

Kalina vom Norden Stamm: Farewell to a Champion (1985-1994)

by Jens Kollenberg, originally written in 1994

“We’re all dreaming of breeding another Kalina.” “An illustration of the Breed Standard.” “From her nose tip, to her tail tip, the very picture of a perfect Dobermann.” “Kalina—the world’s best in her class!” “A dream bitch.”

Potent words indeed. Especially when describing what was in essence a mortal creature made out of simple flesh and blood. Yet these powerful descriptions, and many others in the same vein, from the mouths of leading breed authorities in several lands, also give the reader a sense of the inner essence of what made this bitch fire imaginations to lift her symbolically above her fellows.

In this short article, I don’t wish to honor only Kalina, however deserving she is of her own eulogy. I also wish to offer readers some insights to the (historical) development and creation of this living work of art. Although I planned her, whelped her, competed with her, bred her, and whelped many of her children and grandchildren, I can claim only a small part of the total essence of what was Kalina. She belongs as much to the history of the Dobermann as she does to those individuals she has enriched today. She was a result of years of selective breeding from only the cream of her country’s best producing lines. Also she was bred within the confines of the German system of stud management where a dog must be tested and proven by competition with its peers and by specialist evaluation.

The prepotency of her line to reproduce their successes is easy to explain when we examine her bloodline chart. It might interest American and other countries’ breeders to know that these lines that produced the

great winners and producers of the European postwar period are the selfsame lines American breeders drew on to produce their own modern day sires and dams of significance.

Due to space restrictions, I’ve mainly followed the male line up to Kalina and her equally substantial mother, Alida v Flandrischen Löwen. The bloodline chart also shows the direct relationship to some key American sires of significance.

I could with a good conscience easily write in great detail about many key postwar dogs: dogs not only behind Kalina, but also many of her famous peers.

Due to the perimeters of this article, I will however restrict my writing to her most significant predecessors. You will observe their close genetic link-up which created the prepotency that was also so important, not only for Kalina’s success, but also for the success of the German-bred Dobermann as a “living” source of regenerative genes for other countries’ breeding programmes.

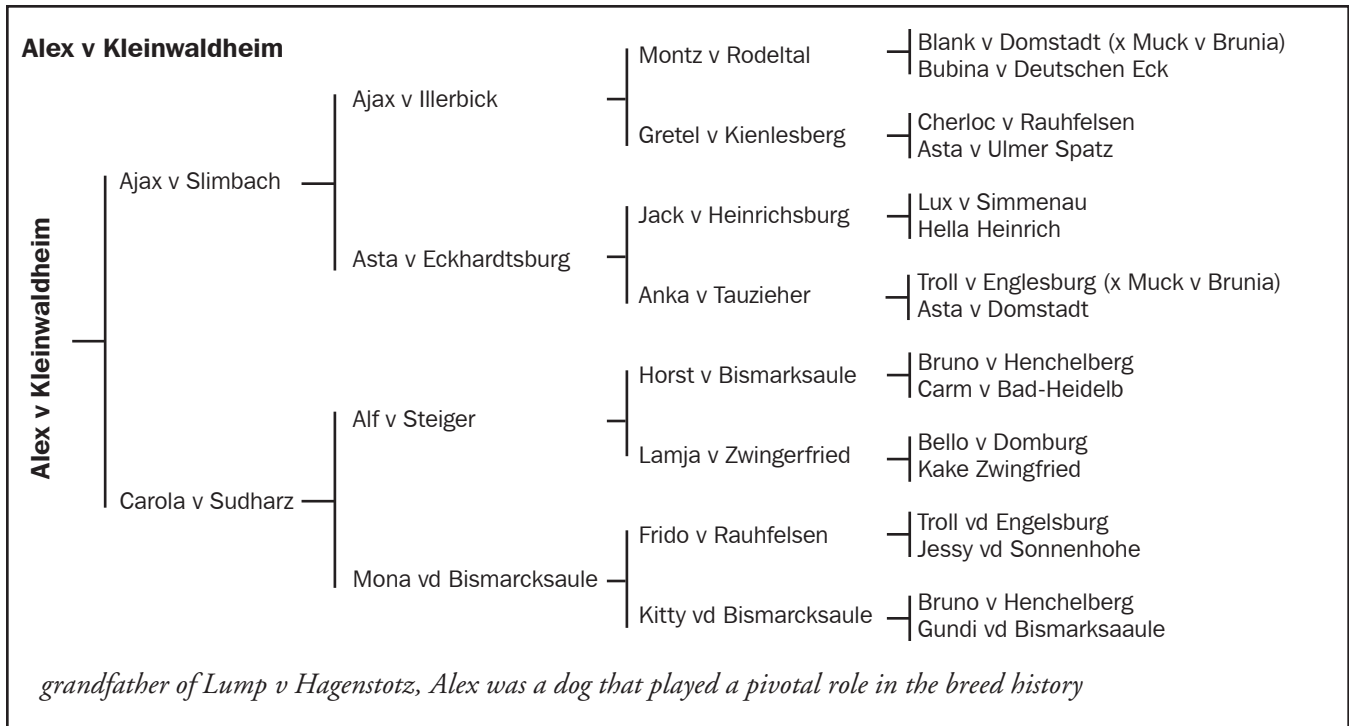


Ajax V. Kleinwaldheim

Through Dr. Karl Dorn’s and Mr. Philipp Gruenig’s eminent books (the latter also translated into English), we have got a very good insight into the breed and breed affairs during the pre-1950 period. Taking this into account, I’d therefore like to take up around the time these books left off and begin with a few words about one of the German breed’s most important cornerstones after World War II, the black male Ajax

v Kleinwaldheim (1946). (NB: Another very important male of the same era was Troll v Englesburg’s great-grandson, Dieter v Willersee)

According to photos and specialist opinion, Ajax was a dry, noble male of excellent type. He had a short body, a firm topline and a deep chest. He had a well



angulate front and a good rear end. His eyes and markings were dark, but his skull was a bit coarse. He carried Muck v brunia four times and had the two Cherloc v Rauhfelden daughters, Gretl v Kienlesburg and Jessy vd Sonnenhöhe behind him. For German breeders, that also gave him a solid genetic background to build on. Alex was a truly superior stud dog, producing equally good males as bitches.

Lump v Hagenstolz

Following Ajax was his double grandson, Lump v Hagenstolz (1953). Lump's two grandmothers were the full sisters Amsel and Addi v Hagenstolz, out of Dieter v Willersee and the Frido v Rauhfelden daughter, Asta v Gross Hagan

Lump was a powerful, but dry and noble male of the correct type. A very good front angulation and lay of shoulder gave him an excellent flow-in from neck to back and thus the impression of a short back. His croup was slightly dropped. The hinds were well muscled, broad, and well angulated. His eyes could have been darker, and he was slightly soft in the pasterns. One of Lump's greatest fans was the late, eminent breeder, Mr. Herman Palmer of the vom Fürstenfeld kennel. He used Lump extensively and achieved outstanding breeding results from him.

Both Alex and Lump were trained to SchH I. Alex became Bundessieger, and Lump became World Sieger, which indicates the quality of their excellent

phenotype for their time.

