



large quantity. Solvents can be very irritating to the gastrointestinal tract, eyes and skin, and could also produce central nervous system depression if ingested, or pneumonia if inhaled. "Prevention is really key to avoiding problems from accidental exposures," says Dr. Hansen. "Pet owners should keep pets out of areas where home improvement projects are occurring, and of course label directions should always be followed when using any

product."

**10. Fertilizers** - More than 1,700 calls pertaining to plant fertilizers were handled last year. In general, most fertilizers are fairly low in toxicity. However, the consumption of significant amounts can lead to vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal discomfort. Additionally, some fertilizer formulations may also contain insecticides, which could potentially lead to further problems if eaten.

For more information on other substances potentially hazardous to animals, log onto: [www.aspcapcc.org](http://www.aspcapcc.org). To reach the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, call 1-888-426-4435. For more information on the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center visit [www.aspcapcc.org](http://www.aspcapcc.org). If your pet is showing any signs of distress or you suspect your pet is seriously ill, CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN immediately.

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**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**

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

- serious problems could result if given to the wrong animal or at too high of a dose.”
- 5. Household Cleaners** - In 2005, approximately 5,200 calls pertaining to cleaning agents such as bleaches, detergents and disinfectants were received. “Household cleaners can be quite effective in disinfecting surfaces in the home when used appropriately,” says Dr. Hansen, “but gastrointestinal irritation or even severe oral burns could result with some cleaners depending on the circumstances of exposure.” Additionally, irritation to the respiratory tract may be possible if a product becomes inhaled. “All household cleaners and other chemicals should be stored in a secure location well out of the reach of pets,” Dr. Hansen recommends. When cleaning your pet’s food and water bowls, crate or other habitat, a mild soap such as a hand dishwashing detergent along with hot water is a good choice over products containing potentially harsh chemicals.
  - 6. Herbicides** - Around 4,600 calls pertaining to various types of herbicides came through the Center’s lines last year. Most herbicides are considered to be relatively safe when used appropriately. However, directions such as “keep animals away from treated area until dry” need to be adhered to in order to avoid the potential for problems such as damage to desirable vegetation, minor skin irritation or stomach upset if ingested.
  - 7. Plants** - Over 4,400 cases involving plants were handled by the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center in 2005, including such varieties as lilies, azalea, rhododendron, sago palm, kalanchoe and schefflera, among others. “There are many different species of plants that could be harmful to pets if consumed in large enough quantities,” cautions Dr. Hansen. “For example, just one or two sago palm nuts can cause vomiting, diarrhea, depression, seizures and even liver failure, while lilies are highly toxic to cats and even in small amounts can produce life-threatening kidney failure.” While poisonous plants should certainly be kept away from pets, it is also a good idea to discourage animals from nibbling on any variety, as even non-toxic plants could produce minor stomach upset if eaten.
  - 8. Chocolate** - More than 2,600 chocolate calls were received by the Center last year. Depending on the type, chocolate can contain large amounts of fat and caffeine-like substances known as methylxanthines. If ingested in significant amounts, chocolate could potentially cause vomiting, diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst and urination, hyperactivity and in severe cases, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures and could even be fatal. “Typically, the darker the chocolate, the greater the potential for poisoning,” says Dr. Hansen. “Baking chocolate contains the highest amount of methylxanthines, and just two ounces could cause serious problems for a 10 pound dog.”
  - 9. Home Improvement Products** - In 2005, approximately 1,800 cases involving paint, solvents, expanding glues and other physical hazards were managed. While the majority of water-based paints are low in toxic potential, stomach upset is still possible, and artist’s paints can contain heavy metals that could be poisonous if consumed in a

## Top 10 Pet Poisons and Toxicities

*Courtesy of ASPCA on PetPlace.com*

Each year, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center receives tens of thousands of calls involving animal exposures to potentially poisonous substances. In 2005, the Center managed more than 100,000 calls pertaining to a seemingly inexhaustible variety of items. Below is a compilation of the types of calls that the Center assists with, listed in order of the frequency reported:

