

MICHIGAN CHESAPEAKE BAY RETRIEVER CLUB

www.micbrc.org

December/January**Ziggy**

By Cindy Brassinger

Once upon a time, my husband & I had a yellow lab that lived a full and complete life. After her death our house became quite and dog hair free.

We both missed our four legged family member so off to the Spring AKC show at Cobo we went to consider our next pup. There we watched Gary Irish show ----, went to his booth, talked about Chessies and learned a lot. From there we went for a visit to Gary & Dorene's house and met a variety of Chessies, left a deposit and impatiently waited for our new family member.

Finally, the big day came, off we went to retrieve our little guy (Ziggy), where we were firmly remind that "Chessies aren't Labradors" and we thought sure, we know what we are doing! LOL....Who else can claim that their dog got kicked out of doggie day care! But thank you Chad for your referral to Camp Bow Wow...A better doggie day care there is not!

In the first week, I was summoned home by my husband (Mike) as our new pup was missing...I organized a search team from my car as I drove home.....only to discover upon arrival that he had been found, safe & sound asleep on the cool dirt floor far under the deck. The second time he went missing that week Mike never called, just waited and soon he came toddling out from the back of the flower garden. Since Mr. Ziggy has joined our world I have learned the skill of how to induce vomiting in a dog...when he ate my white athletic socks right in front of me, became friendly with poison control (did you know ant traps have peanut butter in them), learned of a recipe to scrub a dog that just gotten in a fight with a skunk, the skunk may have died but he had the last laugh....yikes.. and added the 24 hour vet number to my speed dial! I learned the meaning of Gary's statement when he said "Chessies don't get a vote" and to be the alpha dog...

More importantly, I have had the pleasure of unconditional love and loyalty Ziggy has brought to our home. When I call to say I'm on my way home from work, his routine is to grab a toy and sit at the back door and wait for my arrival so he can with pride

and joy greet me, share his toy and let me know how happy he is I am home. Further, I have met many new friends (Jim & Barb were the first) that have not laughed at me (at least not to my face) for some of the questions I have asked. Their patience and education have paid off...I'm slowly learning about Chessies! I have been able to bring joy to others with Ziggy when we do pet therapy at the hospitals...he seems to enjoy it as much as the staff and patients do..... Day to day, I delight in watching him jump high in the air to retrieve snowballs and then look confused when the ball crumbles in his mouth. His mischievous ways make me laugh....No hand or kitchen towel is safe from his antics to go snatch it from its rod....he loves to tear up newspapers, or play ring around the couch with the newspaper in his mouth, prancing as his tail is curled tight with joyHe is loved by all the neighborhood children and always greeted with an enthusiastic "ZIGGY" when out front. So, the morale of this first time Chessie story is that although our Labrador was sweet and gentle, she pales in comparison to the personality, and love that Mr. Ziggy has brought to our home....Cindy



"Ziggy"

Jackie

By Dorene Irish

When Gary & I married he already had two Chessies. In fact, the morning of our wedding day, he had to go pick up Toby from being bred at Grousemoor Kennel. We kept a female from that litter. She turned out to be more my dog than Gary's, so I consider her MY first Chessie. Her name was Ch. Irish's Shining Duchess - Jackie.

Now I'll back up a bit, to the winter before we married. Gary taught me how to show dogs with his first Chessie Toby - Ch. Irish's Shining Princess. She was very easy to show and never acted up, kept her feet right where they belonged. I made my show debut at the Detroit Kennel Club in 1981. Toby was entered in Best of Breed. I wasn't nervous at all, or so I thought. The second I walked through the gate into the ring, it felt like my temperature went up 20 degrees, I couldn't wait to get out of there. Toby performed great, I did everything I was supposed to do. When I finally walked out of the ring, Gary was waiting for me. I immediately handed him the lead and told him "I will never show another dog again", and walked away.

Fast forward to 1986. That puppy we kept, Jackie, was now almost 5 years old and was a very well put together bitch. I said to Gary one day, "Why don't you show Jackie, don't you think she is nice?". He told me, "I think she is very nice, but she's your dog and if you want her shown you'll have to do it yourself". So I did. I never had that bad case of nerves like I did my first time showing. Jackie finished fast, earning Best of Breed from the classes, she won numerous Veteran classes including at the 1988 National Specialty where she also earned a JAM. She passed away at a little over 14 years old.

