

The Electronic Vizsla News



the **VIZSLA CLUB** of AMERICA, Inc.

December, 2011 Number 3

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President's Message

Greetings!

Here we are, mid-December and the Holiday season is upon us. With the hustle and bustle, travel plans, and social gatherings, our dogs do feel the heightened energy and stress in our households. Plan some extra one-on-one time with your redheads.. They will love you even more, And might even be a little less mischievous (, if that's even possible)

Included in this issue is an introduction to lure coursing as a new activity that our breed is now venturing into. Thank you Jenny Follett(CO) for volunteering to educate us !

You will also find information concerning the 19th Annual AKC Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championship at the Hobart Ames Plantation in Grand Junction, TN. Feb 27-March 10th.

The 2012 VCA NGDC will be hosted by the Emerald Coast Vizsla Club at the Quail Country Plantation in Arlington, Ga. March 23rd to conclusion. Please note: A Celebration of Life for Chauncey M. Smith, Jr will take place at this event. Watch for details.

The proposal for the 2013 VCA National Specialty Events was accepted from the Twin Cities Vizsla Club. Becky Smith is serving as overall event chair. Save the dates!!- April 29- May 6th.

I'm very pleased to announce that Ginger Sammonds(CO) has taken the position of VCA Standing Obedience Chair, and Dane Mrazek(CA) has volunteered as our VCA Public Education Chair.

Please keep Kathy and Roy Lormis(MO) close in your thoughts. Their young grandson, Liam, is battling a rare form of cancer and will be facing a stem cell transplant. Kathy needs to step away from her responsibilities as VCA Standing Trophy Chair and member of the Founders Group to devote all of her time and energy to her family during this critical time.

This is Eukanuba week in Orlando.Safe travels and Best Wishes to everyone exhibiting. Plan to stop by our Meet the Breed booth, hosted by Tampa Bay Vizsla Club, with Neil Bass at the helm.

2012. Here we come! Linda Kelly

Membership Chairman/TEVN editor's message

Is it really almost Christmas?? My family got an early gift with the birth of my grand niece, Lila Sue Saalwachter, on December 3. It is my sister Sue's first grandchild and she's a goner. I think this one is worse than new-puppy-itis. Of course, I am immune (not).

There is no Table of Contents for this issue, just keep scrolling down!!! In addition to the material Linda noted, the new ROM point schedule and rationale for same are included. The existing ROM guidelines and application have not been changed and are available on the VCA web site:

http://vcaweb.org/breed/registry_of_merit.shtml see link at bottom of page.

And the Bylaw Revisions approved in our 2011 election have also been approved by AKC so are now in effect and will soon be found on the VCA web site: <http://vcaweb.org/about/by-laws.shtml>

Renewals, fellow VCA members: As of 7AM EST on 12/13/2011, I have 260 renewals logged into the database. Since 812 renewals (and 98 update onlys) were sent out, 552 renewals remaining outstanding. Do you really want to pay the \$15 late fee in addition to your dues??? Time to get a move on!! If you cannot find your renewal materials, or have any questions, please contact me. No travel plans to visit Lila Sue in CO, yet!

Sheila Fuhrman, Membership Chairman vcamembership@gmail.com or 865-603-9335 (cell)

Prospective Member Applications

Per the Membership Application process, all prospective members are published in order to receive member input before the Board of Directors votes on the applicants. The following individuals will go to the Board for their vote approximately 30 days after arrival of the December 2011 Electronic Vizsla News. Please send any input that the Board needs to consider to: Linda Kelly, 22879 705th Ave,

Dassel, MN 55325 OR Sheila Fuhrman, 185 Goldenrod Lane, Friendsville, TN 37737.

All input is confidential.

