



CHAMPION ZIGFRID'S GOT'EM SEEING RED TD JH *Bravissimo!*



AUTHOR'S NOTE:

*I must admit to being somewhat hesitant about submitting the accompanying picture, as some may think it is not "dignified" enough for the cover of the VCOI Bulletin (though I think the dog **DOES** look **VERY** dignified!), but my husband and daughter insisted that I "go with it", saying that I should "do something different" from the usual dog show conformation picture.*

- Cheryl Lykowski

As the song goes, "One thing leads to another. . ." especially, it seems when it comes to Vizslas. Funny how our dogs, who many times start out as "just a ____" (fill in the blank), end up becoming much more than what we originally planned, and in the process lead us into new endeavors - I like to call them our "extra-curricular activities" - that we didn't think we would ever engage in.

Ziggy certainly fits that description. He joined our family through a series of unplanned and unexpected events. He was supposed to be a She. He was supposed to be my next Weim puppy (which is how he got the "Got'Em Seeing Red" part of his name). Ziggy joined our family when he was 10 weeks old and his littermates had long gone to their new homes. He was "the puppy that nobody picked" - the last unspoken-for puppy of a litter out of FC AFC Raany SH FD (Can) and Faleen JH, and I decided to go with him because I liked his personality and felt he would fit in with our then 1-1/2 year old Vizsla girl and 12 year old Weim girl (that's also how he got the Ziggy BOY attached to our family's name for him)

Ziggy showed early on that he had a lot going for him. He wowed tracking enthusiasts when he earned his Tracking Dog Title at the extraordinary young age of his 7 MONTH birthday, as well as



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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) \$250 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 bags, 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

September 2004
~open

November 2004
~open

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

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



Virtual Vizsla

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

Pet Friendly Lodging

www.petswelcome.com

Search for hotels nationwide that allow pets

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 17, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:45 by President Wanda Berner

Members Present: Greg Hedien, Wanda Berner, Michel Berner, Mark Vitkauskas, Laura Jaeschke, Linda Busch, Jeff Engelsman, Kathy Engelsman, Mark Spurgeon, Kevin Berta, Jim Busch, Gina Ordonez, Tony Ordonez, Jeff Parise

New Member Introduction: Laura Jaeschke

Gina Ordonez motioned to approve the minutes as printed in the March Bulletin, Mark Vitkauskas seconded. Motion approved.

President's Report: No report given

Secretary's Report: Michel Berner reported that the AKC has new information required on the Premium List for all events held on and after May 1, 2004. See page 4 for details.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Engelsman reported a favorable bank balance. A detailed report may be obtained from Jeff.

Website/Bulletin, Awards Banquet, Supported Entry, Sports Show: No reports given

February Hunt Test: Patti Nowak sent a brief report with Jeff Engelsman. The event ran 79 dogs. Patti & Dennis would like to thank Greg Hedien, Kevin Berta, Dina Spero, Tom Rowan, Julie Sjullie, Mike Dalby, Mark Johnson, Victor Barger, and whoever they may have missed

for their help in making the weekend run smooth.

MVFF Report: There are 17 litters nominated for the 2005 MVFF. See article elsewhere in the May issue for a report of the 2004 Futurity.

Spring Field Trial: Tony Ordonez reported 134 entries comprised of 71 dogs. The event ran smoothly and showed a small profit. Budgeting issues will be addressed at the Board meeting. Gina Ordonez and Mark Johnson will be running the March 2005 field trial.

VCA Field Trial: Paula Nykiel will be the QOL judge, with Becky Smith serving as the VCA Board member. The event has had an unexpected small entry. The event will be complete in one day. There is an underwhelming support from the VCA membership for this trial. The VCOI will be exploring other options to host a trial on these dates.

Pet Fair: No report, the pet fair is March 19-21 at Arlington racetrack.

Field Trial Clubs of Illinois: In Mark Johnson's absence, Michel Berner read the FTCL meeting minutes and announce that Carl Wilbur was Runner Up in the Puppy stake at the Continental Breed Winners Classic. The VCOI will also be supporting a "Women's & Youth Wing Shooting Clinic" given by Denny Doyle at Des Plaines.

Ottawa/Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Clubs: No report given, the WAFTC schedule was passed around.

VCOI Calendar: The 2004 calendar made a good profit. Gina will run the photo contest, but needs a volunteer to do the layout.

June Training Day: June 5th at the Ottawa Field Trial Grounds. Mark Smith has agreed to be our speaker. We need gunners, mentors, and bird planters. ALL pointing breeds are welcome to attend.

June Hunt Test: Ottawa Field Trial Grounds June 6th. Cheryl Lykowski and Cathy Gallagher are running the event.

Specialty Show: July 10th. Tina Church is collecting the trophy donations and setting up the theme.

Double Bubble: Jeff Parise has secured the location (Busch Farm) and is looking for raffle ideas & vendors. Dates July 10-11, 2004.

Labor Day Hunt Test: No report

September Field Trial: Mark Spurgeon is chair, Rob Tomczak is Secretary.

December Trial: Michel Berner is secretary, Rodney Albin is Chair. Michel is negotiating with Nutro to sponsor the trophies and/or food prizes.

Quote of the Month: There was no March quote due to Bulletin space limitations.

Braggs: see Brags on page 9.

