



# Hot Off the Wire!

## News and Notes from the WHVCA

Vol. I, Issue 1

Summer 2007

Szervusz (Hello) WHVCA Members,

Many exciting things are finally coming together for our club. We have adopted a Constitution and By-Laws, a Mission Statement, and a Code of Ethics. We have revamped our membership application and process. And with this issue our first Newsletter has gone to print.

All these items and many more have been carefully worked through by a few dedicated, though fundamentally diverse group of WHV supporters. It has been through their commitment that we are where we are today. It was Sunday July 30, 2006 that the first full Board was assembled and we began to take steps forward as a club.

I would like to thank the following people who donated their time to our club this last year. Leona Deiter, Pam Uribarri, Deb Wall, Robert Humphrey, Nancy Edmunds, David Nackerud, Bob Bricker, Ron McNemar, Matt Avidan, and Michelle Packard.

The core of the WHVCA has been our Board and our ever rotating Directors. I am glad to see an even more diverse group has risen from the vacancies. I had hoped to include all types of owners in our board last year and what we ended up with is amazing. Our dogs and breed are very well represented by breeders, owner handlers, hunters (NAVHDA and NASTRA), therapy workers, falconers, professional handlers and agility handlers.

But I want to send out a call to all owners of WHV. We need your input. We need your ideas and we need your help. There are many more exciting things we could do as a club and we need ideas and manpower to make them happen. Please contact a Board member and volunteer your ideas and any help you can give.

*Nagyon szépen köszönöm (thank you),*

Amanda Johnson

WHVCA President

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### Time for Dues!

Remember last year when we were getting this club going, we told you we wouldn't collect dues until we could get a bank account set up. We had to get the incorporation papers and a federal tax ID in order to open a club account. We've done all that and have a little over \$600 in the bank. We've revised the membership application to provide more accurate information and we need everyone to fill out the application and send it in with your dues ASAP! For your convenience, the application is included in this newsletter.

If we don't hear from you, you will be dropped from the membership list, including email and the Yahoo group and you'll miss out on all the latest news *Hot Off the Wire!*

### Charter Memberships

Want to go down in history as a Charter Member of the WHVCA?? A \$50 donation in addition to your regular dues makes you a Charter Member, proclaiming your start-up support of the club. Charter Members will be listed in perpetuity on the club's website & history.

### Get Your WHVCA Stickers!

WHVCA stickers are 4" and look great on vehicles, windows, crates or dog boxes, anywhere you want to show your support. Only \$8 each, price includes postage & handling and *proceeds benefit the club*. Send your order and check, payable to WHVCA, to:



Robert Humphrey, WHVCA Treasurer  
7709 Delhi Rd.  
Woodway, TX 76712

## President's Message about the Code of Ethics

Of all the topics the Board has worked through this last year, I think the most talked over, emailed and gut wrenching was the Code of Ethics. Your Board of Directors has actually gone through three different versions of the COE before we finally submitted the last to the membership to vote on. What a process! As a membership the COE was voted approved, however several people expressed concerns. I want to take a moment and address those five important issues.

I also want to assure members that many of these issues can be fixed to make an even stronger COE thus protecting our breed at an even higher level.

The COE states:

- I will only produce a litter from any dog or bitch that has been certified clear of hip dysplasia by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (done after the dog or bitch is 2 years of age or older) and/or received a Penn Hip score of .70 or better with no evidence of degenerative joint disease
- I will only produce litters from any dog or bitch that has a current CERF number (CERF registration) from the Canine Eye Registration Foundation.
- I will not produce litters from bitches before the age of two or breed bitches on or after their eighth birthday and will have the option to produce litters from two breedings back to back but will not produce more than two litters without resting the bitch for one cycle. In no event may a bitch produce more than 6 litters in her lifetime.

