



NEWSLETTER

Volume 11, Number 1

December, 2012

From our president, Stephanie Fischer ilovtrav@aol.com:

Happy Thanksgiving!

I hope this newsletter finds everyone safe after the hurricane. We lost many trees, and a fence, but all of us and our house are in one piece. We were fortunate to have a generator, so family friends and their 90-pound lab stayed with us for 9 days. I found the outpouring of caring and concern quite heartwarming--friends helping friends, neighbors being neighborly. I was even getting calls and emails from Vizsla people as far away as Florida asking if they could help foster a dog or help a displaced family.

Because of the number of trees down across Long Island, the state parks are closed, and our after-Thanksgiving hike had to be postponed until further notice.

Our holiday party is scheduled for December 8 at Barbara Parker's house. I can only imagine we will have as much fun as we did last year. I think this year will bring some special meaning, as we all should be thankful for what we have.

On Saturday, February 9 we will be holding our Specialty Show in Secaucus, NJ. As this weekend is the precursor to the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show

at Madison Square Garden, our entry should be quite large, as many of the dogs from across the country will be entered. Please think about making a raffle basket or donating items to fill a raffle basket. You can contact our show chairperson, Kathie Amore at kamore3235@aol.com with your donations. We are always looking for volunteers to help the day of the show also. Please don't be shy.

In October, our club ran a 2-day hunt test that was incredibly successful. I want to personally thank the entire committee for all of their hard work! I also want to thank those who supported the club and entered their dogs. This will be an annual event on the same weekend each fall.

Our club also represented the Vizsla Club of America at Meet the Breeds at the Javits Center in NYC in October.

A very big thank you to those who brought their dogs and volunteered their time to teach people about our breed. A fun but exhausting time was had by all.

Pictures from both the hunt test and Meet the Breeds are in the gallery of our website www.vcli.net. A special thank you to our webmaster Nick Owczarek, who gives so much of his time for our club.

As always, I end my message with a request for volunteers. As our club is expanding, it is becoming harder for those few people to do everything. Burnout in clubs is always a problem, as is stagnation. We need to keep moving forward and growing. New people and new ideas are always welcome. Pick up a phone or email me. I am always willing to listen.

Warm regards,

Stephanie

IBRAGS, IBRAGS, IBRAGS



MACH Kahalie's Hi Time Independence, CD, RE, THD

Gunner achieved the Agility Championship title (MACH) on August 26th at the Tri-State Shetland Sheepdog Agility Trial in Hamden, CT - Judge David Hirsch.

The purpose of AKC agility trials is to afford owners the opportunity to demonstrate a dog's physical ability/soundness and willingness to work with its handler under a variety of conditions.

To obtain the MACH title a dog must exhibit superior performance on the agility course made up of at least 18 obstacles (jumps, see saw, A-frame, tire jump, dog walk, pause table, weave poles, and tunnels). Speed and consistency are the two major qualities denoting "superior performance".

In order to achieve his championship, Gunner had to acquire 750 points and 20 double qualifying scores. One point is awarded for each second under the standard course time.

Only scores from clear rounds (no mistakes, refusals, wrong courses or bars down) will be counted. Double Qs means that a dog has to do a perfect course in the morning class and the afternoon class of the same day.

It is a big, time-consuming job to obtain the MACH. In order to be successful the handler and the dog must want and enjoy running the courses. Therefore, there is never any punishment for making a mistake -- it is only words like "Oops, lets try that again." Gunner is eight years old now and starting to show his age, but his love for agility is still there.

I am still flying high from Gunner's achievement. The Championship title seemed impossible when we started. It was only for those dogs that were trained by expert handlers. But we made our way, and through hours of training which leads to fantastic bonding, we learned how to talk to each other and we became a team. A successful team.

Pam & Gunner



CH Kizmet Hi Time Magic RA OA OJA

Maggie earned her Rally Excellent title with Bert Rowley handling her on Sunday, June 24, 2012 at the Staten Island Kennel Club Obedience and Rally Trials held at the College of Staten Island.



Ch Keown's Montauk Pointer CGC

Enzo earned his Canine Good Citizen certificate. He trained and was tested at ARF (Animal Rescue Fund-East Hampton). ARF offers free boarding during storms for anyone who is evacuated to a shelter that does not accept pets! ARF is a no kill shelter providing AKC approved training. All dogs welcome!

Anne Maegli

All Fur Fun Agility is proud to announce that we are now a NADAC Host Club! Our first trial is scheduled for August 31-September 1, 2013 at Dorothy P. Flint 4-H Camp, Riverhead NY 11901

NADAC is the only sanction that allows training in the ring! Good news for those that struggle with the seesaw, dog safety is NADAC's first priority; therefore, the seesaw is no longer used.

It is filled with fun, fast motivating classes like Tunneler's or Touch N Go. To find out more about these classes go to http://www.nadac.com/exhibitors_handbook.pdf.

NADAC also offers lower jump heights for specific breeds, veterans (dogs over 6 years), or skill level if you prefer to jump your dog at a lower height. NADAC is open to All Breeds!! Registration numbers can be obtained immediately online at <http://www.nadac.com/afrm/dogregfrm.asp>.

*Jean Jacobsen
Owner/Trainer
www.Allfurfunagility.com*

MEMBER PROFILE:

**MELANIE AND JOHN
RATCLIFFE**

Rhett came into our lives because we had decided to look for a puppy for a companion to our older Vizsla Jaeger. Knowing what a type A personality Jaeger had, we were concerned about bringing an older male into the home. We were also concerned about a puppy with our Bengal, Gelli, short for Magellan. While Gelli has always been a pretty good boy, the idea of a puppy incessantly annoying him was a concern. Gelli is a big boy, his claws are long and sharp, and the vet has often shown trepidation around him based on his size and demeanor during checkups.

