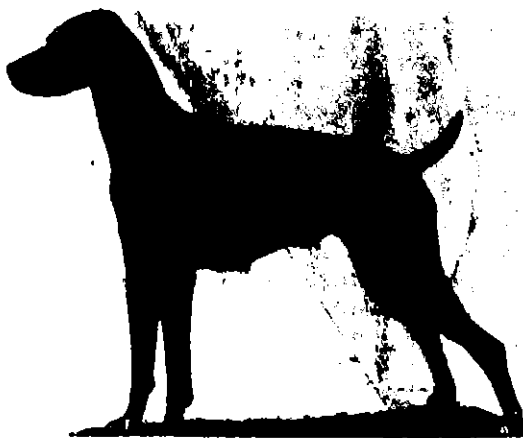




Amber

Buck

# VIZSLA CLUB OF ILLINOIS, INC.



Ginger

*Sept*

## MONTHLY BULLETIN

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Rippe

CLUB OFFICERS

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Ken Crago, 5626 S. Webster, Downers Grove, Ill. 60515 (964-9549)

VICE PRESIDENT

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Sharon Simon, 688 N. Main, Antioch, Ill. 60002 (395-0649)

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- X Cakora, Dennis - P.O. Box 1030, Briardwood, Ill. (618-458-2607)
- X Lambrecht, Wayne - 143 N. Shore Drive, Lake Villa, Ill. (356-8736)
- ✓ Lucas, Tony - 404 N. Park, Westmont, Ill. (964-1219)
- ✓ Pecora, John - 237 Judson Street, Bensenville, Ill. (595-0349)
- ✓ Simon, Lew - 688 N. Main, Antioch, Ill. (395-0649)

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Bulletin Publisher: James Busch, R. R. #1, Poplar Grove, Ill.

Up-to-date Membership Lists - Maryann Ingrassia, 461 Forest Preserve Drive, Wood Dale, Ill. 60191

Membership Packets - Betty Solberg, 4516 N. Paulina Street, Chicago, Ill.

Hip-dysplasia X-rays - send to OFA Dysplasia Control Office, 817 Virginia Avenue, Columbia, Missouri 65201

The Vizsla Club of Illinois, Inc., indorses the efforts of organizations such as the Vizsla Club of America, the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) and the University of Minnesota, to eliminate hip-dysplasia in dogs, and encourage all of its' members to use - ONLY CERTIFIED NORMAL BREEDING STOCK AT ALL TIMES.

CLUB MEETINGS ARE HELD EVERY THIRD WEDNESDAY IN THE MONTH AT THE HOME OF:

John Pecora  
237 Judson Street  
Bensenville, Ill. Ph: 595-0349

7:30 PM

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Dress: Casual

Refreshments served.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Almost too quickly summer is passing us by and the fall is upon us. It's also the time of year to be getting those dogs of ours in running shape for the hunting and field-trial seasons ahead. There is an abundance of pheasants at most training sites due to the favorable weather this year. Owners would do well to work their dogs now in preparation for the fall.

There are two public dog training areas available for our use in this area. One is the Des Plaines Wildlife Area near Joliet, Illinois; the other is the Bong Dog Training Area, Kansasville, Wisconsin.

A dog training permit is required on the person of anyone using the Des Plaines area. These permits are free of charge and can be secured by writing to:

Mr. Reg. H. Clark, Supervisor  
Shooting Preserve Areas of Field Trials  
State of Illinois  
Department of Conservation  
Division of Wildlife Resources  
102 State Office Building  
400 South Spring Street  
Springfield, Ill. 62706

A dog training permit is not required for running dogs at the Bong area or for shooting pigeons there, however, game birds can be killed out of season only if they have been secured from a licensed game farm, are properly tagged, and a training permit has been secured. These permits are also free of charge and are available from the following address:

Area Game Manager  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
109 East Washington Street  
Burlington, Wisconsin 53105

The effort required in obtaining dog training permits is small when compared with the benefits that owners can receive in return.