Lump, like Alex, sired a number of Sieger offspring with two of his sons passing on the baton to two other prominent and very important stud dogs of their era, namely the black Vello v Fürstenfeld (1966) and the black Chico v Forell (1968).

Vello v Fürstenfeld

I knew Vello personally, and he left a very favorable impression. Mentality-wise he represented an ideal of what many breeders aim for: Open, good natured, thick nerves, robust with a high trainability and high prey drives, combative instinct and courage. It is worth refuting here a commonly heard misconception about German-bred dogs of this era. The overly sharp, nervous, barking fools of bygone years was by this time long out of favor. Breed authorities and breeders alike had earlier understood the desirability of working towards breeding a functional working animal that could double as a social companion to happily coexist in densely populated areas.

Conformation-wise, Vello was medium sized, very dry and elegant and of a very good type. He had a classic head, with an excellent expression, a long, dry neck, excellent front, and a very good rear angulation. He was a fraction too long in the loin, his ligamentation could have been firmer and his croup was slightly steep. Vello had sufficient depth of chest, very good bones, and



an excellent coat and color. He passed his Körung, and SchH III 35 times!

Vello was kept as a working dog by his owner Mr. Ottmar Vogel and was only sparing shown. Albeit, he proved a highly significant producer for his generation. The first to use him was Mr. Ernst Wilking, of the von Forell kennel, which Mr. Wilking's father had established some 35 years earlier.

Mr. Wilking can be recognized as a breeder as eminent as Herman Palmer. He had a fingertip feeling for picking the right males for his brood bitches, and practically every combination he made was a success. Mr. Wilking also served as President of the German Dobermann Club for many years and proved to be as useful as an official as he was a breeder: a rare combination indeed!



Chiquita v Hagenstern (Aldo v Ferrolheim x Uschika v Hagenstern)

was his black brother, Bryan, which was destined to go down in the Dobermann history as one of its great producers.

Bryan was sold at five months of age to a young Swedish couple, and he quickly attracted a lot of attention, including the usual small-minded sniping from jealous competitors.

He was a tall, elegant dog with great nobility (adel). He turned heads wherever he went. Yet to criticize, his head could have been stronger in the muzzle, and his ears were a bit low-set. He had very good shoulders, withers, and topline which ended in a perfect croup. His back could have been a little firmer and the upper arm slightly better angulated. He had a well angulated rear end and moved with excellent reach and drive. Open and friendly, Bryan also had very good working drives and passed the club Character Test easily. Unfortunately,

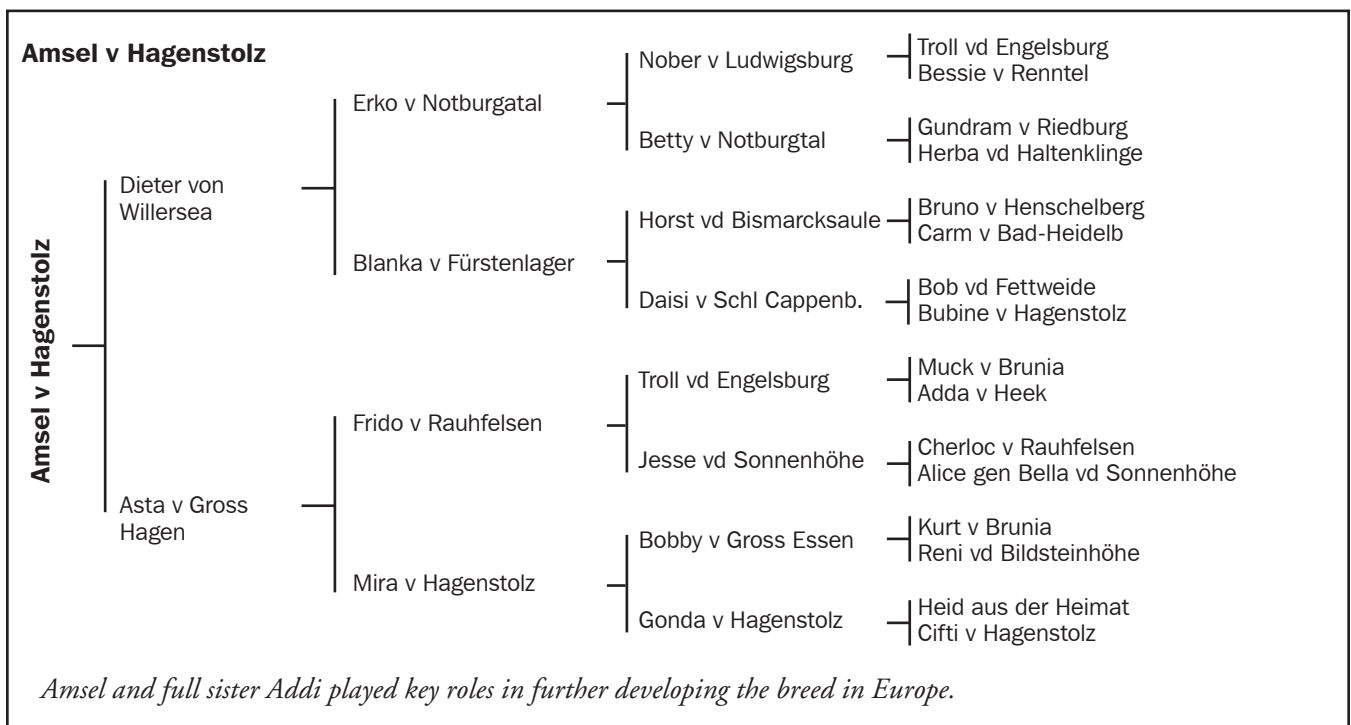
he was never trained for competitive dog sport.

Bryan v Forell

He bred his bitch Kira v Romberg to Vello and produced two Sieger dogs, Bonni and Bryan v Forell. Bonni was the more compact and powerful of the two brothers, and he produced some very good offspring. Yet it

Tex v Frankenland

Whelped around the same time as Bryan was the black Tex v Frankenland. He proved to be a lucky dog for



me personally. I remember I bought him from Mr. Leo Schellmann's kennel only days after witnessing Chico v Forell becoming Sieger at the National Specialty Show at Würtzburg in 1969.

Tex was medium-sized, very short bodied and strong backed with a noteworthy quality of head, expression, neck, and front assembly. He was slightly roached over the loin and also had a slightly steep croup offset by a powerful, sufficiently angulated rear.

I would ascribe his character as faultless. He was a National Sieger dog that produced numerous significant offspring, of which the most important for me personally and also for Dobermann history, was the Sieger bitch Ch Güntersforst Burga.

Güntersforst Burga

Burga was bred by the German breeder-judge Günter Groth (later of Finland). An intelligent and far sighted breeder, I personally owe Günter Groth thanks not only for breeding Burga, but for teaching me the meaning of the word "Type" and giving me a deep-seated love and appreciation of those qualities that make this breed unique. At the same time I would also have to thank Herman Palmer of the von Fürstenfeld kennel for underline to me as a young up and coming breeder back then, the importance of selecting only breeding animals with nobility and inner grandeur, and yet another great mentor I personally have a lot to thank for is the aforementioned breeder-judge Ernst Wilking of the vom Forell kennel. He for burning into my youthful, impressionable psyche forever the unforgettable line: "The most beautiful Dobermann in the world with a bad character is a bad Dobermann."

