

PAWSitively NEWS

The official Publication for the Pawcatuck Labrador Retriever Club

August 2007

Officers 2006-2007

President	Claire White Peterson
Vice President	Kathy Cipriani
Treasurer	Julie Quigley Smith
Recording Secretary	Cathy Mason 5 Hardwick Road Quaker Hill, Ct 06357 (860) 442-6372
Board Members	Wendy Ernst DVM Susan Barrett

Upcoming Meetings:

September 11	Monthly Meeting 7-9:00pm Wheeler Library, N. Stonington
October 9	Annual Meeting 7-9:00pm Wheeler Library, N. Stonington
November 13	Monthly Meeting 7-9:00pm Wheeler Library, N. Stonington

President's Message

To all the hard working members of the PRLRC;

Thank you again for all you put into the club! Your efforts have paid off again, with another successful PCKC Supported Entry Show. Even the heat can't keep us down! Our raffle did well again thanks to you all and our raffle chair, Julie Jussaume. Anne-Marie Galvin and Mel Losea organized your treats into a wonderful hospitality spread. Janet Huntley (who missed the event and was off floating down rivers out west), as always had things very well organized so Lori Riley could take over for the day as overseer of the day. Thank you, Ladies! Our trophy committee (Kathy Cipriani, Nancy Wolston, Janet) also out did themselves. Thanks to our stewards, Cheryl Curtis and Marlene Lendrim. Gayle Abrams too, who helped us out all day too. She is a member of PCKC. Congratulations to all our club winners and their dogs! Kathy Cipriani and I had the most interesting opportunity as representatives to the LRC, when we were invited to attend the AKC Parent Club Conference in Peach City, GA. What we heard will benefit not only our parent club but also our own club. We were able to talk with AKC directors and other staff which I found to be most helpful. We will be compiling our notes on this educational conference and make our

Update on committees:

Plans are near complete on our September 15th, Working Certificate test and Conformation Certificate. Marlene Lendrim, our WC chair and her committee are working over time to get everything in place. Julie Jussaume is the event secretary. Nancy Wolston is our judge for the event. Cheryl Curtis and Michael Woods have offered to be evaluators for the CC. Kathy Cipriani and Wendy Ernst have been acting show chairs for the Back to Back shows, as Cathy Mason who has had to step back as our specialty chair, due to family illness. I would like to congratulate all of you for your time and planning skills in pulling this show together. We have a fine selection of judges in all areas of competition. Our site this year will have a slightly different layout which will make the event run much more smoothly and the location change will definitely make things easier for those who compete in both Breed and OB/Rally. We are moving the OB/Rally tent and rings to the same field as Breed. We are also offering a Judges Workshop for Judges. This is an LRC parent club approved mentoring presentation. My committee of Mike Woods and Marion Lyons, hope to be able to contribute primarily to non- Labrador

judges either provisional or prospective judge education of our breed. Please contact me if you know a judge that would like to be sent an invitation. The session will start off with a class room presentation and then move to the ringside mentoring section at Mrs. Lyon's ring. We have the unusually opportunity to have one of our judges participate in our presentation. I would ask that as good well ambassadors to our club, you all contribute in this process by explaining to exhibitors why there will be a section of the ring side that will be reserved for our attendees. Julie Jussame, our very own Queen of the Raffles, is still accepting donations. Contact her at Beth Volle is also looking for more of your yummy treats for the Best In Show Hospitality Party for Thursday night of the show. Beth's email is

If you have not signed up yet to volunteer, please contact Kathy Cipriani at or call 860-887-9511. She will try to fit you into a spot you will enjoy.

The nominating committee has prepared the 2007/2008 slate of officers. (see slate here in newsletter). Thank you, Susan Barrett, Lee Arsenault and Marlene Lendrim for preparing this report and presenting it to the secretary.

Hope to see you all at the Annual Picnic and Club Meeting on August 12th, at Dottsie Robinson's home in Narragansett. Please contact Dottsie at or phone at 401-440-6280 to RSVP. Bring a lawn chair, a dog, your flippers and your smiles! Guests welcome.