Motion to adjourn was made by Laura Jaeschke, seconded by Linda Busch. Meeting adjourned

at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michel Berner



2004 VCOI EVENTS

June	
5	VCOI Hunt Test Training
6	VCOI Hunting Test
July	
10	VCOI Specialty-
11	VCOI Double Bubble Fun Day
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

PHOTO CONTEST

The VCOI will have a photo contest for the 2005 calendar. Search your pictures to bring to the Double Bubble! There is also a new category, Children with Dogs

See website for details, rules and requirements:
www.vizslaclubofillinois.org/events.htm

VCOI/VCA MIDWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



March 20-21, 2004
Judges Dave Kayser & Brian Hesgard

OPEN PUPPY

- 1 October Rust Shiloh's Zetta Robert Tomczak
- 2 Onpoint's Brutus Beefcake John T Reid
- 3 Blazin's Takin' Chances Kevin Berta
- 4 Wegler's Gypsy Garnet Greg Wegler

OPEN LIMITED GUN DOG (Retrieving)

- 1 Upwind Shiloh Mark of Zorro Rob Tomczak
- 2 Onpoint's New Man John Reid

- 3 DC AFC Onpoint's Tuff Stuff John Reid
- 4 FC AFC Saginaw Dandy Sue Mark Johnson

OPEN DERBY

- 1 Onpoint's Hit Man John Reid
- 2 Crimson's Twenty Gauge Ruger Mark Spurgeon
- 3 Triple Ott Magnum Rodney Albin
- 4 CH JNEK's Commander In Chief Jeff Engelsman

See <http://www.vizslaclubofillinois.org/panthercreekfieldtrial.htm> for more details and photos!

EDITOR'S DESK

I hope everyone enjoys the color cover this issue. A huge thank-you needs to go out to Cheryl Lykowski for not only buying a color cover, but designing it herself!

Everyone over 30 has seen the TV show "MacGyver" at least once. You know, the guy who could be sealed in a steel box with nothing but a roll of duct tape, a piece of chewing gum, and a nail file. Three and a half minutes later, he's built a saw and escaped.

Well, sometimes living with Joe is kind of like being on that show. Anyone at the VCA trial in Chandlerville saw his lovely stake-out made from a tire iron, a vise grip, and a flexi-lead. It wasn't pretty, but it was functional. And it will also remind me to take the stake-outs off of the hook in the garage and put them in the van myself before we depart.

On a similar note, one of the members of the women's field training list (Shellie Beidinger), reported a purely genius MacGyver sighting at the Texas Gulf Coast Vizsla Club's field trial in February. Bundt

cake pans for water dishes. You read that right, bundt cake pans. You place the stake through the hole in the cake pan, and fill it with water. The dogs can't tip them over. I just thought the idea was pure genius, especially since Travis and Marley like to toss their food and water around when they're staked out. Also because I have a couple of bundt cake pans that will now have a job besides collecting dust.

Which the two ideas above make me think it's time to let the Marley Monster have her own occasional column..."Marley MacGyver" ...like "Heloise's Hints", but for the dog world. So, send me your helpful hints and handy tips with your name so I can give proper credit. It probably wouldn't hurt to send along a picture if you have one.

See everyone at the June Hunt Test and the Double Bubble. Have a great spring.

Michel, Travis & Marley Monster

CHICAGOLAND FAMILY PET SHOW

The 2004 Chicagoland Family Pet Show is over (yeah!) All went well and as usual, the Vizsla dogs were a hit both at the booth and during the Parade of Breeds. It was very crowded this year and extremely hot especially on Sunday afternoon.

Many VCOI members and their dogs came out to participate in the event. With out them, it would not have been possible for me to run the booth. I would like to thank these people and their dogs. In no particular order they are, Jennifer and Larry O'Rourke, Brian and Rebecca Gains, Christine Chabot and her sister Laurie Johnson, Pam and Mike Schiazzano, Cathy

Gallagher, Pam and Mark Spurgeon (and the little Spurgeons), Peggy Phillips, Brad Voeringer, Susan Regele, Ron Bayly, Joy Sonsalla and Lindsey Lykowski. I hope that I didn't miss anyone but if I did, I am sorry.

I must apologize to Jodi Hartman. She wished to participate with the group but I dropped her information card behind my computer desk and failed to notice until after the Pet Show. Please accept my apology.

I look forward to seeing many of you next year. There should be a new crop of puppies to add to the show veterans.

Tim Dyer

p.s. Larry Lykowski too (revenge is sweet!)

VCOI HUNTING SEMINAR

June 5th 2004, Saturday Ottawa Field Trial Grounds. The VCOI will be putting on a seminar on how to train your dog for hunting and hunt tests. We have arranged for a speaker to give a talk in the morning and then we will break down into groups for individual training. If you have a new pup you can come and learn the basics. If you want to learn how to go farther with your dog you can see how to start that. When we break for the training we will have people to help at all levels. You can use this as a training session for the hunt test on Sunday. We will order birds in advance so watch the hunt test premium in the mail or

on the website for info on how to order birds. There is no cost for attending the seminar, but we will pass on the fee for the birds used. We will also serve a field lunch at the site.

This is open to all pointing breeds. If you are not sure that your dog is ready for a hunt test this is a good time to come and practice on the grounds. Our hunt test is the next day and we will take entries until the afternoon on Saturday.

MEMBERS: We need **volunteers** for helping people, bird planters, lunch servers and gunners. For more information call Patti and Dennis Nowak.

HUNT TEST FOLLOWS ON JUNE 6, 2004

SPECIALTY SHOW UPDATE

Submitted by Tina Church

All of the trophies have been ordered for the Specialty Show in June! So far this year club members have committed \$520 in donations. Thank you to so many of you for your continued support, and also to those who came forward for the first time this year to contribute.

Almost every class is being supported by a club member whose names will appear in the catalog. Please take a moment at the show to read thru and thank some of those members! It's too late to sponsor a class, but we could still use donations for the general fund.

