

Observations and thoughts on the 2014 German Bundessieger-Zuchtschau in Nuremberg

Louis Donald reports on the German Sieger Show held on the 5th - 7th September 2014

(Louis is a working dog judge, SV foreign list judge, breed surveyor and past President of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia for 20 years)



The Nazi party rallies held annually on this site were designed to impress the world with Germany's military might and the party's support of Hitler. For people who were alive before World War II started the name Nuremberg evokes images of the huge and spectacular Nazi rallies that were held there and baby boomers and the X generation will have seen these rallies on documentaries of the time.



The Albert Speer designed speaker's stand where Hitler and his entourage enthralled the masses. The handrail-enclosed area that can be seen in the upper middle foreground was where Hitler stood and gave his speeches

In 1934 Albert Speer was commissioned by Hitler to design a permanent stone structure for the party's rallies at the Zeppelinfeld. The brief was literally to create a mighty flight of stairs topped and enclosed by a long colonnade flanked on both ends by stone abutments. The structure that can be seen above was to have a length of thirteen hundred feet and a height of eighty feet and in the earliest days the viewing stand had a gigantic eagle mounted on top of it that had a wingspan of 100 feet.

The first rally at the Zeppelinfeld was in 1933 and contained 100,000 soldiers and a crowd of 340,000 spectators.

Knowing its history its very hard if not surreal to be standing in the middle of the field today watching a dog show.

Gail and I stayed at the Congress Hotel, which is a convenient 10 minute walk to the showgrounds and 5 minute taxi ride to the WUSV meeting we attended as the New Zealand delegates on the Monday. Yes we live in Australia but have the great pleasure of being the New Zealand WUSV delegates – it's a long story!

As tends to be the ritual for many overseas visitors Gail and I walked to the Stadium late Thursday afternoon to check out the grounds and meet people.

This is always a nice way to start the weekend as there are many people who drop in and this inevitably develops into an enjoyable social event with plenty of beer drinking and catching up with friends that have not been seen since last years show.



Melanie Groth, Gail Donald and Wendy Stephens

The weather forecast is always on everyone's mind of course and the various newspaper and TV forecasts being issued for the three days was constantly changing but the

Craig Rice, Hazel Docherty and Joan Docherty



Senior Santos, Yap Seng Teck and Dinky Santos

underlying forecast for all three days was rain which was bad news for everyone including me as the official Press reporter/photographer for 'Our Dogs UK'. And on that note I might just make the comment that it is not easy getting photographs of the dogs regardless of having a 'press pass' and as such the photos presented here are somewhat inconsistent and untouched as in not photoshopped.

Louis pictured with Terry and Lily Hannon



When I asked a number of locals on the Thursday what they thought the weather would be like fortunately their forecast was spot on, don't listen to the forecasters they don't know what they are talking about, the weather will be variable but on the whole it will be OK, and so it was for the three days.



The Zeppelinfeld



Retail stands

I have attended maybe 20 or more German Sieger Shows over the years starting with my first in 1971 and a report on the show would always commence with 'this is the largest single breed show in the world'.

That is still true but that title both from the context of entries and spectators is slowly slipping away as the Chinese dramatically increase their influence on the breed and right next door so do the Italians. Indeed if one was to determine the shows entry based on dogs of domicile the Italian and Chinese Sieger shows are larger but in total entries the German Sieger Show remains the largest breed show in the world – for now!

An analysis of past entries excluding LSH entries is interesting;

Stockcoat	2014	2013	2012	2011	1997
Gebrauchshundklasse					
Ruden	258	294	256	329	389
Hundinnen	239	260	262	262	315
Junghundklasse					
Ruden	171	188	220	212	275
Hundinnen	199	280	227	277	362
Jugendklasse					
Ruden	213	243	220	267	395
Hundinnen	308	318	310	341	491
Total SC	1388	1583	1495	1688	2252

What these statistics don't show is the rapidly reducing German domicile entry and increasing foreign domicile entry and this percentage shift is quite staggering.

At this show approximately half of the show dog entry came from countries outside Germany! In other words the total German domicile show entry this year for Stock Coats was in the region of 690 dogs. I have no idea what the proportion was in say 1997 but I would guess the German percentage back then would have been in the range of 70% - 80% and that would mean circa 1990 there would have been some 1600 German domicile dogs in the show.

Why has this happened? How could the most popular breed of dog in the world, in its country of origin, in its birthplace, right under the eye of the breeds inherent 'guardians' be sliding into such a profound hole?

My first thought was not to offer my thoughts on it, after all who am I, certainly not an anointed 'guardian' whose every word is treated as being gospel. But then who is offering public opinion? Not too many people, not publicly anyway!

So here is my opinion.

The easy one first, the one that politically won't cause any upset or indignant threats of retribution.

The cost of keeping and showing large breeds of dogs is becoming too prohibitive especially in Germany when you have to have a SCH or IPO degree. When added to up-keep and travel costs to shows the cost factor has seen the demise of many breeding kennels especially the large kennels that were once the backbone of the breed in Germany.

The next one is related to the general public's perception of the health and serviceability of the German Shepherd Dog.

Once upon a time the general public and many service dog organizations viewed the German Shepherd Dog as a dog that was inherently healthy and strong. They viewed the German Shepherd Dog as a superior breed of dog with highly developed working instincts and working dog characteristics, a functional reliable low maintenance sort of a dog whose whole reason for being was admirable.

That was once upon a time!

Now, not all but the majority of the general public and many service providers, not just those in Germany where the breed's development is forged but throughout the world see the German Shepherd as a breed that has changed dramatically, both anatomically and in its constitution and health and they see this as not being for the best.

