

The next VCOI
 Membership Meeting will
 be held
November 18, 2009
At Jimmy's Charhouse
<http://www.jimmyscharhouseelgin.com>
 I-90 & Randall Road
 Elgin, IL
 Buffet of Chicken, Pasta, Salad,
 and dinner rolls.
Dinner 6:30-7:15
With Meeting to follow.

**Interested in letting the members of VCOI know about your dogs or services?
 Please contact Shelly at skliefoth@yahoo.com to get your ad in the next Bulletin!**

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The Vizsla Club of Illinois, Inc
 Bulletin Editor
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Midwest Vizsla Field Futurity
 Does your breeding have what it takes?

2009 Futurity Winner Kick 'Em Up Bullet
 Owned by Jarrett Bell



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American Field Registered Event

"Let's keep them litters nominated!" - Hank Rozanek

Rodney Albin, Standing Secretary
 Nomination forms and rules available at
Vizslafuturity.com ***New Website!!



The Vizsla Club of Illinois, Inc

November 2009

BULLETIN

A bimonthly newsletter for the members and friends of the VCOI

DC AFC Snow Ridge Struttin Lil Man SH VC CGC



Satch is my heart dog and was meant for me before he was born. We lost a male Vizsla in August of 1999. With the help of Lu Hart I got in touch with Sue Boggs and got on her list to get a male from Norman/Nikki. I was number 2 on the list. Number 1 found another Norman son and Nikki produced one male in a litter of nine. I've always said God made sure I got the right dog.

Unfortunately for Satch, we had decided we wanted a dog we could show and field trial. Since we knew nothing about either, we learned on him. Poor dog. He came through in the ring, finishing at 21 months with back-to-back 5-point majors. It was the field where we made every mistake in the book, along with some we wrote! We delayed his start in the field until he was 18 months old and didn't run him in a broke dog stake until he was 4 years old. In early 2005 he started consistently getting in the ribbons and earned his first points. He finally became comfortable being handled on horseback and earned his first open points the next year, winning a 3-point open retrieving major at the VCOI field trial. Even though he earned half of his open points that year, it proved to be a rough year for him. After multiple attacks at the break, he had a dog challenge him on course. He became very afraid of his brace-mate and lost all interest in field trials. The next two years were full of less than stellar performances, even though he managed to pick up 4 more amateur points.

Despite all this we didn't give up on him and he rewarded us for our belief in him. Last fall he suddenly turned it on in training so we decided to make a push to finish him. We don't know what got into him but each performance was better than the last. He earned two amateur majors to finish his AFC and two months later finished his DC with a strong performance. Amazing that this dog, at 9 years of age, finished his SH then finished his FC and AFC, all from adult stakes. So much for you can't teach an old dog new tricks! Satch continues the dual line. He is a 5th generation dual champion on his sire's side and a 6th generation dual on his mother's side, going back to the very first Vizsla dual champion.

We are so glad we hung in there with him and so glad he came to live with us. We couldn't ask for a better dog and I couldn't ask for a better buddy.

-Laurie Wonnell

President ~ Began 2009

Jeff Parise
512 W. Barry Ave. #302
Chicago, IL 60657
773.744.1224
jeffpis@comcast.net

Vice President ~ Began 2009

Cathy Gallagher
1405 Surrey Lane
Algonquin, IL 60102
847.458.5886
siennapointe@dls.net

Treasurer ~ Began 2008

Linda Busch
2643 Keith Rd.
Winnebago, IL 61088
815.335.7673
lbusch@aeroinc.net

Secretary ~ Began 2009

Tom Grekowitz
2072 Ione Lane
Aurora, IL 60503
630.499.4021
tomgrekjr@sbcglobal.net

2009 Board of Directors

Rodney Albin ~ Began 2005
2445 Carter Rd.
Moscow Mills, MO 63362
636.366.9746
albinsquailfarm@worldnet.att.net

Kim Barker ~ Began 2009
929 E. Bissell Drive
Palatine, IL 60074
847.359.4191
valpo12841@aol.com

Kathy Harmer ~ Began 2009
7541 Edwardsville Rd
Rockford, IL 61102
815.963.3039
polarkap@aol.com

