on youtube demonstrating the procedure.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPp3JWEpZh4>

As soon as the puppies started to gain weight we began the task of selecting the families who were going to be the new owners of the babies. It is such fun to share the excitement of a new baby in the house with each of these families.



L: first bath, R: vet check

### Puppy breath:

One of the main tasks as a breeder is to socialize the puppies and introduce them to as many sounds, smells and tactile stimulations as possible. The second biggest task is to keep them clean. That job gets more interesting as time goes by. We have good success with litter boxes and the pups do a fair job of using the box, improving as time goes on. They are raised in our Great Room in the center of our house.

Puppies get a check up at the vet to make sure they are healthy and ready to go. We all have fun when we turn all the puppies loose in the examining room. Mom was still willing to let the puppies nurse at 7 weeks.



## Breeder Diary...continued...



*Nursing at vet*

At 7.5 to 8.5 weeks of age, we evaluate the litter to choose which puppies have the potential for future breeding. Each aspect of the Breed Standard is compared to each puppy. This also helps in deciding which puppy is best suited for which family.

At 49 days we temperament test the puppies using Wendy Volhard's Puppy Aptitude Testing (PAT). This helps determine the future personality of each puppy and helps in making the decision on which puppy would be best for each family.



*Faith PAT*



*Above: Evaluation Right: Socializing*

See more photos and read about the puppies on Judith's blog at <http://lovelagotto.blogspot.com>

### **Off they go:**

Sometime after 8 weeks the litter needs more time and stimulation than we can provide for the group, and it becomes time for them to go. It is always bittersweet saying goodbye to each puppy, but the sadness is offset by the excitement and love on the faces of the new owners. We then reflect on the new friends we are making as they take away the puppy to a whole new set of experiences . . . and we get to share visits, photos and emails over the years with the families and their pups.



## 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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### LCA Board Members for 2012

President:	Therese Williams
Vice President:	Adrienne Perry
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Treasurer:	Celeste Parsons
Director:	Christine Gornik
Director:	Jamie Rosentahl
Director:	Ricki Grantmyre

LCA Website: [www.lagottous.com](http://www.lagottous.com)

AKC: [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)