Upcoming Events

Pawcatuck River Labrador Retriever Club

2nd Annual Working Certificate Test

Saturday, September 15 2007

Millstream Preserve, 470 Route 66, Columbia, CT

9:00am

This event is limited to Labradors only, with a limit of 30 dogs. The premium for this event can be found on the club website

WC Judge - Nancy Laser-Wolston. CC Judges - Cheryl Curtis and Michael Woods

WC Show Chair: Marlene Lendrim (401) 783-2207

WC Secretary: Julie Jussaume (860) 933-3599

3rd Back to Back Independent Specialties

Thursday and Friday September 20th and 21st 2007

North Stonington Fairgrounds, North Stonington, Ct

Show Chair: Cathy Mason

Show Secretary: Jim Rau Dog Shows

Entries close September 5, 2007

**Judging: Marion Lyons, Susan Huntzinger, Jean-Louis Blais, Alison Jaskiewicz,
Marna Johnson, Alfredo Vallejo and Denise LaCroix**

May Minutes

At 7:15 pm on May 8th the monthly meeting of the PRLRC was called to order. In attendance were Susan Barrett, Marilyn Meewes, Julie Jussaume, Jen Leitao, Wendy Ernst, Manuela delRio, Anne Hassett, Cathy Mason, Janet Huntley, Audrey Wolcott, Kathy Cipriani, Dottsie Robinson, Nancy Bard, Cathy Straub, Claire White-Peterson, Julie Quigly-Smith, Gail Tabor and Lee Holstein. The March minutes were accepted as read. The Club received a thank you from the Cherish the Children Foundation for a gift in memory of Grant Myles Kenny.

Old Business-

Anne Hassett requested supplies for Funday and asked Julie QS for three cash boxes. Wendy Ernst suggested we use different color tickets for each service so we will be able to see where the profit comes from. Claire asked that someone bring coffee and Dottsie Robinson volunteered. Susan Barrett wondered if the Club needed proof of Rabies Vaccination for the participants and Wendy said there is a disclaimer on the flyer. Julie Jussaume reported she had a few entries for the match. Wendy brought up the fact there is a discrepancy in the price advertised for nail trims and it was decided we should keep it a five dollars. The fee for microchipping in the past was \$35 plus an extra \$15 to send it in "this year the company will charge \$20 with the \$15 so the Club will make \$15. For the Optigen blood draw it was decided we could charge an extra \$5 for storage and sending. Anne Hassett said there will be help needed at different activities and people should just fill in where they can. Julie J said she will print extra copies of resource guide for handouts. Janet Huntley asked if we should sell the Majilly dish that the club had purchased along with the extra prints she has to replenish the coffers. Nancy Bard suggested a display should be included at Funday for the fire masks for animals. Donations would be solicited and decals would be handed out that said how many dogs or cats were in residence. The cost of a mask is \$55 and they come in three sizes. Also education is necessary in case of disaster to have Rabies certificates and other information on hand for animals who may be affected. The retrieving demo for the North Stonington Fair is July 13th and Janet suggested a Team Obedience Demo as well. Claire asked for volunteers for the Fair Committee - Janet Huntley, Mel Losea, Nancy Bard, Kathy Cipriani and Susan Barrett will help. Lori Riley has volunteered to stand in for Janet at the Supported Entry at the PCKC show.. Cheryl Curtis and Marlene Lendrim will steward

Will steward for Sweeps and Breed respectively and need one helper each. Hospitality and Trophies have been taken care of and Julie Jussaume donated bags for the judges gifts. The Club Cookbook idea has been tabled until the winter. For the PRLRC back to back Specialties Wendy has found Denise LaCroix to replace the original Obedience judge who backed out - and she will waive the second fee of \$75 for Rally. Cathy Mason reported that all the Judges have been approved. Claire and Kathy inspected the Bellissimo Grande and reported the rooms are more expensive and do not allow dogs but they do have a restaurant for the dinner. There will be more Judge expenses this year since they are from farther away. Julie Q said she had received a verbal commitment from Royal Canin to sponsor the Specialties. She is requesting a donation of \$600 for the tent and will send a letter requesting their Encyclopedia.

Wendy reported that the premium from last year had been updated and Claire suggested that it include a map of the show site. There was discussion about changing the color of the cover. Marilyn Meewes has received the date of August 10th from Rau for catalogue advertising. Janet Huntley has the list of trophies for the Specialties ready. There was a question about the George White Perpetual Trophy as to whether it will be allowed to go home with winner or just have a picture taken with it.