Greg Hedien ~ Began 2009
26784 N. Circle Drive
Mundelein, IL 60060
847.566.6655
diamondlakegreg@aol.com

Brad Lepoudre ~ Began 2009
2658 Derby Court
Elgin, IL 60124
847.888.1176
lepoudre@comcast.net

Dennis Nowak ~ Began 2009
2506 Gael Avenue
Joliet, IL 60435
815.439.0720
dennisnowak@sbcglobal.net

Field Trial Supernumerary

Greg Hedien
26784 N. Circle Drive
Mundelein, IL 60060
847.566.6655
diamondlakegreg@aol.com

Membership Chair & Directory Developer

Michel Berner
W14849 Scotch Pine Road
Fairchild, WI 54741
715.563.1459
michel@miravizslas.com

Webmaster

Adriana Urbanczyk
Frankfort, IL 60423
Cl: 815-922-6114
mycrazyhound@yahoo.com

Hunt Test Supernumeraries

Brad & Cindy Lepoudre
2658 Derby Court
Elgin, IL 60124
847.888.1176
lepoudre@comcast.net

Legislative Committee Chair

Mark Johnson
2985 Keith Road
Winnebago, IL 61088
815.335.2959
johnson2985@areoinc.net

Specialty Standing Chair

Kathy Harmer
7541 Edwardsville Rd
Rockford, IL 61102
815.963.3039
polarkap@aol.com

Bulletin Editors

Shelly Kliefoth
135 Lakeview Avenue
Edgerton, WI 53534
608.395.5933 (cell)
skliefoth@yahoo.com
and
Cathy Gallagher-Distribution
1405 Surrey Lane
Algonquin, IL 60102
847.458.5886
siennapointe@dls.net

Midwest Vizsla Field Futurity Secretary

Rodney Albin
2445 Carter Rd
Moscow Mills, MO 63362
636.366.9746
albinsquailfarm@att.net

POWDER PUFF DERBY T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

We have 1 XL and 6 LG hot pink t-shirts available for \$12.00 each. Send request to Linda Busch, at lbusch@aeroinc.net. Shirts can be mailed for \$2 or picked up at future event.



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BULLETIN COVERS!

If your dog has completed a prefix title (CH, FC, AFC, CT, MACH, OTCH, etc.) and you would like to reserve a cover, please contact Shelly Kliefoth at skliefoth@yahoo.com. Next available cover is September 2010. Obviously we have many very talented members!! As soon as your dog completes the title, please let me know if you would like a cover.

Virtual Vizsla

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



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AT STUD: CH. ARCHIEE, JH

Archiee will start his field trial career this fall and we expect good things from him considering our Hall of Fame dog DC/AFC Askim, MH, NSTRACH is on both sides of his pedigree. Archiee is OFA Excellent and produces beautiful dark rust puppies. Those who have been in the conformation ring already are doing extremely well. For more information about some of his pups, visit our web site at www.buschvizslas.com and for information about stud service, call Jim or Linda Busch at 815-335-7673.

Brag's Page

JB's Asker Bout Birds "Kinze" owned by Jody Beckley from Kansas recently finished her show championship at the Selina, KS show. Kinze started off with a very successful show career which got delayed after a rattlesnake bit her in the face. After recovering very nicely she went on to win another major thus earning the last few points needed for the conformation title. She was a year old in July and is out of Chevee, JH X Ch. Archiee, JH both owned by Linda Busch. Congratulations to Jody and Kinze.



Wiki Wiki Tiki-Man owned by Charles Chadwell & Nancy Browne earned his Junior Hunter title September 12 & 13 at the So. WI. GSP Club Hunt Tests at Ottawa.

Lakeview's Honey Wine (Mead) owned by Eric & Shelly Kliefoth earned her first two qualifying Junior Hunter ribbons at the So. WI. GSP Club Hunt Tests in Ottawa on September 12 & 13.



Hi-Spirit (Spirit) finished his Puppy/Derby career with a 1st place Derby win at the VCOI Fall Field Trial. Spirit has now earned 5 total 1st place wins, for a total of 11 placements. Spirit will now start preparing for adult stake competition. Spirit is out of FC O Mega and Zoom Zoom and is owned by Colomba & Victor Barger.