Hope to see all of you at our next meeting.

Ken Crago, President

\* \* \* \* \*

ALL articles for the bulletin must be submitted to the editor by the first of each month in order to meet that month's publication. Please note the new address for your editor and publisher on the inside cover of this issue.

Here's proof that field trial season is upon us already - -  
our first placements from a field trial - - -

JOLIET POINTING DOG CLUB FUN TRIAL - August 12, 1973

Derby Stake - 2nd Place: "Willie", O/H Tony Lucas

Hunting Dog Stake - 2nd Place: "Tee", O/H Ann Lucas

G.S.P. of Illinois, September 1-2, 1973

Open Derby - 4th Place: "Willie", O/H Tony Lucas

Open Ltd. Gun Dog - 2nd Place: "Rippi", O/H Ken Crago

\* \* \* \* \*

Following is an article written by Phil Rosenberg to  
have been handed out at the field trial seminar which  
never materialized. We hope you will find it informa-  
tive and interesting.

" Starting Your Pup "

First try getting your pup "birde" by using a pheasant wing  
and a fishing pole. Your pup is five to six weeks of age

at this time.  
This can be done  
inside the home,  
in the basement  
or out in the yard,  
weather permitting.  
Try working the  
wing in front of the  
pup, trying not to  
let him catch it.  
He or she should  
show a tendency to  
point once they  
see they can't  
catch the wing. I  
like to stop this  
routine as soon as  
I get a staunch  
point out of my pups  
Too much wing and  
string and it tends  
to become a game  
with the young dog.

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JULIE

&

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ERICKSON

(cont'd next  
page)

## "Starting Your Pup" continued....

Next step is getting your pup(s) out into the yard with a pigeon that has its flight feathers pulled so it can hop and walk around but can't fly. The pup(s) will have a gay old time chasing a live bird around. If you have more than one young dog, let them both chase the bird. It seems pups are bolder as a group, whereas a lone pup might get frightened by itself. Letting the pups do this two or three times is sufficient enough to get their bird sense stimulated. The pup is six to eight weeks old at this time.

Next, weather permitting, get your pup out in the field on short grass if possible. I find having one or two older dogs along has a tendency to make your pup forget about you and start to explore the world on his own. I use my older dogs as an aid to start my pups into getting that independent attitude.

Once you see the pup(s) starting to enjoy the field and he or she strikes out on their own from time to time, I think at this point you can start your training with an older dog. Your pup is now 12 to 13 weeks old. I stop running my young dogs together at 12 weeks of age and start my real training. At this point the pup is getting aggressive and starting to hunt. His playing days in the field are over. Even though puppies are still puppies, you have to start a training routine somewhere. This is as good a time as any I find personally.

I run my young dogs with a different older dog each time I put them down; at first with dogs which they know, and then with strange dogs, but always using older dogs that are all business in the field.

If you plan on strictly hunting your dog, then run him with the best hunting dog you can find. You will see your pup pick up the traits, good and bad, of the older dog you're running him with, so be careful and choose your running partners with thought. Your dog at 12 to 13 weeks should be run for 10 to 15 minutes, again, weather permitting. If there is a little snow or if it might be raining somewhat, don't be afraid to run your pup. You might as well get his feet wet as soon as possible.

Birds: In the spring and early summer you might get lucky and find some young pheasants to run your young pup on. If not, you will have to use pigeons as a means of getting your young dog started. The planting of birds, by this I mean the way you go about it, is very important. I start by putting a couple birds down in a ten or twenty acre area and just let the pup hunt them out in his own time. Do not lead your pup directly to the birds. He or she is the hunter. Your job is just to keep him in the general area. Try and get your pup on birds at least once a week in the beginning. As your pup gets older, say four to five months, we are ready to start planting the birds farther out (off horseback if you have a horse to use). Start right at the cast off point, have the person who is

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- AT STUD -



"A SHOW AND FIELD TRIAL DOG"