- 1. Human Medications** - In 2005, more than 46,000 calls involving common human drugs such as painkillers, cold medications, antidepressants and dietary supplements were managed by the Center. "Ingestions of certain medications could be very harmful or even fatal to pets," cautions Dr. Steven Hansen, Senior Vice-President of the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center. "Owners should never give their pet any medication without the direction of a veterinarian, as even 1 extra-strength acetaminophen can be deadly to a cat, and just 4 regular-strength ibuprofen can lead to serious kidney problems in a 10-pound dog". Medications should always be stored in a secure cabinet above the counter and out of the reach of pets.
- 2. Insecticides** - over 21,000 cases pertaining to products used to kill fleas, ticks and other insects were handled last year. "While there are products for eliminating fleas, ticks and other pesky bugs that are safe for use in households with pets, a key factor in their safe use is reading and following label instructions exactly," advises Dr. Hansen. "Some species of animals can be particularly sensitive to certain types of insecticides, so it is vital to never use any product not specifically formulated for your pet." Never give medication labeled for dogs to a cat. It is also a good idea to consult with your pet's veterinarian before beginning any flea and tick control program.
- 3. Rodenticides** - In 2005, approximately 6,900 calls about rat and mouse poisons were received. Depending on the type of rodenticide, ingestions can lead to potentially life-threatening problems including bleeding, seizures or even damage to the kidneys or other vital organs. "Should pet owners opt to use a rodenticide around their home, they should make sure that the bait is placed only in areas completely inaccessible to their animals," Dr. Hansen instructs.
- 4. Veterinary Medications** - Close to 6,200 cases involving animal-related preparations such as non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs, heartworm preventatives, dewormers, antibiotics, vaccines and nutritional supplements were managed by the Center last year. "Although these products are formulated for use in pets, it is very important to always read and follow label directions for use exactly," advises Dr. Hansen. "As with flea and tick preparations, many medications are intended for use in certain species only, and potentially

## Committee Reports

**Treasurers Report:** The treasury is going strong due our membership renewal. Our checking account has \$1364.03 and our Rescue fund has \$2896.50.

**Membership Renewal:** 31 out of our 46 families have renewed their memberships so far. Please keep VCLI going strong by sending back your application asap. As always, any suggestions on how we can improve our club, or ideas for new events are always welcome.

**Rescue:** I would first like to thank everyone who made a donation to our Rescue fund. There are many ways to help and having the funds to care for a Vizsla in need is quite important. I am happy to say for the first time, we have more applicants than dogs. It is very important to have a base of families to draw from so when a dog does become available we can match the dog with a proper family. The Vizsla Club of America is updating their website and we will finally be formally recognized as handling rescue for southern New York State and Long Island. We are still looking for families to join our foster program, even if just for a few days. Ask any of our volunteers; it is a rewarding experience.

On a closing note, our last two rescues are doing beautifully! Xander made it out to our hunt clinic and from what I hear had a great time, and Lexi is romping in the woods of New Hampshire, and finally has her girlish figure back. She and Riley (another one of our rescues) are now the best of friends.

*Stephanie Fischer*

**Upcoming LI Conformation Shows**  
([www.akc.org/events](http://www.akc.org/events))

5/19-20 Ladies KC at Planting Fields  
5/21 LIKC at Nassau Co. Museum of Art  
7/15 Riverhead KC at Suffolk Comm.  
College, East in Speonk.



