

June 1, 2013

Hi Shannon,

I'm sure you don't remember me but I purchased a pup from you in late August 5 years ago. She was from the Pink/Monte litter. My "Mattie" is 5 today and a complete joy to me. She is a delight to train and is my constant companion. Even though she is not around children, she is wonderful with them as she is with adults. I have recommended many people to your kennel. I keep up with your web sight all the time and keep track of all of your dogs and accomplishments. The latest web sight was from May 4 and I don't know if you have put one out since then-I keep checking! I wish I could tell you how much Mattie means to me-I hope to have her for many,many years to come but if and when something does happen,I will be taking another trip to South Carolina to get another quality Shepherd. You can rest assured that Mattie has a great home!

Best Regards,

Jan Hundshamer

May 3, 2013

Hi Shannon,

I just wanted to chime in and let you know that my dog Rocky is approaching 7 years old. Not sure if you remember me or Rocky but we got him from you while you were still in Front Royal, not long before you moved, Liedo was the sire...

Rocky has been a great friend so far. He is huge at 123 lbs where our vet likes him right at this weight and tells us he is not over weight,just the biggest German Shepherd she has ever seen.

This guy simply adores people, and is incredible with small children; he is the most clam of all the German Shepherds we have owned (he is our 4th). I am very sure had we gone in that direction he would have been a successful service dog.

My only worry with him is with his size and knowing large dogs have trouble late in life he may not last as long as we hope he does. He is so laid back and already showing signs of what the vet says is arthritis...No complaints here, he is such a great companion.

We certainly will look you up when that time comes and we do hope it is a long while.

I just wanted to say hi and let you know what great pet Rocky has been thus far (yeah I know you mainly deal with competitive pups).

I just wanted let you know what a great disposition this guy has and that we have been so happy with him. Please keep in touch!

David

January 15, 2011

Dear Von Der Sauk,

I saw you mention the need for testimonials and I wanted to take time to say how outright amazed that I am with our pup. We spoke about a year ago right after I received the stud pup from your Y litter as to which my 13 year old aptly named "Kable" Von Der Sauk.

He is amazing, so intelligent and handsome. Frankly the words truly fail to describe what he has become for our family. His demeanor is calm and respectful, so much so that even our vet states that he is the calmest GSD they have ever seen.

One of the trainers from our local area was quoted saying that she's "never seen a GSD like that before."

Just last night I came home only to be told that Kable had been found with one of my bedroom shoes. Being very strange for him since he never chews anything unless given permission I frowned and was about to ask how much of it was left only to be told "Oh, he didn't chew it at all. He just went and got it out of the closet and laid it down next to his bed before falling asleep. He must have missed you while you were gone."

Thank you so much for the chance to raise such a magnificent GSD! We plan on beginning his Schutzhund training this spring.

Sincerely,

Lincoln Koontz and Family

January 14, 2011

My working dog puppy "Wolfe "Yarick"von der Sauk changed my life! Shannon met me in a Ice storm last January 2010 to deliver me my beloved puppy Yarick"! He climbed right in my lap and fell asleep. Since then, Shannon was there answering all of my emails right away all through his initial puppyhood, and let me tell you, there were many! From Basic puppy care and feeding and behavior management she was there to give me sound advice, Now we are working in Schutzhund training and trying to attain our BH this year! Wow! who would've thought this would happen? The last photo in this brief collage was taken at the "Frans Slaman Seminar and training workshop" in December of 2010. I would recommend Von Der Sauk kennels to anyone! Anyone needing a referral just talk to me! Annie Seger- Williamsport, MD

January 19, 2011

I purchased a puppy from the Monte/Oxana litter from Shannon back in December of '08. Prior to choosing Von Der Sauk, I had spent months researching breeders up and down the east coast trying to find a quality breeder combining solid nerves, temperament, and looks into their dogs. When I found Shannon had a specific litter of pups that I was looking

for, I was quick to contact her. She was very personable, professional, responsive, and most informative about her dogs from the very first email sent until now. I let her know what my preference was and she assured me that she had the right pup for me. Through the relationship established, I trusted her in choosing a pup that would most suit my needs. In doing so, I couldn't have asked for a better German Shepherd. From day one, Reggae has been by my side. She was the easiest pup I've ever had to house train and extremely eager to please. She finished at the top of her class in obedience and surely is a head turner. Regardless of where we go, someone is always commenting about how lovely she is. She's fantastic with children yet protective when needed. I couldn't have asked for a better companion! Through the years, Shannon and I have kept in contact about Reggae. Any questions, concerns, and updates have always been promptly responded to. From my own personal experiences, I truly believe this sets her apart from other breeders. For my next shepherd, I will certainly be calling Shannon. I couldn't have been more pleased with the quality of the pup or the breeder. I continue to recommend her highly to all wanting a shepherd.

Thank you again,
Dana Zarichny

Shannon,

All is great here. The girl is doing just great. I will have to get a recent picture of her for you. She has complete freedom of the house now when we are gone. Not much of a guard dog though. She is sleeping when I get home!! Actually I figure she knows the sounds of the door, car, etc and knows it is me. Got you covered on the precautions for the summer. Cassie even has her own swimming pool to lay in if she thinks she is getting hot. She absolutely loves water. We continue to work with her fine tuning everything she has learned so far. The picture you sent to Rach of Zeus made me do a double take. Him and Cassie are no doubt from the same mother. They could be identical twins.

Take care of your special friends and yourself.