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Kenneth Crago  
5626 Webster  
Downers Grove, Ill  
312-964-9549

plant the bird for you show it to your pup before the castoff. You will be standing with your pup on lead and then the planter walks, or rides, out about 100 yards and plants the bird. On his return, cast the pup off. Your dog has a general idea where the bird was planted, so he will bolt out as fast as he can run and hunt the trail of the planter or horse. On finding the bird, your pup will probably jump in the first few times trying to catch the bird, so plant the bird very loose so it will pop out on its own. With a pigeon you will find if you gently dizzy the bird up and drop it at some likely object or some heavy cover, you will get the results you're looking for. Another thing I must add, wear an old pair of gloves so as to make the bird smell as natural as possible. Back to your pup - as the bird pops out and your dog starts his chase, you may fire a small caliber blank pistol (22 blank or crimp if you have it), but only fire if he is in hot pursuit of the bird and is not closer to you than 30 to 40 yards. later as the pup gets used to the 22 blank you will switch to the 32 blank, but always remember he is chasing when you fire. You will kill two birds with one stone this way:

1. Your pup should become very birdy,
2. He will get used to the gun.

If you are lucky enough to have plenty of native birds in your area, working with pigeons is not necessary. If not, you might try this method, again be careful when introducing the gun to the young dog. A few weekends of this type of training should be all your pup needs to get his interest up. Don't over-do planting birds for your young dog. As soon as possible run him on wild birds, for you will find no substitute for the real thing.

On the subject of running a dog for any length of time, I find that 15 to 20 minutes for the six month old dog, and a gradual rise of up to 30 minutes until he is about one year old is more than sufficient for my own dogs. Over-doing a thing and running your young puppy for one or two hours will just cause him to pace himself and he may even lose interest in field work. If you see your pup is not running with fire he showed you last week, don't push him

or get on him. Remember, you have your good days and bad days also.


Another thing you might keep in mind, especially if you are thinking of trialing your pup, run him on different grounds as much as possible. He will enjoy it more because it's new and interesting, and there is nothing like new territory to explore for a young puppy. You will find it will make him a more independent dog.

At this point if you plan on seriously field trialing your pup, the next thing to cover would be "pattern on course", introducing the horse, and field trial handling in general (overhandling, hacking, and just plain yelling). Yelling I consider the biggest mistake a new handler can make in training at anytime. These points will be covered later.

I might add that these are just some tips and things that have worked for me during the years I have trained dogs. I have had some good results from them, and I hope you will too.

\* \* \* \* \*

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MINUTES OF THE SPRING 1974 NATIONAL FIELD TRIAL  
COMMITTEE

Chairman: Phil Rosenberg 653-5148  
Secretary: Dorothy Rosenberg  
Committee: Pat Biernat, Jim Busch, Al Cajka, Ken Crago,  
Pete Ingraffia, Tony Lucas, John Pecora, Fred Austin,  
Bill Stephens, Jack IZard, and Jim Mills.

Each member of the committee should send to AKC for a free issue of the booklet "Registration and Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds".

For this booklet, send to:  
The American Kennel Club  
51 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10010

The Vizsla Club of America, Inc., Field Trial to be held at the Green River Wildlife Area, Ohio, Illinois, on the 27th and 28th of April-1974, is being hosted by the VCOI.

The Drawing is to take place at the home of the Pecoras, 237 South Judson Street, Bensenville, Illinois 60106, on April 17, 1974.

Standard Vizsla Club of America Field Trial Regulations are to be used in setting up stakes and running orders.

