

CH Renaissance Doncha Luv Rumors, CGC "Vanna"

Not just another pretty face, Vanna is a true "all around" dog. Vanna started her show career at barely 6-months old. She made her debut at the Heart Of America Cluster in Kansas City, which also included the Show Me Vizsla Club specialty. On Thursday of that cluster she went Reserve Winners Bitch to a major. She went on to win her class Friday and Saturday.

On Sat. evening at the Show Me Vizsla Club specialty she won her sweepstakes class and under a breeder-judge went Reserve Winners Bitch again to a major. With very limited showing, Vanna finished her championship at 13mo. old with a 4pt major. She has also gone Best Opposite over specials.

Vanna has shown us that she is a very versatile girl- she earned her CGC at 8mo old, and loves to be in the field hunting birds. Her next venue will be completing her Junior Hunter title.

We would like to thank George and Linda Durham (Renaissance Vizslas) for sending this lovely girl home to us! She keeps us entertained!!!

Submitted by Sheila Stahr

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Opinions expressed in articles are those of the author and do not constitute endorsement by the editorial staff, the VCOI or it's Board of Directors.

The VCOI endorses the efforts of the VCA and the OFA to eliminate hip dysplasia in dogs, and encourages it's members to use only normal breeding stock.

Advertising Rates Per Issue:
Half Page \$10.00 Quarter Page \$5.00 Business Card \$2.50 Color ads (any size) \$350 per issue to cover additional printing costs.

Ads are limited to one half page per family per issue. Editor may limit advertising due to space limitations. Half Page / Quarter Page ads may contain a three (3) generation pedigree. Business Card ads may contain the name of sire and dam only.

All ads must be paid in full before printing and contain the full OFA rating of the sire and the dam. Copies of the OFA certificate must be sent with the ad.

Deadline for submission to the Bulletin is on the first of each even numbered month. Deadlines are non-negotiable!

Cover stories are limited to one per family membership in a 12 month period. Color covers are available for \$350 to cover additional printing costs.

All brags, articles, and submissions must be submitted in writing either through the minutes or directly to the Editor.

All photos submitted to the Bulletin must include a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope. Photos without return postage will remain the property of the VCOI. Exception to the cover photo, which will be returned at the VCOI's expense.

Bulletin Covers

July 2004
~Stahr

January 2005
~open

September 2004
~Reid

If your dog has completed a prefix title (CH, FC, AFC, CT, MACH etc.) and you want to reserve a cover, contact Michel Berner miravizslas@mchsi.com

November 2004
~open

WE HAVE NO COVERS RESERVED FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR! PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU ARE INTERESTED!



Virtual Vizsla

VCOI Website: www.vizslaclubofillinois.org
Subscribe to the VCOI e-mail list:
VCOIinc-subscribe@yahoo.com

Sportsmen and Animal Owners Voting Alliance

www.saova.org

Check which political candidates are pro hunting and pro animal ownership

VCOI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 19, 2004
Silver Stallion Restaurant

Board Members Present: Kevin Berta, Gina Ordonez, Cathy Gallagher, Jeff Engelsman, Jeff Parise, Dennis Nowak, Wanda Berner, Michel Berner

Wanda Berner called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm

The following motions were passed by the Board of Directors:

Treasury: The Treasurer shall reconcile the club financials in Quicken and provide a written check register at every meeting. They shall be prepared to discuss the revenues and expenses related to each event. Fiscal responsibility is the entire Club's job. Accounting is the responsibility of the Treasurer.

Cathy Gallagher motioned, Michel Berner seconded, motion carried.

Returned Check Policy: Entrants who have checks returned for insufficient funds are not free to enter in any event sponsored by the VCOI until the debt is paid in full by secured funds. In addition, the member will be placed on a "cash only" probation period for six months. In the event another check bounces within a twelve month period, the "cash only" basis will be permanently extended. Gina Ordonez motioned, Dennis Nowak seconded, motion carried.

Form Letter: The Treasurer will attempt to collect returned check funds using the Demand Letter. The VCOI Board will be notified of the list of debtors via e-mail.

Specialty: The VCOI will allocate \$200 total towards the Specialty. These funds may be used for luncheon expenses if trophy expenses are 100% funded by other donations. VCOI shall request an early ring time, understanding that this may not always be possible. The VCOI shall not provide lunch for the Specialty since the membership dinner is now on the same night as the show. Michel Berner motioned, Cathy Gallagher seconded.

Supported Entry Show: Trophies must be 100% covered by donations. No allocation of club funds will be allowed. Dedicated fundraising may be done to cover expenses; No expenses greater than revenue collected will be reimbursed. Michel Berner motioned, Cathy Gallagher seconded, motion carried.

