



# BOLLETTINO

## FALL 2016

VOLUME 3

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#### Adrina's letter

Everyone loves a party and I am wearing my Western Party Hat early because I want you to mark your calendars for our 2017 National Specialty on March 24.

OH! Speaking of calendars, make sure you get yours ordered right away. We will be sending them out soon!

This edition of the Bollettino highlights more of the fun that was had at our 1st National Specialty in 2016, and a special invitation to every one of our Lagotto lovers to come to the next one in 2017 in Fort Worth, TX..

Our club will be 10 years old next spring! Our next Specialty (see page 8 and our club website link for more information) is going to be a Wild West Birthday Bash. We are going to have a celebration that will be unforgettable for every Lagotto lover!

We will have special Lagotto gifts that you won't find everywhere else, gatherings, meals, and the best attraction of all, our second National Specialty Best of Breed competition, where you will see many lovely Lagotti, looking and acting their best. There will be lots of other shows for our Lagotto exhibitors. You won't want to miss it!

Our club turns 10 years in the spring and I turn 12 years old. As the first Lagotto in Arizona, I am proud of all the folks who have put so much into our club. They have worked hard to fulfill the mission of protecting our breed. We have made great strides in health testing, educating our breeders and owners, and also providing the venue for members to get together and share information. We applaud those who have faithfully worked to keep the Lagotto a healthy breed, encourage the sport of truffle hunting in the US, as well as supporting the many activities so many owners love to do with their wonderful Lagotti.

Love Adrina, who thinks the world would be a better place if all cakes were-liver flavor. Submitted by Judith Martin, Editor who is owned by Adrina.



*Adrina rocking her Western side, is ready to celebrate LRCA's 10th year.*

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

This will be our end of year Holiday Edition. Please send your photos and greetings! Also, please email submissions for the following topics: News and Events, Health, Breeding, Tips on Training, Nutrition, activities or just for fun Photos. Please include photos with your submission, along with your dog's name, age, and a photo caption. Email your submissions to:

[jmartin@mtecom.net](mailto:jmartin@mtecom.net)

Deadline for next issue:  
November 28, 2016



If you haven't ordered your official LRCA Calendar, get yours today.  
[www.lagottous.com](http://www.lagottous.com)

## President's Message

Theresa Nehemiah

The Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America would like to announce that we have been accepted into the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) database. By participating in the CHIC database the club moves forward in identifying trends and health issues that may arise in our beloved Lagotto and to measure progress in eliminating them. The CHIC health database is established and maintained by OFA at no cost to our club. I encourage everyone to read the information on the CHIC website and familiarize yourselves with the program and of course participate for the long term health of the breed. The tests will benefit breeders by using the test results to identify health strengths and weaknesses in their breeding programs.

Puppy buyers will have accurate information on the testing results and be able to see the probability of whether their pup will develop an inherited disease. Both pass and fail tests are reported, so having a CHIC # does not imply that a dog is okay to breed. Researchers will receive confidential and accurate information on multiple generations for continued research.

As the Licensed Parent Club for AKC we will be provided quarterly reports from CHIC. The following tests were identified by our health committee and approved by our board to be required at this time to receive your CHIC #. In the future as other DNA tests are identified for diseases in the Lagotto we can add them as required tests. Your CHIC # is not revoked when a new test is added, but you will be notified by the club that there is a new required test.

We would also encourage all Lagotto owners to participate in the DNA repository (optional). The DNA Repository is co-sponsored by OFA and the AKC Canine Health Foundation. They collect and store samples to facilitate future research and testing to reduce the incidence of inherited diseases.

**Hip Dysplasia** - OFA Evaluation or PennHip Evaluation

**Eye examination** - By a boarded ACVO Ophthalmologist each year results registered with the OFA.

**Patellar Luxation** - OFA Evaluation

**Benign Familial Juvenile Epilepsy / BFJE** - DNA based test from an approved lab registered with the OFA

**Lagotto Storage Disease/ LSD** - DNA based test results from an approved lab registered with the OFA

**DNA Repository** (optional) - Participation in the OFA/Chic DNA Repository



NHGRI Canine Genome Project

[http://research.nhgri.nih.gov\\_genome](http://research.nhgri.nih.gov_genome)

Note: See right FSS column for Lagotto Romagnolo breed until government can update our AKC status, it's in the works

### Attention! News Flash!

#### LRCA and the NHGRI DOG GENOME PROJECT KICK OFF!

Come to the 2nd annual LRCA Specialty in Ft. Worth, TX to Contribute!

The LRCA and the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) are working together on collecting Lagotto DNA for the Canine Genome Project. We are pleased to announce the kick off will start with the 2nd Annual LRCA Specialty in Fort Worth TX. March 24th, 2017.

The Canine Genome Project's goal is to identify genetic markers linked to inherited diseases such as Cancer Susceptibility, Genetics of Complex Diseases, Genetics of Breed Morphology and Breed Origins, and History Researcher Dr. Brian Davis will be at the Specialty to collect our dogs DNA samples. The sample can be from a blood draw or cheek swabs.

For Genetic Studies, large numbers of individual's DNA are required to obtain statistically valid results. Can you believe one of the first Breed clubs to contribute to the Canine Genome Project has supplied over 1,000 samples?

#### Let's do it!

We are counting on you and your Lagotto to contribute for future health info for our breed. Plan on stopping by the Project stand when you attend the Specialty. Your partnership is vital to the NHGRI mission of improving canine health.