Committee Jobs:

1. Tony Lucas is to obtain marshalls - 2 ride and 2 line.
2. Pete Ingraffia is to obtain gunners and judges gifts (four judges).
3. John Pecora is to obtain trophies and ribbons. AKC rosettes and trophies for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places in all stakes. (Derby - Open Ltd. Gun Dog - Amateur Gun Dog - Open Puppy - Open Ltd. All-Age)
4. Jim Busch to obtain banquet location and motel information and;(a) arrange for social hour and kick-off dinner for Friday evening; (b) arrange for social hour and banquet dinner for Saturday evening, and (c) arrange for meeting rooms for the Board for Friday afternoon (this sometimes runs into Friday evening).
5. Horses - Ken Crago and Phil Rosenberg - (a) 12 club horses, (b) horses will be made available for rent by the day and brace, (c) paid reservations may be made in advance for horses by the day.
6. Ken Crago to check on birds and arrange for delivery.
7. Linda Busch to handle food concession on the grounds.
8. Pete Morrison and John IZard to work on the running orders.
9. Phil Rosenberg to obtain judges and make judges' reservations at motel.
10. Dennis Cakora and Dorothy Rosenberg to take pictures at the trial for the National News.
11. Bird Planters: Jack IZard, Jim Mills, John Pecora, Pat Biernat, and Al Cajka.



12. Fred Austin to manage hospitality suite at motel.
13. Dorothy Rosenberg - publicity.

NOTE: All expense reports and receipts should be sent to Phil Rosenberg and will be sent to the National Club.

\* \* \* \* \*

## R E B U T T A L

Following is a rebuttal to "Controversy Corner" in the August issue, which was titled "Who Said Showing Was Fun".

"Before one begins to think in terms of shows, you have to examine your motives. Are you showing to boost your own ego or are you seriously interested in preserving a breed?

If you are a glory monger you won't succeed for long as you'll never achieve enough wins to satiate the urge for being tops. You don't win in that ring, only your dog does.

I must disagree that any Vizsla can become a champion. If it is structurally an inferior specimen, no one, including a handler, will finish it. Let's face it, most judges were handlers and are well aware of what a handler is doing. Stretching out a back leg to lower a bad topline won't fool a fair, knowledgeable judge.

In the past few years many class dogs have gone Best of Breed over the Specials and on that particular day may well have deserved it.

If we are attempting to improve the breed, as we all heartily maintain, this should confirm our efforts, not arouse anger.

The statement that only two dogs have been measured and none disqualified under the height standard is not correct. I have seen Vizslas measured, some within the standard, and some disqualified as measuring "out".

Many judges I have shown under definitely needed more knowledge. One example being that we were told to relax while he opened the standard book and checked a minute point. Obviously this is a gross mistake. Constructively, exhibitors should refrain from again showing under these types of judges. When they come to shows and repeatedly have no Vizslas to judge in an area where we are plentiful, they'll get the point. Other breed clubs have successfully employed this. Will we again show under the judge that recently asked us the ages of our dogs when this is not allowed? Are we that wanting for points that we can't band together?

We have all been beaten by handlers. Whether or not his was the best that day is not the point. Ours has not been a show-oriented club until quite recently and we've all had to ascertain what to do in a ring on our own. We don't put in the time or effort a handler does to show our dogs' good points. Our Vizslas look great gaiting freely in the back yard, but do we learn how to properly present any dog to a judge? I've seen a judge have to show Vizsla exhibitors how to properly hold a show lead. We'll bring in immature pups and older dogs with no ring experience and expect the judge to overlook misbehavior. How can anyone fairly judge a wiggly dog even though he may well be the best one? This is what we have fun matches for and where is everyone - certainly not at the matches!

More time is needed for showing than most people realize or care to be involved in. But, if glory doesn't come quickly enough, the judges reap the blame. It doesn't take a handful of shows for repeated success. It takes years. One champion does not measure success. Under a definite breeding program, many wins with many dogs under varied judges, measures our Vizslas' success.

We gripe about the handlers, but when we can't finish a good Vizsla, the handler becomes our salvation.

We amateurs can and do win often enough to be counted. We will continue to do so, but must learn how to obtain knowledge. Shows are not solely maintained by professional handlers, we are the backbone.

If we cannot utilize knowledge and go out of our way to breed better and better Vizslas and be better exhibitors, then we deserve anything that befalls us in a show ring.