So that's what my first Chessie did for me. She got me back in the ring after 5 years of having no desire to ever show another dog. The photo of her is from the Kalamazoo Kennel Club show in 1986 where she was BOW under judge Jane Forsyth for a 5 pt major.



"Jackie"

Dusty

By David Keeln

My first Chessie was a birthday gift from my mother. She gave me a poster with a dog retrieving a goose. She told me she would pay for the dog when I found it. This was in October of 1993. I was all set to get a Lab, but my girl friend (now wife) "had" to do some research and found a breed called Chesapeake Bay Retriever. From the description it sounded just perfect.

Then I started to look for a Chessie litter. I did not find any until March of 1994. They were born in December and there were only 2 left. I almost did not look at them as I stood watching from a short distance the one with a dark face kept looking around, I went over and knelt down and he crawled right in my lap, so I took him home.

Dusty was a hunting partner and constant companion from then on. One day I was hunting pheasants on a farm I worked on. I opened the gate to an old outdoor pig yard and let Dusty in. He went around and around the pen. He came out and stood in a small clearing I said "What no birds" He flipped around and a rooster was in the air. Chessie attitude. He was making sure I was ready, I was! He became one of the best waterfowl and pheasant dogs I have ever hunted over. Dusty passed away in April 2008. I am blessed to own a daughter and granddaughter of his. They both are excellent hunting dogs and companions.

My first Chesapeake Bay Retriever
 Dave's Dusty Delight MH, WDX December 16,
 1993 - April 17, 2008



"Dusty"

Lil

By Michelle Keehn

About 2 years after my then boyfriend now husband got his dog I was ready to get one for myself. I thought I did not want a Chessie because that is what we already had. Even though Dusty was a great dog I wanted something different. I had determined I wanted a retriever and had looked at the Flat Coated Retriever, Golden Retriever and Curly Coated Retriever. When all was said and done I came back to the Chessie. Then the work really began. I had started to look around at the dogs I liked. One that really stood out was CH AFC Caroway's Wild Goose Chase. I was getting involved with and meeting people that owned Chessie's. That is when I met Kathy Perry. She said she was doing a breeding with Chase with one of her girls. I let Kathy know I was interested in the litter. Kathy got a hold of me when the pups were born and I got to go and see them at 3 weeks old. It's hard to believe but I noticed Lil then, she had a small spot on one of her back toes. I came back when they were 8 weeks old to pick her up, I had 2nd pick from the females and the one with the little white on her back toes was still available. That is the one that I picked. We named her Michelle's Little Idly Rose Ever since we brought her home she has ruled the roost, Dusty did not stand a chance even though he was 2 years her senior. She just had a way about her. She would gather all the toys in a pile in the middle of the room and lay on them and Dusty would stand back and cry. As she got older they became fast friends she would steal his toys and such but they were inseparable.

Lil went on to be everything I ever wanted. She was able to achieve CH, MH and CD.

I am fortunate to still have her with me she is 14+ years old. I am also fortunate to have a couple of her daughters and a granddaughter.



"Lil"

Shadowdancer

By Tina Cox

I met my dear friend Robin about twenty years ago at a group home we both worked at for severely Developmentally disabled adults. We worked the midnight shift together, and every night she would bring her dogs to work. I had never seen a Chessie before or even heard of them. I soon fell in love with her dog Jessa. She was always so gentle and loving to the Residents. They would light up when she came to greet them, and she would sit by their wheelchairs and lay her head in their laps. At meal times the residents could be pretty messy so Robin would call the cleanup crew and the dogs would come running to clean up every last crumb of food on the floor. The more I got to know her dogs I knew this was the breed for me. In 1993 Robin gave me my first Chessie for my birthday from Jessa's last litter. She was a deadgrass just like her mother. I had a difficult time coming up with a name. Nothing seemed to fit, until one evening I was outside playing with her when I noticed that she had discovered her shadow. She was jumping around trying to catch it, so she became my Shadowdancer. She was one big bundle of brown fluff. She loved to go everywhere with me. Nothing ever seemed to bother her. When she was four months old we traveled out west through many states with Robin and three other Chessies. They all traveled well with each other. We saw a lot of interesting wildlife, elk, bear, moose, buffalo, which never seemed to phase any of the dogs. The dogs especially liked hiking through the mountains with us.

