RRCUS

Top 25 Event

October 14, 2016
Huron, Ohio
Top Twenty Five Chairs:
Marie Glodowski
Linda Shue
Karen Stewart

Top Twenty Five Judge Stewards:
Judy Ables
George Demary Jr
Marcin Glodowski

Top Twenty Five Time Keeper:
Mary Teeling

Top Twenty Five Vote Counters:
John Arvin
Rosann Sexton

Top Twenty Five Ring Stewards:
Barbara Rupert
Linda Shue

Top Twenty Five Judge Sheet Coordinator:
Patty Hoffman

Top Twenty Five Master of Ceremonies:
Mike Teeling

Top Twenty Five Helpers:
Denise Eberhardt
Dawn Garbet
Lyn Valdivia
Jenny Willis
Charlene Curry

As of March 13, 2012: That any judge who is in conflict with an entered dog can examine the dog, but their score will not be included; the scores from the remaining two judges will be tallied and averaged. Reasons for conflict include: 1. Handled the dog within the last year, and 2. Owner, co-owner, breeder, or co-breeder of the exhibit sire or dam.
Phil began his involvement in the sport of dogs in 1984. It was then that he purchased his first purebred dog, a Gordon Setter. The short version of a long story is that he won a major from the Am-Bred class at his first dog show, Detroit Kennel Club. This dog became his first Champion and needless to say Phil was hooked. Approximately 10 years later, after showing and finishing many dogs for himself and friends, Phil decided to change how he showed dogs from as a hobby to as a professional.

Over the past twenty plus years, Phil has finished numerous dogs of various breeds. He has won many Best In Shows and Best In Specialty Shows with multiple breeds. He has also successfully shown many of the nation’s top-ranked dogs including several Irish Setters, Dalmatians, German Wirehaired Pointers, Giant Schnauzers, as well as an Irish Wolfhound, an Australian Shepherd. His most recent accomplishment was winning the 2012 Top Dog Award for the #1 Dog Amongst All-Breeds with German Wirehaired Pointer GCh. Ripsnorter’s Sliver Charm – “Oakley”.

Phil has judged several sweepstakes including the Irish Setter Club of America National Specialty as well as the Dalmatian and Siberian Husky Top 20. Thank you for the honor of being here tonight to judge the Top 25 event this year. Best of luck to all exhibitors.
My name is Rita J. Biddle, and I'm delighted to be judging the Top 25 Event held in conjunction with the 2016 Rhodesian Ridgeback National Specialty.

I began my career in the sport of purebred dogs over 50 years ago with Great Danes. In the early '80s, I became interested in the Akita after taking care of one for a friend and had the two breeds simultaneously until I lost my last Dane in 1997. My kennel name is O'Ryan. While quite a few of my Danes became champions, my involvement with the Akita has been more intense resulting in many champions.

My line produced foundation stock for several kennels including a bitch who became one of the top producers in breed history with 16 champions from four different sires. One of her offspring was the youngest Akita to ever go BIS. In 2010, my male became the 9th Akita to earn an AKC Grand Championship and finished the year #6 in breed standings. His grandson won the first Award of Merit at our 2015 National Specialty.

I also have been very active in my all breed club, Ingham Co. KC, and have served in various officer positions and am the club's Delegate to the AKC. My parent club activities include serving as past President of the Akita Club of America, one of the founders and current President of the Wolverine Akita Club, and past Vice-President of the United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club.

In the mid-'80s, I began judging matches and fell in love with that side of the sport. I thoroughly enjoy studying the various breeds and find their history and the purpose for which they were bred to be most fascinating. I am always impressed that form follows function and how so many of the standards reflect this fact. I find the Rhodesian Ridgeback to be a most handsome breed and have always enjoyed judging them. When judging, I try my best to find the exhibits that most closely fit their standard. I have judged all over the US at all breed shows, regional and national specialties. I've also been honored and privileged to judge all breed shows and specialties in Canada, Mexico, the UK, and Europe.

The whole judging process is a most challenging and rewarding endeavor. I am happy to have the sport of pure bred dogs as a major part of my life and am most pleased to be with you this evening.
A quick summary of credentials should help with the understanding of my longstanding commitment to this fabulous breed and its continued success and preservation.

45+ AKC and CKC Champions
3 Time Top Ten RRCUS Brood Bitch
Multiple ROM dams in US and Canada
4 Time Top Ten RRCUS Breeder
2 Top Ten RRCUS Stud Dogs and ROM achievement
6 Time Top 25 Conformation Dog (including #1 RR Dog 2011) and currently 3 dogs in the Top 25 for 2016.
2 Time Top 5 Conformation Dog in Canada
Eukanuba/AKC Award of Excellence 2002 (Breeder-Owner handled)
Eukanuba/AKC Best of Breed 2010
Westminster Kennel Club Best of Breed 2011 (Owner-handled)
Best in Junior Sweeps RRCUS National Specialty 2013 (Breeder-Owner Handled)
Best in Junior Sweeps RRCUS National Specialty 2014 (Stud dog owner handled)
First Place 15-18 Month Dog Junior Sweeps RRCUS National Specialty 2015 (Breeder-Owner Handled)
Best in Puppy Sweeps Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of Canada National Specialty 2015 (Breeder-Owner Handled)
Breeder of several Dual and Field Champions, Agility titles, Obedience, Herding Instinct, VC, Nose Work and most recently two certified Service Animals (both ridgeless).