Briggs (Strider's Generator) earned his first broke-dog placement on 10/10/09 by getting 3rd place in the 35-dog, all-breed, retrieving, Open Gun Dog stake at the GWPC of Eastern Nebraska field trial held at Branched Oak. He put down a large, forward course with two quality bird finds for trainer/handler Jerry Jordan, and did so without a scout. Briggs is solely owned by Michel Berner.



MACH Smooth Rebel's Autumn Jewel RA XF "Ruby" owned by Elizabeth Barshack earned her Excellent FAST (XF) title on September 25th at the Columbus All Breed Agility Trial and placed 1st.



Picture of Ruby in the weaves courtesy of Tien Tran.

CH MACH JNEK's Royal Legacy RA JH NF "Lexi" owned by Tamara Sparks, Mike Sparks and Kathy Engelsman earned her Novice FAST (NF) title at the Golden Retriever Club of Illinois Agility Trial in Manhattan, IL on October 4th.

VCOI AWARDS DEADLINE APPROACHING DECEMBER 1.

All dogs earning a title (any venue) are entitled to receive acknowledgement of their good work. Championships will be awarded plaques with the appropriate bar(s). Those earning performance titles, JH, CD, NA are awarded a bar for the acknowledge which can be affixed to their plaque. If you didn't earn a plaque for a championship, you can purchase one. Titles earned from December 2008 - November 30 are for the current year. Those wishing to play catch up may do so for the plaque and/or bars. This is just the "Reader's Digest" of the rules, please refer to the insert in this Bulletin. If you have any questions you can contact me with any questions and a clearer explanation at 815/338-4760 or 815/353-0302. The forms are also on the VCOI website. <http://www.vizslaclubofillinois.org/Awards%20Plaque%20Form.pdf>

Cheryl Peterson

Reminders!

Championship Award Plaque Deadline: December 1st, 2009
Information & Form enclosed.

Christmas List:
Big Bone~
Big, fuzzy, squeaky toys~
Leash and Collar~
Big plush bed

Next Membership Meeting: November 18, 2009
Jimmy's Charhouse Dinner: 6:30PM with meeting to follow.

Awards Banquet and Holiday Dinner Registration Deadline: December 15, 2009
See the flyer included.

President's Message

VCOI is now on Facebook!! Check it out!

The temperature is dropping and thoughts turn to hunting season for some and indoor activities for others. In the meantime, Club members and their dogs are all over the country bringing home the ribbons. See some of their successes on the pages of this Bulletin. Mark your calendar for the next Membership Meeting on November 18. At that meeting, the Nominating Committee will present the slate of candidates for next year's Officer and Director positions, and we will take nominations from the floor. If you have an interest in joining the Club leadership, please contact me directly.

I look forward to seeing you at a Club event soon and at the November 18 Membership Meeting. Thank you.
Jeff Parise

Water Rescue Vizsla

Just over a year ago I agreed to participate in a search dog water seminar in Normal, IL. SAR canines are deployed to locate drowning victims in various bodies of water utilizing watercraft or shoreline search techniques. It is hoped the recovery of the victim will help to bring some relief to the family. My wife Alicia was already signed up with Shadow, her German Shepherd and there was one opening left. As we were headed to Double Bubble and I had Zena with us anyway, I said why not.



Most participants had GSDs, Labs and Border collies as one would expect to see at SAR trainings. Some had heard of a Vizsla, but few had actually seen one in person, never mind one in action. Fortunately, Zena is an excellent ambassador for our breed. She demonstrated the intelligence, motivation and boldness found in the Vizsla. Safe to say, people in the SAR community from Connecticut to Mississippi now know about the Vizsla.

The training of a water search canine takes a major commitment by the K9 handler. Using a step by step process you build a reliable indication from the dog and learn how to read the dog's body carriage in order to tell when the dog is "in scent" or "out of scent". We strive to report the highest probability of detection of the victim to the search manager. This program starts with divers. Divers teach the dogs that something of interest is submerged in the water. Having the diver come to the surface and reward the dog at the scent source reinforces that the something under the water is fun and provides the toy, food or whatever motivates a given K9.