Come to find out, we were worrying about nothing. From the moment Rhett came into his new home, he fell in love with both of his new siblings and Gelli took a big load off of Jaeger as Rhett was just as interested in pestering him as he was in pestering Jaeger. We have a good deal of video of Rhett and Gelli playing “whack a mole” with a kitty tube as they would run through and stick their heads out the hole so the other could try and “get ‘em”. Outside, they played together like two puppies, letting Jaeger go about his more dignified rounds of the yard. As Rhett got older, the love never diminished. Often Gelli will go to the door to go out and Rhett will run over and ring the “outside” bell for him; the same for wanting to come in, if Gelli is at the door, Rhett makes sure his friend is noticed, and greets him like a long lost relative each time.



I suspect Rhett’s youthful enthusiasm occasionally wears on Gelli, as it does on Jaeger, but so far, Gelli has refrained from correcting his pal, and even when tackled by a flying Vizsla now weighing twice what he does, he takes it all in stride. I can’t imagine what went through Gelli’s mind as Rhett entered our home for the first time; I know our other cat, Bridgette, was horrified, giving us that look when she first saw him. You know, that “What have you done?” look. She apparently suspected he would be a little troublemaker, and rightfully so. Gelli, however, welcomed him with outstretched paws then and never looked back.

Melanie Ratcliffe

Treasurer’s Report

Club Funds: \$2664.30

Rescue Funds including Southside donations: \$14,948.48

Membership Report

106 members; 16 non-renewals.

RESCUE REPORT

I want to start by thanking everyone for all of their generous donations for our Southside fund. You can still read about the case and donate by going to our website www.vcli.net and hitting the donate button. Chance just had her hip surgery and is doing well. Kody is up and running around. Linda is still watching Pepsi to see if surgery is in his future. I have to say, there isn't a day that goes by where someone does not contact me with a story or cute anecdote. My favorite recent story is about Dukie, who lives in Ontario, Canada with Maeve and Gordon and of course, Missie. He truly is a mischievous Vizsla now. Just after his 7th birthday in October Maeve found all the bread on the counter gone and the baggies from the cabinet all over the place. Duke has learned to climb and get into things. She found him standing on the kitchen counter. Boy did I laugh, as I live it every day with Jake. How can you get angry when you realize he spent his first 6-½ years in an 8 x 10 kennel? He has a lot to make up for.

We have an 11-year young female that needs to be rehomed. Mia is currently being fostered, but needs the company of another dog, as she has some anxiety issues. I am also working with a family that may need to rehome two young Vizslas, as their house in Long Beach was destroyed. I will keep everyone up to date by email.

Please enjoy the following stories. Nicole is the matriarch of the Southside bunch. Scooby is a sweet two-year old boy who came to us this summer, when his owners realized they were in over their heads. Gotta love people who buy puppies, have a baby and then the dog has to go. He is now living a wonderful life with a wonderful family and a two-year old dog brother, Remi. Molly is the mother of the puppies from Southside. We are fostering her.

As always, I am reaching out for volunteers to foster, transport, and help write thank you letters. I have many to write as we were inundated with donations from across the country for the Southside crew.

Warm regards,

Stephanie



Scooby Doo's Story

We could never imagine our life without a Vizsla and when our beloved Hunter died it took us all of 30 days to get puppy. We found a crazy loving and wonderful boy and named him Remington (we call him Remi). After Remi turned two we realized that he needed a friend and as my son's high school graduation approached, all he

wanted was another Vizsla. We found a puppy that we would get at the end of August and put a deposit on him.

We were all excited, but something in me said I made a mistake about the breeder. After research and conversation with Stephanie, I found out she was a puppy mill. I found horrible articles about her on-line and realized I made a terrible

mistake. Needless to say, our family was devastated.

About this same time Stephanie had contacted us about a rescue, the same age as Remi. She spoke of a wonderful dog she had met who had a very sweet personality. We discussed him at length and she felt he was a perfect fit for our family and Remi. She spoke of a wonderful dog she had met who had a very sweet personality. We discussed him at length and she felt he was a perfect fit for our family and Remi.

As things worked out, the day we were supposed to go and pick up our puppy, was the day Scooby entered our back yard for the first time. Remi and Scooby clicked immediately, both were ball addicts, and Scooby ran the yard with Remi all afternoon as well as taking his first swim in the pool. He was comfortable and trusting from the beginning, but you could



Scooby (right) and Remi

tell, he was a little unsure of things and of us, but that would quickly change.

About a week after he got here, he developed a very severe case of gastroenteritis, and had to spend the day at the vet's office; he was very sick for three days and we were so worried about him. Remi was also very upset and howled at the window when I had to take him to the vet. When the vet called and said we could come and get him, that the IV and medications worked, we couldn't get there fast enough. Although it had only been a week, we were in love with Scooby, but we didn't know up until that day, that he was just as happy and in love with us.

When we walked into the vet's office and they brought him out to us, we cried. The look on his face was just pure happiness, we were greeted with such affection and joy (such as he hadn't shown before) that we knew he felt the same way about us. It was over, we knew at that very instant that he wanted to be with us too. When we got home, Remi couldn't contain himself, he was barking and jumping for joy and wouldn't leave Scooby alone, it was a priceless moment, these two boys had bonded in a way I never imagined could happen.

Scooby is such a cuddler. He loves to lay right up against you (preferably on top of you) with your arms wrapped around him. If there's a group of teenagers on the couch hanging and out and watching TV, he's right there with you, snuggled right up there with them. He is just as ball crazy as Remi, which makes for interesting play in the yard. Scooby and Remi run around the yard all day, digging holes, finding sticks, and having crazy dog fun and well, if it's too muddy or wet outside, they'll just run around the house all day. After dinner, they're both tired and looking to cuddle up next to you for the night. Scooby has found that his favorite place to sleep is in bed with my

son, snuggled as close as possible to him (who has claimed Scooby as 'his dog').

We can't picture our family without Scooby, his intense stares, his happy faces and his affection for all of us, especially Remi. The two boys sleep together in the bed by the window waiting for us to come home, or together on the bed in my office, on the couch, or in bed with us. The only one in the house Scooby is still a bit shy of is the cat, but he's a 12-year old cat, who has accepted Scooby into the household, but whom Scooby still is unsure of. It's quite funny.

We all know Scooby was meant for our family. It just took him a little while to find us. He and Remi are just wonderful together, something we didn't know could happen so quickly.



