

Lagotto Bolletino



**Oct.
2013**

Vol. 3

News Flash! 2014 Calendars

Our 2014 Lagotto Romagnolo calendar is ready to be ordered! It is a 13 month full color wall calendar. It will be ready for shipping the second week in November so there will be plenty of time to receive it for Christmas if you preorder. Price: \$14.95 US (includes shipping) and \$19.95 (includes foreign shipping) Buy 10 get one free. <http://www.lagottous.com>

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President's Letter - Therese Williams

As I look back over the years and realize where we are as a club since it was just a small group of us with an idea and concept, I am amazed at how far we have come in a relatively short period of time. We have grown as a club and the number of Lagotto now in the United States is many times over what it was in 2006 when we started this process. Of course, there were some in the USA that already had known of and been part of the Lagotto world years before, but they were not easy to find. It has been a journey and will continue to be so as we continue to work to protect the breed, maintain good breeding practices, educate the public and other Lagotto enthusiasts, compete in the various events, show our dogs, and enjoy them for the wonderful pets they are. Another part of that journey is to gain full recognition in the American Kennel Club.

We still have many things to accomplish in order to get to that place, and we continue to look for your support and energy as we work to keep the club moving. The bottom line is we will need help as we continue to participate in Meet the Breed events, sporting and conformation events and education requirements. Our members are a vital link and I personally thank you. It has been an honor in serving as your President for the last three years. This October, I will move into the role of "Past President" on the Board in an advisory capacity, and Adrienne Perry will take over as your new President. I hope you can give her the support that you have shown me, and of course, I welcome your personal emails (therese1256@yahoo.com) if you have a question, concern or comment that I can help you with. I will always be an advocate of our members. Thank you for all you have shared.

Would you like to submit an article for the next newsletter?

We would love to receive your contributions! If you have an idea for an article, or can contribute something about nutrition, breeding, health, grooming, or events, please

email Judith Martin at bolletino@lagottous.com

Deadline for next issue:

October 20

AKC's Certificate of Merit (CM) Program

Text and Images Submitted by Adrienne Perry

We've done it! The Lagotto Romagnolo made our debut in AKC shows nationwide in January 2013. A huge group of us headed for the lovely shows in Palm Springs and wowed everyone with an entry of 15 dogs on Saturday and Sunday, while Friday's Sporting Group Show had an entry of 10.

What do you need to do to join the fun? If you've shown your dog in ARBA, UKC, IABCA shows....what you need to do to prepare yourself and your dog are pretty similar. Learning good grooming practices, teaching your dog how to gait, stack, and show her bite, are all part of the training for both of you no matter where you compete. But unlike most of those organizations AKC conformation titles require that the dog defeat competition to gain championship points. Recently, the AKC came up with a title for the dog breeds showing in the Miscellaneous Class: The Certificate of Merit (CM). Like an AKC championship the CM is earned when your dog earns 15 points, and no matter how many entries there are, you can only win up to 5 points at any one show. Unlike an AKC Championship, there are no majors required (a major is a win of 3 or more points---the number of points dependant on how many dogs compete that day), and because we have a "Miscellaneous Group" competition that follows the judging of each of the breeds with entries from the Miscellaneous breeds, your dog can also win points (again only up to 5 total) by winning Best in Miscellaneous Class over the other Best of Breed Winners. See the form on the following page to figure out your points.

If you've never entered an AKC show before, you may want to have someone walk you through the process. You need to have your dog's AKC papers close at hand, because you'll need to enter the AKC number, parents' names, breeder's name(s) on the form. There are only 2 available classes in Miscellaneous Breed competition: Puppy (6-12 months) and Adult (1 year and above). Provided that there is at least one dog in each class, the judging will progress as follows: Puppy Dogs (Males), Adult Dogs, Puppy Bitches, Adult Bitches. The winners of each class then compete for Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed (commonly referred to as Best of Opposite or BOS). If you have the only dog of your breed, then you should be awarded the Best of Breed ribbon while you are in the ring for your class (unless the judge excuses your dog for behavior, temperament, or lameness or a disqualifying breed fault—if this happens the judge will take the time to explain what is happening) But you're still not done! After all the competing breeds have finished, the Best of Breed winners compete against each other for Best in Miscellaneous—with potentially even more points to the winner.