Dick

~Minnesota, USA~

I think we got ourselves a great personal protection dog here. He puts himself directly between us and whatever or whoever he is unsure of and barks like he weighs two hundred pounds. Its cute now but I bet it will be intimidating when he grows up. I'm so proud of him.

David J. Steele (dog Dorsey)

~Virginia, USA~

DORSEY UPDATE!

Shannon-

It has been a while so I wanted to give you an update on Dorsey.

Dorsey is HUGE. I think every update I send you starts out that way. He is still all head and paws but he is growing into his

body and is no longer that awkward little boy. When he wants attention he will put his paws on my *shoulders* and give kisses. I haven't had him weighed in several months but I believe he is in the lower 80's range. Dorsey is getting quick too, he can run down Addie and knock her over. They play rough with each other, chase, and it is really cute when they are both worn out and just sit with Elle and I by the couch.

Dorsey is doing very well with search too. I finally got a few leather tugs for him and he goes insane when I get them out. They are only for when he is working and as soon as that bag comes out of the closet he goes ballistic. He hits like a freight train, head-shakes like a shark, and will not drop the tug until you produce something else for him to go after. We are doing pop-outs with him currently at a distance of about 50 meters. His focus is amazing - he never stops - and his prey drive is through the roof. He just keeps getting better as he gets older and I work with him. Tuesday night we had training out at Great Meadows and I really wanted to fire him up so I left his tugs on the top of his crate and walked away. He was crying and barking as he tried to get to get to them, and when he finally got to work he was a machine.

Monte produced a great offspring and he will be a damn fine SAR K9. Take care!

David J. Steele

Regarding Rocky, here is my description:

Great with kids, loves people, the most approachable German Shepherd I have had (and this is my fourth German Shepherd). Very clam, and lax personality and not easy to stir up, never seems nervous or skittish, very confident. Did real well in puppy class as well as basic obedience 1. My kids trained him on down, sit and my 12 year old taught him to say yes (really strange trick but it looks cool). He is coming along on heel where we are the slow part, not him. Gets along well with other dogs at places like the dog parks and soccer fields.

We suspect he is going to be on the big side, his last weigh in about 3 weeks ago was 89.1 lbs and he has not filled in at all, still looks thin but he eats like there is no tomorrow, so he probably will end up over 100 lbs- Not a high drive for ball play but does have that puppy play thing at times. Love to sleep, embraces attention, just loves to be hugged and handled...

Okay, here is 2 pics I took last evening:

Dave Lasky
~Virginia, USA~

Hi Shannon, it's the proud owner of Thunder Ruder. I just wanted to say hi, and let you know that Thunder has turned out to be the best dog I have ever encountered in my life. He is the sweetest, most loyal, fastest, strongest, best looking German Shepherd I have ever seen. I'm not sure if you knew this, but I went thru a divorce in early November. Thunder has been my pride and joy, and carried me through the rough times. I have spent everyday of my life with Thunder since the day I got him. I refuse to put him in a kennel, so he has traveled all across the country, and has also been in Canada and Mexico. I will send you pictures in the near future. Everywhere I go, I get sooo many compliments. I take him everywhere with me. He loves traveling. If you have some free time, I was hoping you could direct me to the fastest way of getting copies of his paperwork. I know you already sent some, but after I got out of the army the post office lost my mail for literally 3 months straight. Thank you. Also, I was wondering if you have any tips for the best way to cut Thunder's nails. He thinks I'm playing and tries to bite me(playfully). Any input would be much appreciated. Thank you so much for all your help. You have turned me into a

German Shepherd lover for life.

Eternally grateful,

J. R.

~Arizona, USA~

Shannon

I just wanted to thank you for giving me the opportunity to have Brilla. I appreciate you letting me come right away to see her. I can't say enough good things about her! she is taking new dogs, kids, everything so well and confident. she had a visit to the vet today, and he commented on her great confirmation and wonderful temperament. I look forward to getting my next one from you!

Thanks Again,

Christy

~Virginia, USA~

Shannon,

We arrived home without any problems. Duchess slept almost the entire way. She has been out exploring the yard and even walked up and down the back steps.

She has met the cats and as soon as they unbend, they will all become the best of friends.

Duchess shows confidence and intelligence already.

She is a wonderful addition to our family.

She has a vet appointment Monday afternoon.

Thanks.

David & Georgia

~Virginia, USA~

"Shannon,

Saphira is doing great- she knows sit and down, and here.

She has gotten nothing but complements whenever someone sees her. "

Eileen

~Georgia, USA~

Hi Shannon,

Well, Hawk doing SUPER!!! He is SSSOOOO smart, outgoing and very lovable. He went right from the airport to camping overnight at a horse show. He just takes everything in stride. I thought maybe he'd be a little shy of things at first but he just takes it all and like a champ! He's not afraid of anything!!

I'll keep you updated along with pictures. I do already have some with Hawk and Diesel. It looks so funny because Diesel is a huge dog (weighs around 110 lbs) and Hawk cuddles up with him on the living room floor.

Oh yeah, the \$25 came from Paypal. Thanks so much I appreciate everything!

Talk to you soon!

Cindy

~Minnesota USA~

HAWK's UPDATE!!!! Feb. 18, 2008

Hi Shannon,

I am the one who bought the plush coated dog last summer, "Hawk" was his name on your web site, his registered name is Atlas Von Der Sauk. My son named him Hazzard (Yes, like in The Dukes of Hazzard).

