



The Sounder

June 2014

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Results are in!



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*Check out PSVC National Brags
Starting Next Page!*

Upcoming Events!

June 21st & 22nd
June 21st

PSVC Hunt Test Koopman Farms in Rochester, WA
PSVC Membership Meeting Koopman Farms, Oakville WA
following completion of hunt test running order

This Weekend!

August 14th
August 15th

Rainer Sporting Dogs Association Specialty Show at Enumclaw Expo Center
PSVC Specialty Show at Enumclaw Expo Center

August 16th
October

PSVC Celebration Dinner & Fundraiser following the Specialty Show
PSVC Meeting & Potluck following the Olympic Kennel Club All Breed Show
PSVC Club Meeting TBD

November 15th
December

PSVC Specialty in conjunction with Whidbey Island Kennel Club All Breed Show
PSVC Club Meeting & Holiday Potluck TBD

Visit the PSVC web site for the latest event info: <http://www.pugetsoundvizsla.net/>

PSVC Brags from Nationals!

Conformation

Class	Registered Name	Owner
1 st 9-12 Dogs Sweeps	Kelby Creek's Texas Lone Star	Mary Gaudio
4 th 9-12 Puppy Dog		
2 nd 9-12 Dogs Sweeps	Jaseni's Dempsey KC	Dereck Crump / Sue Muir
9-12 Puppy Dog		
3 rd 9-12 Dogs Sweeps	Barouque Dances with Feelings	Greg and Dennise Dutson / M.Smith
1 st 9-12 Puppy Dog		
4 th 15-18 Dogs	Ch Jaybren's Trouble in Mind	Valorie Bordon
4 th 15-18 Dogs	Jaybren's The Rock Star	Denita McCleod
3 rd Open Dog	Tierah's Hijacked at 20000 Feet	Eleesa Markham, Jill Brennan
1 st 9-12 Bitches	Barouque Abbey Road's Penny Lane	Greg & Dennise Dutson, A. and C. Jones
1 st 9-12 Puppy Bitches		
2 nd 15-18 Bitches Sweeps	Jaybren's The Star of Africa at Tierah	Jayme Nelson / Jill Brennan
2 nd 15-18 Puppy Bitches		
3 rd 15-18 Puppy Bitches	Tierah's Precious Little Moments	Eleesa Markham / Jayme Nelson
4 th 15-18 Bitches Sweeps	Sokoldalu's Fancy Won't Let Me Down	Carla Slabaugh / K.Gilbert
3 rd Amateur Owner Bitches	Blackbullet Roques Ale O'Tierah	Lisa Bender / Jill Brennan
3 rd American Bred Bitches	Sokoldalu-N-Jaybren's Radiant Fyre JH	Carla Slabaugh
1 st Open Bitches	Tierah's Shay-Flight of the Phoenix	William and Lisa Stewart
Winners Bitch		
BEST OF WINNERS		
2 nd 8-10 Veteran Dog	Ch Poquito's Oro Jag In Pursuit OA OAJ XF JH	Gail Fleming
1 st 10-12 Veteran Bitches	Ch Jaybren's Bonfire Konyak, CGC, CDX, RE	Mike and Sheila Wald
1 st Field Trial Dogs	CH Tierah's The Spy Who Loved Me, JH	Lisa Bender
4 th Brood Bitch	GCH Tierah's Ernest Hemingway, RN	Eleesa Markham / Jill Brennan

See complete results at:

http://www.vcaweb.org/events/specialty_2014.shtml

Brags from Nationals!

Obedience & Rally Trial

Class	Registered Name	Owner
2 nd Novice B	GCH Dezertfyre's Crushed Ice, RN BN	Michael and Sheila Wald
4 th Novice B	GCH Sokoldalu'N'Tierah's Total Power Package, BN	Carla and Ron Slabaugh
1 st Beginner Novice A	GCH Kizmar Pursuit of Red Hot Kisses JH	Gail Fleming
2 nd Beginner Novice B	Ch Tierah-n-Sokoldalu's Gone in Sixty Seconds RN	Jill Brennan/Eleesa Markham
Qualify Rally Novice B	Sokoldalu-N-Jaybren's Radiant Fyre JH	Carla Slabaugh
Qualify Rally Novice B	Ch Dezertfyre's Blue Ice, CGC, BN	Michael and Sheila Wald
Qualify Rally Novice B	Tierah's Precious Little Moments	Eleesa Markham/Jayne Nelson
Qualify Rally Novice B	Jaybren's The Rock Star	Denita McLeod
2 nd Rally Advanced B	GCH Dezertfyre's Crushed Ice, RN BN	Michael and Sheila Wald
1 st Rally Excellent B	Gch Jaybren's Quite The Stellar Lady, JH	Denita McLeod

Agility Trial

Class	Registered Name	Owner
2 nd Master Preferred	Ch Poquito's Oro Jag in Pursuit OA OAJ XF JH	Gail Fleming



The Pacific Northwest vizslas did very well at the VCA Nationals 2014 (San Jose, CA) as reflected by our "Ribbon Tree" -

Lucy, Brandi, Kelley, Crush, Fin, Cooper, Ted, Cairo, Shay, Stella, Memphis, Paisley, Hemi, Cagney, Bond, and Rogue

were all well represented!

