



*the VIZSLA CLUB of AMERICA, Inc.*

## **Outstanding Sportsmanship Award**

In 2006 the American Kennel Club established the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award Program in an effort to recognize and celebrate its volunteer club members. Each member club is provided with an AKC Medallion to award to one of its own on a yearly basis.

This award honors those individuals who deserve special recognition that have made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embodied the AKC Code of Sportsmanship, and have been an active and valued member of an AKC member club.

The Vizsla Club of America (VCA) has recognized the following individuals with this honor:

2009 Chauncy Smith

2011 Roy Sanford

### **Criteria**

- Must be a VCA member in good standing.
- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge's placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.

- Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.

### **Nominations**

Please submit nominations for the individual you feel embodies an Outstanding Sportsman to the Corresponding Secretary prior to April 1<sup>st</sup> with a bio and photograph of the nominee. Bio's will be distributed to board members for review and an e-ballot will be sent out with a return deadline of April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. The Recording Secretary will keep the results of the ballot in confidence until the National Specialty when the honoree will be announced at the banquet.