I will *TRY* to get any additional donations received prior to the show closing listed in the catalog.

FEBRUARY HUNT TEST

Patti & Dennis Nowak

Once again we held another successful Hunt Test. The weather was good for a weekend in February. We had sunshine on Sunday. We had 45 dogs entered on Saturday and 34 dogs on Sunday the event made a profit for the club.

Den and I would thank our bird planters Greg Hedien, Kevin Berta, Dina Spero and her friend, Tom Rowan and Julie Sjulie, Mike Dalby, Mark Johnson, Victor Barger and the other gunners for their help in making the weekend a success.

NEW INFORMATION REQUIRED ON PREMIUM LISTS

The AKC has new information required on the Premium List for all events held on and after May 1, 2004:

"Exhibitors should follow their veterinarians' recommendation to assure their dogs are free of internal and external parasites, any communicable diseases, and have appropriate vaccinations."

Additionally, clubs should include any specific local or state health requirements.

COVER CONTINUED

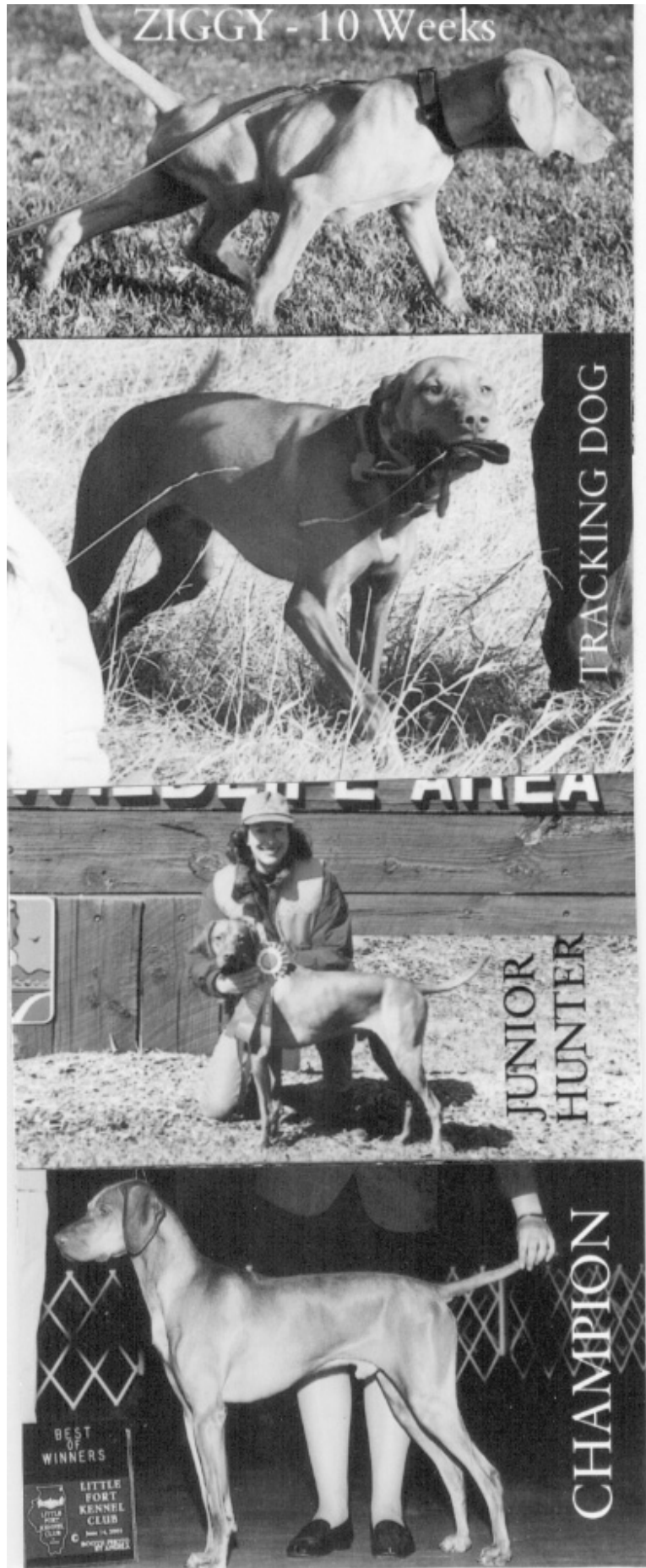
being the ONLY dog out of a field of 6 to pass that day. Next came his Junior Hunter Title, which we went on to earn despite an early setback of having his brace mate's handler fire his starter's pistol while Ziggy was on point next to him in his first Junior Hunter test experience. But watching this dog work in the field, I, even though an amateur, became convinced that this was a capable bird dog, only limited in what he could accomplish by his owner's lack of experience.

Ziggy's star quality is his great temperament (hence our other family nickname for him – the "Zen Master"). This, with his innate talents and good looks, were the qualities that led me to decide that this was a dog I wanted to breed. Believing that it is important to adhere to the "dual dog" philosophy – the working Vizsla that's also a good looking Vizsla (and vice-versa), it was the decision to breed that led Ziggy and I to the conformation ring, a totally new experience for both of us. It was Ziggy's good natured-ness and winning personality – along with his good looks - that got him his title in the show ring. I caught more than one judge smiling as Ziggy gaited around the ring. Win or lose, his tail was always up and wagging. Our newest "extra-curricular activity" is Agility, which Ziggy and I are doing along with my daughter Lindsey and our other talented Vizsla girl, Zayda (*Simply Irresistible Zayda JH TD*). Both Ziggy and Zayda definitely live up to the "dual dog", versatile Vizsla philosophy.