The beautiful Burga was bred to Bryan v Forell, whom she had beaten both the times they had met in the show ring. Together they produced a litter of 10 puppies, of which six turned out to be champions. The most significant of these was the future Bundessieger, Ch Guys Hilo v Norden Stamm, SchH III. (On a more

localized scale, Hilo bred to his full sister Heidi produced Ch Zarina v Norden Stamm, SchH I. She was close to my ideal Dobermann, and was the foundation bitch for the Aligau kennel. She single-handedly put its young breeder Michael Schiettle on the map by producing a grand line of Siegers, Champions, and Working Champions and Angekört dogs of the like of Anna, Baccara, Cash, Dino, Evita, and Elaine v Aligau.)

Before I continue here with the Vello line and get onto the influence of Bronco v Zenn, I would like to diverge for a moment to encompass other important dogs that emerged from Lump, that also led up to Kalina.



Anuschka Bryansdotter (BdSh) represents a typical Bryan v Forell type (Bryan x Guntersforst Veronica)

Chico v Forell

Namely I highlight the Lump son, Falko v Hanenstolz (1958). Falko was a father-typical male, very dry and noble with very strong bones although his underjaw could have been stronger. He had a good croup, but the tailset was a bit low. Although a Sieger dog in his own right, his greatest contribution was to sire the Int Ch Odin v Forell (1964). Odin (later exported to Japan) in turn gave Germany Chico v Forell.

Chico was just over 15 months of age when he became Sieger in 1969. There's no doubt that this impressive male bred by Ernest Wilking paved the way for the future successes of many younger breeders into the seventies and eighties.

Chico was medium-sized, strong, and powerful with a very strong head. His slight Roman stole some of his natural nobility. His neck was of a good length, the topline was straight and firm, and he had a very good croup. His front and rear angulation could have been

better, and a lack of firmness in the shoulder blades was a negative trait he passed on to a number of his descendants. He had very solid bones, although he was a bit pale in the tan. Chico's mentality was open and friendly, but he lacked to some degree the basic drives necessary for the Schutzhund training (namely prey drive and combative instinct).



Comtessa Chairmaine v Franckenhorst (BdSg) represents just one of Chico v Forell's many excellent offspring of this era (Chico x Olive of Bamby's Pride)

Although there were things to criticize about Chico, his place in history is secure. He also came from a “blue ribbon” bloodline. His mother was the excellent Citta Germania, tracing directly back to many great prewar top producers. Chico was fortunate in being the right dog born at the right time, and he played a significant role in supplying genetic material for the making of Kalina.

Jago v Beelen

His most significant son was the brown Bundessieger Jago v Beelen (1971). Jago in turn was the sire of yet another Bundessieger, Bronco v Zenn, Kalina’s great grandfather on her mother’s side. Jago also figured prominently along Kalina’s sire line, through her father Ebo vd Groote Maat.

Jago was father-typical, with a bit shorter neck than Chico, but firmer shoulders and a very strong, robust character combined with excellent working drives. He gave his best when bred to elegant, well-angulated bitches: This “rough and smooth” combination has worked successfully throughout the generations with this family.

Bronco v Zenn

Jago’s black son, Bronco v Zenn (1975), provided breeders with an excellent alternative to other stud dogs of the day. He had a well-shaped, strong head, a good neck, and a firm topline. His front was well angulated, but the rear could have had more turn of stifle. A very deep and broad chest, strong bones and lovely cat feet topped the attributes of this magnificent dogs. Bronco passed his Körung and SchH III, and his character had many excellent points similar to those of his sire.

In Kalina’s story he plated the important role of siring her grandmother, the black Bundessiegerin Alexa v Heiderhof, SchH III (1980), who was in many ways the spitting image of her sire. Alexa was bred to the black Bundessieger Ali v Langenhorst, and from this combination came Kalina’s mother, the black Bundessiegerin Alida v Flandrischen Löwen, SchH



Gisella vd Feste Otzberg is a typical representative of the excellent qualities produced by Vello v Furstefeld. Exported to Norway, she was the dam of a 6 champion litter in combination with Guy’s Hilo v Norden Stamm, a Vello grandson.



Odin v Forell. This sire of Chico v Forell, he was later exported to Japan.

nificance, he is related directly to Kalina through his son, the black Bundessieger Ali v Langenhorst, SchH III (1978).

Like all those dogs mentioned so far, Hilo possessed an excellent phenotype that combined with an excellent genotype. Hilo was a large, dry dog with a very noble outline. He had a beautiful head and expression, a long, dry neck, high withers and a good topline. These, together with his excellent front assembly and very deep chest, were his best features that left a strong impression.

His black eyes and deep, red-rust tan color was typical in his progeny. He had a way over average prey drive and fighting spirit. He passed SchH II and competed successfully many years both as a trial and show dog. Without a doubt Hilo was the outstanding male of the seventies, and German Chief of Judges Ottmar Vogel

summed it up in his book “Breeding and Sport with the Dobermann” when he says: “It would be hard to imagine the breed in Europe today without Hilo.”

As a sire Hilo had no equal. He left behind more than 100 known champions, including four Bundessiegers. Looking at his links to the past we find he represented Lump (4, 4-5, 5, 5, 6, 5, 6) or approximately 25%, and he carried crosses to Alex v Kleinwaldheim 30 times in his pedigree.

Ali v Langenhorst

His Sieger son Ali v Langenhorst also passed his SchH

Guy’s Hilo v Norden Stamm

At this point I’d like to break off to continue with the Vello line again, in particular the black Bundessieger Guy’s Hilo v Norden Stamm, SchH III (1972). A producer of great sig-

III many times, as well as the Korung. Although Ali was not particular father-typical of Hilo conformation wise, he sired many excellent animals, Siegers, champions and working champions alike. However, he will probably be best remembered for siring the A-litter of vom Flandrischen Löwen above all else.

Ali was extremely strong boned and powerfully built. He had a well-shaped head with black, slightly deep lying eyes, and an excellent expression. His broad, deep chest, an excellent front angulation and dark tan were some of his best features. He could be fairly criticized for having loose (wet) skin around his throat, of being slightly short on leg (a legacy of his mother line) and his hindquarters could have been better angulated.

It was Ali's outstanding features, together with his truly excellent character and enormous working drives that made him my choice as a stud dog for Alexa v Heiderhof's litter. A combination that produced many wonderful Siegers, champions, and working dogs in that first and later generations.

Alida v Flandrischen Löwen

Out of this litter, it is the black Bundessiegerin Alida v Flandrischen Löwen, SchH III, that interests us most today. Not only because she was Kalina's mother, but she was also a brood bitch of really great importance in her own right.