Zena jumped in the boat to start her training (never having seen a boat before) and immediately went to the bow. After three revolutions of going into the divers she was working the bow from side to side and bending into the water giving the body carriage we look for. Additionally, if the boat didn't seem to go fast enough for her, she would extend her paws into the water as if trying to speed up the operation. I have never given her a search command to work on a boat – Zena got what the game was about right off and improved from there. After a few more sessions she began diving off the boat and swimming to the scent source. Once over the source she would swim in circles over the diver, or scent source, until we pulled her back in the boat. This technique, although effective and with a high degree of probability, can only be safely allowed in relatively calm water and where no debris or dangerous currents exist. Zena also became proficient in what's called "driving the boat", that is where the dog moves to keep themselves in the scent cone and the boat operator basically follows the dogs nose. With the right wind and water conditions the dog can be accurate and efficient.

After this year long dedication to water search training and in particular our last six months of intense work here in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi, I am pleased to report Zena passed the International Police Working Dog Association (I.P.W.D.A.) certification on July 19, 2009 in Olive Branch, Mississippi under IPWDA Master Trainer Jonni Joyce. The certification standards can be found on the IPWDA website www.IPWDA.org. The certification consists of obedience control evaluation, a shoreline test and an open water test. For the water search component of the test the dog must offer its alert behavior and the handler must mark the location of the alert within a specified number of feet. Canines are utilized as a resource to help minimize the search area the dive team must work. Additionally, we are attempting to limit the time divers are deployed under water. They are almost always working in extremely low, or zero visibility water, so the closer we can get them to the subject, the safer for all concerned. I believe Zena is the first Vizsla to be certified as a water search K9 by I.P.W.D.A.

I would like to thank Jim and Linda Busch for all their work to produce a dog with this drive and work ethic. I am also most pleased to report that Alicia's Shadow also passed his certification on the same day. Although he may not be the first GSD to do so, we are equally proud of his accomplishment.

For those wanting to learn more about the International Police Work Dog Association, please go to www.IPWDA.org. I would be happy to answer any questions I can about the Vizsla in SAR work, or help assist those dog handlers interested in pursuing search & rescue work to the various resources available.

Randy Flerra flerra1@netzero.com



Vizsla Club of Illinois, Inc. Bulletin



Fall Field Trial

The VCOI fall field trial was held at the Des Plaines Wildlife Area in Willmington, IL on September 19th & 20th. It was a great weekend. We had several new members come out to help and participate with their dogs. Bird Planters were Chad Chadwell, Chad Morsch, Mike Dalby, Bob Simpson and Zach Simpson. Line Marshals were Nancy Browne, Victor Barger and Mary Haines. Gunners were Mary Haines and Brad LePoudre. Mike Dalby was the event Chairman and Kim Barker was the Secretary.

Here are the results:

AWP (8 starters) - 2 points

1. Shawnee's Red Lioness - Joseph Fitzsimmons
2. Phoneix Whalen - Jeff Whalen
3. Zeeva - Jim Busch
4. Busch's Hunt With Otis - Zach Simpson

OP (8 Starters) - 2 points

1. Duchess Daisy Duke Bergan - Jerry Jordan
2. Shawnee's Red Lioness - Joseph Fitzsimmons
3. Zeeva - Jim Busch
4. Holly Barre - Michelle Princer

OLGD(9 Starters) - 2 Points

1. Harvard Bound - Bill Elliot
2. Winneshiek Dust Storm - Kelley Donham
3. Wegler's Kember Kayla - Greg Wegler
4. Sir Rustis Ferrous Oxide - Mike Dalby

ALGD (16 Starters) - 3 Points

1. Kick Em Up A Shot of JD - Randy Caldwell
2. Diesel II - Bill Elliot
3. Wegler's Kember Kayla - Greg Wegler
4. Tru Miss Grace - George Haines

AWD (6 Starters) - 1 Point

1. Hi-Spirit - Victor Barger
2. Shawnee's Red Lioness - Joseph Fitzsimmons
3. Omega's Dazzling Heartland Express - Jim Busch
4. Sizzleville's Freedom's Choice - Dawn Heintz

OD (5 Starters) - 1 Point

1. Omega's Dazzling Heartland Express - Jerry Jordan
2. Wiki Wiki Tiki-Man - Chad Chadwell
3. WITHHELD
4. WITHHELD

OGD-R (14 Starters) -3 points

- 1 Burr Oak's Quarterback - Jim Gingrich
2. WITHHELD
3. WITHHELD
4. WITHHELD

AGD-R (18 starters) -4 points

1. Diamond Lake Krammer - Greg Hedien
2. Kick Em Up A Shot of JD - Randy Caldwell
3. Diesel II - Bill Elliot
4. WITHHELD

Meeting Minutes Continued...