Remi, daughter Sabrina and Scooby

Although Scooby's only been with us a few months, he feels like he's always been

here. Thank you Stephanie. When you said you'd find me a Vizsla for our family, I never should have doubted you for a minute. Thank you for our Scooby "Doo". He was our missing piece!!!

The Rollo Family

Nicole's Story

Hello, my name is Kate and my husband is Phil. We live in Northern Virginia and are happy rescue owners of Coley (formerly known as Nicole) from the Southside kennels. Nicole was the unfortunate dog that was pictured on the Susquehanna SPCA website that was all bones in the front seat of a car. She was curled up into a little ball with her spine just protruding through her coat. Additional pictures showed her ears jagged from what we believe to be from flies and bugs eating them. When the SPCA saved her, she weighed in at 34.6 pounds.



We are somewhat embarrassed to say that we knew Frank from Southside Kennels. We made an uneducated decision to buy a puppy from him about three years ago because we wanted a pet, and not a performance dog. We already owned a rescue male Vizsla (Paddy) who was a year old and was having issues with separation anxiety as well as other behavioral issues. He was previously

abused by someone (we think a male) and was scared of anything and everything. Our vet suggested that we get a puppy to hopefully bring Paddy back to a playful stage. I called and emailed a number of Vizsla breeders and was told that they would only consider a performance house first; if there were pups left, they would consider a home where the dog would simply be a pet. This frustrated us because we wanted Vizslas to run with and hike in the woods with. We loved the 'velcro-ness' of the breed and truly just enjoyed them sitting with us on the couch.

I am originally from Albany, New York, and my parents only lived about an hour from Southside Kennels. Phil and I took our first visit to Southside to meet Frank and were impressed with the property as a whole. We only toured the stables and met two of the dogs. Although we could hear barking from the kennels, we did not walk up the hill to see how many dogs he actually owned. When we received the call that a litter had been born, I made an unannounced visit when the puppies were five weeks old to Southside with my mother and were well received by Frank and his staff. My mother and I played with the litter of Vizslas as well as a litter of pointers. I never had a negative thought in my mind about Frank or the kennel.

We picked up Daisy about three weeks later. When she was handed to me, she had a green tight rubber band around her tail. The staff member told me that she forgot to dock their tails earlier, so they put the rubber band around the puppies' tails and that the tail would "just fall off in a few days." I was speechless, and just like the staff member stated, Daisy's tail fell off the second day I had her. Afterwards, my poor little girl whined every time she sat down because it was

uncomfortable and infected. When I returned to Virginia, I brought Daisy into the vet to have her puppy wellness visit and she had worms and round worms. In addition, her tail was infected. Our vet let us know that she was going to report Frank. About five months later, Daisy started to lose her hair and had bald spots all over her coat. Our vet took some tests and determined that she had mange. I emailed Frank and let him know about the worms, tail and the mange; I added that her mother should not be bred again because she was passing mange onto her pups. After a long and expensive treatment, Daisy is now mange free.

I was mortified when I saw that Southside Kennels was the kennel that I was hearing rumors about last December. We were so upset to know that we contributed to the success of Frank and his kennels since we purchased a puppy from him. I immediately contacted Debra from New Hope Vizsla Rescue and asked if there was any way we could help. Phil and I decided that we wanted to rescue one of the mommy Vizslas because we assumed that they would be harder to find homes for; and possibly trying to rescue Daisy's mom, Helen.

I received a call from Stephanie in July asking if we were still interested in rescuing an older dog. We were very excited to be adding to our family and also helping a much-needed Vizsla, to become spoiled pet. Stephanie let me know that Nicole was the only dog left to find a home and she was staying at a local kennel in Oneonta.

I left for Oneonta at 3:30 am on a very hot Saturday morning and drove 7 hours to pick up Nicole. When I arrived at Hillside Kennels, a tearful woman, Eva, who had just fallen in love with Nicole,

greeted me. She told me that Nicole was her favorite of all the rescues and just had such a wonderful disposition and loved human contact. When I was introduced to Nicole, she looked much larger than she did in the pictures. It turned out that Eva felt so bad for Nicole, that she fed Nicole a lot of food that wasn't too good for her (meatballs/cheese). Nicole was 70 pounds!! Nicole was very compliant and came right over to me. I kneeled down and she just buried her head into my stomach and then tried to put both paws up on my shoulders. Eva told me that Nicole must have had a big bladder because she was urinating a lot.

I put Nicole in the back of my SUV in a wire crate. She went into the crate without any problems and just lay down and went to sleep. I was very grateful that she traveled so well in the car and did not become anxious or whine at all. I stopped twice to give her some water and biscuits and she was still very gentle and very food motivated.



When I arrived home around 6:00 pm, I brought Nicole into the backyard and then let my other two rascals out to check her out. Daisy barked a little and Paddy kept his distance and Nicole just walked around the backyard and kept urinating, a lot. When I brought Nicole inside, she drank an excessive amount of

water and kept urinating a lot in the house. I called Stephanie to give her a progress report and I mentioned that Nicole was just sitting in front of me and was panting heavily. Stephanie suggested that I take Nicole to the emergency room.

When we arrived at the emergency room, the vet took a urine sample and checked Nicole all over. Her test came back with a urinary tract infection, e-coli and pseudomonas. She was placed on two different antibiotics and I was told that she needed to go on a diet. This poor girl had had an infection and most likely, had been living with the infection for quite a while. We arrived home after midnight and I slept on the couch with Nicole so that she wouldn't be scared in a new environment. Daisy and Paddy decided that they wanted to comfort her as well, and slept on the couch with us.



Nicole was then renamed "Coley." We wanted her to have a name that was similar to her original name even though, we're not sure if she would even remember her original name! I started to walk Coley by herself every morning, afternoon and evening. This poor girl didn't have any muscles in her legs and could only last about 5 minutes each walk for the first week. She tired easily and panted heavily; she also could not jump up

on the couch or bed by herself. Five minutes turned into ten and ten minutes turned into 30. Now, all three dogs are walked together and are one small pack that bark together, pull together and pee together on leash.