Alida was a medium-sized, very strong boned, and powerful bitch of excellent type. She had an outstanding head type and expression, a long, dry neck and excellent length and lay of shoulder and upper arm. These attributes scored her many points as a show bitch, and later also as a brood bitch. On the negative side she'd inherited her father's tendency to short-leggedness and her back could have been slightly firmer. Her length and lay of croup could also have been slightly better to be ideal. However, I thought as a potential brood bitch she had what it took, including a lot of natural flash and charisma. She inherited her family's high working drives, was always alert, lively, and light to train. She



Accompanying the commentary in this box the reader will find a picture of Horst vd Bismarcksauls (Stud book No. DPZ 43326), a grandson of the Sieger dog Ikos v Siegerstor, DPZ 50090, and Frido v Rauhfelsen, DPZ 51546, a son of Troll vd Englesburg, DPZ 48591 and Jesse vd Sonnenhohe, DPZ 49753.

It might be of interest to compare these two pictures of Horst and Frido, using them as examples of those dogs (and bitches) which remained in Germany, tho those pictures of Frido's full brother and sister, Ferry and Freya, German dogs which were exported to the USA. (Ferry is in the bottom photo)

Photos and descriptions of other dogs also exported to the USA during this period seem to confirm the obvious, evident in the above examples. This was that the preferred type being imported by Americans during this era were dogs with rather straight fronts (upper arm and shoulder).

Such an important basic structural difference in the foundation stock of those that remained and those that went for export may explain some of the more noticeable differences in type which are evident when comparing European and American-bred dogs today.

I have also chosen two pages from the German Dobermann Verein's stud books (of which the author has a complete copy) showing dogs referred to in the article and the bloodline chart. These openly available records refute a common belief that there are no accurate records for the German Dobermanns prior to 1949.

For example, if we were to open at page 80 of the German Stud book, Band 30 and e1, the section that contains the years of 1943, 1944, and 1945, we can read that the black and tan bitch Amsel v Kaiserteg, DPZ 54546, was bred to the above-mentioned Frido v Fauhfelsen, DPZ 51546 on the 29th June, 1944. She whelped seven puppies on the 30th August, 1944. All seven lived to be registered and all were black and tan (four males and three bitches). The breeder was Herr Stefan Michalski of Langendreer. (Readers particularly interested in history can refer to the complete German Dobermann Verein Stud Books for any research detail).



passed her SchH III before two years of age.

Although a young bitch, I naturally appreciated her ability not only as a show dog (double Siegerin) and working animal, but also her potential to be a great brood bitch. In fact, it was the latter that occupied my mind the most. That same year I was asked to judge the Spanish National and it was there I first saw the brown Ebo vd Groote Maat, from the Dutch working dog kennel of Mrs. Ruin-Spruit. By the time he had landed in Spain, Ebo had become the victim of a series of “broken homes.” It was due to his bring in a constant state of limbo the first four years of his life that the breeder-judge Gerhard Meyer had come to see him, recognized his quality, and managed to buy him for a “song and a dance.”

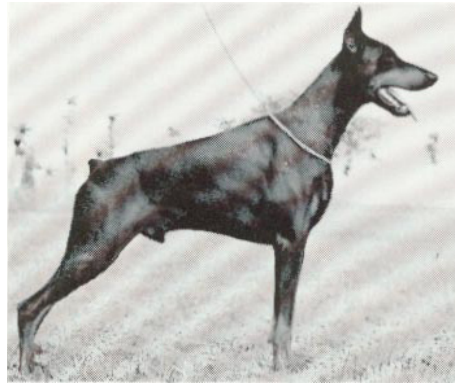
Ebo vd Groote Maat

I knew on seeing Ebo that I'd found my mate for Alida, assuming that he would pass all his health checks, working trials, and breed surveys in Germany first. (At that point he had no credentials to recommend him at stud.) I came to an agreement with Mr. Meyer to take him to Germany for his tests. During his time with us he also became triple Sieger, leaving me with two wonderful litters from the full sisters Anka and Alida v Flandrischen Löwen, to remember him by. Each litter produced a multi-Siegerin. From Anka came Mia and from Alida came Kalina-two bitches that set the world on fire.

Ebo's miserable past had not dampened his robust and exuberant spirit, which he retained throughout his future training, optimistically undertaken by Alison at this fairly late stage of his life. Conformation-wise, anyone seeing him agreed he was a magnificent creature. He was large (72 cms), very strong, yet dry and elegant at the same time. He had an excellent type and left a very vivid impression. His best features were his superb upper arm and shoulder angulation and a broad, perfect length

and lay of croup. A deep chest and prominent forechest highlighted his majestic appearance. On the negative side he could have had a stronger muzzle and, not surprisingly being linebred to Chico (3, 4-3), needed more firmness in the shoulder blades. His rear was broad and powerfully muscled, but ideally could have been better angulated.

Ebo stayed only 18 months with us in Germany before returning to Majorca in Spain. By the time the parochial German breeders began to notice the qualities of his progeny, and therefore even think of overlooking his color, he was already gone.



Thomas d Verdiando (Eur Sg), a Bryan v Forell grandson and typical “Bryan type” (don Dayan v Franckenhurst x Dina v Falltor)

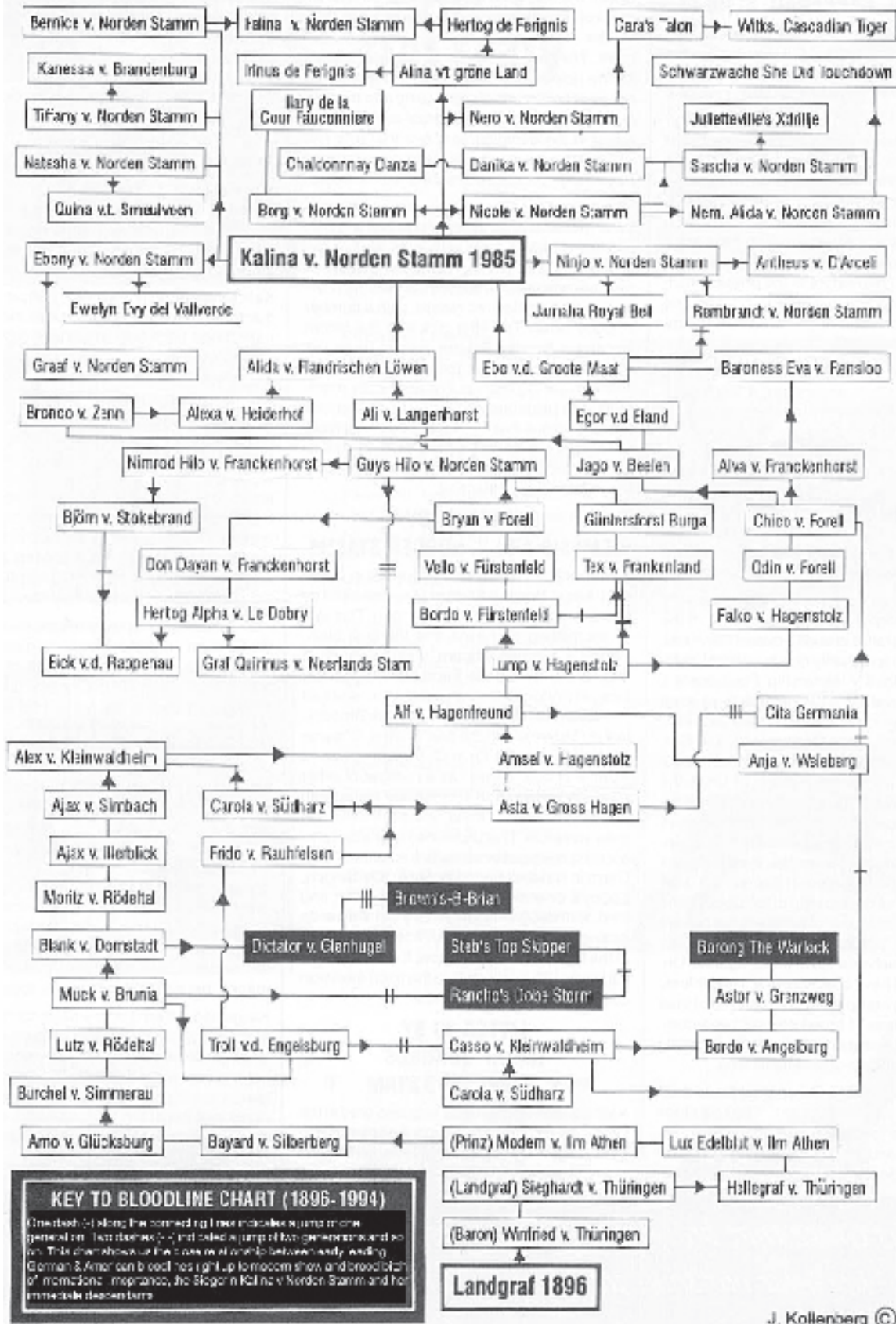
German breeders often have not been particularly appreciative of the qualities of their superior brown stud dogs. Black stud dogs automatically attract more bitches. Yet history reveals that despite this bias, some of the best producers have been the browns, irrespective of the relatively lower number of offspring. A truly knowledgeable breeder would not select color over functional considerations, and if this prejudice was not perpetuated in all levels of the Doberman fraternity, I'm convinced the breed would make far greater strides in overall quality within a few generations.