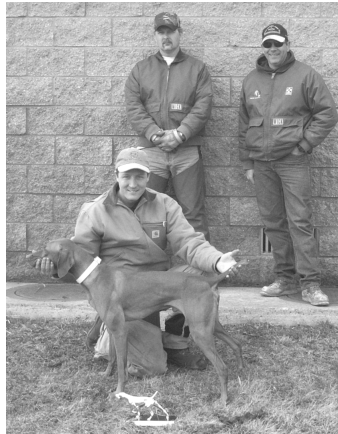
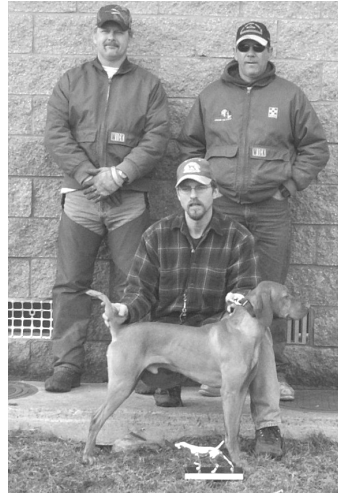
Huge thanks to **Cathy Gallagher**, who handled Ziggy for his first major win and his final point to earn his title, as well as held my hand through the ins and outs of dog shows, along with Ziggy's other capable "point" handlers: **our daughter, Lindsey** (hard to choose who to watch!); **Kelvin Robbins**, who breeds/handles Giant Schnauzers and got Ziggy his second major win (together they looked like they were partners in the bird field as well as the show ring!); and **Colleen Walsh**, who handled Ziggy expertly.

We can't give enough thanks to **Jim Busch**, who's brought four wonderful, talented and good-looking Vizslas into our family, every one of them living up to what the breed is supposed to be about: "birby" - with brains and beauty. And finally, a thank you to **Julie Sjullie**. You probably don't remember this Julie, but you first saw Ziggy over 3 years ago out at Wichman Dog Training Area when he was 4 months old and I was training him in tracking. You commented to me then that he had show potential – little did I realize that the show ring would become one of our destinations - and successes!

**Way To Go Zig, Zig,
HANDSOME Ziggy Boy!**



CHEVEE WINS THE 2004 MIDWEST VIZSLA FIELD FUTURITY

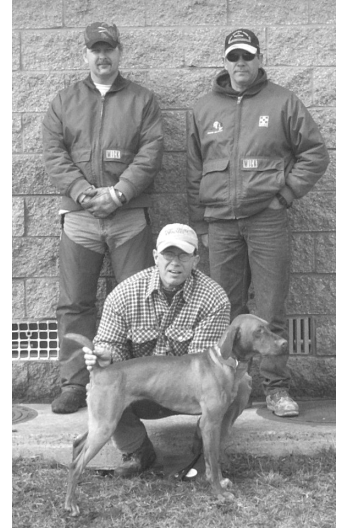


Pictured Far left: Winner Chevee with Handler Jim Busch.

Center Top: 1st Runner Up Lucas with Judges Scott Stasiewicz and Guy Rezzardi and Breeder/Handler Rob Tomczak

Center Bottom: 2nd Runner Up Ruger with Judges and Owner/Breeder/Handler Mark Spurgeon

Below: 3rd Runner Up Boot with Judges and Handler John Houck



2004 marks the twenty-fourth running of the Midwest Vizsla Futurity. This year judges were Guy Rezzardi and Scott Stasiewicz. There were 18 nominated litters and 11 dogs eligible to run. Nine dogs came to the line. A purse of \$1,250 in trophies and prizes was divided between the winner and the top two runners up. Thursday's weather was 50 degrees and wet with an inch of accumulated rain. Friday it was 65 and overcast skies, with a steady 60 mile an hour wind, and the temperature dropped as the day progressed. The wind shortened the range of many of the contenders, and dogs who usually ran lines quartered in open fields.

The third runner up, Kick Em Up A Shot of JD, JH was handled by his breeder, John Houck. Owner Steve Zobel purchased Boot as a personal hunting dog, but could not overlook his potential as a competitive field trial dog. Born 6/4/02, Boot is out of FC/AFC JD Duke of Voorhies MH and FC/AFC Copper Creek Borden. True to form, he hunted hard and used the field well. Boot hit objectives on both

sides of the course, and had two finds. Crimson's Twenty Gauge Ruger JH was the second runner up, and is bred, owned and handled by Mark Spurgeon. Ruger is out of FC/AFC Raany SH, and Madison III SH, born on 6/7/2002. Ruger had a forward course with an early find. He hunted tree lines and hit objectives

First Runner up was Shiloh Luck O the Irish. Lucas was handled by his breeder Rob Tomczak and is owned by Brynne Bock. Born on 8/21/2002 out of Upwind Shiloh Mark of Zorro and Shiloh Madach's Mishka, Lucas was by far the youngest of the placing dogs. Lucas took to the woods right away, had three evenly spaced finds, and finished strong with a big move at the end of the course.

The winner of the MVFF was Chevee JH, owned by Linda Busch and handled by her husband Jim Busch. Chevee is the oldest of the field, born 2/7/2002 out of. FC AFC Raany SH, and Avalon JH. She ran a consistently forward course, used the entire perimeter and had two stylish finds. She impressed the judges and she would not be

denied on this day. Chevee, ranked the 2004 #1 Puppy/Derby Vizsla is a third-generation MVF winner, being preceded by her sire and grand-sire, also #1 Puppy/Derby dogs for their respective years.

The Vizsla Club Of Illinois was privileged to have Guy Rezzardi of southern Illinois and Scott Stasiewicz from Dousman Wisconsin in the judicial saddles. Guy and Scott provided the field with their undivided attention. The judges' decisions were well received by all.