Whether we like it or not the majority of the general public believe the breed was healthier and more functional 40 years ago than it is now. They hear of devastating crippling diseases such as hip dysplasia and elbow dysplasia and when they look at show dogs they see a dog that in their eyes has a curved back, is overangulated, who's hocks are

unbelievably unstable and walks with a shuffle. In their mind this is all related to the diseases of the hips and who knows what else and they can't see how such a dog could tirelessly work sheep all day never mind simply function at a basic level as a pet. They think why on earth would anyone want such a dog?

On the whole we in the breed turn our noses up at such comments, we treat the comments with indignation, what would they know is our retort, what do we care what they think, we are the experts on the breed not them. But the breeds future survival, the breeds popularity depends on "them", it always has and it always will, we are merely transient short term caretakers who on the whole blindly follow the 'leader caretakers', and putting aside our rhetoric we are determined that the course that has been set should continue.

Finally the political bit that will in some circles create great upset.

The breed was strongest in Germany when it was guided by the autocratic but respected hand of a President who judged the adult males at the Sieger Show. Each President including Captain von Stephanitz was both praised and criticised for the direction they took the breed but under that form of leadership the breed developed successfully for over 80 odd years. Under that form of leadership the path was clearly articulated and notwithstanding healthy differences of opinion and various levels of self interest the majority pulled in the same direction - for the betterment of the breed.

Whilst this analogy is totally over the top and in some respects inappropriate I could draw an analogy to what happened in Iraq with Saddam Hussain.

When he was taken out by the Americans all the factions that he kept under control and liking it or not [and most didn't] working in one direction split off into their own camps to develop and pursue their own agendas and to satisfy their own levels of greed and self interest and thereby their views on how things should be run. The removal of Saddam Hussain as Dictator created chaos and immediately after his demise each camp focused on developing their own power base, each camp set about undermining the other camps regardless of the sensibility of the other camps proposals or suggestions. They all went in different directions and to this day as hard as someone or some group tries to put the ship on a clear course that will benefit everyone their efforts are systematically and effectively undermined.

Finally and perhaps more to the point in regard to the shows we have the grass roots issues where the well intentioned and very naive Mr and Mrs Nobody who make up the majority of the show fraternity go to a show and right or wrong a great many conclude that the 'breed authorities, the experts with connections' get all the high placings with their dogs and regardless of how good they are told their dog is they often get low placings behind the 'experts with connections'. They hear all sorts of tales of judges reciprocal favours to each other and to their friends, they hear of payments to people to get a high place, of people in authority and or great influence making vast amounts of money from unscrupulous activities and they leave the sport and in doing so tell their friends and anyone else that wants to listen, what they saw and what they experienced. We know that most people who do not get as a high a place as they hoped for are unhappy to some degree, some are not but many are and this is because most went to the show not with false hope but simply expecting a fair go. We know from our experience of attending dog shows that a small number of exhibitors will be very vocal in their complaining, that they will look for conspiracy theories that are sometimes there but more often are not but at the same time we all know that because of money the sport has developed in recent years an element within it that is highly undesirable, an element that is motivated by financial greed and self interest and the worst part of this development in my opinion is that "this is now totally accepted" as being part of the GSD sport and newcomers to the breed quickly become aware of this and walk away disillusioned and in disgust.

So in closing, how do you fix it?

The facts are the general exhibitor even if they were game enough to consider saying something at an official

level, for reasons of fear of retribution against themselves or their dog/s don't, and the people who can fix it also say nothing because of fear of retribution not just as an exhibitor but as a judge, and where the absurd choice of Surveyor exists such as Australia, as a breed surveyor. This guarantees that things will not change and it won't change because self interest always wins over idealism.

Italy is setting a very good example and lessons can be learnt there but I hate being a pessimist so I will leave it there.

So with Thursday behind us we arrived at the show bright and early Friday morning for the first days judging starting first up with the courage/combative/protection instincts test for all adult dogs and bitches – TSB test which is done in the main arena.



Pacco vom Langenburgert

The test is based on a point rating system and the highest rating is **5.5**. To attain an excellent grading [first time] dogs must have a SCH I degree and get a score of 3 or better in both the attack out of a hiding place and defence from a lurk position 3.3 and the scores are determined as follows:

5 points: Reacts determined, directly, is energetic and conclusively shows an effective safe calm firm and full grip in all phases of the defence exercise and releases after the allowed command and shows powerful guard phases with very good hardness.

4 points: Reacts at once and conclusively, shows a good grip that is not completely full and or somewhat anxious in all phases of the defence exercises. Releases after the allowed command and shows good guard phases with good hardness.

3 points: Reacts a little hesitating, should show more speed and impact, slows down a little. Shows a short grip which should be clearly fuller and calmer, does one slip but grips again. Shows still good hardness. Releases after the allowed command and shows still good guard phases.

2 points: Reacts very hesitating, undetermined, breaks down, bites only hesitatingly or nearly standing, very short slack grip, very anxious weak and ineffective. Releases after the allowed command and should be more mindful and powerful in the guard phases.

1 point: Doesn't react, doesn't follow, doesn't bite, doesn't attack.

The TSB results for the top 40 show placed GHKR [open class males] was as follows with only four of them; Ballack von der Brucknerallee, Kronos vom Nürburgring, Mentos vom Osterberger-Land and Pacco vom Langenburgert receiving 5.5. For interest there were also 4 VA males last year with a 5.5 score, two of them being Ballack and Mentos and there was a total of 13 males with a 5.5 score this year compared to 25 last year in Kassel – a significant difference!

