



Special points of interest:

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- Seeking Nominating Committee Members

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“The Versa-Tell”

This Issues Photo Contest Winner: Kevin Mac Williams



Left: Zyka vom Osterberg Right: Vito vom Osterberg

Letter from the President

Another year is almost done and at my age months seem like weeks. We all had a good year! We have followed our principles and in the main have made good progress. Two excellent tests in Michigan, which were well attended with good results, in that we are starting to qualify our own breed stock. A special mention has to go to “Little” Gabe for the all out effort he put into the Michigan tests. Great job Gabe!

Moving forward this year we intend to have our elections. We need three person for the nominating committee. Those who are interested please contact Mario Polsinelli our club secretary and see what we can get organized. In closing, my than to all of you that participated in our club activities and a Happy Holiday and prosperous New Year.

K.H. Elliott, President, VCDKK

Vice Presidents/Director of Testing Report

Greetings,

The VCDKK hosted a Solms/AZP test on September 26 in New Haven, Michigan. The test was graciously hosted, and coordinated by the LaSala family. I must say that the grounds including search fields, drag fields, and water were excellent. I had the pleasure to judge at this test with our VDD friends Marty Ryan, and Wayne Pitock. A VDD-GNA HZP test was conducted Sunday on the same grounds. It was a very successful testing week-end for both the VCDKK, and VDD-GNA. All of this years test results are included in this Newsletter.

The 24th International Kurzhaar Prufung "IKP" was hosted by DK Klub Schesweg-Holstein in October. Some interesting statistics about the test are that 136 DK's were tested with 101 passing the test, 93 different Judges evaluated the dogs in the filed and the show ring. You will find the test results in the "Members" section of the web site.

I have been informed that club member Gabe LaSala recently passed the VGP test with his DK female Cita vom Holtvogt. I'm sure that Gabe can attest to the fact that taking on the challenge of training for and testing in VGP is no easy task. Congratulations Gabe, you have passed the "Master Test".

Do you own a DK in need of testing in 2010? If so please contact me as soon as possible so that the club can schedule 2010 tests. We will make every effort to schedule and locate tests for all of those members in need.

I understand that several of our members are planning litters or have litters on the way. Thank you for your commitment to the breed, and good luck with your litters.

I sincerely hope that all of you are enjoying your hunting season with your DK.

Wishing You and Yours a Very Happy Holiday Season, and New Year.

Dan Arndt

**The 24th Internationale Kurzhaar Prufung (IKP) was hosted by DK Klub Schesweg-Holstein in October
See IKP Results on the Web site.**

Do you own a DK in need of testing in 2010? If so please contact me as soon as possible so that the club can schedule 2010 tests.

Treasurers Report



Hello Members,

I hope everyone is doing well and having a great hunting season. I personally have been really busy with work so hunting this fall has been slow. The following report describes our current status with respect to membership, finances and merchandise.

Current Paid Members:

31 Regular Members

1 Associate Member

1 Lifetime Member

Total: 34 Members

Financial Report:

Current Balance Checking: \$1,200.00

Accounts Payable:

Insurance 765.00

Tattoo Kit 100.59

Net Cash \$334.41

Merchandise in Stock:

XL Shirts _ \$15.00

XXL Shirts— \$17.00

Wax Cotton Camo Hats— \$22.00

Cotton Green Hats \$17.00

Membership Renewal Notices will be mailed shortly. Please complete them and return them promptly so we can send our membership report to DKV on time. If you have any questions regarding any of the information below do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks for all you do and Happy Holidays,

Gabe Lasala (Big), Treasurer, VCDKK

Membership

Renewal Notices

will be mailed shortly. Please complete them and return them promptly.

Got Photos?

We are looking for some great new photos to spruce up the VCDKK website. If you have great photos of your DK in action please e-mail them to Gary Fleming:

vectortfl@comast.net

From the Breed Warden

Greetings everyone,

I hope you've enjoyed an excellent hunting season. The year has ended and though it's time to reflect on last years club activities, I can't help but look forward and begin to focus on the New Year.

We trained hard all summer with great success and some bad experiences. Since our last NL our region held a Fall breed test (Solms/HZP) and a hardy congratulations goes to Big Gabe and Kevin Mac Williams for completing their AZP. In addition, congratulations to Fritz and Big Gabe on completing their VGP—great accomplishment!