President's Message

Sheila Wald

Let me introduce myself as your new club president. Most of you know me well as the past newsletter editor and your membership chair. Tara has done a great job with the newsletter, I am enjoying the new touches she has brought to it. Let me introduce Sue Ewing as our new membership chair, I have no doubt she will be a great ambassador for membership.

As club president I am here for the benefit of the membership. While my role is to provide direction and leadership I can be truly effective only if I understand what membership desires. I need to hear from you! On a personal level I want to provide inspiration and encouragement. We have a great membership with folks from all walks of life who bring unique talents, skills and ideas. When you have such a diverse group of people who feel passionately about their dogs and life in general there is always potential for conflict. Add in some competitive spirit, it is easy to lose sight of relationships and get caught up in the moment. However Vizsla owners are much like their dogs, they generally want to get along and just be friends. I hear it frequently from folks involved with other breeds that we are unique in that regard. I personally wish to encourage sportsmanship and relationship building within our club. We are pretty good at it already let's keep building on it.

The board has been working on some great activities for our membership, one of them is a terrific opportunity to work with Pro Handler Andy Linton at a day long handling seminar. Details will be forthcoming, keep watching for emails announcements and the newsletter. Our annual hunt test is coming the end of June at Koopman farms. Whether you plan to enter or not, I encourage you to come out. There is always a need for volunteers to help with a variety of functions and it's a great place to connect and see our Vizslas doing what they were developed for. At the very least we serve up some awesome chow and good company! Speaking of which, don't forget the Annual specialty in August!

Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions, concerns or ideas. I can best be reached via Email: smwald@gpkennels.com. My cell is 509-398-3310, I probably won't hear it, but I do return calls. Hope you are all having a fun Vizsla filled summer!

~ Sheila

Auction & Raffle Items Needed!

Do you need to simplify, clean out some of your dog stuff, maybe you have come across some great deals on cool dog things? Or maybe you are really good at soliciting donations?

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU...well more accurately...YOUR STUFF!!!!

All things dog related (and even some cool stuff not doggie) are welcome, food, wine, clothing, hats, household items, pictures, equipment, dog beds, toys, etc.

PSVC's Auction and Raffle following our Specialty and our fabulous BBQ is just one of the many wonderful things that take place on our Specialty weekend.

More importantly proceeds from the auction go to offset our expenses, help rescue and benefit health research.

If you have items to donate or would like to assist during the Raffle and Auction, contact Denita McLeod
denita.mcleod@flukenetworks.com

AKC News

AKC National Owner-Handled Series Expanded to Specialty and Group Clubs



Hosted exclusively by All-Breed clubs during the first two years of its existence, the American Kennel Club® (AKC®) National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) has now been opened to local and national Specialty clubs as well as Group clubs.

“After Specialty clubs saw the success All-Breed clubs had with the NOHS at their events, we received inquiries from many different breed clubs interested in taking part. We’re pleased to be able to fulfill the requests by expanding the program,” said Alan Slay, AKC Director of Event Programs. “For Specialty clubs just now considering the NOHS, it’s very easy to add the competition to your event, even if your club is already hosting special attractions like Best Puppy, Best Bred-By Exhibitor or Best Veteran.”

The expansion to specialty and group clubs will allow owner-handlers additional opportunities to compete for year-end points and rankings. The top ten owner-handled dogs (http://classic.akc.org/ohs/points_ranking/index.cfm) (plus ties) in each breed in the 2014 qualifying year will be invited to compete in the National-Owner Handled Series Final, scheduled to be held in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship on December 12, 2014 in Orlando, Florida. In the inaugural Finals last year, more than 520 competitors entered, representing 160 breeds and 43 states and Canada.

National Owner-Handled Series Best in Show results can also now be viewed in the Weekly Wins (http://www.akc.org/events/conformation/weekly_wins/index.cfm) section of the AKC website.

Specialty or Group clubs interested in offering this competition can indicate it on their event application or email eventplans@akc.org. Owner-handlers can find a local event offering the NOHS here (http://www.akc.org/events/search/index.cfm?action=refresh_index&active_tab_row=1&active_tab_col=3&fixed_tab=3).

