

An Angel Among Us.

This liver girl took the cake – and the show



BEST OF BREED – Czech Club Rhodesian Ridgeback Specialty BISS JCH SK CZ NW CH. HILLVALLEY'S ANGEL FOR LUANDA

Call Name: Ani
Sire: Cheyenne of Ka-Ul-Lis Ridges, CD
Dam: ICh. Ch G, EW04 Ozrhode Wild Inspiration
Breeder: Kathrin Sonnenberg
Owner/Handler: Milada Krchnava,
Slovak Republic , Luanda Kennel,
www.lady-ridgeback.sk

We have been waiting for Ani for quite a long time, and we were overjoyed when she was born. We love her character and temperament; she is a very obedient and clever girl. She does everything I ask her to do.

In some countries where we had entered Ani in shows, we realized several judges didn't know that a brown nose is a "normal" Ridgeback color. I was worried before each show about what the judges might say about her nose color, but Ani was constantly awarded top placements, starting from the puppy classes.

Needless to say, to win the Specialty was unbelievable. We knew there was very tough competition -- some top ridgebacks from the Czech Republic and neighboring countries were entered -- so I thought it was almost



impossible! It was very emotional for me, after five years with Ridgebacks, to earn the biggest success we have had in showing so far. Special thanks to Alicia Hanna-Mohr and Frank DePaulo for Ani's first BISS.

Ani is a real Angel, just as her name says. She is always thinking of fun and wagging her tail. Ani loves to be cuddled, and want to be with us anywhere and everywhere. She has her favorite place for playing in the water, which she just loves. She also likes to go to obedience class and do agility.

Ani has never damaged anything in the house -- she likes to sleep on the sofa in all positions, always touching someone as closely as possible. She is also very gentle with other animals. In the spring, when we found a little wild baby rabbit, she was really sweet to it. Though she has very good hunting skills, this baby rabbit became her special friend!

Ani is our heart healer. She was exactly what we needed after we lost our previous Ridgeback girl, who we missed so much. Ani is always next to us, trying to understand everything we say, and she always seems to let us know how much she loves us. She is our true love, and we keep her as our treasure.

We never dreamed we would have such a lovely, intelligent and successful Ridgeback girl, so she is a source of never-ending joy to us. We are thankful to her breeder Kathrin for giving us the opportunity to have her.

A Word from the Breeder.

**Kathrin Sonnenberg, Neustadt, Germany
Hillvalley Kennel - www.africanpride.de**

Tell us about the litter you had in which seven of the 10 puppies were liver. The litter was whelped September 16, 2005 -- my very first one! The proud parents are "Gianni," Cheyenne of Ka-Ul-Li's Ridges CD (a livernose bred in Austria), and "Diva," Ch Ozrhode Wild Inspiration (bred in Australia).

Originally, I had decided on an Australian-related dog as the sire-to-be, but this plan didn't work out for various reasons. Then I remembered a very handsome chap whose picture I had seen some months before -- he was extremely well put together, with a really interesting pedigree. I also knew some of his offspring, who clearly displayed some of his best features.

But ... he was a livernose, just like the sire of my girl "Diva." So it was clear to me that if we used him, we would end up with some liver-nosed puppies. Being a first-time breeder, I was a bit worried that I might not find enough good homes for all of them, since liver noses are hard to

find in Germany. As a result, people - including judges - are not used to their "look."

After a bit of consideration, I contacted his owners, and received details and a videotape. Gianni was truly a sight, and I knew it was a very good decision to use him. I also showed the video to potential puppy owners and ... almost everyone liked the idea of getting a brown-nosed Ridgeback! I was surprised and happy to see that my worries were in vain.

The litter itself consisted of 10 pups -- seven livers and three blacknosed. It was no surprise to have livers, but the number was a bit high. I had inquiries for show prospects -- a boy and a girl. At 5 or 6 weeks of age, it became clear that "Ani" was the standout pup among the girls, and it stayed that way until she was picked up by her new owners, Milada and Tom.

