

# roo roos & wiggle butts

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF COLORADO / WYOMING VIZSLA RESCUE GROUP

## Call for Volunteers

All of you volunteers should be real proud to be associated with CWVRG, Inc. You have done a marvelous job and saved 352 since we began rescuing, 111 of these are yet to be adopted. This could not have been accomplished without your help. We have a better rescue rate than any other Vizsla rescue organization in the US. Give yourselves a hand.

This is not to say that we don't need help, we do, especially FOSTER HOMES. To date we have taken in 46 dogs, 11 of which are in foster care waiting to be adopted. We also are expecting several more to enter rescue in the next week or so.

Our 6th Annual Rescue Reunion was a great success, thanks to Katie Lloyd's organization. Everything went smoothly and everyone had a great time. The weather was

fantastic for our dogs and their 2-legged friends. The threat of bad weather did keep some away, but it never materialized. I am looking forward to seeing more of you next year.

We now have a PACFA license through the Colorado Department of Agriculture. This license gives our group more credibility with shelters and other rescue groups that we belong to. We just keep getting better and better and it is all thanks to you volunteers and those of you who adopt these rescues.

If you are an adopter and would like to get more involved as a volunteer, please contact me at [spunki\\_61981@yahoo.com](mailto:spunki_61981@yahoo.com).

*~ Rita*

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## How the Vizsla Came to America

It seems the Vizsla has quite a volatile, yet interesting history. There were many attempts made to smuggle the Vizsla out of Hungary. The Hungarians made it clear, with deadly force, the Vizsla was staying put.

Derek Peters was a British intelligence officer during WWII. His mission was to steal the crown of Saint Stephen. In the crowns room, standing guard were two sedge yellow

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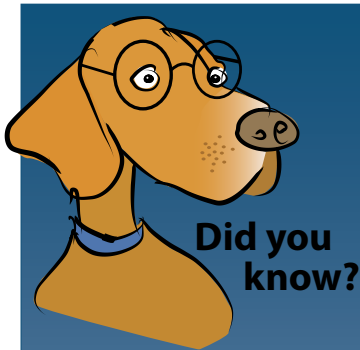


## Good Bye Jennifer



*We lost one of our volunteers on September 9, 2009. She was driving her children to school and suffered an apparent medical problem. Jennifer Shindelbower was only 43 years old, married with 2 young children. She adopted 2 dogs from us. After the first adoption she decided she wanted to become a volunteer to help the Vizsla.*

*Her husband called me and asked if we could take the dogs, which we did. Lucy has already been adopted and Boone is waiting for his new family. Our sympathies go out to her family.*



The breed is called the Hungarian Vizsla, not because of its origin in the country of Hungary as we know it today, but because of its origin in the Greater Hungarian Kingdom which existed prior to World War I and covered both Czechoslovakia and Hungary. The Vizsla was so closely held and revered by the nobility of Czech and Hungary that it wasn't until the Russians came after World War II that Vizslas were first taken out of the country.

## LIVING WITH DOGS FROM DIFFERENT GENERATIONS

by *Laura Whitcomb*

The idea for this article was born from a conversation with Dani Commendador via e-mail one day. We had discovered that our families both have dogs that are from different generations. We also found ourselves trying to cope with some of the same issues that arise when you have a very old dog and a very young dog residing in the same household. Certainly when one or more of those dogs happens to be high energy like our Vizslas, issues are going to occur, but never fear, it is possible to live happily with our different generation friends.

The two dogs in our family are both Vizslas. Lucy is 15 and Bridgette is 3. Bridgette was adopted from CWVRG, Inc. just over a year ago. While we are very happy to have both dogs in our lives, it isn't always easy and has required some serious changes in our lives to ensure that they both stay healthy and happy.

The biggest challenge has been the difference in their energy levels and the way they play. Bridgette is moderate to high energy and Lucy is now very low energy. This creates a problem with their interaction for play. Bridgette tends to be a rough, aggressive player, and Lucy wants to run with Bridgette but not engage in the rough housing. Very early on this was causing fights between them. Even though they were always supervised, fights occurred in a matter of seconds and one particular incident caused serious injury to Lucy. My vet even went so far as to accuse me of fighting my dogs. My husband, Bill had been sitting less than three feet from them when what started as play suddenly became a fight. He pulled them apart in less than a minute but the damage was done. Lucy's head was a mass of blood and puncture wounds. This happened late on a Friday night, so I cleaned Lucy up, assessed the damage and decided whether or not to make an emergency vet call. After cleaning her up it really didn't seem that bad so I decided to wait and watch. By Sunday morning Lucy's face was swollen to two and a half times its normal size. I called the vet and we got



her in as soon as he opened Monday morning. With antibiotics and pain medicine Lucy made a full recovery. This is when we knew that simply supervising wasn't going to be enough.

