



The Retriever

Labrador Education and Rescue Network's Newsletter

Volume 7, Number 2, June, 2006

L.E.A.R.N.'s mission is to assist in the rescue of unwanted Labrador Retrievers by placing them in homes through fostering, adoption and referral. In addition, we strive to provide public education regarding Labrador Retrievers and to promote responsible ownership and the humane treatment of all dogs.

Labs of Vision

When Hope is out on her walks or on a trip to Petco, some people's first reaction is "oh, that poor puppy." One person asked, "Why would you adopt a blind dog? [She] would have never made it in the wild." Her family proudly tells them that she is just like any other dog with really incredible senses of smell and hearing. "Poor thing, not at all." She runs in the yard, plays with squeaky toys, and gets around just fine. "She's such a joy, so funny. We're the lucky ones to have her."

Despite their blindness, Hope and her brother Will (renamed Mickey) are typical puppies. They keep their adoptive families busy surviving that well known "puppy stage."



Hope resting with her toys

Like so many LEARN alums, these litter-mates are lucky to be alive as they'd been on death row. When the puppies' mother was taken back to the breeder to deliver her litter, the breeder wanted to put them down. But the owner of the mother didn't have the heart to do so, and through a chain of events, they came to LEARN.

When Hope and Mickey came to LEARN at 3 ½ months, they were small for their age. Mickey weighed in at a mere 12 pounds. Mickey was born without eyes. It's uncertain whether Hope was born with unformed eyes or whether her eyes closed very early in life.



Mickey's bath (he's too big for that now!)

When the pups came into a LEARN foster home, "LOTS" of voice commands were used and each family member had to be consistent. Much praise and encouragement soon had the pups going up twelve stairs to a deck. Hope, bigger and more outgoing, figured out her environment quickly. Mickey preferred to keep his nose in the air and when sniffing, wouldn't listen (or just preferred being carried upstairs). Teaching stairs proved key as stairs need to be relearned in each new environment.

After his initial welcome to LEARN, Mickey moved to a foster home which researched much about working with blind dogs. They read a book [Living with Blind Dogs](#) and gleaned great advice. They purchased a fountain water dish so that Mickey could hear the constantly pouring water and quench his thirst. They trained him with a clicker and whistle. Placing treats on stairs, they taught Mickey about *their*

stairs. They taught STOP (key for a blind dog heading for trouble) by physically stopping him while saying the word, and giving him a treat. Not surprisingly, Mickey turned out to be another smart Lab who'd do anything for food.



Hope Eating Ice Cream

Hope was adopted so quickly that she never made it to LEARN's website. She met her new family at a Meet 'n Greet at Petco. Hope's future dad Ray and one of his daughters were stopping by for turtle food. They had previously adopted a dog from LEARN, but sadly their Maddie had become ill and passed away earlier in the year. They hadn't felt ready to adopt another dog. As the LEARN volunteer discussed Maddie with Ray, Hope endeared herself to Ray's daughter. Ray called his wife Tracie and said that she had to come "now" to meet Hope. Hope was brought to their home for a visit the next day to see how everyone would do together, and the rest is history—a perfect home for Hope. Ray's comment to the LEARN volunteer was, "if she can learn, we can learn."

Hope's family had experienced an aunt's older blind dog, so they knew to call Hope with a direct path between them, not to move furniture, and to keep things out of the way where she might walk. Hope has a "sweet spot" where she can go to be alone and her mom protects it for her. The main issue is keeping Hope safe and reminding their children not to call her from another room.

Hope knows that if she sits by her food bowl, she'll get something to eat. She knows that "Easy" or "Stop" means she's approaching danger so she stops and changes her direction. Her timidity around stairs and loud noises has largely improved. She'll race up the stairs but still fears the vacuum and hair dryer. Thunder has not been an issue. However, she

is petrified of the car, so her family tries to make outings fun for her—going to Petco or getting a lick of an ice cream. Hope loves to garden, that is, pull out or eat whatever her mom tries to plant. She's earned the nickname "Sassafras" because she's sassy when she doesn't get her way.

Hope and Mickey's families have been using consistent training methods, and stay in touch with each other and share experiences. Like Hope, Mickey has learned his forever home's environment and is being exposed to different situations.