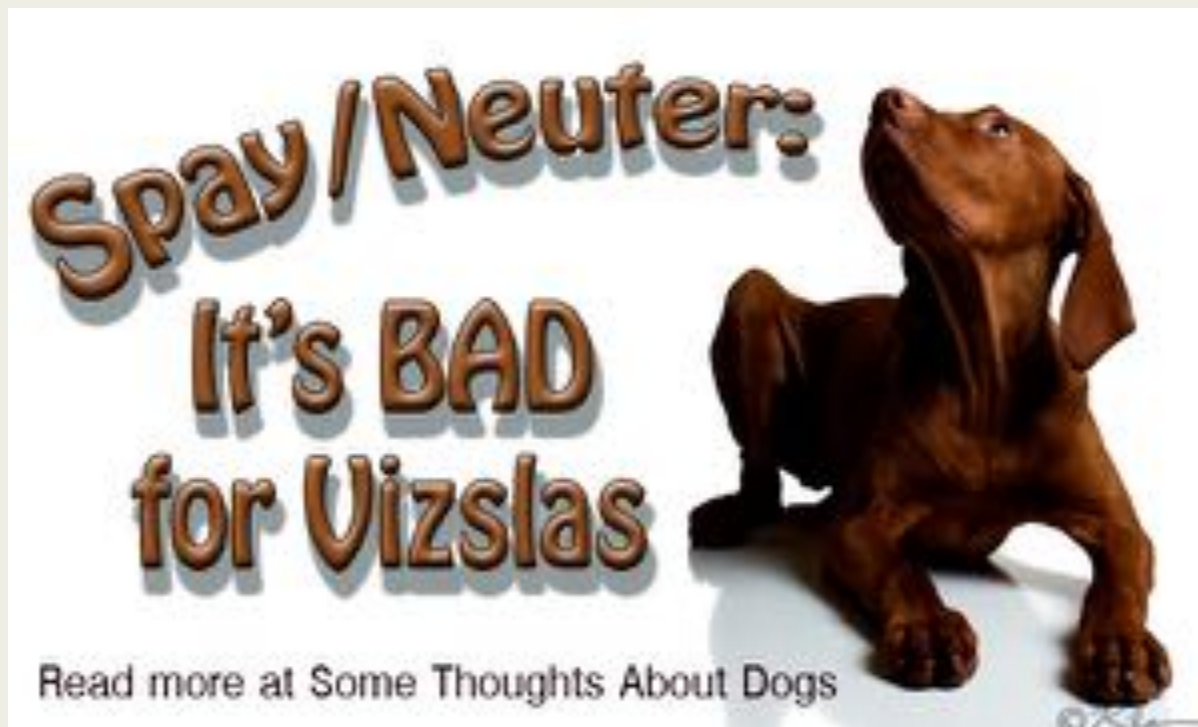
New Point Schedule
Effective May 14, 2014

	1	2	3	4	5
Oregon & Washington Vizslas (Male/Female).....	2/2	5/6	7/10	9/12	12/14
Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah & Wyoming Vizslas (Male/Female)	2/2	3/5	4/7	5/8	7/10

Feature

Desexing: It's bad for vizslas, too

Reprinted with permission from: www.leemakennels.com/blog



Late last year, a study was published looking at the incidence of cancer in desexed golden retrievers, finding a correlation between earlier desexing (before one year old) and certain types of cancer.

Now, in February, there is a new study supporting many of the findings in the golden retriever study, but this time looking at the incidence of cancers in Hungarian Vizslas. As behavioural disorders are also common in the breed, the researchers decided to look at the impact of desexing on these disorders, as well.

While we will look at their findings in more detail, the main take home points from this research are (quote):
“revealed that gonadectomized dogs had significantly higher odds than did sexually intact dogs of having mast cell tumour, hemangiosarcoma, lymphoma or lymphosarcoma, all other cancers, all types of cancer combined or behavioral disorders, regardless of the age at which the dog was gonadectomized. The 2 exceptions were that male dogs gonadectomized at [less than or equal to] 12 months of age did not have a higher risk of developing hemangiosarcoma and dogs gonadectomized at > 6 months of age did not have a higher risk of developing a behavioural disorder, other than fear of storms.”

And it is important to note that the age of onset was earlier for all cancers and disorders when the dog was desexed.

So now that has wet your appetite, we will look at the research in more detail.

Continued on page 17



Summer Specialty 2014

**A Vizsla Specialty, Sporting Group Specialty
& 2 All Breed Shows in one Location!**

**Enumclaw Expo Center
45224 284th Ave SE
Enumclaw, WA**

PSVC Specialty

Friday Aug 15, 2014

Specialty Judge:

Mrs. Valerie Gervais

Puppy & Veteran's Sweepstakes Judge:

Mrs. Linda Durham

Jr. Showmanship & Beginner Puppy Judge:

Mr. Paul Bodeving

Obedience Judge:

Mr. Allan E Immerman

Rally Judge:

Mr. Richard J Lewis

Other on site shows, assigned judges & superintendent:

8/14/2014 - Rainier Sporting Dog Association
William R Russell - Pat Shaw Show Services

8/16/2014 - Olympic Kennel Club
Mrs. Suzanne Dillin - Onofrio Dog Shows

8/17/2014 - Olympic Kennel Club
Mrs. Betsy A Yates - Onofrio Dog Shows

Please Join the PSVC for our Bow Wow Luau BBQ Celebration and Auction Fundraiser

All exhibitors and Vizsla friends are invited to join PSVC on August 15th for a LUAU celebration meal and auction located in the PSVC's camping area. Starting time will be announced once the judging schedule has been determined. It will be a fun time for everyone to get together and share stories while raising some money for the club. PSVC will be providing all the tableware and the meat – Meal price is \$10.00 per person or \$5.00 per person if you bring your favorite dish to share. Please bring your own chair and beverage.

