

## It's Been Quite an Adventure Member Profile

*By Marianne O'Leary*



Marianne & Rosie hunting pheasants on Dry Creek in 2009

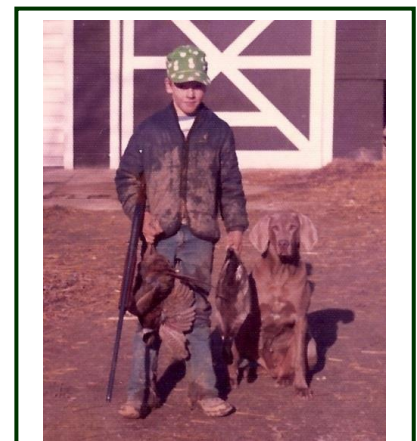
I must confess I inherited my love for hunting from my mother. Oh yes, my father hunted but mom loved it. They hunted everything from elk, deer, geese, pheasants, and ducks. In the 60's and early 70's, they hunted mostly pheasants on our ranch in Lowden Washington.

I can remember this scenario playing out many times in the 60's when I was in elementary school. My mother would be sitting at the end of the lane in her car (she drove a Cadillac) with her .410 single-shot resting on the open window of the car. She was waiting for my sister and me to get off the school bus. As soon as we were off

the bus she would shout, "Hurry girls there are birds in the field, we don't want them to get away!" Mind you, we were in our school uniforms and dress shoes. So we hurried into the back seat of the car and we were off. Sometimes the pheasants were in the brush right close to the road but then there would be times they were out in the field. So out thru the field we would go in the Cadillac, in those days she considered it her SUV, in pursuit of the wildly pheasant.

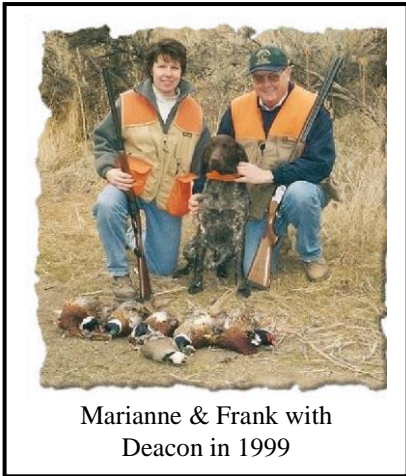
As we approached the birds mom would drive slowly up to them. In those days, the birds would hold. Then, she would shoot as soon as the bird left the ground or maybe before they left the ground, she wasn't particular. Bottom line, she never missed. Now this is where my sister and I would come into the picture. Our job was to jump out, in our uniforms and dress shoes grab the bird, ring its neck then back to the car and then home we went with dinner in hand. This is how we hunted. We had never seen or even heard of bird dogs.

In 1973, my younger brother, who was ten at the time, was given a Weimaraner, "Marty". Marty was the old style, stocky and not what you would call beautiful. But she was a wonderful hunter and companion to my brother. At the same time, Frank, my husband to be, moved to Walla Walla and started hunting with my brother. Frank had always hunted with GSP's and had a nice female. To the Buckley family (my maiden name), having two bird dogs that could actually hunt was a huge learning curve. After watching the dogs hunt together, I was hooked.



John Buckley & Marty with a duck and pheasant in 1973 at the Buckley Ranch

Time passed, Frank and my brother hunted all the time but I was off to business school. Then after my education was completed we married and our interest moved toward other hobbies.



Marianne & Frank with  
Deacon in 1999

It was not until 1998 when we sold our place in the country and moved to town that we discovered both of us had a lot of spare time. We wanted to stay connected to the outdoors so we decided to start bird hunting again. Frank found a kennel in Washington state that sold GPS's and we bought a very nice young male. At that point of time we were again bitten by the "Hunting Bug." A year or so later we bought a young female from the same kennel, and she was to be mine. Several years passed and we decided to buy a pup to replace one of the older dogs. We went back to the same kennel we bought the two dogs from and found that the kennel owner had changed his focus. He was interested in showing dogs rather than producing good hunting dogs. So we decided to look elsewhere. After looking for over a year at different kennels throughout the Northwest and searching the internet we had found nothing that satisfied us. Then, by sheer accident, I found the German DKV website. With that discovery we started our new adventure.

I happened to find Dr. Albert Lemmer, the breeder of the Osterberg kennel, so we called him. Dr. Lemmer's English was excellent and we could communicate without any obstacles. We thought we were on our way to buying a puppy from Germany. However, to our dismay Dr. Lemmer was very nice but said he would not sell a puppy to the United States. For six straight weeks, Frank called Dr. Lemmer every Sunday and visited with him about his dogs and the German testing system. Finally Dr. Lemmer asked Frank a question, "what color of a dog do you want?" Frank's reply was "I don't care what color the dog is, I want to buy your best hunting dog!" Dr. Lemmer said, "That is the right answer, good dogs have no color! I will sell you a puppy, but you must come to Germany and pick it up!"