Figio vom Nordteich 4 3
Ballack von der Brucknerallee 5 5
Ficht vom Holtkämper Hof 3 3
Fred vom Rumbachtal 4 4
Jehu Primo Grande 3 3
Kronos v. Nürburgring 5 5
Mentos vom Osterberger-Land 5 5
Maffey vom Quartier Latin 3 3
Count-Ustinov v.d.Ybajo Hoeve 4 4



ARDEN GRANGE nutrition without compromise

- Atos aus Agrigento 4 4
- Basko della Real Favorita 3 3
- Willas vom Grafenbrunn 4 4
- Groovy di Casa Massarelli 3 3
- Ken vom Team Baierblick 3 3
- Sony dei Colli Storici 5 4
- Fulz di Zenevredo 3 3
- Omen v. Radhaus 4 5
- Quoran d' Ulmental 3 3
- Team Leiksaid Kapitan 4 4
- Tyson Fixfruta 4 4
- Turko de Gold Shark 3 4
- Wilco vom Murrthal 4 4
- Pacco vom Langenbunbert 5 5
- Arre vom Hühnegrab 3 3
- Kinan v. Yarek 3 3
- Iliano vom Fichtenschlag 4 4
- Pepe vom Kuckucksland 4 4
- Djambu vom Fichtenschlag 4 4
- Schumann von Tronje 3 3
- Sunyi vom Hühnegrab 3 3
- Dasty von Melanchthon 4 4
- Finn vom Zellwaldrand 5 4
- Saabat von Aurelius 4 4
- Yuri vom Osterberger-Land 4 5
- Team Marlboro Kashmir 4 4
- Yoker vom Pendler 4 4 X
- Memphis vom Solebrunnen 3 3
- Desperados vom Pendler 4 3
- Labo vom Schollweiher 4 5
- Pedro vom Langenbunbert 4 3

In the bitches, of the first 40 show placings only 2 bitches, VA graded Nelly von der Addingaste and the VII bitch Urania vom Messebau received 5.5

The difficulty factor and indeed the concern one would have in so far as a reasonable number of dogs achieving the optimum score is represented by the fact that out of the top 80 placed dogs and bitches, the cream of the breeding animals, only 6 stock coat dogs and bitches received 5.5

In addition to the protection tests initial standing assessments of all classes for stock hair and long stock hair commences on the Friday.

This is done in 7 rings and as the dogs may come into the ring as they wish throughout the day it is very difficult to know which ring to go to at any given time. In many respects Friday for spectators is a casual easy sort of a day catching up with old friends and by wandering from ring to ring taking pot luck at seeing a top dog.

For readers who may not be aware the show classes in Germany are as follows:

- Gebrauchshundklasse – dogs over 2 years with a working title minimum SCH I
- Junghundklasse – 12 to 18 months old
- Jugendklasse Ruden – 18 to 24 months old



At the rings in the Zeppelin Field

Judges for all classes was as follows;

- Gebrauchshundklasse Ruden – Lothar Quoll
 - Gebrauchshundklasse Hundinnen – Leonhard Schweikert
 - Junghundklasse Ruden – Helmut Buss
 - Junghundklasse Hundinnen – Albrecht Woerner
 - Jugendklasse Ruden – Hans – Peter Fetten
 - Jugendklasse Hundinnen – Dr Wolfgang Lauber
 - Long stock hair Ruden and Hundinnen – Wilfried Scheld
- Sunday is of course 'the big day' and the conclusion of judging of all classes and the presentation of the sires progeny groups, the latter being the highlight of the show.



Luciano Musolino (President, SAS, Italy) and Charlike (Allievamento Degli Achei)

Classes are not concluded to facilitate spectators and to a fair extent one must decide which class one wants to see conclude. Having said that the order I report on here is in the catalogue sequence and as such the first class is the Junghundklasse Ruden judged by Helmut Buss.

This class had an entry of 171 with 100 exhibited. A number of dogs entered do not attend the final placement day because the call out order posted on Friday evening which tells exhibitors what position the judge has initially placed their dog sees many dogs withdrawn. The process for withdrawing a dog that has commenced the show process including the protection tests is that the owner must get a veterinarians certificate stating that the dog is not well and pay a substantial withdraw fee. This certificate has to then be presented to the judge who inevitably accepts it without inspecting the dog. It appears that getting the vet's certificate is a 'no brainer' and as such most owners do this but some simply opt to accept the 6 month no show penalty.

I have limited the placings to 20 as historically this is about the future prospects cut off number. The abbreviation at the end of the dogs name is its country of domicile i.e. D is Germany, I is Italy etc. The sires of influence within

the class are quite spread out with Pacco doing quite well.

Cronos is very well constructed and impressive in both the stance and the walk. He looked the part and arguably he looked the winner but he is very mature for his age and he is large and he has all the characteristic features of a large heavy substantial dog. Whilst he is too deep in hind angulation I liked the 3rd dog Zorro vom La' Mirage but I have to say I really liked the 4th dog Marlo vom Baccara and would have had him in a higher position, but that comment is influenced by the fact that this is a breed show and a futuristic outlook is necessary in relation to males, especially young ones - time and fortune will tell.



SG4 Marlo von Baccara



SG5 Juwika Destroyer



SG6 Whillo vom Klostermoor



SG7 Nex vom Osterberger-Tal



SG1 Cronos del Seprio



SG2 Vaiko vom Suentelstein



SG3 Zorro vom La'Mirage

- SG 1 Cronos del Seprio –D x Remo
- SG 2 Vaiko vom Suentelstein Hinrich –D x Fred
- SG 3 Zorro vom La'Mirage –D x Saabat
- SG 4 Marlo von Baccara –D x Roy
- SG 5 Juwika Destroyer –DK x Wallaby
- SG 6 Whillo vom Klostermoor –D x Pacco
- SG 7 Nex vom Osterberger-Tal –D x Aslan T
- SG 8 Vac-Vagvölggyi Jenky –D x Yankee
- SG 9 Formann vom Schloß Rügland –D x Leo
- SG 10 Keule vom Holtkämper Hof –D x Pacco
- SG 11 Xentos von der Wilhelmswarte –D x Mentos
- SG 12 Thor von der Baiertalerstraße –D x Fulz
- SG 13 Vitali vom Kuckucksland –D x Yankee



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SG 14 Campari vom Haus Schwerzel –D x Labo
 SG 15 Romero von Bad-Boll –D x Enosch
 SG 16 Natan della Valcuvia –I x Landos
 SG 17 Ucar von Bad-Boll –D x Ober
 SG 18 Margman Taifun Raphael –D x Atos
 SG 19 Nick il Mercabah –D x Nando W
 SG 20 Heracles vom Christinen Brunnen –D x Yerom

Sieger Supplement 2014

The Junghundlasse Hundinnen class was judged by Albrecht Woerner and had an entry of 199 with 135 exhibited.

