

July 2014

Dear Ed and Emily,

I wanted to thank you for a wonderful dog and all the help and training you have done with Gypsy.

My wife and I started looking for a hunting dog back in March 2013. I made a few calls to local breeders to see if they had any litters coming up without much luck. I even asked one of them if I could come see their kennel, I was surprised to hear "no" they did not allow visitors. Then after talking to a number of folks who had GSP one of them recommended Shining Star GSP so I contacted you to see if you had a litter coming up. When I called, you were very helpful with information and answered all my questions. When I asked about coming to see your dogs, you instantly said when would you like to come out.

The first time we met Ed and Emily they had a litter of puppies that were only a few weeks old. Unfortunately they were all spoken for, but our main purpose was to meet Ed and Emily and see their dogs before committing to buying one. We saw how well cared for their dogs were and they were very well trained. I asked a lot of questions on how he trains his dogs and his techniques. Also what options he offers for training. We were interested in a puppy and wanted to have her properly trained too. We put money down on a female pick in the next litter right away. Unfortunately the next litter did not have enough females to get to our pick. We had to put our puppy hopes on hold and get a pick in the next litter. We were confident that it did not matter what litter she would come from. All his dogs are top notch and we would get a great dog in the end. This whole time we wanted to surprise our boys with buying a hunting dog.

Our day finally came in September with a litter from Cricket and Binks. We told the boys we were stopping to see a friend of ours. The look on the boy's faces was priceless when they saw the Shining Star GSP sign out front when we pulled in. We all went in and were amazed at the puppies. Over the next few weeks we made a few trips to see the puppies as they developed. Ed and Emily encouraged us to come as often as we wanted so we could get to know the puppies more and see their personalities as they develop.

It was a hard pick to make, but we finally picked one who we named Gypsy and took her home. We signed her up for Ed's two week training class for when she turns 16 weeks old right away. When she came home after the training, we could see that she really got a good start at being a great hunting dog and good behavior. Ed showed us what she had learned and how we needed to keep working with her. We were so happy with the results, we signed her up for Ed's eight week training course.

While she was at Ed's for the 8 weeks of training he gave us updates on her progress and explained how she was coming along on meeting the goals he set up for her. We came out to see her about half way thru the training. Ed showed us her progress with the training. He was very honest and open about Gypsy's strength and weakness and how he had to work with her personality to get the results needed. Also what his plan was for her in the next part of the field training. Ed explained the process of the training and how next week would really show us what kind of hunting dog she was going to be. We got a call from Ed a few days later and he said "she hunts". She has a great nose for birds and is very smart in the field. She picked up on pointing birds right away. Ed spent the next few weeks working on her field skills. We appreciated how Ed kept us informed on Gypsy's progress during the 8 weeks of training.