Thirty years of breeding Dobermanns has served to underline to me the failure to capitalize on such obviously superior animals' genetic potential is mostly due to trivial reasons that can be attributed directly to breeder ignorance. This ignorance is compounded by a paternalistic leadership attitude. One must only observe the German DV's token educational “programs” (for want of a better word) and wonder how any breeder becomes informed at all! Critical debate on the individual performances of DV officials is stifled by limiting opportunities for constructive, public criticism. DV officials today have sat in the same positions for far too long. A natural consequence has been that their priorities shift to being more interested in maintaining their personal bureaucracy rather than allowing any independent thought to emerge that might somehow become a threat to the status quo: irrespective of having obvious benefits for the breed via the innovative input of fresh ideas and personalities from the grass roots level.

Ongoing breeder ignorance is aptly demonstrated throughout breed history by the rise and con-



Ganymed v Nymphenburg, a Hilo grandson with several direct lines to Alex (Orpheus v Eschenhof x Berenike v Nymphenburg)



sequent fall of kennels that had once been perched on top for a relatively short span of time. Early successes without the benefit of a sound education to build from, often results in the short-sighted practices of breeding only “kennel names” rather than individuals. We see the mating of strains totally antagonistic to another’s genetic qualities. Such practices have repeatedly resulted in the degeneration and consequent waste of what were once highly developed family groups. Too often we see breeder ignorance flying in the face of genetic laws, rather than selecting only individuals that represent the best traits of their respective lines of proven descent. This alone is still not enough though. These selected individuals must also be proven totally sound and fully utilitarian to be able to competently represent the breed’s persistent attributes of form to function in future generations.

A true breeding animal’s successes are not measured by popular vote-which is a shallow, transient public susceptibility brought on from concerted exposure to its owner’s high profile marketing campaign. Rather, they are soberly judged in the cold light of day by the depth and breadth of their ability over genera-

tions to influence and enhance the greater qualities that best represent breed type.

From Ebo’s very limited use, he produced like the great champion he was. From only a handful of litters, he produced three multi-Sieger dogs, and dozens of international champions and working champions. Character-wise I can personally say he was superb. He had thick nerves and was very robust with abundant prey and play drives. Socially, he was open, free, and very friendly. His protection instinct was pronounced and he went ballistic under pressure. He was not a dog with a sense of humor when threatened. (Our DV and DVG club helpers drew lots as to who would agitate him.) Only his age and early training neglect

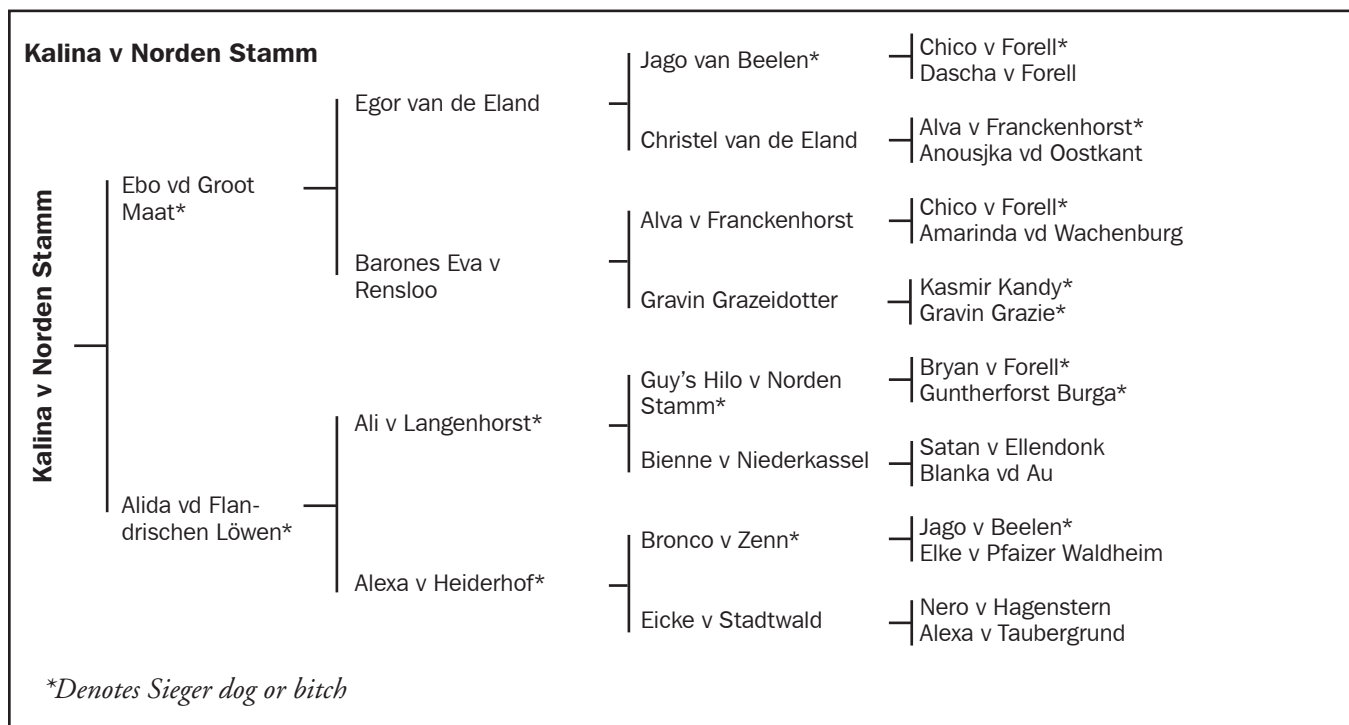
were handicaps that discouraged my wife from continuing trailing him to the Meister level. Nonetheless, his natural, bottom character was truly outstanding.