A Note About Our Specialty Show

*PSVC Specialty, Sweepstakes, Jr. Showmanship, Obedience & Rally
Enumclaw Expo Center - Friday August 15th, 2014*

Your Show Committee – Jill Brennan, Sheila Wald, Katrina Sullivan, and I – have been working hard to produce a grand summer Specialty and look forward to seeing many club members, and other Vizsla friends there. We are hoping for a large entry, but even if you don't plan on entering the show or trial, you are most welcome and sure of a good time. We are working with the Superintendent and other clubs on ring times to prevent conflict between Obedience and Conformation. There will be a raffle with a great prize and the always fun, perhaps hilarious, auction after an evening BBQ/potluck. We hope the judges will attend and you'll have a chance to visit with them, as well as each other. No issue bringing your Vizsla to this meal!

Besides the Show Committee, Gail Fleming and Chuck Strong are coordinating RV parking for all Vizsla lovers – contact them at valiantsailor@hotmail.com before July 15, 2014 to make your reservations. Tonya Gisselberg is selling catalogs, and Gale Shay is putting together welcome bags for judges and heading up the raffle.

How about placing an ad, well wishes, or memorial in our catalog? Contact Jill at tierah_vizsla@hotmail.com before July 11, 2014. Denita McLeod and daughter Liz McLeod are organizing the auction and could use more donations. Please contact them if you have something and please note that the auction brought in a lot of money last year and goes a long way in keeping us solvent! (Especially if Mike continues to buy an item to donate, then can't resist bidding on it. I mean, what's the point if you don't contribute something you really want to have yourself?!)

The BBQ and potluck Friday evening is always a highlight, with Sheila and Mike Wald cooking up a storm. There are many day-of-show tasks and we're asking all club members to pitch in so we'll have a smooth running and fun show for judges and handlers and, most especially, for red dogs!

Remember, it can be hot in August at the Expo grounds, so please come prepared to keep your dogs comfortable. Look for the Premium in July; the closing day is July 30.

Thank you for your support. See you in August!

~Dee Smiley, Show Chair



PSVC Specialty Show Trophy Sponsorships!

If you are interested in sponsoring an award at this year's show please contact Trophy Chairman Sheila Wald for more info!
smwald@qpkennels.com

Brags!

Introducing new champion **Shay** aka CH Tierah's Shay-Flight of the Phoenix. Shay finished her champion ship at the Vizsla Club of America National specialty, in San Jose, CA, where she was awarded Winners bitch and Best of Winners. This was the icing on the cake as Shay was also awarded Winners bitch at the VCA Regional specialty the day before. Shay is owned by Will and Lisa Stewart and Bred by Eleesa Markham and Jill Brennan.



GCh-Platinum, Am Can Int CH Jaybren's Irish Star was the #1 Vizsla in Breed Rankings for the first quarter of 2014. **Cagney** is loved, owned, and Bred by Jill and Jim Brennan. He is handled by Andy & Amy Linton.

cagney

- Multiple Group Winner
- Number 1 Vizsla Breed Rankings*
- AKC Platinum Grand Champion
- 6 x Best in Specialty Show Winner

* Through March 2014

Expertly handled by Andy & Amy Linton
Bred by, owned & loved by Jim & Jill Brennan

6 x BISS AM CAN INT CH
AM GCH Jaybren's Irish Star

Thank you to Roger Hartinger and the many other judges who have recognized "Cagney's" quality.

Photo by Karen Lee

More Brags!



Mojo & Greg



Gracie & Dennise



Penny & Greg

Greg and I are so proud of our gang of Red Dogs. **Mojo** is on FIRE... GCh/Int'l Ch Renaissance Kiss's Casanova JH was awarded 1st Award of Merit at the National Regional Specialty down in San Jose, CA. Then the following weekend at the Klamath Fall Shows he was awarded back to back Group 2 placements, under Judge Elizabeth Muthard and Charles Olvis. Then was awarded another Group 2 placement the following week at the Mt. Baker KC show in Lynden, WA under Judge Karen Wilson. Greg was also awarded an Owner/Handle Group 3. We want to thank **Mojo's** Breeder Linda Durham for giving us this incredible dog , **Mojo** has truly been a dream come true for us.

Our girl **Penny Baroque Abbey Roads' Penny Lane** (Konnor/Eleanor) has also been taking the ring by storm. The Albany, OR shows this last February, her first weekend out she brought home a Best in Sweeps at the TEVCO Specialty, a Winners bitch for her first major, Best of Winners and after all that she completely thrilled us by going Best in Show in Bred By Exhibitor. At Nationals, **Penny** took a 1st in Sweeps from 9-12 puppy Bitches and a 2nd in the 9-12 puppy bitch class. At just 10 months old, she achieved her Championship Title at the Woofstock Shows by going BW for a 4 point Major.