Miscellaneous / Other Business: Tom Grekowicz mentioned that the club is looking for a Mentor (an experienced "go to" person to help new people in organizing Field Trials or Hunt Tests). Jim Busch said that is what a Supernumerary is for, and that we don't need another position. Jim Gingrich volunteered to help put together a committee of experienced "go to people". Jeff Engelsman stated that it's really hard for new people to get Judges. Linda Busch said committees need to have a meeting before their event to help in the planning process. On another topic, Jeff Parise explained that he was disappointed with the end result of the summer Specialty Show expenses. The VCOI gave the Specialty Show \$500 to help with price increases, trophies, and to better promote the show, only to find out that the committee spent twice the amount budgeted. Jim Busch noted that by crunching the numbers, the Club could theoretically pay the \$40.00 for the 43 entries to break even with this event. It was mentioned that Kathy Engelsman did some research with AKC on what we can do for additional or alternative specialties and supported entries..

Brag: Mike Dalby mentioned that Gretta II passed four of the five Master Hunt Tests. She ran with an average score of 9.8. Tiki owned by Chad and Nancy Chadwell placed seconded in the VCOI's Open Derby Field Trial at Des Plaines and also won a blue ribbon in the Irish Setter Club of Milwaukee's Open Derby Field Trial at Ottawa on September 27th.

Adjourn: Mike Dalby motioned to adjourn the meeting. Many members seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.



Labor Day Hunt Test

What a Labor Day Hunt Test we had!! We were so slow in getting entries, that I started to think- the recession is going to affect our test as well. However, the last 2 weeks before the closing proved me wrong. What I thought would be the smallest hunt test turned into the largest for a one day test! About \$650.00 profit was made for the VCOI.

Our entries before the late scratches on Friday/Saturday night were:

24 Juniors- 9 Seniors and 18 Master dogs. Wow! No way would we be able to run everyone on one course.

Received permission from AKC to run two courses, got our judges approved, and ordered two more horses as well. That being said- we finished up around 3-4pm on Monday afternoon!! Plenty of daylight left. Everyone in attendance commented on how well run the test was and how nice it was to see the Juniors have their own course again. All in all great weather, but the most important factor is the committee and workers, who made sure this test, ran smoothly.

Thank You to the Frank Family. Kim and Doug brought and donated their ATV. This is valuable equipment to bring water out onto the courses, getting people back and forth, and quickly getting birds or equipment out to the fields. Kim and Doug's two lovely daughters Cameron and Tory manned the kitchen and did a fantastic job!

Val Blaine and Julie Callison handled all the judges' sheets, and ribbons. Colin Blaine (a new driver) went and got more ice and water for us. John Connell, Mike Dalby, Jeff Engelsman, Mark Spurgeon and Randy Boggs gunned. Doug Frank-Caleb Metzger-Chad Callison and Colin Blaine planted the junior course and I must say did a great job. You don't run two courses without the help of an outstanding Line Marshall. Lorie Connell was the best; she ran those two starting lines effortlessly.

Huge Thanks to our judges: Ken Wolford and Ben Blanco. Special Thank You to Lark Frederiksen and Ted Selnes who at the last minute came to my rescue to judge our Junior Entries, and also donated their time as well. Our Apprentice Judge was Adam DeLude who learned a lot under our seasoned judges of Ken and Ben.

Hope I haven't left anyone out. Thank You - Thank You-- Until next year!