Dues: Membership dues will be increased to \$25 to defray to cost of website, newsletter,

insurance, pet show, and other general operating expenses.

Cathy Gallagher motioned, Dennis Nowak seconded, motion carried.

Application & Renewal: Members will be asked on the membership application/renewal if hard copy entries sent via ground mail are required. All others shall be notified via e-mail when premiums are uploaded to the website. The resulting savings will be in excess of \$500 per year.

Cathy Gallagher motioned, Dennis Nowak seconded, motion carried.

Awards Dinner: There will be no separate mass mailing for the Awards Dinner. The few members who do not have access to the internet will get a mailing. The Bulletin, e-mail, and website shall be used for sign-up information. Bulletin space shall be limited to 1/2 page. The cost of dinner and tax shall be included in the listed dinner price. VCOI revenues shall cover the cost of awards plaques/bars only, and are budgeted at \$300.

Gina Ordonez motioned, Dennis Nowak seconded, motion carried.

Funds Deposits: All event secretaries and committee chairs shall send funds to the Treasurer within 30 days of receipt for deposit into the VCOI account. Michel Berner motioned, Jeff Engelsman seconded, motion carried.

Jeff Engelsman motioned to adjourn at 7:19 pm, Dennis Nowak seconded, meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

VCOI MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 19, 2004
Silver Stallion Restaurant

Members Present: Jeff & Kathy Engelsman, Dennis & Patti Nowak, Jeff Parise, Wanda Berner, Michel Berner, Jim & Linda Busch, Kevin Berta, Jodi Hartmann & Dan Cieslak, Gina Ordonez, Greg Hedien, Julie & Doug Sobieski, Cathy Gallagher, Debbie & Wally Herwerth

Wanda Berner called the meeting to order at 7:22 PM

New Member Introduction: Julie & Doug Sobieski, Debbie & Wally Herwerth, Jodi Hartmann & Dan Cieslak

Approval of Minutes: Gina Ordonez motioned to approve the minutes as printed in the May Bulletin, Dennis Nowak seconded

Board of Directors Report: See Board Minutes listed before Membership Minutes.

President's Report: none

Secretary's Report: AKC now allows litter registration via the internet. Breeders must register the litter online in order for the buyer to be able to complete the individual registration online.

Show Me Vizsla Club is holding their first AKC Licensed Field Trial on October 16-17 at the Union County Bird Dog Ranch in Thayer, Iowa (Hawkeye grounds.) The event will be closed to Vizslas only, and they would like our support in making their first event a success.

Treasurer's Report: We have a positive balance; detailed reports will be available at the July membership meeting.

Website/Bulletin: The printing company is crediting the VCOI account \$63.25 for the excess postage from the last issue. The May Bulletin was not supposed to be stapled, and the excess weight increased the postage amount by 50%.

Awards Banquet: Wanda stated the location can be secured at the Milk Pail. Group had a discussion regarding moving the Banquet to a less expensive location in the future. Silver Stallion room can hold 100 people and has a liquor license

Supported Entry: Kathy Engelsman reported the Wheaton Kennel Club show won't be in January in 2005. The WKC is moving the show date to June.

Chicagoland Sports Show: Jeff Engelsman reported no news from Cadens Kennels yet.

MVFF Report: Nothing new to report.

March Field Trial at Des Plaines: Mark Johnson will Chair, Gina Ordonez will Secretary.

Pet Fair: No report.

March JEPC Field Trial: The trial lost money. The entries were comprised of thirty VCOI members and two non-members. Support and entries from general VCA membership was nil. The planned two-day trial was completed Saturday afternoon.

Kevin Berta motioned to allow the Panther Creek dates to go back to the IDNR. Dennis Nowak seconded.

Field Trial Clubs of Illinois: Greg Hedien reported there will be a FTCL meeting on June 2nd regarding upcoming dates.

Ottawa Field Trial Association: Greg Hedien all 2004 VCOI event date permits are pulled with the WiDNR. We need to make sure all water tanks are accounted for at the end of

Continued on Page 5

PREZ SEZ JULY 2004

This year the June hunt test was combined with a Hunting Dog Seminar on Saturday. It was a wonderfully successful weekend. We introduced about 30 dogs to birds on Saturday. Many of them had never worked a bird before and both owners and pups learned a lot.

Mark Smith from the CWVC gave a 2 hour seminar on how to start a hunting dog and what equipment is necessary. Due to the magic of multiple dogs, he was able to demo a dog progressing from 6 weeks to finished gun dog. We had hands on instruction both before and after the talk. Rick Mitchell donated the sandwiches for the lunch so we were able to cover the expenses for the day. Patti and Dennis Nowak were the coordinators of the event and their helpers included Greg Hedien, Mike Dalby, Roy and Lois Greffin, Rodney Albin, Dan Frigo, Jeremy Thill, Chris Quaid and myself. If I have forgotten anyone, I apologize.

