



NEWSLETTER

November, 2007

Volume 3 Number 2

From our President...

It seems a long way from summer now that the weather has changed, but have you noticed how our Vizslas have perked up, too. They can tell the critters out there are getting ready for winter, scurrying around to hoard away the acorns, etc. The dogs would like to go scurry around and find those critters.

By the time you get this newsletter, we will have finished our second hunting training day of the season. Those members who came with their dogs have amazing stories to tell. Many of those people would have said "What, ME HUNT???" a year or so ago. They will tell you that! But, in truth, they found out that it isn't they who do the hunting, it is their dog that gets out there and does what comes naturally. The breeding of the Vizsla over the centuries in Hungary was always to intensify the scenting instinct, the desire to range out, not too far in front of "his master" (sorry ladies), to search with his nose for the hidden birds, and to "point" them out so the master could find them for the family dinner.

I seriously urge all Vizsla owners to go out to the next field opportunity and give his/her dog a chance to show off this previously unexplored talent. It is exciting to see this happen in a pet whose nose really has a special job to do, and you let it. Yes, the owner has some part to learn, also. That's what Rich and his helpers do. You'll see when you come. Look for more opportunities for this in the months to come and plan for a wonderful experience.

Just an update on some current Board projects—AKC work—we are again gearing up efforts to organize materials and events, preparing to move our club up to the next level. We are getting closer to our goal of becoming officially recognized by the AKC. You'll hear more about this soon. Our website currently in the exploration stage. We are hoping in the near future to be able to offer access to the public searching the Internet for information. We are an active Board, with meetings every other month presently on the 3rd Thursday. Our Board meetings are open meetings. Any member may attend if interested. We are eager to have membership input. Let us know if we can do more to help you enjoy your Vizsla.

Our next general membership meeting will be in conjunction with the Holiday Party. It is scheduled for December 8th, at the home of Jackie and Eddy McAuliffe. Put the day on your schedule and plan for you and your families to come. More information in the official announcement below.

Anne Denehy
(631) 424-7863
Vizsla73@aol.com



The Best Part About Owning A Dog...

... is the way he will come over to see me, for no reason, just to let me know I'm important to him
... is the way he is always ready to lick the jelly off my nose...
... is the way he looks into my eyes and finds contentment in simply being near me
... is the way he will run all over the yard, fetch a soggy tennis ball and bring it back to me as if to say "look mom, it's all I have, but it's yours"
... is the way he wakes me up in the morning by pushing his cold wet nose in my ear and snuffing loudly
... is the way he shreds toilet paper all over the house, because it's fun even though he knows he shouldn't
... is the way he's sure he can catch the ducks in the lake today...
... is the way he comes over to me when he is sad
... is the way he wedges himself near me when I am

sad and pushes all others away, to console me with his love
... is the way he pounces on crickets in the backyard
... is the way he looks perplexed when they escape
... is the way he is terrified of the evil pink hula hoop
... is the way he doesn't mind how much of that horrid perfume I'm wearing just because it was a gift from my relative who's visiting
... is the way he doesn't care about bad hair day or overdue bills
... is the way he loves you, even when you are impatient with him and have no time this morning for a game of tug-a-war
... is the way his coat feels like liquid silk under my fingers
... is the way he finds wisdom beyond words

~Unknown

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 8 at 3pm
Where: home of Jackie & Eddie McAuliffe
RSVP [631-286-2762](tel:631-286-2762) / emackop@optonline.net

PLEASE BRING: Yourself, and a covered dish to share. Call Jackie and Eddie with your food selection. And finally a gift item for the traditional "auction"(a wrapped dog related item, value around \$10.00)

Directions:

From **Sunrise Hwy** to exit 56 (Station Rd), south on Station Rd, cross over Montauk hwy, past the cemetery, to the intersection of Station Rd & South Country Rd. Turn right on South Country Rd, past 2 houses to 91 S. Country Rd, the driveway is before the third house on the right side of the road. The Vizsla on our mailbox will guide you. We are the flag lot down the driveway & to the left, white house with green shutters. From **LIE exit 62** (Nichols Rd) south to Sunrise hwy east then follow above directions.

HELP WANTED!!

Keeping our club going takes a lot of volunteer time and effort and we could stand some help, either ongoing or one-shot. If you think you can do anything below, please let us know. We are determined not to have this club become, like many, a group of "insiders" and the "rest of us." Please consider volunteering to help. In any case, we still may broadcast an appeal, especially for rescue pickups, transport and evaluation.

Club Web Master: The club is looking for tech-savvy members who have the expertise and creativity to get us exposure on the Internet. This is a great opportunity to interest new members and keep current ones informed between newsletters. If you think you can dedicate some time to monitoring content for accuracy and currency, and making monthly updates we'd love to hear from you. If interested please contact Anne Denehy at (631) 424-7863 or Vizsla73@aol.com.

