

The Electronic Vizsla News



the VIZSLA CLUB of AMERICA, Inc.

February, 2012 Number 4

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President's Message

February 1st - Can Spring be far behind? Our Club year and activities are percolating..The transition from a Combined Nationals format , and a return to a Spring National Specialty and Companion Events.. has presented some unique challenges for us. Our dedicated volunteers have worked in earnest to meet the timelines and expectations..

In this issue are several important notices and announcements. Please pay particular attention to deadlines and closing dates . Information referencing the 2012 VCA NGDC and the 2012 VCA National Specialty Events are posted on our website . In this issue of the enews,we have provided the links to each area on the website.

The 2012 VCA Nominating Committee invites any voting member who is interested in being considered for a position to contact them.. no later than February 10..

A reminder to those VCA members who have not yet renewed, Please return your renewal forms with payment for dues and the late fee to: Shella Furhman, VCA Memberhip Chair. No later than February 29th...to prevent lapsing your membership in the club.. We don't want to lose you!

In closing, our condolences to Chris Coman(CA) and family on the recent passing of Jim. His presence at many of our VCA National Events will always be fondly remembered. Also send healing thoughts to Club members Jan Fowler(FL) and Lin Kozlowski(MO) as they continue to recover from surgery. The family of Suzanne Gray (MA) has asked me to convey their heartfelt gratitude for the outpouring of concern and support expressed by so many of Sue's friends and acquaintances in the VCA. One of her nurses is owned by a Vizsla...another staff member discovered that she had purchased a Vizsla from Sue several years ago! Suzanne is out of intensive care, making steady progress and will be moved to a rehab center soon to continue her road to recovery. Please keep Suzanne and her family in your thoughts and prayers ..

Linda

Membership Chairman/TEVN editor's message

I saw a patch of daffodils in bloom the other day: this has been an utterly bizarre winter in E TN!! At least it was a pleasant 60 degrees the day the furnace fan died.

Printed directories and old (and upcoming) Vizsla News: The directory will go to the printer ASAP after March 1; if you want a copy and didn't send \$10 with your renewal, you can still do so. There will be a minimal # of extras printed so if you think you want one, etc.!! VCA, PO Box 90, Friendsville TN 37737-0090. Similar message for the stud dog issue (April 2012) of The Vizsla News; the 2011 is sold out!! Let me know if you

want extra(s) and send check before April 1 so I can add those known extras to the printing order. Finally, old Vizsla News are going to recycling soon; email me with what you might want and I will check to see what I have. My entryway is really not the depository for old Vizsla News!!

See announcement below for Gateway Vizsla Club specialty. Please, regional clubs, feel free to send info about your events for publication in eVN. The format will be simple, “just the facts, ma’am” but it is one more place, in addition to VCA web site and printed Vizsla News, to remind everyone of your hard work!

Renewals, fellow VCA members: As of noon EST on 2/1/2012, 130 renewals remain outstanding. Time to get a move on!! If you cannot find your renewal materials, or have any questions, please contact me.

Shella 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 February 2012 Electronic Vizsla News. Please send any input that the Board needs to consider to: Linda Kelly, 22879 705th Ave, Dassel, MN 55325 OR Shella Fuhrman, 185 Goldenrod Lane, Friendsville, TN 37737. *All input is confidential.*

Name(s)	State	Sponsor	Sponsor	Dogs	Memb. Type	Kennel Name
Karyn & Brent Merrill	PA	Susan Eastman	Ida Kavafian	1M 1F	Associate Household	
Beth Mills	NY	Mary Jane Whaley Joy	ce Tischler	1M 1F	Associate	
Teresa Gimbut	IL	Linda Kelly	Lynn Worth Smith	1M 1F Regular		
Christine & David Sylvester	NV	Monica Klein	Cindy Yurek	1F	Regular Household Blessed	Sunshine

Regional Event: Gateway Vizsla Club Specialties (2 in one day) and Obedience Trial
 March 2, 2012 Purina Event Center, Gray Summit MO
 Premium and more info: www.gatewayvizslaclub.com/specialty.html

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New members, January 2012

Full contact information will be in the 2012 Membership directory and eNews #4 Sent to members

Amy and Joe W Ball, OH

Sabrina and Christopher Corliss, CO

Mary Gaudio, WA

Claire Gelok, NJ

Lacey Goforth, UT

Brenda LaLonde, ID

Brenda Matsen, CANADA

Shaunna McGhie, UT

Randy and Emma Meinke, CA

Louis Moeckler, IL

Sue Muir, WA

Staci Rivas, MO

Barbara Rypstra, IN

Earl Stoddard, PA

2012 Hall of Fame Nomination Reminder

The nominations for the 2012 VCA Hall of Fame are due by **March 1, 2012**. All nomination forms and information are available on the Vizsla Club of America website at http://vcaweb.org/breed/hall_of_fame.shtml

As this year is a transition year, per our move to a Spring National Specialty Event, the voting for the 2012 nominees will be held as previously done with election ballots in the late summer. Therefore the 2012 inductee/inductees will be celebrated at the 2013 Spring National Specialty Events.