The Top 25 competition is a Celebration of not only the top dogs in our breed, but a Testament to the commitment that their Breeders/Owners/Handlers made in 2016. All participants should be proud to be here and all spectators honored to attend!
Doc was destined to be my keeper puppy from the day he was born, and I've never regretted that decision. Doc represents a series of firsts. He's my first home-bred Champion, first home-bred Grand Champion, first home-bred Dual Champion, first regional specialty winner, and first entry into the Top 25. I'm especially proud of this last accomplishment, as he was only shown about six weekends last year, exclusively breeder/owner/handled. His show career started with a bang, winning WD/BOW/Best of Breed over several specials for a 5 point major, capped by a Group 2, from the 9-12 month class! He finished his CH in short order, with several nice Breed wins and a very nice Bred-By-Exhibitor Group 1 along the way. He is brash and confident, yet goofy and deferential to the girls in the house (as he should be!). His drive on the lure coursing field has left me prone in the dirt on the way to the start, sore and bruised after the weekend. He has tremendous focus and might be found mournfully howling in his crate if it's not yet his time to run. His motto is: - ALL BUNNY, ALL THE TIME!! (At home, that translates into ALL SQUIRREL, ALL THE TIME, much to the dismay of the local tree rodents!!). And when he's not terrorizing squirrels, his favorite place is the couch - draped across my lap.

Sire: Am/Can Ch Thornberry Akala ROM CGN
Dam: Ch Arifi Bijou du Soleil SC HIC CGC TT
Date of Birth: November 25, 2011
Breeders: Cynthia McFadden
Owners: Cynthia McFadden

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Luc

GCHB JusticeRidge Starship Lionhunter CGC

Sire: BISS GCH Diablo’s Dark Knight’s Nemesis
Dam: CH JusticeRidge First Edition, JC, ROM
Date of Birth: May 21, 2012
Breeders: Tina Jones and Nancy Faville
Owners: Kirby Knight, Tina Jones, and Nancy Faville

JusticeRidge Starship Lionhunter "Luc" is a 4 1/2 year old Ridgeback from JusticeRidge and Diablo Kennels. From an early age he showed a very outgoing personality and a curiosity about everything. He started showing at six months and it quickly became apparent that he really loved it. For him, every show is like a day at Dog Disneyland. He especially loves the Golden Gate Kennel Club’s benched show where he has appointed himself in charge of Ridgeback Public Relations and spends the entire day standing in front of the bench in order to be certain that every human who passes by has to pet him. One of his other loves is running free at Crissy Field beach on San Francisco Bay where he interacts with every dog and human. He believes that every human he sees is his new best friend and every dog is his new playmate. His friendly, loving temperament is a treasure to his large, extended human and canine family.
Wow! what an honor to be in the Top 25 again!! Consistency is what could added to Ra’s name if one could find a place that sounded good. He’s been in the ring since he was 6 months old, finished his AKC championship at 11 months, his Grand Champion at 17 months and basically never looked back. In 2015 he was 5 years old and has been in the Top 25 for the last 4 years! In 2016 he retired from the show ring and is working on lure coursing, obedience and just being a home body (which he does not love too much!) The judge who finished him at 11 months told me “$250,000 and a professional handler, you have no idea how far this dog could go.” Well, I never found that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, but my rainbow has been bright with Ra. A few times he has been in the ring with a handler, but only when I could not make it to the ring to show him myself. I will miss his infamous stretch in the ring, the parlor tricks he did in the ring and his “I’m bored it’s time to lay down” in the ring. One last time we find ourselves in the ring with many fabulous dogs and I am honored and blessed for Ra to be a part of this wonderful night!

Thank you to all the judges who acknowledged Ra and thank you to our friends who have encouraged and stood by us throughout his career.

Sire: Int. CH Inanda Mellberg Edelrood  
Dam: Int. CH Athena  
Date of Birth: April 14, 2010  
Breeders: Jari Falt and Minna Pakkas  
Owners: Kathleen and Mark Russell

GCHG Uwanja’s RaAtum, JC, SC, CGC
Rugby, now almost 4.5 years old, has had a very distinguished career: the #3 ranked Rhodesian Ridgeback in 2014, #2 in 2015, and battling it out for the #1 spot in 2016. He continues to shine; always eager to show, always eager to please, stunningly devoted to his handler Elizabeth Jordan-Nelson, incredibly fit, and mentally sound.

Rugby is an outcross, sired by CH Orangewoods Talk O’ The Town – “Buzz”. His dam is CH Diablo’s London Calling “Chelsea”, the daughter of our foundation bitch Shelby.

Rugby is the sum of his predecessor’s best parts, exhibiting both power and balance in a highly efficient stride. He is now an integral part of our breeding program.

