

**INSIDE
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BRAGS & CRIES

Don't forget to submit your brags and cries in writing, so we don't leave you out, email to vizslaluv@earthlink.net. We encourage all members to advertise their special wins. Brags and cries will remain free, cost to insert a picture ad is \$5.00. Ads will be inserted as space is available.



Welcome to
our newest
members

Beth & Bob Brunzman are pleased to announce the arrival of the newest RSVC member: Ava Katherine Brunzman arrived 11/13/06 at 5:11 pm. 6lbs 15oz.

JANUARY 2007

Rio Salado Vizsla Club, Inc.



Baby's

Merry Christmas from Aimee, Andy, Max, Ranger, Sasha, and Shiner! And introducing the newest member of the pack, Jack!

Jack was born November 27, 2006 and he was 6lbs. 9oz. and 19 inches - Just in time for Christmas!

First Christmas



Ch. Mehagian's Desert Jewel completed her Show Championship in November."Jewel" is out of American & Canadian Ch. Mehagian's Grouspst SF Veracruz JH (Vera) and Ch. Sizlin Hold Yer Fire. Her title along with littermates "Tucker" and "Tabasco" allowed Vera to be a Top Producer for 2006.

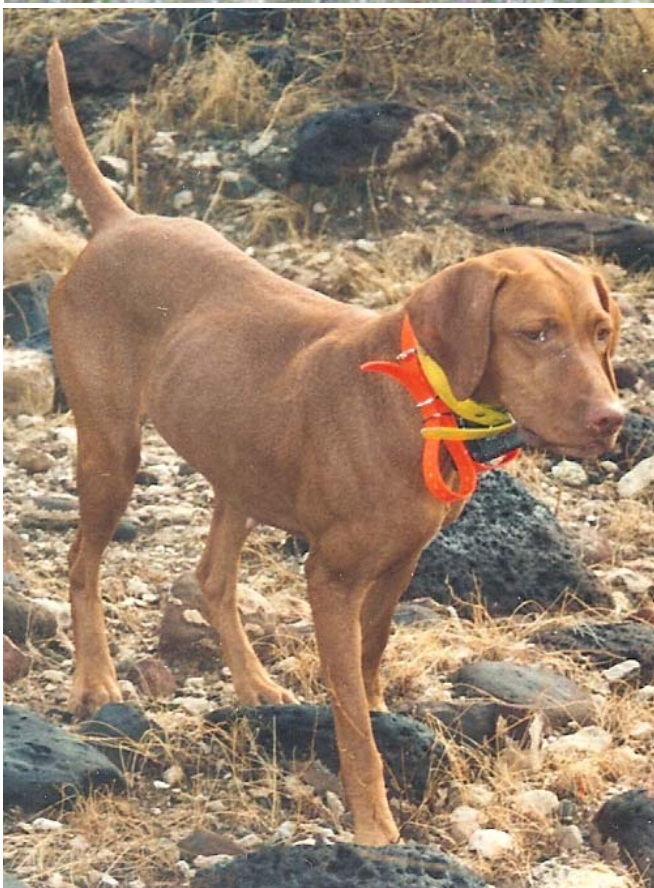


Mehagian's Sizlin Red Hot Tamale JH (Mollie) completed her JH title in November and also won both her majors towards her Show Championship last fall. Her first major win was at our specialty where she earned a Best of Winners ribbon. She was shown to both wins by Emily Peters. "Mollie" is just one year old.

Mehagian Vizslas also congratulates all the Mehagian Vizslas who have finished their titles and had passes in recent Hunt Tests including: Razzle, Tabasco, Tori, Monty, Neville, Harry, and Harley. Thanks to all the owners who have dedicated so much time to their success.