VCLI Store Manager: The club has a beautiful logo that we use on all correspondence and we've started to put it on selected garments. The club needs someone to expand our clothing line, work with suppliers, take orders and manage the sale of garments, hats, and other VCLI emblazoned items. If you think you'd be interested in managing the "VCLI Store" please contact Anne Denehy at (631) 424-7863 or Vizsla73@aol.com.

Rescue Volunteers: VCLI has an outstanding operation to rescue Vizslas from various states here on the east coast. Our goal is to place Vizslas needing love, understanding and training into selected families that open their homes and hearts to these special dogs. If you think you can provide a temporary foster home, provide transportation for a dog being moved, visit a family that wants to have us take their dog, or make a donation, we'd love to hear from you. The work is demanding. The schedule is unpredictable. The rewards are endless. If you think you'd have time to participate in this special program, even occasionally, please contact Stephanie Fischer at (516) 932-0530 or ilovtrav@aol.com.

Field Operations Volunteers: VCLI will be holding its first hunt test no later than the spring of '08. These events require many helping hands to ensure the event runs smoothly and the entrants have a great experience. Volunteers are needed to run the kitchen ("cook" and serve breakfast and lunch), coordinate entrants and guide them to the course, run a raffle, plant birds, Marshall (chaperone) observers around the course. Dates are still pending but if you're interested please contact Rich Mayer @ 631-368-3184 <mailto:bytheseaVizslas@optonline.net>.

Fun Day Committee Chairperson: VCLI has now conducted a Fun Day each summer and its popularity has made it an annual event. The club is looking for someone to be the coordinator of the '08 event. The job involves securing a property to use and coordinating the day's menu and activities with other VCLI members. If you think you'd be interested in coordinating this great event please contact Anne Denehy at (631) 424-7863 or Vizsla73@aol.com.

Muscles Brigade:

We need people who can help schlep equipment to Fun Day and other events, set up tents, courses, etc. If you have a truck or van and/or muscles, please step forward and contact Ron Jones at (631) 454-4368 or <mailto:skyblu47@optonline.net>

Writer/Reporter Wannabes: Putting out a quarterly newsletter is a demanding job and often the most challenging part is to have interesting, relevant material to include. If you enjoy Vizslas, writing, cooking, bragging, telling mostly clean jokes, interviewing members, or photography, we'd love for you to submit a recipe, a joke, a picture or a story that our members would enjoy reading. There are no prerequisites and spelling doesn't even count. If you think you can provide material for the newsletter or have an idea for an article or quarterly column, please contact Mary K Chelton at (631) 286-4255 or mchelton@optonline.net

Match Show Workers: Every match show we do to meet AKC's requirements for accreditation needs helpers to set up rings, keep track of entries, pick up ribbons and toys for winners, etc. If you can help, please contact Anne Denehy at (631) 424-7863 or Vizsla73@aol.com.

Hospitality Committee Chairperson:

All that food we consume has to be selected, ordered, picked up, set up, and planned for, plus new members could often use some mentoring. If interested in helping, contact Stephanie Fischer at (516) 932-0530 or ilovtrav@aol.com

COMMITTEE REPORTS & RESCUE STORIES

Treasurers Report

We have \$1616.53 in our clubs savings and checking combined. We have \$5773.38 in our Rescue money market. I have found a new company to insure us and with that comes a savings of \$250.00 per year. A check will be written this month for \$265.00 to Nuccio and Associates in order to have us insured for our activities for the coming year.

Membership Report

I am really happy to say we now have 67 families as club members. This past month we have seen our greatest increase in membership. We welcome all the new members and please don't be shy with volunteering to help on different committees.

Rescue Report

The past two months have been incredibly busy for our rescue committee. We have placed 4 dogs from as far away as Virginia and as close as Brooklyn. As you can see we have expanded from just being Long Island Rescue. With that being said, the phones have been ringing, and the emails have swamped my box with requests and owner surrenders. I am asking all the club members who are interested to volunteer and help us. With a bit of training, you will see how rewarding this experience can be.

Below are the stories in the new owners' words, along with some pictures. I hope it touches your heart, like it has touched mine. As you can see, we have expanded. We have successfully completed 34 rescues to date.

Stephanie Fischer
(516) 932-0530
ilovtrav@aol.com.

Doc's Story

On August 25th, we adopted Doc, the newest Vizsla addition to our family! We had one "V" at the time, Sophie, 5-years-old and amazing. BUT, we really wanted to add another dog to our family and we were very

specific...we wanted an "older" MALE dog! So, we looked at local shelters, asked around, but we realized pretty quickly that we were in love with the Vizslas. SO, we reached out to the Vizsla rescue coordinators on the east coast and we found Doc, an 8 1/2 year old male Vizsla! Actually, his full name is Stillwater Run's Doctor Pericola! How do you like that?!!! (We have a doctor in the house :) We talked with his foster mom on email and by phone for a few weeks prior to the actual adoption and got as much information on him as possible and told her about Sophie and we both thought that we had a perfect match!



