

The NRLC had a blast at their first Back to Basics Family Fun Weekend March 1 – 3 at the Sea Crest Beach Hotel in North Falmouth MA. Attended by over 50 Leos, we opened Friday night with a pizza party and a show handling clinic by professional handler, Jim Shea also known as “The Mastiff Man”. Jim has been in the dog world his entire life and is in love with our breed. He gave great tips to each participant from how to stand correctly, how to hold a lead and most of all to make it fun.

Our Veterans Parade started our show and had Leos from the age of 7 all the way to over 12; life is great in the Northeast!!!

On Saturday we were honored to have AKC Judge Sandra Walker, another big Leo fan who judged our traditional LCA show including written evaluations. Her gentle and kind nature was perfect for the many first timers in the ring. The NRLC cannot thank Sandra enough for spending the day with us, and extending her patience and kindness to all our attendees.

Following the show we had CGC/TDI testing by Gina Hayes with 20 Leos passing their tests!!! A big shout out to all of them for this amazing work. We hope to hear all about your therapy work as time goes on!

A big debt of gratitude to Marrietta, Nick and Willow Mennone for the carting clinic they hosted. So many Leos and their people listened, learned and got “strapped in” for their first carting experience. Deanna Alko and John Caldwell, thank you so much for the fantastic seminar on the land portion of water work. We watched many Leos enjoy learning about something that just seems so natural to them. Mary Goodling showed us all about Rally with a great demonstration! I know there will be many Leos having fun in the Rally ring now! Peter Dell’Olio gave a great seminar on Leo photography. Peter’s photos have often been in our LHF calendar and have graced the booth at the Meet the Breeds event in NYC for the past 3 years. Vic Neumann, our “official” NRLC photographer did not stop taking great photos all day for us. Many thanks to Vic for sharing his amazing eye and catching the best moments on film for us to look back on and remember!

The most fun of course was our old time “Parts Contest” which followed our dinner on Saturday evening. Joining me for judging was Willow Mennone, Summer and Willow Bowtell and Mike Gifford. Some of that judging was the toughest of the day, but we did find the darkest masks, waggiest tails, and biggest paws amongst other great parts of our Leos.

Sunday morning a beach romp was enjoyed by many, and watching that was an everlasting memory I certainly will never forget.

I cannot thank the staff at Sea Crest for their welcoming dogs to their hotel for the very first time; we made a great impression! They are still talking about Leos!

As always, a thank you to all the members who donated to the raffle, and to all those who generously gave from their pockets! Our raffle is always a terrific success due to all of you!

The NRLC will continue to endeavor to host events like this, to give families the opportunity to have fun with their Leos! Each person that walked into that ring on

Saturday was a winner, some for the first time, a few seasoned handlers but most of all a bunch of Leo owners wanting to have a great time. There were genuine and sincere congratulations all around to the big winners, and I definitely saw stars in the eyes of many who had their first "big wins".

A huge and sincere thank you to all our great volunteers and to everyone who attended, to show or to play, to meet or to learn, the NRLC is about Great Dogs and Great People, we plan to keep it just that way!

Non Regular winners:

Best Baby Puppy: Hieronyms Domus Corona (Enuff) owned by Trisha Smallman
Best Spayed Bitch: Kalahari's Brilliant Samantha (Abbey) owned by Samara Fogel/Matt Hickerson
Best Neutered Male: Verde von Alpensee (Medley) owned by Deanna Alko/John Caldwell
Best Spay/Neuter: Verde von Alpensee
Best Junior Handler: Willow Bowtell with Leos by the Sea Remembering Rose (Sweet Pea)

Regular Classes:

Best Youth Male: Brooklyn von Alpensee (Monte) owned by Laraine Mancini/Garrett Verrage
Best Youth Female: Basira von Alpensee (Sira) owned by Sharon Betts
Novice Dog: Seelowen's Lightening Trego (Trego) owned by David Fogel
Foreign Bred Dog: Dodge Viper Member of the LeoGang (Loki) owned by Jonathan/Theresa Dell'Olio
Open Dog: Redwood Trail Bourbon Joe (Tug) owned by Michele & David Cohen/Suzanne Kovalsky
Winners Dog: Dodge Viper Member of the LeoGang (Loki) owned by Jonathan/Theresa Dell'Olio
Reserve Winners Dog: Seelowen's Lightening Trego (Trego) owned by David Fogel
Champion Dog: CH. A.Feiner Enigma (Silky Red) owned by Lisa Bazlen
Novice Bitch: Dragonslair's Nonchalant Nuance (Belle) owned by Michael Gifford/Paula Verrier
Open Bitch: Super Serendipity v.sanftenLoewen (Brie) owned by Robin Ruggiero
Winners Bitch: Basira von Alpensee (Sira) owned by Sharon Betts
Reserve Winners Bitch: Dragonslair's Nonchalant Nuance (Belle) owned by Michael Gifford/Paula Verrier
Champion Bitch: CH. Bobev's Wilhelmina Doppelt Liebe (Willow) owned by Mark Goodling

Final Rounds:

Best of Opposite: CH Bobev's Wilhelmina Deppelt Liebe (Willow) owned by Mary Goodling
Best of Winners: Dodge Viper Member of the LeoGang (Loki) owned by Jon and Theresa Dell'Olio
Best in Specialty Show: Dodge Viper Member of the LeoGang (Loki) owned by Jon/Theresa Dell'Olio