From the attached bloodline chart the reader will see that Ebo also traces back to Bryan v Forell through his mother. Conformation-wise he had a number of similarities to that great dog.

In the USA there are three Ebo sons that aptly represent the intrinsically functional scope of their common heritage. The dynamic working champion,



Dewi v Franckenhorst (BdSg) a full sister to Don Dayan (Bryan v Forell x Olive of Bamby’s Pride)





Berenike Nymphenburg (BdSg), an elegant and powerful Dobermann that has since proven her great value as a brood bitch (Eick v Eschenhof x Helena v Eschenhof)

tion champions and some truly outstanding working champions, including two particularly noteworthy sons of Donner v Adlercrest. They are the current USA No. 1 Dobermann Working Champion, Bismark v Donautal, and also Carlo v Donautal, the UDC National Working Champion and Regional Champion.

Kalina

Having covered some of Kalina's more significant ancestors, it's now time to concentrate on Kalina and some of her descendants. The mating between Alida and Ebo was done at the 1985 Bundessieger show in Dortmund. At this show Alida had become Bundessiegerin, and Ebo won Reserve Dog. (He had to wait another year before he won the title in his own right). It was just on Christmas when the litter was whelped, in one of the coldest winters experienced in northern Germany for a number of decades. The freezing weather pushed the temperature in the heated, insulated kennel down to about 12C. The puppies all snuggled in close to Alida to keep warm-not easy when there are 11 of you!

Once the litter was mobile, Kalina stood out with her rude manners, long neck, and elegant topline and croup.



Vija Germania. A typical representative of a kennel whose bloodlines are found in all the modern German Dobermanns today.

Ajax v Donautal, bred by Storm and Bill Bergin, and the two full brothers Donner v Adlercrest and Ch Adlercrest Danzig bred by Philip and Linda Calamia. All have earned their Schutzhund III degrees and between themselves produced a number of conforma-

tion champions and some truly outstanding working champions, including two particularly noteworthy sons of Donner v Adlercrest. They are the current USA No. 1 Dobermann Working Champion, Bismark v Donautal, and also Carlo v Donautal, the UDC National Working Champion and Regional Champion.

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Rondo v Forell (BdSg), traced to Alex on both sides of his pedigree. Later exported to Japan (Arco v Fayette Corner x Cita Germania)

German-bred dog for his newer breeding program.

I placed Kalina on breeder's terms with a young local girl, Kirstin Buck. It was Kirstin who gave Kalina her name, and she became responsible for her general welfare over the next years. To give Kirstin full credit, she did Kalina proud. The bitch became her favorite obsession, and there was no suggestion that she wouldn't follow to the letter our instructions aimed at enhancing the chances of maximizing Kalina's potential. All breeders need such diligent and resourceful puppy owners, because without them breeders alone lack the time and resources to build up a wide enough breeding base that can support a truly proven, sound, and healthy genetic pool.

From an early age we were convinced that Kalina would have a great future. She was one of those fortunate animals that just had "it"...that something special. Hers was a dynamic, charismatic personality. She caught everyone's eye with her effortless nobility and the brilliant, iridescent bronze coat.

Life was a constant success for Kalina. For some dogs (and people) it just happens that way. She won everything. European Sieger, German Specialty (DV) Sieger, Bundessieger, International Doberman Club Sieger, World Sieger, other various championship titles, and numerous Best in Show and Best of Breed awards. Always kept in prime condition by Kirstin, and showed to perfection by my wife Alison, it proved an unbeatable combination. Her frequent successes were constantly picked up on by dog publications and newspapers, and she also earned herself a Police Commendation for civil service when she fearlessly repelled an assault on young Kirsten by a gang of youths.

Character-wise she was a fearless and robust bitch, very similar in many characteristics to her sire. Her boldness always attracted praise, and this general opinion was reflected in her Breed Survey result. Done in Luneburg that year, it was considered the toughest survey ever held in Northern Germany.

Only three dogs from 20 passed as Fit for Breeding. These were



Don Dayan v Franckenhorst (Ch, BdSg) Like his half brother Hilo, a leading sire of his time and another testimony to the contribution of Bryan v IForell in the development of the modern Doberman in Europe

Kalina, her sister Cassandra, and her uncle Armin v Flandrischen Löwen. Blood will tell!

Kalina was also a great sport dog, excelling in obedience and protection work and therefore making her ideal for Team Trials.

Conformation wise she was medium sized, medium strong, dry, and of excellent type. She had a beautifully shaped head with dark eyes but, like her father, she could have been a bit stronger in the muzzle. Her long, dry neck, high withers, firm back, and excellent lay of croup gave her an ideal topline. She had very good shoulders, but the upper arm could have been more angulated. Her hindquarters were broad, well muscled, and well angulated. Her under chest was deep, long, and well shaped. The wonderful bronze coat with its rusty red tan marking served to highlight her quality. For many she

was a living work of art and a classic reflection of her illustrious forebears.

Of her 10 siblings, the bitches Kassandra and Kastra remained in Germany. Both made Schutzhund

III and shared their successes as show animals, working dogs, and brood bitches. At the 1990 German Regional Working Championships and DV Meister Qualification trial, Kastra and Kassandra went first and second place. Two other sisters, Kamilla in Sweden and Karma in Norway also proved highly successful working dogs, show dogs, and brood bitches; they both developed little dynasties of their own in the process.

As a show dog, Kalina was only beaten in her class once, and that time by her equally successful full sister in blood, Mia v Norden Stamm. Otherwise her winning streak was unbroken from the day it started in Berlin in 1986 and ended in Copenhagen in 1989 (the year she became World Siegerin).

As well as winning at the numerous breed and international shows, she picked up all the important titles on the premier Sieger shows. This began with winning the Junior Sieger title at the German Sieger show in 1986. All the major National and International Junior Sieger titles followed, right into 1987 when she went up into the adult Working Dog class and became Bundessiegerin (German National Champion) at the



Guy's Hilo v Norden Stamm (BdSg) (Bryan v Forell x Guntersforst Burga)



Armin v Ferrolheim (Jurgen v Hagenstern x Amanda v Stifthub)

age of 18 months...the same tender age as her mother and grandmother before her!

An extensive show career followed throughout 1987 and 1988. In 1987 she won, amongst her



Two typical Guy's Hilo v Norden Stamm daughters. Left is **Zarina v Norden Stamm** (Hilo x Guy's Heidi v Norden Stamm), foundation bitch of the Aligau kennel, and right is **Taiga v Norden Stamm** (Hilo x Guntersforst Toska) the foundation bitch of the Hammonia kennel in Germany

many CACs and CACIBs towards her championships, the Junior European Sieger title, the Junior DV Sieger title, the Landessieger Nord title and the International Dobermann Club Sieger title (IDC Sieger). She was many times Best of Breed and Best in Show at specialty and international shows. Just maturing fully in 1988, she won the German Dobermann Club Specialty title (DV Sieger) and the European Sieger title soon after.

