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Lucky v. Rainmaker

## Chapter Calendar

MARCH 2017	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT
3-5	Stillwater MN	Annual Mtg	Jon Prescott 973.432.1103 clanprescott@comcast.net
APRIL 2017	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT
8 - 9	Nekoosa WI	VJP	Wendy Hack 715.323.5072 mwhack@wctc.net
22 - 23	Janesville MN	VJP	Chris Schmidt 507.245.3070 chris.schmidt@towdistributing.com
30	Rhineland WI	Btr	John Fetzer 715.282.6568 Crestfieldfarm2@gmail.com
MAY 2017	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT
6 - 7	Amidon ND	VJP	Ned Sorley 612.865.1871 nedsorley@frontiernet.net
JULY 2017	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT
22 - 23	Marine on St. Croix MN	Training Weekend	Ed Challacombe 651.253.3979 erchall39@gmail.com

## Member Profile: Ned Sorley

**Q.** When did you first get interested in Drahthaars?

**A.** Ginny and I bought two male GWPs in 1990. I wasn't sure which end of the dog the leash went on. As I look back on our early dog days I always figured that if can do it anybody can!

**Q.** What is it about Drahthaars that you like so much?

**A.** Even though I am primarily an upland hunter, I cherish the versatility.

**Q.** How many litters have you had?

**A.** We are on our "O" litter. I am currently petting on Oona (soon to be the world's greatest hunting dog, LOL).

**Q.** How long have you been a Judge?

**A.** I got my judges card in June 2007

**Q.** Have you seen major changes in Drahthaars over the years and if so what changes?

**A.** An emphatic YES! GNA breeders have done a wonderful job in selecting traits that have the most impact for North American hunters. Virtually every time I judge, I am looking at well balanced dogs with nice temperaments. Due to the size of our country, hunters demand a more versatile dog. We produce dogs that hunt Woodcock and Sea Ducks in Maine, they hunt Chukar out West, and Quail in Arizona, all with the same dog! How can you beat that?!

**Q.** Why did you run for Chapter Chairman? What are your goals? What would you like to see accomplished over the next 4 years? How are you going to go about instituting these changes or making sure your goals are accomplished – what needs to happen?

**A.** I have been a VDD member since 1993, I thought it was time to give back to an organization that has given so much to me. I think we can all benefit from that point of view. As our membership grows and expands our group and the services we offer need to grow along with it. That means, we need to provide a higher level of activity every year. This is going to be very challenging for our group. Don't be surprised when your phone rings and the caller is asking you to step up and get active; many hands make light work.

**Q.** You've traveled to Germany, apprenticed as a Judge while there, participated in the Hegewald many times and have forged multiple friendships with our German counterparts – Tell me a little bit about that?

**A.** My first trip (along with Jim Strilich!!) to the Hegewald, in 1999 was lots of fun and very educational at the same time. It was a difficult trip. In the "old days" you navigated with a map the size of a sheet of Plywood. Just getting to the right destination was a major victory. Two of the field judges are still close friends to this day!

**Q.** When did you first travel to Germany? Has it made you a better judge? How so, what did you learn?

**A.** Yes, the more exposure you have as a judge or as a handler is always beneficial. I found that in Germany they place a higher emphasis on areas that seem important to their hunting. This mirrors North America, we also emphasize areas that are important to our hunting.

**Q.** What advice would you have for someone who is interested in a getting Drahthaar for the first time?

**A.** 1) Find a breeder that hunts the same things the same way that you do. This leads to a better understanding of what you need and where you are going. Depending on your level of ability, you will need a fair amount of guidance. It is very difficult to get your pup from a cute fur ball to a 3 year old hunting and testing machine. Make sure your breeder will support you in this endeavor.

## What's Cookin'?

### *Bacon-Stuffed Pheasant with Mushroom Wine Sauce*

Earthy from the mushrooms and thyme and silky from the wine and cream, this pheasant dish cooked in the slow cooking makes it more tender than simmering it on the stove in the wine sauce. (Serves 4)