Anyway, here are some pictures of him. He is turning out awesomely and is very very striking to look at with that black & rich red color. Everywhere we go, we get comments not only on his looks but his comical personality. Of course he can be very serious when he thinks he's supposed to. We have completed puppy obedience and are working on the next level. **He is so very easy to train and really wants to please. If he thinks you are not happy with him, he is not happy. He thrives to please.**

In the pictures you'll notice his one ear tips over at the very top. He played a lot with our other dogs and we think that ear tip was a result. I tried to get it to stand up better but nothing worked. (I used the foam curler glued inside the ear method). If you have any suggestions, I'm happy to try. We don't think this was genetic at all.

He is only ten months old.

We had his preliminary hip and elbows x-rayed. He is fair in hips and good on elbows. So no worries there.

My vet, who is a German Shepherd owner herself asked where we got him. Same with other people. If you get referrals from Minnesota, you know who sent 'em!

Let me know what you think about the pictures and Hazzard.

Thanks again

Cindy Olson

Hey Shannon! Cassie is doing great. I can't believe that she's almost 2 yrs old. I remember when we first got her. Boy has she grown since then. She has grown so much both physically and mentally. We are finally able to leave her have the run of the house. She will definately let us know when there is something or someone at our house or in our yard that is not suppose to be. She's a very good protection dog.

She's especially protective of me. Attached are some recent pictures I took of her. Take care and enjoy the summer. E-mail me back when you get a chance.

Stacy

~West Virginia, USA~

<http://memphisstate.org/tesse.html>

The happiest girl in Memphis, I think. She's moved right in.

T.

"Tesse even has her own website! She is proudly owned by Tom in Memphis TN!!!"

Hi Shannon,

Thanks for the update. Riley is doing very well, and started junior obedience school last night with Alyson. She has been a fast learner and picked up potty training very quickly. One of the funny things about her is that she is reserved with other dogs that aren't german shepherds...hahaha She's not timid, just likes to watch them and will greet them very politely. However when she sees a german shepherd she gets very excited and wants to play with them....she instantly recognizes her own kind out of a group of dogs :) She's slowly wanting to play with the other types of dogs though.

We're still planning on coming out to see you all train on August 18th. Do you have any suggestions on when we should start her training?

Hope you are doing well.

Take Care,

Nate and Aly

Hi, Shannon!

Just wanted to give you a quick update on your baby (now our baby! :)

She's doing pretty well. On the long car ride home she mostly slept with her chin on Christopher's lap (the 11-yr-old). Christopher had the biggest smile plastered on his face.

It was pretty late by the time we got her home, so we fed her as soon as we possibly could, and then she peed and pooped and got used to the house a bit. She and the cat had a run-in. Katie-cat is not a happy camper, of course, but it'll take time. lol.

Anyway, she's an absolute doll, Shannon. SO good with kids. There are a LOT of kids in this neighborhood, and it was hard yesterday trying to keep the kid visitors to a minimum, because Sophie was a bit afraid of them. She conked out and slept a lot of the day. It's a big adjustment for the baby. Yesterday her left ear was all floppy and today they're straight again - so cute how they switch around. We got her a Kong which she LOVES. And I'm trying to get her to chew on appropriate things! argh! lol. The first night in her crate she cried about 15-20 min and then was quiet until morning (I think. lol.) I got up at 2 am to let her out and she then made it until 6 am. no accidents the first night in the crate (she likes her crate, though, because she napped in it willingly quite a bit yesterday).

She is very, very loved... and she DOES move well - holy cow. She's got such beautiful conformation (sp?) and moves gorgeously. A shame

she won't be a show dog. oh well. I can't wait until she's full grown so she can run with me!

Thanks, thanks... we'll keep you updated. (we've kept her to the same food routine, so she's doing fine with that... and I'm about to call the vet for an appt.).

Cheers,

Julie

The boys are already trying to teach her to come, sit, fetch. lol.

~Maryland, USA~

(Sophie was imported from Grabfeldgau in Germany. Grabfeldgau is the owner of the NUMBER 1 male in the World 2006!)

Hi Shannon

Simon is doing great. The little guy is full of energy...and curiosity. Glad to hear his brother is doing well. No new pictures at this point, but we'll be forwarding some soon. It takes most of our energy just to follow him around and keep him out of trouble. So far he's been fitting in very well.

We had him in for his vet check yesterday late afternoon. Our vet absolutely loved him. No health issues to report at this time. Attached is documentation of his rabies vaccination. He is scheduled for his next distemper shot in 2 weeks. We are also starting him on Heartgard and Frontline today.

Hope you are feeling better soon. Good luck with Buffy. Talk with you soon!

Tisha & Jeff

~Pennsylvania, USA~

Simon Update....

"As for Simon's training, we have much to share! For starters, last month Simon successfully passed both his CGC and Therapy Dog testing for his TDI certification. In fact he passed the TDI test twice, working with Tisha and myself, so we are both qualified to work with him in therapy situations. He continues to excel and display good form in our weekly obedience classes. The instructor often has Simon demonstrate various drills for the benefit of some of the newer dogs and handlers. We are continuing to enter him in area obedience Fun Matches (Sub-Novice division for now). He's taken first place in 2 of 3 matches. Our goal is to continue his training and at around 2 years-old start entering him in real obedience competition in hopes of earning his AKC Companion Dog (CD) title.

In addition to all of this, we occasionally practice some protection / bitework with Simon, as he clearly is a natural at it and LOVES the work. The professional handlers have all commented that he has great drive and is easy to work with. They have given us tips on drills we can practice to help build and maintain that drive. Ultimately, we love the obedience ramifications from practicing the bitework (and the fact that he sleeps really good on those nights). I've included some pictures of this as well.