Congratulations to two new Senior Hunters! Tori (CH Mehagian's Aka Tori Inu, JH, VC) completed her Senior Hunter title at the Desert German Shorthaired Pointer Club Hunt test on December 9, 2006 and had one Master Hunter pass the following day. Tabasco (CH Mehagian's Sizzln Hot-n-Spicy, JH) finished his Senior Hunter title at the English Setter Club's Hunt Test on December 10, 2006. About a week after the hunt test, Tabasco became ill and was subsequently diagnosed with Valley fever. After losing almost eight pounds, Tabasco is beginning to recover his strength and will hopefully return to field training in the near future. Tori and Tabasco were bred by Marge Mehagian, and are owned by John and Donna Karis and family. Heartfelt thanks to Don Humes and Bill Dixon for all their help in training these fabulous dogs. Field photos by Mike Dhondt (Tori) and Donna Karis (Tabasco).



LEFT: Kazaryan's Ginger Mehagian Master Hunter completed this title in December in her usual great style. After having her first litter of puppies (which were four weeks old at the time), "Ginger" couldn't wait to get back in the field. Special thanks to Bill Dixon for handling "Ginger" to this title.



Ch Tamaron's Red Diamond JH "Briseis" – At just 19 months old, "Briseis" took Best of Breed twice during the four day Cluster by the Bay show in San Mateo, CA. Judge Kathryn Cowsert awarded "Briseis" the Purple and Gold on Thursday, December 28th to start the show and Judge Carol Beattie awarded it to her again on Sunday, December 31st to finish it. What a fabulous way to end the year for a young special! As always, "Briseis" is loved and owned by Michelle Rochester and Tami and Leon Westerbeck.



2X BISS CH MEHAGIAN'S TAMARON TARIKA MH

Leon and I could not be more proud of "Tarika's" latest achievement. She completed her Master Hunter title with four straight passes the weekend of December 11th & 12th, 2006 at the hunt tests held in Robbins Butte, Arizona. Of course she didn't achieve this title without help. We acknowledge and thank Bill Dixon for his effort and dedication in training and handling "Tarika." Thank you for believing in her and for accepting the challenge of taking her from the Junior to the Master level. You did it and you did it well!! Bravo to both of you!! "Tarika" was bred by Marge Mehagian and Kurt and Deborah Sanders and is owned and loved by Tami and Leon Westerbeck, Tamaron Vizslas.



CH TAUNEE'S STRIKE A POSE, MH

We proudly announce our third Master Hunter and first Vizsla MH title achieved. CH Taunee's Strike A Pose MH, our "Vogue", got her final pass for MH at the AZPDC double+double hunt test in December. One of Vogue's daughters, Kayla, is halfway to her MH title, also.

CRIES

Condolences to Marla Molvin on the death of her Mother.

President's Message for Newsletter

Happy New Year!!

January is almost over and we are well into the busy 2007 Dog Activities.

Please check our calendar for all the events that are being planned for you in the next few months. Especially important is the upcoming meeting on February 12th. You will be receiving a special mailing regarding this meeting and we encourage everyone to attend. We will be voting on some bylaw changes which will make it possible to run our club in a more efficient manner.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT DUES WILL BE CONSIDERED DELINQUENT IF NOT PAID BY MARCH 1ST. SEVERAL OF YOU HAVE OVERLOOKED THIS AND IF YOU ARE NOT SURE IF "YOU ARE ON THE LIST" OF UNPAID YOU CAN CONTACT ME TO CHECK ON YOUR STATUS.

I would like also to bring to your attention the article about Valley Fever in this issue. The disease is extremely prevalent this year so please be aware of the signs and symptoms and have a blood test done on your dog if you suspect he is infected. This is a treatable disease if diagnosed.

Once again I urge you to check the calendar on our website www.rsvc.net for all upcoming events and information. If you have questions you can always call the numbers listed there for answers. We look forward to seeing you at some or all of our events and we can always use a helping hand if you wish to volunteer.

In closing, I wish to send our sympathy to the following current and past members on the recent loss of their Vizslas. All were older dogs and will be greatly missed.

"Gus" owned by Linda and Doug Fox

"Hans" owned by Bill Nelson

"Vger" owned by the Sanders Family

"Baron" owned by Bob Raymond

Their time on earth is too short.