Thank you Jim Talbert for bringing the Project to our attention, and Jeff Fischer for starting the conversation with our Board for inclusion of the Project in our next Specialty... If you can't attend the Specialty, you can still contribute! Arrangements will be made for remote sample collection NHGRI Canine Genome Project : [http://research.nhgri.nih.gov\\_genome](http://research.nhgri.nih.gov_genome)

NHGRI Canine Genome Project Samples Collection Manager Andrew Hogan is so excited about our participation!

**Andrew Hogan (301) 451-9390**  
**[dog\\_genome@mail.nih.gov](mailto:dog_genome@mail.nih.gov)**



# *Peppe the Sea Dog Goes to School*

## *Eddie and Glenn Tuttle*

Hello everyone, it's me, Peppe the Sea Dog! Much water has gone under the bridge since I last posted. I am now 17 months old. In February, we finished our cruise on the boat and returned to our house. So at about 10 months old, back I went to school! My goal is to follow in the footsteps of my mentor, Vando the famous Arizona Lagotto Therapy dog.

**So how do you become a Therapy Dog?** First and foremost your parents need to allow you to become socialized and polite when you are young. I started my schooling in Missouri with my breeder and continued with my parents. They took me everywhere: to Home Depot, to Best Buy, to the Fire Station, to my neighbor who has a walker, to the Tiki Bar, to the front of a hospital, to doctors offices, up and down in elevators and in many crowds.

**What is the difference between a Therapy Dog and a Service Dog?** Therapy Dogs are dogs who go with their owners to volunteer as a team to improve the lives of other people. Service Dogs are dogs who are specially trained to perform specific tasks to help a person who has a disability. Therapy dogs do not have the same special access as Service Dogs.

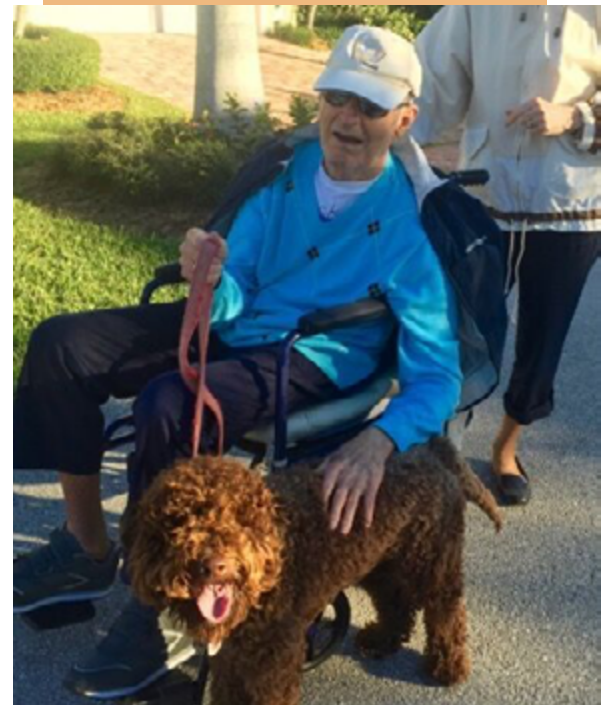
**So how do you get started with “specialized training”** to become a Therapy Dog? My Mom found that the local dog club provided training that met the standards to be certified. When I was 5 months old I took their beginning class for puppies. This introduced me to many things. The gym set up with 3 training areas was very noisy with many dogs coming and going. My head was swirling because I wanted to play with everyone. I was also nervous and had to learn to concentrate in this busy atmosphere. After class all of the young puppies got to play by themselves in a roped off area.

**What is the AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Program?** Passing the CGC test is your goal because it lays the foundation for other AKC activities such as Rally, Obedience, Tracking, Agility, and the new AKC Therapy Dog Title.

**What do you have to do to pass the CGC test?** For details go to the AKC website: <http://www.akc.org/dog-owners/training/canine-good-citizen/about/>

### **The 10 tests outlined here:**

- TEST 1: ACCEPTING A FRIENDLY STRANGER
- TEST 2: SITTING POLITELY FOR PETTING
- TEST 3: APPEARANCE AND GROOMING
- TEST 4: OUT FOR A WALK (WALKING ON A LOOSE LEAD)
- TEST 5: WALKING THROUGH A CROWD
- TEST 6: SIT AND DOWN ON COMMAND AND STAYING IN PLACE
- TEST 7: COMING WHEN CALLED
- TEST 8: REACTION TO ANOTHER DOG
- TEST 9: REACTION TO DISTRACTION
- TEST 10: SUPERVISED SEPARATION



**What classes did you take to prepare for the CGC test?** The dog club held a Beginning Obedience/Manners Program and Intermediate Obedience Program. The Beginning Obedience Class prepared me to pass the AKC Starr Puppy test. Both of these classes prepared me to pass the CGC test, which was given by a special instructor at the end.

**What was the hardest part of the program?** The hardest part for me was all the distraction. As I got older, my concentration increased or maybe I just got used to all the distraction.

**So where are you now in all of this schooling?** Well, my official AKC name now is Galante Dei Terra Incognita Peppe "CGC". After you pass the CGC test, those initials appear behind your name. The next step is to be certified as a Therapy Dog.