Milada put a lot of love and work into this lovely little girl, and soon started showing her. Before long, Ani was awarded several class wins and easily finished her Czech and Slovak Junior Championships. As soon as Ani competed

in "adult" classes, she started collecting points toward all kinds of titles. So far she has been awarded Czech and Slovak Club Championship titles, 2007 Slovak National Winner, 2007 slub winner of RR-Sport-Club, 2007 Club winner of the Czech Rhodesian Ridgeback Club and, most recently, BISS. Now she is storming toward her International, Hungarian, Czech and Slovak national titles ...

The male show prospect was "Bhanu," aka Dual BISS Hillvalley's African Bhanu Zulu -- you already guessed it, a liver nose. Just like his litter sister, he has shown great potential already as a puppy. He stayed in Germany, and although he didn't start his show career with quite the big bang Ani did, he constantly was awarded first places and is very close to finishing his German Junior Championship title.

Bhanu is an elegant and noble dog, known for his ground-covering and effortless gait and super-strong topline, plus a great working ability with loads of attitude. He has been awarded two BISS wins so far, both under highly respected judges. He won both from the Junior class (9

The first liver-nosed Ridgeback bitch in Slovakia wins the Czech National Specialty Show!

Ch. Hillvalley's Angel for Luanda

Ch. Ozrhode Wild Inspiration (imp Australia) x Cheyenne of Ko-U-Li's Ridges (Austria) • Whelped 16.09.2005 • German Import



Club Champion SKCHR

Club Champion CKRR

BOS- BEST BICH Speciality Show SKCHR 2007

BEST RIDGE- I. place -
SKCHR Club Show 2007

BEST MOVEMENT- II. place -
SKCHR Club Show 2007

BEST HEAD- II place - SKCHR Club Show 2007

BOS - Club Winner of RR Sport Club 2007

Slovakian Winner 2007

Junior CHAMPION SK

Junior CHAMPION CZ

BEST Young female of
SKCHR Speciality Show 2006

Vice- Young Bitch of the Year 2006

Candidate for finishing titles in 2008:
ICH, CH SK, CH CZ, CH HU

Anni



FORM AND FUNCTION - SHE'S GOT IT ALL!

Ownded, loved and handled by Milada Krchnava - Luanda Kennel - Slovak Republic - www.lady-ridgeback.sk
Bred by Kathrin Sonnenberg - Hillvalley Kennel - Neustadt, Germany - www.africanpride.de

to 18 months), which is very unusual, as European judges are not inclined to award BOB/BISS to Juniors. He is well on his way toward his German Championship title, though he can't finish before March 2008 due to our regulations.

Another sister of Ani and Bhanu is pointed, but isn't shown much at present. I am impressed by the successes of these siblings so far -- I never expected for them to win multiple BISS awards, especially not at such a young age. I am keen to see what's next!

In your country, are livers harder to finish than black noses? We do not have a single liver-nose champion in Germany so far. I really hope Bhanu and his tribe will change that situation. Well, Ani could at least be called the first "German-bred" liver-nose champion.

Yes, it is harder. You need to have a 110 percent dog, and in particular the head needs to be perfect. Judges often don't dare to put livers up, and if they see a slight fault, it will be penalized more severely than in black-nosed dogs. But I am glad to see more and more liver-nosed Ridgebacks inside and outside the show ring.

What do you think makes the liver noses so special? I have never owned a liver nose myself, so I can only judge from those I know, most from our own litter. I notice they have a great sense of humor and are easy to handle. All are outgoing and have beautiful temperaments -- real tailwaggers, which makes them wonderful companions.

What do you think makes Ani stand out in the crowd? The first words that

come to my mind would be "balance," "elegance" and "nobility" -- Ani is not exaggerated in any detail, but offers almost everything you are looking for in a Ridgeback. She is an outstanding mover and has that "look at me" attitude, but always stays majestic at the same time -- a real queen!