Kathy Engelsman, HTS

Congratulations VCOI Members and their dogs:

Junior Contestants

Charles Chadwell	Wiki Wiki Tiki-Man
Michael Miklas	Hunter XXI
Kathy Engelsman	CH JNEK's Sweet Inspiration
Joe Fitzsimmons	Shawnee's Red Lioness
Kathy Lormis	Renaissance Loroka's Spending Limit
Tom Kosanda	Tru Will You Marry Me?
Jeffrey Whalen	Phoenix Whalen
John Looby IV	Wedding Bell's Of Sienna Pointe

Senior Contestants

Roger Hatch BK's Cahill Bramble

Master Contestants

Mike Dalby Gretta II
Tim May Cheyene Blue River Sky

Mark Spurgeon 2xNGDC DC AFC Crimson's Twenty Gauge Ruger



Novice Rally as viewed by a Novice

by Marty Sanford

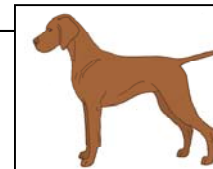


The AKC defines Rally as "a sport in which the dog and handler complete a course that has been designed by the rally judge." Or, as one of my friends jokingly said, "Rally is Obedience for dummies." But it is much more than that. It is a lot of fun and an activity which engages your dog and requires them to think and pay attention to you as the handler.

There are between 10 and 15 stations at the Novice level with an instruction card at each one communicating to the handler what he or she should be performing with their dog. There are 29 different activities from which the judge can choose when designing the course. The activity can be as simple as "Sit" or "Sit and then Down" or it can be as complex as "Call Front, one step back, Front; two steps back, Front; three steps back, Front." In other words you call your dog to sit in front of you and then you successively take one, two and three steps back having the dog sit in front of you each time. Throughout the course the dog and handler move from station to station in numeric order with the dog under control at the handler's left side on a loose lead. Many of the activities involve left and right turns, about turns, 270 degree turns, and circles. These can be very challenging to those of us who are directionally impaired. Some handlers have been known to draw an arrow pointing left on the toe of their left shoe with "left" written under it and draw a right pointing arrow on their right shoe with "right" written above it to aid them in directional awareness. The great thing about Rally is that the handler can use all sorts of "body English" and verbal cues to aid the dog in performing the required activity. It is fun to watch how different handlers get their dog to do what is required of them. Watching an Aussie or Golden perform precisely in concert with its handler is a thing of beauty. Also, watching a Herding dog that is fixated on something outside the ring and totally blowing off its handler is something that any dog owner can sympathize with. At one time or another we have all been there.

There is a ten minute period before the competition when the handlers can walk the course as many times as they want to in order to familiarize themselves with it and practice the commands they will give at each station.

In Rally competition you need 70 out of a possible 100 points to qualify. There are one point deductions for tight leash, dog interfering with the handler (in other words the dog gets in your way of forward progress), poor sits (but not touching the ground or the dog sits far away from you or at an angle to you), slow response, delayed response or resistance to responding to the handler, touching a cone or person, or dog out of position.



There are three point deductions for repeating a station. You can retry each station only once if your dog didn't perform as you wanted it to. Three point deductions are also given for knocking over a cone in the Figure 8, Spiral, or Serpentine exercise, for lack of control, for loud commands or intimidation by the handler, and for excessive barking. There is a ten point deduction for an incorrectly performed station. Consequently if you incorrectly perform a station you are better off to retry it and lose 3 points rather than ignore the error and lose 10 points. The mantra my teacher gave in class was, "Slow and steady is better than fast and inaccurate." Time is used only to separate places if there are two teams with the same point score. Since the main objective is to qualify it is better to take your time and do the best you can than to rush through the stations making errors.

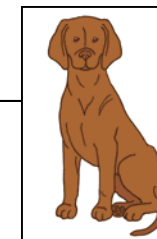
Two weeks after finishing a six week Beginning Rally course Tuurk and I found ourselves trying to qualify at Rally Novice A at the Colorado Springs show. It was due to the encouragement of my teacher who said, "Of course you can do it. Give it a try".

So try we did. And we not only qualified both days but we also got 3rd place scores each day!!! Then at the next show we qualified on the first day and Tuurk finished his Rally Novice title.