### **How do you get certified as a Therapy Dog?**

There are several organizations that certify Therapy Dogs and other animals. We decided to work with Pet Partners, [www.petpartners.org](http://www.petpartners.org) because it is active in our area. The Alliance of Therapy Dogs also certifies Therapy Dogs. My mentor Vando is registered with that organization.

These organizations have similar requirements and we have to pass several hours of testing so it is clear that we can work with different people with different needs.

So my plan is to send my Mom to school and do some more training on the test questions that I have to pass. There is an evaluation test for me and some other steps. I will let you know about my first assignments as a Therapy Dog. Also, I will be going to sea on the boat soon so look for some more sea stories from me in the future.



## *Interview With A Champion*

### *Cat Dronen*



*Beauty Bath before the dog show!*

### **2016 LRCA National Specialty Best of Breed Winner DIG 'N DESIGNER BELLINI**

April 17, 2016 proved to be a special day indeed for Christine Mullen and her lovely Lagotto Romagnolo "Bellini." Even the often unpredictable, early spring weather smiled on the Georgia National Fairgrounds providing a glorious day for the LRCA's first National Specialty Event. To say 3-year old Bellini "proved herself" in the ring is an understatement. The impressive bitch competed against 6 of the best of the best Lagotto Romagnolo champs to win the coveted Grand Champion Best of Breed sweepstakes.

There's no denying the understandable pride in Christine's voice as she describes her Bellini. She recalls the first time they met, "I helped my daughter Robin Morehouse socialize a couple of her Lagotto pups





*Summer hairdo for our beautiful girl*



*Bellini enjoying being a couch potato*

at a performance exhibition in 2013.” Christine describes walking the 12 week old pup around the grounds. The seasoned owner/handler was immediately struck by the little dog’s poise and natural showmanship. “It was like she wanted to be in the show ring the way she confidently pranced around the big, noisy arena,” Christine laughs. “I asked Robin if I could keep Bellini and show her.” The rest, as they say is history!

Bellini’s conformation training came relatively easy. With more than 20 years of experience showing German Shepherds, Papillon, and Lagotti, Mullen recognizes the markers of a great dog and in her opinion, Bellini has it all. “The only exhibition disciplines we had to concentrate on were stack and stand. The rest was intuitive for Bellini.”

As for special show preparations, Mullen again points to an organic form. “I believe in three critical elements; good nutrition, exercise, and breed appropriate grooming. Of course a great personality is a big plus!” To keep Bellini in top physical condition they ‘rip and romp’ through the New Mexico desert for an hour or two every day. “It’s wide open and the dogs love the free space.” She credits the exercise for her dog’s superb muscle tone. “We typically clip Bellini very short a couple of months before a show. I don’t like an over-groomed dog. As her curls come in we scissor trim her coat to emphasize structure but maintain a rustic appearance.”

What’s next for the Grand Champion? “Bellini will be coming off the circuit soon,” says Mullen. “We hope to breed her later this year. I would also like to work on some rally training and tracking work.” It appears the opportunities for Bellini are limitless. According to Christine Mullen, “As true with most Lagotto, given the right training and effort...Bellini can do anything!”



Don’t forget to order your official LRCA 2017 Calendar featuring “Postcards from Home”. They make awesome gifts for any dog lover.

Funds go to furthering the mission of LRCA: to preserve and protect the Lagotto Romagnolo in the US.

Most of our calendars have been sold during our pre-order period, so if you haven’t already ordered yours, go to the club website and click on the calendar link.

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



# Nominating Committee Report

## Slate for Board of Directors 2017



### **Judith Martin - President**

Currently serving as Vice President Founding President of Lagotto Club of America, Past President, Membership Chair, Health Committee Member, and Awards Committee. Currently serving as Editor of the newsletter, Calendar, Bollettino, and on Judge's Education Committee. Hosted the first three Southwest Ra-

dunos to encourage owners and educate new persons. Attended the International Raduno by Club Italiano Lagotto in Bagnara/Brisighella Italy in 2007, representing the newly formed US Lagotto Club. Started up the Facebook page for Lagotto Club of America. I imported the first Lagotto in the state of Arizona in 2005. I have championships on some of my dogs, as well as assisting in CH of several others, in other venues prior to AKC acceptance. My male dog, Vando, is registered as a Therapy Dog so that we may serve others. Goals: I love this breed, and started the club to help preserve and protect the US Lagotto, to make wise decisions as the breed moves forward. I would like to serve on the Board to broaden that mission, and to encourage others to feel welcome in the family of Lagotto lovers

### **Susan Sholar - Vice President.**

Currently serving as LRCA Director and member since 2014. I began showing and grooming my own dogs and progressed to showing/grooming others as a Professional Groomer and Certified Professional Handler. I was head instructor and owner of the International College of Pet Careers. Served for 10 years as the President of the California Federation of Dog Clubs. I am an AKC Conformation Judge within 5 groups and Junior Showmanship. I have judged across the country since the late 90's. I have served as Recording Secretary, and currently serving as AKC Delegate for the Black Russian Terrier Club of America (BRTCA) as well as Judges Education Coordinator and served on the BRTCA Breed and Illustrated Standard committee for the 2009 breed standard changes. Two of my proudest moments were 1) in the 1970's when the Governor of Hawaii, Governor Ariyoshi, presented me with special recognition for my work and care with animals. 2) working with AKC developing the AKC Groomers Certification Program, now an AKC on-line educational program



### **Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes - Treasurer.**

Currently serving as club treasurer. Book-keeping/Accounting Experience. Over the past 30 years, I have been an active member in 11 clubs, including 3 National Parent Clubs. I have owned 11 Champion dogs, most were homebred. We imported some of the first Lagotti to the US and bred the first US litter. We registered the breed with AKC FSS in 2001. Del Tiglio dogs are being shown in conformation, agility, are truffle hunters and therapy dogs.. I am a Charter Member of LRCA and have served on or Chaired Judges Education, Nominating, Breed Standard and Health Committees. I have traveled to Italy to meet with some of the top breeders.