New Business-

Regarding the new Finance Committee - Julie Quigly-Smith, Janet Huntley, Marilyn Meewes and Nancy Wolston have volunteered to set it up and thereafter three people would serve on it yearly. Wendy has been looking into new seminar ideas and will collect information on full day seminar speakers. Dr Hutchinson was mentioned as a possibility as was Pat Hastings. A handling clinic was also suggested and any other ideas would be welcome. Jen Leitao suggested the PRLRC should do something for Juniors - maybe at a winter match. She suggested the last weekend in January. Claire asked if anyone would like to host the Summer Picnic and Dottsie volunteered her house in Narragansett. Tony Emillio and Mike Woods were suggested for the Judges Selection Committee.

Membership-

There were first readings for two new applicants. Abby Kagan from Long Island is applying for an associate membership and Gail Tabor who lives in Norwich is applying for a full membership. Audrey Wolcott suggested we have a handout with guidelines for writing a letter of sponsorship. There was a motion to adjourn at 9:27.

Respectfully Submitted, by Lee Holstein

June Minutes

The June 12th meeting of the Pawcatuck River Labrador Retriever Club was called to order at 7:07pm. Present were Carol Stevens, Manuela del Rio, Cathy Straub, Donna Kenny, Gail Taber, Debra Scott, Sally Jennings, Ted Jennings, Lee Arsenault, Jack Crawford, Janet Huntley, Nancy Bard, Claire White Peterson, Julie Jussaume, Mel Losea, Lee Holstein, Susan Barrett, Kathy Cipriani and Marti Hendricks. The May minutes were accepted as read.

Old Business

In Julie Quigly Smith's absence Claire reported on the amount of funds in the PRLRC account and the money taken in from Fun Day. Per an AKC rule the Club kept 35% of the Sweeps money and the rest was distributed as prize money. The monies associated with the Microchip Clinic and Oxygen Mask donations will be kept as separate items. Wendy Ernst had suggested we charge \$10 next year for the blood draw to defray the cost of shipping by Fed EX. Julie has received a check from Royal Canin for \$600.00 for the Specialties. The Picnic will be held at Dottsie Robinson's house on Aug. 12th- time is flexible and members may bring their dogs. The LRC has asked if we would resubmit the idea for the Versatility Award. Claire suggested that their site be updated to show Labradors in different venues- Carol Stevens has kindly consented to allow some of her photos to be included as action shots. Wendy had also reported that the Program Committee has several ideas for seminars- some possible as income producers for the Club. A tentative date of July 19th was suggested for a meeting of the Finance Committee at Nancy Laser Wolston's house in Providence. The Judges Selection Committee met and added several to the list. The 2008 slate of judges for the PCKC Supported Entry will be Gerlinda Hockla for Sweeps and Olga Evelyn for Breed. Julie Jussaume stated that Olga Evelyn had just judged at Springfield and was not complimentary to the dogs in the ring. Janet Huntley said that she was already under contract for that date. Claire and Julie suggested she be invited to a mentoring group at the Specialties in September. Wendy had suggested also that to lessen the costs of Obedience Judges that they could possibly be shared with the Quinnipiac Poodle Club in New Haven.

2008 slate of judges for the Specialties are: Breed Judges- Jeff Gilmore (Borowick) and Marilyn Prior (Priorise) and Sweepstakes- Tony Cipriani (Lake Pine) and Kate Perry (Hawksmoor).

The New England Sporting Dog Show asked that they receive a share of the Sweepstakes because of their start up costs and it was agreed that it would not be worth the time and effort for the PRLRC at this point. Laura Dederling and Marion Lyons have been selected as Judges. After hearing comments from Kathy Cipriani and Janet Huntley Claire suggested that the organizers of the show be educated in the proper care and feeding of Stewards and Judges.

Staci Flanders has volunteered to share with the club the discount prices she receives in possibly ordering some personalized ID buttons and various other items with the Club Logo.

Janet Huntley has a list of what needs to be accomplished for the PCKC Supported Entry and will discuss with Lori. The Trophies will be brought labeled to the next meeting.

The North Stonington Fair Demo is July 13th and a practice date is needed. The start time for the Demo is 7:00pm. Janet Huntley suggested that in addition to the field demo (for which a chairperson is needed) that Mel Losea demonstrate Utility Exercises such as scent discrimination and directed retrieve and that there could be team obedience and an agility relay. Nancy Bard has contacted someone about a possible Service Dog Exhibition.

Tony Emilio asked if the PRLRC would be interested in supporting the entry at Woodstock which is the Sunday of Mother's Day weekend.

Claire spoke to Cathy Mason about the possibility of setting up a "store" on the website. Items such as donated books could be offered for sale as well as anything else that has been given to the club.