*Amber, the editor's rescue girl, helps her unpack after a trip in March.*

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### **A BRAG!!!**

*Noel Walter's Valley Hunter Sam the Intrepid Man got the first leg of a Jr. Hunter title on Feb. 1, and the second leg on Feb. 12, plus won Amateur Walking Puppy in the Tampa Bay Vizsla Club Field Trial January 20-21.*

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### *Vizsla Breeder*

*I catch the passing sunlight  
in my hands*

*It shimmers in gold-rust  
coats,*

*Bird-glows in amber eyes,  
I stroke a sunbeam's head  
And dream new dreams*

*Luellen Hart*

### **Focus On The Field**

Since the last newsletter the club has sponsored two more training days. We were fortunate to have accommodating winter weather that was relatively warm with light winds and no precipitation. The February training day was run much like the day in January. Each of 14 dogs ran individually and had the chance to have bird contact and run in the field. The March training day gave 16 dogs and their handlers an opportunity to run a junior hunter course and see how their dog might perform in a real test. An additional 4 dogs that have had limited birdwork ran individually to gain more experience in the field. The club is extremely pleased with the turnout at our initial training days!

I have certainly seen many of the dogs come a long way in building confidence and drive since that first training session in January. I'm very encouraged that many of the dogs are making excellent progress, some of which will hopefully be participating in upcoming AKC field events.

For those that might be interested the following is a listing of local area clubs that will be hosting both AKC hunt tests and AKC field trials in the next several months. I encourage folks to participate if they feel their dog is ready but if more work is still needed, please feel free to go to the events and watch and ask questions. You are welcome to trail any brace, however, you must wear an article of blaze orange to be in the field. Some clubs require it for all levels and the AKC requires blaze orange in order for you to be in the gallery of any shooting stake. A shooting stake will have gunners dispatching game for dogs to retrieve. Those stakes would include the senior and master hunter tests or any field trial gun dog stake that has been designated as a "retrieving" Stake.

<b><u>Club</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
EISC	Hunt Test	4/29 & 30	Hackettstown, NJ
SNEBC	Hunt Test	4/29 & 30	Wolcott, CT
Yankee Weim	Hunt Test	5/20 & 21	Plainfield, CT
DVWGPC	Hunt Test	5/27 & 28	Weatherly, PA

For more details on any of these events please refer to the AKC website [www.akc.org/events/search/](http://www.akc.org/events/search/) This is only a partial list of local events.

Anyone that would like to talk about specific things to keep their dog progressing and focused on the field please feel free to give a call at (631) 368-3184.

Rich Mayer

***Point It Out: Tick Season is quickly approaching. Consider a topical treatment such as Front Line to protect your dog. Speak to other handlers or your vet for the best treatment.***

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May, 2006

**VIZSLA CLUB OF LONG ISLAND NEWSLETTER**

**FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

Lots of things swirl through my head when I think about the Vizsla Club of Long Island. We have so many things going on—which is wonderful, of course. One of the greatest most recent happenings that has interested so many members is the development of the hunting program. If you talk to some of the people who have brought their dogs out to Riverhead on a variety of winter days, you would hear them tell excitedly about what they saw their dogs doing. It is an amazing sight to see your cute little pet go run out there in the woods, nose to the ground, using talent you never knew was there all along. Rich Mayer has described it elsewhere in this newsletter, but I suggest all members to come and see the next time we have this event.

As for other events, I hope as many members as possible have by now joined us for our annual dinner meeting on April 25. We have done this together for many years now, and always have a good time. It's an opportunity to brag about our vizslas and swap funny stories. We usually have a short, informative talk from an expert, which is a benefit for all.

Other items to report include our ongoing work with AKC to advance our club to recognized status. It is an important step that we must take, but it does take time and a lot of work. Something you might like to know is that we are listed with all the other regional clubs in the *Vizsla News*—the official publication of the Vizsla Club of America

and will soon be added to their website. Now, that feels like progress.

This summer we will be holding another Fun Day. The plans are not formalized as yet, but we are working toward having that accomplished soon, and we will notify you, so you can make plans. We had such a good turnout for this last year, and everyone really enjoyed spending a day outdoors with dogs and friends, old and new. I hope you will be able to add this to your summer agenda.

The Vizsla Club of Long Island exists because of and for you and your dogs' benefit. Please stay in touch and let us know of your concerns and interests, so we can continue to work on improving. The Board you have elected seriously has this as its goal. Keep participating so we can move the club along toward becoming and remaining a strong and meaningful organization.

Anne Denehy