Doc and Sophie Hanging Out

At first, your emotions run the gamut—will he be too old? If we get an older dog he won't be with us long and we can't bear to lose a dog so quickly, he'll have a ton of health issues and the vet bills will be sky high. Is he too old for Sophie's energy level, will he be too set in his ways to "fit in" and oh, the list went on and on. How funny to look back on those concerns now!!!! Let me tell you what we got in our beautiful 8 1/2 year old boy: a cream puff of a dog whose energy level is twice that of Sophie's (oh, lucky us!!!), who's healthy as an ox AND who came to us with good manners and is fully housetrained (and we recently found out, Invisible Fence trained too!). The

advantages of adopting an older dog are huge—their training, their maturity, their patience, their wisdom—all come part of the package. Once we met Doc, all of our original concerns seemed so ridiculous. We never even thought of the advantages of adopting an older dog, but what a blessing he's been. We absolutely adore him and feel as if he's been with us forever! We're part of a growing group of friends and family that have adopted older dogs and all of us have wonderful success stories to tell! My sister adopted a 10-year-old Maltese (what a doll!); my best friend adopted an 8-10 year old German Shepherd (sweeter than sugar!), and then we adopted Doc! It's infectious!!!! In fact, from now on, we've decided to make sure there's always room in our home for an older dog! My hope is that more people do too!

Nil and Tom O'Boyle

Sancho's Story

Sancho "The Rocket" Panza. —I know, it sounds like the stage-name of a *lucha libre* but it is, in fact, the name of our dog. Sancho came to our family as "Buddy" but we think he wanted a new name because he didn't seem to respond to "Buddy." As the newest member of our family, he also needed a nickname. In our family, everyone gets a nickname. Our 7-year-old son, Nate is "Nato-Potato" or "Chip," which itself is short for Potato Chip; Joe, our 6-year-old is "Jelly-Joe-Nut" but usually we just call him "Jelly." Our 3-year-old, Josh, is "Tyrannosaurus-Josh" or TJ for short. He earned this name partly because of his tyrannical 2-year-old temper (which is legendary) but mostly because he likes to pretend he is a dinosaur.

In Miguel de Cervantes' early 17th century literary masterpiece, Don Quixote, Sancho

Panza was the faithful companion of the protagonist, Don Quixote de la Mancha. In our family, I am Don Quixote better known as "Daddy de la Mancha." Anyone who has seen my wife, Kim, understands why in our house, she is lady "Dulcinea del Toboso," "the most beautiful of all women." In our home, Sancho is our faithful companion, or at least he is earning this position as such. His nickname "Rocket" is thanks to Jelly's insistence that his name should be Rocket and his refusal to call him Sancho. Since he responds to either name we decided he was all right with a nickname.



Kim and kids with Sancho.

Since coming to live with us, Sancho has become a full-fledged member of our family. He sleeps on a pillow on the floor by our bed or in his crate downstairs. He plays hide and seek with the boys and we all play endless rounds of indoor fetch with his Kong. I enjoy taking Sancho for runs and as a family; we enjoy taking him for walks to the park. The entrance to the park is at the end of the street we live on and in the park he enjoys fetching tennis balls and sticks from the creek, which runs through the park. At first, he wasn't too sure about the creek and was reluctant to go into the water. After a bit of coaxing and under peer pressure from water-loving Labrador Retrievers at the creek, he has taken very well to the water. He loves being off collar, an

experience I don't think he was able to enjoy while growing up in New York City with his first family.

Just for the record, since I have been asked, while I am definitely not a cat person, if we were to rescue a cat, yes, I think we will name it "Freston," the evil magician from the novel.

David P. Paulson, M.D.

Sienna's Story

We adopted our new member of the family, Sienna, at the end of September. We have had nothing but the most wonderful experience with Sienna so far. She is definitely an answer to the prayers of our oldest child, Abby. We have had several not so happy dog stories in the past. She has so desired a dog she could love and adore and one that would return the same feelings to her. Her prayers have come true. Sienna is a nine-year-old angel, full of love, affection and patience. Abby has found a true friend in Sienna. They take several long walks each day before and after school, and curl up together for the night after a long day is through.

Sienna is adjusting very well to her new home. She has handled all the love and attention of her new family with much grace. Our 3-year-old son is sitting watching his morning shows, eating breakfast with Sienna curled up beside him. He keeps calling "Mommy, look," as I peer around the corner to see the adorable sight. Our 7-year-old has so enjoyed romping around our backyard, clapping his hands and calling his new friend to attention. Dad even brought his new friend for a ride to his office the other day.



Timmy with Sienna

My mother recently suffered a second series of strokes and lives out of state. Needless to say, this is a very trying time for me as wife, mother of three and as a daughter.