Over the past 3 months, Coley has had some medical concerns. We had to wait to schedule her for a spay because the vet wanted her to lose some weight before the surgery. She also had rotted canines that had to be pulled, four noticeable lumps and a cyst on the side of her rib cage. The vet performed a needle aspirate of the largest mammary lump, which came back inconclusive.

When Coley's weight dropped to 57 pounds, she was scheduled to have a spay, one lump removal and teeth cleaning/extraction. I received a call at work during Coley's spay from the vet who called with depressing news. Coley was losing a lot of blood during the spay because her blood vessels kept bleeding and the vet could not get the vessels to stop. She advised me that she would be able to complete the spay, but not the teeth and lump because the time would be too great for Coley under anesthesia. The vet decided that removing the lumps in her belly would not be a great idea since Coley did not do well for the spay.

Another interesting fact was that during the spay, the vet noticed that Coley was missing a nipple and there were old suture scars. The vet believes that she may have had a lump removed when she was young. We decided, with the vet, that we would not pursue any additional surgeries for Coley's stomach due to the complications and her age (a mastectomy would be too invasive for her).

One month later, Coley was ready for her teeth cleaning. I received a call at work again and was told that Coley's two top canine were rotted and cracked. The vet extracted both canines and Coley was ready to come home that evening. She was such a good girl that evening and just wanted to snuggle next to me. She didn't whine at all even though she had a mouth full of stitches.



It has been 2 months since Coley's last surgery and she is doing absolutely wonderfully. She now gets to enjoy off-leash hikes in Prince William Forrest with her brother and sister, as well as her rescue Vizsla and GSP friends, Annie and Gus. Her recall is improving, but currently when called, she runs back only when she sees Paddy and Daisy coming back. Coley recently was introduced to the beach, when I took all three dogs to the Outer banks, NC. Coley chased the seagulls and ran head first into the waves.



Coley knows how to use the doggie door and she sits and shakes, and loves receiving treats. She, Paddy and Daisy all know where "place" is before feeding time and know to wait to run to their bowls until all the bowls are filled. Another funny thing that happens at our house is when I leave for work in the morning and I drive behind the house to find all three dogs chasing each other in the back yard. When I come home in the evening, all three dogs are waiting outside in the backyard looking at the driveway. Coley also is an avid fan of 'fetch', especially with Phil's socks.



We want to thank the Long Island Vizsla Club's Rescue, especially Stephanie, for allowing us to bring this wonderful, kind-hearted Vizsla into our family. Stephanie has helped me through many stressful days and nights while I, as well as the other dogs, have tried to adjust to the change. Stephanie has always answered

my calls, no matter what time of day, and has always provided me great advice on how to handle a new dog in the house.

+++++

Molly's Story

I would like everyone to meet Molly, who used to be named Mercedes, and is the mother of Pepsi, Chance, Kody, Mattie, and Willy. She is one of our Southside rescues, who is now being fostered indefinitely (as I like to say) with me and my family. We placed Molly with a long time rescue gentleman up in Massachusetts. What we learned, however, is that these dogs really need a regular Vizsla to pull them out of their shells and teach them how to be dogs. Tom taught her how to play ball (she runs and jumps with glee!), how to potty and how to start trusting people. What he realized he could not do was be her dog surrogate. Unselfishly he gave me a call and we welcomed her with open arms.

This has not been an easy journey. I knew these dogs were very sheltered, I just didn't know how much. Little things like putting a sink faucet on used to send her running. It led me to think she was doused with water when the kennels were cleaned out. She is petrified of icemakers and vacuums. She gets carsick on every car ride. She chews personal items. A lot to handle? Yes. Too much to handle? NO!!

What amazed me the most is her very gentle nature. She is very very sweet. She loves to be hugged. Even with all she has been through, night one she followed the boys up the stairs to bed and made herself comfortable on my pillow. At the beginning she would curl up in the tightest of balls and tuck her nose to stay warm.



She has not slept a night here without being under the covers. That being said, she now sprawls out like a real Vizsla. A king size bed is barely big enough with three dogs. I promised her she would never be cold again.

She is slowly learning commands and the fine art of silent begging at the table. She and Jake are the best of buddies and play very well together. She sleeps with her head on Cliffy during naptime and he doesn't seem to mind. They really seem to look after her.

I cannot lie; three is a lot of work, since I do most of it. The payoff is a very happy little girl who greets all of us at the door with kisses and a big smile. It is really funny to watch her push her two big brothers out of the way, since they outweigh her by almost 20 pounds.

It was amazing to me how all the families used the same adjectives to describe these Southside rescue dogs. I now completely agree!

Stephanie Fischer



Koda Update

Hi Stephanie,

We want to thank you for including us in on the activities of the Vizsla Club of Long Island. If the activities were just a bit closer to Philly we'd be certain to attend. We also want you to know that we have not forgotten the happiness you brought into our lives when you put us in touch with Collete, her sister, Lisa, and our sweetheart, Koda. We have continued to keep in touch with the sisters and keep them posted about Koda's progress. Since we last spoke, Koda has been certified as a Therapy Dog and graduated from the Phila. Dog Training School. We will soon start some additional training in agility.



Needless to say Koda is an integral part of our family and every day we look forward to her mischievous antics, along with her warm and affectionate kisses.

THANKS!!

We wish you and yours good health, happiness, and our warmest regards.

Elaine and Lou



Focus on the Field: Life After Junior Hunter

By Andrew J. Campbell

I hope a number of the Newsletter readers were able to bring their dogs out this fall and, ideally, complete a Junior Hunter title with their Vizslas. It was nice to meet many of you in person at the VCLI Hunt Test a month or so ago and encouraging to see so many folks giving their dogs a chance to be bird-dogs. For me, I was really pleased to complete the title on a four-year-old V who had come back to our breeder, a dog who had been pushed too hard too quickly by her previous owners and was blinking birds and gunshy when I first took her to camp this summer. ('Blinking' means willfully ignoring a situation, whether it's honoring another dog's point, or, in this case, pointing a bird and then deliberately turning away from it as soon as the handler comes up.)