It's a great chance to meet other Lagotto owners and their dogs, keep up with your puppies and their owners, educate judges on a proper lagotto coat and it is fun to meet the folks that are on the same journey as we are with their own rare breeds.....we have a terrific bunch of Miniature American Shepherd folks in my area, as well as Sloughis, Dogos, and Cotons, the make up in your area may be different still. And remember while you're there you can also check out the obedience and Rally competition and enter that too! Entering an obedience class (but not Rally) gets you the discounted second class rate with most kennel clubs, making getting a second or third title a little cheaper.



Your final preparation should be to familiarize yourself with the Lagotto Romagnolo breed standard as approved by the AKC (some slightly different wording and clarification from the FCI standard). If a judge asks you about a point in the standard and how it applies to your dog, you want to be ready and informed!



How to Count Certificate of Merit Points In Miscellaneous

This document has been created for you by the American Kennel Club to help you understand the point schedule and how Certificate of Merit points are counted.

The American Kennel Club requires a dog to obtain a total of 15 points to earn a certificate of merit.

You will see how to figure the points when your dog or bitch wins Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex or Best in Miscellaneous.

Best of Breed – BOB

Best of Opposite Sex – BOS

Best in Miscellaneous – BIMISC

In the show catalog you will see a schedule of points for the Miscellaneous Breeds that will look similar to this:

POINTS	0 ¹	0 ²	0 ¹	0 ⁴	0 ⁵		
RECREATIVE BUS BREEDS	2	2	4	8	12	16	16

How To Figure Points If Your Dog or Bitch Wins Best of Breed

EXAMPLE:

Total of class dogs

Total of class bitches

POINTS	0 ¹	0 ²	0 ³	0 ⁴	0 ⁵
MISCELLANEOUS BREEDS	2	4	8	12	16

Winner of BOB (4 class dogs + 4 class bitches = 8 dogs for 3 pts)

How To Figure Points If Your Dog or Bitch Wins Best of Opposite Sex

EXAMPLE:

Total of class dogs

Total of class bitches

POINTS	0 ¹	0 ²	0 ³	0 ⁴	0 ⁵
MISCELLANEOUS BREEDS	2	4	8	12	16

Winner of BOS (2 class dogs = 1 pt)

Winner of BOS (4 class bitches = 2 pts)

How To Figure Points If Your Dog or Bitch Wins Best In Miscellaneous

EXAMPLE:

Total of Breed A

Total of Breed B

Total of Breed C

Total of Breed D

POINTS	0 ¹	0 ²	0 ³	0 ⁴	0 ⁵		
EXCLUSIVE BUS BREEDS	2	2	4	8	12	16	16

BIMISC (2 dogs Breed A + 4 dogs Breed B + 5 dogs Breed C + 1 dog Breed D = 12 dogs for 4 pts)

Check the posted copies of the judge's book before you leave the show to make certain your dog was marked as the winner. Mistakes do happen! Also, verify that your dog's FSS number is correct in the catalog. If it is not correct, let the superintendent know before you leave the show. In both cases, it's easier to make the correction on the day of the show rather than later.

Radunos and Gatherings

WHAT'S A "RADOOONO" ????? I had never heard the word Raduno before. It occurred to me that it would be a good idea to get together with owners and their dogs, something like I had attended in the past with my Bichons, or "Bichon Bash". Through our breeder, I learned that the same type of gathering existed for the Lagotto breed. Well 'Lo and behold!' fast forward to May 2013. We have had our beloved little Hadji for almost a year. What a joy he is to our family! We were excited when we saw the invitation to participate in what our Hadji would call a 'Lagotto party ' in Pennsylvania. Dogs and owners (45 people and over 20 dogs!) came from all over the US. Hadji was especially happy to meet and actually have new friends stay at our house.



At the Raduno, we had lots of food, a catered lunch and cake. It was also a great learning experience. We had Sue Peterman, a noted trainer & AKC Judge, to give us novices [as well as the seasoned veterans] an actual 'in the ring' experience with a conformation "Fun Match". We had individualized training tips and ribbons for a few well behaved Lagotti, for their performances. NOTE: All of us Westminster 'wantabies' really appreciated her help! Gudrun, an award-winning 'Nosework' trainer, came all the way from Germany. She gave a scent-work presentation on

the training and art of perfecting a natural born ability that graces our breed. Mary, a Rally enthusiast, gave each dog a chance to 'run through their paces', in a Rally obedience course. She illustrated the correct behavior, again in a showing setting. We, as humans, had a great time meeting Lagotti & their people. We discovered that every Lagotto is very special. If we weren't already convinced, the Raduno was 'the place' to see what a unique, lovable and sweet natured breed these dogs are! You may find this hard to believe, but the Raduno actually changed Hadji's personality to make him even more loving and gregarious than ever! Special 'kudos' to Sandy & Mike Mignogna, Sue Peterman, Mary Lynch, Gudrun Gentilli and all of the wonderful pet-loving people who helped make this gathering a really special occasion. We can't wait for the next one! I made a Photoshow to capture the special moments of the Raduno. If you would like to view it, you can do so at this link: <http://www.photoshow.com/watch/ZD8Ag3PF>.