Thank you for supporting the great honor of this program. We can be tremendously proud of the heritage, contributions, and Mission of our VCA Hall of Fame .

"The Vizsla Club of America holds in highest esteem Vizslas, who, by virtue of their own outstanding achievements, and/or those of their get, reflect the essence of the breed's character and purpose. These dogs epitomize the Vizsla as that of a Sporting Breed. During their lifetimes, they have achieved national recognition, have left an everlasting impression upon the breed, have excelled in show, field, or have been recognized for uniquely exceptional accomplishments or firsts for the breed. The Vizsla Club of America has established a HALL OF FAME to honor the memories of these dogs," forevermore."

Please direct any questions to the Hall of Fame Committee:

Jan Simer wms44@aol.com

Carol Phelps SZIZLIN3@aol.com

Linda Promaulayko brylynnseclipse.net

the VIZSLA CLUB of AMERICA



2012 Nominating Committee

The Vizsla Club of America Nominating Committee has begun the task of developing a slate of proposed candidates for the upcoming 2012 VCA General Election. Our report must be sent to the VCA Recording Secretary by March 1, 2012.

The following positions are under consideration for this year's ballot:

- Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer
- Board Member (four positions)

We invite any Regular (Voting) member who may have an interest in being considered for any of the listed positions to complete the Volunteer Questionnaire that is on [vcaweb.org](http://www.vcaweb.org):

<http://www.vcaweb.org/resources/forms.shtml>

or via this link:

http://www.vcaweb.org/about/news/VCA_Volunteer_Questionnaire_web.pdf

Return the completed form to:

Mary Durham, Chair 412 Good Hope Church Rd, Aroda, VA 22709 FAX: 513-672-0387
quailpoint1@gmail.com

The deadline for Submission is receipt by February 10, 2012

Following are Job Descriptions from the By Laws:

Section 1. **Board of Directors.** The Board of Directors shall be compiled of five club officers, no more than nine other persons; hereafter referred to as 'Directors at Large', and the AKC Delegate. All Board members must be Regular members of the club whose length of membership is more than one (1) year, and who are residents of the United States. The general management of the business, concerns and property of the Club shall be vested in the Board of Directors.

Section 2. **Officers.** The Club's Officers shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. They shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board and its meetings. They shall not chair committees, except when directed by a 2/3 vote of the Board to do so. During their terms of office the officers shall constitute an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall serve as an advisory board to the President.

(b)The **Vice President** shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's death, absence, or incapacity.

(c) The **Secretary** shall take minutes at all meetings, furnish meeting notices of the Board, manage all motions and votes, and document all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the

Club; and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these Bylaws or by the Board. The Secretary shall work in close association with the Corresponding Secretary and the Membership Chairman.

(e)The **Treasurer** shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club. The Treasurer shall deposit the same in a bank approved by the Board in the name of the Club. The books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and the treasurer shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported. At the Annual Meeting the Treasurer shall render an account of all moneys received and expended during the previous Official Club Year, and shall make such other financial reports as may be required by the Board.

The Treasurer shall see that the Club's non-profit status is maintained, keep all required data current, file timely reports with the Internal Revenue Service and handle other matters relating to the Club's fiscal responsibility.

The Treasurer shall be bonded in such an amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

The Treasurer shall work closely with the Membership Chairman particularly with regard to the processing of dues payments and the maintenance of accurate rolls.

Section 4. Responsibilities of Service. The Officers, Directors at Large, and AKC Delegate are expected to attend the Annual Membership Meeting, attend the Annual Board Meeting, respond to official correspondence within the specified time and perform the duties assigned to their position. Should an Officer, Director at Large, or AKC Delegate not carry out or be able to carry out their responsibilities as defined in this article, without acceptable reason, such position shall be considered to be non-functioning. In such an event the Board may, by a 2/3 vote, remove the individual and declare the position vacant. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner prescribed in ARTICLE III Section 5.