### **Michelle Cross - Corresponding Secretary.**

Lagotto owner for over 5 years and Club member since 2013. I love my 2 Lagotti and love to teach others about the breed and keep them 'pure'. I want to serve the club in Planning and Leadership and I also have interests in areas of Health and Marketing. I have long been involved in Rescue. I have also served on several boards in the past - of non-profit and charitable organizations; currently on the board of the Arizona Women's Golf Association. I have 30 years of human resources, leadership experience, Marketing, Strategy Planning and Executive Development. I am a Real Estate Agent, and of course want to share my love of the breed with all members.



### **Pattie Fischer - Recording Secretary -**

Currently serving LRCA as Recording Secretary. I am also a member of the Hurricane Ridge Kennel Club.. I cannot remember a time in my life that I did not have a dog. I was involved with raising and training poodles for over 20 years and then I found the Lagotto. This breed changed everything I ever thought I knew about dogs including the kind of relationship we can have with them. Ever since, I have made it my mission to educate people on the intelligence of dogs, especially the Lagotto breed, and what incredible relationships we can have with them if we would allow them to be partners in our lives. I have previously served as president of our HOA and as secretary to Peninsula College's Board of Trustees. I also chaired the committee tasked with creating and updating the College's policies and procedures for approval by several governing bodies within the college as well as the Board of Trustees.. My main concern is to protect the breed and for the club to succeed..





**Mike Madrid**  
2 year Director

For forty years a Lab or Lab mix was always a part of our family. In 2009 I had the heart breaking experience of putting down my beloved Lab, Madison. After a year I began my search with a criteria that my wife had set; no dogs that shed and no dogs over 50 lbs. Since I love being outdoors and had become a fledgling mushroom hunter, my search lead to the Lagotto Romagnolo. In February 2013 I flew to Arizona and brought back my new 10 week old partner in mushroom/truffle hunting, hiking, napping and all

sort of other mischievous adventures, Shivaree Mio Amore Massimo. In the last three years Massimo and I have attended multiple classes in obedience, agility training and truffle hunting. We had the opportunity to lead the Oregon Mycological Society on forays, and Massimo and I have had the pleasure to lead multiple forays for participants of the Oregon Truffle Festival. In 2015 we also participated in the first Joriad Truffle Dog Competition in Eugene OR. Massimo is an accomplished truffle dog. My primary interest in LRCA is to promote the working aspect of this amazing breed. My primary activity with Massimo is truffle hunting. In states that have culinary truffles, we are promoting the harvesting with dogs rather than raking. I would like to use my organizational skills to promote all aspects of beneficial training, certification and possibly field trial type activities for the club. I look forward to working with the club to protect this amazing breed

**Roberta York -**  
2 year Director.

I have been a member of LRCA since 2009. I have two male Lagotto and a female Bergamasco. All three are UKC champions with a CGC and a Bouvier with a CGC. I have served on an LRCA Dues and Membership Committee ; am Club Legislative Liaison; hosted a "Meet the Breed" and am currently on the Lagotto Rescue Board. Club memberships include: local obedience & agility clubs; Southern California Bouvier club ; UKC Bergamasco club. I was involved with Rough & Smooth Collies with Yorkridge as my kennel name. I was a member of the Collie Club of America and attended numerous National Specialties throughout the U.S. I owner handled my Collies for ten years and finished six to their AKC champion title. During this time I was a columnist for a Collie magazine for more than a year; Vice president for the American Smooth Collie Association (ASCA); served two terms for ASCA as a western states district director and wrote a column about show wins for the "Smooth Colliers" magazine published by ASCA. I served as recording secretary with the San Diego Collie Club. I also helped with the Southern California Collie Rescue for three years. I fostered retired racing Greyhounds and raised a Golden Retriever for Canine Companions for Independence. I have taken many classes over the years in obedience, agility, rally, sheepherding, carting, nosework and caninefreestyle.



**Debi Fischer**  
1 year Director.

My first experience with dogs was showing Rough Coated Collies along side my parents. Many years later, my husband and I decided Irish Wolfhounds were just the right breed for us. We raised, showed and rescued many of these gentle giants for over 30 years. During that time we had the pleasure of being Co- Show Chairs for the IWCA National Specialty. I currently am helping my husband with the upcoming LRCA National Specialty. I also am coordinating

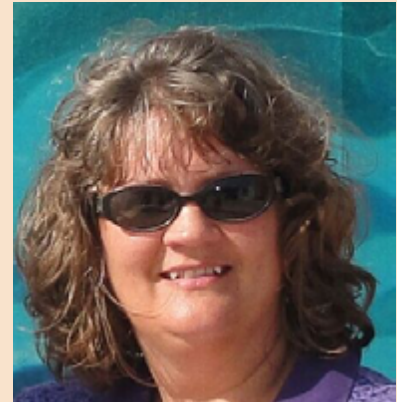
the auction for the show. I share my home with two Lagotto. My boys teach me something new almost daily about this wonderful breed.