Most importantly, Rugby is a pet: a loving companion, a pillow hog, a goof. He is the pride and joy of his large family of owners who firmly believe that you know greatness when you see it. We are thankful for all of the judges, along the way, who have seen it, too.
He is immediately comfortable in new circumstances and environments, gets along easily with people and other dogs, and is a beautiful travel companion. He uniquely mixes the Ridgeback personality with his own flair: he swims like (and with) Water Dogs, he is quietly protective and invariably sweet. He is the spitting image of his father Ikaika and we feel he well represents what a Ridgeback should be. His effortless movement belies his size. We are very pleased with his success in the show ring with a limited show schedule in the highly competitive West Coast region, first owner-handled by Mike, and then with Laura’s amazing presentation.

Laura: Zing, for me, embodies everything a Ridgeback should be: a powerful, alert guardian of his people; a strong, tireless athlete; a goofy companion for lazy days. His crate was always the first one a person encountered at the front of the rig and in our dog room. I can’t count the times my heart stutter-stepped when someone unauthorized poked their head in the door, only to be greeted by a legitimate lion’s roar. There was the time my assistant let him sleep on the bed – the next day he simply opened his crate door to go find her because he was lonely. I distinctly remember shock I had the first time I showed him, fluttering like a kite at the end of the leash going around the ring, all the while appearing to make no effort whatsoever.
My dog of a lifetime!

Since his last appearance at the Top 25, Kouga has achieved his first Reserve Best in Show and then 2 months later his first Best in Show! His stellar temperament and form and function have proven him to be a wonderful show dog and an even better companion and house dog! No matter the situation, Kouga rises to the occasion. Kouga finished 2015 as #4 All-Breed with Multiple Group wins and #7 Breed! I am very proud of Kouga for these and many other achievements especially with a limited show schedule!

Keeping in true Kimani fashion, Kouga is joy to be around and a vision to admire. Kouga is a wonderful companion and a clown around the house. This dog has given me more than I could have imagined and I am forever grateful to Alicia Hanna and Kimani Kennel for entrusting him to me. I thank my co-owners: Alicia, Elaine Demopoulos & Joyce Wilkinson for their support and encouragement!

Thank you for the honor of participating in the Top 25 for 2015!
I could not be prouder of Luna being a part of the Top 25 a second year in a row! In 2012, we welcomed fourteen beautiful puppies into the world. From the very start, there was a standout. The puppy that your eye was drawn to, that floated across the yard, that would nail a free stack and wait for you to look at her. That was our Lunatic. Luna has, by far, exceeded our wildest dreams.

Luna and Frank had an incredible 2015. Some of the year's unforgettable highlights were an amazing Best in Regional Specialty win in Michigan, her second All Breed Best in Show under Mrs. Lisa Warren, People's Choice and Select Bitch at the Rhode Island National Specialty, Best in Regional Specialty Show at BARRC in California, Reserve Best in Show under Mr. Terry Stacy, and Best of Breed at Eukanuba. Luna finished the year with 117 Best of Breeds and 25 group ones. She was the number one Ridgeback, All Systems. I can not thank Frank Murphy enough for the outstanding job he did with Luna.

Luna has enjoyed being back at home this year. She has been shown from time to time in Juniors, by "her" kid, Sean. She has been trying her paw at agility and seems to love to chase the "bunny". I can not wait to see what 2017 will bring!!!
GCH Spring Valley's JOJO earned his Platinum Grand Champion in early July 2016! One of a few Rhodesian Ridgebacks to earn this prestigious award. He also won his 3rd Best In Show in late May, 2016 with family there to see his exciting win!! We are extremely thankful to his handler and best buddy Jack Secrest, breeder Carla Downey and mentor Marie Cotton of whom all of this would not have even been considered nor pursued without them.
The people of north and east are looking for our boy THE SUNDANCE KID., or as we affectionately call him Redford! Born in the sun scorched hills of the California Desert on the CJS Ranch, No one could see what lay ahead for our little ridgie. Breaking into the show scene on the West coast, he soon began trading wins with his brothers (who are also top show dogs). It was a flurry of wins and opportunities for Redford to strut his stuff. He quickly became champion and then grand champion in short fashion. However the winds of change, swept in and placed the gang 2,000 miles away from home, in Nash-Vegas. Redford seemingly thought he had traveled with us to some far reaching desert mirage with all the bunnies, squirrels and deer that soon became his backyard playmates. With the help of expert handlers like the Scotts and Garcini’s Redford continued rallying down the highways of the mid-south, east and mid-west taking on any challenger. Our little guy has racked up quite a record thus far: Top 25 in 2014 and 2015, as well as a chance to do more ribbon rustling at the Westminster dog show. It’s been a great run. Now he’s looking for a few pretty ladies to help him add a few more members to the gang. All in all Redford truly lives up to the same staggering profile as his theatrical look- a-like: charmer, who’s loveable, soft spoken and great with the ladies.
Handler Lesley Potts found the "keys" to Changa winning the coveted National Best of Breed 2015. She is "all of a piece" as her athleticism allows her to move effortlessly around the ring and wheel herself into flawless free stacks. She lives up to her name, “Kimani’s Visual Effects”.

On that day Changa was at her best, displaying that elusive combination of correctness, strength and grace that has always been my goal as a breeder.