4 bacon slices  
4 boneless pheasant breasts  
4 slices gruyere or Swiss cheese  
1 shallot, chopped  
2 cups of sliced fresh mushrooms  
2 teaspoons of fresh thyme leaves  
1/2 cup white wine  
1 1/2 cup of chicken broth/stock  
1/4 cup heavy cream  
1 tbsp. butter  
olive oil  
salt and pepper to taste

sauté pan  
8-12 toothpicks  
slow cooker

Between two pieces of plastic wrap pound pheasant as thin as possible without the breast meat tearing. This may vary due to the size of the meat. Season with salt and pepper. Brown bacon in a sauté pan. Remove from heat, drain bacon on a paper towel. Drain most of the bacon fat from the pan. Add a tablespoon of olive oil to pan. Lay the pheasant on a cutting board. To each add one slice of bacon and cheese cut to fit. Roll up from one end, tucking the edges in as you go. Secure with 2-3 toothpicks as needed. Brown the stuffed pheasant rolls on all sides in a sauté pan over medium high heat, a few minutes a side. Be sure to not turn the meat until it releases from the pan. After the pheasant is browned transfer to a slow cooker. Add another tablespoon of oil if needed to the sauté pan and add the shallots and mushrooms, season with salt and pepper and cook until nicely browned. Add the shallots and mushroom over the pheasant in the slow cooker. Sprinkle with thyme. Over medium high heat, deglaze the sauté pan with the white wine, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom. Add the chicken broth and simmer for 5 minutes or until reduced by half. Remove from heat, stir in the cream. Add the butter and stir until melted. Pour the liquid over the pheasant in the slow cooker.

**"Pheasant, A Most Excellent Bird"**

- Edward Prince of Wales

## Trivia

1. In what year was VDD first established?
2. In what year was VDD-GNA first established?
3. What original 4 breeds make up today's Drahthaar?
4. What is the most common color of the VDD?
5. What is the VDD Motto?
6. How many chapters are there in VDD-GNA?
7. How many regional groups belong to VDD—including GNA?

Answers: Next Page

# THE BREED SHOW

## QUALIFYING. DO'S & DON'TS. JUDGES PERSPECTIVE

- **When?**  
Friday March 3, 2017. 8:00am - 5:00pm
- **Where?**  
Washington County Fairgrounds. (Hooley Hall) 12300 40th Street North, Stillwater, MN 55082
- **Judges?**  
TBD

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BREED SHOW:

- Successfully completed an HZP or VGP
- Achieved a minimum score of "Good" in Hare Track & Independent Duck Search
- Must be certified HD frei & OCD-frie & be a minimum of 15 months old on day of breed show
- Must have clearly defined beard
- Must have completed an HN
- Dog must not have been marked as "waidlaut" at any of its Association Tests in the evaluation "Manner of Hunting" If the dog has been marked as silent in any of its Association Tests, it must have demonstrated itself to hunt loud on scent or sight either before or after that time.

## THE FOLLOWING MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE JUDGES ON THE DAY OF THE SHOW:

- Original Ahnentafel (Green Pedigree), proof of Rabies vaccination, all test evaluations forms, HD & OCD, and HN Certificate. If you haven't yet received the HN Certificate or HD&OCD evaluation forms, you can send in the entry listing them as "Pending."

## THE BREED SHOW ENTRY MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Completed Breed Show Entry form / \$75.00 Entry Fee (Payable to VDD-GNA) / Copy of Ahnentafel. Copies of all testing results— VJP, HZP, VGP / Copy of HN, HD & OCD Evaluations. Send Entries to Mike Talbot, 909 Menomonie Lane Madison WI, 53704



# Preparing for the Breed Show

By Lynn S. Whiteley

The purpose of the Breed Show (Zuchtshau) is for evaluating conformation, coat, and temperament for the purpose of breed certification, and possible entry into the Zuchregister. The Breed Show is where most dogs will be certified for breeding. Most handlers spend a lot of time and effort preparing their dogs for the various breed and performance tests, but all too often little if any preparation is given for the Breed Show. Below are a few things you can do to help your dog be the best he/she can be at the Breed Show.