Name(s)	State	Sponsor	Sponsor	Dogs	Memb. Type	Kennel Name
Louis Moeckler	IL	Polly Poulos	Sherrie Anderson	2F	Regular	
Randy and Emma Meinke	CA	Bonnie Goodwein	Alyson Lyons	1M	Regular Household	
Claire Gelok	NJ	Karen Iacobellis	Linda Hachtel	1F	Regular	
Lacey Goforth	UT	Sheryl Hohle	Judy Campbell	1F	Regular	Erised
Amy and Joe W Ball	OH	Donell Scott	Denny Keeton	2M 5F	Regular Household	
Mary Gaudio	WA	Carla Slabaugh	Gail Fleming	1M 3F	Regular	Kelby Creek Farm
Sue Muir	WA	Carla Slabaugh	Gail Fleming	2F	Regular	
Shaunna McGhie	UT	Judy Campbell	Jill Brennan	1M 1F	Associate	
Sabrina and Christopher Corliss	CO	Mel Reveles	Joanne Beckley	3F	Regular Household	Diamond C
Barbara Rypstra	IN	Polly Poulos	Tammy Sparks	1F	Associate	
Earl Stoddard	PA	Lisa Carpenter	Diane Shearer	1F	Regular	
Staci Rivas	MO	Lin Kozlowski	Meghan Tallman	1F	Associate	
Brenda Matsen	BC	Martha Lacko	Frank Lacko	2F	Regular	
Ron and Denise Chenoweth	IL	Jarrett Bell	Carrie Syczylo	3M 6F	Regular Household	Chenoweth Kennels
Brenda LaLonde	ID	Karen Culver	Penny Fenton	3 F	Regular	

Chasing Down Fun – An Introduction to AKC Lure Coursing

By Jenny Follett – 5280 Vizslas – 5280vizslas.com

There is this AKC game called Lure Coursing; a game Sighthounds get to play. In this game, lures are attached to a motorized cable, which has been set up in a specific course. The cable has pieces of plastic attached to it, which surprisingly looks a lot like a bunny when in motion! Hounds are expected to sight and chase the lure and are run individually or can be put in threesomes during a trial. This is a very basic overview, but you get the idea.



February 24th of this year, the AKC opened up this exciting game to all breeds. After all, Sighthounds aren't the only dogs that display prey drive or the desire to chase. Vizslas are particularly well suited to this sport.

The Magyar nomads were just that – nomadic. They needed a versatile dog who could work different cover and hunt different game. Vizslas have been used as small game and wild fowl hunters since the beginning, and now there is a way to showcase their prey drive for small game – the Coursing Ability Test.

Coursing Ability is a pass/fail (non-competitive) event where the dogs run singularly. If you watch the Sighthound version, you will notice they run in duos or trios and it is a competitive event. To be eligible to enter, your Vizsla must be at least a year old and be registered with the AKC, or have a PAL number. The idea of the game is to have your Vizsla run a 600 yard course with enthusiasm and within the two minute time frame.

On May 21st of this year, Ch Russet Leather's Wild Sundance RN CA became the first Vizsla to earn the Coursing Ability title. "Redford" is Uncle to our little girl and the news of his accomplishment sparked our interest; we knew we had to give it a try. Luckily, it wasn't too long before a coursing ability test was offered here in Colorado, so we sent in our entries and waited anxiously for the test.

At the first trial, we learned a lot of the ropes. Everyone has to be onsite for roll call and inspections at the beginning of the day. Once all the dogs have been inspected and are cleared (they look for any signs of injury or females in heat) the games begin! Coursing ability was after Junior Coursing and qualifying runs, so we were able to watch the Sighthounds work the field. It was so cool. We laughed at the experienced dogs who anticipated the turns and cut across the field to get ahead of the lures. We were impressed with the lure operator who keeps the lures far enough in front of the dogs so they can't catch them, but close enough that the dogs don't lose interest. It was a lot to take in and we loved it!

After the Sighthounds had their go, all of us newbies got to play. There were ALL kinds of breeds -- Westies, Border Terriers, Golden Retrievers, Manchester Terriers, Cattle Dogs, Chinese Cresteds, and our two Vizslas! Everyone had a really great run and we were all pretty excited that our breeds get to play this game now too! Karma and Indy first saw the lures that day during inspections. The officials were doing a practice run to check the course and as soon as our V's saw the lures, they paused, perked up their ears, and lunged towards the lures! Thankful we had them on a leash, we walked back to our set-up with a feeling they would do great!

And they did! Karma and Indy both had great runs -- even garnering compliments from the judges both days. So with back-to-back qualifies, Indy and Karma just needed one more leg to earn their CA (coursing ability) title. We had our eyes peeled for another opportunity to run our dogs, and then, there it was; a limited entry opportunity in Wellington, Colorado. We jumped at the chance and got our entries in the next day. We also discovered that if Indy and Karma finished they would be the second and third Vizslas to earn a CA! Not only that, Karma would be the FIRST FEMALE Vizsla to earn the title --- nothing like making AKC history!