And then, what did we do the following day???? Well we had paid the entry fee and rather than waste it we moved up to Advanced Rally A. Now this was tougher since the entire course is done off lead. Also there would be several new signs that we hadn't previously practiced since we were only in week 2 of our Advanced Rally classes. And one of the activities would include a 16" jump. Wouldn't you know that it was a "high jump" rather than a "bar-type jump?" We had practiced moving in concert with an agility jump in my backyard but the solid high jump was something totally new, scary and different. It wasn't pretty. We had do-overs at a couple stations. And there was an initial refusal of the jump. But we tried it again and Tuurk cleared it and got back into heel position to go to the last station which a gift... it was just a "SIT".

We were fortunate enough to qualify that day also. Not the best of scores! For sure, not a placement!! But most importantly it was more than 70 points. So with one Advanced qualification under our belts we need to qualify two more times to earn the RA title.

Moral of the story: If Tuurk and I can do it so can you. Try it. Take a class. Practice. Enter a show in Rally. You and your dog just might enjoy it and get hooked the way we did.



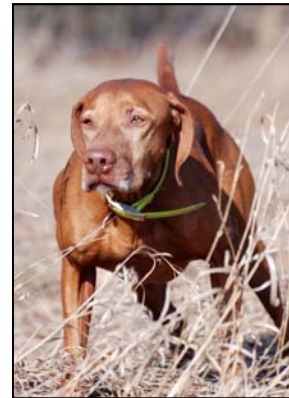
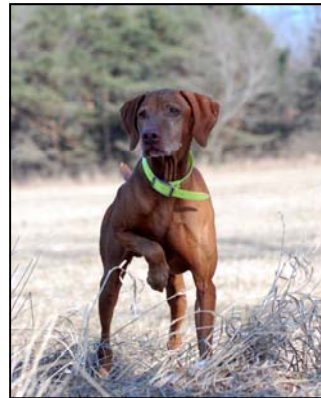
Ruger does it Again!

2X-NGDC DC AFC Crimsons Twenty Gauge Ruger SH CGC

Ruger now has a longer name. He earned his 2nd National Gun Dog Championship this spring

at the Portage Field Trial Grounds in Wisconsin. He ran a strong forward course for the full hour while hitting objectives and holding his lines. Ruger had multiple finds and a tough stop to flush when his brace mate flushed a bird near him. He was called back and made his retrieve with ease. Thank you to the Judges and Gunners and everyone who helped put on the trial.

Ruger is more than just our field trial dog, he is our companion and friend.



Rigby wins Championship!

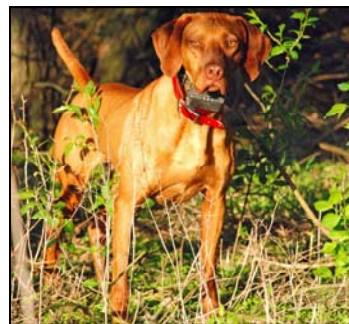
CH (FDSB) Crimson's Lord Rigby of Linden JH

Rigby won the 2009 Midwest Vizsla Shooting Dog Championship held at Ionia field trial grounds in Ionia Michigan. The Championship is a 1 hour Shooting Dog stake held under American Field rules. He was crowned a champion at just over 3 years of age. Rigby was first found backing his brace-mate with good style. Rigby was then found standing on "Danny's line" while his brace-mate came in for a back. The bird was then flushed while Rigby stood staunch. He finished the hour strong and to the front.

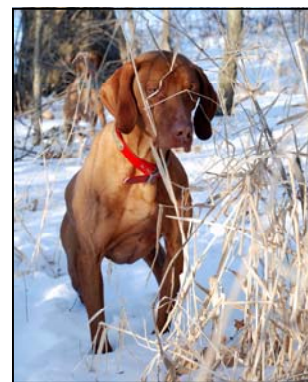
Rigby also won a 4 point Open Gun Dog Retrieving stake 1 week prior, giving him all his Open retrieving points and puts him just shy of his FC (Field Championship). Rigby has been an easy dog to train and loves being in the spotlight. He has a great temperament and always makes us laugh.

Congratulations
to Mark & Pam Spurgeon
and their amazing dogs!

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November 2009

Membership Meeting Minutes

Des Plaines Wildlife Area / VCOI Fall Field Trial
Wilmington, IL

September 19th 2009

Submitted by: Tom Grekowicz



Call to order: Jeff Parise called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved as presented.

Board of Directors Report: Nothing reported.