We would also have to do a better job of managing Bridgette's energy. We took their supervision to a whole new level. We did not allow them to experience any excitement near each other's heads. When they would sniff or lick each other's heads we would clap loud and sharp and say a harsh NO! This immediately stopped the fighting. We have not had another incident since and it has now been over a year. To manage Bridgette's energy better we decided to take her with us everywhere. She loves riding in the truck and has great vehicle manners. Going many different places allows her to use her mental abilities. We take her to the ranch where our horses live and she follows me around while I work with

my horses. She also gets to interact and run with other dogs which helps keep her social and allows her to burn the physical energy. In the meantime, Lucy enjoys her quiet time at home without worry that Bridgette will jump all over her and knock her down. This has not affected

their relationship in a negative way; rather they look for each other at the end of the day and watch out for one another when they go hiking together. For me it hasn't been that difficult to find a balance between the time they need apart and making sure that they still get to spend time together just being dogs.

Another issue we had was food. They eat different foods and to add to this, Bridgette had food aggression with dogs (not people). To fix this, the order of feeding in our house is this, people, Lucy and then Bridgette. The pecking order was established from day one. The other strict boundary we have for our dogs is that they are not allowed in the kitchen when people food is out. Setting those boundaries worked very well. We recently have been able to feed both dogs together right next to each other, with supervision of course. Setting boundaries and sticking to them really makes a difference so keep at it!



## “Leptospirosis: Should you vaccinate?”

By Lindsay H Piotrowski, DVM Candidate 2012, Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine

I am sure if you are a dog owner you might have heard the word “Lepto” being thrown around recently in the news and in the veterinary community. But what is it? Why all of a sudden is it a problem? And more importantly, is it something you should be worried about?

I will spare you the horrible textbook definition of *Leptospira* that I recently had to learn in my Bacteriology class, but I will tell you that it is a nasty bacteria that gets into the blood of an infected animal and causes widespread damage to the blood vessels. It is then carried to multiple organs and causes both acute and chronic disease that can be fatal. It is considered a serious disease.

Lepto has long been a problem on the east coast of the US because it thrives in moist, warm environments and is especially prevalent near stagnant waters. Outbreaks in the past on the East coast have been associated with flooding, especially during the rainy season and excessive runoff. Many believe we are seeing Lepto in Colorado this year because of the unusually wet spring and summer that we experienced, as well as the recent population growth of suburban areas in Colorado that were previously considered rural areas. These areas are seeing more contact with the reservoir hosts of Lepto that include skunks, voles, raccoons, possums and coyotes due to the loss of their environment from development which leads to more opportunities for dog/wildlife interaction.

So what does this mean to us? Dr. Julia Veir of CSU and Fort Dodge Animal Health did a survey of state veterinarians this summer to determine the incidence of Lepto cases in Colorado and reported



## How the Vizsla Came to America

*Continued on from cover...*

dogs that took him down before he could even fire a shot. One dog held his gun hand by the wrist and the other sat on him and snarled at his throat. Peters was tried and sentenced to execution. During prison he was again guarded by more sedge yellow dogs

Peters was a dog enthusiast and couldn't help but admire the intelligence of the dogs and learned they were Hungarian (Magyar) Vizslas. In fact Vizsla Champion Aladar II was taken to Russia by Stalin's bodyguard to assist him in guarding Stalin.

Peters escaped from prison and made it home to England and then he started making plans to get a Vizsla out of Hungary. In 1948 he made arrangements from Vienna to smuggle one through his underground connections. It never happened. A year later he tried again, this time his bullet ridden body was found on the border and beside him laid a male Vizsla, shot twice through the head.

About two years later, two men from Minneapolis, via underground connections in Hungary, successfully smuggled or dog napped two Vizsla puppies about 3 months old. One of them imported 14 Vizslas from Hungary; all were from top blood lines and from reliable sources. From what I can find, this man was Dr I.S. Osborne.

The two dogs he was able to get out of Hungary came with the pedigree of 11 generations of champions (6 generations was the basic requirement for an official pedigree registration). Getting a Vizsla out of the “Iron Curtain” with this type of pedigree was unheard

of. Dr Osborne was able to get these two dogs under strict instructions; protect the bloodlines of these dogs at all costs.

During WW11 a young Hungarian woman drifted into Rome, she had smuggled a Vizsla out of Hungary, on a train, hidden in a large sack at her feet. She didn't know what to do with the dog and Eric Scanlan, a man in the state department, put her in contact with Frank J Tallman of Kansas City, a lawyer.