We held our Hunt Test on Sunday and ran about 46 dogs. Our judges were Mike Kindler, Denis Nowak, Greg Hedien and Tony Ordonez. Cathy Gallagher and Patti Nowak were the chair and secretary. I know that many people helped plant birds and gunned and wish to thank them all. The weather was warm and only a small shower early in the day on Sunday bothered us.

Remember that the Double Bubble weekend provides another 2 days of field experience for your dogs. On Saturday we do the Lake Inferior Tyro Classic which is a hunt test match of sorts and on Sunday we run an event called Locate and Point which is also great for getting dogs on birds.

And again, get those pictures organized for the calendar contest. This year we want only 8 by 11 photos on photographic paper ready to reproduce. Make your Vizsla a star for the year.

~Wanda Berner



STRIDER'S GET A JOB SH

3/15/95 - 5/2/2004

Jabba was the mother of CH Strider's Remarkable Ms Ava, FC AFC Strider's TNG JH, and sister to DC AFC Maximum Strider SH. One of the most natural hunting dogs I've ever seen, she never bumped a bird when we were pheasant hunting. She would stand the birds until I got there and then make a circle and pin them between her and me. I had to break her of that to run her in gun dog stakes of course, and only needed a couple of retrieving points to finish her AFC.

Her boundless energy and bouncy personality will be deeply missed.

Submitted by Wanda Berner



DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR DUES! THE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM IS ON PAGE 9. IF YOUR MAILING LABEL IS YELLOW, YOU NEED TO SEND THE FORM PLUS \$25 TO LINDA BUSCH. IF IT IS WHITE, JUST SEND THE COMPLETED FORM.

EDITOR'S DESK

Time to get serious...I would like to remind all of our membership to vote in the 2004 elections. There is an alarming legislative trend across the USA that threatens animal owners and hunters. These threats come in the form of breed-specific legislation, mandatory spay/neuter laws, mandatory leash laws (which outlaw off-leash dog parks), bans on breeding any animals within certain locations, bans on tail docking and dewclaw removal, and even attempts to pass laws that would mandate euthanasia of any dog that disturbs any wild animal. These types of laws are the "foot in the door" for animal rights organizations such as the HSUS and PeTA whose ultimate goal is to have a "No birth nation" and to end all hunting of any kind. The way to defeat their agenda is to vote only for those candidates who actively support the rights of the people to hunt, fish, and breed animals.

The Sportsmen and Animal Owner Voting Alliance (SAOVA) has a running list of endorsed candidates across the country. These candidates have either proven themselves as friends of the sporting enthusiast through their voting record, or have answered the SAOVA questionnaire in such a way to earn the endorsement. The list as of May, 2004 is included in the meeting minutes. A current candidate list can be viewed online at www.saova.org. Another resource is the AKC website, www.akc.org, and click on the Legislative Alerts link.

For those who think I am an alarmist or paranoid, I urge you to do some internet research on animal rights groups simply by typing "animal rights" into any search engine. You will be shocked at the amount of matches you will find. Spend some time on the Humane Society of the United States website, and type "hunting" into their site's search engine. What you will find there is only the tip of the iceberg, and will give you a good idea of the battles we are going to face

if we can expect to enjoy our Vizslas in the future.

Now onto some "fluff". One of the many ways that I wear down Marley's energy reserves is a half-dozen or so 15-20 minute sessions of fetch in the back yard. Her new twist on the game is her own version of a "blind retrieve." I am not quite sure how this came to be the game of choice around here, but it is clearly her favorite. When I grab whichever fetching toy we will be using, she runs to hide behind the camper and waits until she hears the toy stop moving. Then she comes racing out at warp speed, and hunts the yard for the toy. She gives a snappy little retrieve, and the sequence starts over again. I am probably creating a real problem when it comes time to get her steady to wing and shot, but she is having such a blast in the meantime, I can't bring myself to spoil the fun. And it's one of the easiest ways to wear down that endless energy!

Michel, Uncle Travis, and Marley Monster

MINUTES CONTINUED

the events, the hose reel is back inside, and the Skydance Kennels water pail is outside under the spigot.

Work days are July 10th and July 18th. VCOI MUST help at these works days to continue usage of Ottawa.

VCOI Calendar: Cathy Gallagher will do sales. Michel Berner will stay on as layout designer, Gina Ordonez in charge of photo contest & production, and Dina Spero will also be on the photo contest committee.

June Training Day: June 5th at Ottawa. Mark Smith and Roy Greffin are presenters.

