

Ungaro's Adventure

by Scott Jacob

At the 2020 Dr. Kleemann Prüfung there will be not less than five dogs owned by members of the DKGNA. In each of the next four newsletters one of the dogs and their owners will be featured.



Ungaro vom Trocken Bach

In the Summer of 2018, my nephew, Tyler Smith introduced me to a young male up in Walla Walla, Washington that he highly recommended to consider adding to our kennel. I was somewhat knowledgeable with regards to reviewing the German pedigrees (Ahnentafel) of kennel lines. I became fascinated as a boy of 14 years of age looking at the Wasserschling kennels back in 1986 and the von der Stolzen Au (House of the Proud) kennels in 2005. However, when I investigated this young male, Ungaro vom Trocken Bach, I was thoroughly impressed. After approval from my better part, Tyler and I were privileged to acquire Ungaro from Frank O'Leary. With Ungaro's bloodlines I

wondered and had to ask several people is this young male capable to become a Kleemann Sieger (KS) sire? The replies were all correct of course in that "it depends." The answer was fair and true, and I realized we will have to see if he is a sire that can become eligible. I knew Axel vom Wasserschling back in the 1940's never got the opportunity to test in the Kleemann due to the war and was unable to for different reasons. Furthermore, I had never witnessed a Kleemann exam. Tyler and I realized we need to at least try and someday go watch dogs around the world test in the Dr. Kleemann Zuchtausleseprüfung (Breeding Elite Exam).

During the next 7 weeks, Tyler offered to train Maui (call name for Ungaro-my wife's family is from Hawaii). Tyler spent relentless hours with help from Daenon Scott, retraining Maui in English from German commands, force fetching, and training exclusively for the Solms/Zuchtchau tests. On test day I was not allowed to watch and not distract Maui. Maui is a buddy-type dog and loves people. However, it was great to receive a text from Tyler letting me know he earned the first requirement to be eligible to enter the Kleemann. I was very impressed and proud of Tyler's accomplishments in such a short time. On top of that Maui was awarded the highest scoring SOLMS dog in U.S. for 2018 with the





NADKC. Over the course of the next 6 months, Maui enjoyed the comforts of hunting 116 pheasants, retrieving some across the valley mountains (seen in the photo) and as far as a mile away. I noticed his nose was like a vacuum collecting all the scents and leaving no game left for amateurs. While getting the opportunity to hunt over Maui, he reminded me of Beir's Evolution's fieldwork (national field champion who was purchased by 3 Idaho doctors). After the hunting season, Maui was due to get his hip x-rays done. We were in a rush and Tyler took him to a different clinic called, Timpanogos Vet clinic, as I was traveling. The x-rays went well, and I was taken aback by the veterinarian's comments: "Thank you for letting us examine a very fine

animal." I had never received a compliment from a vet like that before and was grateful for getting a chance to own Maui with Tyler. A month later through Frank's acquaintance I was introduced to Thorsten Bäte, who was willing to train Maui for the VGP test. I planned a trip to Germany in May 2019.

I had a wonderful first visit to Germany visiting a new friend (Thorsten) and Leader for Ungaro (Maui) to continue his training and performance in Germany for the next 15 months. As a field engineer for Zeiss, I travel frequently, but mostly far Westward through the Pacific to Saipan, American Samoa, Guam, and Japan. Going East to Europe was a new exciting experience. Despite some delays that were painful we made to it Frankfurt, Germany and made our Northern trek North on the Autobahn to Bondelum (a small town near Husum). My rental SUV was ironically a Ford with a 6-speed. Next time I will check for an automatic because driving a 6 speed on the autobahn is interesting with the various speed limit changes. The Ford SUV would shake going any faster than 120 km and didn't seem safe, whereas the Mercedes Benz seemed to drive with ease. A lot of "Benz" didn't like my American style of driving it seemed. Luckily, I learned on the road that exits with a solid white line making two lanes doesn't mean you can drive in either lane as the left lane is actually for oncoming traffic. At least in Germany they drive on the right side of the road.



Bondelum is 90 minutes Northwest of Hamburg and 50 km from the border of Denmark. My friend, Thorsten, works for the German Navy as an EOD officer. He lived and trained out in Virginia for removal of Explosive devices for several years and learned English then. It was fun for him to speak in English as we spent the weekend at his home allowing Ungaro to get accommodated with his new surroundings.