We are young in our show efforts. Let us pull together and unemotionally examine all the angles and stop running around in circles. "

Diane Stoeke

\* \* \* \* \*

The following article taken from the Vizsla Club of Southern California Bulletin was submitted to us by Phil Rosenberg with permission from Bob Averill for reprinting in our bulletin.

"As everyone who is interested knows by now, four of the five stakes (Puppy, Derby, Amateur and Open Gun Dog) will be closed to Vizslas only at our fall trial. Only Open Limited Gun Dog will be open to all-breed competition. This decision was made by our Field Trial Committee after lengthy discussion and represents the feeling of the majority. I would like to speak out against this decision as a member of the minority. These people who represent the majority are my friends and if I did not believe that their goals were the same as mine - namely, improving the breed - I would not take the time to write this. But, I do think, along with an ever decreasing

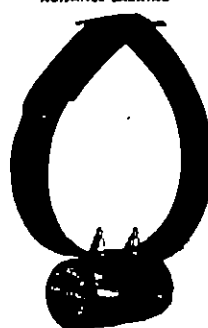

number of people in this country, that the closing of stakes is not the way to improve the Vizsla.

First of all, let's examine the intended reason for the one open stake in our trial. The decision was purely economic; if we could field enough Vizsla entries, I believe this stake would have been voted closed also. Thus, for all intents and purposes, we have a closed trial.

What is the effect of closing a stake to Vizslas only? Very simple, a Vizsla wins. That is, a Vizsla wins if there is a winner. (for you show only people although the show rules allow the judge to withhold first place, it is for all practical purposes never done. In field trials, it is common). And, if a Vizsla gets first place, he gets points. And, if a Vizsla gets points, he eventually becomes a champion. And for most of our dogs, he would also become a dual champion. And as a field champion or dual champion, he becomes a sought-after stud dog. And thus, we improve the breed. Right? Wrong! At least, I say it's wrong.

What is the effect of opening a stake to all-breed competition? Very simple, a Vizsla does not win. Some other breed takes the points. And if a Vizsla doesn't get points, he doesn't become a champion. And he doesn't become a sought-after stud. And thus we don't improve the breed. Right? Wrong, again!

To improve the breed we need outstanding stud dogs and brood bitches. Until we can win in all-breed competition, we will not have this. I am not saying that a field champion created by closed competition is not necessarily a good dog, but I am saying that I know that a field champion made from all-breed competition is good - or at least is more likely to be good. Breed improvement is accomplished over decades, not years. If we cheat now, we never get there. I think we have to decide whether we want field

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champions or breed improvement. I really think this is the issue. One is obviously much harder than the other. This same challenge is being met by the Vizsla owners in the group ring. With a lot of work and a lot of breed improvement, the Vizsla is making it. Now I know you field trialers do a lot of looking down your nose, but have you ever heard any suggestion to change the show rules to "give the Vizsla a break"? Let's decide that what we want is breed improvement and then we can have field champions too.

\* \* \* \* \*

### SHOW RESULTS

#### CHAGRIN VALLEY KENNEL CLUB - Sunday, August 26, 1973

Judge: Mrs. James E. Clark

##### OPEN DOGS:

1. Jodi's Jump-N-Bing Bang Bucz, O/James Busch, H/Bunnie Cuthbertson (BEST OF WINNERS & BEST OF OPPOSITE)
2. Zimmel's Zarpen's, O/H Mr. and Mrs. Tex Zimmel
3. Sir Lancelot, II, O/Ashlyn Cannon, H/George Rood
4. Slotki Corancha's Blaze, O/William and Augusta Kruse, H/Dennis Laturie