Brother **Reese**, at the Albany, OR show, also his first show, went Best of Winners for his first major. Nationals Sweeps, he took 3rd from 9-12 puppy dog and 1st from 9-12 puppy dog class. Went Best of Breed form the 9-12 puppy Dog class at the Gridley, CA Show over several Specials. Went Winners Dog at the Woofstock Show for a 4 point Major. At the VCNC Specialty he took Best Puppy in Sweeps, Reserve Winners Dog and a Best Puppy. Then the last day he went BW for another 4 pt. major to earn his Champion Title **CH Baroque's Dance's With Feelings**



Reese & Greg

Our spitfire **Gracie Baroque Casanova's Kiss of Grace** (Mojo/Zi Zi) was awarded Best of Winners at the TEVCO Specialty, and her brother **Taz** GCh/Int'l Ch Baroque's Mr. Razamataz was awarded an Award of Merit at the TEVCO Specialty. Always Owner/Handled and now Breeder/Owner/Handled. Also want to thank those who have helped shuffle dogs and have done back up handling for us, we truly appreciate it...Thank You Karen, Sheila, Sue Muir and Denita.



Taz & Dennise

~ Dennise & Greg Dutson

More Brags!

CH Fantazsa's Classic Chenille RA OA OAJ NAP NJP NF CGC

(By CH Bon's Golden Boy K.O. JH x Fantazsa's Countrysport); Breeder/Owner/Handler: Pam Hidaka

Chenille earned her first leg in Rally Excellent at the WSOTC Rally Trial in March and 2 legs on a BN in Puyallup in June.

Fantazsa's Anahata Cielo CAA

(By GCH DC AFC Snowridge Gunfire Flynn MH CGC x CH Fantazsa's Classic Chenille RA OA OAJ NAP NJP NF CGC); Breeder/Owner: Pam Hidaka

Cielo finished his Coursing Ability Advanced title running 600 yards in 36 seconds at the Evergreen Basenji Club's Coursing Ability Test in May.



Chenille & Pam

CH Fantazsa's The Tyger RN CA

(By GCH DC AFC Snowridge Gunfire Flynn MH CGC x CH Fantazsa's Classic Chenille RA OA OAJ NAP NJP NF CGC); Breeder/Owner/Handler: Pam Hidaka

Tyger earned his first JH legs at the Three Rivers Bird Dog Club's hunt test in March.



Tyger



Cielo

Mister Blue had great representation at Nationals with a total of 6 of his kids. Three from his first litter, two from his second and one from his third. It was a fitting tribute to him. We were so pleased and proud to share in the moment when his daughter won Winners Bitch at the regional and then Best of Winners at the Nationals!

Congrats to Miss **Shay**, Owners William and Lisa Stewart, and Breeders Jill Brennan and Eleesa Markham!

~ Sheila & Mike
Wald



More Brags!



Sheila,
Jessica &
Kristina
with the
EMLK crew

Dezertfyre Vizslas is proud to share some great accomplishments recently for our crew!

Rupert Dezertfyre's **Blue Moon of Kentucky** went Reserve Winner's dog to brother **Percy** and Winner's dog on Sunday at EMLK. **Rupert** is owned and loved by Andrea and Jeff Burkhardt and was handled by Jessica Wald.

Lucy Am/Intl Ch Dezertfyre's **Blue Ice**, CGC, BN, earned her first Best of Breed at our local hometown show at the Ephrata Moses Lake Kennel club sending her off to nationals with a great start. At Nationals she earned another leg of her Rally Novice title, while she didn't come home with a ribbon she did make it through two cuts for Best of Breed going to the final round. Thanks Gale Shay for your help! **Lucy** is loved, owned and handled by the Wald family (with a little help from some friends).



Crush &
Sheila

Crush GCH Dezertfyre's **Crushed Ice**, CGC, BN, CD, RA earned his CD at Nationals and 2nd place in the Novice division. He was the second highest scoring dog in the entire trial! He also earned a 2nd qualifying score in Rally Advance and 2nd place. **Crush** finished his Rally Advance title at Spokane Kennel club obedience trial a few weekends later. **Crush** is loved and owned by Mike and Sheila Wald, and always obedience handled by Sheila.



Sky

Sky Dezertfyre's **Blue Skies**, NAP, NJP, NFP, OAP, OJP earned two new titles at Nationals, earned first place in Open and was High scoring Open Vizsla. **Sky** is loved, owned and handled by Cindy Hunter.

Not to be outdone by her kids and grandkids **Brandi** Am/Can/Intl Ch Jaybren's **Bonfire Konyak**, CGC, BN, CD, RE won her Veteran's class and made the cut for Best of Breed.



Brandi &
Andy

Following Nationals, **Percy** Dezertfyre's **Blue Thunder** earned two more points towards his Championship at the Elma shows going Best of Winners both days. He warmed up with Winners dog handled by Kristina Wald just prior to Nationals at EMLK Kennel Club show. **Percy** is owned and loved by the Slee family.

Editor's Desk

Editor in Chief

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PSVC is Green!

For a paper copy, contact me!

Prizes

A few weekends ago I shot down my first bird during a pointing training session in preparation for our club's annual AKC Hunt Test (*don't miss it at Koopman Farms this weekend!*) It was an exhilarating moment for both me and the girls as they got to retrieve, sniff and inspect their prize.