The VCOI puts on a well run trial, and there are many to thank for the trial's success. The committee wants to extend their thanks to those who assisted in making it happen.

For information about litter nominations, see the VCOI website at: www.vizslclubofillinois.org/mvff.htm for nomination information, or contact: MVF Standing Secretary Rodney Albin 2445 Carter Rd Moscow Mills, MO 63362 (636) 366-9746 albinsquailfarm@att.net

WHAT IS TRACKING?

Submitted by Cheryl Lykowski

Tracking demonstrates a dog's natural ability to recognize and follow the scent of a tracklayer. There are 3 levels of AKC tracking. When a dog has passed all three levels, it is awarded a **Champion Tracker (CT)** prefix title.

A tracking dog requires three attributes – intelligence, a “good nose”, and a willingness and eagerness to work. A tracking dog's handler must trust that the dog knows the direction of the track, and not second-guess where the handler thinks the track is, sometimes a very difficult thing to do. The handler must also remember that we all have our “off” days, even the tracking dog. Tracking Tests take place in all kinds of weather conditions, which can also play a role in whether a tracking dog is successful or not. More often than not, though, the tracking team fails the test not because of the dog's error, but because the handler either did not “read” the dog's indication of the direction of the track or the handler did not trust that the dog knew the direction of the track.

Tracking Dog – TD

A TD track is the basic level of tracking. Tracks are a length of 440 to 500 yards, with 3 to 5 turns, two of which must be 90° turns. The track is aged a minimum of ½ hour up to 2 hours. There is a starting flag to indicate the beginning of the track, and a second flag 30 yards away which indicates the direction of the first leg of the track. After the dog's handler passes the second flag, there's no turning back! The team is successful when the dog follows the tracklayer's scent, which is just the scent left by the tracklayer's boots walking the track, and finds, or “indicates” the “article” left by the tracklayer at the end of the track, usually a cotton glove.

Tracking Dog Excellent –

TDX

TDX is a more advanced level of tracking. The TDX track is aged

between 3 to 5 hours, is between 800 to 1,000 yards long, with 5 to 7 turns on the track. There is only one starting flag, so the handler is dependent on the dog to determine and indicate the direction of the track. There is an “article” at the starting flag, and the dog must find two more “articles” on the track as well as the “article” at the end of the track – that makes 4 articles total for a TDX track. The articles are placed on the track by the tracklayer, and are items such as a sock, hat, scarf or a piece of clothing such as a t-shirt. In addition to only one starting flag and 4 articles, the TDX track has two cross-tracks, which intersect the track and are made by two different people other than the tracklayer. Also, the TDX track has 2 obstacles through changes of cover, such as through standing water, over hills, roads or gullies. At the end of the track is the 4th article, again usually a cotton glove. The team is successful when the dog successfully finds all 4 articles and finishes the track without having taken any of the cross-tracks.

Variable Surface Tracking

– VST

VST is definitely the most difficult level of tracking. It's purpose is to simulate tracking in an urban setting. The dog must track over at least 3 different types of surfaces (pavement, grass, concrete, gravel, sand, etc.) for 600 to 800 yards, on a track that has been aged for 3 to 5 hours and has 4 to 8 turns. As in TDX, there is only one starting flag, and 4 articles that the dog must find, one each of fabric, leather, plastic and metal. VST tracks are laid in populated areas, and approach or go between buildings, go across roads and parking lots, and follow sidewalks. A VST track can even go through a building! The team is successful when the dog successfully finds all 4 articles and finishes the track.



CH Delano Caveat's Almond Roka TD tracking the scent. "Haley" is owned by Rhonda Johnson of Springfield Oregon



Am/Can. Ch. Kivalo Wysiwyg's Wily Willow, CDX, Am/Can. TDX, CGC indicating scent. "Willow" is owned by Dominique Lefebvre of Canada



CH Poquito Chile Rio Vista Amigo TDX JH MX OAP MXJ OJP carrying the scent article. "Amigo" owned by Melissa Thomas of El Paso Texas

HANDLER ETIQUETTE

Submitted by Mark Johnson

Welcome back for another chapter on "Field Trialing" where we will spend some time on "Handler Etiquette". Last month's article dealt with general etiquette stuff. However the most important thing you can do personally is to demonstrate: sportsmanship, finesse, and class every time your dog is under judgment. For the most part dogs do what they're trained to do subject to their physical and mental limitations. Handlers on the other hand, do not get very much training, and we generally have lots of limitations.

Let's start by thinking about The Objective when you, your dog, your brace mate and his dog are on the line (on time) ready to cast off. This is the first brace of the Super Bowl Gun Dog Championship and is a nice trial with contestants who have traveled great distances to compete against many of the top dogs in the country. The air is crisp, the dogs are anxious to go, the gallery is alive with speculation and anticipation, the judges, marshals, and scouts are anticipating a great performance from these top ranked dogs. The energy is high and the adrenaline is flowing, so what is The Objective for the next 30 (60) minutes? Win at all costs, push your dog into birdy areas on the course, keep your scout out, flanking Big Bopper (your dog) around the course, hack Bopper along the back stretch and aggressively vocalize him through every piece of bird work, steer him around potential situations where a back is required, push him to the front while your brace mate is giving Sweet Pea (his dog) water, holler incessantly every time Bopper casts to the rear...and you got the idea??!!

The answer of course is none of the above, so what really is The Objective?