Comments about Fun day were heard. The Match sign up was very well organized and went smoothly. The Optigen Clinic needed one person as a secretary stationed for the entire time. Janet there be more of a separation between the Match and other activities so that members and guests have time to participate in all events. On June 24th at Millstream there will possibly be a training session and meeting. A deposit has been given them for the Working Certificate Test on Sept 16th.

It was noted that there is a need for more storage for all the equipment and extras the Club has collected.

Mel Losea suggested the Club purchase a Tangelo Tosser and have a limited raffle for it at the Specialties. Janet noted that the 2006 necklace raffle had cost the regular raffle

Nancy Bard has 9 or 10 Fire Departments that are in need of Oxygen Masks. Each will cost the club \$55 plus shipping and the Club only collected \$31 for this purpose at Fun Day. Nancy suggested that Real Estate Companies be recruited to donate funds as a form of PR. Deb Scott has a puppy buyer who has access to national advertising as a way to raise funds. Kathy Cipriani volunteered to be responsible for snacks for the July meeting. Gail Taber volunteered to be traveling raffle salesperson for the Specialties. Volunteers are still needed to pick up Judges and look after their need and for a person to watch over Trophy table. Marti Hendricks volunteered to help with the Judges.

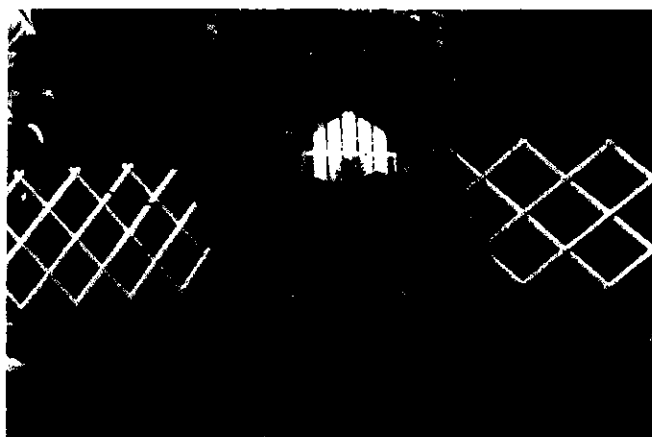
Janet Huntley has final design for the George White Perpetual Trophy and the price will be around \$600 plus shipping. There was discussion as to allowing winner to take trophy for the year and to look into insurance. Tony Emilio is expecting to receive his trophy soon and he may require a base for it.

Membership-

There was a second reading for Gail Taber who has moved to Bozrah and she was unanimously voted in as a full member. Sally and Ted Jennings had their first reading for a full membership. They reside in Guilford, CT and Sarasota, FL.
Meeting was adjourned at 9:17.
Respectfully submitted, Lee Holstein

CONGRATULATIONS!

On all our members' recent accomplishments...



BISS CH Erinhill's Guinness Stout "Keg"

Cheryl Curtis' "Keg" was awarded a JAM on the first day, then Best of Opposite the next at the Pioneer Valley Specialties, then another JAM and then Best of Breed at the LRCGB Specialties making him a multiple Best in Specialty Show winner!!

Erinhill's Special Occasion finished her Championship with her 3rd major under all breeder judges.

Hollyridge Legacy at Highmeadow Legacy, owned by Susan Barrett got a leg at HRC hunt test Started division.

Lobuff Major Yeager at Asquam, JH, earned his JH at the Shoreline Retriever Hunt Test on June 6,2007. He also earned his WCI at the LRCGB WC test on July 22,2007. He is owned by Nancy Laser-Wolston, Lisa Weiss, and Julie Quigley-Smith.

BeeHaven Camelot Palindrome, JH (Ava) earned her Rally Novice title. She qualified in three out of three runs.

Danbridge Henry J (aka Hank) (Ch. Danbridge Indiana Jones, WC X Ch. Danbridge Empress Josephine) went BOS in Sweeps under Sweeps Judge Lois Engel

Danbridge High Society (aka Reenie) (Ch. Danbridge Indiana Jones, WC X Ch. Danbridge Empress Josephine) was Best Puppy under Judge Wendy McNaughton Both puppies owned by and bred by Marilyn and Kenneth Meewes

Summerthyme Dory Delight, RA, WC, CC (new title is RA) Dory is owned and trained by Robin Anderson, Dory earned her RA with placements all three times at the fresh age of nine years at the Potomac 2007. Dory was bred by Dale Antonelli (Rocheby Suttonpark Showstopper x Old Orchard Farms Lady Di)

Snowden Hill Mango Crazy, JH, RA, WC, CGC, CC (new title is RA). Mango was bred by Gladys Rogers (CH Dickendall Davaron Gable x Snowden Hill My Friend Irma). Owned and trained by Robin Anderson and Gerrie Owren, and Junior Handler Sarah Nolan. Mango earned her RA in June at the June 2007 LRCGB's specialties with three placements. Mango also became the 2007 Triple Crown Winner for the LRCGB's annual competition for Breed, Obedience and Field venues. In photo below.