Confession time now. I was not 100% sure a dog was just what this family, or should I say I, needed at this time. I was right and wrong. A dog was not what we needed, but Sienna is. She has only brought joy and happiness to our home. There has not been one added ounce of stress since her arrival. It is as though she has been with us all of her life (without all the trials of raising and training). Sienna is full of just what each of us need of her. It is like she was meant for us at this time in our lives, and almost as if she knows that. I do feel a bit of sadness for her having to be surrendered from her previous family. They without doubt showered her with much love and attention. She was obviously well loved and cared for. For that I am very thankful. I would like her previous owners to know that she could not be receiving more love than she is here with us now. She has been a gift to us, one for which we are all uniquely and truly thankful.

Heidi Reid

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Focus On The Field

The arrival of fall brings the opportunity to get our Vizslas out in the field doing what they love to do. Be it to participate in VCLI events like training days or attend local events like hunt tests and field trials or if you plan to do an upland bird hunt there are things to help you and your Vizsla be better prepared for your time in the field. There certainly are things you can, and should consider, doing before the real season gets started.

An Annual Vet Check: It's a good idea to have your dog get an annual physical and if you can time it for the early fall even better. Since the fall and winter can be the most physically demanding times of the year for a field dog, getting them checked out in August or September is a good calendar to get them on. If you don't already have a preventative measure for fleas and ticks, that vet visit is a good time to discuss your options. There are many options available and your vet, the Internet, and talking with fellow club members should help you make an informed decision. Be sure to understand how each product works and for how long as they each have their own approach to dealing with these pests. Also talk about any limitations or treatments that may help a senior dog extend their ability to be a hunting companion. It can be as simple as a dietary supplement for arthritis, buffered aspirin to help sore muscles recover, or limiting their time on the ground for a senior dog.

Conditioning: It's not reasonable to expect your dog (or yourself for that matter) to be able to perform at their best if they've not built up, over time, to the level of exertion they will see training and hunting. Conditioning needs to be approached from several different perspectives. Field dogs need the aerobic conditioning to hunt hard for the full time you expect them to be on the ground. In a hunt test or field trial, for example, that can be 15–45 minutes. In an upland hunt that can be 2–4 hours or more. A dog that cannot sustain an acceptable level of performance may not pass a test, may not place in a trial and it could mean a shortened hunt with

fewer birds in your game bag. In addition to the aerobic demands, handlers need to understand that field work puts the dog in a completely different environment than most of our dogs see in their backyards. Part of the conditioning process means toughening pads and strengthening joints and tendons for the terrain that hunting dogs encounter in the field. Minimizing the probability of an injury is a handler's primary responsibility in getting dogs ready for a long season in the field.

Injuries In The Field: Although we all hope that our dogs leave the field in the same condition with which they entered it, handlers need to be prepared for a situation that requires first aid and a trip to the vet. Advanced planning can make that unforeseen eventuality far less stressful on you and the dog. Field injuries can take many forms but the most common are related to over exertion on hot and humid days, cuts to pads and muzzles, bee stings and debris in the eyes. There are certainly more complicated injuries but these four tend to be the most common. Some recommendations and things to think about are:

On a hot and humid day it's the handlers responsibility to keep the dog from having a problem. It's not unusual for hunting dogs to hunt to the point of having a heat problem so the handler needs to be able to read their dog to ensure they get enough water and breaks to stay safe. That means having water in your possession, not just back in the truck, and acclimating your dog to drinking from whatever you'll be dispensing the water from. There are many good articles available on recognizing the early signs of heat exhaustion and what you need to do to help your partner get through it. Speak to your vet as well.

Many injuries like the ones described earlier can be treated in the field with a first aid kit that you carry in your field coat, vest or fanny pack. Bandages, tape, eye rinse, buffered aspirin, Benadryl and other items can even keep a dog hunting until they get treated back home. Other

items like a bottle of Hydrogen Peroxide, and a blanket should be in the truck so you can continue treatment before heading home or to the vet. Three small items I strongly suggest be included in your field first aid kit are a book on field first aid, a pair of shoelaces and a gun sling. The shoelaces can be used as part of a tourniquet, to muzzle your dog, or to hobble your dog. The gun sling will make it easier to get your gun out of the woods should the injury require that you carry your dog out too.

If you're testing, trialing or hunting out of town find out before you leave home where the vet's office is located and if there's a 24-hour emergency hospital in the area. Have phone numbers and directions in your truck before you need them. As a note, many clubs hosting tests and trials will include at least the name of a vet's office with their premium.

As is the case with many activities, being well prepared usually increases the likelihood that you'll have a great experience. Please consider some of the things that should be important considerations for keeping your hunting dog performing at the highest level and ensuring you can provide adequate care when you're potentially far from home. Certainly consult with your vet if you need help preparing yourself to administer first aid and selecting items to keep in your field first aid kit.

Enjoy your time in the field. Your Vizsla will!

Point It Out: Lion Country Supply (lcsupply.com) and Cabelas (Cabelas.com) are two excellent sources for a wide selection of reasonably priced dog training supplies.