As a Junior Hunter, you have a dog who knows/can't help itself but to point birds, who isn't gunshy, and which you have some degree of control over – even after the frenzy of fresh quail scent begins. And so, what do you do now? Assuming you want to keep doing fieldwork with your dog, you have several options based on what kinds of time, training, or outdoor activity you have the capacity for. For a variety of reasons, including the satisfaction of simply completing the task together, I would encourage all of you to explore 'breaking' your dog. For those of you unfamiliar with the term (and it is a term that I think is somewhat misleading especially with Vizslas), a 'broke dog' is one who is steady-to-fall and, ideally, retrieve; steady-to-fall, in turn, means that after establishing a point, the dog then stands all the way through the flush, the shot, and then waits to be sent for the retrieve. A fully finished dog will also honor another dog's point, stop-to-flush if a bird gets up in front of it whether it has scented it or not, and retrieve to hand.

There are numerous ways to break your dog – and every method has its proponents and detractors. The two pieces of advice I would give you are that you should pick a single method and stick to it, rather than cobble together pieces here and there and that you should begin cultivating patience. Unless you are fortunate to be able to take large chunks of time at a time, getting a dog fully broke working it on birds maybe three times a month will take a long time, and you need to be prepared for that especially, if you believe as I do, that once you start breaking the dog, all its subsequent bird contact should be structured in such a way that you can make corrections when they make a mistake. Put another way, if you plan to break your JH, then start as soon as the hunting season is over and plan for the possibility that you will not hunt the dog the following fall. I don't say this to be discouraging, but to say that setting an artificial deadline of the following bird season only encourages frustration and anxiety on your and your dog's parts.

If you are a hunter and plan to hunt your dog (and maybe only try out for another title at a much later date), I would still encourage you to think about breaking your dog at least a little further before doing that. Having a dog that will reliably not break on the shot means two things for you as a hunter: firstly, with the dog standing till you flush the bird, you will actually have a closer shot and you won't need to worry about a frenzied Vizsla entering your peripheral vision as you draw a bead on your target. There is a great deal of satisfaction to be gained from shooting your dinner over your own dog.

If you're not a hunter and have no intention of breaking your own dog, then you can keep doing what you're already doing and with the advent of the new Junior Hunter Advanced (JHA) title potentially earn an

additional title with your dog. For this, the dog needs five additional JH passes with an average of 8.0 per scoring category. You can also encourage a young person to participate in the sport through the Junior Handler program by letting them learn the sport with your dog.

only additional requirement to qualify beyond the Junior Hunter level is that the dog retrieve most of the way back to the handler. And, in my experience, hosting a Versatility Test event is even more straightforward for a club than hosting a hunt test.

If your Vizsla has any inclination to retrieve, and you have the inclination to work with the dog on some basic obedience and getting used to standing still, then the VCA's Versatility Certificate is another great opportunity to engage your Vizsla. To earn the certificate, your dog needs to pass three times in each of the following three areas: Conformation, Obedience, and Field. While I will tell you from experience that asking each of my male Vizslas to stand, sit, or lie down in one spot for three minutes was an exercise in personal penitence, I am proud of their having successfully completed it. The exact requirements can be found on the VCA's website, but for the purposes of this Field column it is important to know that the

As the cold weather approaches, start planning for your next adventure afield with your Vizsla!



Andrew Campbell is owned and operated by two Vizslas and one pointer – with whom he has finished hunt test and versatility titles. He is also an AKC hunt test and field trial judge.

The dog in the picture is Widdershins Upwind Jozsi JH whose Field Championship and Versatility Certificates he hopes to finish in 2013.



Ten Tips for Winterizing Your Pets

Oh, the weather outside is frightful! Winter weather is rapidly approaching and you've likely begun layering your clothing and weatherproofing your car. When organizing for winter, don't forget to think about your pets. They too are deserving of special treatment this time of year. Here are ten tips for keeping your pets cozy, comfortable, and healthy this winter:

1. Just as arthritis can be more problematic for us when the temperature drops, so too does this apply to our animals. If your best buddy appears stiff first thing in the morning or is more tentative when navigating stairs or jumping up and down off the furniture, I encourage you to contact your veterinarian. These days, there are so many beneficial treatment options for soothing arthritis discomfort. For your pet's sake, make the effort to learn more about them.
2. When the temperature drops, outdoor kitties like to snuggle up against car engines for extra warmth. Be sure to provide plenty of notice before you start up your engine

lest a “kitty squatter” sustain serious injury as a result of moving auto parts. Vocalize and tap the hood a few times. Better yet, lift the hood to alert any slumbering guests of your intentions.

3. Antifreeze is terribly toxic for dogs and cats. Even a few licks of the stuff can cause kidney failure and severe neurological symptoms, usually resulting in death. Unfortunately, most antifreeze products have a sweet flavor making them appealing to dogs. Cats are too discriminating to voluntarily taste the stuff, but should they step in antifreeze, they will ingest enough to be toxic during their grooming process. Please prevent your pets from having any access to antifreeze by checking under your vehicles for leaks and storing antifreeze containers in a safe place.

4. Wintertime is definitely dress-up time for dogs, when the clothing is functional rather than just adorable. Just like us, many dogs are more comfortable outside when wearing an extra layer. Smaller dogs in particular have difficulty maintaining a normal body temperature when exposed to freezing conditions. If the love of your canine life happens to be an arctic breed (Malamute, Husky, Samoyed), no need for canine clothing!

5. Regardless of season, all animals need access to water round-the-clock. If your pet is reliant on an outdoor water bowl, strategize a way to prevent the water from freezing. Water bowl heaters work well. Additionally moving water is more resistant to freezing—consider creating a little “drinking fountain” for your pets.

6. Sure the weather is cold, but your dogs still need plenty of exercise for their physical as well as their psychological wellbeing. Besides, there’s nothing quite like the feeling of relaxing by the fire with a content and tired dog at your side! If the weather is truly too inclement for both of you to be outdoors, look for an indoor dog park or consider doggie day care, assuming your dog enjoys such venues.