We also held a fabulous VGP seminar with Fred Turjan sharing his wealth of dog knowledge and experience with us. The weekend seminar with Fred was very informative and all who attended enjoyed it. Thanks Fred; we really appreciate you coming all the way up to MI.

Our club breeders produced two litters in 2009. One litter of three from Gary Fleming, DK kennel vom Sturmland, whelped 9 October. The pups look great in the photos and Gary is very happy with the temperaments. We also have a new local breeder: Mario Polsinelli with DK kennel von Solilo. The von Solio litter was whelped the third week of December - 5 females and three males. This litter of pups is a vom Wittekind mother line (line breeding). The best of luck to Mario and his new DK litter.

Big Gabe LaSala has registered his new kennel, vom Springborn, with the DKV and we all congratulate him. We're looking forward to seeing some great pups from Cita. Regarding the DKV in Germany, we've successfully presented HD radiographs for several dogs through our club. The office of Dr. Lemmer was very prompt and efficient which made the process go smoothly.

I've included a copy of the cover of a Kurzhaar Blatter published in 1960 (See Page 5) ; Axel vom Wasserschling. He is arguably one of the most dominant DK studs in DK history. I plan to provide copies of pictures from older Zuchtbooks and DK Blatters to be presented in each NL. If you have a certain dog you would like to see, please e-mail any suggestions. If I have a Ahnentafel or picture your more than welcome to view it.

We are considering holding a BTR in our region so please contact one of the board members if you have interest. The greater the response the more likely we will have the test. If you are interested in hosting or participating in any test, or have an idea for an informative seminar, please let us know. If we work together as a team we can make it happen.

Looking ahead a little we need to consider holding a VGP in the MI area this fall. With a little team work and good planning we can make it happen.

On a personal level, I'll be spending my time training Yola this spring and summer so anyone needing a training partner, or maybe some companionship is welcome. Don't hesitate to call or e-mail.

Good luck this year and enjoy your dogs. Lets start planning and training for this years coming tests.

Best of Luck in 2010.

Little Gabe

Deutsch Kurzhaar Nostalgia



Kurzhaar- Blätter

Neue
Folge

ZÜCHTER-ZEITSCHRIFT
DES KURZHAAR-VERBANDES

Sommer 1960 (Heft 2/3 1960)



Axel vom Wasserschling 685 I / 59 DI m. S.

Hier stellt sich ein Rüde des neuen Jahrgangs vor. Sein Züchter, G. Machetanz, Essen-Schonnebeck, und mit ihm die Kurzhaarzüchter in Rheinland und Westfalen hegen die Hoffnung, daß Axel die Vaterlinie des Kleemannsieggers Arco vom Bramautal fortsetzt und zugleich die Vorzüge der Diana-Siegerin Thea vom Wasserschling zur Wirkung bringt. — Die Ahnentafel ist in Band I (1959) des ZK veröffentlicht.

From the Secretary

Hello Fellow Members,

I hope everyone had or is having a successful hunting season. Mine was cut a little short due to Dharma getting bred. She should be delivering around the 23rd of December .

This has been a very educational few months for me. Going through the whole breeding process for the first time gives you an appreciation for anyone who has ever had a litter.

This past summer I had the privilege of hosting a VGP Seminar which was very well coordinated by Little Gabe Lasala. The seminar was given by Fred Turjan. It was very informative and it definitely gave me a better understanding of how to be a better handler.

This past October me and Dharma entered our very first VGP. Although we did not pass, I was very proud of her. Out of the three dogs entered, she was the only one to successfully finish her blood track with no call backs, and she received a 4H in water work.

This coming spring Little Gabe and I are considering hosting a BTR; based on the response we get. For anyone that might be interested please contact either of us.

Thank You,

Mario Polsinelli, Secretary



Dharma's great looking pups were whelped December 22, 2009.

5 Females

3 Males

Congratulations

Mario!

From the Canada Director

Hi you all,

I believe that's a traditional greeting near Gary's neck of the woods or at least a Southern one. Hunting has been exciting this year in Canada but the game has been scarce. I know you do not want to hear that we Canadian's have all been busy and thus have not had much time to pursue our passion of hunting with dogs.

I have had a few outings for grouse and on each occasion have been somewhat successful. This I believe is directly due to the fine pair of DK's in front of me. One very memorable experience was a hunt on 16th of November 2009. I will call it....