June Hunt Test: Dennis and Patty filed paperwork and arranged judges. Cathy Gallagher will remain as Secretary.

Specialty Show: July 10th at Boone County Fairgrounds.

Double Bubble: See itinerary elsewhere in this publication. Jeff Parise is the Bubble Chair.

Labor Day Hunt Test: Nowak/Engelsman running the event in conjunction with the LaSalle Brittany Club.

Fall Field Trial: Rob Tomczak has judges and the

paperwork is filed with AKC. Mark Spurgeon Chairing.

December Field Trial: Michel Berner reported we have one judge, and are waiting for several others to accept or decline. Purina will likely sponsor the event. Rodney Albin Chairing.

Quote of the Month: There were four correct guesses submitted by Cheryl Lykowski, Sharon Simpson, Mark Johnson, and Jodi Hartmann. **Cheryl Lykowski** was drawn from the hat to be the lucky winner of the 10 chukar hunt at Busch Farm.

Legislative Alerts: The Sportsman and Animal Voting Alliance (www.saova.org) endorses the following incumbent legislators: Phil Crane (R-IL9), Denny Hestert (R-IL14), Tim Johnson (R-IL15), Don Manzullo (R-IL16), and John Shimkus (R-IL19). Senate Candidates Obama and Ryan are considered a risk to sportsmen and animal owners by the SAOVA.

Miscellaneous/Other Business: VCOI needs to host a basic horse care/basic riding skills clinic this summer. Wanda is looking for a place in Wisconsin. Once a location is secured Rodney can contact Lonnie to discuss availability. If Lonnie is not available another instructor will be found.

Gina Ordonez motioned to adjourn at 9:12 pm. Dennis Nowak seconded.

2004 VCOI EVENTS



July	
10	VCOI Specialty-Membership Meeting
10	Lake Inferior Tyro Classic
10	VCOI Double Bubble Fun Day
11	
August	
1	Bulletin Deadline
September	
15	VCOI Meeting
18-19	VCOI Field Trial
October	
1	Bulletin Deadline
November	
17	VCOI Meeting
December	
1	Bulletin Deadline
4-5	VCOI Field Trial



Mark Smith demonstrates "quail on a string" with 8-week-old "Cisco" owned by Linda Busch at the June 5th hunt training day held at the Ottawa Field Trial Grounds in Eagle, Wisconsin.

Illinois River Vizslas

Presents

Ten Puppies born May 29th—Six Males and Four Females—
Puppies \$900.00

Excellent Field Trial Prospects.

Will have great temperaments and make great pets/
hunting dogs.

Dam

Rebel Rouser Kemberly
2003 Futurity Winner

Ten Points toward her Field Championship
(Needs One Retrieving Point)
OFA Good VZ-8048G24F-PI

Sire

FC Rebel Rouser T-Rex
OFA Excellent VZ-7139E25M-PI

See pictures and pedigree at <http://rcwilbur.home.att.net> or
call Carl Wilbur (309) 446-9367.

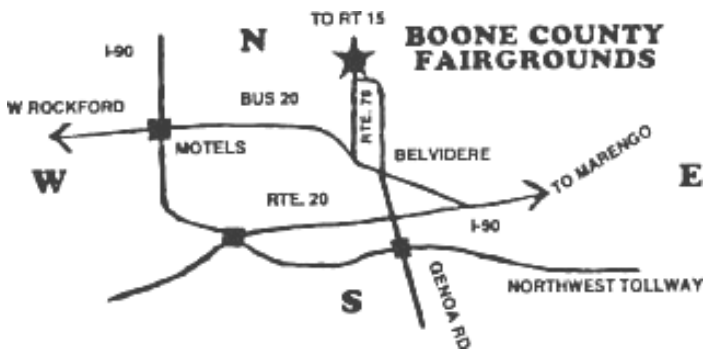
AD PAID JULY 2004

2004 DOUBLE BUBBLE WEEKEND JULY 10-11, 2004

Get up on all fours and get ready for some fun dog action. That goes for your Vizslas too.

All year long, we train our puppies and adult dogs for serious work. We train them for hunting, field trialing, obedience, shows, agility, tracking, flyball, and always to be an integral part of our families. Now we can kick back, relax, and just have a weekend of fun with our dogs that includes the whole family.

It all starts on **Saturday**. First, we will host the **2004 Vizsla Club of Illinois Specialty Show** at the Boone County Fair Grounds as part of the Kishwaukee Valley Kennel Club All Breed Dog Show. The top winning Vizslas, handlers, and owners always attend this show. If you are interested in dog shows, this is definitely a vizsla must see.