The Wellington trial was another slam-dunk for Indy and Karma. They love chasing plastic bunnies! A friend of ours who is a Basenji (a Sighthound) breeder, came to watch and was so proud of our Vs. She started calling Karma her little Vee-senji! She was so impressed with how well our Vizslas ran that day, she said they even did better than a lot of the Sighthounds she watched; a very nice compliment.

When people find out we have ventured into lure coursing, they ask how we trained for the test. We didn't. This was pure instinct and prey drive. If anyone has ever seen their Vizsla chase a rabbit or squirrel, you know they have it! Many coursing clubs offer fun runs as well, usually \$5 or so a run. It's a good way to see if your dogs will chase and if this game is one you want to play. If your Vizsla doesn't chase, there are ways to train, just ask the folks at the fun run for tips!

Chasing Down Fun – An Introduction to AKC Lure Coursing

By Jenny Follett – 5280 Vizslas – 5280vizslas.com

And for those of you who don't want to let your dog chase for fear it will ruin them in the field: Indy (our Master Hunter) went out to work birds with Karma a week after earning his CA. He was a good boy – steady to wing and shot. I'm a firm believer that they know their jobs and the difference between the events. I don't know about your Vizslas, but ours LOVE having a job – and coursing was a big hit!

Earning titles is pretty easy to keep track of too. Three passes earns your dog a CA or Coursing Ability title. Ten passes (seven more after your CA) earns you a CAA title, Coursing Ability Advanced. If you really catch the bug, you can go after the CAX title (Coursing Ability Excellent), which can be accomplished with 25 passes!

If you want to see what a coursing run looks like, it's very easy to find them on YouTube. Just type in "Vizsla Coursing Ability" into the search bar, and you are sure to find some fun videos to watch!

How do you find a coursing trial? It's simple enough, just bookmark this link – it is updated regularly as trials are planned: http://www.akc.org/pdfs/events/coursing_ability_test/CAT_Upcoming_Events.pdf

Finally, a big "congratulations" to Vizslas (and their proud parents) who have already earned legs and titles this year!

New Coursing Ability Titles

- CH Russet Leather Wild Sundance RN CA – R Johnson/J Walton
- Diamond Cruiser 5280's Reap What You Sow JH CA – M Spencer/J Follett
- CH Boulder's Indy-Go RA MH CA CGC – M Spencer/J & E Hetkowski
- GCH Upfront N Lyons Goblin of Fire JH CA – J & D Anderson
-- *Has earned a total of 6 legs – 4 short of the CAA title!* --
- CH Lyons N Penlees Dances With Dreams CA – S Hutto

Vizslas with 2 (of 3) CA Legs:

- Kezza's Pride of the Mountains Deepest Desire TD – L Goforth/C Richards/J Campbell
- Amber is Your Energy RA – S Hemphill
- CH Cruiser's Tok Gun – M Sinnen/J Hoffbeck/T Walden/E Phillippi
- Cruiser's Star Over Del Boca Vista Phase 2 RA – T & F Rizzo
- Kizmar Kiss My Dust RN – M Lepsch
- Revved Up N Rockin RE NA NAJ – M Lepsch
- GCH CH Russet Leather Wild Bill Cody RA MH – B Meadows Bresnahan/J Walton

Vizslas with 1 (of 3) CA Legs:

- CH Rozsa Huntmore Padrone JH
- Sam CD RE AX OAJ OF
- GCH Cruiser's Notjusta Prty Face RN – J Hoffbeck/B Hearn



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Sue Towne
2012 NGDC Chairman
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National Open Puppy – Friday, March 23, 2012

NGDC – Saturday March 24, 2012 to conclusion

To be held at the beautiful Quail Country Plantation • 1134 Quail Country Road • Arlington, GA 39813 • www.quailcountry.com

- Hosted by the Emerald Coast Vizsla Club •
- The NGDC is a one-hour AKC Walking Gun Dog Stake with retrieving on course •
- The National Open Puppy will be a 20 minute AKC Walking Puppy Stake •

Southern GA is well known for their numerous, beautiful quail plantations.

Quail Country Plantation has over 3,500 acres of beautiful woodlands, which are managed daily.

Quail Country is an Orvis Endorsed Wingshooting Lodge and is strategically placed along the meandering banks of Mill Creek.

Please come join us for some true southern hospitality and an NGDC you won't forget!

Join Us for True Southern Hospitality at the
**2012 VCA NATIONAL GUN
DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**

Friday March 23 2012 - Conclusion
Quail Country Plantation, Arlington GA



In Loving Memory of Chauncey M. Smith

" SMITTY "

Friend. Mentor. Legend.