With a nice win for Mentos in direct sire terms Enosch also featured well in the placings. Also of note was that the countries that these winners came from were quite diverse.

SG 1 Beauty vom Drei Birkenzwinger –D x Mentos
 SG 2 Hilanda Clos d'Azieu –F x Yndios
 SG 3 Cheyenne vom Hühnegrab –D x Sam G
 SG 4 Maus v. Santamar –B x Leo
 SG 5 Isia du Val D'Anzin –F x Yankee
 SG 6 Paris di Casa Massarelli –I x Quark
 SG 7 Jamma von der Bärenschlucht –D x Medici
 SG 8 Rafinia von Bad-Boll –D x Enosch
 SG 9 Folie della Valle dei Rovi –D x Nando W
 SG 10 Vixen av Quants –DK x Fred
 SG 11 Alaska vom Kuckucksland –D x Remo
 SG 12 Mel v. Haus Trendy –UA x Schumann
 SG 13 Icequeen vom Frankengold –D x Nelsen F
 SG 14 Onda della Valcuvia –I x Labo
 SG 15 Zaira No Bartas Krasta –LV x Dasty M
 SG 16 Holina du Val D'Anzin –F x Remo

SG 17 Vanessa di Ca'San Marco ignola –I x Enosch
 SG 18 Quanta-Opal v.d.Ybajo Hoeve –NL x Pacco
 SG 19 Witch Veracruz Michaela –D x Enosch
 SG 20 Cleo von der Brucknerallee –B x Pacco

The Jugendklasse Ruden class judged by Hans-Peter Fetten had an entry of 213 with 111 dogs exhibited. I noted that 6 of the top 20 dogs came from Italy.

A good result for Omen/Opus/ Remo

SG 1 Willy vom Kuckucksland –EF x Opus
 SG 2 Newton vom Frankengold –NL x Atos
 SG 3 Enko dei Murolo –I x Landos
 SG 4 Gary vom Hühnegrab –D x Omen
 SG 5 Bad Boll Super Agent –D x Kronos
 SG 6 Macho vom Lamorak –D x Fulz
 SG 7 Tyson v. Team Panoniansee –RS x Tyson F
 SG 8 Athos v. Dossel Jinfei –CN x Dux Int
 SG 9 Pep vom Hanneß –D x Chacco
 SG 10 Janko von Momax –D x Omen
 SG 11 Faust vom Hülsbach –D x Pacco
 SG 12 Elkan dell Isolotto –I x Renzo H
 SG 13 Eon di Casa Nobili –I x Count Ustinov
 SG 14 Hagadahls Sanchez –D x Schumann
 SG 15 Iliano du Val D'Anzin –F x Iliano
 SG 16 Frodo della Valle d'Itria –I x Geros
 SG 17 Johnny di Ca'San Marco –I x Remo
 SG 18 Ken v. Haus Unid –I x Schumann
 SG 19 Willis von Melanchthon –D x Kashmir TM
 SG 20 Netzer von Aducht –D x Ballack

Dr Wolfgang Lauber judged the Jugendklasse Hundinnen class with 308 entries and 176 exhibited. This class featured Ballack, Labo, Nando vom Welsetal a Remo son and Jhay do Mhuramel who is also a very lovely Remo son. A strong Remo class that when overlaid to the other young dog classes certainly contributes to cementing Remo as 'the outstanding producer'.

Continued on page 10



SG1 Beauty vom Drei Birkenzwinger



SG2 Hilanda Clos d'Azieu



SG1 Willy vom Kuckucksland



SG3 Cheyenne vom Hühnegrab



SG2 Newton vom Frankengold



SG1 Uschi vom Valtenberg



SG4 Maus v. Santamar



SG3 Enko dei Murolo



SG2 Lexa von Carrara Roland



SG5 Isia du Val D'Anzin



SG4 Gary vom Hühnegrab



SG3 Ilary degli Achei



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Continued from page 6

- SG 1 Uschi vom Valtenberg –B x Ballack
- SG 2 Lexa von Carrara Roland –D x Jhay
- SG 3 Ilary degli Achei –D x Assus
- SG 4 Viola von der Zenteiche –D x Leo
- SG 5 Ronda il Mercabah –I x Nando W
- SG 6 Page di Casa Massarelli –I x Ballack
- SG 7 Nelly di Zenevredo –I x Nando W
- SG 8 Gamba vom Hühnegrab –D x Omen
- SG 9 Queen della Valcuvia –I x Landos
- SG 10 Cindy Crawford de Los Madriles –D x Ballack
- SG 11 Shakyra von der Burgmühle –D x Schumann
- SG 12 Lara Clark Jiri –CZ x Omen
- SG 13 Ilda de Naphil –F x Labo
- SG 14 Fellice vom Hülsbach –D x Pacco
- SG 15 Gipsy vom kleinen Zauberberg Hilla –D x Jhay
- SG 16 Petra v. Pizzorusso –D x Labo
- SG 17 Moana degli Achei –I x ?
- SG 18 Lia Gim Goran –HR x Labo
- SG 19 Santana von der Burgmühle –D x Schumann
- SG 20 Wendy vom Bad-Boll –D x Kronos

The Gebrauchshundklasse Ruden had 258 entries with 119 exhibited. 59 were retired with veterinary certificates! The most successful VA direct sire was Remo with Ober, Vegas and Furbo more influential indirectly.