**Gwen Hubbs**  
1 year Director

Lagotto owner for 4 years, Lagotto breeder for less than a year. Just had our first litter (yay!) But have been involved in breeding throughout my life.

I bring my experience in business, education, community volunteerism and religion combined with my Public Relations and Marketing education to work for the club. I have a Bachelor's degree in Public Relations. I currently am the children's ministries director at the Methodist Church. I am experienced at event planning, photos, arts & crafts and organizing things.



Our bylaws in Article 4, Section 4 (b): Additional nominations of eligible members may be made by written petition addressed to the Recording Secretary and postmarked on or before October 31st, signed by five (5) voting members in good standing and accompanied by the written acceptance of such additional nominee signifying their willingness to be a candidate.

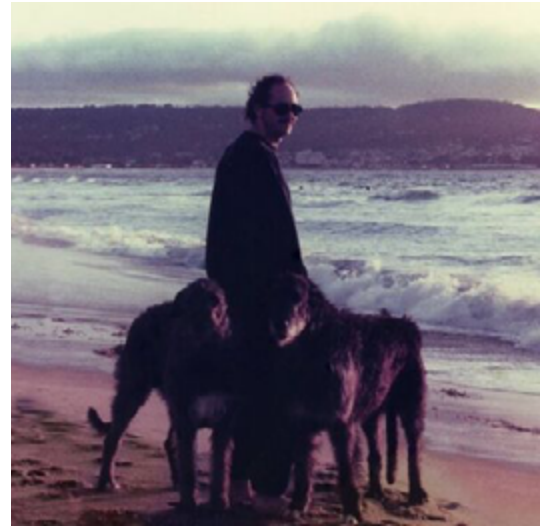


# **Interview with our Specialty Show Chair - Jeff Fischer**

## *Questions by Bonita Uhte*

### **First of all how much time did it take to bring this event together?**

It originated as living room chatter in February 2015 and led to my volunteering to serve as Show Chair. After looking at several options, the Peach Blossom Cluster in Perry GA. became the primary candidate as the event venue. During the 1st wk in Sept., I started making contacts and shopping for resources on the phone pretty much sight unseen. From the 1st week in Sept. to mid-October I was pre-occupied installing the basic systems. Typically I worked on the 1st Specialty and, to some extent, future specialties an average of 2-3 hrs. per day as the various layers of detail are endless and extend to contractual negotiations for meals, hotel, back up systems, fund raising, entertainment, logos, T-shirts, merchandise, auction items, scheduling etc.,. The reward comes from the sense of satisfaction it gives me to see all the happy faces at the show, people enjoying their dogs, learning more about the breed, seeing friends, making new friends and generally having a good time .



*Jeff and his Irish Wolfhounds*

### **What did you think when you found out the long awaited Italian Judge would not be able to attend as planned?**

Everything was set and then just 9 days before the show, I was informed that Dr. Morsiani would not be judging. Fortunately, we had looked at James Reynolds who is a superstar among North American all breed judges for a future specialty assignment. It so happened that he tries to make a practice of judging on alternate weekends preferring to stay closer to home. He was most gracious in agreeing to step in for us on one of his "off weekends" on short notice so it all worked out very well in the end.



*Fort Worth Botanical Gardens*

### **When did you start planning the 2017 Specialty in Fort Worth TX?**

It really began the day after the 2016 Specialty. I typically invest 2 to 3 hours a day to bring it all together, fine-tuning the system, marshaling resources, cranking out paperwork and seeking volunteers. I'm pleased to share that celebrants at the Judges Dinner will have a unique dining experience at the Ft Worth Botanical Gardens <http://www.fwb.org/> which will include a wonderful fresh black truffle risotto side dish compliments of Urbani Tartufi. Our Welcome Reception will feature a regional theme, so we're going honky tonkin' to celebrate the 10th Birthday of the LRCA. We've rented Pearl's Dance Hall and Saloon along with live music by the Faster Horses Band, TX BBQ, and other surprises.

It will be followed by the Second Annual LRCA Auction with an assortment of interesting and unique items in all price ranges. Follow details at <https://lagottoromagnolocclubofamerica35.wildapricot.org/Specialty-Store>.



*Fabulous food, fun, and friends*

### **Why will Lagotto Owners that don't show their dogs want to attend a LRCA Specialty?**

First of all, where else can we get to see 50 + of our Lagotti all in one place? You can bring your dog with you to the hotel since it accommodates our pets!

There will be:

- Canine Genome Project DNA sample collection to build health informa-

*Continued*



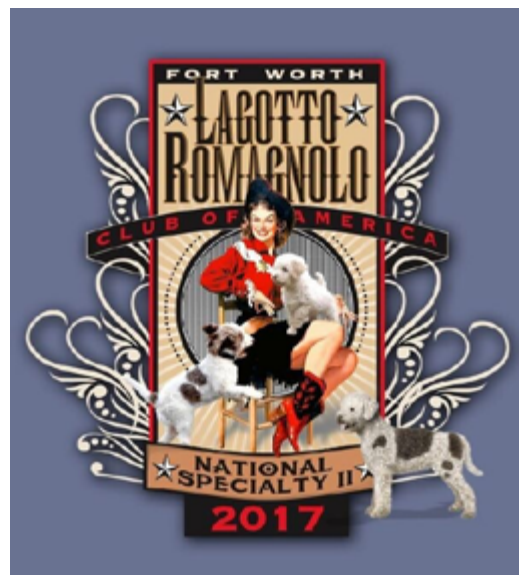
tion for our unique population of Lagotto in the U.S.