The best part is that Simon has literally endeared himself to every child in our neighborhood from 4 months to 14 years-old. They all want to come out and play with our dogs, and the parents appreciate how well-behaved they are around kids. On our daily walks, everyone from the garbage collectors to the mail carriers to our local police officers always stop what they're doing to see him. Between Maggie & Simon, we've won over dozens of neighborhood residents who previously had been reluctant to be around larger dogs. "

February 2, 2008

"Hey Shannon!

Just a note to let you know that Max is doing great. He rode home in the back seat of the truck with the kids. Very good manners! We have fallen in love with him. We got home at around 2 a.m. our time and rough housed until three. Needless to say the kids did not go to school!

We bathed him a little bit ago, that was a task as he is so big and didn't much care for a bath, but we managed. I believe he is going to be perfect for us. My husband was very impressed."

"I will try as soon as possible to send pictures of him with his new family. Maybe you can add them to your website."

Jennifer

Alabama USA

UPDATE

Just a little note to let you know that Max is doing great. He has adjusted very well. We love him very much. He did down my 6 year old the other night playing and had him by the foot. But he was only playing. He is so funny because he is a puppy in a grown dog's body! Everyone that comes to see him stops and takes a second look and asks, "Will he bite me?" We love it. He is just too wonderful.

We are not sure about competing in any kind of competitions. I wouldn't know where to get started. Tony says that he has excellent drive. He isn't leary of anything. We've had older dogs that were not that good. Tony is familiar with the USPCA - obedience, agility, tracking, article search, and criminal apprehension. Send me any info you might have on the competitions. I guess that would help sell puppies!

Talk to you soon,

Jennifer

Hi Shannon,

Sorry I haven't e-mailed you sooner but having a new family member has kept me very busy. Even as I'm trying to write this she wants to play.

I'm sending you some picas of her. She is doing well. Getting big. She hasn't caught up on her weight, yet but she has grown and her coat is beautiful!!!! She is just beginning to eat more each day, 3-4 cups of food per day.

We are doing pretty well with training. Kandy is house broken. She goes to the door and waits until someone lets her out. She can sit and lay down on command and is doing well on a leash. The puppy teeth are still a challenge, I have to carry around something to give her to chew on to keep her from chewing clothes or skin.

Do you ever do obedience training? My husband wants me to find someone to train her. She is getting big and I don't want her to get much bigger and not be trained. I'm not sure I could control her.

I know you are busy with Cody, but if you would could help me with Kandi, I'd sure appreciate the help. Please let me know.
Laurie
West Virginia, USA

Dear Shannon,

Both puppies that I adopted from you are doing very well. All our dogs live inside with us as part of our family. They both have great temperaments, they are beautiful, and we really love them. When we are ready to adopt another puppy we will come to you first. We started Angel in obedience training at six months of age; she has done very well and is a quick learner.

Charity has such a great personality and I know she will do great at training also.

When we decided to start breeding German Shepherds, we really had no idea what we were doing, but thanks to you we are off to a good start. Not only have I found a great resource for my kennel, but I feel I made a friend. Thank you again for everything.

Thanks again for everything,

Angela S.

UPDATE Early January 2008

This is my first email ever, I hope you receive it. I got your letter today, thank you for all your help. I don't quite understand the abbreviations. What does SCHH3, FH, IPO3, V, etc. stand for? I am taking all three dogs to get their good citizenship award thru the AKC this Tuesday.

I'm sure this really isn't a big deal, but I'm excited about it. I've got to start some where.

Thank you for always being so kind to me, I really appreciate your help.

Angela S.

West Virginia, USA

UPDATE

We are happy to announce that the two dogs Angela purchased from us (Charity and Angel) have received their CGC!!!

Dear Angela...

We at VD SAUK wanted to be the first to congratulate you and were touched when you called us first to tell the good news!!!

Keep up the Good Work Angela, we are so pleased you provided the two girls from VDSAUK a wonderful home.

We also wanted to announce that CHANCE also received his CGC. He isn't from our kennel but we feel it is equally important that you take all the necessary steps to make sure every dog you own and care for has the absolute best training and lives the best life possible. We care about him too and will always help with any questions you have regarding any of your dogs, even if they aren't purchased from VD SAUK!

Keep up the Good Work!

Sincerely,

VD SAUK

Hey Shannon,

Long time no hear! Just wanted to drop you a line and see how things are going with you. Codi is doing great and the "boys" are getting along fine. Storm had another surgery on his leg last week and it has been a challenge to keep him quiet but he is doing well. We are hoping this will restore some function to the leg but it still remains to be seen. Did you get the pictures I sent?

I have gotten many compliments on Codi when we are out walking. He catches a lot of attention! I always think it is funny when the people walking the little "yippy, out of control dogs" look at Codi like he is going to eat them when really it is the other way around! He is very well mannered around other dogs and people. We started calling him Houdini for a while after he escaped from his crate 3 times! I missed one of the latches and he managed to squeeze that big bod through a 6 inch space! We came home from dinner one night and both boys were at the door waiting - I kept looking for the hole in the couch but we were safe!

Take care and let me know how you are doing!

Holly
Gulf Port, Mississippi

Hey gang,

How is everyone? Czeke is doing well. His prey drive seems to have really picked up over the past couple of months. He'd play tug all day if he could. He's still a little clumsy when it comes to catching toys, but I'm hoping that's normal at 11 months.

Enclosed is a photo of the royal son, taken one month ago (at 10 months of age). He's put on about 5 lbs since the photo, and currently weighs 84 lbs. This photo is stacked, or supposed to be. I'll send another e-mail with a head shot, also taken at 10 mos.

