



NEWSLETTER

April, 2007

Volume 2

Number 4

From our President...

As we welcome the coming of spring again this year, I want to extend a special greeting of WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS as we have several joining our ranks at this time. In fact, at our match show not long ago, there were a number of new enthusiastic participants, including family groups that were there to share the fun. Unfortunately, not all can be winners, hopefully they enjoyed sharing an afternoon with others who are “nuts for vizslas” also. They were all so beautiful to watch as they gaited around the ring. No wonder we seem to have succumbed to a sort of “addiction” to our special breed.

For those newcomers, as well as the more seasoned members of VCLI, I extend an invitation to participate in our future events. “Come and see” and sample what fun you can be involved in with any of the variety of events where your dog is capable of participation. It isn't news to any owner of a vizsla that they are a very active and fun-loving breed, some even to the extent of testing their owners' patience at times. Because of this, they are really very adept at learning many sports, to say nothing of their inborn instinct to hunt. We owners are really the ones who have to do the learning and enjoying. That is one of the main reasons members are working so hard to assist in the growth of the VCLI. I encourage one and all to put the time aside to join in the activities when they are advertised. We usually send out mailings, but we are also experimenting with sending e-mail reminders.

Another important item to share with you all is the need the club has for more of its members to be involved in getting our activities up and running. You may feel you don't know enough about it yet, but please come forward and call one of the Board members listed and we will help initiate you. Participation at this effort is rewarding too. I sincerely hope to see you really soon, and especially to get to know the "newbies".

Look elsewhere in this newsletter for announcements of various planned events.

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*The Club offers condolences to Stephanie Fischer
on the death of her father.*

Upcoming Events

April 17—VCLI Annual dinner at Bonwit Inn

May 19—VCLI Club picnic and meeting at Ladies Kennel Club show at Planting Fields in Oyster Bay

In the planning stages:

- Field training day
- Summer fun day
- Supported entry (possibly in late September)

Dog Food Information

Latest recalls:

www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/petfood.html

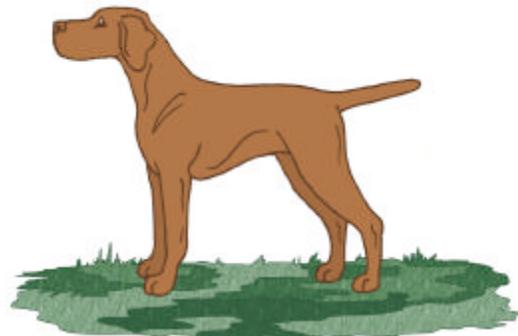
See www.newday.com for Denise Flaim's column, "Cooking Up New Feeding Options" on March 27, 2007

Email DogTrainers' Connection at bonnie@dogtrainersconnection.com to request the article on commercial dog foods by holistic canine nutritionist, Bonnie Blumenfeld.

New York Legal Happenings with Dogs

NYC Councilman Peter Vallone is sponsoring a resolution to overturn the state law that makes breed specific legislation in NY illegal. The Dog Federation of New York (www.dogfederationofnewyork.org) is fighting this because, like the American Kennel Club, they feel that the deed, not the breed, should be punished. Please contact your NYS representatives to oppose Vallone's resolution #156.

VCLI members interested in following dog-related legislation can subscribe to the DFNY list called DFNY DogLaw on Yahoo Groups. There is also a national list on breed specific legislation called BSL-UPDATES, also on Yahoo Groups.



Committee Reports

Membership Report: We currently have 55 families paid through 2006. Thank you all for continuing to support our club. If you have any suggestions for the upcoming year, please e-mail me. The renewal application is in this month's newsletter and it is due back to me by June 1. For those of you who have joined in the past 3 months, there is no need to rejoin for 2007.

Treasury Report: There is \$642.59 in our checking account and \$4538.24 in our Rescue Fund.

Rescue Report:

I want to thank Mary K Chelton and Ron and Cathy Jones for "stepping up to the plate" these past 6 weeks. The sudden death of my father truly left me unable to think about anything but family matters. We had 3 rescues take place and fielded many phone calls.