When she was six months old I started showing her in conformation. That proved to be quite a learning experience for both of us. I made a lot of mistakes but she always forgave me. She loved to retrieve for me and would bring anything I threw for her back. Although her favorite thing to do was swim; that is when I learned about the stubborn deaf ear side of a Chessie. I would stand on shore calling and bribing but nothing was more enticing than the water to her. Eventually she would come out at her leisure so I would have to be quick and grab her; I always ended up soaked. The years rolled by and when she was eleven I took her in to the vet to have her leg checked. I never thought it would be anything serious. When the Dr. came back into the room to talk to me I could tell by her face it was bad news. She showed me the x-ray that revealed bone cancer. She then informed me that bone cancer is very aggressive and most dogs only have about fourteen weeks left. So we went home with medication to make her comfortable. I started to prepare myself for the day I would have to

make the decision of euthanasia. I prayed that she would go in her sleep so I would not have to make that decision, but in the end I held her head in my lap and said good bye to my best friend as the Dr. gave her the shot that would stop her pain. I will forever miss her.



“Shadowdancer”

Trailblazer

By George Treglown

It was 1980 something and here we were going to the Big Show at Cobo Hall. Our purpose was to seek out a quality breeder of this breed known as the Chesapeake Bay Retriever!

You should know, at first, that we had little knowledge of the breed. My life BJ (before Jan) had consisted of never having had a Dog! Jan had owned various pure breed's and mixed breeds her entire life.

How it all got started with the Chessies was a chance meeting with an old friend up North who had this rather large “straw colored” dog. Jan inquired as to the breed and it was a Chesapeake! After an impressive display of water skills and protection (in a tense situation) Jan said “ I must have one of these animals”. And so it was, we placed a deposit on a litter from the Sire, Old Bay’s Drake of Nugget Hill. When the litter arrived we had a choice of three females and two males. As it turned out Jan wanted Blazer, and I wanted the other boy who was a little more aggressive. The next 13.5 years were a big “love affair” between Jan and “her shadow” BLAZER.

My friends said he’s a “pretty boy” but he’ll never hunt, or protect. How wrong they were! At seven month’s he smelled a grouse roosted in a large aspen tree and began to bark and jump up at the tree. I tried to call him off, but he persisted. As I approached

cussing him a grouse flushed and I dropped it. Blazer retrieved it and delivered it to hand! He had never received any training! He loved the smell of the woods, chased many deer and consumed his share of blueberries and blackberries when he joined us in our various pursuits. Blazer never saw a Show Ring, but excelled at Basic and Advanced Obedience in several classes. But, a “protectionist” he was. On one early Spring day as Jan was walking in our woods she found herself surrounded by a group of semi-un-hibernated blue racer snakes. Afraid to move as these snakes formed a circle around her, Blazer jumped in and parted the “sea of snakes” so she could exit. He waited and watched until she left and just at the precise moment he grabbed one and gave it the famous “Chessie shake”! The snake was three feet long! Trailblazer has a monument in our woods that was fitting for the fine companion and family member he was for his thirteen and one -half years we shared our home with him.

Submitted by Jan & George Treglown of Deep Woods Chesapeake.



“Blazer”

Meet and Greet

By Tina Cox

On January 30th we held a meet and greet at Gander Mountain in Flint, MI; with 18 members in attendance and 13 Chessie's. We had a nice lunch provided by the members who attended. We had hand outs on different topics of interest about Chessie's for guests; Dave Keehn did an obedience demonstration with Violet, the Keehn's four month old puppy and Jan Treglown did obedience with her dog Brooke. Dave also did a chat on hunting and used his dog Elbert for demonstration. Everyone did a walk through the store with their dogs, led by Jim Gosler, to meet customers and let them pet the dogs and answer any questions they might have. Elbert Rush provided a DVD on historical hunt tests that we played through a laptop. We had Richard Lawless, a professional handler, dog owner/breeder speak to us on **conformation** and handling. He did a lecture with questions and then did hands on demonstration. He gave a lot of good advice and tips for handling our dogs for the judges. Many people stopped by to inquire and meet the dogs; everyone did a nice job representing our breed. We did a lot of socializing and everyone had a good time.