What was the first thought that came to your mind when you found out Ani had won the Czech National? First, I was simply overjoyed -- what an honor and what a girl! You know, to win at the Specialty level is a great achievement, but to do it in such style is outstanding in my view, especially for a liver-nosed Ridgeback here in Europe.

I also felt strong sympathies for Ani's owners, who have had some bad luck regarding breeding and showing before they purchased Ani from us. Their first Ridgeback girl was not suitable for breeding, and the second was hit by a car at approximately 1 year old. They never wanted a Ridgeback girl again, but after long discussions and weighing the pros and cons, they decided on one more attempt ... so, a year later, Ani moved in.

Last but not least, I was so proud of Ani's mum, "Diva." I am grateful for her and her breeders, Sue and Steve Codognotto. I never forget that it's also their work I benefit from.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Milada and Tom for taking such good care of Ani and campaigning her so well. They certainly do us very proud.

CKRR Specialty Show - 09.16.07

MALES: Frank DePaulo (USA) - Entry: 63

HONORARY CLASS - DOGS

1 - ICH. ASCOT ALTA MIRANO, CMKU/RR/2479, nar. : 20. 06. 2002
O: Ich. Amal Silesian Harta M: Agnieszka Viva Christo
Ch: Starz Josef M: Vleck Marek

VETERAN CLASS - DOGS

1 - ICH. CALIBRE M'KHULU BAAS, CMKU/RR/918, nar. : 30. 07. 1997
O: Lionhill Lesto M: Nomvuyo Jabu Miss T of Calibre
Ch: Stramrood Duprecia M: Kohoutek Miroslav JUDr. a Alena

CHAMPION CLASS - DOGS

1 - CAC. ICH. HASANI OF KA-UL-LI'S RIDGES, LP/RR/2679, nar. : 09. 05. 2002
O: Ch. Bango Leoridge M: Emba of Ka-Ul-Li's Ridges
Ch: Lichtenauer Ulrike M: Konezná Drahomira MUDr.

BABY CLASS - DOGS

1 - FOLUKE KIBWANA SLUNCE, CMKU/RR/4728, nar. : 04. 04. 2007
O: Akili M: Ch. C'Haniya Nayla Slunce zivota
Ch: Kláková Iveta M: Hodazová Petra

PUPPY CLASS - DOGS

1 - SENANGA BASHIRI, SPKP 1190, nar. : 14. 03. 2007
O: Ich. Jupiter of Parnassus M: Ich. Boswelli Bea Solipse
Ch: Svoroz Janos M: Kadnárová Jana

YOUTH CLASS - DOGS

1 - CAJC - ADARGO ZULAYKHA, LP/RR/4167, nar. : 16. 04. 2006
O: Musafah M: Ella Saranga
Ch: Matyášová Kamila M: Havlanová Lenka

INTERMEDIATE CLASS - DOGS

1 - CAC - ASKERON'S MILES AWAY, LP/RR/4081, nar. : 08. 11. 2005
O: Ch. Camelot's Code Red M: Ch. Askeron's Faithful Promise
Ch: Nixon Jeanne M: Mares Jan / Soukupová Marta

OPEN CLASS - DOGS

1 - CAC - TINA TRADING CALVIN KLEIN, ÖHZB / RhR 806, nar. : 25. 08. 2005
O: Crownwood Foegiele M: Tina Trading Simona
Ch: Maryanovskaya Elena M: Lichtenauer Ulrike

WORKING CLASS - DOGS

1 - CAC - BENTLEY MAKA-BOMA, LP/RR/3887, nar. : 07. 09. 2005
O: Ch. Inyanga of Ka-Ul-Li's Ridges M: Angela Kirinyanga
Ch: Sehnal Josef M: Janáčková Kamila / Urbánek Tomáš

Bitches: Alicia Mohr Hanna (USA) - Entry: 84

HONORARY CLASS - BITCHES

1 - CH. C'HANIYA NAYLA SLUNCE, LP/RR/3575, nar. : 01. 12. 2004
O: Witches Le creme's Trick M: Ich. Kirby Bohemia Checko
Ch: Kláková Iveta M: Kláková Iveta