We look forward to NASS. Czeke will be in much better condition than in his past shows.

We're going to doggy Schutzhund camp next weekend and we're jogging/gaiting a half mile to a mile every day. Czeke says Fanto better bring his A-game. Hope all is well.

--

BRET -
FLORIDA

Hi Shannon

Gabby is doing good

She is worked but not titled (police test the parents if they will take a pup to raise)

Yes she had her first litter Aug. 12/08

5 males & 5 females

It looks like a very good combination with Lex as 4 of the 5 males passed the puppy test for police dog.

I am thinking of breeding her to my solid black male Dargo next but have not decided yet as he is an extreme animal to say the least.

Hope everything is going good for you and dogs!

Regards

Paul

CANADA

Ecko is doing wonderful! He's doing really well with house training and really came out of his shell by the second day! He loves playing with my parents Lab and our cat. We are having a blast with him!

dave

Sterling, Virginia

We are really happy we got him (I think they just went back outside). I know it's only been one day but he is a great dog. My kids are learning to puppy-proof their rooms now. Peppers may actually cause them to keep their room & playroom picked up!

Look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks!

Jonnie

Charlotte, North Carolina

Hi Shannon,

Loki is doing great. I don't know if I told you before but Loki and Violeta finally really connected over Labor Day Weekend. They found a game to play together - kick ball. Violeta kicks it and Loki either tries to get to it first and kill it or herds Violeta around until she kicks it again. It is great to see. They can play for hours or until they both pass out. That is a must do for the last 15 minutes before we leave for work and school. Loki has gotten so he chases the ball by himself or sits next to it until Violeta comes over to play. We only use one style of ball so other balls appear to be safe in the house. I'm just happy they found something that is uniquely theirs.

Eileen

Pennsylvania USA

Hello Shannon,

Sorry that I haven't written to you in a while I have been meaning to send you pictures of Sid and Princess. Unfortunately, I have been having a hard time sending pictures through email.. hopefully I will be able to send them to you soon!

Sid is doing wonderful and he is happy as ever! He loves to play fetch and tug a war. I am so happy to have him, he follows me everywhere I go and never leaves my side he protects me! Princess is also very happy to have a buddy with just as much energy as her. He has grown so much since I got him it's incredible! I hope that everything with you is well and I am sorry again that I haven't sent you pictures, I would be wondering about him too he's such a loveable and playful puppy!

Lea

I have to tell you – we get so many compliments on how “pretty” he is. Yes, that’s what most say when they compliment him. “Pretty.” Compared to other GSDs we see, his coat is much more shiny, smooth and kempt, his face better structured and his eyes are much nicer. Strong pedigree, right? That has to be what it is. Some guy in the park told Amanda yesterday that he thought the dog looked so good that he thought we should show him. That one made us both chuckle. On the most part, we keep him away from other dogs. People really don’t get it when they see us walking away from them but then again, their dogs don’t listen to them AT ALL. We keep him focused on his own pack and he loves bonding with us. Three times a day he

walks into my office, puts his front paws up on my shoulders and lick my face for about 1-2 mins straight. I swear he is straight-up hugging me. It's the coolest thing.

Mike and Amanda

DC, USA

Hi Shannon,

Well, 7 hours later but we are home and everyone is happy! No accidents in the car. He slept almost the entire time and went to the bathroom at every stop on a leash. Already the perfect puppy. :)

We just love him. I am so glad that I got to meet Monte. What a great boy. When I looked at him, I saw so much of Ike in him. I'm happy that Monte is our new boy's dad too.

I'm amazed at how much you have done in a month. You have taken on quite a project but I know that in no time it will exactly how you want it.

I'll send photos soon. Oh, Emmet loves him too. They are getting along great.

Will be in touch.

Lisa

Richmond Virginia

"Juno (or Juni how we started to call her) is developing wonderfully. I will send you more up-to-date pics but they are not on my computer. You can almost watch her growing, she is getting much more of the red/blond hair and both of her ears are up and standing. She is more and more looking like a GSD. When I was outside in the yard with her this morning, someone stopped by to ask whether I got her from somewhere around Charlottesville and whether there were any puppies of the litter left. I guess she is really cute."

"So, everything is going fine and we are really happy with her. I think her somewhat calmer temperament is perfect for us.

Best wishes for everything, and I will be back with some pics soon,"

Ulrike

Charlottesville, Virginia

Hey Shannon...

Glad to hear from you! First, hope all of your renovations are going well! Second, we named the boy, Montgomery, after General Montgomery (WWII English General), or "Monty". We wanted to pay tribute to dad, Monte, as well as Ike. We had named Ike after Dwight Eisenhower because Gen Eisenhower's counterpart in England during WWII was Gen Bernard Montgomery (his nickname was "Monty"). Since Ike's dad was Monte, we thought it was cool that Gen Eisenhower also had a Monty in his life. So, we decided to go with General Montgomery Von Der Sauk. ☺

Third, Monty is the best puppy ever! He is about 4-1/2 months and pushing 55 pounds. He looks great but the vet says based on his feet and size, he will be in the 90 – 100 range! Monty has the best temperament and is very smart. Easy to housebreak him, no chewing on shoes or rugs (although he does like the corners of the deck – we are working on that) and absolutely loves his big brother, Emmet. Emmet is very happy to have a new friend. When Monty was just a baby, Emmet was so sweet to him – he would lie down on the ground and let Monty jump on his back. They became friends very quickly. Monty is great with other dogs too – we went to the dog park for the first time last weekend (waited until he had all of his shots). So, thank you for helping us pick such a wonderful boy.