Please join us as we celebrate the life of Chauncey M. Smith, "Smitty", at a Special Dedication Dinner on Saturday March 24, 2012. You do not want to miss this celebration of Smitty's life!

For more information:
www.vcaweb.org
www.quailcountry.com



the VIZSLA CLUB of AMERICA, Inc.

SAVE THE DATE!
**19TH ANNUAL AKC POINTING BREED
GUN DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**
Hobart Ames Plantation
Grand Junction, Tennessee
February 27 – March 10, 2012

DUE TO THE UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS HISTORIC BIRD DOG VENUE, ONLY ONE NON RETRIEVING CHAMPIONSHIP WILL BE RUN. ALL ENTRIES WILL RUN ONE HOUR ON WILD QUAIL. JUDGES WILL SELECT UP TO 12 TOP DOGS TO RUN IN A SECOND ONE HOUR SERIES FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP. ENTRIES ARE LIMITED TO 132 DOGS.

ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

AFTER DECEMBER 27, 2012, WINNERS OF PARENT CLUB 2011 NATIONAL OPEN OR AMATEUR GUN DOG CHAMPIONSHIPS, OR WINNERS OF THE 2011 AKC POINTING BREED GUN DOG CHAMPIONSHIPS, OR ANY AKC FIELD CHAMPION OR AKC AMATEUR FIELD CHAMPION.

AFTER JANUARY 4, 2012, ALL DOGS WHO HAVE PLACED FIRST IN A 2011 AKC OPEN OR AMATEUR GUN DOG STAKE WITH 13 OR MORE ENTRIES, OR SECOND IN AN AKC OPEN OR AMATEUR GUN DOG STAKE WITH 18 OR MORE ENTRIES. OR THIRD IN AN AKC OPEN OR AMATEUR STAKE WITH 25 OR MORE ENTRIES.

ENTRY FEE -\$160
CLOSING DATE: JANUARY 14, 2012

JUDGES

DAVID TAYLOR (IOWA)
KEVIN WAIDE (COLORADO)
TOM MILAM (TEXAS)

CHAMPIONSHIP SECRETARY

TRISH JAMES
4508 SANDFORT ROAD, SEALE, AL 36875
PHONE: 334-291-2067 E-MAIL: homeboarding@netzero.net

ROM POINT SCHEDULE CHANGES

At the suggestion of the VCA Board of Directors, a committee consisting of myself, Gail Fleming, Melissa Thomas and Adele Neupert was put together to review the current point schedule for achieving an ROM. Between the four of us, experience in the areas of competition that were represented included conformation, field trials, hunt tests, obedience, agility, rally and tracking. Input provided to me throughout the year from VCA members was discussed in our meetings, and decisions were arrived at concerning CGC, MH, and the TD title because of that member input. The board approved this schedule at their December 6 tele-conference.

The following summarizes our thought process for this new schedule:

The ROM program is a great way to get people involved in various aspects of the sport of dogs, but earning an ROM should carry with it a level of accomplishment. It is not a program that is meant to be a “give me,” nor is it a title that every sire and dam should be able to earn.

As a result of our discussions, there are several titles that are NOT included on the point schedule. Those include the bronze, silver, gold and platinum levels of GCh, the various hunt test levels that are now available, NFC, NAFC, NGDC, NBISS, OM and OGM (Obedience Master and Obedience Grand Master), Triple Q Excellent agility titles (TQX and TQXP) and the AKC versatility titles. There are no lure coursing titles included, nor the CGC title.

National Championships, whether in the field, show ring, or any other venue, have never been part of the ROM program. The committee agreed that this should remain unchanged.

We did not include the various levels of accomplishment in any of the available categories because we feel those levels do not indicate an additional skill/attributes of the get. They simply provide a way for people to continue to participate in the venues they enjoy. In addition, the point schedule would become more confusing than it already is. Therefore, we recommended that only the initial title be awarded points for purposes of ROM.

One of the considerations the committee took into account was the likelihood of dogs attaining specific titles and those titles then being included on an ROM application. An Obedience Master and Obedience Grand Master are examples of titles that only the most dedicated handler would earn. The committee felt that if a dog earns this title, it likely would have been used for ROM points with an OTCH or UDX already, so it would be very unlikely an ROM application would be submitted with this title on it.