Whilst I have not allocated a place number I have shown the VA dogs order of placement as those 13 dogs finished at the end of the judging of the class. Last year I showed this order of merit placement and also the order of catalogue, which represents the official result i.e. all VA dogs being equal in merit, but I see no point in doing this as it is meaningless and for the vast majority of people they are simply not interested. The judge has placed the dogs in order of performance just like they want him to do it, everyone has seen him do it, this is what they all want and to then mix them up via catalogue order because this will somehow cause people to see each VA dog as being equal makes no sense to me at all. I understand the principle of this, to open up the bloodline base by giving each VA dog equal value. For example Fred vom Rumbachtal the last VA dog in the VA group may be far more valuable in breeding terms than the first placed VA dog Mentos vom Osterberger-Land 'depending on who he is mated to' but this is fundamental to breeding and its understood by breeders and this very basic principle only needs to be reinforced in the judges show notes. In my mind mixing them up as a group especially when these dogs have a maximum annual stud limit achieves nothing other than creating confusion and bemusement.

Placed 3rd last year behind Omen and whilst I had never pictured Mentos being a German



Mentos vom Osterberger-Land



Omen vom Radhaus



Labo vom Schollweiher



Iliano vom Fichtenschlag



Ballack von der Brucknerallee



Saabat vom Aurelius



Fulz di Zenevredo



Yoker vom Pendler

Sieger he looked the best he has ever looked in my opinion and what I like about him is that he has been a slow but consistent maturing dog and this consistency applies to his character and protection work. He is a nicely balanced honest dog that is free of exaggeration.

Omen a Remo son who was the placed at the head of the VA group last year is a good sized dog and looked good but to my mind he performed better last year in the fast gaiting, he did not look as fresh and vital as last year but still a lovely dog who looked the part.

Labo an Arex son and youth Sieger of 2011 is a larger dog than the others in front and placed 4th last year is always a consistent performer and he looked as good as ever.

Iliano another Remo son and a dog of just over medium size who was placed 11th last year had a big leg up this year but he is not my cup of tea, he is a lovely dog of course, very glamorous and energetic but for me a bit too deep in chest and not strong enough in the foreface.

Ballack, 8th last year is always lovely to see. He is a powerful, strong, substantial, masculine dog but he always runs a bit flat over the wither.

Saabat, an Ober son was up six places on last year and was in much better coat than last year, a bit of an issue with his pasterns my only comment really is that his hind angulation thankfully is not nearly as deep as it is shown in his professional photographs.

Fulz a Furbo son was placed a little higher than last year and looked as good as he always does. Like Ballack he is a masculine, energetic, substantial, powerful and impressive dog. He is a like Saabat in the pasterns and is a little steep in the croup.

Yoker is a large Lennox son who will no doubt



Kronos vom Nurburging



Pacco vom Langenbungert



Schumann vom Tronje



Fred vom Rumbachtal

on performance I would have had Groovy vom Massarelli over him but he was last years poster boy and given the small place margin its neither here nor there – is it?



Atos aus Agrigento



Arre vom Huhnegrab

throw size looked really good. He has an issue with the pasterns too but he is a really nice masculine substantial dog.

Kronos is a well proportioned, strongly pigmented, hard, dry, no nonsense dog with a slightly short croup. He is an effective and enduring dog in movement and whilst this is admirable he is not the most attractive of dogs. He was well up on last year and like his father impresses mostly as a no nonsense working dog.

Pacco another Remo son up from V4 last year looked well although I felt he moved better last year. Like his LSH brother Pedro he is a tough dog that I admire not just for his structure but his spirit.

Schumann V6 last year is a good sized nicely balanced unexaggerated dog sired by Dux de Interacina who is a Ray son in my opinion did not perform in the gaiting nearly as well as he is capable of and I would hope he performs better next year.

Fred is a well coloured glamorous dog and he looked good but for me he is too deep behind and it reflects in his hind movement, if you like that 'style' of dog he gives a lovely impression standing.

Atos, a Paer son I liked and would have put him a little higher, he performed well.

Arre missed out on a VA. He pulls the crowds like there is no tomorrow but to me he looked a little soft in condition. Based



Open Dog class - Mentos leading



VA Mentos vom Osterberger-Land



VA Omen v. Radhaus



VA Labo vom Schollweiher



VA Iliano vom Fichtenschlag

VA - Mentos vom Osterberger-Land -I
x Nando v Gollerweiher
VA - Omen v. Radhaus -TW x Remo
VA - Labo vom Schollweiher -D x Arex
VA - Iliano vom Fichtenschlag -D x Remo



VA Ballack von der Brucknerallee



VA Saabat von Aurelius



VA Fulz di Zenevredo



VA Yoker vom Pendler



VA Pacco vom Langenbunbert

VA - Ballack von der Brucknerallee - B
x Hagadahs Figo
VA - Saabat von Aurelius -A x Ober
VA - Fulz di Zenevredo -D x Furbo
VA - Yoker vom Pendler -D x Lennox
VA - Kronos v. Nürburgring -D x Enosch