My Memory:

It was a beautiful sunny day and I was lucky enough to have two dogs working at good range in front of me. We were on a hardwood side hill with a swampy area below. I watched as Zyka started to get birdie. She then slammed a beautiful point and was extremely stanch, approximately 75 yard in front of me. I knew from the intensity of her point that she was on the bird. Vito was casting below her in a swampy area that I knew often held grouse. He made a large cast and then noticed his brace mate on point. He came to an abrupt halt, honoring her.

Now this was a very pretty picture and upon reflection I believe it is what we all desire from our bird dogs. That is a traditional hunting scene and both dogs doing what we have

painstakingly trained them to do. That makes all those hours of practice pay off. Again all those pressures of preparing, traveling and executing tests are there standing before you on a beautiful pointing scene.

I moved off to circle Zyka and come in from below her thus pinning the bird. Vito remained on point maybe not as stanch as her but aware that there was excitement in the air. I moved slowly mounting my over and under shotgun, one wrong move and Mr. Grouse would depart the party early. I came within 30 yards directly in front of Zyka and I could see the intensity in her dark eyes. One step, two steps and then all hell broke loose. Three grouse burst skyward from their hiding place 18-20 yards in front of Zyka. I pointed and fired on the first grouse, folding him directly. Then leveled on the second grouse, firing and seeing him raise one leg, obviously hit, but not hard. Both dogs held in place but wanted a retrieve sooner than later. I moved back to Zyka sending her to retrieve the first grouse I had shot. It was a beautiful out and back retrieve, she sat in front, but was a little sticky getting the grouse from her mouth.

This is a term I picked up from Judge Marty Ryan. "Sticky", meaning, not exactly wanting to give up the prize at hand.



Grouse Hunters: Zyka vom Osterberg Vito vom Osterberg

Canada Directors Report (continued from page 7)

I then brought my attention to the shot and wounded grouse and knew this was a job for Vito. I called him into the heal position and lined up with the direction I had seen the grouse fly. I gave the BACK command and Vito leaped into action. I believe he was out at approximately 80-100 yards when he wheeled left following his nose. There was



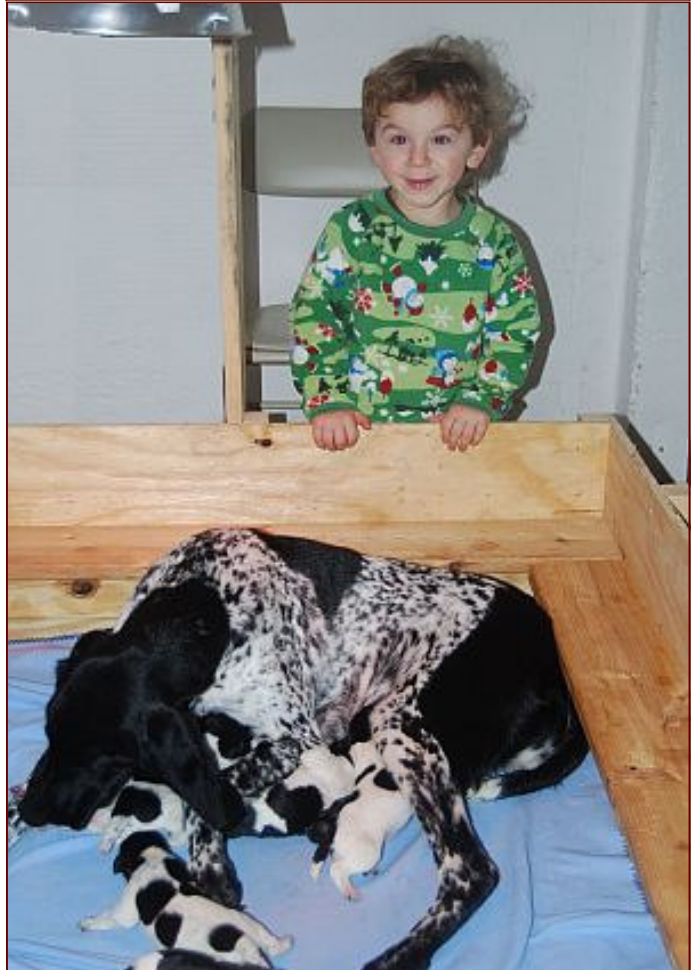
Vito vom Osterberg

leaves and branches flying but in short order he was on his way back to me, yes grouse in mouth. He finished his retrieve spotlessly.