Presidents Report: Jeff Parise gave a special thank you to Jeff Engelsman for the dinner provided at this field trial. Jeff reported that he has started a Facebook profile for the VCOI.

Secretary's Report: Nothing reported.

Treasures Report: Linda Busch reported that the club has a favorable balance for our checking and savings account. The Double Bubble used to go over budget quite a bit in the past but this year went over only a little bit. Specialty Show went over budget and the Labor Day Hunt Test made the club money.

Website Update: The VCOI now has a Facebook profile. Jeff Parise mentioned that he needs photos sent to him to place on the Facebook profile. Right now it only has the VCOI logo. Email pictures to Jeff at: jeffpis@comcast.net.

Bulletin Report: The September 2009 Bulletin was the first time the club did the entire newsletter in color. Everyone present liked the color newsletter. Rodney Albin asked if there was anyway you can get two dogs with major titles in the newsletter since currently only one dog gets the cover for a major title. Tom Grekowicz suggested doing a color insert of a second dog with a major title. Linda Busch was concerned about what the printer would charge for a color insert. Linda Busch and Shelly Kliefoth said they would find out what the printer would charge for this type of insert. It was mentioned that the clubs newsletters are mailed and available to view online at the VCOI website.

Holiday Party / Awards Banquet: Pam Spurgeon was absent but the Holiday Party / Awards Banquet is January 16, 2010 at Gibsons Steakhouse in Rosemont, Illinois.

February Hunt Test: Brad Lepoudre reported that there will be no February Hunt Test for 2010. The hunt test has been changed to a two-day training day weekend at the Des Plaines Wildlife Area in Wilmington, IL. The two-day training weekend will be shared with VCOI and the Weimaraner Club of Northern Illinois. One club will start Saturday on the house side of the grounds for training and flip to the roadside of the grounds on Sunday.

MVFF Futurity Report: Rodney Albin reported that 12 litters were nominated for 2010 and 12 puppies were re-nominated for 2010. It was also reported that 13 litters were nominated for 2011. You cannot participate in the February training days if you are entered in the Futurity. Rodney reminded everyone that if you (dog or handler) are entered in the futurity, you can run in a field trial or hunt test but cannot train on the grounds three weeks prior to the event.

Secretary's note: Rodney Albin has a new e-mail address... RodneyAlbin@centurytel.net. Mark Spurgeon and Jon Peck are also part of the Futurity committee.

June Hunt Test / Training Day: Help Wanted! Brad Lepoudre reported that we are looking for people to chair this event. Brad reported that he and Cindy will help whoever chair's this event.

Fall (September) Field Trial: Chairman Mike Dalby reported that Puppy and Derby entries are down for this trial. Mike called other clubs to find that they also have low entries in these stakes. The courses looked like they needed mowing and Mike called the DNR weeks prior to this event to find out that they did their mowing. Mike offered to mow the courses for them but the DNR would not allow him or anyone else to do the mowing. Jim Gingrich gave a special thank you to Mike Dalby for chairing this event.

December / May Walking Field Trial: There will be no December Field Trial this year. The December Trial will be used as a Training Day instead. Bill Elliott said that he could probably get grounds for a Walking Trial in Paw Paw. The grounds in Paw Paw have no running water but you can camp out on the grounds. The grounds do have porta-potties but no clubhouse. It was decided that the Field Trial committee could look into these grounds as a possibility if needed. Linda Busch and Jim Gingrich both said they would allow the use of their land if we decided to hold a Walking Field Trial in May. Linda Busch said she liked the May Walking Field Trial because there were lots of new people at this event. Linda said that the only complaints we had from this trial was that we used Judges that were club members. Several members expressed interest in serving on the May Field Trial's committee. Jim Busch offered to Chair the May event if held at the Busch/Gingrich farms.

Miscellaneous / Other Business: Jeff Parise mentioned that John Yates from The American Sporting Dog Alliance passed away. Jeff Parise also reminded everyone that all animals entering Illinois for any reason must be accompanied by a negative test for EIA conducted within a year. If the animal is more than one year of age, you need a certificate from a veterinarian within 30 days of entry, and an entry permit number issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. (*Secretary note:* you can read details on the VCOI website at: www.vizslaclubofillinois.org/LawsforHorses.pdf).

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