- A grooming demonstration for our pet lagotti
- The chance to put members' faces with names, make new friends, and greet old friends.
- Lots to see right near the show venue.
- Rally and Obedience to watch along with Conformation.

And most importantly - to see more representatives of our breed, absorb the different blood lines, broaden our understanding of our breed, plus learn how to be better proponents and protectors of our breed. The sense of community you will come away with is priceless.

**Is there anything else you would like to share with Exhibitors and Companion pet owners alike regarding the upcoming Specialty?**

The Show Committee is committed to ensuring that every Lagotto lover has a memorable experience, and leaves in eager anticipation of our National Specialty in San Diego, CA in 2018!



### Preliminary Weekend Schedule

**Thursday:** Welcome Reception BBQ at the Stockyard (\$\$) Wild West Welcome, Live music, dancing, line dancing, country dancing, Auction.

**Friday:** Rally, Sweeps, Specialty Day, Obedience

**Friday Night:** Dinner, Recognition and Awards

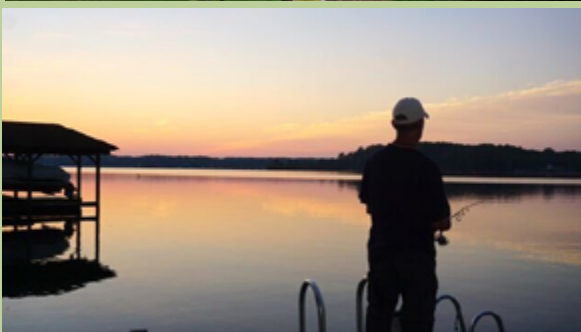
**Saturday:** DNA Seminar, DNA Collection, and Pet Grooming Seminar

**Sunday and each day** - lots of surprises, fun events and time to visit fabulous Ft. Worth, for everyone during the times when Lagotti are not showing.

### Help is needed for 2017 Specialty!

Volunteers needed for assistance with ongoing planning & details that include:

- Hospitality trophy donations and challenges trophies
- Airport and other transportation for judges
- Helpers to register attendees, give out name tags etc.
- Onsite catalog sales help Auction set-up and execution
- Ticket takers for dinner
- Overseers for dinner set-ups
- Help at the Genome Project table
- Ring stewards for Obedience and Rally



### Feed your soul!

While at the first LRCA National Specialty in April 2016, my husband, Larry called me to ask if I would be interested in a week away. I was feeling sad since I was unable to attend. I didn't have to think for long. Me: Are you kidding? Of course I would! What on earth are you talking about? LW: There is a silent auction, and one of the prizes is a week at a lake house in NC. Me: How much? LW: Not sure yet, but I think around \$500.00 Me: A week away for around \$500.00? I'm in. Go for it! Who knew that attending the specialty would allow us the most relaxing week we've had in years? It's not always just about the dogs (what?!). It's about the humans who love and adore them, too. I highly recommend attending the next LRCA National Specialty in Fort Worth, TX in 2017. It most definitely will feed your soul in more ways than one!

Toni Kay-Wolf

*Editor's note: The vacation package was donated by Jim and Carolyn Talbert. The top two bidders were in a bidding war, and then the Talberts generously decided to double the award, and both bidders won a wonderful vacation at their Lake Gaston boating and fishing home.*







**Best of Opposite:** GCH II Granaio dei Malatesta Adriano (Cannoli), Owned by Jim and Carolyn Talbert, Bred by Monica Benelli



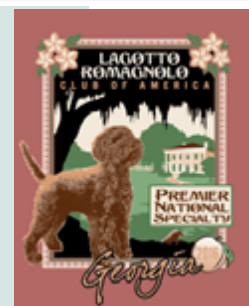
**Best of Breed (and Best Construction)** CH Dig'N Designer Bellini, Owned by Christine Mullen, Bred by Robin Morehouse



**Select Bitch (and Best Coat):** GCHB CH Nostriffelens Ottima Opera RN BN, Owned by Adrienne Perry & Cubby Lash, Bred by Kristna Gustafsson

Congratulations!			
LRCA's 2016 1st American Bred Specialty Winners			
Win	Dogs Name	Owner(s)	Breeder(s)
Best of Breed:	Dig N Designer Bellini	Christine Mullen	Robin Morehouse
Winners Bitch:	Allegros New Era Crescendo	Jim and Amy Dickey	Adrienne Perry/Jane Lash
Best Construction:	Dig N Designer Bellini	Christine Mullen	Robin Morehouse
LRCA is proud of our member's accomplishments in developing our breed on our home soil.			

## LRCA Club members shine at our 1st National Specialty



**Best of Winners, Best of Sweepstakes, (and Best Head)** New CH Teofilo Gorska Fantazja, Owned by Kendal & David Walters, Bred by Beata Radomska.