This win allowed me to retire the Kimani Challenge Trophy for the third time, making this my 13th win of a National Specialty Best of Breed. It is recognition of my lifetime of dedication and commitment to this breed.

I would like to express my appreciation for the valued friendship and support of my co-owners, Elaine Demopoulos and Joyce Wilkinson.

Presented tonight by Valerie Nunes-Atkinson.
To be ranked within the Top 20 is a big honor for Malabo APD, especially with Robert Redford of Malabo APD! As the #1 RR pf the United States, and one of the 15 best hounds of America (until July 31st), Robert Redford is the blessed pup of his bloodline, and his great qualities are recognized by all. He won the Best of Breed at Westminster 2016, as well as the Enkanuba Cup, together with his sister – Rachel Welch of Malabo APD (who also has a vast collection of recognitions, being the female record holder of BIS of the breed, being the youngest to complete such completions).

Besides having an impressive physical structure, this “liver boy” gained even more important points by passing all of his health exams. The health and quality of life of ours dogs is the absolute priority for Malabo, and Robert Redford proves we’ve been making the right choices. Strong and with masculine features, Robert Redford is everything you could expect from a male, with a beauty refined by good breeding. He is, above all, an exceptional example of his breed, with measurements and proportions that fit within the breed’s standard.

We thank our handlers – Michelle and Michael Scott – for providing Robert Redford with the conditions needed for him to transform into the dog he is now; one of great and well deserved success… A true winner!
2016 has been a great year for Zohan. He was the first Ridgeback to receive a BIS honor and the first to achieve MBIS honors also! This will be his 4th consecutive year that he has been in the top 25, which has not been easy with most of his showing being in the Midwest. We feel blessed to have him in our lives and in our breeding program. He has achieved so much more than we ever imagined. As of today (8/10/16) this year alone he has 2 BIS, 8 grp 1, 6 grp 2, 5 grp 3 and 2 grp 4 and many many BOB wins. He comes from a long line of well recognized kennel names “Spring Valley”, “Of Afrikka”, “Courage” and “Heritage”. His dad, “Dorian Gray” has passed on quite a legacy as did his granddad “The Great Gatsby” we hope they both are looking down on him proudly. He is producing his own legacy with offspring finishing their championships quickly and soon to be specials seen in the ring. Judges always comment on his headpiece and correctness in size. His movement is clean and graceful with power and elegance; he loves to open up in a big ring.

Zo sure loves to show but the show off we have at home is the winner we cherish the most. He has a saucy personality that draws you in. One minute he is flirting with you the next he is sassing you then he is ignoring you, never a dull moment and I wouldn’t change a thing!
Desmond #17 Ridgeback

GCHS Juba Lee Desmond King of Diamonds, SC, CGC
Sire: CH Maxxwell’s D of Juba Lee, SC, CGCA, THDA
Dam: DC Juba Lee’s Paris with Panache’, SC
Date of Birth: December 16, 2011
Breeders: Kerry Williams and Christine St. George
Owners: Eric King and Ava Swayze

Ava and I are honored to have Desmond and his handler, Daniel Martin, take part in his first Top 25 event. Desmond has been honored with a Group 1 wins (Conformance and Owner-Handler) as well as numerous Group placements including a recent Group 2 at the 2016 Michigan Hound Specialty. One of the most special moments for Desmond was being honored as the 2014 Best of Breed Rhodesian Ridgeback at the AKC Eukanuba National Championships. He then followed it up with an Award of Excellence at the 2015 AKC Eukanuba National Championships.

And for some reason, the 4th of July is Desmond’s special day in the show ring. He has won Best of Breed on the 4th of July three years running. Desmond is not only following in the footsteps of his father, Maxx, in the show ring, but also as a Therapy Dog. Desmond has been to hospitals and assisted living facilities in North Carolina. The activity Desmond loves the most is serving as a Tail Wagging Tutor for children at the Public Library in his hometown of Greensboro, North Carolina. This program is where Therapy Dogs assist kids with reading in schools or local libraries. Desmond has a great disposition and is a tolerant listener for kids learning to read. The children pet Desmond as they sound out new words and work on their reading skills. Desmond is looking forward to going back home with us and being a normal dog after the show. He will work with his Lhasa Apso brother, Landry, in chasing squirrels and rabbits around our back yard. He will also be continue to search out opportunities to serve as a Therapy Dog, take part in Lure Coursing events, and put his excellent nose to working in tracking trials.
What a great and fun year 2015 was for Buster. It is an honor that he was able to finish #8 in the country with Buster at the young age of 2 years old. The highlight of the year was winning the Arizona Rhodesian Ridgeback Specialty in Spring 2015 competing amongst some of the country’s best Rhodesian Ridgebacks. In the fall of 2015, Buster earned the award of Best Opposite Sex to the #1 Rhodesian Ridgeback at the highly competitive Bay Area Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Independent Specialty. Special thanks go out to Luke and Tammy Seidlitz for making this journey possible by presenting Buster to his best. Congrats goes out to all the Top 25 Rhodesian Ridgebacks and their families. To be able to finish in Top 25 any year take a lot of dedication and commitment from the families and is well deserved.
Adele has been a team effort from the start, what a fun dog she was to raise and train. Adele from the start gave me a great honor by winning with me on her leash! From the first time in the ring with her she was a shining star! From Erin Coogan finding Adele at the OCRRC Sweepstakes to winning under judge Ann Meyer at the BARRC weekend. From Julie Jones finishing Adele to her championship, to saying yes to having a year of fun with Dave and Juliet! Wow what a year that was, winning groups, to her Canadian championship, to getting her Canine Good Citizenship Excellent. What a great honor to be here with all of you THANK YOU!
Bango, GCHS Lyonnese Master’s Blend by Kimani, was born in a litter of 14 healthy pups in the Spring of 2012. He earned the nickname “loverboy” as a youngster because of his swoony, lover-boy eyes. At 10 months of age Bango took BOW/WD at Westminster KC dog show. He quickly finished his Championship at 12 months of age, took some time off, and became a Grand Champion before the age of two.