Meanwhile, back at the Busch Farm... the **3rd Annual VCOI Lake Inferior Tyro Classic** Hunt Test Training Match will be getting into gear starting at 9:00am. The Classic is always a great time with generous judges and bird planters. If you are thinking of pursuing a Junior Hunter title for your dog, or want to practice your dog for Senior or Master Hunter, this is a great place to start. Jim Busch will once again drive the "gallery wagon" and give running commentary to any interested observers. If you are interested in more details about the Lake Inferior Classic, call Wanda Berner at 262-392-9469.

The day's events conclude Saturday evening at the Barn of Busch with the best deal your membership provides (besides this newsletter)... **THE ANNUAL GRILL YOUR OWN STEAK DINNER!** Your family membership provides for two free steak dinners, and additional dinners may be purchased for \$10 each. As the name implies, you grill your own so you get it your way. We dine in the fine atmosphere of the Busch Barn. The **July membership meeting** will follow the dinner. No screens, the sound of quail calling to you and your dog, night breezes, lightning bugs. What could be better?

On **Sunday**, all activities take place at the Busch Farm. There will be many free events for the whole family. There will be mini **courses and demonstrations on obedience, conformation (show), agility, teaching your pup to point, and hunt test rules**. You can have your dog officially tested at the **CGC (Canine**

Good Citizen) and Versatility Testing. There will also be contests for the kids where they learn **bird planting** (Invaluable when you do not want to walk out and plant every bird yourself when training).

We will have **vizsla merchandise** for sale so get ready to load up on new gear. We will also have a 2004 Double Bubble **commemorative t-shirt** for sale for only \$6. We have a generous amount of outstanding prizes available from our valuable sponsors. **Raffle** tickets will be sold throughout the day and the drawing will take place on Sunday afternoon.

Grab your camera. For pups under six months of age, we have a **wing-and-string** contest. Practice this one at home with a fishing pole and a wing or a piece of cloth. The best pointing puppy wins a prize.

Under the NOT QUITE FREE, BUT STILL JUST AS MUCH FUN category we have pigeon races and locate-and-point. For the **pigeon races**, we mark some of Jim Busch's fastest pigeons, you bet on the one you like, and we drive them a mile or so away, and release them. The first bird back to the coop is the winner. The **pheasant egg race** runs the mighty Lake Inferior River. The pheasant **poop in the square** is more exciting than any football pool. For each race, wager on your favorite and the winners split the pot.

Locate-and-point is the favorite of these annual events. For \$5 per run, you enter your dog under one of four categories. Tyro Hunter (any age dog with a novice handler), Tyro Young Dog (dog under two with a novice handler), Field Trial Young Dog (dog under two with an experienced handler), and Field Trial Dog (any age dog with an experienced handler). Birds are planted and two dogs are run at a time. The dogs with the best times in each category win a prize. You can enter as many times as you want. This is a fantastic way to practice your fast cast off for field trials and hunt tests and a lot of fun to watch.

Clear your closets and make a deal in our **equipment swap**. Bring your items for advance viewing then meet potential buyers Sunday at 2:00 to make a sale or purchase. Lastly, don't forget the VCOI calendar **photo contest** voting which takes place throughout the day. Each membership gets two votes so cast yours for your favorite and wait and see who graces the pages in 2005.

We will have a **hot dog lunch** available on Sunday. Hot dog, chips, and soda for \$2.00.

New members should be sure to come and meet the rest of the club in an atmosphere that is more relaxed than a field trial, dog show, or agility match. Bring your new pup to show off, or come to look at the largest gathering of Vizslas this side of the VCA Nationals.

Hope to see you all there. Lets hope that our Weather Chairman/President is up to the job again this year!

Please remember to heartily thank and support our **sponsors**.
CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Please bring a comfortable **chair** for yourself. As if you'll want to use it for even a second.

Park your vehicle along the perimeter areas along the driveway west of the yard area to leave room for all our events. There are no poop bags allowed at the Busch Farm and the horses create enough fertilizer. So, all **poop gets scooped** (except out in the field) and placed in buckets. Shovels and buckets are located all around the yard area of the farm. For every poop scooped and placed in a bucket you get a free raffle ticket.

Pups and children can be hurt or lost if they are not watched closely. Please keep your eye on both. Please make sure your kids ask the owner before approaching any dog, and keep your dogs on leash at all times unless they are in the field events. We want everyone to have a good time, but we also don't want any emergencies.

To get to the **Boone County Fairgrounds**, take highway I90 and exit Genoa Road north. Go north on Hwy. 76 just north of Belvidere. See map on previous page.