Florence Angle, Phil and Hadji from Schwenksville, PA

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA On July 13th over 40 people gathered in Northern California to enjoy the company of other lagotto owners and their wonderful dogs. Twenty Lagotti supplied the entertainment with plenty of puppy pandemonium, swimming, a little food thievery and lots of tail wagging fun for all to see. Jacki Barbieri from Terra Incognita kennel provided help with puppy grooming and several were able to get pet grooming tips. With good food, new friends and Fantastic Lagotti, a great time was had by dog and human alike!

Submitted by Lisa Sobon



NY GATHERING OF THE GRUPPO

The event took place on April 28th. in Mount Kisco, New York. Eleven families and their wonderful doggies attended. There were people from Connecticut and as far away as Syracuse, New York. The gathering was held in a grooming facility. Debra, the owner, did some clicker training and an agility activity. We spent a lot of time talking about our wonderful dogs. Some of the dog were imports from Italy and Sweden.

The dogs and families had a fun day. It was great seeing all those beautiful Lagotti in one place. Interest first came from the Lagotto Yahoo site. We just met online and decided to try get together.

Submitted by Sherri Beckman and the furry host, Benni.



All About Therapy Dogs

Submitted by Darlene Colmar

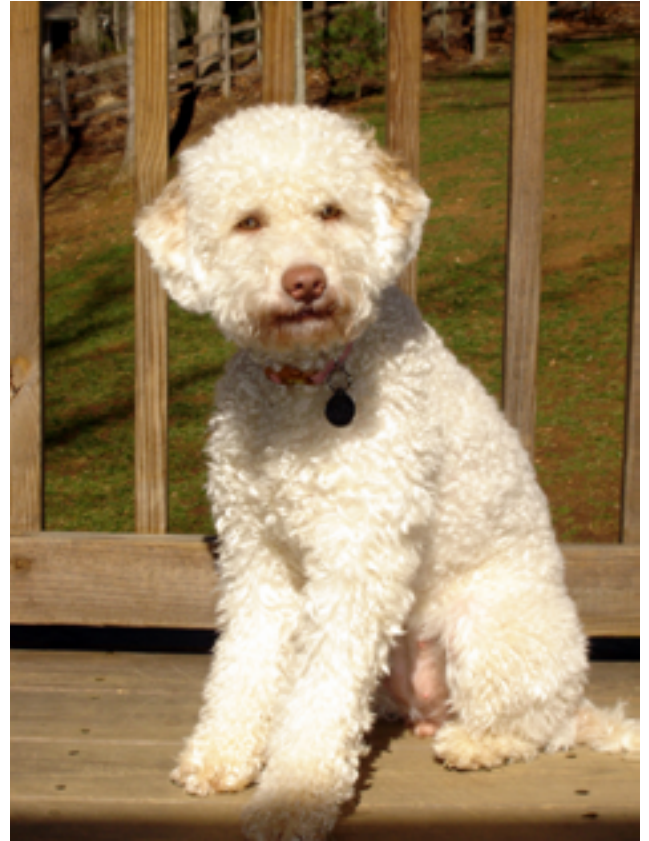
Have you ever thought you would like to do therapy dog work with your Lagotto? Being the human member of a therapy dog team can be very rewarding, as you see your dog having a positive and significant impact on the person being visited. What makes the Lagotto a good therapy dog? Their friendly, outgoing demeanor is key. A therapy dog needs to be comfortable around strangers and be petted by multiple people without being shy or startled. They are large enough to be handled a little roughly by the excited young child or a person with muscular issues. They are small enough to be placed on a couch, chair or bed with a patient without too much strain on the handler's back!