VA Schumann von Tronje



VA Atos aus Agrigento



VA Fred vom Rumbachtal

- VA - Pacco vom Langenbunbert -D x Remo
- VA - Schumann von Tronje -D x Dux - Ray
- VA - Atos aus Agrigento -JP x Paer - Quenn
- VA Fred vom Rumbachtal -D x Yerom
- V 1 Arre vom Hühnegrab - EC x Lennox
- V 2 Sunyi vom Hühnegrab - D x Dux
- V 3 Quoran d' Ulmental Daniele -I x Baru
- V 4 Groovy di Casa Massarelli -I x Vegas
- V 5 Djambo vom Fichtenschlag -D x Iliano
- V 6 Yuri vom Osterberger-Land -D x Mentos
- V 7 Team Marlboro Kashmir -D x Gucy
- V 8 Pepe vom Kuckucksland -D x Fulz
- V 9 Memphis vom Solebrunnen -D x Wallaby
- V 10 Finn vom Zellwaldrand -D x Yester
- V 11 Figo vom Nordteich -D x Remo
- V 12 Desperados vom Pendler -JP x Atos
- V 13 Kinan v. Yarek Budiman Salihin Wetter -D x Yerom
- V 14 Willas vom Grafenbrunn -I x Tyson
- V 15 Sony dei Colli Storic -I x Furbo
- V 16 Turko de Gold Shark Silvia Olalla Batan Veiga Teo - E x Furbo
- V 17 Ken vom Team Baierblick Toni Strelow Gehaus -D x Quattro
- V 18 Tyson Fixfrutta Zlatko Ravlic -HR x Vegas

The Stock Coat Gebrauchshundklasse Hundinnen class had 239 entries with only 86 finally exhibited! Besides having a very strong impact throughout the whole class indeed the whole show, 5 of the 16 VA's came from Italy. This is an extraordinary achievement and one that will continue as Italy bucks the trend in Europe and continues to rise in its breed popularity.

A number of people commented that it was a better class than last year, with such a large number of VA's, two up on last year that may support such a comment, it was very good but in my opinion it was not quite as good as last year



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and maybe that was because Faya was not there leading the class. As with the dogs I have placed the VA bitches in order of judging merit not in catalogue order and if I have no support for the males being shuffled around I certainly have zero for the bitches, to me doing this with the bitches is a complete waste of time.

One point I would make is that there has been much chest beating and rhetoric about fixing the problem of overangulation of the hindquarters and whilst I can say I saw some evidence of this in the Gebrauchshundklasse Ruden I saw absolutely no evidence of it in this class, indeed it was to the contrary!



VA Zara vom Pendler



VA Walery vom Grafenbrunn



VA Rauba v. Ropal



VA Oililly von der Piste Trophe

- VA - Zara vom Pendler -D x Paer
- VA - Walery vom Grafenbrunn -D x Tyson
- VA - Rauba v. Ropal -I x Vegas
- VA - Oililly von der Piste Trophe -D x Gucy
- VA - Nelly von der Addingaste -ID x Xero W
- VA - Georgia du Val D'Anzin -B x Remo
- VA - Haiti du Val D'Anzin -F x Fulz



VA Nelly von der Addingaste



VA Georgia du Val D'Anzin



VA Haiti du Val D'Anzin



VA Ellen di Casa Nobili



VA Brenda del Frutteto

- VA - Ellen di Casa Nobili -I x Enosch
- VA - Brenda del Frutteto -D x Paer
- VA - Cristal di Casa Massarelli -I x Gin F



VA Cristal di Casa Massarelli



VA Chanel von der Elfenbeinschlucht



VA Ayda vom Roten Feldweg



VA Monica degli Achei

- VA - Chanel von der Elfenbeinschlucht -D x Shicco
- VA - Ayda vom Roten Feldweg -D x Fritz K
- VA - Monica degli Achei -I x Vegas
- VA - Yava von Aurelius -D x Wallaby
- VA - Lory d' Ulmental Daniele -I x Omen
- VA - Gracia von der Jahnhöhe -D x Remo
- V 1 Queenie von Melanchthon -D x Fulz
- V 2 Chiwa vom Haus Iskander -D x chacco
- V 3 Ester di Casa Nobili -D x Enosch
- V 4 Prisca von Bad-Boll-CA x Elim O
- V 5 Damina vom Fichtenschlag -D x Iliano
- V 6 Zoe von der Burg Reichenstein -D x Luca W
- V 7 Ulzana vom Heinrichplatz -D x Wegas F
- V 8 Idanja vom Holtkämper Hof -D x Zett H
- V 9 Quenny von der Rochele-Ranch -RU x Zamp
- V 10 Wimpy Feetback -D x Wallaby
- V 11 Urania vom Messebau -D x Miro Z
- V 12 Wiva vom Zellwaldrand -US x Ettoo



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Sieger Supplement 2014

Pedro vom Langenbunbert, who is Pacco's brother, and was Sieger last year is a lovely dog in all respects and VI Hatchi du Domaine de Sanctae Crucis is a Mentos son.



VA Lory d' Ulmental



VA Gracia von der Jahnhöhe

- V 13 Xana vom Leithawald-A x Chacco
- V 14 Pedra del Caiatino-I x Landos
- V 15 Tosca d' Ulmental-D x Cobra
- V 16 Velia vom Messebau-D x H Figo
- V 17 Kuma von der Bärenschlucht-D x Farus
- V 18 Cira vom Eichenplatz-D x Luca W

In the LSH classes I have decided not to give such great detail mainly because the depth of quality of the LSH does not warrant it. This comment will no doubt have arms thrown in the air from LSH enthusiasts but that reflects the facts of the matter and represents a 'huge challenge' for LSH enthusiasts especially outside Germany. There were a very small number of very good LSH animals and they were the obvious winners.

In the GHKR class there were 31 entries with 22 exhibited and for me there were two very lovely dogs and they were the two top placed dogs. One the winner that was graded VA.



VA Pedro vom Langenbunbert



VI Hatchi du Domaine de Sanctae Crucis

- VA Pedro vom Langenbunbert - CH
- V 1 Hatchi du Domaine de Sanctae Crucis - F
- V 2 Dexter vom Fichtenschlag - D
- V 3 Orbit von Pallas Athene - D
- V 4 Theo vom Fichtenschlag - D
- V 5 Bellamie vom Praester - D
- V 6 Pan-Tau von Modithor - D
- V 7 Diaz von Veterinaria - D
- V 8 Zeus vom Lüttersbruch - D
- V 9 Helios de l'Albanais - F
- V 10 Grisu vom Frankengold - PL

In the GHKH there were 19 entries, 12 exhibited and the VA bitch Ruby von der Piratenschlucht whilst not an outstanding bitch in the context of her grading was still far ahead of anything else in the class and this pretty well sums up LSH bitches.