The first issue pertains to how old the dog or bitch must be to be bred. In complete honesty, this section was poorly worded. The intention was to say that no dog or bitch was to be bred before their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

The second issue is the wording about clearances for hip dysplasia. In regards to an OFA hip clearance, they can only be certified by OFA after 2 years of age. And therefore preliminary OFA results (before the age of 2) do not qualify. In regards to Penn Hip, a test can be performed before the age of 2; however the age for breeding would still stand at 2 years of age.

The third issue is CERF testing. Eye testing is indeed important in our breed as we do have eye problems. Cataracts, Entropion, Persistent Pupillary Membranes (PPMs) have all been documented in the WHV both in Europe and here in North America. It is also a required health test for most European countries and for nearly all breeds here in the USA. We are not excluded from this test by having a rare breed; it is just not sound breeding advice in our breed, to not perform CERF tests on our dogs. *(Many dog clubs sponsor CERF clinics at their local shows where you can have the exam done at a reduced fee. -- Editor)*

The fourth issue is regarding back to back breedings in a bitch. It was reasonable for this board to consider allowing back to back breedings because in some, sporting breeds especially, bitches tend to cycle only once yearly. Based on that theory, we left that provision in the COE. Changing the provision to not allow back to back breeding will not only be a sound provision for the club but a wise medical decision for the dams to be.

The fifth issue was regarding how many litters a bitch may have in her lifetime. We felt 6 was a reasonable number, not too high or too low. And in fact, the entire board was pleased that the membership called for a stricter provision. It was suggested to the board that the maximum litters for a bitch be 3-4. Again a very reasonable number and an easy change.

I think overall we started with a well written COE and with the changes suggested by the membership, the potential new COE will be even better. Please watch for a ballot to change the current COE in the coming months.

The board would like to thank those members who sent in their comments. Every step forward is making us a stronger club with better and healthier dogs.

Sincerely

Amanda Johnson, Certified Veterinary Technician

WHVCA President

## What It Takes to Be a Therapy Dog

by Kat Farres, TD, Inc. Evaluator

First off, a few of the 'official' requirements for Therapy Dogs Inc:

Dogs to be tested must be at least a year old, up to date on rabies and fecal, able to walk under control at your side, not necessarily in 'heel' position and on a 4 foot or shorter leash, on a buckle or chain collar.

What makes a 'team' work though, is communication between the handler and the dog. The dog should be friendly, and willing to go up to people, and the handler needs to direct the dog on it's approach. Being able to 'read' people and dogs is a super skill. Some people simply like to look at the dog, others need to feel that fur and love on them. Dogs who can calmly accept hugs are a bonus! When I am doing the initial test before the required three observed visits (some dogs might require more, two must be at a nursing type facility) I feel the dogs' feet and ears, go over their bodies, give them a hug, and I'm watching for a dog who is accepting of this, not resentful. Dogs who are groomed and handled often usually do well on this part of the test.

Then we are looking for a stable dog who doesn't mind, or if they initially alert to 'odd' things, overcomes it quickly, things like a wheelchair, a walker, someone walking unsteadily, that sort of thing. Not having the 'linoleum gene' (fear of slick floors) is a bonus as most care places have them. Tacky Paw is recommended to help with that. If you can't find Tacky Paw, Sticky Finger from an office supply store is the same thing.



Meeting another dog, from no closer than two feet, is another part of the test, as you never know when you might encounter another visiting dog, or a facilities resident dogs. This is easily trained by having your dog meet other breeds, especially little ones, in obedience classes, or in pet stores while you direct a casual interest in your dog for the other dog. A good 'Leave It' command is also handy for other dogs and things on the floor.

If at all possible, I encourage people to bring their puppies, well behaved, pottied out and a bit tired of course, to do a few visits with our group if they are interested in doing therapy dog visits as the pup gets older. Before we test an adult dog, I like to have just the person go on a visit with me or a group to see what we might encounter and skills they might want to work on before testing and observations take place.

Another plus for any team to have as skills are 'cute tricks'. These are not required but they can sure be ice breakers for both the team and the people being visited. Some of the best tricks are easy ones, wag your tail, sit, shake, speak.