We started obedience class on Monday night. Also, I am a new applicant with the VA Search and Rescue. Right now I'm training for the Richmond Marathon in November, so my weekends are a bit filled until the end of November. But, starting in December, I plan to join the training sessions. I emailed David Steele a while ago but recently, have been talking with Jennifer Massey, head of the VA Unit. I think Monty will be a great SAR dog.

I have some newer photos on my home computer so I'll send them to you tonight or tomorrow. Here are 2 photos of Monty taken a few weeks ago. His ears are not up yet (funny bc Ike's ears were straight up at 12 weeks!). Monty's left ear needs some work! ☺

Hope you are doing well. I see that you are selling Zeus. Does that mean you will only have Monte left?

Talk soon.

Lisa

~RICHMOND, VIRGINIA USA~

I need to take better picture of Maximus. But this was 2 1/2 weeks ago him relaxing in garage as I took his picture. He weighs now 34 pounds. Easy to house train in 5 days. Crate trained to go to on command 2 wks. He also now knows sit, stay, crate, speak... We plan to do high level obedience training later. I will send better photos once our camera (non-cell phone camera) comes back from loaner.

Thanks. Great family friend. Darryl-

Darryl Sarver

~GEORGIA, USA~

Hi Shannon,

Sorry it has been a while, but been really swamped. Ruger is doing great! Bronco and him are becoming buddies. House training has been a breeze, he is so smart and copies everything Bronco does. He is already very focused and doing a great recall, sitz, and platz! I am attaching some photos that are more recent than the last. Hope all is well, and have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sally Callison

~GEORGIA USA~

Hi Shannon,

I am more than happy to help you out in anyway I can. I would most certainly recommend you anyone and do. I do already regularly recommend you as a breeder based on the quality of dogs you produce. Hazzard is an outstanding example of your breeding program. Everywhere we bring him, people just absolutely love him. He's such a good obedient happy dog. And the fact that he is so stunning to look at doesn't hurt either. I always tell people, the breeder sells you the high quality "clay" it is up to the owner to mold the puppy into an good canine citizen. Flying a puppy is very very easy and the airline you used took great care of Hazzard. There are no issues with flying puppies. I would do it again in a heartbeat.

I have your web site referenced on my web site on the front page www.BiggermanShepherds.com For now, we are not breeding and may not for a while if at all. I get at least two or three emails a week.

Anyway, just let me know if you need anything else, happy to help.

Thanks,

Cindy

~Minnesota, USA~

We would gladly recommend you. We love Elle and she has adjusted very well. We are happy with your choice for us. She is sitting on the couch with Forbes now watching me type. Our transaction with you was smooth. We were a little afraid at first, but after meeting you and Elle, there was no doubt that you knew what you were doing. You know that Elle was almost six months old when we got her and that has worked very well for us. We never used a kennel before but are glad that you recommended that we get one. We only use it when we both have to go somewhere and she goes into it very well. She has one chew bone that is her favorite and when I throw it in the kennel she knows that means that she needs to go into it. We try not to leave her any more than two hours.

One question that I have is that we noticed that there is a tattoo in her ear. What does it say? If you need any more references from us, just let me know and we will stand behind you.

Thanks for Elle.
THE BRAITHWAITE FAMILY
~NORTHERN VIRGINIA, USA~

Hey Von Der Sauk
Family,

Wanted to give you a couple pics and a quick update. Nina- Genofeva's Seele von der Sauk (Monte/Pink litter)- is blending in very well with our family. She is good at everything she does. We tried to lay a good tracking foundation, with your help of course. She loves to track and knows it is coming somehow. She is excellent in a crate and has only had one accident, my fault of course. She has very good focus and loves to please just like her mother. She shows no fear with humans, dogs, etc. She can also be very gentle with children. She has very good grips on tugs and can hang on until you are done swinging her. We have begun incorporating her into the house as we have another shepherd and our schedules are

crazy.

She loves her mat, which is her "place".

Very pleased with your assessment of our pups temperament and helping us choose the right dog for us.

Enjoy the pics!

Jeremiah, Jessica, Corban, Judah, Elli, Pink and Nina Hutcherson

Dear Shannon,

I am DELIGHTED to write a testimonial letter:

When I decided our family was ready for a dog, my husband wasn't as ready. I grew up with a German Shepherd with terrible hip problems, and my husband grew up with Labs. I wanted a German Shepherd with clear hips, and my husband didn't really want a dog, but if he had to sacrifice for the family he would rather have had a Lab.

Because I didn't want a dog who would suffer through hip problems, I researched German Shepherd breeders carefully and contacted Von der Sauk and a few other reputable GS breeders.

Shannon listened carefully over the phone to exactly what I was looking for in a dog, which was a very friendly, family-oriented, even-tempered dog. She didn't have anything for me at the time, but certainly understood what my criteria were.

A couple of months later, she contacted me to tell me she thought she had the type of dog for which I was searching. She had just bought a couple of pups from a breeder in Germany, and she thought one of the female pups fit the bill perfectly. We went down as a family to meet the puppy and she was perfect. She ran over to my boys, smothered them with kisses, and plopped down in my lap.