7. I’m all for hiking with dogs off leash, but in winter, be extra cautious around ponds and lakes for fear of thin ice. Not only is falling through the ice life threatening for dogs, it creates a situation that often becomes life threatening for the humans involved in the rescue operation.

8. Salt on sidewalks and roads and even ice that adheres to all of that fuzzy hair between your dog’s toes can create irritation and sores. Inspect and rinse your dog’s tootsies as needed.

9. I strongly encourage having dogs and cats live indoors. If your living situation absolutely prevents this, and there are no other viable alternatives, please provide your pet with an enclosed shelter that is warmed by a heating device and contains plenty of clean, dry bedding. Also, remember that your pet needs just as much attention from you in frigid temperatures as during the warmer seasons.

10. ‘Tis the time of year when we humans tend to overindulge, eating all kinds of things we shouldn’t. Don’t allow your pets to become a victim of this holiday spirit. In addition to adding unwanted and unhealthy pounds, eating rich and fatty foods predisposes them to gastrointestinal upset and pancreatitis either of which could land your four-legged family member in the hospital for several days (not to mention create some significant rug-cleaning expenses for you).

What steps do you take to ensure your pets will be happy and healthy during the winter?

Wishing you and your four-legged family members a joyful and healthy holiday season.

Nancy Kay, DVM, reprinted with permission

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine
Author of **Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life**
Author of **Your Dog's Best Health: A Dozen Reasonable Things to Expect From Your Vet**
Recipient, Leo K. Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year Award
Recipient, American Animal Hospital Association Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics Award
Recipient, Dog Writers Association of America Award for Best Blog
Recipient, Eukanuba Canine Health Award
Recipient, AKC Club Publication Excellence Award
[Become a Fan of Speaking for Spot on Facebook](#)

Please visit <http://www.speakingforspot.com> to read excerpts from *Speaking for Spot* and *Your Dog's Best Health*. There you will also find "Advocacy Aids"- helpful health forms you can download and use for your own dog, and a collection of published articles on advocating for your pet's health. *Speaking for Spot* and *Your Dog's Best Health* are available at www.speakingforspot.com, Amazon.com, local bookstores, and your favorite online bookseller.

(631) 581-1680
FAX (631) 581-5058

DISCOUNT PRICES
FINE WINES
LOTTO

WINE & LIQUOR DEPOT

207 ISLIP AVE.
ISLIP, NY 11751

DEBIT CARDS
AMEX

DISCOVER
VISA & MC

The merchant who donated our raffle basket at the Hunt Test. Please patronize.



Appeal from Vizsla Welfare Foundation

Cornell Mast Cell Study

Cornell is very pleased with our progress so far (since launch in August) but they need more control dogs (8 years and older who do not have MCT). Control dogs preferably should be examined by an oncologist but a thorough vet exam (aspirating any lumps) will suffice. Any dogs who can travel to Cornell will be offered a complete oncological exam for free. Also, the VCA Welfare Foundation can offer financial assistance if needed and/or can help people negotiate a reasonable fee from their vet. We are finding, however, that many vets are willing to waive their exam fees for this important research. Of course, all affected dogs of any age are needed as well.

Information (consent form, sample protocol) on how to participate in the study can be found on the VCA website: <http://vcaweb.org/welfare/research.shtml> Press release about the study with contact info at Cornell: http://www.vcaweb.org/download/VCAWF_pr080112b.pdf

Either I or Lynda Ruffini (VCA Health Committee Chair) is available to answer any questions. All inquiries are kept confidential.

Many thanks in advance for your assistance.

Elise Wright on behalf of the VCA Welfare Foundation

Selected Upcoming Events

CONFORMATION

Westminster Kennel Club, NYC—Feb. 11, 2013

First Co. Governor's Foot Guard Athletic Assn., Hartford, CT—Feb. 16-17, 2013

Wallkill Kennel Club, Suffern, NY—Feb. 22

Rockland Kennel Club, Suffern, NY—Feb. 23, 24

For more information, go to:

<http://www.akc.org/events/search/>

<http://vcaweb.org>

<http://www.vcli.net>

<http://www.vcnj.com/> <http://www.ctvalleyVizslaclub.org/CalendarofEvents.htm>

<http://www.thevcgny.com/Events.html>

<http://www.vccne.net/events.html>

<http://www.lipdc.com/>

<http://www.infodog.com/showinfo/state.htm>

Vizsla-Theme Holiday Presents--2012

Animal Den

Coasters, address labels, blanket, cookie jar, mug, mouse pad, tree ornament, note holder, pillow, pin, shirts, signs, umbrella, and calendar.

<http://www.animalden.com/Vizslas.html>

Animal Krackers K9 Gifts

Vizsla art prints by Steven Nesbitt; note cards and magnets by Michael Stedum and LOTS more!

<http://www.k9gifts.com/dog-gifts/vizsla.html>

Animal Stamps

Framed stamps from around the world with Vizslas, collector plates, etc.

<http://www.animalstamps.com/Vizslaindex.htm>

Argostar

Dog artwork, portraits, logos, wearable art, car magnets, clip art

<http://www.argostar.com/>

BigTallDog.com

Aprons, tiles, leash holders, cards, trivets, jewelry boxes, earrings, magnets, signs, welcome mats, night shirts, some great, funny tees, and limited edition statues.

<http://store.bigtalldog.com/vizsla-c72.aspx>

Café Press

Enter "Vizsla" in the search field for lots of merchandise, everything from coasters to iPhone cases to clothing from multiple sources.

<http://www.cafepress.com/+vizsla+gifts>

Central Wisconsin Vizsla Club

2013 calendar from club photo contest entries, some of which are in the calendar.

<http://www.cwvc.org/cal2013.html>

Dannyquest Designs.