Mickey Snoozing with Koda

Mickey's family took turns learning the foster home's training methods—they were naturals and Mickey is thriving. Listening to their giggles as they run, Mickey joyously follows his new human sisters. Mickey loves to swim and even went to a parade. His family involves him in many different social situations as, like Hope, he is extra sensitive to sounds. Mickey had initial difficulties adjusting to his crate. Someone recommended a smaller crate. It turned out to be anxiety from being alone: he just wanted to sleep by his human parents.



Mickey loves to swim; Koda looks out for him

Mickey's family introduces him to people slowly so that he's not surprised when touched. Nose in the air, his ears seeing, Mickey figures out spaces by going in circles that grow larger and larger. When in a new place, he repeats his circle strategy. His family has used scents and textures to help him recognize a door or other location. Mickey's canine brother Koda (a two-year old Lab, also adopted from LEARN) teaches him the ways of dogs. The two play and rough house together. Koda always respects Mickey's smaller size.

While Hope and Mickey may not have sight, with their families' guidance, care, and love, they certainly have vision to navigate their world, experience joy, and ensure that no treat goes uneaten.

Congratulations to Hope, Mickey, and their families. Thank you to both the forever and foster families for making this article possible.

What's Eating Your Dog? by Susan Holmberg

Rudy lived in mid-Wisconsin on a forested piece of property along the banks of a river, where he could run, sniff, dig, and swim to his heart's content. What more could a seven-year-old Lab mix want in life? Unfortunately for Rudy the wooded river bank was also the perfect home for Blastomyces dermatitidis a microscopic fungus which thrives somewhere in the soil or rotting vegetation around the rivers of the Midwest. One day, while playing in the woods Rudy had the extreme bad luck to make contact with Blastomyces dermatitidis as it was spreading its spores. Although he inhaled only a few spores, that was all that was necessary for Rudy to become the victim of a catastrophic blastomycosis infection.

Fungi are everywhere and they have been around for a lot longer than dogs or humans, 400 million years

***Blastomyces dermatitidis* Habitat**

Warm, moist, acidic soils rich with decaying vegetation in the Midwestern U.S. such as

- riverbanks
- streams
- lakes
- swamps
- beaver dams
- under bats' nests

give or take. Every time you walk in your house you bring thousands of microscopic fungi and their spores in with you. Some fungi are used to heal; penicillin, for instance, is produced from a fungus. Others cause disease, such as *Trichophyton schoenleinii*, which is commonly known as ringworm. Usually when an animal inhales or has a fungal spore enter its body through a wound, the animal's immune system

attacks and destroys the invader, or ignores it because the resulting yeast is harmless or even beneficial to the host. However occasionally the fungus flourishes, and a fungal or yeast infection ensues. When *Blastomyces dermatitidis* invades a host the resulting potentially fatal infection, known as blastomycosis, is the result.

Rudy became severely listless and, luckily for him, his family took notice and immediately brought him to his veterinarian. The vet heard a slight sound in his lungs, and, when a small, draining wound that his family had noticed on his paw was mentioned, the vet decided to take a sample of the abscess's fluid for microscopic study. From the large amount of the distinctive Blastomyces dermatitidis cells in the sample, it quickly became obvious that blastomycosis was the cause of the non-healing wound. The vet immediately took x-rays and discovered that Rudy's lungs were developing the classic blastomycosis growth.

Fungi do not digest foods internally but rather ooze out enzymes that slowly digest the living cells of its host and the fungi cells absorb the nutrients which are released. As yeast cells absorb more nutrients they grow until they reproduce by "budding". Each yeast cell swells until a second cell, a bud, forms. When the bud is the size of the parent cell it breaks off and begins the budding process on its own. *Blastomyces dermatitidis* spores usually invade the lungs first because the spores are most commonly inhaled and then, once the yeast growth becomes established there, its buds move on to the rest of the host through the bloodstream. The fungus can infect all the major organs, eyes, bones, central nervous system,

lymphatic system and the skin. It can take from five to twelve weeks from the initial contact with the *Blastomyces dermatitidis* spores before the host begins to show signs of infection. Left untreated *Blastomyces dermatitidis* will literally eat the host alive from the inside, and death from blastomycosis is almost a certainty.