In 2015, Bango became a Silver GCH with limited showing, along the way earning Multiple Group Placing and Group Winning status. The highlight of his career was taking Best of Opposite Sex and the coveted Stud Dog award at the 2015 RRCUS National Specialty. He finished the year as #10 All-Breed and #14 Breed.

Aside from his show career, Bango loves the snow and brisk weather. He is known for his affectionate chin-nibbling greeting. This lover-boy still continues to swoon those who know him.
Hazel

BISS GCHB Camelot’s Hazelnut Macchiato

Sire: MBIS DC BIF Camelot’s Promise To Bakari, ROM
Dam: CH Isilwane Back To Camelot, ROM
Date of Birth: March 27, 2013
Breeder: Louise Vangsgaard and Clayton Heathcock

We fell in love with Hazel from the first time we locked eyes with her when she was just a few weeks old. I knew at that point she had to be ours. Hazel has always been the “Diva” of the family. She was asked to be in the 2015 Rhodesian Ridgeback calendar when she was just 9 months old. She knew how to play up the camera and is a natural in the show ring. Hazel has a younger Weimaraner companion named Marley and the two are inseparable. Hazel likes to go for walks along the Napa river and chase the jack rabbits….it’s all about the chase! Hazel has brought us so much love and joy and for that we will be forever grateful to Clayton Heathcock and Louise Vangsgaard and Camelot Rhodesian Ridgebacks.

Although Hazel spends her quality time at home with her buddy Marley, she is equally at home when visiting Camelot. Her relatively short show career began at the tender age of six months when she was RWB in an entry of 65 class bitches at the 2013 BARRC Specialty. She finished her championship as Winner’s Bitch from the 12-18 class at the 2014 RRCUS Specialty and a week later she won her first Hound Group at the Two Cities Kennel Club. Hazel was BISS at the 2015 OCRRC Specialty and Best in Hound Show at the 2016 Western Hound Club show.
Zeus stole our hearts almost immediately from birth. Born into what we saw as a promising litter, quickly turned into more than just a promising litter. Zeus and his three brothers all won one or more Winners dog(s) at a prominent California Specialty and quickly gained their Championships and Grand championships!

Jane and I breed less than one litter a year and Zeus is a wonderful example of what we strive to breed. He is the consummate ridgeback ambassador, and mixes well with everyone and everything. Most gratifying is that every person who has ever spent any significant time with Zeus has declared him “the most personable and easy-going ridgeback” they have ever encountered.

Jane and I are proud of Zeus's success in the ring and were deeply honored at his top 25 finishes and first AOM's at Westminster and 2014 RRCUS National to name a few but are most proud of his success as a sire. All of
We decided to keep the one red puppy out of the 2010 litter of mostly light wheatens, show him some and have fun. And, boy has it been fun! Wylie is now a Gold GCH, with multiple group wins and places and the #1 Lifetime GCH Ridgeback in Texas. He finished his championship in seven months. Then, I was able to get the points for his GCH title over 13 months of limited showing. A good breeder-friend told us he would be Top 10 if we found an excellent handler. In mid-2014, we found what proved to be a great combination for Wylie. By that year end, Wylie finished at #8. Our handlers encouraged us to give him another year as he was just maturing, so 2015 was a go. Wylie flirted with #5 for several months and finished a terrific year at #6 Breed and #6 All-Breed. To breed and own a dog of this quality has been exciting and fulfilling for us. We want to thank all the judges who found him worthy and especially Robert and Terri for his care and their great presentation of our boy.
Valor, Silver GCh U-Ch Azize's Purple Heart SC FCh, being back in the Top 25 is just simply amazing. After his Top 25 finish in 2014 we had no real plans to campaign him again, but he came out and rocked the show ring to start 2015. He ended the year as #15 Breed, #14 All Breed, #10 AKC NOHS and helped owner/handler Teri Olson earn the #2 spot in RRCUS OH.

Valor was shown exclusively in the midwest. Teri received assistance from handlers Christina Wallack Olson, Lexi Rogers and a drop-in big breed win with Emma Marshall. Thanks so much ladies for filling in when work interfered!