What a moment in my hunting life. This scene has been replayed in my mind time and time again and I feel honored to have shared it with you my fellow hunters and dog handlers.

Kevin MacWilliams,
VCDKK, Canada Director

Frogs and Snails, and Puppy Dog Tails.....



Mario Polsinelli's son, Lorenzo, will agree: "There's no better Christmas gift than a litter of DK puppies."

The vom Solilo "A" Litter pups, whelped on December 22, 2009, are no exception.

The future vom Solilo Kennel Master needs no words to voice his approval; that beaming smile says it all.

From the Southeast Director/News Letter Editor

Greetings,

In most places the hunting season is well underway and that's no exception in my area. I hope all of you have had a prosperous hunting season and a good holiday break.

Though our numbers are small, the club is making steady progress with respect to organization and coordination.

We have several events planned for the coming year, not the least of which is the annual meeting and several tests.

As both Gabe and Mario mentioned in their reports, there is some interest in scheduling a BTR. If there's enough interest, it would be a good time to hold a Zuchtschau too.

An important coming event is the election of board members and I encourage any of you that have an interest in participating in the leadership of the club to step forward.

Over the last couple of years we've been able to attract some very dedicated board members, and directors, and I know there are plenty of capable folks out there.

On a personal note, I've been very busy this hunting season with respect to dogs. I've had the pleasure of registering a litter of puppies, and I'm now in the process of training the two pups I kept.

I was fortunate to sell one of the puppies to a young fellow, Philippe Vander Elst, who plans to join our club and train the pup in our system.

It will be great to add a new DK training partner to the short list of DK owners that reside in my region.

As a member of a small, but growing club it's necessary to develop relationships with other trainers that are training within the German system. If your lucky enough to have some Drahthaar folks in your area to train with, I encourage you to take advantage of that.

Waidmannsheil,

Gary Fleming



Gary's new male pup - Argus vom Sturmland, son of Zunder vom Wittekind and Grand son of Rocky von Neuarenberg seen below. The calm, biddable temperaments, and excellent conformation of both Father and Grandfather have been passed down to this puppy.



Request for Nominating Committee Participants

2010 VCDKK Election

The VCDKK will conduct a Board of Directors election in 2010. Officers to be elected include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Breed Warden. Regional Director Positions are also up for election.

Current regions include: Southeast region, Western region, Canada, and Director at large. Keep in mind that Officers may serve collaterally as Regional Directors, but will only get one vote.

The newly elected Board members will serve a two year term beginning on January 1, 2011.

In preparation for the election a nominating (election) committee will be appointed. The nominating committee will consist of at least three (3) non-director members.

Please contact VCDKK President, Ken Elliot if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee.

The Green Number Mystery Revealed

By: G.W. Fleming

Today I had the unique opportunity to observe a mysterious event, rarely seen by folks other than breeders of versatile hunting dogs and the people who provide the mysterious service I am about to describe.

Most of us that belong to the hunting dog world are well aware of the green, often hard to read, identification found on the underside of the ears of some dogs.

If your dog is registered with a German style versatile hunting dog breed club such as the VCDKK, NADKC or VDD-GNA, you are very aware of the green identification numbers on your dogs right ear because those numbers appear on virtually every document related to your dog.

Members of the organization enter the dogs numbers on test entry forms, provide them to the vet so he can get them directly on the x-ray films, provide them to the breed warden if need be and so on.

So how do the numbers actually get there? The short answer is, "someone tattoos the pup's ear". Heck even I knew that!

The real skinny regarding the art remains a mystery to most of us, since not many of us have actually



seen it done. A couple of years ago I had the opportunity to observe the process for the first time so I'm going to make an effort to clear up the mystery by telling you what I observed.

Before I begin divulging information about the tattooing process, let's make several things clear:

- The pups are not taken to a tattoo parlor;
- The work is not done by the vet;
- The person doing the tattooing does not have to be an extremely talented tattoo artist;

As far as how old the pup needs to be before tattooing, eight weeks is normal. The tattoos are required before the puppies leave the breeders facilities. The pups I observed were approximately eight weeks old.