How to Lessen Your Dog's Chances of Becoming a Victim of Blastomycosis

- Keep your dog in top physical condition
- Don't let your dog dig in potential *Blastomyces dermatitidis* habitats
- Avoid construction sites, new landscaping and other areas where the soil has recently been disturbed
- Give your dog a daily health check
- If your dog seems ill, contact your vet

*Rudy was immediately put on an expensive anti-fungal drug. More abscesses began to appear on his skin even as the medication fought the fungus. The drug eventually did its job, and the *Blastomyces dermatitidis* began to die. Unfortunately, Rudy's immune system began to overreact to the dead yeast cells scattered throughout his body. He suffered from loss of appetite, and his kidneys became infected. The blastomycosis had also invaded his central nervous system and as those cells died they caused swelling, making the poor dog dizzy and disoriented. Rudy now required antibiotics for his kidneys and Prednisone to calm down his immune system. After a month on the drugs Rudy began to improve but his treatment was*

*far from over. He would be required to take the anti-fungal drug for nearly five months. Finally, after a year and a half of monitoring, Rudy was declared cured. Rudy now has a heart arrhythmia and high cholesterol, which may be a result of the blastomycosis, but there is no way to know if they are or if it is just a coincidence. In a way, Rudy was lucky, he was diagnosed early, and his family was able and willing to provide the treatment he needed. His family was also lucky because only Rudy was infected. Usually when a dog is diagnosed with blastomycosis other pets or humans in the household are diagnosed a short time later. This is not because the dog has infected the family, but rather because the other pets or the owners were in the same area with the dog when the spores were released. There is no way to know where on the property the *Blastomyces dermatitidis* is growing and Rudy's family can only hope that lightning will not strike twice.*

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<http://www.merckvetmanual.com>

Things You May Have Not Known About L.E.A.R.N. . . .

- ▶ Our first adoption was April 25, 1999.
- ▶ We've found homes for 455 females and 549 males since then. That's over 1,000 Labs!
- ▶ Black is the most common color (504 Labs), followed by yellow (320) and chocolate (159). Lab mixes have included several color combinations.
- ▶ We've seen 11 Mollys, 10 Buddys, 9 Baileys.
- ▶ During the past 5 years, LEARN has had over 200 foster homes. A couple of our foster homes have very generously opened their homes to more than 40 dogs!!

None of this could have happened without the dedication of our volunteers and support from generous donors. *Many thanks to all, including Chris Wallen who compiled these stats.*

The Retriever's Changes — Please Read!

The cost of printing mailing *The Retriever* has become too expensive for LEARN to continue free distribution; our mailing list now exceeds 1,400 people. So, we need your help. To allow us to save our funds to help more Labs, LEARN is changing the distribution policy of *The Retriever*. As of 2007, you may either receive it by:

1. **Email.** Please email lfarwell@tds.net with "The Retriever" in the subject line. Please include your current mailing address in the body of the email. LEARN will email a link to you whenever *The Retriever* is published. **Or**
2. **U.S. Mail.** For a nominal, nonrefundable, annual \$5.00 subscription fee you can continue to receive the printed version. This subscription fee will cover

one calendar year and will help defray the printing and postage expense. In the October issue we'll include a postcard for you to return to LEARN along with your \$5.00 check.

Families who have newly adopted a Lab from LEARN will receive a free year's subscription. We'll also continue to send newsletters for free to our regular service providers and to people who donate \$50.00 or more during the previous calendar year.

Renewal notices will be included in every Fall issue of *The Retriever*. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us via phone (847)-289-7387 and leave a message, or e-mail learndogs@labadoption.org

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Enormous Thanks! The following people generously donated money, supplies, or services to help our rescued Labs. Without your help, these Labs wouldn't be alive today.

Vivian, Jeff and Scott Aiken
Margaret Azzara
Lewis & Evelyn Bartfield
William Behling
Brian Benko
Carol Biba
George Bratschi
G.M. & G.D. Camiliere
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Polly Duchow

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Annette Schuh
Karen & Ben Sherman
Tim Stewart
Margie Stoch
Carrie Veldhuizen
Nancy Wallschlaeger

Why Dogs Don't Live Longer Than People *Source Unknown*

A different, sweet outlook on life, from a four year old child. Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife, Lisa, and their little boy, Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family there were no miracles left for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home. As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for the four-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time that I

wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion.

We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why." Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation.