Rich Mayer

VCLI Field Training Continues

On September 22, we started our 2007/2008 monthly field training days. These events are a great opportunity for members that are new to the club as well as members new to field performance events to get acquainted with what Vizslas can do in the field. Since first commencing our field activities in the spring of

2006, we have had several club members put titles and field placements on their dogs.

Please remember that training days are intended for all levels of handlers and dogs. Folks that have dogs, or themselves for that matter, that have never seen a game bird or stepped foot into a field or the woods are encouraged to come. Puppies are encouraged to come! Please make sure your puppy has been adequately inoculated and since they're likely too small for a preventative flea and tick treatment be sure to give them a good going over before leaving the grounds and again when you're home. That goes for all dogs and handlers for that matter. As they're the future of our sport, please bring your children, nieces, nephews, and kids from the bus stop, etc. It's another opportunity for them to strengthen the bond with their dog and hopefully get hooked on an aspect of owning a Vizsla that will keep them active throughout their life. There are nothing like kids and Vizslas together!

In general the participants will drive the agenda for each training day. We work with puppies and junior dogs that need basic bird introduction to build prey drive. Other handlers with more advanced dogs work on the Whoa command, honoring/backing and retrieving.



Dave Gugerty and Penny

We also discuss gun introduction and the basic requirements for being a participant in an AKC hunt test or field trial and what minimal "equipment" is required.

September 22nd was forecast to be a rather warm fall day, however, with an early morning fog at Sarnoff the real heat of the day didn't arrive

until trucks were packed and dogs and handlers were on their way home. We had 13 dogs, which was a very nice showing for our first 2007 event. It was nice to meet new members John and Shelly Spornado and Bella. At 6 months of age, Bella had field experience but it was her initial contact with game birds. In a matter of 30 minutes it was clear that this young Vizsla has the makings of a nice field companion!



Rich Mayer and Ron Jones with Bailey, Paige Gugerty with Penny

There were many returning handlers from our 2006 training days and it was great to see their desire to take their dogs to the next level. We had several junior handlers participate including Erin Brush home for the weekend from college to work her dog Abbey. Paige Gugerty and Matthew Fischer were also in the field with their dogs. It was terrific to have them there.

I'd like to thank Eddie McAuliffe for planting birds and working with several of the handlers and their dogs. We're looking forward to meeting his new puppy Taylor at an upcoming training event. Also a thank you to Ron Jones for his help getting handlers and dogs ready in the parking area.

An extra special thank you goes to Pam Schider, and her husband who greeted an early morning Orient Point ferry to pick up our birds. Very much appreciated!

Our series of training days continued on October 20th with another day of beautiful weather at Sarnoff. Enthusiasm continues to grow as this event featured 18 dogs and several new and prospective club members joining us as well! As

the club had the opportunity to welcome the Sperandos and Bella in September, we welcomed Steve Pollina and Laszlo, John Koziol and Korek and Tim Bresko and Chilli. Laszlo's story is especially heartwarming as I got to see a 15-week-old puppy gain confidence in the field only 2 short weeks after being rescued from a shelter in NJ by Steve and his wife. This young dog went from being an unwanted pup to a member of a loving family that not only gave this Vizsla a home but also are giving him the chance to enjoy what he's been bred to do. Just one more example of a family opening their home to a dog in need as well as the great work of Stephanie and her team of rescue coordinators.

Once again we saw several junior handlers out with their dogs. Since her first semester is now well underway, Erin Brush was unable to sneak away for a second weekend at Sarnoff, so her sister Kelly worked with Romeo. It's wonderful to see these two girls so enthusiastic about handling their dogs in the field. Matthew Fischer joined us again and did a nice job helping us get Jake get acclimated in the field. Thanks again to Eddie McAuliffe for all the work he did working with many of the dogs that came out to Sarnoff. Without his help we'd have been training the last of the dogs with the sun setting.



Matthew & Stephanie Fischer, Eddie McAuliffe and Jake (dog).

Our intent is to continue to train through the remaining fall months and stay field right through the winter. Hunt tests and field trials will begin again in early March 2008 and it would be great to see our members enjoying these great events several of which are run right

here on Long Island. As a closing thought, don't forget to bring a camera. There's nothing like a Vizsla on point with a backdrop of natural cover or a 15-week-old pup parading around with a quail in his mouth. You might even get one of

your most prized pictures for a winning entry at our next Fun Day photo contest!
Looking forward to meeting more of you and your Vizslas in the field.