Purebred dog sculptures in bronze.

http://dannyquest.com/store/category/p_ath/21_156

Dean's Custom Mailboxes

Dog breed mailboxes, including a Vizsla.
<http://www.deanscustommailboxes.com/dogs.html>

DogArtDog

Vizsla dog pop art
http://www.dogartdog.com/Vizsla_Art.htm

Dog Décor

Snow globe, leash holder, walking stick, tree ornament, welcome signs, coffee and soup mugs, ceramic tile trivet, ceramic collector plate, umbrella, earrings, mouse pad, embroidered hand towel, desk figurine set, shirts, hats, pajamas, etc.
<http://www.dogdecor.com/Vizsla.html>

Dog Like Nature

Vizsla magnets, car signs, other miscellany
<http://www.doglikenature.com/store/item/68068.Vizsla.Magnet>

Dog Sleeping Bags

<http://redbirddog.blogspot.com/2009/11/sleeping-bags-for-vizslas.html>

Doggone Good!

Vizsla gingerbread ornament, welcome sign, Vizsla Saint art prints, collar & lead, shelf/door topper, art flag, lanyard, list pad, magnet, notes, notepad, welcome signs, snow globe, socks.
<http://www.doggonegood.com/index.cfm>

[?fuseaction=category.display&listing=subcat&category_id=230](http://www.doggonegood.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=category.display&listing=subcat&category_id=230)

Dogwise

2013 Browntrout Vizsla calendar
<http://www.dogwise.com/ItemDetails.cfm?ID=B2288>

Dreamscape

Canine Collectibles: Flushed Vizsla gifts by Heidi Choquette—note cards, fine art print, ornaments, license plate holder, address book, shoulder bag, stickers, shirts, coasters, oak desk set, ceramic art tiles, oak leash rack, mouse pad, clock, tile box.
http://www.dreamscapek9.com/vizsla_gifts_art.htm

Golden Wonders

Golden breed jewelry
<http://goldenwonders.com/catalog.php?page=viz>

Maple Springs

Limited edition art print of pointing V by Marie Bummett.
<http://www.maplesprings.com/art/>

Marlo Allen, Artist

Beautiful pen and ink drawing of a Vizsla head.
<http://www.jubiar.com/gmarloallen/limited/pi-dogs.shtml>

Mia Lane, Artist

Best of breed head study

http://www.mialane.on.ca/print_room7b.htm

Michael Steddum, Artist

Note cards, magnets, original art

<http://michaelsteddum.com/>

Mira Designs

Vizsla apparel and gifts.

<http://www.cafepress.com/miradesigns>

Monique Akar Designs & Doggonit Gallery

Vizsla bed linens, chair caddy, collectible plate, cookie jar, fabric by the yard, fleece, hat, poncho, jewelry brooch, mug, needlepoint, quilts and quilt kit, scarf, salt & pepper shakers, shirts, thimbles, tiles, towels, urns, and a watercolor,

http://www.moniqueakar.com/catalog/-c-1_156.html

Mountain Pride Vizslas & K9 Art.

Drawings and cards of Vizslas by California breeder Kit Richards.

http://mtnpridevizslasandk9art.com/Mtn_Pride_Vizslas_%26_K9_Art/K9_Art.html

M. Sweeney

Dog breed Christmas cards and return address labels

<http://www.sweeneyholidaydogart.com/store/Vizsla.html>

Ole Don's Craft Shoppe

Leash holders, plaques, puzzles, etc.

Unusual. Found him on my summer vacation to Memphis. <http://www.ole-don.com/Products-1.html>

Paradox Vizslas

Site of Nancy Boggs Heinhold with info about dogs and jewelry

<http://dogwebs.net/Paradox/Vizslajewelry.asp>

Paws a Moment

Dog greeting cards and prints by photographer Jeanne Heilman including many funny and unique Vizsla ones.

<http://www.pawsamomentcards.com/>

PetPro

Multiple items: stickers, bottle stoppers, V angels and V devils, umbrellas, aluminum street signs, etc.

<http://www.petpro.com/index.php?p=catalog&parent=212&pg=1>

Roger Inman

Fine art dog breed studies.

<http://www.rogerinman.com/RIN248PIX.htm>

Sew What Again

The best embroidered shirts, hoodies, etc. A Vizsla design can be had with or without a bird.

<http://www.sewwhatagain.com>

Sally Mitchell

Limited edition fine art dog prints
http://www.sallymitchell.com/prints1.php?ti=10&wi=10&si=100150&alt=Vizsla_Prints

Sara England Designs

Whimsical prints and coasters of Vizslas.
http://www.saraenglanddesigns.com/index.php?option=com_virtuemart&page=shop.browse&category_id=144&Itemid=53&vmcchk=1&Itemid=53

Settin' Pretty Canine Art Gallery

Vizsla Art Prints by Mick Cawston and Debbie Gillingham.
<http://www.setterstuff.com/vizslaprints.html>

Sterling Gurwell Jewelry

Gorgeous silver jewelry; takes custom orders. V breeder Kit Richards in California told me about him.
<http://sterlinggurwell.blogspot.com/>

Unique Dog Art

Vizsla chalkboard, tiles, stained glass, wooden dog plaque, sun catchers.
<http://store.uniquedogart.com/Vizsla.html>

Vizsla Photos

Wonderful photo prints of Vizsla puppies.
<http://www.vizslaphotos.com/store.php>

Vizsla Rescue Fund

Christmas cards and some others, a photo book of V rescue stories, and a "Who Says It's Not Polite to Point?" T-shirt,
<http://www.vrescuefund.org/shopnew.html> with more on CafePress.
<http://www.cafepress.com/vrescuefund>

Vizsla Club of Illinois

2013 calendar.
<http://www.vizslaclubofillinois.org/>

Vizsla Rescue Haven

We are taking orders for our 2013 Vizsla calendar. This is the main yearly fund raiser for the Vizsla Rescue Haven, a non-profit organization that provides a home for hard-to-adopt and un-adoptable Vizslas. If you are interested in ordering just go to <http://www.vizslareshaven.org/contribute.shtml> to order. Or you can send a check for \$20 made out to Vizsla Rescue Haven to 4715 Meadowbrook Dr., El Sobrante, CA. 94803. They will be \$20.00 each with shipping included and are expected to be shipped by mid-December.

Zazzle Lots of gifts, cards, and more. Just put "Vizsla" into the search field.
<http://www.zazzle.com/>

You can also Google <Vizsla Art>, <Vizsla Collectibles>, <Vizsla Holiday Items> or <Vizsla Cards> to find tons more.