In 1989 the World Sieger show came to Copenhagen, in Denmark. Dogs came in from all over Europe and the rest of the world. There was an all-breed entry of more than 10,000 dogs, and it was a week of mayhem and all-night celebrations for the winners. Although Kalina had had a long break from showing (in order to concentrate on her sport-dog trials), Kirstin, Alison, and I had a pow wow and agreed to dust her off just one more time and throw our cap in the ring. Everyone who was anyone was going to be at that show. Top dogs in top competition made her winning Best of Breed and the World Sieger title the sweetest victory of all.



Alexa v Heiderhof One of three Bundessiegers produced by Bronco and the grandmother of Kalina (Bronco v Zenn x Eicke v Stadtwald)

Kalina's Offspring: Litters #1 and #2 by Baron Bryan v Harros'berg

I don't believe I'm overstating anything when I say that Kalina will prove to be one of the breed's greats as a brood bitch as well. Her record already lies in the realms of extraordinary. Her first litter out of Baron Bryan v

Harros'berg produced a substantial number of above average influential individuals. Of these Ninjo v Norden Stamm deserves a special mention. He was sold to Japan as a pup, but shortly before his departure at five months of age his Japanese owner cancelled his flight. By that time my wife Alison had been spending a lot of time working and playing with him, and so she made an executive decision to keep him herself.

Ninjo quickly became a German and International champion and passed his Schutzhund III before he was two years of age, as his father and his grandfather, Baron Cesar v Rensloo, had before him. Later we had an offer from Italy we couldn't refuse, so he was sold to Rome. But before he left Germany and although a very young dog, he had already sired the two future Bundessiegers, the Yugoslavian bred bitch Jamaha Royal Bell and the German bred dog Rembrandt v Norden Stamm. Other bred-in-the-purple sons to watch in the future sire stakes are the Dutch bred Antheus v D'Arceli and the Belgium bred Shogun v Roveline.

Ninjo's full brother Nero was our pick male in Kalina's first litter. Unfortunately, his new owner's vehement promises to work and show the dog proved to be a lot of hot air. Although Nero did make SchH I, he probably left his only indelible mark by siring the 1992 USA National Reserve Dog, Ch Cara's Talon, SchH I, out of what I believe was his only litter. It was a combination Ray and I made with Nero's sister in blood, Ch Rotkaeppchen vd Cara, SchH III, (an Alida daughter, therefore Kalina's half sister).



The litter sisters, Nicole, Nalina, and Natasha v Norden Stamm did very well at shows. Character-wise it was a superb combination. (Natasha made her SchH I, and Nicole her SchH III title, as did the majority of the other siblings.) The bitches have whelped a large number of excellent graded progeny, with Nicole being particularly noteworthy as the mother of two multi-Sieger winning bitches and a multi BOB and Specialty winning bitch. Namely the two high flyers, Ch Sascha v Norden Stamm in Sweden and Ch Nemesis Alida v Norden Stamm in Finland, and the highly successful Ch Danika v Norden Stamm in South Africa.

Kalina's second litter was a repeat mating to the Dutch bred Bundessieger Baron Bryan v Harros'berg SchH III. It was made under Kirsten Buck's kennel name von't Gröne Land. Once again the puppies were sold to several countries around the world. The pick bitch went to the USA, but never made any impact, due once again to the "Hot Air Syndrome" -a well documented disease some puppy buyers have, and experienced by sorely tested breeders everywhere. We might as well cast our pearls before swine in such cases.

The male Aslan von't gröne Land made a name for himself in Austria and the full sister Alica had an exemplary show career on the top in South Africa (also later as a brood bitch). Another sister, Alina, was sold to France where she was not only an excellent show and working dog (IPO III), but also later a premier brood bitch, consistently producing superior quality litters for the de Ferignis kennel of Mr. Gebus. Aptly demonstrated by Dobermanns of the caliber of Hertog, Hugo, Hamina, and Irinius de Ferignis.

Litter #3 by Quinn dei Nobili Nati, SchH III

Unfortunately, I bred Kalina too late in her heat for her third litter and it only produced two bitches, sired by the black Bundessieger dog Quinn dei Nobili Nati, SchH III (Italy). Only Tiffany v Norden Stamm survived, but she developed into a mother-typical bitch with many important attributes. She was Schutzhund titled, a champion, multi-BOB winner and also won the Apolda Sieger title, before retiring to become a valuable brood bitch for the von Brandenburg kennel of Heinz-Gunter Grimm in Berlin.

Litter #4 by Eick vd Rappenau, SchH III

Because the black male Eick vd Rappenau figures so prominently in the later successes of Kalina's progeny and descendants, and was the sire I picked for her fourth litter, I will take some space to describe him for posterity.

The Bundessieger Eick vd Rappenau, SchH III (1987) stands full in type to his ancestor Bryan v Forell. He possesses an extreme type, is dry and elegant, but also strongly built. I believe his most important feature, and also the feature that is responsible for his classic type, is his perfect shoulder and upper arm angulation. This feature is the physical hallmark of true, functional breed type, and one that I have observed deteriorating at an alarming rate internationally, irrespective of country.



Linda Calamia with Chs **Amida** and **Alida v Flandrischen Lowen**. Alida later became Bundessiegerin like her mother, Alexa, and daughter, Kalina. These superbly bred full sisters were imported into the USA in the 1980s.



Ebo vd Groot Maat (BdSg) From only limited breedings Ebo produced three Siegers including Kalina, and one Reserve Sieger (Egor vd Eland x Baroness Eva v Rensloo)

Eick's perfect front assembly is matched by an excellent rear angulation, a deep, well shaped chest, prominent forechest, and a perfect croup. He is a dog of much harmony and nobility. To fault him we could wish he bore one cutlet shorter and firmer in the back. His eyes are medium brown. Although he became a double Sieger and multi-BIS winner, his influence in Germany has been suppressed because of political discrimination which has had more to do with personalities than genetics.

Once again we experience a lack of general breeder recognition of the importance of the timely appearance of such a classic individual, which has been chiefly due to political interference by the DV leadership. Prejudice is a luxury no breed can afford, especially as small a breed with such a relatively closed gene pool as that of the German Dobermanns. The German club hierarchy has a lot to answer for when we consider the number of times the

personal misuse of a power monopoly has resulted in the suppression, discredit, or loss of genetically irreplaceable animals from mainstream breeding programs. Breeder-critics who might protest against the orchestrated organizational degradation of the Dobermann being done in favor of pursuing the private agendas of “political geneticists” have often found themselves discriminated against. Unfortunately I have observed that this ruthless, self-serving manipulation of positions of trust at the expense of breed progress is a common thread found in the hierarchies of many clubs, irrespective of their nationality.

The late Mr. Phillipp Gruenig summed it up quite aptly when he wrote: “Organizations which have for their professed aim the improvement and welfare of the Dobermann are only mentioned in connection with registration records. Thirty years of experience has taught me that such organizations do less for the professed purpose of their existence than for the individuals composing their management. They are frequently turned into arenas for the riotous exaltation of personages and a brand of politics most oppressing and damaging to the breed. The best proof of this can be found in the demonstrable fact that with few exceptions, the leaders in these organizations have never produced anything worth recording.”