He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The four-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

Kids and Dogs: A Common Sense Approach

Understanding dog bites: how they occur and how to prevent them

This article by Vicki DeGruy, originally published in *Dog Owner's Guide*, won the 1993 Dog Writer's Association of America Maxwell award for best article in a canine newspaper. Copyright 2006 by Canis Major Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission. LEARN has slightly edited the original article with permission. Find the complete version and more at <http://www.canismajor.com/dog/>

Question: *I'd like to get a medium to large breed dog for my family but I'm worried. I've heard so many stories about dogs biting children. How can I be sure that it will be safe for my kids?*

Answer: You have good reason to be concerned. Statistics show that most dog bites causing serious injury involve medium to large sized dogs and children under the age of five years. The child usually knows the dog or the dog is the family's pet.

To understand how these bites occur, what causes them and how to prevent them, a little education in the nature of dogs and the nature of small children is in order.

A dog's temperament is first inherited, then modified by events in his life and proper training. Some breeds and certain bloodlines within breeds are friendlier, more tolerant and more adaptable to training because they were bred to be that way. A responsible breeder wisely puts emphasis on good temperament when selecting breeding stock. Breeders without adequate knowledge of dog behavior may not understand what a correct temperament is and use unsuitable dogs for breeding.

Unscrupulous breeders sometimes deliberately breed dogs with poor temperaments. Some dogs, just like some humans, are mentally disturbed or have an illness or physical defect that affects their behavior. A dog's basic temperament, instincts and training have the biggest effects on how that dog reacts to the world around him and his tolerances.

Very few bites happen without provocation -- but the provocation may be only in the dog's mind! Dogs are not little people in furry costumes. They don't think in the same way that we do. A dog will react to situations according to what his instincts tell him. The owner provides him with consistent training and socialization throughout his life.

The most commonly reported scenario in a bite case: A very young child sees a pretty dog he'd like to pet. The dog doesn't want to be petted. The dog's first instinctive reaction is to show displeasure by giving a

warning -- growling. The growl means that something more unpleasant will follow if the warning isn't heeded.

The type and number of warnings given can vary. Many dogs faced with a child like this would just walk away. Walking away can also be a warning. If the child keeps trying to pet the dog, a sterner warning, usually a growl, will follow. Some warnings are more subtle -- a stiffening of the body, for example. Few dogs bite without giving some indication beforehand.

Small children (and some adults) don't recognize a warning when they see or hear one. Although obvious to most adults, a young child (under age six) doesn't know or understand what a growl means. The child continues to pet or follow the dog even though the dog has clearly said, "Stop or I must defend myself."

Dogs instinctively set up an invisible "fight or flight" boundary around themselves. The size of this boundary depends on his level of confidence and tolerance. A fearful dog will give itself a wider area than a more stable one. When someone who the dog perceives as threatening or unwelcome enters that area, the dog has two choices: 1) run away, or 2) defend itself. If it feels that it can't run away, even if afraid, it will fight instead. Some dogs will choose to fight first, rather than run.

A small child petting or hugging a dog has already intruded well within the dog's flight or fight boundary, the dog's safety zone. If the dog has tried to leave or has issued a warning with no response from the child, the dog (in his mind) has no other recourse -- he bites. This is normal, instinctive behavior -- to the dog. He responds to the perceived threat and follows his instincts. Remember that dogs don't think the same way people do. A child's innocent action, petting the dog, can be provocation for a bite through the dog's eyes.

Other circumstances can provoke a dog to bite a child. Running, playing, screaming kids can trigger an instinctive predator-prey reaction in some dogs. Children who rough house and wrestle with dogs unknowingly encourage them to use their teeth. Dogs

equate this kind of play with littermates or other dogs where using teeth is allowed. Startling a sleeping dog or petting him when he's eating can also provoke a bite.

What can be done to prevent dogs from biting children? First, understand that almost any dog will bite under the right circumstances. Second, a dog is a dog, whose behavior isn't the same as humans and can't be predicted with 100% accuracy, no matter how friendly or reliable.

Obedience training and socialization are absolute musts for a dog who'll be spending time with children.

Remember if a dog doesn't receive proper training or if that training isn't kept up through regular practice, he acts according to his instincts. The dog needs to be taught to obey commands under all conditions no matter how distracting. Just as responding to the command to "come" could save the dog's life someday, an immediate response to the command "leave it!" could save a child from serious injury.

As children need to be taught how to be well-behaved around people, they need to be taught to be well-behaved and respectful around animals. They must learn what games are appropriate, how to touch the dog properly, what the dog's body language means and when not to disturb the dog. When they're old enough to understand, involve kids in the training process so they can learn to give the dog commands and be able to enforce them.