Therapy dog teams often are involved in visits to nursing homes and assisted living facilities, but they can do much more than that. Many schools have programs for students who are having reading difficulties, which involve them reading to a dog. Often there are therapy dog visits in schools for students with special needs. Hospitals also may have programs in any area of the hospital from waiting rooms, patient rooms and treatments areas like oncology. The possibilities don't end there! There are also VA hospitals, prisons, residential placement facilities and hospice care—at home and in a facility, all of which are potential sites where therapy dogs are used. The list can go on and on. These are considered Animal Assisted Activities or AAA and the dog is being petted, bringing smiles and joy to those they visit. Therapy dogs can also team with a social worker or physical therapist and do Animal Assisted Therapy or AAT, which involves working on specific goals for the client. In that case, there is a therapeutic outcome that is being worked on, though smiles and joy can happen here as well. This type of work is often done either in a hospital or rehabilitation setting and the handler assists the professional as needed.

Some places where therapy dog teams visit do not require any registration for the team. They will probably want to meet you and your dog first and then set up the procedure for visiting. In that case, you would want to be sure that if the person being visited is injured in any way that you and your dog are covered under the facility's insurance.

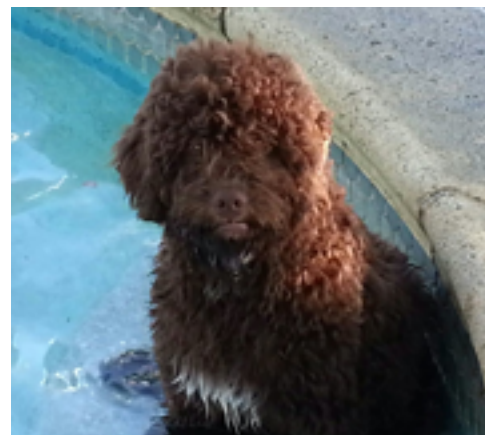
Most places require that you and your dog are registered by an independent organization. There are three major registration organizations in the United States for Therapy dogs: Pet Partners (formerly Delta Society), Therapy Dogs Incorporated and Therapy Dogs International. All three have websites, which explain their procedure to become a Pet Therapy team through them. Sometimes there is a local registration organization as well. With any registration organization, you would want to be sure to check on the specific insurance coverage and what you have to do (or not do) in order to qualify under the coverage.

I have heard several people with therapy dogs declare that it's "the best nonpaying job in the world!"



Izze is Darlene Colmar's therapy dog. She was born in March 2010 and holds the following AKC titles: Canine Good Citizen, Novice Obedience-Companion Dog, Beginner Novice Obedience, Rally Novice and Rally Advanced.

New Faces



We are starting a new section that introduces new Lagotto additions to our families. We are including a photo of the new baby of Jennifer Davit, our previous editor of the Bolletino since 2010. With the new addition to her family, Jennifer will be taking on a different role as a mom and business woman, leaving little time for the Bolletino. We look forward to Jennifer's watchful eye on the newsletter and will introduce our new team in the next issue. So in the meantime, enjoy the photo of Marco, born September 15, 2013 and weighing in at 8 pounds. Thank you to Jennifer for your great contribution to the club and all your hard work on the Bolletino!

Send us photos! Club members who have a new puppy that was born after Nov. 1, 2012, send us a good photo with: Registered and call name, your name, breeder and date of birth. We will publish them as we have space available. Email high quality clear photos to: bolletino@lagottous.com

In the center we have Shivaree Mia Piccola "Pesca" bred & owned by Judith Martin, born Nov. 21, 2012. On the right we have Larcan's Lamborghini Reventon "Revi", owned by Robin Simi, born Mar. 29, 2013.

Upcoming Events

September 15, 2013

Trap Falls Kennel Club Meet the Breeds at Warsaw Park, Ansonia, CT.

September 21

Raleigh NC - AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day. Contact Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes for more info. melhilariegibbs@bellsouth.net

September 28 & 29

New York City at Jacob Javitz Center - Meet The Breed. Contact Alvina Estes: ame11@comcast.net

October 20

Hartford CT - Meet the Breed - contact Alvina Estes: ame11@comcast.net

Report from the Secretary - Mel Sykes

Welcome to all new members. As the Lagotto Club grows, we want to make sure every member receives a warm welcome and understands just how important you are to the club.

There always seems to be something “cooking” as the club strives to fulfill our mission to protect the breed. One of the best ways to protect our Lagotto is by telling folks what this breed is, and is not! And the AKC offers us opportunities at a number of Meet the Breeds events. Most of these are in conjunction with dog shows. That’s great since it gives you the opportunity to show your dog in conformation or compete in obedience, then join the gang at the Lagotto Romagnolo table to answer questions from other exhibitors as well as folks interested in a family companion.