Speaking of prizes, congratulations to all of our members' accomplishments at this year's VCA Nationals and the shows leading up to it! The picture of the Nationals ribbon tree is quite impressive and I'm very lucky to always have so many brags to pack into each newsletter issue. Keep them coming!



~ Tara

PS: Had to share this pic I snapped of Zephyr out on a daily outing. Sums her up perfectly ☺

Newsletter Ad Rates

1 Page w/ 1 Photo \$17.00

1 Page w/ 2 Photos \$22.00

1 Page w/out Photo \$12.00

½ Page w/ 1 Photo \$15.00

½ Page w/out Photo \$10.00

¼ Page w/out Photo \$5.00

When placing advertisements of dogs, OFA#'s are required for the subject Vizsla. If under 2 years of age, OFA#'s of the parents are required. Spayed/neutered and deceased Vizslas do not require OFA#'s.

2014 PSVC Officers & Board Members

Club Officers

President: Sheila Wald - smwald@qpkennels.com

Vice President: Tom Shay - tgshay@gmail.com

Secretary: Gale Shay - tgshay@gmail.com

Treasurer: Gail Fleming - agilevizsla@msn.com

Membership: Sue Ewing - ewingsue254@gmail.com

Breed Referral: Steve Hanna - steve@hhvizslas.com

Members at Large

Eleesa Markham - vizslaprincess@aol.com

Chuck Strong - valiantsailor@hotmail.com

Jayme Nelson - jaymen16@gmail.com

Ring Nerves

by Linda Koutsky

I was sitting outside of the Open ring with my Novice A dog on my lap. We were having a great day at the obedience trial. I was playing with her and scratching her butt. She loved her butt scratched! I was sitting there when a nervous Open A handler approached us. This handler was such a basket case that she was vibrating.

She said to me "How can you be like that? You just FAILED!"

I smiled. I pointed to the side of the ring where a top nationally known instructor was sitting with all her OTCH students. I said "See that group?"

She nodded and said yes with great reverence.

So I said "well, you can't sit there until you learn how to fail."

She pulled up a chair and we talked about dreams, and effort, and success, and failure. We talked about the difference between title chasing and performance building. We talked about how wonderful dogs are, and how lucky we are to spend the day with them.

And then this handler went into the ring and failed every single exercise.

She came up to me, smiled, and thanked me.

Today she's one of those OTCH students. She's still a bit of a basket case but she doesn't vibrate anymore. And she's one of the nicest people you'll ever meet at an obedience trial.

Never go into a ring looking to win or Q. But always go into the ring knowing you can because you're prepared.

This weekend, before you walk into the ring, just take a moment to be thankful because you can spend the day with great dogs and terrific friends. Think of how lucky you are because you got out of bed this morning; how blessed you are because you can walk. I was 6 weeks post OTCH, winning everything in sight, when my left knee blew out on a halt in the UB ring. I was out of the ring and unable to walk or heel a dog for 3 years. Why isn't important. What is important is the total joy I felt the day I stepped back into the ring. I remember I NQ'd that day. I can't tell you if or how I NQ'd the last time I showed, but I can remember that day. Tickie went down on the sit. He was working a 199.5 at the time. And I was so thrilled because we were back and working as a team!

Continued on next page

Ring Nerves cont.

Sometime this year I hope to earn my 100th HIT & HC. Looking at the rosettes I can't remember most of them. I remember my first HIT, everyone should remember that. I remember the day I finished my first OTCH. I know that rosette because there were no ribbons that day. Someone at the trial took a photo for me with the judge using a blue agility ribbon that they had stashed in their car. :-) My OTCH HIT & HC rosettes came later in the mail. I can find my first 200 because it's huge and from our National Specialty. And I know which rosette was Tickie's last HIT. I cried that day. I cried in the ring and couldn't stop. Not because he won't win any more rosettes, but because our glorious ride together was over.

We have such a short time with our dogs. We're so blessed to be able to play this game. I've had years where I couldn't show due to health reasons, or financial reasons, or simply a lack of trials where we lived. So when I can show I make the most of it. I can't remember my wins. I can't remember my NQs. But I can remember my wonderful dogs and the incredible friends I've made along the way.

And I can remember what I've learned about dogs, about the game, and about myself. I owe the sport, and the people in it, more than I'll ever be able to repay. The nerves have gone away, but they too were once part of the journey until I realized how much they got in my way.

I'm so lucky to be showing this weekend. Once again I get to take the Red Dog into the ring. I get to see if the things we're working on in training are improving in the ring. Once again I get to learn something. I get to spend the day with people and dogs that I enjoy and love. Showing is my drug of choice; it's my personal high. It's my chance to be one with my dog. The outcome is just another learning opportunity.