Sophie is now a bit over 2 years old, and my husband consistently utters that she is "by far the best dog he has ever had." She has a fabulous personality; she was extremely easy to train and has a beautiful temperament. When little kids approach her to pet her she lies down so that she doesn't scare them. She barks when necessary (stranger danger) but is quiet when we tell her "enough." She heels and comes beautifully, she was easy to house break, and she is wonderful with my boys. She has not one ounce of "mean" in her, but only wants to please and be with her family. I'm a runner, and she loves running with me. She runs off leash easily, not chasing other dogs or stopping to greet people but staying right at my left side throughout the run. I think she could easily run more than the 6-8 miles she has run with me but I don't push her. Shannon somehow knew just what to look for and she knew it when she saw it. We could not be more delighted with our dog. As an added bonus, she is GORGEOUS. Every time we walk her, without exception, someone says to us: "you have a beautiful dog." She truly is, inside and out.

Sincerely,

Julie Acker

Bel Air, Maryland

My family and I recently purchased an Orus and Kally, female, puppy from Shannon Huffman that we named Mischa. Shannon has gone above and beyond for us. When starting our search process for our German Shepherd puppy, I spent weeks researching top German Shepherd breeders. I wanted to be certain we were getting the best puppy possible, and a puppy that came from exceptional pedigrees, 'true' German lines, and from a breeder that would stand-by their dogs in all respects. Shannon was the only breeder that I ever received an immediate, detailed e-mail answering my every question. It was apparent, immediately that Shannon loved her dogs, which was also a prerequisite of ours. Shannon also helped us select our female to meet our needs and my dreams of potentially showing our dog, too. Shannon has always been right here for us to answer my never-ending questions regarding our puppy. She even took the time to arrange that our puppy be delivered to us because she knew we would have difficulty driving with our 1-year-old in our car for long periods.

We couldn't be happier with our puppy, Mischa. She is absolutely stunning! She has a lovely personality and is so tolerant of our or son poking at her. She is bold and totally confident in herself. Whenever we take her on walks, we get a lot of attention. Everyone comments on, "how beautiful Mischa is" and how "friendly and outgoing" she is. I regularly e-mail Shannon questions that arise about Mischa; Shannon is so helpful, very friendly and often responds within 10 minutes of my e-mail. She also loves getting photos of Mischa. Shannon is a true professional that I would highly recommend if you are looking for a perfect German Shepherd puppy or adult Shepherd. She produces gorgeous German Shepherds that will make a perfect addition to any family. Thank you Shannon for all that you have done for us!

Meredith McGill

"Charlotte, NC"

Dear Shannon,

Hope this finds you well. Ulrike forwarded this email to me.

Juno is doing extremely well in our family. I have to say that you recommended a PERFECT dog for us - she is extremely friendly, loves the kids (and vice versa), very smart in understanding things quickly, well mannered and just a joy to have around. She also gets along well with visitors who come to our house, and we take her around to public places and she is very well behaved. Thanks very much for selecting Juno for us!

Plus, we often get compliments on how beautiful Juno looks and people often ask whether this is a pure breed and where we got her from. I have also attached a few pictures herewith if you want to add them to your site. Incidentally, we noticed that she resembles her dad Liedo very much...

Cheers,
Ravi

Name: Ernie Herring and Lucy

Location: Mannass, Va

I recently purchased a Von Der Sauk Puppy (July 09) and it has been the best decision I have ever made. I began my search months in advance looking for a puppy. I wanted a June (summer) puppy so I can train it out side. I started contacting breeders in December of 2008. I contacted about 6 breeders, 4 replied, 1 replied quickly, 2 out of the 4 breeders started talking money immediately. I replied but I didn't really connect to the email. And the last email spoke nothing of money or any type of business, but spoke of her dogs by their first names as if they were family; this was also the email that responded quickly. The way the email was composed and written I pretty much was sold. After a few emails Shannon wanted to know what kind of place her puppy was going to be placed. What my interest were in getting a dog, a sign of a true breeder, a part of her going into the world wanting to know if they were going to be ok. What really hooked me was the fact the way Shannon spoke of her dogs, and the Shepherds as a breed. One of the main things I was looking for was if the breeder had first right to refusal. This of course was clearly stated on the website as well as the contract. I also wanted to know what kind of conditions the dogs were in. Shannon left nothing short in pictures/ videos for me to look at. We maintained conversation until it was breeding time. Unfortunately my first choice of litter didn't make it. Without any hesitation Shannon immediately reassured me I would be able to get a puppy from the upcoming litter.

More emails back and forth, a litter born, pictures to be had. Money of course had to come up. I originally deposited with Shannon, she made me sign a contract which made this a binding agreement. I continued to pay Shannon up until the pick up date for the puppy. This is a woman I have never met, never spoke to on the phone, but just conversed through emails, pictures, and videos. It wasn't until the day before pick up that we first spoke on the phone. I wasn't worried at all.

I could keep going about how I have a 4 month old GSD who is the sweetest, calmest, most BEAUTIFUL dog I have ever seen, how I get compliments all the time about her and her temperament, but this is not about her. Its about the breeder. I still call, email, text Shannon about every little thing I think of. She is there EVERY time. I'm sure it drives her nuts but someone who is so passionate about what they do is tough to find these days. I feel blessed to be able to receive such a great animal and a great breeder in Shannon.