VA Ruby von der Piratenschlucht

- VA Ruby von der Piratenschlucht - D
- V 1 Rewyrs Hedwig - N
- V 2 Zypresse von der Werther-Mühle - D
- V 3 Beate von der Brucknerallee - D
- V 4 Zara v. Schäferhof - CH
- V 5 Bella vom Schaumbergerland - D
- V 6 Nikita v. Equus - PL
- V 7 Venja vom Haus Trojahn - D
- V 8 Nera fom Irin Hof - RU
- V 9 Pepsy vom Wellental - D
- V 10 Berit Atonika - CZ

LSH Junghund Ruden had 13 exhibits in the class

- SG 1 Jackson vom Zisawinkel - D
- SG 2 Woody vom Köttersbusch - D
- SG 3 Playboy von Rapicar - D
- SG 4 Esko Mavic Poland - SK
- SG 5 Dart vom Team Holzkämper - D
- SG 6 Wamos vom Haus-Gilice - H

LSH Jugend Ruden - 19 were exhibited in this class and the winner a Yankee v Feuermelder son was the standout by a huge margin. I tried unsuccessfully to buy him for a friend In Australia.



VA Pedro vom Langenbunbert



SG2 Eloi vom Trompetersprung

- SG 1 Yankee vom Haus Cerba - D
- SG 2 Eloi vom Trompetersprung - PL
- SG 3 Shirkan von der Piratenschlucht - D
- SG 4 Miracle v. Shepherdland - GR
- SG 5 Joseph vom Finnewald - D
- SG 6 Astro - I

LSH Junghund Hundinnen had 14 exhibited in the class



SG1 Meggy vom Wierlings Hook

- SG 1 Meggy vom Wierlings - D
- SG 2 Quanti av Zynken - N
- SG 3 Vikki av Quantos - DK
- SG 4 Hannah vom Heidknapp - D
- SG 5 Team Bulle Hof - RU
- SG 6 Nira v.h. Boombos - NL

LSH Jugend Hundinnen had 32 exhibits being the largest LSH class



SG1 Alexa von der Klosterpforte

- SG 1 Alexa von der Klosterpforte - D
- SG 2 Yoplaya vom Lärchenhain - D
- SG 3 Yuma vom Grafenbrunn - D
- SG 4 Anneliese vom Holzkämper - D
- SG 5 Tinta vom Fichtenschlag - D
- SG 6 Buffy von Arkadius - D

The Breeder Groups are always a great visual display and no less this year with 26 teams entered and no surprise when Marco Oßmann's Fichtenschlag team won. The rules require groups must have a minimum of 4 and maximum of 5 dogs of one coat type and all must be exhibited.

Breeders group placings:

- 1st vom Fichtenschlag
- Marco Oßmann - D



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Breeders Team Winner – Team Fichtenschlag



Lothar Quoll



LSH Team winner Mavic Poland



Remo vom Fichtenschlag

2nd du Val D'Anzin
3rd vom Holtkämper Hof
4th d' Ulmental Daniele
5th vom Suentelstein
6th di Casa Massarelli
7th vom Hühnegrab
8th Team Marlboro
9th vom Eichenplatz

Eric Trentenaere - F
Jörg Niedergassel - D
Francioni Montecatini - I
Hinrich Müller - D
Libero Massarelli - I
Heinz Scheerer - D
Peter Frost - DK
Lutz Wischalla - D

The sires progeny groups are always a great event and this year had 34 sires entered with a progeny group. 26 were exhibited this year as opposed to 24 last year. The shortfall of entry to presentation comes about when a sire can't muster up the required minimum of 15 progeny. Only one LSH group was presented and this was from Dexter vom Fichtenschlag.

The Sire Groups come into the main stadium in an order that is determined by the number of progeny they have i.e. least first and largest last and of course logically this leads to the most popular and one assumes most beneficial sires being toward the end of the event and in doing so it creates a great upswelling of applause.

This event has lost some of its edge over the years in so far as it once determined what dogs received a VA and in truth this has been watered down over recent years.

Always nice to see dogs of significance leading their class and the treat this year was seeing Remo who looked terrific.

Nando vom Welsetal

Nando is a Remo son that had a small but nice typey group of dogs presented. They were on the large side with lovely colour. Many were a bit short in the croup and a little short in the upperarm. A nice one was Ronda il Mercabah.

Atos aus Agrigento

Not a large group but some nice ones in there such as the young dog 'Newton vom Frankengold'. They were sire typical, enjoy running, quite a few deep in hind angulation, clear sex differences, nice body proportions, well pigmented with dark eyes and many had the usual issues of a slightly short croup and short upperarm. A nice group.

Ober vom Bad Boll

Whilst the group was a bit mixed in quality they were well pigmented and typey to Ober in most respects. Some very good males in the group. All the progeny were strongly pigmented, good withers and clean backlines and very energetic but as with Atos the usual shortcomings of croup length and upperarm angle.

Granitt vom Osterberger – Tal

A Fulz son I found the group to be quite mixed in their anatomy, some a bit stretched and with quite a few steep croups.

Chacco von der Freiheit Westerholt

Quite a nice group all typey to Chacco and strong colour. Males looked like males. On the whole good moving progeny, the majority were a bit steep in the croup and the usual upperarm issues with a number a deep in hind angulation and loose hocks.

Saabat vom Aurelias

Whilst there were a few nice ones there I felt the group was a bit mixed and whilst they had nice color and showed

a good desire to run a few too many had a restriction in the croup. I noticed quite a few should be firmer in the pasterns and a number deep in hind angulation.