Linda OTCH/200



**PSVC Specialty
August 16th**

We need volunteers for the following areas:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| - Judges Lunch & Hospitality | - Decorating Ringside |
| - Water & Spray bottles at Ringside | - Trophy Setup |
| - Table setup for Dinner | - Auction setup |

Please contact Sheila Wald if you can assist!
smwald@gpkennels.com



PSVC Membership Application/Renewal

Contact Information

Name + Spouse/Other: _____
Street Address: _____
City, State, ZIP Code: _____
Home Phone/Work Phone: _____
Occupation: _____
E-mail Address: _____
Kennel Name: (if any) _____

Do not publish the **Home/Work/Fax/E-mail Address** in Membership Directory (*circle all that apply*)

☐ Would you like to receive notification of Club Events via E-Mail Only?

Membership Desired*

☐ Newsletter only (*no voting privileges*) \$5.00 ☐ Single \$7.50 ☐ Family \$10.00

**Membership dues are payable by January 1st and delinquent on March 31st. Lapsed memberships are dropped from the roster with the April issue of the newsletter. Please make check payable to PSVC.*

Interests: What activities interest you?

Dog Related Activities

<input type="checkbox"/> Show	<input type="checkbox"/> Agility	<input type="checkbox"/> Obedience
<input type="checkbox"/> Hunt Test	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Trial	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Companion	<input type="checkbox"/> Tracking	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescue/Foster

Club Activities

<input type="checkbox"/> Event Volunteer
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee Position
<input type="checkbox"/> Board Position

Memberships in Other Dog Clubs: (Please list other dog clubs of which you are a member)

Vizslas Currently Owned:

Please provide a brief explanation describing your interest in joining PSVC:

Signatures of Applicant and Sponsor:

I hereby apply for membership in the Puget Sound Vizsla Club, and agree to support the Constitution and By-Laws of the Club and the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of the AKC; to encourage high standards in the breeding of, training, and competing with Vizslas; and to promote the health and welfare of the Vizsla Breed.

Applicant _____ Date: _____ Applicant _____ Date: _____

Sponsor #1 _____ Date: _____ Sponsor #2 _____ Date: _____

Application must be completed in full with all signatures in order to be considered for membership. By PSVC By-laws each application is to be read at the first meeting following receipt, prospective members names published in the newsletter and listed on the agenda for the 2nd meeting at which the application will be voted on.

Mail to Membership Chairman: Sheila Wald 5001 Sagebrush Flats Rd NW Ephrata, Wa 98823 smwald@qpkennels.com

About the Study

This was a retrospective cohort study – meaning it was a piece of research based on events that had happened over time, looking back at that time.

The study included **2,505 vizslas** born between 1992 and 2008. Of them:

604 of the vizslas had cancer(s),

648 had behavioural disorders,

1,421 of them were desexed,

362 vizslas were desexed at 6 months or earlier (209 of these were female, and 153 of these were male),

298 vizslas were desexed at 7-12 months (157 were female, 141 were male), and

711 vizslas were desexed at 12 months (459 females, 312 males).

Data for this study was collected from an online survey conducted during 2008, which targeted vizsla owners to partake by advertising through breed clubs, email lists, websites, magazines, and newsletters. 75% of respondents were involved with Vizsla breed clubs, so it was a biased sample.

Participants came from 25 countries in all, including the US, UK, Canada, and Australia.

This study was designed to consider age of desexing and its effects, so the owners were asked to identify when their dog was desexed, or if it was not at all. It's important to note that many studies simply look at 'entire' or 'desexed' and don't look at lifetime exposure to gonads – this is one of few in a new study of research actually considering the time of desexing.

Cancer

An earlier Vizsla Health Survey found that cancer, especially hemangiosarcoma and lymphoma, "was listed as the most common cause of death in the breed." Desexing was associated with the development of these cancers, according to their survey, and also associated with the development of behavioural disorders.

This is no surprise, as numerous studies have linked desexed with various types of cancer, including hemangiosarcoma, but also prostate cancer, transitional cell carcinoma, and osteosarcoma.

This research show that a desexed vizsla was 5 times as likely to have cancer (other than mast cell cancer, hemangiosarcoma, or lymphoma or lymphosarcoma) than vizslas that were entire.

Not only were desexed dogs more likely to get cancer, but the earlier they were desexed, the earlier they were diagnosed with cancer.

All in all, dogs desexed at any age were more likely to have cancer than dogs not desexed.

Interestingly, though, "There was no significant difference in the longevity of gonadectomized Vizslas, compared with the longevity for those that remained sexually intact". This means that even though desexed dogs were more likely to get cancer, and sooner, this didn't seem to make them die younger.

Hemangiosarcoma

When it comes to hemangioarcoma, desexed females were 9 times as likely to get hemangiosarcoma than entire females.

For males, males neutered after 12 months of age had a higher risk of developing hemangiosarcoma.

The research makes note that this is not a 'one off' event: "Of concern, studies have found an increased risk of hemangiosarcoma, a common tumour that frequently leads to fatal outcomes, in gonadectomized dogs, which is in concurrence with findings for the present study." That means that vizslas are not alone in being more likely to develop hemangiosarcoma when desexed, especially when it comes to bitches.

Mast Cell Cancer

Desexed vizslas got mast cell cancer at a significantly higher rate (3.5 times more likely) than entire dogs, and they got diagnosed with this cancer sooner than entire dogs.