Let's think about handler behavior and etiquette as if he or she were an artist (painter) working with a fresh canvas. The objective would be to paint a picture that is pleasing to everyone's senses while it is being painted, captures the attention of the critics (judges) who are connoisseurs of fine art, and clearly stands apart and above the other works being painted that day. You might say the objective is to paint a pleasing picture that anyone would want to hang up in their living room. Artists have to make the most of conditions, and the scene; they've got to use the tools they've brought, they must manage time effectively, and they must strive to minimize flaws which will detract from the look and feel of their work. Excellent dog handlers behave just like good painters!

Behavior (etiquette) which detracts from the look and feel of a class picture (performance) will erode the value of your picture. The judges set the value on your picture. Their decision is final, and if either one (or both) does not feel good about the picture you and your dog have painted, you will not be up for "The Blue".

A few things to think about as you're painting your picture:

- ◆ Introduce yourself and your dog at the beginning of the brace while displaying confidence (not arrogance) that you are both prepared to work hard to deliver a piece of art that all will like.
- ◆ Acknowledge your brace mate and wish him/her good luck as you both hit the whistle.
- ◆ Scouting: Tell the judges who your scout is and instruct your scout to leave the gallery only when you've asked him to "scout" your dog. (AKC trials).
- ◆ Pace: Monitor the speed of your brush (horse)...too fast and the picture starts to look rushed...too radical with strokes and the flow of the scene looks like you're not in control. Too aggressive and you lose the judges' attention, and too slow and it looks like you're not alert and focused on winning!
- ◆ Plan ahead with your brush strokes. The wrong color at the wrong time makes for an ugly scene. Watch your dog and think two moves ahead of where he is now. Doing so will create a smooth flow on the canvas and will demonstrate to your brace mate that you're about winning with class and forethought. If, for example, you and your brace mate are close together with both dogs independently pointing birds, think ahead! Be a sportsman. Make sure your brace mate is in control of his dog before flushing yours. Following a successful flush, paint the picture so it flows with your brace mate. Let him/her work the bird. Allow time for both of you to collect up your dogs and if appropriate cast off your dogs together as if you were at the beginning of the brace. As a side note, remember there are always at least two judges, and it is generally in your best interest to have both judges see your dog whenever possible. Jumping on Big Bronco (your horse) after the flush and leaving your brace mate in the dust makes for a flawed work of art and eliminates one of the judges from seeing the rest of your dog's performance.
- ◆ Noise: While many painters don't have sound effects; most field trailers do! I

guess the rule about noise goes like this....if it sounds bad it probably is. When you make noise to handle your dog, do so in a fashion which doesn't detract from the pleasing picture you are painting. Noise, when running a dog, is awfully subjective, and as with many works of art, garners mixed reviews. Suffice to say noise is part of the game and perhaps those most sensitive to it are brace mates. Show a little respect and sportsmanship when handling your dog; however do not expect that a handler will sacrifice working his dog effectively with voice/whistle commands for your benefit. Unnecessary or excessive hacking and verbalizing will, however, detract from the judges' views of your painting.

- ◆ Communicate your intention, needs and expectations to judges, marshals, brace mates. If you're in a backing situation and wish to take your dog on after your brace mate has failed to flush (appropriate period of time), ask the judge for permission to move our dog. When okayed to go, do so discretely. When you plan to relocate your dog, having failed to produce a bird, ask the judge. If you are not sure how the course flows, ask the marshal (or judge). If you want to move slightly off course to get a view of your dog believed to be on point, ask the judge. Lots of greater artists communicate their brush strokes as they're working the canvas.
- ◆ Be Adaptive: As conditions change, adjust accordingly. When light conditions change for an artist, so does his painting technique. If your brace mate is moving too slow or fast for you...adjust so that your picture does not look clunky. Go fast – go slow – go fast – go slow...letting emotion show won't generate a pleasing performance. Charging to your dog who has been on point for three minutes looks and feels reactive, not adaptive and confident. Grousing about weather conditions before, during, and after running your dog changes nothing and comes across as an excuse for _____. Failing to stop and fix tack that's not right or to remove a thorn from your dog's paw will save you nothing and just might cost a lot. Behave as if you were hunting with your dog. If it is a hot day, stop every 15 minutes or so to give your dog water. If it's a crisp fall day with a slight frost on the leaves, stopping to water Sweet Pea every five minutes looks bad.

Continued on Page 9

BRAGGING RIGHTS

M'Kayla Stahr competed in the "Midwest Regional Top Junior Handler" competition, for all juniors in the Midwest that had 2 open wins. Prizes were jackets, one \$1000 and three \$250 scholarships. It was a very competitive event, and M'Kayla received an AOM, which gave her a \$250 scholarship and a nice jacket. Congratulations M'Kayla!! Submitted by Sheila Stahr

It is with great pleasure I announce a new Champion. **Ch. Renaissance Doncha Luv Rumors** (Vanna) finished with a 4pt major on 4/2/04 at the Wichita Cluster. Breeder: George and Linda Durham-Renaissance Vizslas Owners: Mike, Sheila & M'Kayla Stahr and Linda Durham.

"Becka" **CH JNEK's Teacher's Pet JH TDX UD** earned her Utility Dog titles on March 7th in Clinton, IA. Her three placements, for the needed three qualifying scores, were a 2nd, 1st, and 1st in three consecutive trials. Such a feat is almost unheard of, but who better than a Vizsla to do it? This marked her SEVENTH AKC title with more adventures to come. A special thanks to Becka's Godmother—Kathy Engelsman—for being at ringside for a big part of her busy day. Submitted by Mel Lloyd

Berry's Diamond Lk Cleopatra (Cleo) won the AGD at the Cleveland trial on Saturday 3/27/04. Submitted by Greg Hedien

Mark Spurgeon won 1st place at the GSP of WI trial with **Crimson's Twenty Gauge Ruger**. Submitted by Jeff Parise.