**Winner's Bitch:** Allegro's New Era Crescendo, Owned by Jim & Amy Dickey, Bred by Adrienne Perry & Jane Lash



**Junior Handler Winner:** This young girl showed how to expertly handle GCH Rozebottel Big Mack at Grandcru, co-owned by Melanie Steele at time of the Specialty



Fall 2016

Dear Club Member.

Our membership and friends have enjoyed camaraderie with regional “Radunos”, the first being held in Arizona in 2008. People traveled across the country in an effort to meet this special breed and the special people who loved them.

In that same spirit of togetherness, in just 6 months the LRCA put together our inaugural National Specialty in Perry, Georgia April 2016. It took the dedicated efforts of many persons incorporating a variety of talents and support to achieve so much in so little time.

We are just five short months away from holding our second National Specialty in Fort Worth, Texas in March 2017. We need and are heavily dependent on the generosity of our membership to make it happen, not just for the skills and talents they bring as volunteers, but also from the standpoint of their financial support. In the meantime the Club will continue our commitment to provide the membership with specialty events of the highest quality and one of which it can be justifiably proud. Frankly put, your contribution allows us to do more. Additional volunteers allow us to add additional features such as educational presentations and grooming seminars; someone needs to prepare them and present them. Do you like rosettes and trophies? They require funding. Do you delight in Lagotto gift and craft items? Someone needs to help prepare them. Do you like social events? Facility rentals and catering all carry a price tag. Specialties are not just for show dogs, every Lagotto lover will find the events entertaining, educational, and a great way to meet others who love the breed as much as you.

As the founding President of our Lagotto Club, I am happy to see how far we have come in a matter of just a few years. With your continued help and support, you will help fuel us forward to more and more rewarding events. Please take a moment to consider our common path. If you share my vision of a bright and positive future in the breed, won't you take this opportunity to volunteer whatever time or financial resources you can?

We'll make it as easy as possible and your dogs will love you for it. Check out our Club website for some of the ways you can help. We welcome suggestions for how we can make this event entertaining and educational for all LRCA members and friends. [www.LagottoUS.com](http://www.LagottoUS.com)



Judith Martin, Founding President & Charter Member LRCA

## Meet Truffle Dogs in Wine Country

You can learn more about truffle hunting by attending The International Truffle Expo held in Woodinville, WA November 18-20, 2016. Forage for wild mushrooms, see truffle dogs in action, hear and meet the trainers and ask questions about truffles from those in the know.

The Truffle Expo will provide a unique opportunity to learn more about growing and hunting wild truffles in Washington State and beyond - and how you can get started!

Alana McGee and Kristin Rosenbach, organizers of the International Truffle Expo, hold many years of experience with canine scent detection, hands-on teaching and their own truffle hunting pursuits. With diverse and extensive backgrounds, together, with the rest of ITE's speakers, they provide a unique blend of instructional and consultative qualities.

For more information about the International Truffle Expo or to purchase tickets go to: <http://truffleexpo.com/KelseyDixon>



**Truffle Dog Company Presents**

# INTERNATIONAL TRUFFLE EXPO

EXPERIENCE THE LUXURY TRUFFLE INDUSTRY IN WASHINGTON.

**NOV 18-20, 2016**  
**WOODINVILLE, WA**

**TICKETS & SCHEDULE AT [TRUFFLEEXPO.COM](http://TRUFFLEEXPO.COM)**



## *Joriad™ Truffle Dog Trials* *submitted by Mike Madrid*

The Joriad™ is a one of a kind truffle dog competition held every January as part of the Oregon Truffle Festival. The dogs and their handlers must navigate an arena to identify hidden truffle-scented targets to advance to the Joriad Field Trials. The Joriad Field Trials are held in real live truffle habitat where only nature knows the locations of these rare Oregon treasures.

Leslie Scott, co-founder/organizer of the Oregon Truffle Festival, commented, "I really think that promoting the Joriad is key to a successful Oregon truffle industry as well as just great fun for contestants and their dogs is really the most important thing, as we know that our industry cannot thrive without lots more trained truffle dogs. It's the only truffle dog competition like it in the world that we know of, simply because finalists are competing in the natural habitat where truffles are found, not in a planted arena or field".

Massimo and I competed in the first Joriad in 2015 and had a great time. Although it's much different then harvesting in the wild, it was really great to see the enthusiasm of the contestants' and their dogs. Although all breeds are welcome, we had a great showing of Lagotti present.



NEW IN 2017!

What already stood apart as Oregon's most unique culinary event more than doubles its impact in 2017 with events for everyone between January 20th and 29th, 2017. Now in its 12th season, the Oregon Truffle Festival kicks off with an exploration of the terroir of Yamhill Valley truffle and wine country, and concludes with the Joriad truffle dog championship event followed by the festival's capstone Eugene weekend. That means more events, more chefs, more education, more truffle hunting and more opportunities to celebrate Oregon's most treasured culinary ingredient <http://www.oregontrufflefestival.com/tickets/the-joriad/ITE>

Join us in Eugene at the 12th annual

# *Oregon Truffle Festival*

**January 26, 2017**  
**The JORIAD™**  
North American  
Truffle Dog Championship

Show off your truffle dog's skills at the 3rd annual Joriad™, or come and see these talented dogs compete.

**January 27 & 28, 2017**  
**2-Day Truffle Dog Training**

This OTF seminar is led by the "top dogs" in the field! Teach your dog to detect the scent of ripe truffles in their natural habitat, observe truffle dogs at work, and enjoy truffled breakfast and lunch both days.