For those of you that have not been to the **Busch Farm**, the address is 2643 Keith Road, Winnebago, IL 61088. Phone 815.335.7673. Exit 1-90 in the Rockford area onto by-pass Route 20 West towards Freeport south of town. (DO NOT take Business Route 20 through Rockford) Go approximately 20 miles on by-pass 20 to Keith Road (the first street west of Winnebago Road, which has a McDonald's and Culvers). Turn north onto Keith Road about 1/2 mile to the Busch Farm sign.

To get to the **Busch Farm from the Boone County Fairgrounds**, go south on Rt. 76 to Business 20 (State Street), west on Business 20 to 1-90 (approximately 6 miles), south 2 miles on 1-90 to Route 20 by-pass. There is a \$.50 toll to get off 1-90 onto Route 20. Go approximately 20 miles on by-pass 20 to Keith Road, the first street west of Winnebago Road. Turn north onto Keith Road about 1/2 mile to the Busch Farm sign.

For a list of hotels in the area call Linda Busch (815) 335-7673. Contact Jeff Parise at 773-296-1148, 773-744-1224, or jeffis@core.com with any questions, suggestions, or to volunteer to help with the Double Bubble weekend.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR DUES!

SEE PAGE 9 FOR THE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM!

SPECIALTY TROPHY SPONSORS

Sponsor	Class
Berner, Michelle	Field Trial Bitch 1st
Berner, Wanda	Veteran Dog 1st
Berner, Wanda	Best In Sweeps Vet
Bush, Jim & Linda	BOB
Church, Tina & Joe	BOS Pup Sweeps
Dillman, Eric	Open Bitch
Ebert, Cheryl	Best In Sweeps Pup
Ebert, Cheryl	Veterans Bitch
Englesman, Jeff & Kathy	Best Of Winners
Gallager, Cathy	Best Of Opposite
Gray, Vanessa	BBE Bitch 1st
Grimm, Rhonda	12-18 Bitch 1st
Harmer, Kathy	High Scoring Obed
Hedien, Greg	Field Trial Dog 1st
Johnson, Mark	BBE Dog 1st
Masinelli, Royce	Puppy Dog 1st
Masinelli, Royce	Puppy Bitch 1st
Nowak, Patti	Am Bred Bitch 1st
Ordonez, Gina	Winners Bitch
Peterson, Cheryl	Open Dog 1st
Simpson, Sheron	Winners Dog
Taylor, Deborah	BOS Sweeps Vet

2004 DOUBLE BUBBLE SPONSORS

Please remember to heartily thank and support our sponsors:

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RESEARCH FINDS DOGS UNDERSTAND LANGUAGE

By RANDOLPH E. SCHMID

WASHINGTON (AP) - As many a dog owner will attest, our furry friends are listening. Now, for the doubters, there is scientific proof they understand much of what they hear.

German researchers have found a border collie named Rico who understands more than 200 words and can learn new ones as quickly as many children.

Patti Strand, an American Kennel Club board member, called the report "good news for those of us who talk to our dogs."

"Like parents of toddlers, we learned long ago the importance of spelling key words like bath, pill or vet when speaking in front of our dogs," Strand said. "Thanks to the researchers who've proven that people who talk to their dogs are cutting-edge communicators, not just a bunch of eccentrics."

The researchers found that Rico knows the names of dozens of play toys and can find the one called for by his owner. That is a vocabulary size about the same as apes, dolphins and parrots trained to understand words, the researchers say.

Rico can even take the next step, figuring out what a new word means.

The researchers put several known toys in a room along with one that Rico had not seen

before. From a different room, Rico's owner asked him to fetch a toy, using a name for the toy the dog had never heard.

The border collie, a breed known primarily for its herding ability, was able to go to the room with the toys and, seven times out of 10, bring back the one he had not seen before. The dog seemingly understood that because he knew the names of all the other toys, the new one must be the one with the unfamiliar name.

"Apparently he was able to link the novel word to the novel item based on exclusion learning, either because he knew that the familiar items already had names or because they were not novel," said the researchers, led by Julia Fischer of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig.

A month later, he still remembered the name of that new toy three out of six times, even without having seen it since that first test. That is a rate the scientists said was equivalent to that of a 3-year-old.

Rico's learning ability may indicate that some parts of speech comprehension developed separately from human speech, the scientists said.

"You don't have to be able to talk to understand a lot," Fischer said. The team

noted that dogs have evolved with humans and have been selected for their ability to respond to the communications of people.

Katrina Kelner, Science's deputy editor for life sciences, said "such fast, one-trial learning in dogs is remarkable. This ability suggests that the brain structures that support this kind of learning are not unique to humans and may have formed the evolutionary basis of some of the advanced language abilities of humans."

Perhaps, although Paul Bloom of Yale University urges caution.

"Children can understand words used in a range of contexts. Rico's understanding is manifested in his fetching behavior," Bloom writes in a commentary, also in Science.