Marge Mehagian

RSVC President

mjmehagian@cox.net

This is my e-mail address so please don't contact me at the aol address. It is being terminated.

ANOTHER RSVC YEAR HAS COME & GONE

We had a good time at the RSVC Holiday Party at the home of Betty VanDenburgh. Great food, drink, and socializing with friends. Many thanks to Betty for opening her home up to us for our get together. The main course of ham, pork roast, and turkey breast was provided by Betty, Amy Pongratz, and Deborah Sanders. Everyone brought tasty side dishes to share.

This year's Chinese Gift Exchange was the most civilized yet - no matter how many taunts Mike George made trying to encourage people to steal someone else's gift!

Amy and Lissette Bell did a great job with contacting our members about menu planning and attendance reminders. Thanks to all who helped set up, serve, and clean up. It takes a lot of time to put on any RSVC event.

We have a great club with great people. We are all very fortunate.

Happy New Year to everyone and see you soon.

Deborah Sanders
RSVC VP

**IT'S TIME TO APPLY FOR YOUR
2007 AZ GAME & FISH PERMITS**

Applications are available on the club website

**IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO PLAN THE
RSVC ANNUAL BANQUET!**

APRIL 22, 2007

PHOENIX COUNTRY CLUB

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW
FOR THE NEXT RSVC GENERAL MEETING
By-Laws Revisions Vote & Nominating Committee Report**

FEBRUARY 12, 2007

**Jordan's Mexican Restaurant
6247 N. 7th Street
Phoenix, AZ**

Dinner 6:30pm ~ Meeting starts at 7:00pm

Meeting minutes from the 12/10/06 RSVC Holiday Party General Meeting

President's Rpt - Marge welcomed all in attendance and thank the hostess Betty VanDenburgh and those who helped get party together.

Secretary's Rpt - Deborah Sanders read a thank you letter from the VCA for the Club's donation the the 2006 VCA Nationals Awards Fund.

Treasurer's Rpt - RSVC checking is strong and at the same balance as last year this time.

Membership Rpt - Rita Mather read a batch of new and renewing members. Names were not written down. Paperwork was to be given to Vicki May, membership chair.

Nominating Committee Rpt - Deborah announced the Nominating Committee members as: Chair Deborah, Bob Miller, Virginia Dhondt, and alternates Nancy Dixon and Bill Harper. Their report is due before the 2/12/07 general meeting.

By- Laws Revisions - will be voted on at the 2/12/07 meeting.

Hunt Training - 3 sessions are planned.

Cries - Vger Sanders and Hans Nelson died.

Meeting adjourned.

Deborah M. Sanders
RSVC Vice President
4413 N. 56th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85018
Ph 480-945-3125
Fax 480-947-4543
rsvger@cox.net

DOG SITTING

My name is Brooke Zilveti and my husband Jason and I are members of the Rio Salado Vizsla Club, Inc. I wanted to let other members know that I am available for dog sitting in our home. We live at Tatum and Shea and have a huge yard with a doggy door. If any member needs a place to go with their Vizsla's and doesn't want to put them up in a kennel, I would be glad to take care of them. They have to be current on their shots, good with other dogs and children. The cost would be \$30/night and I would offer a big discount on 2 or more dogs. I am only going to watch one or two dogs at a time so when I'm booked, I'm booked.

Please feel free to call me at 602/354-3065 or email me at wee_tufty@yahoo.com.

Brooke

VALLEY FEVER WARNING!

According to health officials, Valley Fever is at epidemic levels in Arizona due to a wet winter in 2005, followed by dry months in 2006. Any dog that develops a cough, begins to limp, has a loss of appetite, or has an unexplained weight loss, should immediately be tested for Valley Fever.