Valor is semi-retired now and has turned showing over to his offspring. We'd like to thanks those breeders that have used Valor and to honor his Champion offspring so far. From Taylor Made Ridgebacks (Bayden, BIF Ch Taylor Made out of McKenzie Two SC and Nox, Ch Taylor Made Night's Watch SC BCAT ) and from TerraCotta Ridgebacks (Genny, Ch TerraCotta's Genny Cream Ale). Valor has several more offspring in the ring with points and/or majors. We are looking forward to seeing more of his offspring become champions in the ring and on the field!
Vomba has surpassed all our expectations, in 2015, she was:
• #1 NOHS Ridgeback, with 2 All Breed Best in Shows and a Best in Hound Specialty win.
• #13 RR & #8 in All Breed Points
• #4 Bitch Winner of 7 Supported Show Best of Breed Medallions
• Helped Tammy become the #1 RRCUS Owner Handler
• Is currently the #1 Bitch All Systems for 2016 since “going Pro” with Dana Bryson-Benn

Vomba came from a litter of 17! As we were delivering the puppies, Kiki saw me getting anxious (I just kept saying “she’s having more contractions.”) To try to distract me, she asked what the Record was for a litter of Ridgebacks ….. which is 17.
When #17 popped out, Kiki said to J Lo “Don’t just tie the Record, BREAK IT!” That DID get me to smile. Kiki knew then that I would survive the challenge. Vomba was Special from day one, in a spectacular litter which has already produced 7 champions with 1 more expected to finish.
Maddie is my first show dog, and what a ride it’s been. Despite my newness to showing she finished her Championship at 16 months. From there she got her Grand quickly and took a break from the show ring. During her break she focused on rally, obedience, agility and becoming a Therapy Dog.

I decided to get back in the ring with her and here we are, honored to be in the Top 20 with a lovely group of dogs. She ended 2015 with a bang - #20 Breed, #16 All Breed, #6 RRCUS Bitch & #5 NOHS.

She’s truly a heart dog and I’m so proud of her. I’m also thankful to those who encouraged us along the way. Of all of our accomplishments, I’m most proud of our therapy work. She truly has a gift with people and children. At one of our recent Reading with Rover events a little boy told me he thought the book he wanted to read was too complicated for her. I told him she would probably understand so he started reading to her. As he was reading she put her paw on his book. He looked up at me and said "I think she likes this." I know she likes it and I’m lucky to be on this journey with her at my side.

Thank you!
Lexi

GCHB Lane’s Luxury Edition, CA, TT, SC

Sire: MBIF DC Lane All Fired Up, MC, LCX, FCH, GRC, ORC, TT
Dam: CH Lane’s Ahead Of Her Time, ROM
Date of Birth: April 26, 2013
Breeders: Elizabeth Lane, Lanya Hayden & Piper Hayden
Owners: Pam Whitley, Elizabeth Lane, and David Hurst

Lexi loves to lure course too, and took a major her first weekend out. We have been working on rally and agility as well; she has proven to be a well rounded hound and very willing to please. Her gentle temperament has served her well as she has greeted families for the past 3 years while representing Ridgebacks in the AKC “Meet the Breeds” ring at the Houston World Class Dog Shows.

Lexi is dearly loved and I am so proud to share this adventure with her. We have had Ridgebacks for over 22 years, but Lexi has certainly taken us to a new level. It is such an honor to be among this prestigious and distinguished group. We are so grateful for the wonderful friends and generous support we have received throughout this journey, but most of all to her breeder and my mentor, Elizabeth Lane, for this amazing girl.

In her leisure, Lexi spends her time lounging on the couch snuggled with the rest of the pack, if she is not stalking squirrels.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Armband</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>BISS BOSS DC GCH DC Toro’a Big Bang SC, TT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>GCHB JusticeRidge Starship Lionhunter, CGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>GCHG Uwanja’s RaAtum, JC, SC, CGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>BIS RBIS MBISS GCHG Diablo’s Back Alley Brawler, CGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>GCHB Pupukearidge Surfari King CGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>BIS GCHG Kimani’s Indelible Impression, JC</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>MBIS RBIS GCH Celtic Lore’s Moonlight And Magic, CGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>MBIS GCHP Spring Valley’s JoJo</td>
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<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>GCHS CJS Ranch Sundance Kid HPK-Tropaco</td>
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<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>NBISS GCH Kimani’s Visual Effects</td>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>BIS BISS GCH Robert Redford Of Malabo APD</td>
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<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>MBIS GCHG Courage Hilltop U Don’t Mess With Zohan Of Afrikka CGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>GCHS Juba Lee Desmond King of Diamonds, SC, CGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>BISS GCHS Shakaridge Major League MVP</td>
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<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>GCH Am/Can Shadowridge One n Only At Firedance, CGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>GCHS Lyonnese Master’s Blend by Kimani</td>
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<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>BISS GCHB Camelot’s Hazelnut Macchiato</td>
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<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>GCHS CJS Ranch The Oracle of Zeus HPK-Tropaco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>GCHG Kuba’s Call Of The Wild by Copperidge, SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>GCHS Azize’s Purle Heart, SC, FCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>BISS GCHG Mystiko &amp; Adili’s Unstoppable Reign CGC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>GCHB Juba Lee’s All Around Talk, BN, RN, CGC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>GCHB Lane’s Luxury Edition, CA, TT, SC</td>
</tr>
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RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK CLUB OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW

TOP TWENTY-FIVE EVENT RULES

A. THE EVENT
The Rhodesian Ridgeback Top Twenty-Five event will be a formal gathering of Rhodesian Ridgeback enthusiasts from all across the country.