Membership by the numbers:

19 International members
45 Associate members
84 Dual members
92 Individual members
240 Total members

**Brags! Please keep us updated on honors, titles or certifications your dog has been awarded.
We want everyone to appreciate how great the Lagotto breed is!
Secretary@lagottous.com**

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The membership of the Lagotto Club of America is encouraged to join us for the Annual Meeting, Sunday, October 13, 2013 via tele-conference call. The meeting will be called to order at 7:30 PM Eastern time.

All members in good standing will be mailed a formal notice with instructions on how to RSVP. Watch your mail for details. The agenda will be sent via email.

***Advertising space available in
the next issue! Tell everyone***

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for more information.

***Ads for next issue must be
submitted by October 20***

Board Highlights

Minutes – Board meeting August 11, 2013

The LCA Board of Directors met on the above date with the following members present: Adrienne Perry, presiding, Mel Sykes, Kathleen Correll, Sandy Mignogna Jacki Barbieri. The following were also present: Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes, Lisa Sobon, and Judith Martin. Absent: Therese Williams, Chris Gornik

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Adrienne Perry at 7:59 PM EDT

Minutes of the Board meeting held July 14, 2013 were approved as published.

Secretary's report: The Secretary reported that our Liability policy is due for renewal with Sportsmen's Insurance. There was discussion on the club business cards. Those that have received the new cards like them. This will be an asset at the Meet the Breeds as well as Judges Education and for all members at shows. They are available for purchase from the LCA website.

Treasurer's report: Balances for the checking, savings and PayPal accounts were reported. Kathleen reported that the CPA she spoke with does not do audits. She will look for another CPA to audit the books. She is getting quotes for the fidelity bond for the Treasurer. The agency that provides the club liability policy will also submit a quote.

Committee Reports:

- Show Committee: Lisa Sobon told the Board that the request for our next step to sanctioning is being worked on now; assembling the information AKC needs in order to move us up. She is working with the secretary on gathering information on dogs that are being shown.
- Breed Health and Education: Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes reported that she has a new looping slide show for use at Meet the Breeds. It is available to anyone in charge of a Meet the Breeds event by contacting Hilarie.
- Newsletter: Judith Martin spoke with Robin Simi and Robin has agreed to work with the Bolletino committee.
- Membership: Chris Gornik sent a report via email. Total membership is 236 members.
- Rescue and Rehoming: We have 15 people searching for a rescue Lagotto. There is no rescue or rehoming activity at present.

Old Business:

- The Board tabled discussion on the Rescue documents due to Chris Gornik's absence.
- Discussion on possible changes to the membership application was tabled as the membership chair was not in attendance.
- Comment on Bylaws revisions was deferred to the Open Discussion portion of this meeting.

New Business:

- Adrienne Perry informed the Board that Katrien van Gemert would be at the San Diego shows August 23 through 26. Adrienne would like to see if Katrien would consider a breeders Q&A or a short grooming demo for anyone that wants to attend. The Board agreed to support this effort to educate the membership.
- The date for the Annual Meeting was set by the Board. The meeting will be held via conference call on October 13, 2013. The Board is to begin working to develop agenda items so they can be sent with the mailed notice to the membership.

Open Discussion:

- Bylaws Revisions: The Board agreed to move this subject to Open Discussion to allow everyone present to participate in the discussion. During the discussion, comments were received from Judith Martin, Lisa Sobon, and Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes, in addition to the Board members present. These comments were noted and will be sent to the chair of the Bylaws committee. Those present were reminded that the bylaws, once accepted by the Board, will be sent to the membership for comment prior to balloting. The procedure used in the past has been to place them on the club website and notify the membership.

LCA Board Members

President:	Therese Williams (WA)	president@lagottous.com
Vice President:	Adrienne Perry (AZ)	vicepresident@lagottous.com
Secretary:	Mel Sykes (TN)	secretary@lagottous.com
Treasurer:	Kathleen Correll (TX)	treasurer@lagottous.com
Director:	Jacki Barbieri (MO)	DirectorJB@lagottous.com
Director:	Christine Anne Gornik (FL)	DirectorCG@lagottous.com
Director:	Sandy Mignogna (PA)	DirectorSM@lagottous.com

Please check the club website for committee members and contact information:
<http://lagottous.com/index.php/membership/board-of-directors>

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? Breed Standard may be found on the LCA website:
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 of Ethics to be sure that you are in compliance with the rules pertaining to breeding a litter and placing puppies? Code of Ethics may be found on the LCA website:
<http://lagottous.com/files/LagottoClubofAmericaCodeofEthics2007.pdf>

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