It was a great day for everyone



But a long day for some



Upcoming Events

Hunt tests:

HRC dates:

May 15-16 Great Lakes HRC spring hunt test in Fenwick, Mi

May 23 Michigan HRC spring hunt test at Sunflight Kennels in Howell, Mi

May 29 Central Michigan HRC spring hunt test at Omega Farms, Williamston, Mi

May 30 St Clair Flats HRC spring hunt test at Omega Farms, Williamston, Mi

AKC dates:

May 22-23 Michigan Flyways Retriever Club Spring hunt test in Fenwick, Mi

MCBRC Meetings:

2010

February 20 Annual Banquet Walli's in Burton, MI

March 20 Bob Davis & Cora Foley Vermontville, MI

April 10 Saginaw Valley Show Birch Run, MI

May 22 Picnic, no meeting Kalamazoo, MI

Check the website for details

www.micbrc.org

Michigan All Breed Dog Shows 2010

Detroit Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Detroit	Sat 03/06/2010	Closes: Wed 02/17
Detroit Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Detroit	Sun 03/07/2010	Closes: Wed 02/17
Saginaw Valley Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Birch Run	Sat 04/10/2010	Closes: Wed 03/24
Saginaw Valley Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Birch Run	Sun 04/11/2010	Closes: Wed 03/24
Progressive Dog Club Of Wayne County, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Birch Run	Sat 05/01/2010	Closes: Wed 04/14
Progressive Dog Club Of Wayne County, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Birch Run	Sun 05/02/2010	Closes: Wed 04/14
Midland Michigan Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Midland	Sat 05/15/2010	Closes: Wed 04/28
Midland Michigan Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Midland	Sun 05/16/2010	Closes: Wed 04/28
Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Corunna	Sat 05/22/2010	Closes: Wed 05/05
Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Corunna	Sun 05/23/2010	Closes: Wed 05/05
Holland Michigan Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Kalamazoo	Fri 05/28/2010	Closes: Wed 05/12
Grand Rapids Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Kalamazoo	Sat 05/29/2010	Closes: Wed 05/12
Kalamazoo Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Kalamazoo	Sun 05/30/2010	Closes: Wed 05/12
Greater Muskegon Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Kalamazoo	Mon 05/31/2010	Closes: Wed 05/12
Grand Traverse	AB/O/JSHW	Traverse City	Fri 06/18/2010	Closes: Wed 06/02

Grand Traverse Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Traverse City	Sat 06/19/2010	Closes: Wed 06/02
Grand Traverse Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Traverse City	Sun 06/20/2010	Closes: Wed 06/02
Macomb Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Armada	Sat 06/26/2010	Closes: Wed 06/09
Macomb Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Armada	Sun 06/27/2010	Closes: Wed 06/09
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Marshall	Sat 07/17/2010	Closes: Wed 06/30
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Marshall	Sun 07/18/2010	Closes: Wed 06/30
Marquette Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Marquette	Fri 09/03/2010	Closes: Wed 08/18
Marquette Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Marquette	Sat 09/04/2010	Closes: Wed 08/18
Marquette Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Marquette	Sun 09/05/2010	Closes: Wed 08/18
Jaxon Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Marshall	Sat 09/04/2010	Closes: Tue 08/24
Jaxon Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Marshall	Sun 09/05/2010	Closes: Tue 08/24

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to The Chesapeake Gazette.

I really enjoyed reading everyone's first Chessie stories.

Editor, Tina Cox

Co-Editor, Michelle Keeln

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MCBRC VISIT

www.micbrc.org

Newsletter Submission/Delivery Guidelines

<u>Submission Deadline</u>	<u>Delivery</u>
▪ September 2	Late September
▪ November 2	Late November
▪ January 2	Late January
▪ March 2	Late March
▪ May 2	Late May
▪ July 2	Late July

You can find details on these shows at:

www.infodog.com/panels/mi.html

or the links for MB-F and Roy Jones

Shows on our website www.micbrc.org