Grampian Lola Tortola Viking, JH, RN, WC, CGC, CC (new titles are JH, RN, WC and CGC)

Lola, bred by Robin Anderson (Hollyhills Delby's Samuel Adams x Snowden Hill Mango Crazy, JH, RA, WC, CGC, CC), earned her Rally Novice title in June in three straight runs. One week later she earned her Junior Hunter Title in four straight passes, handled by Robin, and before she turned two years old. At the Potomac, Lola earned her CGC. At the LRCGB's WC/WCI/WCX test in July, Lola earned her WC. Recently, handled by Robin Anderson, Lola was declared Best of Breed at the RIKC show by Judge Karen C. Wilson. Both Robin Anderson and Gerrie Owren own and train Lola.

**2008 PPRLRC proposed
Slate of Officers:**

**Claire White-Peterson
Cathy Cipriani
Julie Quigley Smith
Wendy Ernst, DVM
Susan Barrett
Marti Hendricks**

**President
Vice President
Treasurer
Corresponding Secretary
Board Member
Board Member**

New Members:

Gail Taber of Bozrah, CT; a former horse person who has had Labradors for a number of years. She previously managed a large horse farm in NY state, before moving to Ct. She currently has a 6 year old yellow girl and new chocolate puppy!

Cheryl Curtis of Erinhill Labradors in Franklin Ma. Although new to the club, Cheryl is not new to Labradors! She has been breeding and competing, primarily in conformation for 20 years. She has also titled some of her dogs in agility, obedience and hunting. She was also just recently approved as an AKC Judge.

Sally and Ted Jennings of Southgate Labradors in Guilford, CT and Sarasota, FL. The Jennings, too, have a long involvement in Labradors.... They have been breeding English Labradors for 35 years, and are both AKC Judges. They have been BISS at the Potomac with AM, BDA CH Meggan of South Gate (yellow), and CH AMA South Gates Stormy Petrel (black), and Pioneer Valley CH South Gates Muddy Waters (chocolate). They pride themselves in the fact that they are among very few breeders in the U.S. To have a Specialty Winner in ALL three colors!

We welcome these new members, and excited to have you in PRLRC!

July Minutes

July meeting was called to order at 8:15 pm at the Wheeler Library in North Stonington, CT.

Attending were Jen Leitao, Julie Quigley Smith, Susan Barrett, Cathy Straub, Gail Taber, Janet Huntley, Wendy Ernst, Jean Stauning, Lori Riley, Kathy Cipriani, Marlene Lendrim, Sally Jennings, Ted Jennings, Cindy Fields, Cheryl Curtis, Nancy Wolston, and Claire White Peterson. Members participating in the North Stonington Fair demo met at the fairgrounds at 6:30 to practice before the meeting, thus the late starting time.

Old Business

Kathy Cipriani read the minutes from the June meeting in the absence of Recording Secretary Lee Holstein. They were accepted with the following changes: The sentence referring to Delmyra was deleted and Marion Lyons name was corrected.

Julie Quigley Smith read the Treasurer's report.

Wendy Ernst volunteered to send an accounting of the microchip clinic to Julie Quigley Smith.

Lori Riley will fill in for Janet Huntley at the supported entry with the Providence County Kennel Club. Janet will e-mail a list of jobs to Lori.

Working Certificate: Marlene Lendrim reported on the Working Certificate scheduled for September 16. Wendy Ernst said we have a deposit on the duck order. A discussion followed on the merits of having live flyers for the WC. Nancy Wolston will check the availability of gunners and equipment before the club makes a decision. Jeremy Kerzer will be the official photographer at the WC. Nancy

The judges for the Working Certificate. Mel Losea is the Marshall. Anne Hassett is Line Steward. Kathy Wolfe will stand in to judge if needed, and is the Emergency Care Coordinator. Lori Riley and Cathy Straub will head up Hospitality.