Mary K. Chelton

mchelton@optonline.net



#####

***Your Invitation to
A HOLIDAY GATHERING
OF THE
VIZSLA CLUB OF LONG ISLAND***

Please join us in sharing good cheer, great food & wonderful Vizsla stories!

When: Saturday, December 8at 3:30pm

Where: Home of Barbara Parker

27 Shore Drive West Copaigue 11726

RSVP 631.766.9702/ bparker@optonline.net

By December 2

PLEASE BRING:

Yourselves, and a covered dish to share. Call Barbara with your food selection. As always, we will have our annual Auction. Bring a gift item for the auction (a wrapped dog themed item for the human, value \$20-\$25.00)

We are looking forward to a wonderful Holiday Party.

The party is coming upon us quickly. Please give Barbara a buzz so we coordinate the food. Also, for those who will be drinking, can you please supply the wine, beer etc.?

#####

Work to improve your dog, but accept his preferences and limitations, too

Reprinted with permission from Tricia Breen November 13, 2012.

We have to find balance in our relationships. We need to work to help our dogs live comfortably with us and our chaotic human world. This takes time, practice, patience, observational skill, and a willingness to work at it. If our dogs are uncomfortable with other dogs, get worked up when on-leash, or are fearful of new people or new environments, we help them to work through these things. We want them to be comfortable, reduce the stress and anxiety that they might feel. We want them to be comfortable so that we can take them more places with us, enjoy their company in more venues.

We also need to know when to accept who they are, to be willing to change our expectations of them. If they don't want to meet lots of other dogs, we need to accept that. If they don't want to hang out at the coffee shop while we sit at the table visiting and drinking our caffeine, we need to accept that. If we have a dog that really gets no enjoyment out of agility, we need to question why we might be insisting.

As with people, there are introverts and extroverts in dogs. There are shy dogs, driven dogs, dogs who love to meet everyone and anyone, and dogs who prefer a small circle of friends only. So we work on making things better as much as possible for them, minimize the stress, maximize the comfort, then we adjust the environment to fit with who they are.

When someone calls me to say that they don't want to have to make any changes in their own lives to meet their dogs' needs, one of my tasks might be to reset their expectations. If one's daughter decides that med school or law school is not for her, a good parent supports that decision and understands that the love of another avenue is a perfectly fine thing for their child.

I have one such dog that has limitations. He likely had distemper as a pup and is a bit limited in his ability to do things that the other dogs can do. He can't go to as many places as the other dogs, but we have made concessions, made his life work for him and for us. We have learned to appreciate who he is, have not pushed him beyond his ability.

We have to compromise in our human relationships, too. If you are not fond of endless holiday cocktail parties with people you don't really know, your partner -- who might love such gatherings, understands that it might be too much to ask to expect that you attend one after another. Your partner could come up with a plan so that you could attend just a few of them, and they could attend a greater number independently or skip some of them. This is how relationships work and thrive.

Wouldn't it be great if we made our relationships with our dogs work that way too? Wouldn't it be to great to help them to be comfortable in our world while not pushing them beyond their innate abilities, understand that they might have preferences or limitations. Just imagine if your parents insisted that you go to medical school even

though your dream was to become an artist. Our dogs are just as individual as we are.

Tricia Breen has been involved with horses and dogs for most of her life. She studied biology and animal behavior in college, and spent years training her dogs and helping others to teach their dogs while moving around the country. Once settled back in her native California, she participated in and taught classes at her local dog training club, then taught classes and conducted behavior consults at the Marin Humane Society. For the last five years, Tricia was the Director of Animal Care and Adoptions at Marin Humane Society, always keeping an eye toward helping dogs and volunteers with shelter life. She has recently left this role and gone back to assisting people with their dogs to build relationships, consulting with behavior and training issues. She can be reached via www.canine-behavior-associates.com or triciabreen1@gmail.com.

Thanks to Barbara Parker for finding this.



VCLI Officers

President: Stephanie Fischer ilovtrav@aol.com 516-932-0530

Vice President: Mary K Chelton mchelton@optonline.net 631-286-4255

Treasurer: Ray Fischer rfischer22@aol.com 516-932-0530

Corresponding Secretary: Chris Cheeseman cpachristophergc@yahoo.com (516) 238-0783

Recording Secretary: Evelyn D'Achille missev@verizon.net 516-825-2097

Directors:

Tim Bresko: tim.bresko@verizon.net (631) 859-3441

Kevin Modica: kmodica1@gmail.com (631) 751-0922

Ron Padilla padilla1@optonline.net (631) 589-2936

Debbie Field Deb-2004@nyc.rr.com (212) 444-8386

Ellen Padilla ellenp21@optonline.net (631) 589-2936

Committees:

Membership: Ellen Padilla ellenp21@optonline.net (631) 589-2936

Rescue: Stephanie Fischer ilovtrav@aol.com , Mary K. Chelton mchelton@optonline.net , Ron Jones skyblu47@optonline.net, Debbie Field Deb-2004@nyc.rr.com

Field: Tim Bresko: tim.bresko@verizon.net (631) 859-3441

Show: Kathie Amore (631) 360-0262, KAMORE3235@aol.com

Events: Evelyn D'Achille missev@verizon.net (516) 825-2097

Newsletter: Mary K. Chelton, (631) 286-4255, mchelton@optonline.net, and Donna Owczarek nickndeeo@optonline.net.

VCLI Newsletter Policy

Articles written or submitted by individual correspondents may not necessarily be in accordance with present VCLI policies.

Newsletter Ad Rates

Cover—\$22.00

1 page w/1 photo \$17.00

1 page w/ 2 photos \$22.00

1 page w/out photo \$12.00

1/2 page w/ 1 photo \$15.00

1/2 page w/out photo \$10.00

1/4 page w/out photo \$5.00

When placing ads, the OFA# is required for the subject Vizsla. If under 2 years of age, the OFA#s of the parents are required. Spayed/neutered and deceased Vizslas need no OFA number.

NEXT NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE: February 15, 2012