B. THE INVITATIONS
The Top Twenty-Five Rhodesian Ridgebacks in the country per the AKC top twenty-five listing in breed points awarded the previous calendar year. These dogs have shown that they are the most consistently winning Ridgebacks for the past calendar year. All Top Twenty-Five owners will have a copy of the judging guidelines and rules sent to them with the official invitations.

C. THE ENTRY FEE
The entry fee for this incredible event has traditionally been $100 per dog.

D. THE TOP TWENTY-FIVE COMMITTEE
The Top Twenty-Five committee will be comprised of three individuals to address all the needs of this event. No Top Twenty-Five committee member shall have any conflicts of interest with any of the entered Top Twenty-Five participants. The qualifications of each member of the Top Twenty-Five committee shall follow the same criteria as for the judges qualifications. Top Twenty-Five committee shall have the responsibility of the following:

a. All communications regarding any and all discussions or the like are to be kept in the strictest of confidence between the three Top Twenty-Five committee members. No family members, friends, dog fancy or colleagues are to know who the judges are or may be. b. The three member committee will meet to discuss and list any and all possible judge selections that meet the Top Twenty-Five judges’ qualifications. Committee members will try to identify any and all conflicts of interest in regards to judges and Top Twenty-Five dogs. It is very important that the committee try to hire judges that may be in the area for shows or who may live close by. The Top Twenty-Five event is a very prestigious event and any payment for judges or expenses should be kept to a minimum. The committee member who is in charge of calling and hiring the three judges must ask the perspective judge if they know of any conflicts of interest noted in the judges qualifications. Committee members must mail Top Twenty-Five invitations to those dogs that qualify. Committee members will maintain arm band numbering in order that the entry has been received. Bitches may be listed in the back of the order. Arm band numbers from 1 to 25 will not be used in this event. Committee members must maintain equal ring procedures for all Top Twenty-Five participants. Committee members must make sure the Top Twenty-Five ring stewards understand the importance of equal ring procedures. One Committee member will maintain the catalog information with regard to the inclusion of the confidential judges. This person will have to send the judges’ information to the printer without the regular National show committee catalog person’s knowledge.

E. THE EVENT
The Top Twenty-Five events are a very unique and fun event for the dogs, handlers, owners, breeders and spectators alike. There will be 3 judges judging the entire competition at the same time. The ring steward will bring the dogs into the ring three at a time. Each dog will be evaluated in the stack and by movement in the same way and manner as all the other competitors. The judges will go over one dog at a time and then the judges will evaluate the movement of the dogs one at a time. The judges will judge each and every dog by following a point system using a predetermined set of criteria that mirrors the AKC Rhodesian Ridgeback Standard. Any judge who is in conflict with an entered dog can examine the dog, but their score will not be included; the scores from the remaining two judges will be tallied and averaged. Reasons for conflict include: handled the dog within the last year. Owner, co-owner, breeder or co-breeders of the exhibit sire or dam.

The rules for conflict will be published in the catalog. If there is a conflict rules will be stated at the beginning of the competition. Potential judges for the Top 25 will be advised of this rule at the time the invitation to judge is extended.

F. THE JUDGING GUIDELINES
Just prior to the judging all the handlers will meet with a Top Twenty-Five committee member to go over the rules, order of the event and answer all question and concerns and hand out arm bands. Every dog will be given the same ring instructions. No modifications will be allowed. All dogs will move around the ring and down and back in the same manner and the same amount of times as all the other entries.

G. ORDER INTO THE RING
The committee will place the order of dogs and bitches into the ring by arm band numbers, lowest to highest. Dogs may be first followed by bitches, only if all 3 the judges concur that this is their preference. Otherwise exhibits will be judged in order of armband number without regard to sex.

H. RING MANAGEMENT
Each of the 3 judges will have their own ring steward. There will be two additional ring stewards to help facilitate the order and management of the ring.

Three dogs will be allowed into the ring at one time in catalog order. Each dog individually will be asked to move around the ring only one time upon entry to the ring. Each dog will then move to one of three designated areas for stacked inspection. When all three dogs are stacked, the three judges will go over one dog individually (at this time each dog will be inspected by one judge for one minute) then the judges will move or switch to the next dog and so on. After all three dogs have been inspected by all three judges, the dogs will then get ready to move down and back individually in catalog order. The handlers will move the dogs individually down and back one time. At the finish of the down and back the dog will free stack in the middle of the ring. After the free stack the handler will be asked to move the dog individually, around the ring once then exit. At this time the judges have 30 seconds to finish the judges scoring sheet for that particular dog. The judges will then ask the next dog to move in the same manner and order as the previous dog. Once dogs have been judged the ring steward will escort them to a holding area and a new set of three dogs will be escorted to the ring. All the dogs will then be asked to come into the ring all together as a group for final viewing by the audience. They will go around together as a group and stack one last time.