Joe Duffek won 3rd place at the GSP of WI trial with **My Li'l Me-Annie**. Submitted by Jeff Parise

The **National Vizsla Association National Championship** had quite a showing of VCOI Members and their dogs: The National Champion is **FC AFC NAFC Kal-Cam's Red Thunder**, handled by **John Reid**. The National Amateur Champion is **FC AFC NAFC Desert Storm's Desirae** owned & handled by **Barry Peterson**. The Derby Classic Runner-Up is **Shiloh Luck O The Irish** handled by **Rob Tomczak**. Submitted by Michel Berner

CH JNEK's King Ralph JH got Best of Breed all four days of the International Kennel Club show, and also went on to a Group 4 on Sunday. Submitted by Kathy Engelsman

Strider's Ace, owned by Victor & Colomba Barger, got his Junior

Hunter. Submitted by Wanda Berner

JNEK's Big Sir Remington, owned by Kimberly Mozdierz & Douglas Frank, got his Junior Hunter. Submitted by Kathy Engelsman.

CH JNEK's Teacher's Pet CDX TDX JH was entered in a Utility A obedience show at Arlington Park where she Qualified twice. Saturday's score was 182.5 and Sunday's was 191.5 There were 62 entries for the weekend, and only six dogs received qualifying scores. Becka is owned by Mel & Nancy Lloyd.

FC Homerun's Stunt Pilot "Fly" finished her Amateur Field Championship (pending AKC approval) at the VCOI spring field trial. Fly is owned by Stephanie Russo.

Can CH Onpoint's New Man TT finished his Field Championship (pending AKC approval) at the VCOI March field trial. Submitted by Debbie Reid

It is with great pride that I announce that **Ch* UACH Priden Joy Raye of DayBreak NA, NAJ** (Missy Raye) completed her conformation championship at the Cudahy KC 2/29/04 at the Dairyland Greyhound track facility taking BOW for a 3 point major under judge

Doug Johnson. Missy Raye has been shown by owner Joy Sonsalla and breeder Sue Prim. Raye has certainly brought us both great pride and joy!!!! Submitted by Joy Sonsalla *pending AKC confirmation.

Miskole Riot Walton aka Danny earned his Novice Std Agility title (NA) with a first and second placing at the Nashville Dog Training Club agility trial in Franklin TN. the weekend of Jan 31st-Feb 1st. He also earned his Novice Jumpers title (NAJ) the same days (1-2nd and 1-3rd). Danny's mother **Riot** double Q'd twice and brought home nearly 50 MACH points for the four day trial and sister Fergie qualified twice for 11 MACH points. Submitted by Tim Dyer

CH Prairie Heartsong, owned by Jan Cox & Fara G Bushnell went Best of Breed at Westminster. "Song" has a many VCOI connections; Her owner Jan Cox is a member, her sire Blue was owned by Julie Sjulie, her grand-sire Askim was owned by Jim & Linda Busch

UAG-2 Ch Nordic's Hot Dignity Dawg, JH, CGC "Dillon" Dillon earned 12 points towards his UKC Agility Championship with two 2nd Place finishes and a 4th place finish. Dillon is bred/owned and trained by Cheryl Peterson.

HANDLER ETIQUETTE CONTINUED

- ◆ **Be Realistic:** Field trialing is about training, practice, sportsmanship, individual skill levels and The Luck of the Draw. Artists spend a lot of time picking their spots and times...field trailers are not so fortunate. The time of day, weather conditions, brace mate, and yes, judges, will all impact Sweet Pea's 30 minutes (or hour) performance. The luck of the draw is part of the game. Your job, as artist, is to make the most of what you have to work with, and no amount of whining or moaning will change when you run, the weather, or scenting conditions.
- ◆ Be realistic about your dog's performance. If Big Bopper is not really bopping today...has had three non-productives, continues to back cast, and bumped and chased a bird in the woods where the judges didn't get a good view of the infraction...put a hook on him. Recognizing that it's not Big Bopper's day and stopping bad behavior now will mark you as a sportsman and knowledgeable competitor and will save lots of

retraining hours down the road.

- ◆ **Be Constructive:** End your time under judgment with a "Thank You" to the judges. Thank your scout, compliment your brace mate if appropriate. Tell your dog what a good job he did (assuming he did)...and demonstrate that you appreciate sportsmanship over and above winning. A positive and constructive demeanor will never hurt you and more often than not will cause you to stand out as a value added player in the game of field trialing.

Once again we have focused on material other than training and development of your four-legged partner. That would require volumes, which I am not qualified to deal with; however, the following are sources which you may find informative:

Best Way to Train your Gun Dog

The Delmar Smith Method
Bill Tarrant, David McKay Company, Inc.

Tarrant Trained Gun Dogs

Humane Ways to get Top Results
Bill Tarrant, Stackpole Books

Wing & Shot Gun Dog Training

Robert Wehle, The Country Press

How to Train our Own Gun Dog

Charles Goodall, Howell Book House

Field Trials History Management & Judging Standard

William Brown, American Field Publishing

"The Pointing Dog Journal" (Monthly Magazine)

Fields of Glory

Everett M. Shehan, The American Field Publishing co.

"The American Field" (Weekly Newspaper)

"Gun Dog" (Monthly Magazine)

And as Roy Rogers and Dale Evans sang "Happy Trials To You..." or was that Trails? Oh Well, see you next month! Mark.