Bloom calls for further experiments to answer several questions: Can Rico learn a word for something other than a small object to be fetched? Can he display knowledge of a word in some way other than fetching? Can he follow an instruction not to fetch something?

Fischer and her colleagues are still working with Rico to see if he can understand requests to put toys in boxes or to bring them to certain people. Rico was born in December 1994 and lives with his owners. He was tested at home.

BRAGGING RIGHTS

Strider's Seven of Nine JH won a five point major at the Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club show. Submitted by Wanda Berner

Strider's Annika JH won Reserve to the 5 point major at the Fargo-Moorhead show. "Nikka" also finished her Junior Hunter at the VCOI hunt test in June. Submitted by Wanda Berner

Berry's Diamond LK Cleopatra SH "Cleo" won the Open Gun Dog and 4th in the Amateur Gun Dog Saturday 5/22 at the Ft Detroit GWP Club trial at Highland, MI. Cleo also won the Open Gun Dog and 2d in the Amateur Gun Dog at the Vizsla Club of Michigan trial Sunday 5/23 at Highland, Michigan. Submitted by Greg Hedien

CH. Nordic's Hot Digits Dawg, JH, NA, CGC, UAG-1, UAG-2 "Dillon" earned his Novice Agility title at the Scott County Kennel Club Agility trial on May 9. Dillon scored a "100"

and 1st Place. He earned his title with three 1st Place finishes. Submitted by Cheryl Peterson

UACHX CH Mehagian's Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah, SH, CD, OA, OAJ, OAP, OJP, VC, CGC Zippy took second place in her class in Open Standard preferred at Northwest Obedience Club's agility trial over the weekend. Submitted by Cheryl Peterson.

CH Nordic's Hot Digits Dawg, JH, CGC, UAG-1, UAG-2 Dillon earned his first leg in Novice Standard winning first place in his class on Saturday, May 1. On May 2, Dillon again won his class in Novice Standard agility and earned his second leg. Submitted by Cheryl Peterson, Nordic Vizslas.

April 18, 2004 **Rebel Rouser Ramblin Rose**, owned by Rae Ann & Bob Jones, completed her Junior Hunter title at the Weimaraner Club of Illinois hunt test at the Des Plaines

Conservation Area. Submitted by Rae Ann Jones

NEW VIZSLA FIELD TRIAL

The Show Me Vizsla Club is hosting their first Field Trial. The dates are October 16&17, 2004 at Thayer, IA. (Hawkeye grounds). They will have Open Derby, Open Puppy, Open Gun Dog, Open Limited Gun Dog, Amateur Walking Derby, Amateur Gun Dog (walking), Amateur Limited Gun Dog and maybe Amateur Walking Puppy. Judges are Mike Lundy, Kelley Donham and Jerry Dutemple. They are looking for the fourth judge.

As mentioned earlier, this is the first field trial they have hosted as a club. A strong show of entries is needed if they are to host another. The Hawkeye grounds are among the best the Vizsla world has to offer, so mark your calendar and show your support!



Membership Application/Renewal

Required Applicant Information

If your Label is highlighted, you must remit the renewal and dues fees. If you have recently joined the VCOI and your label is not highlighted, you need only return the renewal form so we have your information

Name:

Names of family members included in membership:

Address:

City:

State:

ZIP:

Phone:

E-Mail:

Cell:

Website:

The VCOI will automatically add member e-mail addresses to the VCOIinc@yahoo.com list to receive notice of event information, reservation forms, and entries. **Check this box only if you do not wish to receive any e-mail notification of events .**

Club members will receive notice of events and entries/premiums electronically. **Check this box only if you do not have computer access and require event information via ground mail.**

By applying for/renewing my/our membership in the Vizsla Club of Illinois Inc., I/we agree to:

- ◆ Support the Constitution and By-Laws of the VCOI
- ◆ Abide by the rules of the American Kennel Club and other sanctioning entities of VCOI events
- ◆ Encourage high standards in breeding, training, and showing of Vizslas, and
- ◆ Promote the welfare of the Vizsla breed

Membership in the VCOI entitles me/us to a input in all club matters and club elections and to delivery of the VCOI Bulletin to the above listed address. It is my/our responsibility to inform the VCOI Membership Chair of any information updates.

Volunteer Interests: (check all that apply)

Field Trials Hunt Tests Specialty Show/Supported Entry Fun Days

Training Days Education Promotion (Sports Shows & Pet Fairs)

Signature of Applicant:

Date:

Signature of Spouse/Partner:

Date:

Send form with **\$25** check payable to VCOI to:

VCOI Membership
c/o Linda Busch
2643 Keith Rd
Winnebago, IL 61088

Date Received:

Cash
Check #

STAKE SPONSORS NEEDED

Submitted by Michel Berner

Once again, the VCOI will ask for "stake sponsors" to help offset the costs of trophies, ribbons, and judges for the Walking Field Trial on December 4-5, 2004 at the Ottawa Field Trial Grounds in Eagle, Wisconsin. Unlike the field trials held at DesPlaines, Ottawa only affords one course and December offers fewer daylight hours. Both of these situations factor into the December trial rarely breaking even on expenses.