I would also like to thank Jackie and Eddie McAuliffe for fostering Viza who is one of our rescues. Viza, who is 2 1/2 came to us from a gentleman who had a job change situation. Highly energetic and lovable she fit right in with my 2 dogs and kept my puppy out of trouble. I wanted to keep her, but soon realized 3 was too many for us to handle at this time. As of this writing she is happily running around with Marley and Dillon McAuliffe where she has become a permanent member of the McAuliffe V family.

*Stephanie Fischer
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THE STORY OF THE Os

Oola's Story

Our most recent rescue is a puppy who was advertised on Craig's List upstate. Thanks for the help of Barbara Snyder, VCA president who lived nearby, picked up the puppy and arranged a transfer to her new owners at a rest stop on the NY Thruway. We welcome the O'Grady's and their new adopted puppy to the club. Patty O'Grady sends the following report:



This is Oola.

"Hi! I'd love to give you some background on our new Vizsla, Oola (formerly known as Riley), who has come to live with our family. Oola has three brothers: my sons, ages 10 and 7, and our pointer, Buck (age 4). Needless to say, Oola gets a lot of exercise. Her day starts at 6:00 a. m. with a 30-45 minute walk around the neighborhood. After their walk, Oola and Buck play. They love to chase each other and play tug of war. The only loser is the dog toy! By the time I need to leave for work, they are both tired and ready for a rest in their crates. Oola has the typical Vizsla traits. She enjoys playing, going for walks, "counter surfing" (needed to break out the spray bottle!) and LOVES to cuddle. My boys love to cuddle with her too! Each night Oola sleeps with one of my sons. They take turns! Everyone is happy. It has only been a week, but it seems she has been with us from the beginning.

Ozzie's Story

Another recent success story is Ozzie who went from Long Island where his family felt with two fulltime jobs, a new baby and a home being rebuilt, they no longer had enough time for him, to a home in Maine with the help of Leslie

Hyland, the VCA New England Rescue Coordinator. The photos below show him in his new home.



Ozzie in Maine with his new family, 3-year-old Ty (above) and 13-year-old Connor (below) Gervais

Oslo's Story

An older rescue success story never recounted here is Oslo, surrendered to Rescue at 12-weeks old by a woman who declared him "a vicious dog" because he had bitten her 8-year-old son. He was picked up and fostered by Ron Jones, deemed to be normal (although we have wondered often about the 8-year-old), and was adopted by a couple from Massachusetts, also with Leslie Hyland's help. Kris tells his story below:

"Oslo came to join Diana, me, our boxer Nevada and four cats, when he was about 14 weeks old. He adapted well as a puppy to living with all the cats who soon found out that a Vizsla is much faster than they are. Nevertheless they all get along well today and Diana finally stopped taking tranquilizers for all her worrying about

her cats. Oslo progressed through puppy school and became well acquainted with all the neighborhood dogs and most of the townsfolk in Marblehead, MA. He turned from an ungainly frog-like looking puppy into a beautiful looking adult. People constantly stop to pet and admire him when we're out walking around town, but that is something that all Vizsla owners have to endure.

When he was 11 months old, he was sent to boot camp in Athol, MA where he learned to be a gun dog from Pat Perry at Hedgerow Kennels. His graduation exercise was a 6-bird test where he pointed them all. Good dog! Nowadays, he loves running around the woods best, and is a tireless hunter. We don't have many pheasant or partridge around Marblehead these days so he fills his nonhunting time by pointing at sea gulls, chickadees and dog poop for us. Good dog!



Oslo and Nevada enjoying the fireplace in a Massachusetts winter

Winter is hard on a dog with this much energy, but he and Nevada go running on one of the local beaches when the snow and ice permits. On other days, they don't seem to mind spending time on their dog beds warming in front of the living room fireplace and dreaming of summer's events.



Oslo (pretending) to drive the car as Nevada looks on (and looks worried)

This coming year's highlights include taking him sailing around Marblehead; now that he's calmed down somewhat—at least somewhat calmer than a nuclear explosion! Even at 43', a sailboat seems too small for him. And a week long excursion to some far away forests and fields in northern New York State during bird season.

So far, Oslo has had a couple of good years with us, and we, with him.”

Kris Kristiansen and Diana Logan
Reported by Stephanie Fischer and Mary K. Chelton

Rescue is always in need of foster families for rescued dogs while they are being evaluated, or just need a safe place to stay before placement. Please contact Stephanie Fischer (516) 932-0530 or ilovtrav@aol.com if you can help.