Adult supervision is essential! Small children should never, ever be left alone with any dog, no matter how reliable the dog has been before. A responsible adult needs to be on the scene to prevent any aggressive behavior by the dog and to keep the child from putting himself in danger. Telling a toddler to stay away from the dog isn't enough! Remember: young children don't recognize potential trouble. It's up to the adult to keep them safe from the dog and to keep the dog safe from the children. I can't stress enough that adult supervision around children and dogs is absolutely critical! If you can't be right there to handle whatever might come up, put the dog and children out of reach of each other.

Almost all of us would agree that it would be nice for our children to grow up with a dog. Kids and dogs are wonderful, almost an American tradition. If you're thinking of getting a dog for the children or already have one, here are some guidelines: Consider postponing the purchase of a dog, especially a large one, until your children are at least six years old.

1. **Take your time when looking for a dog.** Do your homework. Learn the differences among breeds and choose one that fits your lifestyle and experience.
2. **Be honest with yourself about the time and work you're willing to put into a dog.** If you don't have time to raise and train the dog properly, don't get one.
3. **Find your dog from a reputable, responsible rescue or breeder, who puts priority on good temperament and health.** Choose a tested and true rescue or breeder, willing to guide and advise you about care and training for the life of the dog.
4. **Train and socialize your dog properly!** Get help if needed. Don't fool yourself that the problem will go away on its own or that the dog will "outgrow" it.
5. **Teach your children how to behave correctly and safely around animals and to respect them.**
6. **If your children are too young to understand, physically supervise them and protect them from potential harm.** Don't risk their safety! If you can't be right there or control your dog or your child – put them out of reach of each other.
7. **Remember: what your dog tolerates from your own children may not be tolerated from someone else's.** Take extra safety precautions when other children visit; make sure they obey your rules.
8. **Never, ever leave a child alone with any dog, no matter how harmless the dog seems.**

Kids and dogs are wonderful together -- when adults use common sense and put safety first.

Discounted Subscriptions for The Whole Dog Journal!

LEARN is offering subscriptions to *The Whole Dog Journal*, with monthly articles on everything canine—best dog foods, caring for seniors, head halters, allergies, scent training, etc. The normal rate is \$29/year; this offer is **\$15 for your first year** (renew once at this rate if you already subscribe!)

For this special rate, please contact: Tammy Rasey, 324 South Van Buren Street, Stoughton, WI 53589. 608/873-8361; email: wwfs@execpc.com)

Visit www.whole-dog-journal.com to learn about this publication's great content!

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February

Bridgette Chad & Monique Faber
Charlie Justen Domarski
Murphy Evelyn & Lewis Bartfield
Rambo Timothy & Ann Richmond
Tilly Jay & Mary McDonald
Shasta Daryl and Robert Stelter
Sawyer Sharon & Louis Davila
Jasper Andrew & Leslie Robinson

March

Teddy David & Kim Hellekson
Cassie Dick & Helen Wright
Buddy Greg Cisek & Tom Krick
Chance Michael Pressman & Marcia Cohen
Winnie Megan Budde
Petey Sharon Pringey
Meadow Andrew & Meredith Umnus
Olive Denise & Tom Guhl
Ellie Carrie & Dave Widick
Oliver Dana & David Miller
Betty and Butkus Martin & Marsha Wehrle

April

Gretta Diane Cunningham
Hope Ray & Traci Stevens
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Trudy Conal & Allison Finnegan
Coco Julie Boxx
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Bear Shari Sanders
Mike Heidi Klahr
Nicki Charlene Sweeney
Jade Scott & Theresa Brandt
Cody Anne Hepperla

May

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Precious Gretchen & David Stevens
Buster Joe Werwie & Jayne Wanless
Buddy Beth & Bruce Yeko
Frango Bruce & Mary Comer
Tank Kim & Dave Mohr
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Mandy Mark & Cynthia Fairfield
Max John & Alison Storaasli

Our Labs Need Your Help!

Many dogs desperately need our help, including expensive medical care that drains our finances. All tax-deductible donations are greatly appreciated. All dogs thank you!

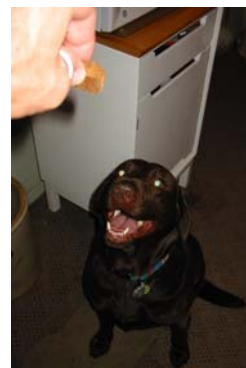
I want to support the efforts of L.E.A.R.N. as they rescue homeless Labrador Retrievers and Lab mixes and place them in permanent adoptive homes.