Valley Fever

Valley Fever (or coccidiomycosis) is a disease that is caused by a fungus that lives in the soil of the low desert regions of Arizona, New Mexico, southwestern Texas, and the central deserts of California. While most mammals can be infected with the fungus, dogs comprise the majority of Valley Fever cases in animals. Dogs acquire the disease by inhaling spores that become airborne when the soil is disturbed by digging, walking, or blowing wind. Once inhaled, the fungal spores grow, and spread in the lungs until the dog's immune system attacks it. Symptoms usually appear between one and four weeks after exposure. 70% of dogs who inhale the Valley Fever spores control the infection and do not become ill. The remaining 30% develop some form of the disease, which can range from very mild cases to very severe cases, and may sometimes be lethal.

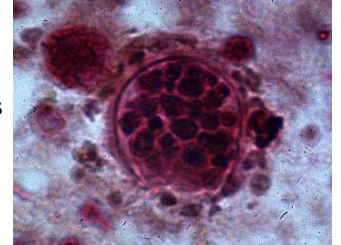
The most common symptoms of primary pulmonary Valley Fever in dogs are coughing, fever, weight loss, lack of appetite, and lack of energy. In dogs where the disease has spread outside the lungs, symptoms may include lameness or swelling of the legs, back or neck pain, seizures, soft swellings under the skin, swollen lymph nodes, non-healing skin ulcerations, and eye inflammation with pain or cloudiness. A veterinarian will diagnose Valley Fever based on tests which may include blood tests, chest x-rays, bone and joint x-rays, and a Valley Fever blood test (or cocci titer).

A cocci titer is a test that checks a dog's blood for antibodies against the Valley Fever fungus. A positive test means that the dog has been exposed to the fungus. The titer is obtained by serially diluting a sample of positive blood until the test becomes negative (1:4, 1:8, 1:16, 1:32, 1:64, etc.). The titer that is reported is the last dilution that detected antibodies. Generally speaking, a higher titer is equated with more severe disease, and titers usually decrease over time as the disease regresses. However, it is possible to have low titers in both asymptomatic dogs and in dogs with severe disease. Treatment and monitoring of these dogs require veterinary supervision.

Three common oral antifungal medicines used to treat Valley Fever are Ketoconazole (Nizoral), Itraconazole (Sporanox), and Fluconazole (Diflucan). A veterinarian will determine which medicine is best for a dog stricken with Valley Fever as each drug has its benefits and side effects. Other treatments for Valley Fever may include cough suppressants, pain and fever relief, and nutritional support.

Most dogs will recover from Valley Fever with appropriate antifungal therapy. Early diagnosis and intervention are crucial for a good prognosis for recovery. Dogs whose infections are limited to the lungs usually respond the quickest to treatment. Dogs with disseminated disease may have a harder time fighting the disease. A small percentage of dogs will need medication for life, and another small percentage will die from Valley Fever despite drug treatment.

In humans, certain ethnic groups are particularly susceptible to getting Valley fever. This appears to be the case with dog breeds as well, with Vizslas being prone to getting the fungal infection. A dog that develops a cough should always be tested for Valley Fever. A cocci test usually costs \$75 - \$100, and results are generally available within 48 hours. Early diagnosis and treatment are vital for successfully treating this infection.



Coccidioides immitis: the fungus that causes Valley Fever

For additional information on Valley Fever, see:

<http://www.vfce.arizona.edu/VFID-home.htm> (Valley Fever Center for Excellence)

<http://www.dlrrphoenix.org/vf.html>

<http://home.comcast.net/~greyhndz/coccidio.htm>

<http://www.projinf.org/fs/vfever.html> (Valley Fever in humans)

<http://uanews.org/cgi-bin/WebObjects/UANews.woa/8/wa/HealthStoryDetails?ArticleID=12517> (New Drug Offers Hope for a Cure for Valley Fever)

Is Valley Fever contagious?

NO - Valley Fever is contracted only by the inhalation of the fungal spores. Valley Fever is NOT spread from human to human, or dog to dog, or dog to human or human to dog. The spores change form in tissues of the body and are not contagious in tissue form.

Does my dog have Valley Fever?

Common early symptoms may include one or more of the following:

- Coughing
- Fever
- Lack of appetite
- Weight loss
- Lethargy
- Lameness
- Back or neck pain

COME TO THE RSVC 2007 Field Training Sessions!