Being a therapy dog can be a 'hobby' for a dog of any age, some of the older dogs really seem to enjoy the special time. Since Belgians, my breed, and WHV are both considered versatile, it's a natural for a lot of them. Not every therapy dog visit is to a nursing home; dogs work as helpers for rehab and physical therapy, as educators for safety around dog talks for children, and as demo dogs for club functions. It's up to you to decide what you and your dog both enjoy doing!

Needless to say, the dog should be clean and well groomed, especially toenails before visits. For some WHV, I recommend you carry a 'slobber towel', to occasionally wipe that beard and moustache.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at [ozbelgnz@swbell.net](mailto:ozbelgnz@swbell.net) and put WHV Therapy Dog in the subject line so I don't miss it.

Kat Farres, TDInc evaluator

Salina KS

[www.therapydogs.com](http://www.therapydogs.com) Therapy Dogs Inc's Web Page

*We invite your suggestions and assistance to offer Supported Entries at UKC shows and events around the country. Send us your suggestions for locations & events to support, ideas for encouraging entries and most importantly, offers to help coordinate or donate prizes. [comments@whvca.us](mailto:comments@whvca.us)*

## Upland News

### Every Dog Has Its Day

by Robert Humphrey



We failed. Ciga, my 13 month old WHV and I had just got the news. Standing with ten other versatile hunting dogs and handlers deep in the heart of Texas, we learned we were the only team not to prize.

I say team because that's what it's really all about – teamwork. NAVHDA, the North American Hunting Dog Association, is an organization dedicated not only to the virtues of versatile hunting breeds, but to their owner/handlers as well.

NAVHDA offers multiple levels of testing, from Natural Ability to Versatile Champion.

The Natural Ability (NA) test is the first test meant to measure dogs in three areas : field work, water retrieval, and game tracking. Fieldwork is where the handler and dog cover or “work” a field for 20 minutes. This is done with three NAVDHA judges in close pursuit. The judges are watching your dog for desire, gun shyness, ability to scent birds, and the instinct to point. Dogs don't have to hold their points, but doing so is a definite plus. Your dog is also judged on cooperation – does your dog listen to you in the field, does he desire to work to your command when required?

Water work is much faster. The handler tosses a bumper into a body of water then sends his dog to retrieve. As soon as the dog returns, the dog is sent on a second water retrieval. Judges are



looking for a desire to enter the water and an interest in the bumper. Actual retrieval is not required, but again a plus.

The final test is tracking. This test is probably the most nerve racking for new handlers. A handful of pheasant feathers are removed and left on the ground as the pheasant is allowed to run off. Your dog is brought up to the pile of feathers, given the scent, then sent off in a single command. At this point the handler must become both quiet and still, while the dog begins to track.

Tracking is tough for a young dog as it requires them to slow down and put their nose down – the opposite of running nose up in field work. The judges are looking for your dog to follow the trail in a methodical way, showing determination. As in the water work, finding the “prize” is not required.

At the end of it all, the judges sequester, compare notes, and assign a score for each dog.

In general terms, 80 points is the minimum requirement to prize at the first level, Prize III. A better score wins a Prize II, with the highest attainable level being a Prize I. Remember the teamwork comment? Your dog, despite the best genetics, needs your help. This means work in the form of practice, praise, and birds – the more the better. Finally, it is important to understand that critique is against a standard and not other dogs. Every dog can prize.

Because of this philosophy, NAVHDA members, including judges, want you and your dog to succeed. They are quick to offer help and helpful knowledge. They all know what it's like to face that first NA test.

Yes, Ciga and I failed. The first time. But with NAVHDA help and encouragement, two months later at the Rocky Mountain Chapter, Ciga earned a Prize I, 112 pts., the maximum points possible. With both of us wagging our tails, Ciga and I agreed — every dog truly has its day!



It's time to think about scheduling some **Uplander Hunts** for this hunting season!