The stake sponsors) will have their name/business listed on the running order, placements, VCOI website, and results submitted to the VCA Vizsla News and NVA Vizsla Field magazines. We will have three levels of sponsorship:

Silver - \$35

Gold - \$50

Silver & Gold sponsors may have a single or shared stake sponsorship for the stake of their choice. Stakes offered are Amateur Gun Dog (retrieving), Open Puppy, Open Derby, Open Limited Gun Dog, and Amateur Limited Gun Dog.

If you would like to sponsor at any of the levels, please send a check payable to VCOI along with stake preference to:

Michel Berner, Event Secretary
308 E Prairie St
Boscobel, WI 53805

BREEDER REFERRAL UPDATES

Submitted by Gina Ordonez

Planning a litter? Don't forget to keep your Breeder Referral listing up-to-date. Send corrections, applications and additions to Tony Ordonez 301 E Wrightwood, Elmhurst, IL 60126 by July 15th to be included in the Breeder Directory.

If you have would like to be added to the list, the Breeder Directory Application Form can be downloaded from the VCOI website by clicking Breeder Referral on the home page at www.vizslaclubofillinois.org then clicking "Download Breeder Directory Application" or you can call Tony Ordonez at 630-833-5933 to request a form sent via ground mail.

Breeder Referral receives approximately fifty requests per month for the Illinois Breeder Directory.

NEW SUPERNUMERARY & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

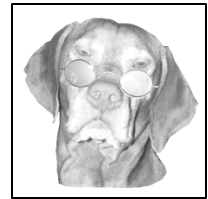
Submitted by Michel Berner

After years of volunteering their time to the VCOI, both Greg Heden and Tim Dyer are passing the torch. I thank them for helping every event run smoothly

Kimberley Berta is the new Volunteer & Database Coordinator. Kim will maintain the mailing lists for various event types and maintain the volunteer lists according to the type of event. This should facilitate event chairs finding lots of help with events.

Linda Busch is the new Field Trial Supernumerary, and will answer any questions that arise during the planning or running of those events.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH



"This country enabled us to realize our dreams 'thanks America.'"

NEW RULES!

If you can correctly identify who said the quote above, you may win a FREE TEN BIRD HUNT at Busch Farm.

E-mail your entry to Michel Berner miravizslas@mchsi.com, by the Sunday before the meeting, or hand deliver it to Michel or Jim Busch at the membership meeting prior to the meeting being called to order. Be sure to include your name if submitting via e-mail.

The winner will be drawn from the correct entries at the membership meeting. **Remember: You can't win if you don't try!**

WINNER OF THE MAY QUOTE: Cheryl Lykowski



In the Kitchen With Travis



ALMOND PHEASANT SALAD

4 green onions, thinly sliced	2 tablespoons white sugar
1 large carrot, shredded	2 tablespoons distilled white vinegar
1 red bell pepper, chopped	1 1/2 tablespoons sesame oil
1/2 lb sugar snap peas, halved	1 tablespoon teriyaki sauce
2 cups pheasant breast meat, chopped, cooked	1 tablespoon ground dry mustard
1/2 cup fresh cilantro leaves	
1/2 cup blanched slivered almonds, toasted	

In a large bowl, mix together the onions, carrot, red pepper, peas, chicken, cilantro and almonds. Set aside.

In a small bowl, whisk together the sugar, vinegar, sesame oil, teriyaki sauce and dry mustard until smooth. Pour over salad mixture and toss until coated. Serve in pita pockets or on a bed of lettuce.

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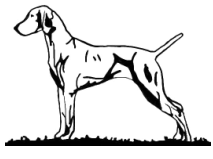
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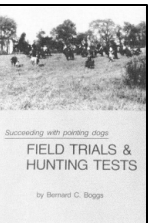


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THE NEXT MEETING IS: Double Bubble Saturday July 10, 2004

Busch Farm
2643 Keith Rd
Winnebago, IL 61088

See inside for directions and details



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**YOU SNOOZE, YOU LOSE!
DON'T MISS THE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ON PAGE 9!
IF YOUR LABEL IS YELLOW, YOUR DUES ARE DUE BY JULY 15TH
IF YOUR LABEL IS WHITE, WE JUST NEED YOUR INFORMATION!**



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Boscobel, WI 53805