Marianne hunting in the fog with  
Atlanta - CRP in Lowden in 2006

In the summer of 2005 we left for Germany and brought home two lovely 10 week old pups. Ussa vom Osterberg from Dr. Lemmer and Atlanta vom Hege-Hof, from Christian Plange, Frau Stramann's son who was now the person in charge of Hege-Haus (renamed Hege-Hof by DKV rule due to Frau Stramann's death). Both females returned to Germany in January of 2006 for their education. After the VGP we sold Ussa to a man in Holland. In 2007, Atlanta was recognized as the top dog at the IKP and was presented the Klaus Keifer Award.

Atlanta, who received her KS title in 2008, and her mother Rosemarie KS vom Hege-Haus, who we purchased in the fall of 2005, became the foundation of our kennel, vom Trocken Bach.

All in all we have been able to visit Germany thirteen times in the last 16 years. We have also been very fortunate having had numerous dogs successfully educated in Germany. With the outcome of their education we have had three IKP and 13 Kleemann dogs.



Marianne (sunglasses) with  
Birgitta Hofstetter & Indy KS  
vom Trocken Bach at the 2014  
Kleemann Zuchtschau

I never imagined back in those Fall days, when I was a little girl riding in the back seat of my mother's car that I would be where I am now. This has been an experience of a lifetime. We have been blessed with the friends we have made, the countries we have visited, and the famous DK's we have observe in both testing and hunting settings. It has been an experience beyond my wildest dreams.

## *In conclusion*

Frank and I have been blessed with the friendship of so many wonderful people around the world along with, we feel, some outstanding DK dogs. Below you will see our two foundation females and a few of their offspring. All of our dogs have held a special place in my heart and I look forward to upcoming puppies, tests and breeding's.



*Rosemarie KS vom Hege-Haus  
2001 - 2014*

*A few of Rosie's off spring*





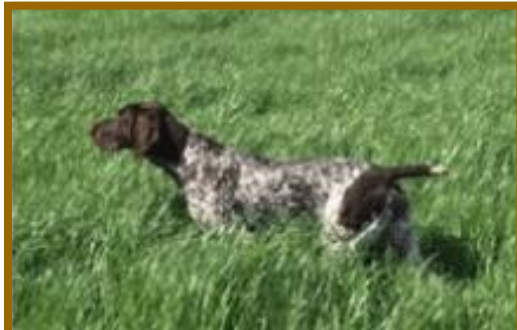
*Atlanta KS vom Hege-Hof X Dagobert  
Daughter of Rosemarie*



*Dakota KS vom Trocken Bach x Quick Step  
Daughter of Rosemarie*



*Bessi KS vom Trocken Bach x Eberhard  
Daughter of Atlanta*



*Maggie KS vom Trocken Bach x Darwin  
Daughter of Dakota  
Granddaughter of Rosemarie*



*Indy KS vom Trocken Bach x Darwin  
Daughter of Atlanta  
Granddaughter of Rosemarie*



*Wren vom Trocken Bach x Etzel  
(17 months old)  
Son of Maggie  
Grandson of Dakota  
Great Grandson of Rosemarie*



**Claudia KS vom Hege Haus  
2004 - 2015**

*A few of Claudis's offsprings*



**Graci KS vom Trocken Bach x Quick Step  
Daughter of Claudia**



**Sadie vom Trocken Bach x Cuno  
Daughter of Gracie  
Granddaughter of Claudia**



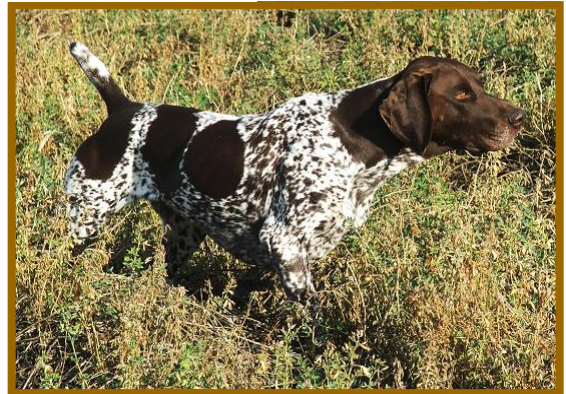
**Xhey vom Trocken Bach x Darwin  
(13 weeks old)  
Daughter of Sadie  
Granddaughter of Gracie  
Great Granddaughter of Claudia**



**And our beautiful “Boy”  
who we lost in December 2020**



*Darwin KS vom Hege-Hof  
2008 - 2020*



*It's Been Quite an Adventure  
and I would do it all over again*