If there's enough interest, we could have a WHVCA Upland Special on 7,000 private acres in Kensington, KS for about \$250 per person for the entire weekend. The cost would include everything but a KS hunting license -- 4 days/3 nights, meals & snacks and a souvenir T-shirt. Even if you don't hunt or shoot, there are literally thousands of acres to enjoy with our dogs & we'll have other activities to enjoy including a falconry demonstration, games for you & your dog and door prizes! Contact Deb Wall for more information.

If you can host or organize a club hunt in your state, please contact someone on the Board of Directors. Hunts don't have to be limited to upland game birds-- how about a duck hunt or grouse hunt, too?





# Wirehaired Vizsla Club of America (WHVCA)

## Application Form

Membership Period: one year from January – December. New membership one-half after September 1.

Send completed application form and payment to:  
 Amanda Johnson, 7525 W. Mexico Drive, Lakewood, CO, 80232  
 Make checks payable to WHVCA

**Renewal** \_\_\_ **New** \_\_\_ **Change of Address** \_\_\_ **Single (\$35)** \_\_\_ **Family (\$50)** \_\_\_ **Junior (\$17.50)** \_\_\_ (under 18 years of age)

Mr. \_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. \_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment/Unit \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone (optional) (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Telephone (optional) (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Your e-mail address is required in order to receive updates on WHVCA events.

**The club may post members' names, home addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers on a password protected, members only club website.**

**Check box if you DO NOT want your e-mail address posted:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check box if you DO NOT want your phone number posted:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please indicate information about any of the Wirehaired Vizsla(s) you own*

Call Name of WHV	Sex	Date Whelped	Registered Name	Registration Number (NAVADA, FCI, FDSB, UKC)

*What are your dog-related interests?*

Hunting \_\_\_\_\_ Field Trial \_\_\_\_\_ NAVHDA Testing \_\_\_\_\_

Obedience \_\_\_\_\_ Agility \_\_\_\_\_ Tracking \_\_\_\_\_

Breeding \_\_\_\_\_ Therapy Dog \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently the following:

Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Breeder \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibitor \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a kennel name? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, what is the kennel name \_\_\_\_\_

New to breed and need to learn more \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

MORE ON OTHER SIDE

Please check those items in which you are willing to help.

Field Events _____	Confirmation _____	Performance _____
Rescue _____	Web site _____	Board of Directors _____
Other Committees _____		Social Events _____

*Other information*

Have you ever been denied membership or suspended by the American Kennel Club or a breed club? (If yes, please explain below or on separate statement)

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**Rules for Applying for Membership**

- Send your completed application form and payment to: Amanda Johnson, 7525 W. Mexico Drive, Lakewood, CO, 80232. Please make checks payable to WHVCA.
- The membership Period is for one year from January – December. Dues shall be payable on or before the first of January of each year. After 30 days, a 20% late fee will be applied. Membership will lapse after 60 days and individuals must re-apply for membership.
- For applications accepted after September 1st, dues shall be 1/2 of the stated amounts.
- No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year.
- During the month of October, the Treasurer will send you a statement of dues for the ensuing year.

**Assumption of Risk and Liability Waiver**

Some WHVCA events by their very nature are inherently dangerous and involve some degree of risk. I am aware that participating in the Wirehaired Vizsla Club of America’s events may expose me to certain risks and dangers including, but not limited to the hazards of mountainous, aquatic, or wilderness terrain, accident, illness, the forces of nature, and travel to and from the trailhead or point of departure. I am aware that it is not possible to foresee all of the potential hazards of WHVCA activities. Each participant in a WHVCA activity is responsible for his or her decisions.

To the best of my knowledge, I feel physically and mentally able to assume full participation in the outings of activities in which I will participate. I understand that the Wirehaired Vizsla Club of America is a volunteer organization. In consideration of voluntarily participating in these events or activities, I have and do hereby assume all the risks inherent in these activities and hold harmless the Wirehaired Vizsla Club of America and its agents, tour leaders, officers, and instructors, from and against any and all claims, liability, and demands of any nature, for the acts or omissions of the Wirehaired Vizsla Club of America or its agents, leaders, officers, or instructors.

