

Happy Holidays!

December 2000

We made it through Y2K. We're about to begin a new millennium. We have a President. What more could Roger Pyles want for Christmas?



Why break from a five year old tradition? Let's start with a picture of my students. This year we took our picture with Hermán Wells (middle front row), the man who, from 1938 to 1962, transformed Indiana University into the academic and research institution that continues today. No commercial intended

My travels took me to Baja California, Mexico this year, to celebrate Bill Kenney's birthday. Bill and Cathy are good long-time friends from San Diego. Bill invited his family and favorite friends... that's me.

We stayed 10 days at Martin Verdugo's Hotel in Los Barriles, just 60 minutes north of Cabo San Lucas, on the gulf side. Martin and his family are close friends of the Kenney family.



The whole group: Bill, Sheila & Angie - beh incl Bill's hand) Kathy, Jim, Christopher, Jonathan, Cathy, and me.



Sunrise on the Sea of Cortez

trip was when the village came together and gave Bill a birthday party. They roasted a pig. A lex made his prize winning margaritas. The village birthday serenade was truly a moving experience. It was supposed to be Bill's 65th birthday party. Problem was: he forgot it was only his 64th birthday. Guess we'll just have to try it again next year.



Of course we went fishing! On our first trip out, Kathy, Angela, Bill and I caught over 500 pounds of tuna in 2 1/2 hours! See their picture below. It was much harder for me to catch a tuna than to catch a marlin.





What's happening on the canine front?

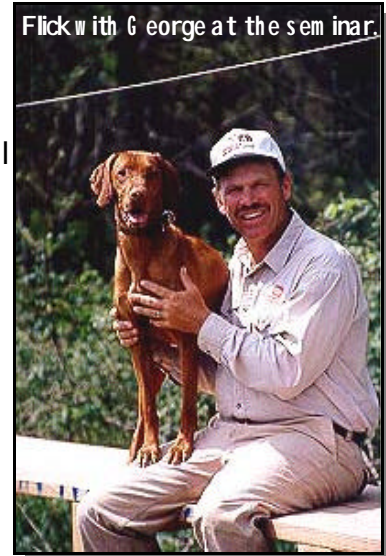


Totem celebrates her 14th birthday on 26 December 2000. I can't believe it. It seems like I just picked her up yesterday.



The big news is: Flick finally got off the porch and ran with the big dogs!

After failing three years of "bird dog camp", we attended a George Hickox seminar in May. I learned how to train and handle him in the field. Using the principles we learned in the seminar, we trained daily throughout the summer and fall. In October, I entered him in the club field trial just to get an idea how our training had progressed. I was definitely pleased. He placed 4th in Open Gun Dog. This win qualifies him to run in the Vizsla Club National Field Trial next year. I was so happy. The following week he was entered in a hunt test and earned his first (of four) legs for a Senior Hunter title.



Flick with George at the seminar.



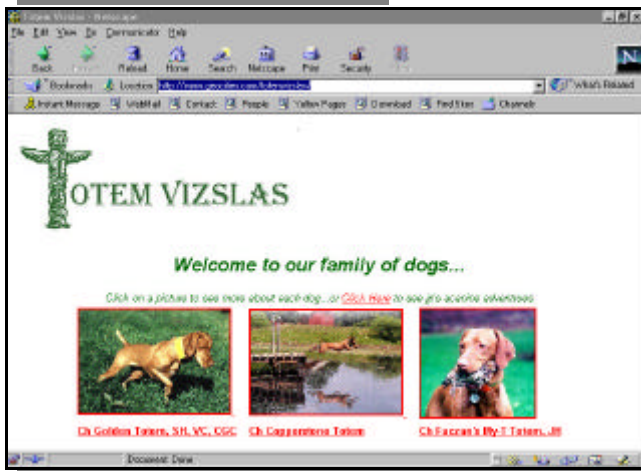
Wynona, Flick, and I at a field trial

We are now ready to do some more field trials. We have a tent camper to sleep in. I also found "Wynona", a horse that I can look straight in the eye.

Our hunting trip this year was just as successful as the fishing trip. No, we did not get 500 pounds of pheasant. Just seven of them. We had some fun for Thanksgiving.



Our tent camper at a field trial in Ohio



Totem and Flick finally have a web page. You can visit them at

<http://www.geocities.com/totemvizslas/>

Have a great holiday, everyone.

... .jp