In 1944 a crate arrived at the Kansas City Airport containing Sari, the Vizsla along with her two puppies, which had been born during the process of sorting out all the government paperwork. At the Airport were Melvin Schlesinger (AKC Pres), Dr. B.F. Fischer and Frank Tallman. This was the first time the AKC had ever seen a Vizsla. As far as Tallman knew this was the first Vizsla in the United States.

The next year, Mr. Tallman began more “cloak and dagger” work to smuggle a male out of Hungary. He didn't want the breed to die out. Sari and Rex, the male, produced several litters which Tallman either sold or gave away to friends. Sari and Rex are now dead but 63 descendants have been firmly established in the United States.

In the 1950's Dr Osborne, DMV, a reputable Vizsla breeder from Minnesota, stated there was a Hungarian diplomat living in New York and with him was one old Vizsla female, a true descendant from the Magyar Vizsla guard dogs. Dr Osborne also had heard of a direct Hungarian Vizsla in the Kansas City area, but he was unable to find a sufficient amount of paperwork to document the lineage.



## 6TH ANNUAL RESCUE REUNION September 13, 2009

Wow, another successful Rescue Reunion. In spite of the recession and economy our attendance is increasing. There was a threat of bad weather which kept some people away, but it never materialized. The weather was perfect for us once again.

Over 60 adopters/volunteers attended with almost as many dogs. It was such a joy to see all those Vs having such a ball and no problems. Everyone got along just fine. It was good to reconnect with the dogs that we have fostered and their new families.

As usual Katie did a bang up job of organizing and menu planning. Can't wait to see what she has in store for next year. *Good job everyone!*

### "Leptospirosis: Should you vaccinate?"

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the following data in November of 2008: There were 1,068 suspected cases and 265 diagnosed cases most of which came

from the counties reporting the fastest population growth (Douglas, Weld, Broomfield, Larimer and Adams). Of these cases, 60% affected large breed dogs (more than 25 pounds) and the overall mortality rate was 40%- that is pretty high.

How do you know if your dog is infected? The most common symptoms associated with Lepto include loss of appetite, lethargy, fever, vomiting, weakness and weight loss. It usually enters the body through small skin abrasions or mucus membranes like the mouth and eye. Sometimes the dog may

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## Getting to Know a CWVRG Volunteer Member

### INTRODUCING JERRY MORAN:

*Volunteer Member and Member, Board Of Directors*



Jerry has been integral to the volunteer member team for over four years. Frequently known as the "dog food guy," Jerry supplies our organization with Black Gold Dog Food which helps raise much needed funds for our group. He almost always has at least one rescue foster in his care, performs home visits to prospective adoptive families and helps with transports.

Jerry's first experience with Vizsla Rescue came accidentally when he met a man walking a Vizsla.

He recommended that Jerry join Rocky Mountain Vizsla Club and through that organization he met Rita. He offered to volunteer as a foster and the rest as Jerry says...is history.

Having lived in Colorado for most of his life, he makes his home in Ft. Collins with Charlene, his wife of 50 years. They have five children and one Vizsla. Jerry has always shared a love of dogs and was a breeder of German Shepherds for many years. One day, while out working near his compost pile, he discovered a three month old puppy looking for something to eat. He brought her in, fed her and called the Humane Society. He had no idea what kind of dog she was and didn't know how to describe her. When no one claimed her, Jerry adopted her and named her Ginger because of her coloring. He eventually discovered Ginger was a Vizsla while looking through a dog breed book one day in a bookstore. From that point on, he and Charlene read everything they could about the breed and took an active interest in these very special dogs.

When asked what he likes best about the Vizsla, Jerry replied, "Now that's a loaded question! Let me see...there must be at least 14,182 of them! Narrowing it down just a bit it would have to be their eagerness to please and how glad they are to see you when you return home."

Having served in the Navy and owning his own business, Jerry is now retired and keeps busy volunteering at his church and Vizsla rescue. He enjoys reading books on the situation in the Middle East, watching baseball, working on home projects and spending time with Charlene in their garden.

When asked if there was one special rescue story he would like to share, Jerry said "They are all successful when the Vizslas are adopted out. They come in scared out of their wits and leave wondering, what's next? That's success. When they come around to their "forever" owners in a short period of time, that's a great story. I'm supposed to be the one in Colorado to whom the "problem" Vizslas are sent. After they have been here for a while, I'm asking myself what problem? They just seem to be another Vizsla who needs someone to pay attention to them, be firm with them and love them. For the most part, there aren't problem Vizslas. Vizslas are amazing dogs.

### QUICKY FUND RAISERS EVERYONE CAN DO

This is a reminder of how you can help our rescue group just by clicking on your computer. Add the "Good Search" button on your toolbar for when you use a search engine. Granted Good Search does not have all the options as Google, but every click puts money in CWVRG's pocket. I use it and sometimes I do have to go to Google, but it is a habit I have formed.