The tools needed for tattooing are as follows:

- A puppy with a right ear;
- A puppy holder; (usually the breeder)
- A tattoo administrator;
- Tattoo pliers;
- Alcohol wipes;
- A tube of green tattoo ink;
- A tooth brush;
- A clean towel;
- Latex gloves.



The Green Number Mystery Revealed

(Continued from page 12)

The process:

The person doing the tattooing examines the puppy's right ear to see if there's any hairs that may get in the way of tattooing. If there's an over abundance of hair in the way it may mean plucking a few hairs out by hand if necessary.

The tattoo administrator places the appropriate numbers in the tattoo pliers then stamps a piece of paper, double checking to make sure the numbers are correct, and confirming that with the breeder. The pliers are really nothing more than a miniature, hand held printing press.

They look very similar to the stamp a notary might use. The only difference is that the numbers are formed by numerous small needles about the diameter of a thumb tack and approximately 3/8" long. The correct width for our dogs is 5/16". Numbers can be inserted or removed from the ink stamp as needed. It's important that the needles of each digit used be clean and predominantly free of old ink. Besides being an obvious health risk, dirty needles may impede a smooth penetration making the job more difficult if not more painful than necessary.

After preparing the ink stamp the tattooer (is tattooer a word?) applies a very small dab of the green ink (about the size of a pea) to his pinky finger. I suppose it doesn't matter what finger you put it on - I'm only passing on what I observed. The Ink appeared to be about the consistency of tooth paste, and the tube looks a lot like a small tube of tooth paste.

While sitting in a chair, the puppy holder holds the pup's head with his left hand and clamps the rest of the pup's body under his right arm grasping the pups chest and legs with the right hand. His grip is gentle at first but is firmed up when the tattoo administrator gives the word.

After donning the latex gloves, the tattoo administrator smears the small dab of green ink paste evenly on the underside and center of the pup's right ear, covering an area that will



The Green Number Mystery Revealed

(Continued from page 12)

accommodate the length of the row of numbers on the tattoo stamp.

The tattoo administrator then slides the pup's ear, (skin side up), between the top and bottom plates of the ink stamp. The puppy holder is given notice to firm the grip on the pup. Then the tattoo administrator squeezes the pliers firmly until he feels the needles of the stamp penetrate the skin of the pup ear.

When the stamping is complete, (approximately 10 seconds), the stamp is quickly, but carefully removed from the pup's ear making sure that all needles are



completely withdrawn before pulling the stamp away. That part is important since a small pup's ear can be easily injured if the stamp is pulled away before completely disengaged.

- The tattoo administrator then takes a tooth brush and firmly brushes the ink over the perforations formed in the pups skin making sure the ink penetrates. There's no need to wipe the ink off of the puppies ears since it will eventually wear off, hopefully leaving a legible tattoo.

Then everyone present sits down and eats ice cream on blue berry cobbler, and drinks coffee. "Hey - that's what we did." "Just telling it the way it was man!"

During the tattooing process the pup yelps a little when the stamp penetrates its skin and a little during the tooth brush application of the ink, but that's it. Probably about ten seconds total. When it's done it's done and the pup seems relatively oblivious to what just occurred.

The ink is water soluble so the pliers and letters can be cleaned easily with warm water.

Well that's really it. No mystery - no magic - no secret rituals, or tattoo wizards. Just about all that's required is an experienced tattoo administrator, someone to hold puppies, some ink, and a funny looking pair of pliers.

It was a simple, yet interesting, process to watch if you have never seen it done.

I neglected to take a picture of the ice cream and blueberry cobbler, so the particulars and the recipe for the cobbler will have to remain a mystery.

Then everyone present sits down and eats ice cream on blue berry cobbler, and drinks coffee.

"Hey - that's what we did."

"Just telling it the way it was man!"

VCDKK PHOTO CONTEST



Big Gabe Lasala's dog, Cita vom Holtvogt, donning the traditional oak branch after successful completion of the VGP blood track. Cita and Gabe went on to pass the VGP.

Contratulations to Gabe and Cita!

Do you have a great DK photo like this one?

Enter it in the VCDKK Photo Contest.

Submit your great DK photo along with a brief caption. The winning photo will take this space in the next Issue of "Versa-Tell" and the winner will receive one item of his/her choice from VCDKK Merchandise stock. All photos must be in jpg file digital format.

Submit photos to: Gary Fleming

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