

Testimonial 9/21/2014

Shining Star German Shorthair Pointers

Dog Trainer: Ed Kerr

Jack was a 2013 Christmas gift from my son Matt and was my first German shorthaired pointer. We took him on his first hunt in late December and he was a natural. He scented his first bird from 30 yards, pointed for a second then flushed the bird. By his third bird Jack holding on point longer and playfully retrieving the bird back to me; however, after the sixth bird he gave me a look that said "I've got this hunting thing figured out and I don't need to listen to my master anymore!" I knew right then that Jack would be a great dog but would require a skilled trainer to bring out the best in him. In May, after careful research of dog trainers, my wife and I selected Ed Kerr of Shining Star German Shorthairs Pointers. We made arrangements to have Jack stay with Ed and his wife Emily; and in mid-June of this year Jack started his eight weeks of "boot camp"! Jack had shown us that he had good hunting potential and we felt with Ed's assistance Jack would quickly master his obedience and pointing skills.

My wife was reluctant to leave her "little boy" for such a long time; however, Ed made sure to keep in touch with us through emails, text messages, and phone calls, giving both of us updates on Jack's progress. He also welcomed our visits during the eight weeks of training. Jack's training ended in early August and Ed returned to us the same happy, loving pet we left in his care with one big exception. Jack was a different dog in terms of obedience! He now understood and followed my commands to heel, whoa, come, and retrieve! I was amazed that a dog could be transformed in such a short time. My son and I took Jack hunting the weekend after we picked him up at Ed's and in less than an hour in the field Jack had pointed and retrieved to hand eight pheasants. He repeated this remarkable feat the next weekend when I hunted alongside a 3 year old Brittany. While my friend's dog came on point for the first bird, Jack followed by pointing the next seven! After witnessing the speed with which Jack was progressing, we decided to enter Jack in AKC Hunting Tests. Jack didn't disappoint as he easily completed the requirements for Junior Hunter by the end of August. Having scored an 8+ average in each of the four tests we are now excited about getting Jack ready for his Master Hunter Tests next year.

Jack just turned one year old, and Ed has suggested we let Jack enjoy hunting with us this fall so he can mature and we can enjoy watching him turn from a puppy to a full-out hunting machine! We have happily taken his recommendation and are taking Jack to the fields on a weekly basis. My hunting friends are all complementing me on Jack's performance and obedience in the field. They especially like that Jack retrieves all birds to hand!

Ed has never steered us in the wrong direction, and in our opinion, you just can't go wrong with placing your dog in Ed's care for dog training!

Sincerely,

Dan and Coral Murray, Schaumburg, IL