- **Free from parasites** A dog with parasites cannot grow it's best hair, or be in its best physical condition. Before you do anything, have the dog checked, and if necessary treated so that you can be sure that it is free from parasites.
- **Quality food** Start feeding a high quality diet. We are building muscle tone through exercise, and growing a new coat from the inside out. Bargain feed will usually give you bargain results.
- **Conditioning** Get the dog into top physical condition through regular exercise. Conformation is mostly genetic, but a poorly conditioned dog usually looks worse than it really is.
- **Bad hair out - Good hair in** At least six weeks prior to the breed show, strip all the dead hair from the dogs coat using a stripping comb. A good quality comb such as the Mars Coat-King in any of the 16-23 tooth models will make the job much easier. It is also useful to have one of the regular stripping combs. Remove everything that comes out easily. From this point on, once the dead hair has all been removed, don't continue to strip the coat because these combs are very efficient at removing undercoat. You want the dog to have a complete coat at the Breed Show. Brush the dog daily to stimulate natural oils in the hair. Clipping doesn't stimulate new hair growth, and it could get your dog disqualified at the breed show.
- **Breed show training** It doesn't occur to most handlers that any special training is required for the breed show. While the dog is being judged, it will be in motion most of the time, mostly at a walk, but also at a trot and gallop. It is very helpful and to the dog's advantage if it has been taught how to heel on a loose lead. The judges will likely ask you to walk straight away from them, turn around and walk straight back towards them, possibly several times. A dog walking at heel with a loose lead makes it much easier for them to see what they need to see in this situation. Most handlers don't move fast enough to get their dog into a full gallop while on the lead. The judges will likely ask you to leave your dog in one spot and then walk away for 50 yards or so before calling him. When you call the dog, turn and run in the opposite direction so the dog will run as hard as possible. A little practice at this would be a good idea. Make sure that your dog is well conditioned to being around strange people and dogs. At the Breed Show there will be strange people measuring the dog with some sort of measuring stick, looking in it's mouth to check teeth, checking testicles on the males, and other general poking and prodding. Most dogs don't mind this attention, but on occasion we see dogs that aren't comfortable with it. It's best if you make sure there are no surprises for your dog at the Breed Show.
- The judges at the Breed Show are going to do their best to make a fair judgment of your dog. You might as well show him in his best condition and make the experience as pleasant as possible for all involved.



## Trivia

1. 1904
2. Griffon, Stichelhaar, Pudelpointer, Kurzhaar
3. 1971
4. Braunschimmel
5. "Through Performance to Type."
6. 34
7. 8

# Judging

By Jim Strilich

You, as breeders, have a rather large Standard in which to breed. We, as judges, have to evaluate each dog. Not against each other, but against the Standard.

I was instructed in Germany.... when judging a Performance Test to give the dog the benefit of the doubt. When judging Conformation to err to the side of strictness to the Breed Standard.

So, what are we looking at?

First of all, the overall appearance of the dog. Also, how it handles the kinetic atmosphere of the Breed Show. A well balanced dog will have a "presence of being" and an attitude of nobility that is difficult to describe but undeniable when seen.

In Germany they taught us to look at a dog in 3 parts. The Head and Shoulders, the Mid Section, and the Rear Assembly. All three parts must move in harmony with each other. Many times we will ask a Handler to repeat a movement over and over again. There are two reasons for this. We are trying to analyze a problem or looking to move the dog into the next level. If there are two dogs that are very similar in structure and hair, the dog that moves the most freely will get the higher score.

Hair is another extremely important factor. The Guard Hair and especially the Undercoat are evaluated very closely. A major topic of discussion is.....the time of year the Breed Show occurs. In my experience, it has little to do with the undercoat. Not the density, but the presence of the coat. We, as judges, should know this and take it into consideration. If you insist that your dog has a great undercoat, but are worried that we will not be able to give it the score you think it deserves, pick a Breed Show where your dog's coat will be at its optimum level of density.

The amount of study we have to go through to be chosen as a judge is daunting. The Judging Groups I've been part of have always tried our best to give the scores we believe are correct.

On a personal note..... It is imperative that I can leave the Breed Show, go to sleep, and wake up confident in our numbers given. We will have detailed discussions on our point of view if there is a disagreement with the group. But, we always seem to agree in the end and hopefully assign the correct scores.

I became a judge because I wanted to know who was judging my dog. Did I respect him or her as a dog person and hunter? At the end of Breed Show, I always invite the people to judge us. Were we respectful of the dog and handler? Did we explain the process to you?

And, you always can have a second chance if you feel you were treated unfairly.

At the beginning or end of every Performance and Breed Show test I judge..... I say, " I don't care if you like the scores that were given. I only care that you UNDERSTAND how we arrived at the scores". Then I invite you to judge us.

On behalf of all the Breed Show judges, I would like to say, "It's an honor and privilege to have the opportunity to evaluate your dogs!" Hopefully we can all learn together.

# Who's Who?

## Chairman

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Hannibal v. Birkenbusch

*They are your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are their life, their love, their leader. They will be yours, faithful and true to the last beat of their heart” - Anonymous*