Following are additional comments about the time and energy commitment required of today's hardworking Board and Officers:

- Voting is done via email, teleconferences, and the annual Board of Directors meeting.
- Email is the primary method of communication. The Board currently uses a Yahoo list to make email communication and communication records easier.
- Plan to have quarterly teleconferences.
- The annual meeting is held in July at a mutually agreeable location.
- Board members should be prepared to take an active role in assisting club operations. Be willing to Chair committees. Take on special projects, recruit, etc.
- Board Member's expenses are not reimbursed

We thank you for your interest and desire to work for the membership of the VCA,

Again the deadline for submission is February 10, 2012

Thanks,

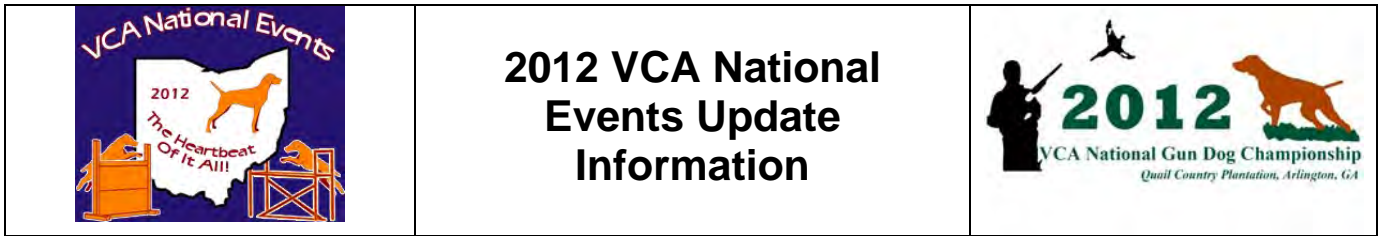
Your 2012 VCA Nominating Committee:

Chair: Mary Durham, 412 Good Hope Church Rd, Aroda, VA 22709 quailpoint1@gmail.com

Jill Brennan 17147 Weaver Lane SW, Rochester, WA 98579 tierah_vizsla@hotmail.com

Rhoda Ezell 4727 Virginia Creek, Cincinnati, OH 45244 rtezell@gmail.com

Melissa Thomas 11189 Paducah Avenue, El Paso, TX 79936-1112 mthomas1@elp.rr.com



The VCA Website Committee is working hard to keep all new information up and available as fast as we receive it. As of January 29, the following information is up and available. (Click on the blue text and you will go to the web page.)

NATIONAL GUN DOG CHAMPIONSHIP FRIDAY MARCH 23-CONCLUSION

(http://www.vcaweb.org/events/ngdc_2012.shtml) for all of the information

Premium: http://www.vcaweb.org/events/2012_NGDC_Premium_w_Liability_Release.pdf

Reservations: http://www.vcaweb.org/events/2012_NGDC_Reservations.pdf

Remember that Saturday March 24th is the Celebration of Life Dinner Honoring Chauncey "Smitty" M. Smith, Jr. Come join us even if you are not attending the rest of the event. Make your reservations using the Reservation form.

Trophy and General Donations:

http://www.vcaweb.org/events/2012_NGDC_Trophy_Donations_form.pdf

Catalog Ads:

http://www.vcaweb.org/events/2012_NGDC_Catalog_Advertising_Fact_Sheet_and_Order_Form.pdf

Merchandise: http://www.vcaweb.org/events/2012_NGDC_Merchandise_Form.pdf

NATIONAL SPECIALTY EVENTS MONDAY APRIL 30-MAY 4

http://www.vcaweb.org/events/specialty_2012.shtml for all of the information

The following information is currently available. Check back often, as items will be added frequently.

Hotel Reservations: http://www.vcaweb.org/events/2012_Specialty_Hotel_Information.pdf

Tentative Schedule: http://www.vcaweb.org/events/VCA_Specialty_Schedule.pdf

Catalog Ads: http://www.vcaweb.org/events/Advertising_Information_&_Order_form.pdf

Trophy and General Donations:

http://www.vcaweb.org/events/2012_Specialty_Award_Solicitation.pdf

THE VIZSLA FUTURITY MATURITY PROGRAM Inaugural Event

Tuesday May 1, 2012 Closing Date April 11, 2012

Sawmill Creek Resort and Convention Center, Huron, OHIO

Ed Foster maturity.faturity@gmail.com Joyce Tischler GTisch1035@aol.com

Michelle Rochester michelle@reddiamondvizslas.com

Enter! Enter! Enter! Enter!