Rich Mayer



A Dog's Rules for Christmas

- 1. Be especially patient with your humans during this time. They may appear to be more stressed-out than usual and they will appreciate long comforting dog leans.**
- 2. They may come home with large bags of things they call gifts. Do not assume that all the gifts are yours.**
- 3. Be tolerant if your humans put decorations on you. They seem to get some special kind of pleasure out of seeing how you look with fake antlers.**
- 4. They may bring a large tree into the house and set it up in a prominent place and cover it with lights and decorations. Bizarre as this may seem to you, it is an important ritual for your humans, so there are some things you need to know:**
 - a) Don't pee on the tree.**
 - b) Don't drink water in the container that holds the tree.**
 - c. Mind your tail when you are near the tree.**
 - d) If there are packages under the tree, even ones that smell interesting or that have your name on them, don't rip them open.**
 - e) Don't chew on the cord that runs from the funny-looking hole in the wall to the tree.**
- 5. Your humans may occasionally invite lots of strangers to come visit during this season. These parties can be lots of fun, but they also call for some discretion on your part:**
 - a) Not all strangers appreciate kisses and leans.**
 - b) Don't eat off the buffet table.**
 - c) Beg for goodies subtly.**
 - d) Be pleasant, even if unknowing strangers sit on your sofa.**
 - e) Don't drink out of glasses that are left within your reach.**
- 6. Likewise, your humans may take you visiting. Here your manners will also be important:**
 - a) Observe all the rules in #4 for trees that may be in other people's houses. (4a is particularly important)**
 - b. Respect the territory of other animals that may live in the house.**
 - c. Tolerate children.**
 - d. Turn on your charm big time.**
- 7. A big man with a white beard and a very loud laugh may emerge from your fireplace in the middle of the night. DON'T BITE HIM!!**

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Laszlo's Story

Our story of how we were blessed with Laszlo is a mix of emotion from intense grief to sheer joy. On September 19th our sweet 10-year-old Vizsla Hendrix died unexpectedly. While we knew we couldn't go too long without another friend in the house, we were going to wait at least a little while. We had always said our next dog would either be a pound puppy or a rescue. But we were so crazy about our Vizsla that we had decided that we wanted another Vizsla puppy. But knowing how rare the chance was of finding one in either of these places, we had resolved that we were going to go through a breeder. In fact, the night we got the call, our bags were packed for a trip to our house upstate and we had plans to see a breeder up there.

Just before leaving the house, Stephanie Fischer called to say that someone had turned in a Vizsla puppy to a shelter in New Jersey and it had to come out of the shelter right away, were we interested?

Unfortunately the previous owner failed to provide and documentation or information as to the dog's origin, other than that it had come from a breeder in North Carolina. She apparently was unprepared for the commitment necessary to properly raise this wonderful puppy. Sonya, the woman at the shelter, told us that she was sure that the previous owner had mistreated him because she said he cowered at times and piddled a lot, but she was confident that at his young age all he needed was lots of love. Well that was that, we knew what to do.

Although we didn't know exactly what to expect, all we can say is our expectations have been surpassed. He walked into our home like he owned the place. Curious and alert, yet sweet and cuddly, not to mention gorgeous. He is all Vizsla and takes full advantage of our large yard. He loves walks around the neighborhood and is excellent with his crate. For his outdoor lounging, Laszlo has chosen the same spot on

our deck that Hendrix always chose. When we let him out, if we don't go out with him he looks back like "so, aren't you coming?" There are lots of squirrels and birds in our yard, and Laszlo is quite a stalker! The first thing the kids want to do when they come home from school or wake up in the morning is play with the pup, and he knows it! We look forward to taking him upstate to watch him explore acres and acres of fun. We always said that whenever Hendrix and Emily (our GSP who we lost two years ago) were there, it was like they were home.



Julia Pollina and Laszlo.

We are still so heartbroken over the sudden loss of our beloved Hendrix and miss him dearly. Life with a puppy is very different than life with a 10 yr old, but still the house feels more like home now that Laszlo is here. We are delighted for the opportunity to give our new family member everything he needs to be healthy and happy, as we know he will give us his all.

Talk about good karma: Stephanie called us ten years to the day that we brought Hendrix home. We are so grateful to her for finding Laszlo for us. Many thanks!!

Marisa Pollina

Resources Corner

Tammy McCarley, *Best Hikes with Dogs: New York & Beyond* Mountaineers Books, 2007 The publisher also has dog hiking books for many other places; this one seemed most relevant to our club, but others may help with vacation plans.

<http://www.mountaineersbooks.org/showproducts.cfm?FullCat=69>

While *Clean Run* (<http://www.cleanrun.com/>) remains the premiere magazine for dog agility people, with a lot of great books, equipment and training items on their website, there is a new Canadian magazine called *DogSport* (<http://www.DogSportmagazine.com>) that covers competitive events and training in both countries—agility, obedience, flyball, rally, tricks and more. The training features and personal accounts of competition are interesting and useful. One year is \$35. Subscribe online.

Bark Magazine (<http://www.thebark.com/>) covers the world of “modern dog culture,” with wonderful short stories about dogs. This magazine has the motto, “Dog Is My Co-Pilot” which they sell as a bumper sticker and on T-shirts on their website, but which also is the title of a great collection of short stories from their pages. A new collection of dog humor called *Howl* was published in October. One year is \$18. Subscribe online.