Ron and Cathy's puppy Abby

Club Members At Westminster

As first timers at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, Ron and I were very excited to support our our puppy and her family. Abby is a beautiful bitch and we were thrilled to share her accomplishments with her owners Nancy Brush, her husband Jim and two daughters Kelly and Erin. We went into the staging area first and met up with Abby's handler, Joe Diaz as well as Kathie Amore and her bitch Lizzie who was also being shown. As an added bonus, one of our other club members, Matthew Fischer and his dog Cliffy and his parents were there as well. Matthew was the youngest member in the group of Vizsla handlers and did a excellent job of showing his dog. It made it extra nice to be there with so many friends.



The judging of Vizslas at Westminster

Once inside the arena where the Vizslas were being shown, we met up with the Brush family and cheered and gave Abby and Joe and the others our sincerest support. We are not much for sporting events, but we truly felt like we were getting a glimpse the excitement of the Super Bowl. The atmosphere at the show was electric. Ron and I were enthralled to see all the varieties of breeds and the crowds of people, all supporting their favorites.

We have been avid viewers of the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show on TV for many years, especially since we acquired our three Vizslas and have become involved with showing them. Needless to say, the excitement one feels by actually being at the show and having one of our puppies participate, cannot compare to just watching the show on television. We look forward to going back another year and supporting this great breed again.



Vizslas in the breed ring at Westminster.

The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show is a worthwhile experience for any dog lover. It is exciting, colorful and definitely gives you a whole new perspective about the elegance of dogs and the people who work so hard to enhance their breed.

Cathy & Ron Jones
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Member Profile: Matthew Fischer

Besides being the youngest handler, with a broken wrist, no less, in the Westminster Kennel Club Vizsla breed ring, Matthew got a first hand view of the proceedings, so we decided to ask him how it all felt and how he got there (MKC):

How long have you been competing in Jr. Handlers?

I have been competing in Jr. Handling for about 3 years now with my dog Cliffy.

How did you come to be in the Westminster KC show?

I got into the Westminster Kennel Club dog show with my dog Cliffy by putting in a lot of hard work with him. Joe Diaz helped us get into the show. He showed me almost all of the stuff I know. He finished Cliffy which means he put 15 points on him and that allowed us to get into the Dog show.

How did you come to break your wrist right before the show?

I broke my wrist playing basketball in Mattlin Middle school. I went to the Meadowlands dog show a week later and didn't do badly. I thought to myself if I did well here I should do even better when I get into Westminster.

What was the best part about being there? The worst?

The best part about being at Westminster was getting the honor and walking on that carpet

thinking I'm one of the only kids to do this. One of the worst parts of it was right before I went into the ring. I was so nervous I was ready to throw up and throw in the towel but my dad and Joe Diaz said I could do it.



Matthew and Cliffy in the ring at Westminster.

What advice would you give other kids who compete in Jr. Handlers? Who compete at Westminster?

There are a lot of things I can say but one of the most important things to say is practice. Also you have to pay attention to yourself and nobody else except the judge when you are in the ring.



Matthew exhibits handling expertise with Cliffy.

What other things do you do for fun?

Some of things I do outside the ring are baseball, tennis, basketball, swimming, play with my friends and listen to music. Baseball is my favorite sport. All through the summer Cliffy would come to my games and then after a long days practice my friends and I go in the pool and Cliffy joins us.



**CH. HARANN'S TULIPANN—
11/78-9/92**

(Since Anne Denehy is the only member who actually has had a Westminster breed winner, we asked her to reminisce about Tuli for us—MKC)

Perhaps there are not many people around who remember my beloved “Tuli”, and what she means to me, or even stands for in the breed. Please humor me and let me tell you of this exceptional vizsla who graced my life and those of my family for a long time. She is best remembered by a quiet, even temperament but lively attitude and willingness to please.

Tuli was our first “home bred” champion. Her dam, “Kristie” was purchased from Joan Smith of Stonybrook, (who by the way came to visit us at our last match show). She became a champion and we had fun getting an Obedience title as well. But Tuli was destined to go beyond that. We showed her ourselves up through her championship. The biggest surprise was when I showed her at the Vizsla Club of America Nationals held in New Jersey in 1979, and she helped me win Best in Sweepstakes and Best Puppy in Show, demonstrating that it is the dog, not always the handler, who does the job.