New Business

Claire White Peterson conveyed Louise White's thanks for the flowers sent by the club.

Julie Quigley Smith circulated the LRC of the Potomac's release form for perpetual trophies. The PRLRC will use it as a template for our own form for perpetual trophies.

Cheryl Curtis volunteered to be the club's Sunshine Person and take charge of ordering flowers or sending cards on the club's behalf.

Club members discussed making a donation on behalf of Annie Cogo. The consensus was to wait to find out what the family's wishes were and then decide what to do. A suggestion was made that the club donate \$50 to whichever charity the family decides on. The Board of Directors will make the final decision.

The August meeting will be a picnic at Dottsie Robinson's home in Narragansett, RI. The date is August 12. Details will be e-mailed to club members.

Membership

Abby Kagan: second reading. Cheryl Curtis, Sally and Ted Jennings were voted in.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Cipriani for Lee Holstein, Recording Secretary

Reproductive Case of the Quarter: written by Dr. Anita Migday //Slade Veterinary Hospital

Ten weeks ago, a 4 year old champion bitch of an undisclosed breed was brought to my office for a pre-breeding examination. She had never been bred and had a history of regular heat cycles. A plan was made to determine the time of her ovulation with progesterone assays and perform an intra-uterine(surgical) implant with fresh extended semen from a veteran male dog. The surgical procedure would permit a physical examination of the uterus. If necessary, we could enhance fertility by “massaging” any uterine cysts and maximize litter size with a less than youthful ejaculate by depositing the semen directly into the uterine horns. Both dog and bitch had just been Brucellosis tested as negative. When she came into season, a vaginal exam revealed no obstructions and a vaginal smear was done to determine when to start progesterone testing. As her progesterone levels began to rise, the time of ovulation was determined and her implant was scheduled. The male was brought to the office, the bitch teased for his visual and olfactory pleasure, and an adequate ejaculate was collected and extended. Thanks to an injection of propofol followed by isoflurane gas anesthesia, the bitch took a 30 minute nap in the operating room. The implant was performed and we met again 25 days later for the ultrasound. A large cell phone bill was racked up on the way home telling the dog world that at least 7 babies bearing the pedigree of the century had been conceived and confirmed viable by the presence of fetal heartbeats. All went well until Day 51 of a 64 day gestation period when a blood tinged vaginal discharge was noted. An ultrasound revealed a fetus without a heart beat that was most likely being resorbed. That evening a call to Veterinary Perinatal Specialties (WhelpWise) arranged delivery of a uterine monitor. Her uterine activity was measured by a sensor for one hour and sent transtelephonically to Colorado twice daily where a 24/7 team made the decision that a drug (terbutaline) was needed to stop premature contractions and subsequent abortion. Her progesterone level was sent stat and confirmed that her ovaries were still functioning normally and producing adequate hormone to maintain the pregnancy. She was started on an antibiotic (cephalexin) to prevent infection in the remaining feti. A blood test was done to monitor white & red blood cell counts. Again there was calm....for 72 hours. That morning a foul vaginal discharge commenced and by evening she had refused her supper. At night the only option for treatment was a local emergency clinic where the owner was offered a spay as the only option. The owners refused. She arrived at our door just as my employees were getting to work and my technicians assessed her immediately. The examination demonstrated a hot, hard breast consistent with mastitis and a fever of 105F. An IV catheter was placed for rapid fluid and

antibiotic therapy. The ultrasound showed viable heartbeats on 4 puppies. Three hours later, she went home with her temperature now at 102F and an IV bandaged in her front (unshaved) leg. The next morning her progesterone level came back at 2.0ng/ml which is insufficient to maintain a pregnancy. The death of 3 feti had most likely caused a premature shutdown of the corpora lutea in her ovaries. We instituted therapy of injectable progesterone in oil to maintain the pregnancy. Two days later, her attitude and appetite are normal. She still has the bloody vaginal discharge, the breast is fine, her progesterone is holding above 2ng/ml due to the every other day progesterone injections, her uterus is quiet thanks to the diligence of VPS, her blood count is normal thanks to the antibiotics, and we have been able to keep the puppies in the oven 4 more days, vital for their development and subsequent survival. The progesterone therapy will not permit a normal labor to occur and the puppies need to avoid passage through a contaminated birth canal. Can you guess what's next?? Yep, the C-section is scheduled for Saturday. To be continued.....