

## Whirry Family Testimonial

We first contacted Shining Star GSP along with 2 other breeders back in 2012 in hopes of finding a stud dog to breed our black GSP Caliber (Rolling Acres Caliber Von Jager). Out of the three Ed was the only one who called me back and boy are we glad. Ed agreed to meet us right away as our female was just starting her heat cycle. We packed her up for the truck ride over to meet with Ed & Emily. Ed's knowledge of the GSP line is extensive. He immediately recognized multiple dogs on Caliber's pedigree and told us a lot of things we didn't know. Ed like what he saw and so did we, so it was settled and our partnership began.

We initially arranged to have Caliber bred to Binks. Caliber is a very strong willed GSP who apparently decided that she will not stand for any stud. We spoke with Ed and it was agreed that he would take Caliber and Binks to the Pet Village to have Caliber inseminated, however, after a bad experience, Binks decided not to participate. Ed stuck to the deal and worked it out for Caliber to be bred to Jedi instead. He took Binks home, brought in Jedi and they got the job done.

In January 2013 we arranged for Caliber to Ed's house to whelp her puppies. After all of Ed & Emily's hard work, Caliber whelped 4 beautiful Jedi puppies. There were 2 liver roan males, 1 black roan male and 1 black roan female. 2 days after the puppies were born we picked them up to bring them all home. Their tails were already docked and dew claws removed. Ed provided us with a lot of information on how to work with the puppies going forward and also detailed information for Jedi. Ed helped us find homes for a couple of the puppies and he also talked to some potential buyers who had some questions about Jedi. With his help we were able to sell all of the puppies rather quickly. This was our first ever experience with dog breeding and we could not have asked for anything more.



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After hearing excellent feedback from the puppy owners from the first litter, we decided to arrange one last breeding with Caliber and Jedi. This time we didn't mess around. Caliber went straight to pet Village to be inseminated. Again, we took Caliber to Ed's to have the puppies whelped, except this time we had to call them at 4:00 AM on a Sunday as Caliber was in labor. They didn't have the whelping box ready yet as they were not expecting us until Monday. Ed and Emily happily woke up and got the whelping box ready while Caliber was on her way. For those of you who don't know, Ed & Emily ask for an x-ray so we know what to expect. The x-ray that we got could only verify 7 puppies. Caliber started dropping puppies at 11:00 AM. 11 puppies and 11 hours later, it was finally time for everyone to rest. Caliber whelped 3 liver roan males, 3 black roan males, 4 liver roan females and 1 black roan female.



We were very worried about finding homes for 11 puppies. We started work right away. We knew that we were taking first pick of the females so that took us down to 10. I talked with Ed while the puppies were still at his house and he really started to admire some of the males and before the pack came home, we had arranged pick of the litter for males in exchange for some training for our female. We now were down to 9 puppies to sell. We had our puppies posted on [www.puppyfind.com](http://www.puppyfind.com) from the day that we took Caliber to be bred. As soon as we knew exactly how many we had we posted them and they all sold very quickly. We ended up having to turn down buyers as we ran out of puppies.

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From the second litter we chose Puppy #11, a beautiful liver roan female who we named Blaze (Rolling Acres Blazing Saddles Von Jager). Ed selected Puppy #10, a handsome black roan male who they named Anakin (Shining Star Anakin Skywalker). These two puppies attended Ed's puppy class together and also his advanced class. Blaze's super sweet personality gave Ed a little bit of grief in the training department, but Ed adjusted his methods to meet her needs and the result is an amazing crowd pleaser. She is super sweet, but she loves her job on the hunt and does it well. Anakin on the other hand takes more after his mother in that he is extremely intense and tough as nails. While Blaze enjoys the hunt, Anakin needs the hunt. Anakin completed his NAVHDA Natural Ability test in May 2015 with a score of 110 for a Prize 1. (Someone wanted to keep hunting). Blaze completed her NAVHDA Natural Ability test in June 2015 with a perfect score of 112 for a Prize 1.



We could not be more pleased with the way Blaze turned out. Her sweet and easy going personality is absolutely perfect in our household as she lives with her two best friends, our 3 year old daughter Evelyn and our 2 year old son Drake. Caliber is not often interested in affection or playing with the kids. Blaze on the other hand is constantly at their side playing with or sleeping by them. She absolutely adores "her" kids.

We are currently planning to have Blaze bred next February with Ed's "Shining Star The Empire Strikes Black MH".

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