Shannon,

Hello Shannon! I just wanted to take the time to say thank you for the sable female (Oxana/ Monte daughter) we received from you last December. I truly could not have asked for a better pup or better breeder experience than I have had with you! At first I was a bit hesitant in that we currently live in Virginia and you and the dogs being located in South Carolina. I was concerned initially about having to drive the distance for one of your puppies. Additionally, I was even more hesitant in that you stated on your website that you do in fact pick puppies to match their owners. From past experiences that has never been the case. After conducting A LOT of research the year prior, I quickly found you to be the ONLY breeder I was considering purchasing a puppy from. I also was fairly picky in what I was looking for, a sable female pup. I emailed you quickly once I realized you did have in fact have exactly what I was looking for in the breed, most specifically matching temperment, looks, ability, and the markings I was looking for. You responded promptly to my emails and questions concerning the puppies available in the litter. You also made me rather aware that you were willing to meet at a convenient location here in Virginia as well. Really, driving the puppies for a small fee was more than worth it. Yes, you picked out which pup was for me. I remember requesting the darker of the two sable females if it was at all possible. Of course, come to find out, you did wind up giving us the darker one at request. Meeting you was more than a pleasure. You made us feel more than "just another buyer" and have kept the entire experience both personal and professional at all times. Even after almost a year, you have kept in contact with us! Truly, after getting Reggae, I couldn't thank you enough! She is by far the best shepherd I have owned. She has become more than just a companion! She has worked wonders for personal protection around the home yet is fantastic with children (including infants). She goes everywhere with myself and my husband and everywhere we go we are always getting compliments. Aside from looks, she is wickedly smart. She aced puppy classes with flying colors finishing top in her class (smiles). One last thing- MANY people we

had spoken with died at the price we paid for her. They all told me I was silly to pay such an amount for a shepherd puppy! However, I realized now and at the time, it is more than worth it because I absolutely paid for the quality in the full package in a pup from a responsible breeder (you!). Come to find out, two other shepherds from two other breeders close to Reggae's age just got diagnosed with hip dysplasia and they are not even a year old! So much for those \$400 puppies!

All in all, I love her dearly and just wanted to take the time to tell you thank you for everything! I'm still working on my husband about the shepherd puppy #2! Of course, we will only be calling you for that next one.

I have attached some pictures from day one of getting little Reggae til the most recent taken today...

Thank you again,
Dana Zarichny
Newport News, VA

Dear Shannon,

My wife and I could not be happier with the dog you sold us and the effort you put into helping us get this dog! Not only did we get our dog at a great deal, but you only charged us a small fee for bringing the dog all the way to VA. This is a huge help when trying to locate the perfect German Shepherd to meet you and your family's needs. You have become not only the breeder we will always choose to get our GSD in the future from, but you have become our friend as well. Through all your efforts in getting back to any questions we asked and updating us on all the new things going on with Von Der Sauk.

Our dog Jager Von Der Sauk aka "Rocco" has grown to be the most handsome male at only 10 months we have ever owned with an outstanding disposition and intelligence! In fact he is so handsome one of the largest body armor companies in the world (Paca/Point Blank) for law enforcement and military has Rocco wearing their vest to demo. He will travel to tactical shows throughout VA showing off his personalized vest to help other K9 units in making their choice in body armor for their working dogs. This is a great honor and we are very proud of our boy Rocco! He lives with 3 other dogs and gets along great with every dog and person he comes in contact with, to say the least his socialization skills are very good. His drive to please his handler is uncanny and his nerves are very sound. I really just can't say enough

about how much we love Rocco and how pleased we are with our Von Der Sauk German Shepherd! From my wife and I we thank you very much Shannon and Von Der Sauk kennels!

Sincerely,
Marshall and Nikki
Richmond, VA

From Jonnie and Kerr Putney in Charlotte, NC

We have been really pleased with Von Der Sauk. We got Peppers (Hugo Von Der Sauk) in September 2008 after searching for a German Shepherd puppy for a few weeks. Once we determined that we were going to look at a dog through VDS, we contacted Shannon explaining our family make-up and what we were looking for in a dog. She invited us down to look at/choose the pup we wanted, which turned out to be the same pup she picked out for us. We met her the next week in Columbia and picked up Peppers.

Shannon has been a great resource for us since we got Peppers. We kept her informed of his progress with our kids, housebreaking, vet visits, etc. She has helped us through his sensitive stomach issues by making suggestions on what to add to his diet. She welcomes all of our questions and I like to run things by her since she is a GSD expert. When we got Peppers my kids took to him right away. My youngest son was really into him – playing on the floor with him, rolling around with him, etc. He did not understand that he was being looked at as an “equal” to Peppers, no matter how many times we tried to tell him. So Peppers liked to play with my son as if we were another pup. I shared this issue with PetSmart but the techniques they recommended were just not working. Plus, we had just lost our 14-year old Bichon a couple of months before getting Peppers and we were used to dealing with a very small dog. So trying to correct Peppers’ behavior, who was growing rapidly, was beginning to be challenging so we contacted Shannon about our issue. She told us that we probably needed a trainer to provide one-on-one training and that she would see if she could find one for us, which she did a few days later. We were impressed with the trainer’s demo and we signed up right away. I shared all of this to show that Shannon is really concerned with the success of people that become owners of her dogs.

Shannon really encourages owners to keep in touch with her after she turns her dogs over to them. She really cares about what goes on with the dogs after they leave Von Der Sauk. We value her opinion and consult her every chance we get. When we went on vacation this summer, we decided to have Peppers stay with her instead of being boarded at the vet’s facilities. While we really trust our vet, we were more comfortable with Peppers staying with Shannon. We knew that he would get the attention and exercise he needed under great supervision. So instead of driving 10 minutes to drop Peppers at the vet for a week, we drove a 4-hour round trip to drop him off at Von Der Sauk the day before we left for vacation. We knew he was in good hands which allowed us to have a worry-free vacation.

We are very happy that we found Von Der Sauk and value the relationship that we have formed with them.