##### OPEN BITCHES:

1. Sari Cigany, O/H Elmer and Margaret Thomasko
2. Masha's Super Sara, O/H Frank and Cynthia Hibler

##### BEST OF BREED:

1. Ch. Mormac's Guinevere of Amber (BEST VIZSLA)

\* \* \* \* \*

#### SAGINAW VALLEY KENNEL CLUB - September 8, 1973

Judge: Del Glodowski

##### PUPPY DOGS:

1. Pajtas of Blue Hill, O/H Robert & Concordia Miller

##### OPEN DOGS:

1. Jodi's Jump-N-Bing Bang Bucz, O/James Busch, H/Bunnie Cuthbertson (BEST OF WINNERS, BEST OF BREED)
2. Slotki Corancha's Blaze, O/William Kruse (RESERVE)

##### OPEN BITCHES:

1. Uropuyka, O/Elizabeth Walton (BEST OF OPPOSITE)

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Livonia Kennel Club - September 9, 1973

Judge: Winnefred Hickman

##### OPEN DOGS:

1. Jodi's Jump-N-Bing Bang Bucz, O/James Busch, H/Bunnie Cuthbertson (Winner's Dog) (BEST OF BREED)

2. Slotki Corancha's Blaze, O/William Kruse (RESERVE)
3. Chip Off Rip of Crested J, C.D., O/Mrs. Ed Cepulis

OPEN BITCHES:

1. Golden Hills Zsa, O/H Marlene Peck (WINNER'S BITCH)

\* \* \* \* \*

\$\$\$ AD \$\$\$ A D \$\$ AD \$\$\$

FEMALE VIZSLA PUPPY FOR SALE

I have an 8-month old female Vizsla puppy for sale to the right owner. Her registered name is Webster Woodlands Missi and she was sired by Ch. Rippi of Webster Woodlands out of Trudy's Copper Queen. Both her sire and dam are certified free of hip dysplasia and approved for advertising by the Vizsla Club of America.

Missi has been worked on both wild and planted birds since seven weeks of age. She has an excellent nose and very good endurance, but she does not run far enough in front for serious field trial competition. This is my only reason for offering her for sale.

Missi has been raised in my home and has been exposed to children all her life. She is completely house-broken and is content to live in the house or in a kennel run. She can be transported in a dog crate or on the seat of a car without any difficulty. Her health and shot records are up-to-date and she has been on heartworm preventative all year. If you are seriously interested in a fine companion and hunting dog, please contact:

Kenneth R. Crago  
5626 Webster  
Downers Grove, Ill. 60515  
Phone: 312-964-9549 evenings

\* \* \* \* \*

CONTROVERSY CORNER

By: James Busch

The Hip Championship Fallacy

In our breed we have many different kinds of championships that a dog can earn. The pursuit of each of these championships costs us owners a great deal of time, effort, and/or money, except one, i.e., The Hip Championship. This championship is attained (assuming the owner is honest) with a pair of trips to the Vet, one to drop the dog off, the other to pick him up. The Vet X-rays the dog's hips while in the prescribed position and sends the X-ray to the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) to be "read" by orthopedic specialists who determine whether your dog has hip dysplasia or not. A certificate is issued which proclaims

whether your dog's hips are normal or not. (most dogs who pass get the rating "normal", a few earn the "excellent" rating which is kind of like "Best of Hips") Serious minded owners then submit their certificate (assuming the dog is okay) to the VCOA Breed Improvement Committee which rubber stamps the OFA pronouncement and the dog's name is published in the National News. In effect, the dog has earned a Hip Championship. Fortunately, the whole procedure costs less than \$100 which makes it a real bargain in the championship market.

Many benefits accrue to a dog which has earned its hip championship. The sons and daughters of this dog may compete in the Futurities (show and field). The dog and its progeny may be advertised in the National News and the VCOI bulletin. The theory behind all this is that it will help to eliminate the congenital deformity hip dysplasia from our breed. I think the program has no chance of succeeding.

Of course, dogs with hip dysplasia should not be bred. If we really want to eliminate hip dysplasia we cannot let owners collude with their Vets to send X-rays to OFA. Dishonesty is as prevalent in the ranks of dog breeders as any other group of people. Rex may have normal hips, King does not. X-ray Rex, put King's name on the plate and behold, King is a hip champion.