VCOI FIELD TRIAL - MARCH 2004

Open Limited Gun Dog

Paul Howard - Scott Stasiewicz 18 Entries 18 Starters

- 1 DC/AFC Onpoint's Tuff Stuff "Tuffy" - John Reid
- 2 FC/AFC Saginaw Dandy Sue "Sue" - Mark N. Johnson
- 3 Strider's Red Flash "Flash" - Victor Barger
- 4 Saginaw T Jack "Jack" - Mark N. Johnson

Open Gun Dog

Scott Mc Phaul - Scott Stasiewicz 23 Entries 22 Starters

- 1 Onpoint's New Man "Newman" - John Reid
- 2 Shiloh Madach's Mishka "Mishka" - Robert Tomczak
- 3 Onpoint's Deja Voo "Deja" - John Reid
- 4 Berry's Diamond LK Cleopatra "Cleo" - Gary Jagoda

Open Puppy

Scott Mc Phaul - Scott Stasiewicz 20 Entries 19 Starters

- 1 October Rust Shiloh's Zetta "Zeta" - Robert Tomczak
- 2 Wegler's Gypsy Garnet "Garnet" - Greg Wegler
- 3 Shiloh's Absolute "Neissa" - Robert Tomczak
- 4 Onpoint's Bush Wacker "Bush" - John Reid

Open Derby

Scott Mc Phaul - Scott Stasiewicz 19 Entries 15 Starters

- 1 Crimson's Twenty Gauge Ruger "Ruger" - Mark Spurgeon
- 2 Shiloh Luck O The Irish "Lucas" - Robert Tomczak
- 3 My "Lil Mel-Annie "Annie" - Joseph Duffek III
- 4 CH Jnek's Commander In Chief "Joey" - Jeff Engelsman

Amateur Walking Derby

Paul Howard - Paul Katzel 15 Entries 14 Starters

- 1 Shiloh Luck O The Irish "Lucas" - Robert Tomczak
- 2 Snow Ridge Gunfire Flynn "Flynn" - Steve Whitney
- 3 Wegler's Gypsy Garnet "Garnet" - Greg Wegler
- 4 Strider's Ace "Ace" - Victor Barger

Amateur Limited Gun Dog

Paul Howard - Paul Katzel 15 Entries 15 Starters

- 1 DC/AFC Outbound Ike "Ike" - Tony Ordonez
- 2 Copper Creek Borden "Lizzie" - John Houck
- 3 FC/AFC Saginaw Dandy Sue "Sue" - Mark N. Johnson
- 4 Cherokee's Jazzmin of Shiloh "Jazzmin" - Robert Tomczak

Amateur Gun Dog

Paul Howard - Paul Katzel 16 Entries 15 Starters

- 1 FC Homerun's Stunt Pilot "Fly" - Stephanie Russo
- 2 Saginaw T Jack "Jack" - Mark N. Johnson
- 3 Rebel Rouser Kemberly "Kember" - R. Carl Wilbur
- 4 Berry's Diamond LK Cleopatra "Cleo" - Greg Hedien

Amateur Walking Puppy

Paul Howard - Paul Katzel 10 Entries 8 Starters

- 1 October Rust Shiloh's Zetta "Zetta" - Robert Tomczak
- 2 Wegler's Gypsy Garnet "Garnet" - Greg Wegler
- 3 Onpoint's Hustler - R. Carl Wilbur
- 4 Super Duper Copper Cooper "Cooper" - Marty Hull



QUOTE OF THE MONTH



"Attitude

The longer I live the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude to me is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than success, than what other people think, or say, or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. (or a club) The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we embrace for that day. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it."

The question here is not who said it, but where did he find it. One hint.....it wasn't in a magazine

NEW RULES!

If you can correctly identify where the quote above was published, you may win a FREE TEN BIRD HUNT at Busch Farm. The question here is not "who said it", but "where did Jim find it?"

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!**



In the Kitchen With Travis



Savory Apple Pheasant

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 3 pounds dressed, fresh or frozen thawed pheasant, cut into serving pieces | 2 tablespoons brown sugar |
| 1 teaspoon salt | 2 apples, cored, cut into 6-8 wedges |
| 2 tablespoons butter | 1/4 cup water |
| 1 tablespoon flour | 4 teaspoons white wine |
| 3 1/2 cups drained, rinsed sauerkraut | 1/4 teaspoon caraway seed |

Preheat oven to 350° F. Sprinkle pheasant with salt. Brown slowly on all sides in butter, turning often over medium heat (about 15 minutes) in a large skillet.

Remove pheasant from skillet to a dish; set aside. Blend flour into drippings remaining in skillet. Add sauerkraut and brown sugar; mix well. Turn mixture into an oven-proof casserole or roaster. Place reserved pheasant atop sauerkraut mixture.

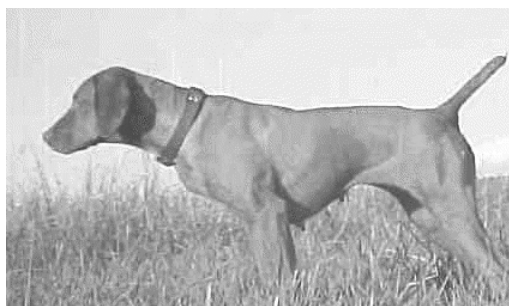
Arrange apple wedges around edges of casserole. Add water. Cover and bake for about 1 hour, or until pheasant is almost tender. Sprinkle with white wine and caraway seed. Cover and return to oven for 15 minutes.

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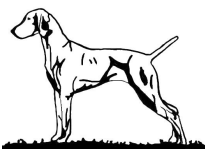
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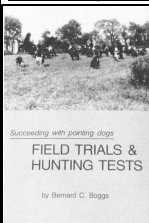


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