I have read the WHVCA constitution, WHVCA by-laws, and WHVCA Code of Ethics and agree to abide by them.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE WHVCA.

Each member and each household member must sign the WHVCA Liability Waiver. A parent or guardian must sign the form for members under 18 years of age.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian)

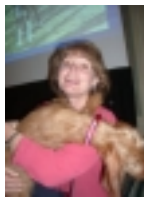
## Members' Brags & Wags

Carolyn DeFiore's UKC CH. **Zöldmáli Ivan** passed the UKC TAN (Natural Ability Test) and is the first WHV to take the test in UKC's Pointing Dog program. On May 7th, Ivan passed his AKC CGC test. On May 18th, Ivan passed his NAVHDA NA test with a Prize III, 96 pts.

**Vidor's Arcadia** "Opal", owned by Maren Bruun of BC, Canada, goes Best Puppy In Match at the Whippet Club of British Columbia Sanctioned Match. This was her first time in the show ring.



Opal with her best friend, Patricia McConnell, Ph.D., well known behaviorist, lecturer and author of books such as the best seller, *The Other End of the Leash*, at a recent seminar.



**Vidor's Aura**, co-owned by Carolyn DeFiore and Lisa Stumpf, won Best Puppy in Show- Montpelier OH Judge- J Ray Johnson

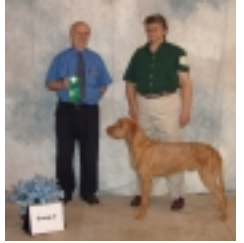
After Nancy Edmunds' CH **Vizland's Vizcaya Remy Red** ("Remy") finished her ARBA Championship with a BIS, she is now only one competition win away from finishing her UKC Championship as well! She won a Group 2 and a Group 4 at the recent Perry, GA shows.



Josh and Melissa Joyner's CH **Vizcaya's Keegan O'Reiley** ("Reiley") finished his UKC Championship from the Breeder/Handler class at the recent Perry, GA shows! After bumping him up to the Champion class he took 3 more BOB's, two Group 2's and a Group 4, all over competition. Josh, Melissa and Nancy are very proud of this boy, Remy's son!



Deb Wall's **Quodian's Quasar**, CGC, TDInc., NA III 81 pts., won 2x BOB with competition & a Group 3 in at a UKC all-breed show in Norman, OK in April. This was not only Quasar's first show, but Deb's first time handling in the conformation ring as well!



Amanda Johnson's **Konza Vadasz Hunter County** ("Ada") won BOB with competition and a Group 2 in Norman, OK in April. One more competition win for Ada will finish her UKC Championship.

Deb Wall's Konza Vadasz WHV had a mini-reunion at the Rocky Mtn. NAVHDA tests near Ft. Collins, CO in May. Deb took a couple of her dogs along to watch Bryan & Amanda Johnson's "Ada" earn her NA, Pz. II, 92 pts. and Robert Humphrey's "Ciga" get NA Pz. I, 112 pts.



Pictured L-R: Bryan Johnson & **Konza Vadasz Quivira** "QP" IABCA Ch, NA Pz. I, 112 pts., Amanda Johnson & "Ada", Deb Wall with **Vizland's Tip-Toe Tulip** & **Konza Vadasz American Lady**, and Robert Humphrey & **Konza Vadasz van der Cigany** "Ciga".

**Konza Vadasz American Lady** has completed her Therapy Dog, Inc. evaluations; her TDInc registration is pending. Lady loves visiting nursing homes and is looking forward to school visits in the fall.

### Show off your dog in the newsletter!

**BRAGS** -- Share your dog's accomplishments with us! Whether in the field, show ring, performance events or any other job, we want to hear about it. Pictures make the stories even better, so send those, too!

**WAGS** -- Share your happy dog stories & pictures: dogs & kids, birthdays, dogs playing, swimming, or hunting are all wags to share.

Matt Avidan's Newt & rescue pup, Ronnie at play. Newt has recovered very well after her accident & is getting her strength back.