Thorsten and his wife, Natalie, love helping dog trainers. They planned out getting DKs originally, but with certain hunting restrictions where Thorsten wanted to hunt at required him to acquire the Small Munster lander breed. Thorsten and Natalie have fallen in love with the breed and love to discover how and what the dogs are thinking. When I first arrived, I came during his 2nd puppy-training session for the day. Natalie told me of the various owners and breeds that were there. It was amazing to see in person the actual training with his 5-month-old Small Munster lander pup. I noticed that unique sounds that echoed in the German language helped the dog listen and obey with ease. Having the ability to speak Japanese fluently made me realize how the German language has simple sounds that are easy to train and communicate with a dog. Simple things like pointing a fox tail on a fishing rod and using a one-syllable to release the pup to catch the tail was amazing. Moreover, after the catch, Thorsten was able to use the fishing pole to guide the pup back to simulate a retrieve while praising the puppy. Simple things like this help communicate

properly with the puppy. I later found he used a simple German whistle to easily train the dog to “whoa” with the long end creating a stutter noise. I realized the dog easily recognizes the sound to stop or lay down (accepted with German rules). The short end of the whistle was to communicate direction and to come back. Very simple. Very direct. I was dumbfounded by how difficult I have tried to train via the English-language/field trail pros/books/etc; and only to realize there is a simpler way to train just by watching Thorsten.



Puppy training with 1-drahthaar
1-Stoberhund 3-pudelpointers
1-longhair
1- black DK
1- munsterlander



Thorsten has opened my eyes in ways that I never realized and wished I could have made a trip to Germany 30 years earlier. One difference that I liked is that his specialized training to avoiding harsh discipline on the dog and focusing on what is the dog thinking. By analyzing what the dog is thinking, Thorsten is trying to introduce to the dog a better way to work together as a dog and companion. He has found great success with it. Ungaro is a reward-based dog achiever and loves to super-excel in his performances. Thorsten is excited to work with Ungaro to see how he performs.

Before I left I had the pleasure to be taken to Husum and visit various shops. One shop in particular was an ice cream shop from Italy that specialized in deserts. I couldn't resist despite my keto diet and chose to eat a waffle with caramelized ice cream. I enjoyed every bite. I didn't take pictures, but they also made other spectacular deserts

like ice cream made from Italian dishes of Pasta, Lasagna, etc. I really wanted to try all



of them. Another cool item they had were beach baskets. Beach baskets would fold up when not used, great for couples, and provided adequate shade for wind/sun/shade.

I realized in Germany they didn't sell Diet sodas (most likely due to the aspartame), but zero calorie sodas similar to a diet coke. They tasted okay, but you can't have everything. One last cool thing that I enjoyed were their buggies, horse trailers and little cars pulling the horse trailers. I had never believed anyone would be foolish enough to use a little car to pull two horses! I saw one pulling two horses with the buggy in front of an elongated horse trailer (small SUV as the car). However, I realized these cars were diesel, hence, the towing power.

I found one of a local favorite that gas stations offer to customers is called Leberkaswecken (sandwich meatloaf). It doesn't sound great in English, but it looked good. I found out from my German Zeiss colleagues that it is very delicious! I saw one customer just requested the meatloaf 3" thick with two 3" slices of bread sliced open with nothing else. Next time I am there I will have to try. Also, I found out the Germans love bottled carbonated water (mineral water). Most avoid regular plain water and just drink mineral water. I kept buying the wrong type (mineral water) and really had search high and low for just bottled water, lol. Quick tip I learned from one of my German colleagues: if you are unsure if its carbonated or natural water, just squeeze the bottle. The mineral carbonated water will be firm, air-tight due to the carbonation. Whereas,



the natural bottle water will give-in a little to your hand pressure. I really wanted to laugh at the simple things.

I noticed several places had these basket benches that opened-up and closed-up when necessary. The benches provided a great way for shade/cover from the elements and great to socialize and drink their beverages.

I am excited to return to Germany and spend more time there as a vacation to enjoy the experience next year. It will give me more time to practice up on my German I once learned in high school for three years.



Thorsten & Ungaro at VGP

In November 2019, Maui and Thorsten received a prize 1 score in the VGP. We wanted Maui to achieve the VGP in Germany to prove to us and everybody else that he can test in the most stringent circumstances. During his test though Thorsten was “sweating” as he sent Maui along his Hare track and independent forest drive. After about 8-9 minutes Maui did not return. Thorsten began to worry as this is unusual for Maui to take so long. Thorsten was wondering did he go bury it? Did Maui take off to eat it? After the long delay, Maui returned with the hare perfectly. Upon discovery at the end of the day, the back judge watching Maui (and other dogs find the hare and report what they do after they find the hare) told Thorsten that Maui scented him out after picking up the hare and sat

proudly in front to the judge waiting for the judge to take the hare. After about 8 minutes of waiting, Maui decided, “well, this guy doesn’t want the hare, maybe Thorsten will want it and then returned to Thorsten. The score was lower due to the delay, but nonetheless, Maui didn’t drop the hare and returned it perfectly unharmed despite the mix-up. Thorsten was very pleased with his retrieval of two foxes in the fox hole.



After a few weeks of rest Maui was invited on a goose hunt. He was able to enjoy his training efforts by retrieving geese along with Thorsten’s trusted companion (Small Munsterlander).



Last month on December 19th, Maui completed his final requirement (VBR test) by working and retrieving a wounded hare on a 1200 yard track from a drive hunt. This 2020 year will be eventful as I will be in Germany in May for Zeiss training on microscopes and looking at other great dogs at the

Kleemann in October.