Special points of interest:

- Show closing date April 11, 2012
- Each nominate Vizsla must be entered into the show
- Download entry forms and submit prior to 4/11/2012
- Nominate all future litters prior to whelping. These litters will be eligible for the 2013 Futurity and future Maturity events when the puppies age into Maturity
- The ongoing success of this program DEPENDS ENTIRELY on litter nominations to continue
- Call or email any committee member EdFoster, Michelle Rochester or Joyce Tischler with questions

The preparations continue to make this inaugural event something special. The committee has selected original artwork trophies and we are also providing Rosettes for all placements, including Rosettes for the owners of Sire and Dam of The Grand Futurity and Maturity winners.

Mr. Dana Cline from IL was selected by a vote of all eligible litter nominators.

We are planning on having our Website up and running soon. A link from the VCA site will be accessible. PalPal buttons are planned that will allow easy payment of entry fees, trophy donations and future merchandise purchases. Another PalPal link will be established for ease in the payment of nomination

fees for future litters. Watch for these updates SOON!!

The FMP premium list is almost ready for publication. It will be available much like VCA materials



have been available over the last few years.

The committee stands ready to answer any and all questions.

The entry forms and payment made payable to the VFMP are to be sent to Edwin Foster at the address on the entry form.

We will also offer on that premium list an opportunity to advance order the catalog insert that will be made to fit into the VCA National Catalog in our divider section.

The program allows use of all VCA approved titles earned by the entrants and sire and dam. (for example BIS BISS VC, ROM HOF).

Joyce Tischler has our undated Trophy/Rosette Sponsorship roster. Please contact Joyce (email address above) or sponsor an available trophy or contribute to our General Trophy fund.

Nominate! Nominate! Nominate! Your Litters for 2013!

The 2012 Futurity Maturity Event is now past the time that new litters can be nominated. The 2013 Futurity Maturity Event will be held Nationals Week in Minneapolis, MN.

Please remember to nominate all your litters into the event BEFORE the litters are whelped. Then you will have up to 4 months to

nominate the individual puppies into the different divisions: futurity & maturity.

Rules and program explanation are located in downloadable format on the VCA Website and soon will be available on our own site.

A change in the judge selection process will be in-

stituted for the 2013 selection. New rules are located in the Program explanation on the website or on the judge nomination form.

All forms should be sent to FMP C/O Ed Foster, 1157 Manor Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43232

VCA Welfare Foundation BOD Report – Winter 2012

Gratitude in a New Year

We are very pleased to start 2012 with solid financials, in part, due to a thoughtful VCA Membership. The VCA WF Board of Directors sincerely thanks those members who collectively gave over \$3000 during membership renewal at year-end. (For reasons of confidentiality, we won't list names here but we know who you are and we salute you!) We also acknowledge receipt of \$1000 from the All Star Review Committee. Such generous support allows the VCA WF to subsidize rescue efforts and health research in substantive ways, and for that we are very grateful.

Funding Health Research

At the recommendation of Lynda Ruffini, VCA Health Committee Chair, we have approved \$7500 funding for the following: (1) Dr. Ned Patterson's ongoing epilepsy research (\$2500) at the University of Minnesota and (2) Mast Cell Cancer (MCT) research at Colorado State University (\$2500) and Tufts University (\$2500) via the AKC Canine Health Foundation (AKC-CHF). The MCT projects both examine, in different ways, how the disease progresses in order to create a more accurate grading system. More detailed information about this research will be printed in *The Vizsla News*.

Partnership with Dr Jaime Modiano at the University of Minnesota

Through the AKC-CHF, the VCA WF provides funding to breed-specific research projects for lymphoma, osteosarcoma and hemangiosarcoma. To assist his research, Dr Modiano needs samples from vizslas with these cancers, prior to treatment. While it's often difficult to think about collecting samples upon diagnosis, this research will inform better treatment protocols, sooner than later. All patient information will be confidential. For more information about sample collection:

http://www.modiolanlab.org/studyInfo/studyInfo_index.shtml

Resources

If you haven't already done so, please visit our comprehensive "Library" under the Resources tab on the VCA website: <http://vcaweb.org/welfare/library.shtml>. There's something for everyone, in print and online! If we've missed a fantastic book, blog or training video, please let us know.

For more information about rescue, health and welfare of the Vizsla, please contact us at vcawf2000@gmail.com or visit us online: <http://vcaweb.org/welfare/index.shtml>.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Worth
President, VCA WF

OWNER HANDLERS EAT CAKE

by [Sue McClure](#) shared with permission, contributed by Dot Romano

When I first started showing my wolfhounds, another exhibitor, who used a handler, told me if I wanted to win majors I was going to have to hire a handler. I replied, "If that's true, I'll quit, as there would be no point in showing."