Pet Gazette, Long Island is a bimonthly magazine featuring health and legal issues, party planning, animal art, etc. for pet owners, with ads for products and services local to Long Island. Available for a \$12 donation and a picture of your pet to County Publishing, PO Box 468, Armonk, NY 10504, Attn: Subscriptions.

Helping Fido Welcome Your Baby is a new DVD step-by-step guide to help pet parents who are about to be new parents evaluate their dog’s behavior and routines well before the baby arrives. By identifying potential problems and proactively taking steps to accustom your dog to different routines, baby equipment, sounds and odors as well as the presence of a small creature, new parents can keep baby safe while continuing to provide their dog with love and attention. This is a 2-disc program—a DVD plus a CD with over 16 handouts, checklists, and plans for you to print out. Available for \$44.95, which includes shipping from Animal Behavior Associates, Inc. at <http://www.animalbehaviorassociates.com/pet-owner-products.htm>

Mary K. Chelton



BRAGS, BRAGS, BRAGS

Noel Walter's *Valley Hunter Sam The Intrepid Man* now has his Master Hunter (MH) Title

Mary K. Chelton's rescue girl *Amber* has one leg each toward her Rally Novice title in both AKC and APDT Rally. (Unfortunately, her career has been temporarily halted because her person only has one useful leg herself these days—pun intended.)



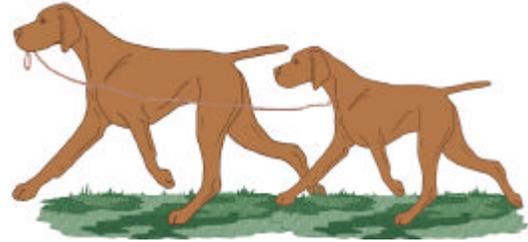
Lany, our May rescue who now lives in New Hampshire, just got her Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Certificate.

Upcoming Nearby Dog Events

February 7, 2008: Big Apples Sporting Dog Association Specialty, Meadowlands Exposition Center, Secaucus, NJ, and Long Island Golden Retriever Club. Rally Obedience Show. Bay Shore, NY.

Friday, February 8: Connecticut Valley Vizsla Club Specialty, Meadowlands Exposition Center, Secaucus, NJ.,

Suffolk County Unleashed



is a new organization that got a dog park established in Middle Island for the first time.

Go to www.suffolkcountyunleashed.com for more information.

February 9, 2008: Vizsla Club Of Greater New York, Meadowlands Exposition Center, Secaucus, NJ.

February 11 and 12, 2008: Westminster Kennel Club. Madison Square Garden, NYC. Vizslas are on Tuesday.

More at <http://www.infodog.com/showinfo/showMain.htm>

Member Profile: Karen Spinney

I first came across the breed while search the AKC Website for my next dog. I had cocker spaniels all my life and when the last one died at age 3 from cancer, I decided it best to look at another breed. I wanted an athletic and very affectionate dog, and simply fell in love with that adorable Vizsla face. I began researching a reputable breeder online and found Tivoliz Vizslas out of Maryland. I inquired about any up-coming litters. We exchanged emails and then phone calls, and eventually I found myself down at McKee-Beshers Wildlife Management Area meeting Debbie Stern and her bitch, Siren. I was in love and knew this was the right decision for me. Siren wasn't ready to be bred for another year but I was fine with waiting. When I heard she was pregnant it was such a joyous day for me and I began preparing my studio apartment for the Vizsla onslaught that would happen four months later.

The day I brought Brisztow home was intense. I drove up to Connecticut to pick her up and she cried and whined all the way back into the city. But that little bundle soon settled into city life and, with constant calls and emails to Debbie, I think I did a pretty good job raising her. I even started a Blog written in the first person of Brisztow about her thoughts feelings and adventures in the Big Apple. It really began as a way to keep Debbie aware of all her developments, but it has actually has a large following and has taken on a life of its own. The site is www.urbanmutt.com.

Our first AKC show (both for Brisztow and myself) was the 2005 Somerset Hills Show in New Jersey, and though Brisztow was only 5 months and unable to compete, we had a really great time just meeting other Vizslas and their owners. We also met Eddie and Jackie McAuliffe at that time, and they introduced me to the Long Island Vizsla Club, even paying my registry fee that first year. I was hooked.

After that first dog show, I also decided that



Karen, Husband Glen and Brisztow

if I owned a hunting dog, she was going to hunt. Debbie assured me that I didn't need any experience, and that Brisztow would just know what to do, so I eagerly signed up for Rich Mayer's hunting clinics at Sarnoff. Those clinics were so much fun and I was shocked at the drive and instinct that my little girl had. She was so proud of herself, carrying around that first quail. I loved every minute of it.

As we went to more shows and more clinics (and eventually hunt tests), Brisztow earned both her JH (under my handling) and her CH (under Debbie's handling). Those were two milestones really amazing experiences—to have so many others recognize how wonderful your dog is, even though you knew it the whole time, is a rewarding experience.