When five and a half years of age and a retired matron, Kalina’s litter with Eick was to be whelped in the USA, in a partnership with her new co-owners Mrs. Newsom and Ms. Mitchell. It produced the desired results, with a number of good picks. The litter pick was the brown Bernice v Norden Stamm. Sent to Germany, she was a young bitch that “won everything” until a major leg injury put her into early retirement. The black brother Borg is another strong working animal that also has had considerable successes in France. He most recently has attracted breeder attention by the excellent qualities of his winning offspring.

Litter #5 by Nemesis Aro v Norden Stamm

Kalina’s fifth litter was by her grandson, Nemesis Aro v Norden Stamm (Aro was sired by Eick out of Kalina’s daughter Nicole). This was an inbreeding on Kalina and the pick bitch, Ebony v Norden Stamm, went to my good friend and fellow breeder Fernando Magalhães, living in Portugal. Only a young bitch, she has already passed her SchH I and Fit for Breeding test in Germany

with the best grades. She won the Portuguese National Champion title at 18 months of age, as well as a number of other specialty shows. She accidentally mated with an Ebo vd Groote Maat grandson while still quite immature. This unplanned litter albeit produced some great benefits for Fernando. At the German National Specialty Show (DV Sieger), Ebony’s only two daughters placed first and third, with daughter Ewelyn Evy del

Vallverde getting the Junior Sieger title. A few weeks later at the European Sieger Show, Ewelyn and her full brother (the only male in the litter) then won both the Junior Sieger awards!



Three full sisters from the now famous K litter at 8 weeks of age. From left to right are **Nor Ch Karma**, **Germ Ch Kalina**, and **Karamella** (Am ptd).

Litter #6 by Graaf Quirinus v Neerlands Stam

Kalina’s sixth and last litter was also bred in the USA, this time under the von Koepsel/

Nemesis kennel names of the Newsom/Mitchell team. Sired by the Dutch bred Sieger dog Graaf Quirinus v Neerlands Stamm, they are still only relatively young and therefore there is little relevant general information on the progeny to comment on. With their strong family traditions as show and working dogs, there would be enough mentors for them to successfully follow in the footsteps of those gone before them.

Epilogue

Many important dogs and family branches have not been mentioned in this article. To cover them all comprehensively would have been more suited to a novel than an article, and I regret that much must remain unwritten.

Kalina has proven a supreme show dog, a quintessential working dog, and an extraordinary brood bitch with enormous powers of genetic transmission worthy of her illustrious ancestors. In short, Kalina really had it all-and more. Her progeny and immediate descendants are found on all five continents today. Amongst them are numerous champions, National Champions, specialty winners, and working champions, all whose existence continues to pay homage to this most beloved of Dobermanns. Her effect on the spectators and breeders alike is probably best summed up in the words of breeder-judge Eyvind Jensen when he said “they must have had Kalina in mind when they wrote the Standard.”

Kalina classically represented the meaning of the German word “Adel” as it was meant to be translated: functional quality in both character and conformation. No matter how “elegant,” no dog can possess true Adel if it departs from the Dobermann breed’s sacred trinity: Type, Harmony, and Utilitarian Character! This devotion to the ideal is best summed up in the words of breed specialist Dr. Friedrich Karl Dorn when he stated, “while all men can admire the nobility and beauty, the breeder is intensely concerned with the Type. He shall be the quintessence of all good qualities in compact form. His harmony of character and build is that of a very perfect animal-it is essentially that of utility.” Those who would seek to elevate any one aspect, at the expense of the whole, are not breeding true Dobermanns but rather black and tan dogs.

Kalina had suffered from a heart condition for some months, a by-product of trauma during lengthy internal surgery. After the operation the vet had warned of this extra induced complication, stating the damage done to her heart could take her at any time. She passed away doing something she loved...chasing squirrels in her back yard.



Kalina v Norden Stamm (Ebo vd Groote Maat x Alida v Flan-driscchen Lowen



Kalina winning the BOB and World Sieger title in Copenhagen over 10,000 all breed entries



Head study of **Kastrav Norden Stamm**, Kalina's full sister



Ninjov Norden Stamm He sired two Siegers before being sold to Italy (Baron Bryan v Harros'berg x Kalina)

“Tis Grace that brought me safe so far, and Grace will lead me home. In Grace our souls will journey on. In Grace our work is done.”

Hertog Alpha v Le Dobry (DV Sg) Linebred on Don Dayan, he was a leading sire, producing numerous Siegers of the like of Graf Guido & Golda v Franckenhorst, Graaf Quirinus v Neerlands Stamm, etc. (Don Dayan v Franckenhorst x Tanja vd Kunnemaborough)



Eick vd Rappenau (Bd Sg) Linebred to Bryan v Forell, he figures prominently in the pedigrees of many Kalina descendents today (Hertog Alpha v Le Dobry x Anuschka v Haberhof)



Graaf Quirinus v Neerlands Stam (DV Sg) Also linebred to Bryan v Forell, he is one of four German Siegers used to partner Kalina (Hertog Alpha v Le Dobry x Dea Delores v Franckenhorst)



Baron Bryan v Harros'berg (Bd Sg) A multi-Sieger that sired two of Kalina's six litters (Baron Cekar v Rensloo x Vitesse v Franckenhorst)



Doberman personalities Mr. Wilking (v Forell kennel) speaks here with Mrs. Kniff-Dermout (v Neerlands Stam kennel). In the background is Mr. Fleitmann of Westphalia kennels, the German breeder who later moved to the USA.



Left to right: Alison Kollenberg (v Norden Stamm kennel), Gerhard Meyer (Los Valientes kennel) the owner of Ebo vd Groote Maat, and Herman Palmer (v Furstenfeld kennel) who was the breeder of the great sire Vello and many other excellent Dobermanns in the early post-war period.



The author and Kalina's breeder, Jens Kollenberg (v Norden Stamm kennel) with Ninjo and Nicole v Norden Stamm. He made them both SchH III, going High in Trial with Nicole and Runner Up with Ninjo at a DVG events (18 contestants). Both dogs later produced multi-Sieger progeny for the kennel



In Germany is the young **Hertog de Ferignis** (Eick vd Rappenau x Alina v't Gröne Land)



In Finland is **Nemesis Alida v Norden Stamm** A Kalina granddaughter and 3 times Finnish Specialty Winner, pictured with owner Elina Jarvenen (Eick vd Rappenau x Nicole v Norden Stamm)



In the USA: Storm Bergin and **Donner v Adlercrest** (Am Ptd, SchH III) A son of Ebo vd Groote Maat and Amida v Flandrischen Lowen, he successfully passed on his family's intense working ability, producing American Working Champions of the calibre of Bismark and Carlo v Donautal.



In Russia is **Irinus de Ferignis** Like his half brother Hertog, Irinus is a Kalina grandson and a male much appreciated for his family type and depth of pedigree (Graaf Quirinus v Neerlands Stam x Alina v't gröne Land)