Kronos vom Nurburgring

I could see the influence of Ober and Enosch quite strongly in the group. Lovely strength and colour, good sex differentiation with a strong desire to run. A number of nice ones in there with quite a few with a slightly short upperarm and short steep croup. Producing better than himself and showing the long term gain of Ober.

Mentos vom Osterberger – Land

This was a good group with some lovely ones such as the cracker of a bitch Beauty vom Drei Birkenzwinger. Still as a group a bit mixed, generally large, quite a few stretched in build but the sire's influence was apparent. A few too deep in hind angulation and the croups on the whole were well angled but like a number of upperarms a number were a bit short.

Nino vom Tronje

I thought the group was better last year. Typey to the sire, nice moving animals on the whole but a bit mixed and nothing really hitting me in the eye. The usual issues of the upperarm and croups steep.

Yoker vom Pendlar

Not really an inspiring group for me, well pigmented and sire typical, strong males, quite a few large ones and a few nice ones too but not a great deal of consistency, but many are young so its early times.

Landos vom Quartier Latin

A bit mixed as a group and a number quite stretched in build with the usual upperarm and croup issues. Good withers, some were a bit too deep in hind angulation. I really did like a son of his Enko dei Murolo, he stood out in the group like a beacon.

Fred vom Rumbachtal

You could see the sire in the progeny and nice sex difference with strong colour and nice heads. Very nice toplines. A number were deep in hindquarter and a bit loose in the hocks, a tendency to a stretched body and a bit short in the croup. Vaiko vom Suentelstein Hinrich was a very nice son of his that has a good future.

Figo vom Nordteich

I like Figo but the group was a bit inconsistent for me. The type a bit mixed. The usual issues of short upperarm and croup through the group.

Sunyi vom Hühnegrab

Nice sex differentiation and nice strength in the males. The group was mixed, too many a bit loose for me and a number of them showed slightly soft ears and croups that should be longer.

Enosch vom Amasis

Strong similarity to the father and strong pigmented progeny. Bit of a mixed group anatomically, energetic, good body proportions and good bone with restrictions in the length and lay of the croup with a number short in upperarm and short in underchest. I liked the young typey bitch from him Rafinia vom Bad-Boll

Iliano vom Fichtenschlag

Lovely colour and very showy progeny with quite a few

that are stretched in body and too deep in hind angulation with loose hocks and a number like the sire should be stronger in the foreface. A number moved with a slight curve to the backline and a number were a little short in upperarm and a little steep in croup.

Fulz di Zenevredo

Nice sex differences with very good colour and stretched build. Very good bone, good proportions and a number were deep behind. Mixed results in regard to the croup length and lay, the progeny enjoy running but a number are weak in the pasterns and have the usual impediment issue with regard the upperarm angle.

Ballack v d Brucknerallee

The progeny reflected the sires strength and substance with clear sex differences. The group as a whole was mixed but there were some nice ones such as Uschi vom Valtenberg. They all enjoyed moving however there were level wither issues and many showed a restriction in the upperarm and croup length.

Labo v d Schollweiher

A very well pigmented group sire typical that was a bit mixed. A number were too deep in hind angulation and showed a restriction in the length and lay of the croup and length of the upperarm.

Yankee v d Feuermelder

A large group of progeny that showed the fathers type and very good sex differences. I would have liked to see the group less mixed and many showed a slightly short slightly steep upperarm and the same in regard to the croup. Many tended to curve over the topline in movement, were deep in hind angulation with pasterns and hocks that should be much firmer.

Pacco v d Langenburgert

A nice group for me with some nice animals within it. Typical of the sire, nice strength and great willingness to run. Many a bit too angulated in hindquarter, rich pigmentation, dark eyes and a good number of nice progeny. The size was a bit mixed, nice forehands on the whole with a few that had the usual croup restriction.

Leo v d Zenteiche

Sire typical, nice body proportions with very good strength, lovely bone and expressions with a clear willingness to run and quite a few really nice animals in the group such as the young bitches Viola von der Zenteiche and Maus vom Santamar. Most showed a good forehead, very good proportions, a few short in upperarm and croup, very good sex differences with a number showing a slightly short croup and upperarm. A shame Leo damaged a vertebrae in his spine as he would have done very well this year.

Omen vom Radhaus

Very sire typical with very good size and sex differences. Lovely colour although some a little light in eye and ears a little low set like the sire. I expected to see a few more top progeny than I saw but having said that there were a few nice ones such as Gary vom Hühnegrab. The group as a whole had very good bone and body proportions. Like too many sires quite a number of the progeny were a bit deep in hind angulation and were loose in hocks, short and steep in the croup and a little short in the upperarm.

Remo vom Fichtenschlag

The best group of the show for me by quite a margin and to be honest still the best dog in the show. The group was very typey to the sire, well proportioned, good withers, well pigmented, very good size and clean overline, generally very good croup formation, good underchests, very good forehead construction, generally very good hind angulation but a number a bit deep behind too, steep pigment, a few a bit steep in the croup. Cronos del Seprio obviously carried the young dog flag but there were plenty of others of course such as Omen v. Radhaus, Iliano vom Fichtenschlag, Pacco vom Langenburgert, Georgia du Val D'Anzin and Gracia von der Jahnhöhe. Overall a consistent well above the average progeny group with many top quality animals within the group. Lovely, convincing.

Schumann vom Tronje

Interestingly the largest group in the show. Sire typical with very good sex differences and good body proportions. Good willingness to run, good pigment, I would have liked to see more top animals in the group and for the group as a whole to be more consistent in its construction. Quite a number showed a slightly short upperarm and slightly short slightly steep croup.

So that's my report on the show. My thanks to my photographer friends Olga, Aldo and Steve who supplemented a few photos that I could not take. I hope this report has been of interest especially to those people who could not attend the show.