Attending the VCLI events and parties, I really felt apart of a terrific community, which is very comforting to a single woman living in New York City. Even now that I have found a husband, Brisztow remains the purest of joys in both our lives. She is always a comfort when we get home from a long day, and goes on vacations with us, providing a constant source of love and fun. We are in constant motion, making sure she gets three hours of activity daily, but have also made really wonderful friends in the process. I made one of the best decisions of my life getting a Vizsla, and only look forward to getting another.

Karen Spinney

Sources for Vizsla Holiday Presents, Cards and 2008 Calendars

Michael Steddum sells Vizsla fine art prints, magnets, and note cards

<http://www.michaelsteddum.com>

Central Wisconsin Vizsla Club has a great 2008 calendar with Vizsla photos of members' dogs

Information: Kathyjw@aol.com; Order forms: <http://www.cwvc.org/cal2008html>

Vizsla Photos is offering a 2008 Vizsla puppies calendar and cards. Go to

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

The Vizsla Rescue Fund Store has great cards, decals, silhouette car magnets, stickers and prints at <http://www.vrescuefund.org/projects/shopnew.html>

DogBreedz has ecards with Vizsla photos

<http://www.dogbreedz.com/dogecards/index.cfm>

Utah/Idaho Vizsla Rescue has a great stained glass window cling, tees and bumper stickers at www.utahVizsla.org/ under "How You Can Help."

DogArt.com has prints and ecards with Vizslas.

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

Michael Park has wood carved products such as bookends, business card holders, desk sets, figures, leash holders, etc. with Vizslas.

<http://www.mpwoodcarver.com/adultproducts.php?id=138>

Julie Bender is an artist who does wood burned photographic pieces that are lovely. She has contributed items for the VCA national specialty shows.

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

Bark Avenue has canine Christmas cards with Vizslas, interesting ID tags and pet party collars.

http://www.barkavenue.biz/canine_cards.html

Hot Diggity Dog has Vizsla fabric, either a head or body shot.

<http://www.hotdiggitydog.com/dogs.htm>

Paws A Moment is the site of photographer Jeanne Heilman who has hilarious Vizsla cards for all occasions. <http://www.pawsamomentcards.com/>

Mira Designs offers many items of Vizsla art from magnets to clothing to framed prints.

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

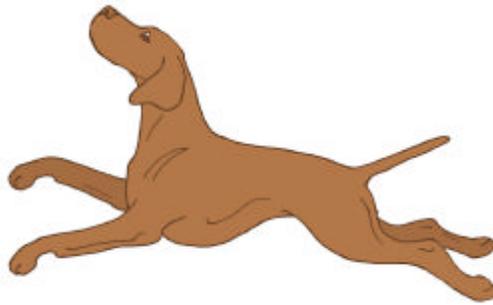
Doggonit Gallery has Vizsla items ranging from note cards to ceramic tiles and clothing. Visit <http://www.dogonitgallery.com/dog154.shtml>

Zazzle has a bumper sticker that reads, "My Vizsla is smarter than your honor student" as well as clothing, key chains, etc. with Vizsla photos on them. <http://www.zazzle.com/>

Red Dog Greetings has wonderful Vizsla cards for all occasions, and t-shirts. <http://www.reddogreetings.com/>

Roger Innman does fine art dog breed studies, including a great limited edition print of Vizsla puppies. <http://www.rogerinman.com/RIN248PIX.htm>

Retro Pets has a great poster of a Vizsla posed as the "saint of perpetual motion." <http://www.kristabrooks.com/print.asp?intPrintID=143>



A True Story: The Ingenious Dora and the Non-opening Waste Basket.

Dora's newest trick is to dump over the kitchen garbage while she is loose and I am out, (same place it has been forever in my kitchen, but no dog had ever gone in it,) and friends recommended I get a new one with a lock, but I did not think anything like that existed. However, I did find one in Bed, Bath and Beyond. It is a tall plastic and, with a step on feature, but it also has a sliding lock on top that defies anyone but one with good strong fingers to open. It is made by "Superhuman". I put a regular tall kitchen plastic bag inside, turn the edges out a bit and close the top, and lock it unless I am working in the kitchen. It sells for \$39.00 then your 20%off coupon makes it very affordable...

So Dora looked it over well, and walked away when I first got it, about 10 days ago. Today, I left the two dogs alone and loose in the house when I went to the Y. When I returned, Dora had it figured out!!! She had tipped it, and when it did not empty for her, she dragged it into the living room, and started chewing on the corner—naturally. Then she must have discovered the liner, so she started pulling on it, shredding pieces, and eventually, with the top still locked, pulled out and shredded the entire liner, leaving all the shredded pieces outside and nice wet garbage, coffee grounds, etc. inside!!! A very clean mess, but a mess nonetheless. Now, I ask you, is she not very ingenious?

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