The RSVC will hold three field training sessions prior to the club's Hunt Tests on February 24 - 25. These training sessions will be held at the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Robbins Butte Wildlife Area. Check the club's website at www.RSVC.net for updated information.

Hunt Training dates: Feb. 3rd, and Feb. 17th from 8 AM – 3 PM.

Bird Reservations: Bird reservations must be made at least one week in advance to birds@rsvc.net or by calling the Hunt Training Coordinator. Birds cost \$4.50 each, with a limit of 4 birds per dog. Bird reservations will be limited due to bird availability and training session time constraints. **PLEASE DO NOT ASK TO RESERVE BIRDS AFTER RESERVATIONS HAVE CLOSED!** Exact change or checks payable to RSVC are appreciated. Also, please remember that since the club pays for the birds that have been reserved, you are still responsible for reimbursing the club for the cost of your birds if you fail to attend the hunt training session.

Brace Pairings - New for this year. When you arrive at the hunt training site, please check in with the Hunt Training Coordinator. Brace sheets for the Senior/Master field and the Junior field will be available for you to sign up your dog(s) on a first come, first served basis. Please indicate the training level of your dog on the sheet (Junior, Senior, or Master). In order to run the fields efficiently, do not sign up for back-to-back braces.

AZ Game and Fish Field Training Permits for 2007: You should have received field training permit applications for the Robbins Butte and Pine Hill/Red Tank training sites with your RSVC membership renewal forms. Please fill out and submit these forms prior to the hunt training sessions. Contact Deborah at rsvger@cox.net or (480) 945-3125 if you have questions about permits.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE
ROBBINS BUTTE WILDLIFE
AREA**

From Phoenix, drive west on I-10 and take Exit 112 – Hwy. 85 South to Yuma.
Drive approximately 7.5 miles and turn right onto a dirt road at the Robbins Butte/Powers Butte Wildlife Area.
Drive about 0.3 miles and bear **LEFT** at the “Y” with the sign “Powers Butte Wildlife Area (Robbins Butte)”
Drive about 2.5 miles and look for the bright orange “**RSVC VIZSLA EVENT**” signs directing you to the training site and parking.

Saturday Training Date	Last Day to Reserve Birds	Hunt Training Coordinator	Senior/Master Field Coordinator	Junior Field Coordinator
February 3	January 26	Kim Jankowski	Jim DeWoody	Marge Mehagian
February 17	February 9	Kim Jankowski	Jim DeWoody	Marla Molvin

IF YOU ARE RUNNING MORE THAN ONE DOG, OR ARE RUNNING ONE DOG MORE THAN ONCE, plan on being at the training session for several hours. We will do our best to keep things running smoothly. Obviously, the more volunteers we have to organize, gun, plant, and train the dogs, the faster we will be able to run through the braces, and get everyone home at a reasonable hour.

YOUR HELP DURING TRAINING SESSIONS IS

EXPECTED AND GREATLY APPRECIATED!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A TROPHY FOR OUR NEXT SPECIALTY

**PLEASE email Vicki May at serenityvizslas@cox.net
JUNE 2007 TROPHY SPONSORSHIPS**

Best of Breed ~ Michelle Rochester ~ \$50.00 Paid
 Best of Winners ~ \$ 40.00
 Best of Opposite Sex ~ \$40.00
 Winners Dog ~ \$25.00
 Reserve Winners Dog ~ \$15.00
 Winners Bitch ~ \$25.00
 Reserve Winners Bitch ~ \$15.00
 High in Trial ~ Randy & Amy Pongratz ~\$50.00
 Junior Showmanship ~ Mary Levine ~ \$25.00 Paid
 Toys ~ Emma & Jane Yarbrough in memory of Lady (sponsored through December 2011)

UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

January 20, 2007 - Hunt Training, Robbins Butte, Buckeye
 February 3, 2007 - Hunt Training, Robbins Butte, Buckeye
 February 12, 2007 - RSVC General Membership meeting, Jordan's Mexican Restaurant
 February 17, 2007 - Hunt Training, Robbins Butte, Buckeye
 February 24 & 25, 2007 - RSVC Hunt Test, Robbins Butte, Buckeye
 March 2 -5, 2007 - Superstition Kennel Club & Scottsdale Dog Fanciers
 March 17 & 18, 2007 - Canada Del Oro Kennel Club
 April 14 & 15, 2007 - Lost Dutchman Kennel Club
 April 22, 2007 - RSVC Annual Meeting at Phoenix Country Club
 May 6, 2007 - Greater Sierra Vista Kennel Club
 June 8, 2007 - Rio Salado Vizsla Club, Inc. Specialty Show & Obedience
 June 8 & 9, 2007- RSVC Versatility - Conformation & Obedience - Flagstaff, AZ
 June 9 & 10, 2007 - RSVC Versatility Field - Mormon Lake, AZ
 June 9 & 10, 2007 - Flagstaff Kennel Club - Flagstaff, AZ
 August 18 & 19, 2007 - RSVC Hunt Test - Red Tank, AZ

WELCOME 2007 NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members and encourage them to get involved in our great club. As you can see from our Calendar of Events, there are plenty of opportunities for you and your dog.

James & Paul Best
 Brian & Kathy Hertel
 Scott & Ann Hornaday
 Michael Molzen & Michael Sellars
 Anthony & Valerie Seim
 Robert & Emily Walsmann
 Michael VanEpp

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE VIZSLA CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

Now's the time to join and get involved in your national club, join before the end of the year and you could receive a VCA medallion for each title earned by your dog.. Remember changes made by the nationals club affect us all in our breed. You must be a member to vote on breed standard changes and other proposals. Go to <http://clubs.akc.org/vizsla/vcaapp.htm> to download an applications. See one of your RSVC members for sponsorship.

RSVC Officers & Contact Information

President—Marge Mehagian ~ 602/943-3205 ~ mjmeagian@cox.net
Vice President—Deborah Sanders ~ 480/945-3125 ~ rsvger@cox.net
Secretary—Marla Molvin ~ 602/971-7491 ~ mmert1@cox.net
Treasurer—Rita Mather ~ 480/390-6057 ~ sleepyhollowknl@earthlink.net
Parliamentarian—Tim Brugger ~ 602/216-6865 ~ Tbrugger@cox.net
Membership—Vicki May ~ 602/493-2431 ~ vizslaluv@earthlink.net
Historian—Tami Westerbeck ~ 520/664-0884 ~ tamaronvizslas@hughes.net
Rescue Coordinator—Trisha Fleischer ~ 480/348-0324 ~ tafleischer@cox.net
Director—Betty VanDenburgh ~ 602/266-2944 ~ bvandenburgh@aol.com
Director—Jim DeWoody ~ 623/561-1460 ~ quailhunter2@cox.net
Director—Mike George ~ 602/361-3731 ~ mike.george@gdc4s.com
Director—Andy Welch ~ 480/785-2815 ~ welch11@cox.net
Director—Amy Pongratz ~ 623/465-0066 ~ azamyp@yahoo.com
Webmaster—Lou Molvin ~ 602/971-7491 ~ support@rsvc.net

WWW.RSVC.NET

Check out the RSVC website for calendar of events, club event photos, hunt training info, Vizsla rescue, versatility program, and links to other clubs, Vizsla breeders, boarding kennels, trainers, classes and handlers.

If you need more information on the Club or Club events you may call or email:

Donna Karis at dckaris@cox.net/ 480-5968599

Marge Mehagian at mjmeagian@cox.net/602-943-3205

Deborah Sanders at rsvger@cox.net/ 480-945-3125

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, please send any and all information to Vicki May at vizslaluv@earthlink.net. Stories, pictures, brags and cries, upcoming dog events, matches or other dog related information, would be appreciated.

In order to save the club postage costs, we encourage our members to receive your newsletter and other club mailings via email. Please send an email to vizslaluv@earthlink.net if you would prefer to receive the newsletter via U.S. Mail.