I. MANAGEMENT OF THE JUDGES SCORING SHEETS
The Top Twenty-Five committee will hire a professional Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or engage two like professional or RRCUS accountants to handle the judges scoring sheets prior to judging (to make sure the sheets are all the same and clean) and after judging. The CPA or RRCUS accountants will also tabulate the scores and hold the winning dog confidential. After the scoring of the individual dog, each judge will hand the scoring sheet to their ring steward who will immediately hand it to the CPA or RRCUS accountants who will be at the judges’ table. No person will handle the scoring sheets except for the judges, their stewards, and the CPA or RRCUS accountants. The CPA or RRCUS accountants will collect all scoring sheets and make sure that they are complete and legible before the three dogs are removed from the ring. If the CPA or RRCUS accountants have a question on the legibility or completeness of the scoring sheet, they must ask the judge in question to complete the scoring sheet while the dog is still in the ring.
PHOTOS
The show photographer will be on hand following the event to take pictures of any dogs with all three judges present. This may be the only time that all three judges will be together for a show photo.

K. JUDGES SCORING SHEET, SCORING AND TABULATION
Using the AKC Standard of the Rhodesian Ridgeback as a template, the Top Twenty-Five committee will develop the Judges scoring sheet. The scoring sheet will contain the same elements and breakdown (mirror the standard) as the AKC standard. Each element will be given a maximum point allowance.

L. SCORING
The judges will evaluate each Rhodesian Ridgeback and give points up to the maximum allowed per element using judge's discretion and their knowledge of the AKC standard. The highest possible score of all elements totaled will be 100 points.

M. TABULATION
The CPA or RRCUS accountants will evaluate the completeness of the judges scoring sheets while the dog is still in the ring. After the event the CPA or RRCUS accountants will be the only person(s) to tally and total points. The scores from each dog, from each of the three judges, are tabulated, added together, then divided by three (3) to determine the dog's “Average Score.” The highest average score will be the winner.

N. IN CASE OF TIE
In the event of a tie, the winner is determined by consulting the “Average Placement” total. The dog with the highest “Average Placement” total is declared the winner. This figure (Average Placement) is used ONLY to break a tie, and is not included in tabulating the AVERAGE score. In the event that the “Average Placement” scores result in an additional tie, there will be two (2) winners.

O. THE JUDGES
Qualification we are looking for. Breed knowledge. AKC breed standard knowledge. AKC dog show knowledge. Judges must like our breed. No known conflicts of interest such as owners, breeders of record, handlers of any qualified Top Twenty-Five invitees. All judges must have shown a high degree of professionalism in judging, breeding or handling. All judges will have shown a great aptitude for the AKC Rhodesian Ridgebacks standard and breed knowledge. Only the committee will have knowledge of the judging panel prior to the time of judging.

The All-Breed Judge. The all-breed judge must be licensed by the AKC to judge the Rhodesian Ridgeback. A person who is licensed to judge multiple hounds, the hound group and at least one other group. A person who has shown great aptitude of the AKC Rhodesian Ridgebacks standard. These qualifications are in place to insure that the all-breed judge has been able to show that he or she enjoys judging and is increasing their knowledge of the sport of purebred dogs. A person who's accomplishments and professionalism would place them with good standings with the AKC as well as with RRCUS.

The Breeder Judge. The breeder judge must be a person who has been breeding Rhodesian Ridgebacks for a period of at least 10 years or more. A person who has bred at least 10 AKC Champions of record. A person who has shown great aptitude of the AKC Rhodesian Ridgebacks standard. A person who is in good standings with the AKC as well as with RRCUS.

The Handler Judge. The handler judge must be a person who has handled professionally for at least 10 years in AKC Conformation events. A person who has shown great aptitude for the AKC Rhodesian Ridgebacks standard and has shown that they understand the breed specifics of the origin of the Rhodesian Ridgeback. A person who shown that they enjoy and like our breed. A person who has shown great regard to the sport of pure bred dogs and is in good standings with the AKC as well as with RRCUS.

P. THE CATALOG
Judges. The catalog will list the judges’ name, qualifications and photo. It will also list some personal and fun facts about each judge (submitted by the judge).
2015 Top 25 People’s Choice Winner

Luna

MBIS RBIS GCH Celtic Lore’s Moonlight And Magic, CGC

Sire: BIS GCH Tajamani Kwetu’s Rust Too, ROM
Dam: CH TamLyn’s Sweet Celtic Siren, CGC, TDI, TT, HIC
Date of Birth: September 19, 2012
Breeders: Dawn Garbett
Owners: Dawn Garbett
GCH Appelgarth’s the Name’s Bond, CGC, HIC

Sire: GCH Rolling's Royal Topaz
Dam: Applegarth Rose of My Heart
Date of Birth: December 9, 2010
Breeders: Mary-Lynn Elliston
Owners: Katherine-Anne Schwartz and Piergiorgio Maseli
Thank You
Dawn Garbet
For your generous support of this event!