The CGC title would fall under the companion titles. The committee does not feel this title should be included as part of the ROM program because a dog must only pass it one time and the program is very loosely regulated as far as judging, etc., goes.

The TQX and TQXP titles may fall into the same category as the Obedience Master titles, but the committee would like to consider those titles at a later time when we have a better understanding of them.

Though lure coursing is now available to Vizslas, the lure coursing titles have not been included because the committee feels that while it is a fun activity, it does not reflect the purpose for which the Vizsla was originally intended, and should, therefore, not be part of the ROM program.

The AKC versatility titles have not been included (VCD1 through VCD4, VER and VCCH) because those titles are earned by earning other titles that are already on the point schedule. We felt it is redundant to give points for both. This makes it similar to the way the current VC title point schedule offered by the VCA is set up.

Changes to the point schedule:

Category headings have been added to the point schedule to better help people understand what the various areas are and what falls under each.

There are no changes to the conformation category.

The first change falls in the hunting category. Committee members felt that a dog should be able to earn points for hunt test titles **and** field trial titles just like they do under the companion titles of obedience, agility and rally. (A person can submit points for a CD, NA, and RN on the same get. It only qualifies as one category, but the points are counted.) A further change is that the committee

recommended that an MH should be worth 6 points as those who participate in hunt test, obedience and agility feel the requirements are on par with a UDX and PAX. In addition, the retrieving titles were added at the same level as the pointing dog hunt test titles. It should be noted that as the point schedule is current proposed, a dog can get points for a MH pointing dog title and a JHR (junior hunter retrieving hunt test) title. The committee felt the skill set was very different.

Some new obedience titles were added to the schedule. Those titles include BN (Beginner Novice), GN (Graduate Novice), and GO (Graduate Open).

In agility, we eliminated the giving an extra point when a dog has a Preferred title, along with the “regular” title. On the old schedule, a dog with a NA + an NAP would get 3 points. On the proposed schedule, the dog would be able to take one or the other, not both, so it would get 2 points. This simplifies the point schedule and does not reward the same title twice. In addition, the FTC and FTCP (FAST Century and FAST Century Preferred) titles are now 7 points as the committee felt that these titles are on par with an OTCH and MACH. T2B titles were added at 4 points.

There are no changes to the points schedule in rally.

We also added the THD, Therapy Dog Title, to the Companion events at 3 points. In order to attain a THD title, the dog must be certified by a recognized therapy group and do a minimum of 50 visits. The committee felt this was a worthy title that should be recognized in the ROM program as it speaks to the temperament of our breed.

Under tracking, we recommend that the TDX and VST titles be raised to 6 points. The passing percentage on those titles is approximately 17% to be qualified to compete to earn the title, and then 34% once a dog has met the pre-qualification requirement. Input from membership requested the TD title be raised to 3 points. The committee checked with other tracking participants and they did not feel the TD title should be raised. Therefore, the committee recommended leaving the TD title at 2 points.

While the committee did not agree with some recommendations we received from members, all were discussed among committee members and considered. As ROM chair, I hope club members will continue to provide input on the ROM program. You can reach me at 920-484-6443 or remark@centurytel.net

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Smith
ROM Chair

ROM POINT SCHEDULE approved December 5, 2011

Points	CONFORMATION	FIELD/HUNTING			COMPANION OBEDIENCE/AGILITY/RALLY/THERAPY				TRACKING	VC**
	Conformation	Field Trial	Pointing Hunt Tests	Retrieving Hunt Tests	Obedience	Agility	Rally	Therapy	Tracking	
9		FC+AFC								
8										
7		FC or AFC			OTCH	MACH or PACH or FTC or FTCP			CT	
6			MH	MHR	UDX	PAX or FTC			TDX or VST	
5					UD	MX or MXP or MXJ or MJP or MXF or MFO				
4	GCh		SH	SHR	CDX or GO	AX or AXP or AXJ or AJP or XF or XFP or T2B or T2BP	RAE			
3	CH				GN	OA or OAP or OAJ or OJP or OF or OFP	RE	THD		VC**
2			JH	JHR	CD	NA or NAP or NAJ or NJP or NF or NFP	RA		TD**	
1					BN		RN			

1 point is given for each leg of the VC **IF it is earned via the VC program. If the VC is earned via titles, the title points apply as they add up to more points than the VC. Example: Get has CH and CD, but got the VC for the hunting portion via the Versatility program. Get receives 3 points for the CH, 2 points for the CD, and 1 point for the hunting portion of the VC.