She went on enjoying winning on the Best of Breed level, with Bill Barker as her handler. He took her to the level of #1 in the country, until in April 1981 they experienced a tragic accident, a story in itself. From there Charles Spalding became a co-owner and she continued on to become the second vizsla bitch ever to win Best in Show, but she was the first to win it 4 times. She was shown a very limited number of times, but succeeded in establishing many other records, which remained unbroken for many years—among which are Best of Breed at Nationals twice, once out of the veteran’s class, and the only Vizsla to ever win the Sporting Group at Westminster, in 1983. That last record has never been broken.



Westminster, February 1983 Ch. Harann's Tulipann—Judge, Dr. Bernard McGivern; Handler, Bobby Barlow, unknown steward. Win was Sporting Group I.



September 23, 2006, Harann's Dora a Felfedezo (fyi Dora the Explorer in Hungarian), BOW from the Bred By Exhibitor Class, Handler/co-owner Ellen Gravatt. (Flash—just passed Junior Hunter for 3rd leg April 1, 2006)

But the true test of the quality of a dog is its ability to produce the same excellence, if not better, than itself. Tuli had four litters. From them there were 19 champions which makes her a “Top Producer” and through them she contributed indelibly to the quality of the breed. Two of her sons were Best in Show winners, one of these also attaining a UD in Obedience work. The other of those sons won the VCA specialty BOB in '91 and his son won it in '93, thus establishing another new record of three generations of National Specialty winners.

Among her progeny down the generations, were many other outstanding achievers and titleholders in field and obedience, in therapy dog work and also several Top Producers, thus proving her ability to pass into the future very true and desirable breed characteristics. There is much more to say, which space prohibits, but especially she was my darling companion....I still miss her. The young dogs from Harann's breedings are the *seventh* generation, as you will see in “Dora”'s picture in this issue, and “Cliffy” who belongs to Matthew Fischer and (and his parents') who is also featured here. Not all pups with the kennel name “Harann” are AKC champions, but they all are tops in my reckoning...

Anne Denehy



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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

Tales from VizslaLand

OK this is both funny and annoying. I have 6 adult redheads that allow us to share their house. My 11 year old Amber loves toilet paper and Kleenex (to steal, eat, shred, and fill her crate with). Her addiction started with Kleenex and she soon trained us to keep it in drawers and high counters if we too wanted to ever use it. About 6 months ago her tissue addiction (unable to be satisfied with no Kleenex available) expanded to toilet paper. The first time she did this I came up stairs and as I walked into our bedroom (yes we share the master with these beasts) there was a white ribbon of paper coming out the bathroom door, going across the floor of the bedroom, continuing into to sitting room and terminating inside Ambers crate, where she lay eating the end and was quite satisfied with herself. Needless to say I started to laugh at this sight (so she was instantly reinforced) and she knew she had a great new trick! Well the toilet paper problem has only gotten worse. Now two others have watched Amber, seem me react and learned that it is really funny to toilet paper the house. I find white streamers of TP through the entry hall and into the den, running down the stairs... I tried switching brands of toilet paper (I thought it was the Charmin scent that they were after) and making sure that the rolls are on backwards so it is not as easy to see the loose end. Each intervention only stopped the white ribbons for less than a week. I know the obvious is to not let the dogs into the bathroom but this is where we keep the water bowls since there is tile rather than wood floor in these rooms. BTW the dogs are not loose when we are not home so this TPing of the house is something that they do when we are home but clearly can't keep a close enough eye on everyone especially with a litter of pups on the ground. I think that in a week when the pups are gone I'm going to start a program of making everyone spray the exposed rolls with bitter apple after using. We also are not buying triple rolls for now since at lease the single rolls don't make it as far through the house. Seeing as this started as a tissue addiction for one I double there is much we can do. On the good side I do have one non participant (Lila) that has become the self appointed TPing monitor and she will come and get me whit a concerned look on her face when she sees one of the others pulling the white streamer.

Posted by Alyson Lyons to VizslaTalk on November 17, 2006 and reprinted with permission