[oregontrufflefestival.com](http://oregontrufflefestival.com)

Secure your place in The Joriad™ competition and 2-Day Truffle Dog Training today!





## Genetic Testing Labs

*US and Europe*

### North American OFA Approved DNA Testing Labs

#### Embark

815-A Brazos St., Box 367 Austin, TX 78701 Phone: 512-838-6421 Swab LSD & BFJE, coat color & traits plus others; similar to Mars and Genoscooper \$199.00 all inclusive

#### GenSol Diagnostics

P.O. Box 701492 Saint Cloud, FL 34770 (321) 482-8347 Email: info@gen-soldx.com Swab BFJE plus coat and color \$40 per test

#### Laboratory of Veterinary Genetics (LABGENVET)

University of Montreal Faculty of Veterinary Medicine David W. Silversides DVM, PhD. 3200 Sicotte, CP5000 St-Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada J2S 7C6 Tel. 450-773-8521 x8464 David.w.silversides@umontreal.ca Swab or blood (preferred) BFJE \$65 per test

#### Mars Veterinary Optimal Selection

PO Box 87586 Vancouver, WA 98687 Toll Free: 1-888-K9 PET TEST (597-3883) Email: customercare@marsveterinary.com Swab LSD & BFJE, coat color & traits plus others; similar to Embark and Genoscooper \$99.00 all inclusive

#### OptiGen, LLC

Cornell Business & Technology Park 767 Warren Road, Suite 300 Ithaca, NY 14850 Phone: 607-257-0301 Fax: 607-257-0353 Email: genetest@opti-gen.com Swab or blood LSD, BFJE, IC \$64 - \$95

**Paw Prints Genetics** 850 E. Spokane Falls Blvd., Suite 200 Spokane, WA 99202 Phone: 855-202-4889 Email: askus@pawprintgenetics.com Swab BFJE, coat color and traits \$80.00, discounts for more than one test

### Overseas OFA Approved DNA Testing Labs

Genoscooper (Finland) Genoscooper Oy P.O. Box 162 00381 Helsinki, Finland E-mail: info@genoscooper.com Swab LSD & BFJE, coat color & traits plus others; similar to Embark and Mars 99 EU

LABOKLIN (UK) 125 Northenden Rd. Manchester, UK M33 3HF LSD & BFJE, coat color & traits £24 to £48 depending on the number of tests Swab or blood

LABOKLIN (Germany) 97688 Bad Kissingen Germany Tel +49 (0)9 71 - 72 02 0 Swab or blood BFJE, coat color and traits Pricing not listed

### Briefs from LRCA Board Meetings:

#### July 2016

An announcement was sent to the membership that the Calendar committee would be accepting photos until mid-August. This is the annual fund raising event for the club.

As a courtesy to the Lagotto Romagnolo Club of Canada, their president, Melissa Drisdelle, will audit meetings of our Judges Education committee.

Jim Talbert is approved to join the National Specialty committee. The club will have a Meet the Breed booth at the AKC National Championship show, December 17 and 18, 2016 in Orlando, FL.

#### August 2016

Theresa Nehemiah accepted the position of President until the end of this term and acknowledged all of the members that have stepped up to volunteer their time when the club needed them.

The Board will apply for breed acceptance into the CHIC program.

The Breed Health committee was asked to provide input on testing requirements for consideration by the board and CHIC.

The Judges Education Committee is working on the new AKC Online Judges Education platform in conjunction with the AKC.

Nancy Simmons will be Obedience and Rally Judges for the 2017 National.

The 2017 National Specialty Trophy Sponsorship page is online and accepting sponsors. From the club home page, click on the 2017 National Specialty logo, then "Trophy Sponsorship". The Board formed a new committee to work on membership retention and upgrades.

Full details on Treasurer reports and Board Minutes can be found on the club website in the Members only tab: [www.lagottous.com](http://www.lagottous.com)



## 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 papers to see if your dog has a limited (from breeding) registration?
5. Have you reviewed the LRCA Code of Ethics to be sure that you are in compliance with the rules pertaining to breeding a litter and placing puppies?

**Note:** Understand the importance of health testing for hips, eyes, and patella. Be sure to complete DNA tests on Juvenile Epilepsy, Lagotto Storage Disease and Incorrect Coat.

## 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

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

CorrespondingSecretary@LagottoUS.com

Nov. 18 - 20. International Truffle Expo (see Ad)

### 2017

Jan. 26. Oregon Truffle Festival Joriad (See ad)

Mar. 24 2nd Annual National Specialty

### LRCA Board Members

<b>President:</b>	<b>Theresa Nehemiah</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Judith Martin</b>
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	<b>Patti Fischer</b>
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	<b>Kendal Walters</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes</b>
<b>Director:</b>	<b>Debi Fischer</b>
<b>Director:</b>	<b>Mike Madrid</b>
<b>Director:</b>	<b>Michelle Cross</b>
<b>Director:</b>	<b>Susan Sholar</b>

**Club website:** [www.LagottoUS.com](http://www.LagottoUS.com)

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

### **Bollettino Editorial Team:**

**Judith Martin, Alana McGee, Toni Kay-Wolff,  
Mel & Hilarie Gibbs-Sykes, Cathy Dronen,  
Eddie and Glenn Tuttle, Bonita Uhte**

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