Since that first wolfhound, I've bred and shown my own dogs and others to their AKC championships and to placements in specialties. I've trained others to show their own dogs and they have gone on to win group, BIS and specialty wins. The pleasure of owner-handling involves more than just winning. For most in the dog show world, it is a social event, a hobby that involves family members. It is a love affair with a breed, an outlet for stress and a way to enjoy doing things with your dog. Do you remember when you met friends at the show, put your x-pens together for the dogs to play and you had a tailgate party? That's what more and more of us are saying..."Do you remember when?"



AKC has put out a moratorium on approving shows while they figure out why the big drops in entries. That's closing the barn door a little late. Breeder/owner handlers have been lamenting the situation for years, as more and more people dropped out, but no one "upstairs" has been listening. Sure animal rights movements, restrictive laws, and high license fees are hurting responsible breeders and the economy is taking its toll, but AKC is doing its part to discourage participation as well. If you live in New York City or large urban areas, you may have "too many shows" but if you live in an area like the panhandle of Florida, you will be driving over 3 hours to most shows and 8 hours to find a major! True, adding more shows hurts entries for long established shows but let's remember people who live in Hattisburg, MS will never have as many shows near them as people in Chicago do, and AKC should take that into account.

AKC needs to do more to get dog shows back into the realm of family sport instead of such a professional sport. Magazine features and televised shows seem to be all about who the handlers and longtime breeder/handlers are... This year the Westminster newscaster (not the experienced judge-commentator) said, "...so it's all about the handlers in this (BIS) competition..." What does that project to novice handlers?

AKC has encouraged big money shows; they have allowed shows go to the middle of the week in clusters, great for professionals but not for what used to be the backbone of dog breeding – the smaller "dedicated-to-their-breed breeders" and owner handlers who have 40-hr-a-week jobs. When I tried to discuss this with an AKC rep at our show, pointing out that the people showing their own dogs couldn't make the middle of the week shows, she gave me a cavalier, "Well, it's not a family

sport” answer that reminded me of the alleged “Let them eat cake” remark by an oblivious queen that lost her head. She was pushing our club to move our show to a cluster farther south. How does that fall into serving our own community? What happened to “you must give a show within 25 miles of your club’s location”? Who does it benefit having 4 shows in one location? First guess – those who don’t have to move their set ups, not those living in the area.

When someone wanted our club to offer \$1000 for BIS to bring in more handlers, I turned to our catalog to prove to the board that the majority of dogs at our show were being shown by their owners. Over 56% of the entry had been shown by their owners or breeders. The board agreed to try it one time with the cash award and we got a total of 4 more dogs...the handlers were surprised when they got the checks... they didn’t read the premiums and it wasn’t why they had entered our show. It’s the judging panel people are looking at when they check the premium.

In our area, 8 of the shows I used to attend are no longer held on weekends, cutting my showing and ability to find majors by more than half while doubling my expenses. And at the rate show giving clubs are bleeding money, this trend will continue. Those dog clubs giving independent shows will go under and as more of the smaller weekend shows disappear, the less the average exhibitor is able to continue going to all breed shows. Many influential breeders now just go to specialties.



While people like to think it is a myth that handlers can finish anything, many of us with enough years in our breed to know a good dog, know it isn’t a myth. I’ve seen multiple specialty winners get beat by generic dogs under handlers. I recently attended a seminar where two judges said the advertising in show magazines have no effect. I work in marketing. Millions are spent on advertising and it isn’t because it has no effect. If for no other reason than looking at the same winning dog in publication after publication fixes one’s eye to that dog as what is correct, it is effective. Dogs that win in one area may not win in another area because the dogs they are up against look different, or the judge was mentored where different kennels with a different look are predominant. I once had someone ask me what was wrong with an Irish Wolfhound’s topline

because he was the odd man out in the lineup – the only one with a slight curve over the loin. The onlooker thought it must be incorrect.

The same principle comes into play with weeklong clusters. Judges are seeing the same dogs with handlers constantly. The weekend warrior may have a dog that has won a specialty but he isn’t out there constantly, and he is overlooked by judges that aren’t totally up on that breed. When earnest breeders of good dogs begin to feel it doesn’t matter how nice a dog they have when they are showing against heavily campaigned dogs or under judges not strong enough to put a decidedly better dog over a professionally handled dog, they leave the sport.

Remember that catalog accounting of owner-handled dogs? I don’t think it is any coincidence that entries are down about 50%.