VETERAN CLASS - BITCHES

1 - ICH. ASARAH WANKIE, LP/RR/1344, nar. : 01. 05. 1999
O: Ferox z Africké savany M: Gina z Africké savany
Ch: Broz Robert M: Brozovi Robert a Veronika

CHAMPION CLASS - BITCHES

1 - CAC, Specialty BOB - NV HILLVALLEY'S ANGEL FOR LUANDA, SPKP 1073, nar. : 16. 01. 2007
O: Ch. Cheyenne of Ka-Ul-Li's Ridges M: Ch. Ozhrode Wild Inspiration
Ch: Sonnenberg Kathrin M: Krchnavá Milada

BABY CLASS - BITCHES

1 - YA-BA-RA AJIA-ODHIAMBO, SPKP 1160, nar. : 27. 03. 2007
O: Jch. Stenanga Great G'S Chilli M: Fidorka Aquila Bojnice
Ch: Bagarová Jana M: Kovázová Vladimíra

PUPPY CLASS - BITCHES

1 - COMPETITIVE SPIRIT NYATHI, LP/RR/4621, nar. : 26. 02. 2007
O: Ch. Rex Ventors Ikaros M: Ich. Terrouges Thembi
Ch: Krejcová Petra M: Krejcová Petra / Krejsí Miroslav

YOUTH CLASS - BITCHES

1 - CAJC - TARUJEN STACEY, LP/RR/4570, nar. : 07. 08. 2006
O: Ch. Spring Valley's Great Gatsby M: Tarujen Osei
Ch: Sassi Anne M: Konecná Drahomira MUDr.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS - BITCHES

1 - CAC - HONEY OD CYKASU, LP/RR/3997, nar. : 13. 01. 2006
O: Cartouche Chinua-Rey M: Ch. Ennie od Cykasu
Ch: Janouckovcová Renát M: Maxa Josef

OPEN CLASS - BITCHES

1 - CAC - FIDORKA AQUILA BOJNICE, SPKP 846, nar. : 29. 12. 2003
O: Ch. Cheyenne of Ka-Ul-Li's Ridges M: Aisha Miksová
Ch: Bagar Martin / Ol'inská Zuzana M: Bagarovi Jana a Rastislav

WORKING CLASS - BITCHES

1 - CAC - CH. LADY CHER, CMKU/RR/3015, nar. : 30. 01. 2003
O: Ch. Nomvuyo Chikundo M: Anbar Shumba
Ch: Graham Field M: Kohoutkovi Miroslav JUDr. a Alena

**Best in Specialty
NV HILLVALLEY'S ANGEL FOR LUANDA**



Champion Dog Class Competitor
Ich. Ikimba Waitimu



Youth Dog Class Winner
Adargo Zulaykha



Intermediate Class Dog Winner
Askeron's Miles Away



Frank DePaulo Reflects.

Frank Depaulo
Tahari Kennels

When I first received the invitation to judge in Prague, I had a few reservations: How would I find the time for this trip? But after I consulted with Alicia Hanna, the other invited judge, we both agreed it would be a great experience.

Alicia and her group arrived Wednesday and I joined them Friday, surprised to be picked up at the airport by an actual tour guide and driver. I enjoyed the morning with a tour of the beautiful old city, then around noon, we met up with Alicia and her group, and began our journey through the countryside to the Specialty sight.

The casual atmosphere surrounding the show and show area was refreshing. The dogs running and romping off lead proved to be a bit interesting, though! Occasionally, there were little scuffles -- one dog was even administered a few stitches, by another exhibitor, right there in the bar area of the lobby.

The first day I was scheduled to judge bitches, and I came upon an absolutely stunning liver bitch. I knew from the moment that she walked in the ring that she was the one who would garner the win. Day two was my turn to judge the dogs, and I found a nice, upstanding dark red wheaten male worthy of the win.



Baby Class Dog Winner
Foluke Kibwana Slunce Zivota



Open Dog Class - CAC Winner
Tina Tradign Calvin Klein