Lymphosarcoma

While there was no difference between females and males in the likelihood of developing lymphoma or lymphosarcoma, desexed vizslas were significantly more likely (4.3 times as high incidence) entire.

Mammary Cancer

There is some evidence that bitches left entire for longer are more likely to develop mammary cancer. However, this study says, “authors of a recent systematic review of all reports in peer-reviewed journals on the associations among neutering, age at neutering, and mammary gland tumours concluded that the evidence that neutering reduces the risk of mammary gland neoplasia is weak and not a sound basis for firm recommendations on neutering because of limited evidence and bias in published results”. We can, at least, say there is some debate on the correlation of mammary cancers and desexing.

In regard to this study, mammary cancer was not common. There were 1,360 female dogs in the study, with 535 of them being entire, and only 11 developed mammary tumours. That is, 2% of entire bitches got breast cancer. (The authors of this study also note that 10 of those 11 bitches were desexed at later than 5 years old.)

This equates to only .4% of the dogs in the 2505 strong study developed mammary cancer. In comparison, 11% of the 2505 dogs in the study having mast cell cancer, hemiosarcoma, lymphoma, or lymphosarcoma. Considering this, community emphasis on mammary cancer seems misguided as it is not biggest concern, especially in this breed.

Behavioural Disorders

There have been studies that have shown a correlation between gonadectomy and behavioural problems, but whether these affects on behaviour are ‘good’ or ‘bad’ is a matter of debate, with different studies showing different things.

The Vizsla Health Survey found that behavioural problems were prevalent in the breed, hence the focus of this study on behavioural problems. These types of behavior problems were mostly fear, anxiety, and increased arousal.

This study did something clever though: Dogs who had a behavioural problem before desexing were excluded from the analysis. The logic? “Excluding dogs that might have been gonadectomized because of a behavioural problem eliminated a confounding factor that could have incorrectly suggested a stronger association between gonadectomy and behavioural problems.”

Desexed vizslas were more likely to have behavioural problems than sexually intact dogs, and dogs desexed at or before 6 months had a 1.8 times higher incidence of behavioural disorders than sexually intact dogs. These behavioural problems included: fear of storms, separation anxiety, fear of noises, fear of gunfire, timidity, excitability, submissive urination, aggression, hyperactivity, and fear biting.

As with cancer, the younger the dog was at time of desexing, the earlier a behavioural problem was diagnosed.

Fear of storms was particularly significant. Desexed dogs were 4.1 times more likely to be scared of storms than entire dogs. Bitches were more likely to be scared of storms than males – but males desexed younger was more likely to be scared of storms earlier. (Desexing time didn’t change when females became fearful of storms.)

The author notes, “It should be mentioned that the most common behavioral problems in Vizslas in this study did not include sexual behaviours (eg, mounting and urine marking).”

Why is it so?

Briefly, this study predicted that sex steroids such as estrogen, progesterone, and testosterone is related to immunity, especially the surveillance for cancer cells. That is, without gonads to produce sex hormones, the immune system does not function as normal.

Highlights

To me, the most important points from this study are:

- There seems to be no compelling reason to desex Vizslas in regard to that individual dog's health or temperament, on the basis of this study.
- Desexing does not inevitably result in a healthier and more temperamentally stable dog.
- As orthopaedic problems are not common in Vizslas, this study does not consider joint disorders and desexing, as other studies have.
- Despite the incidence of cancer in neutered dogs, this study suggests that desexed and intact Vizslas live about the same length of time.
- Vets need to discuss the pros and cons of desexing with clients.

Further Research Discussion

This kind of research is just the beginning! Further research can consider:

- Are Vizslas special? We need to do this type of research in other breeds.
- For all studies considering affects of desexing, age of desexing should be considered in the data collected. There are very few studies looking at life-long gonad exposure, and so conclusions on optimum age of desexing is hard to make.
- Biological effects of removing gonads.
- Sterilisation for dogs without gonadectomy – like vasectomies or hysterectomies (leaving ovaries).
- Something that I have been considering for a while,” An additional potential source of confounding was that behavioural differences between sexually intact and gonadectomized dogs could have been attributable to being subjected to hospitalisation and survey at a young age, rather than to the hormonal changes conferred by gonadectomy. A prospective, randomised blinded study with a control (sham) surgery could be performed to distinguish between these 2 scenarios.”
- More research on gonadectomies, on cancer, and on behaviour, and how they're connected.

Reference:

Zink MC, Farhooody P, Elser SE, Ruffini LD, Gibbons TA, & Rieger RH (2014). Evaluation of the risk and age of onset of cancer and behavioral disorders in gonadectomized Vizslas. Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, 244 (3), 309-19 PMID: [24432963](#)

[Read the study here.](#)

Image Credit: Thanks to [klam101 on DeviantArt](#).

Further Reading:

[Why would you NOT desex your dog???](#)
[Is desexing a cult?](#)

[Golden Retrievers: Cancer if you do, cancer if you don't](#)
[DON'T Spay or Neuter Your Pets](#)
[New Research That Raises Questions About Neutering Recommendations](#)