Signing up on The Animal Rescue Site helps feed shelter animals and has a

double effect. When you click on the purple button to feed an animal, you can "Vote" for our CWVRG group SHELTER CHALLENGE. This is a contest where we have a chance to win thousands of dollars. I have signed up for an extra search engine that allows me to vote twice because you are only allowed to vote once on the ARS. I signed up for Mozilla Fire Fox. Again, another easy habit to form.

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## QUICKY FUND RAISERS EVERYONE CAN DO

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These opportunities take about five minutes at most to make a difference to our rescue. Last year we got a check from Good Search for over \$85. You can also buy products on line through Good Search which means even more money for our group.

We also participate in the Recycle for Pets program. Remember, your ink cartridges, old cell phones, old lap top computers, old video games, etc are accepted. Recycle for Pets pays for the shipping and we receive the money for recycling while helping mother earth! Go to [www.recycleforpets.com](http://www.recycleforpets.com) to get specific information on the types of items which are eligible for recycling.

*Onward and upward; through your help we are a successful rescue group!*

# people of cwvrg

## Officers

Rita Prindle ..... President & CEO  
 Polly Mahlman ..... VP  
 Rick Prindle ..... CFO  
 Marianne Blackwell ..... Secretary

## Board of Directors:

Rita Prindle ..... Chairman of the Board  
 Jerry Moran ..... Director  
 Alyssa McCluskey ..... Director  
 Angela Dazlich ..... Director  
 Karen Phillips ..... Director  
 Judy Wagner, C.P.A. .... Director, Non-voting

## Committee Volunteer Positions:

Katie Lloyd (OConnell) ..... Event Coordinator  
 Education Coordinator  
 Donna Wolosin ..... Adoption Follow-up  
 Judy Wagner, C.P.A. .... Financial Consultant  
 Marianne Blackwell ..... Legal Counsel  
 Laura Adams ..... Foster Liaison  
 Newsletter Staff :  
 Dani Comendador & Karen Phillips ..... Editors  
 Kris Miller, [attagirlsdesign.com](http://attagirlsdesign.com) ..... Layout  
 Diana Gilbert & Beth Mac Donald ..... Co-Shelter Liasons  
 Karen Phillips ..... Fund Raiser/Grant Coordinator

## Adoption Committee:

Rita Prindle ..... Chairman  
 Polly Mahlman ..... Consultant  
 Alyssa McCluskey ..... Coordinator  
 Laura Adams ..... Foster Liason  
 Teila Gilchrist & Polly Mahlman ..... Telephone Interviewers

*If you would like to contribute photos or stories to the newsletter, please email your submissions to [danic@ascol.net](mailto:danic@ascol.net). Photos should be at least 300dpi for ease of manipulation, and preferably .jpg or .tif formats. Articles should be limited to one page. If you have a very special item, extra space can be accommodated. Please send photos and articles separately.*

## "Leptospirosis: Should you vaccinate?"

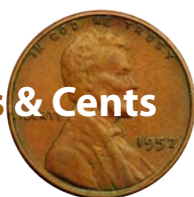
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seem to recover, but Lepto can persist and "hide out" in the kidneys and eventually causes kidney failure and death.

Dr. Veir and Fort Dodge do not recommend that the Lepto vaccine become a core vaccine for the state but are highly recommending the vaccine for any dog that regularly comes in contact with the natural reservoirs for Lepto. In other words, if you take your dog hiking/ walking in the outdoors frequently (which for most of us with Vizslas, is the case!), camping or if they go to a dog park frequently you should probably vaccinate. If your dog goes outside merely to use the "potty" and maybe for a quick romp in the backyard, you are probably safe and your dog does not need the vaccine.

I was lucky enough to get a Vizsla (Hank) from the CWVRG and my husband and I take him hiking every weekend in natural areas. I decided to vaccinate and I recommend others in similar situations should.

*See your local veterinarian for more information.*



## Dollars & Cents

### CWVRG, INC. FINANCIAL REPORT

3rd Quarter 2009

**CASH BALANCE: Guaranty Bank - Checking/Savings. . . . . \$16,338.00**

#### REVENUE:

ADOPTIONS . . . . . \$ 3,300.00  
 PERSONAL . . . . . \$ 2,565.00  
 PAY PAL . . . . . \$54.00  
 FUND RAISERS. . . . . \$ 1,213.00  
**TOTAL . . . . . \$12,941.00**

#### EXPENSES:

VETERINARIAN . . . . . -\$4,842.00  
 GENERAL OPERATING . . -\$1,305.00  
**TOTAL . . . . . -\$6,147.00**