Name: _____ Address _____ Email _____

Please find my check for: ___\$10.00 ___\$25.00 ___\$50.00 ___Other Amount \$_____

Please mail to **LEARN, PO Box 164, Island Lake, IL 60042** or donate at www.Labadoption.org via **PayPal**.

LEARN Volunteers Inspire . . . This column introduces LEARN’s volunteers and tells what they do, often behind the scenes, to save Labs and why. Our Labs have their stories, and so do our volunteers who help them.



Daisy basking in Autumn (right); foster Jackie, just adopted(above)

(from left) Diane’s beautiful Daisy; Cotter and Sophie with Clarence; Clarence’s foster Precious in mini car forever dad

Diane Streck epitomizes dependability and organization. “Why do I do what I do for LEARN? It’s definitely because of my love for dogs which I think grows daily.” Diane gives superb organizational skills to LEARN and explains that much of what she does derives from her desire “to do something as a substitute for the things I cannot do.” Diane is LEARN’s Merchandise Coordinator who keeps track of all merchandise that goes to trade shows, other events, or is sold through the mail. If you’ve adopted from LEARN, you’ll receive an Adoption Follow-up Calls from her to make sure your new family member has adjusted well and to see if you have any questions. “If others realized how extremely rewarding the follow-up calls are, I’d be out of a “job.” Diane also does Fundraising/Events staffing and occasional transport. After adopting Daisy, one of her fosters, Diane is no longer able to foster: Daisy has Addison’s disease, and her vet said a foster would be too stressful for Daisy. “That was a tough pill to swallow because there are so many dogs in need, and the more foster homes, the more dogs that can be saved. So, I’m trying to make up for not being able to foster by doing more in other areas.”

She greatly enjoys her “work”—meeting the fosters and other volunteers at events/fundraisers and showcasing LEARN to the public. “I enjoy transports because in many cases it starts the rescued

dogs on their way to their new, and much improved life. Plus, it gives me a chance to meet the fosters.

Clarence Borck always helps with whatever LEARN needs and eagerly fosters any dog in need. He grew up with Labs and his family always had at least two in the house. “I’m in this for the Labs we rescue, we are their spokespeople.” Clarence doesn’t only foster Labs: he assists in retrieving voice messages, helps maintain the “Dogs in Foster” list, transports dogs around the state, and helps in any other way he can. “The dogs we rescue deserve all the help that we can give them.” You’ll see Clarence at Dogfest, Barktoberfest, the Elmbrook Adoptathon and many more events that help showcase LEARN’s fosters and socialize them.

Clarence’s foster dogs motivate him as they give “unconditional love even though many have been poorly treated and neglected in their previous homes and/or shelters.” Clarence’s newest family member Sophie, for example, before becoming his foster dog, “was kept in an outside 10x10 kennel with no human contact except when it came time to be fed. She was in really bad shape, and with the many issues she has, I knew she was not adoptable. You would think a dog in that situation would shy away from human contact, would be aggressive toward humans, but on the contrary, she is the most loving sweet dog in the world and I’m glad she is mine. This is what motivates me.”

2nd ANNUAL

PAWGUST FEST

August 12th, 2006
10 am – 4 pm
Libertyville, IL
25775 St Mary Road

Admission: \$5/person
and \$10/family

Canine Festival Offering:

- Lure Coursing and Dog Games
- A Pond & A Pool (swimming and more swimming for the dogs!)
- Rachel Resk, Animal Communicator
(YOU DON'T HAVE TO BRING A PET, JUST A PICTURE IS FINE)
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Critical Reminder to Adopters! Please update your address and phone with L.E.A.R.N. If your dog becomes lost, our network of volunteers across IL and WI and other organizations can help return your dog to you. A L.E.A.R.N. tag should stay with all alums for life, and that tag number and/or microchip, combined with current adopter info, has enabled a number of Labs to be reunited safely with their families.



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LEARN & Lab 2006 Events!

<u>What</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>
▶ Pawgust Fest —see <i>this newsletter for details</i>	▶ Saturday, August 12, 2006 10 a.m. to 4 p.m	▶ 25775 N. Saint Mary's Rd., Libertyville, IL

Please see www.Labadoption.org for a current listing of upcoming events. *Note: The Canine Behavior & Training Conference scheduled for July 21-23 has been cancelled. We apologize for any inconvenience.*