Hip dysplasia is a result of dogs being bred who carry a combination of recessive genes which when combined in the proper proportions produce dysplastic puppies. It is not enough to know which dogs do not have dysplasia (any normal dog may be the only one out of the litter which was normal). We must know and should publish the names of any dog which when X-rayed, proves to be dysplastic. Only rarely is a dog dysplastic as a result of genetic mutation. Most often, it is the result of breeding two carriers of the recessive genes that produce dysplasia.

The whole Vizsla community is elated when a dog earns "Best of Hips". These same people speak in whispers when a pup they have bred turns out to be dysplastic.

Perhaps there is no strain or bloodline that is free of hip dysplasia. If this is the case, we should know this too. If we truly want to eliminate this scourge from our breed, then every effort should be made not only to identify hip champions, but also to identify the dogs and bloodlines that failed. It does no good at all to have a dual champion, U.D., T.D. hip champion if the puppies of this dog are afflicted by or carry the genes for transmitting hip dysplasia.

Next month Controversy Corner will cover the subject "Everyone should buy a farm!"

By the way - my blank gun is still missing. Will everyone who was at the fun trial please check your gear and see if you have my blank gun. Now that field trial season is upon us again, it is possible that it has been stuck in someone's gear all summer unbeknown to him.

## ABOUT OUR ADVERTISERS - - -

Several months ago the Bulletin began carrying advertising for the first time in its history. The fee is modest, but the monies received have permitted us to publish an expanded, easier to read, bulletin. We now have three commercial ads running. As we get more advertisers, we will be able to expand and improve the quality of the Bulletin still further.

Each of our advertisers are naturally in business to make a profit and therefore, their willingness to renew their ads in the future will be dependent upon the increased business they receive as a result of advertising in our Bulletin.

We all need their services, or know of someone who needs their services on occasion. Please use their services and recommend them to your friends who, because of your membership in the VCOI, consider you an expert in the field of Vizslas and dogs in general. Bark-N-Town Kennels is owned by a club member and is an excellent place to board your dog. It is conveniently located and reasonably priced. In addition to boarding, they offer a clipping service and training on a limited basis. You will find Eric, who is a knowledgeable hunter and field trialer, quite willing to help you with training problems. There are ponds on the property for water training and a licensed dog training area for use all year.

John Swanson is also a club member. He and his father produce high quality, reasonably priced, engraved redwood signs. They make excellent gifts for friends and relatives who have homes, estates, businesses, and hobbies. In addition, John has pheasants and partridge for sale for eating and/or training. He also has a 40 acre dog training area which can be used year round.

Tri-tronics is our newest advertiser. They make several items for the dog community. The no-bark collar which is currently being advertised, is reasonably priced and does the job for which it is intended. When the dog barks, a small electric shock is passed across the skin creating discomfort. The dog soon learns that barking is a No No. The beauty of this device is that it works when you are not there. We all have owned a dog, or know of someone who owns a dog that barks and creates a nuisance when the owner is not at home. This would be the perfect solution. Lew Simon owns one of these collars and has had great success with its use. He would be happy to show it to you and discuss it with you.

We will take ads for any legal business whose product or service is of good quality. Each club member can help the Bulletin by giving any Board member the name of anyone who might be a potential advertiser.

Don't hesitate to be a salesman and get the ad yourself. We need help in this endeavor from each and everyone of you.

"THE PRESENT STATUS AND OUTLOOK ON  
CANINE HIP DYSPLASIA"

(taken from "Progress", a Gaines Dog Research publication)

1973 marks the fortieth year since we first became aware of the existence of canine hip dysplasia, a developmental malformation of the hip joint in dogs that first had been recognized in man by Hippocrates in the year 370 B.C. In the past three decades much money, time, and effort have been spent in the study of CHD. It behooves all of us who are interested in and love dogs to pause and determine our course of action toward its control.

It should be realized that all we knew about CHD in the '30's was what could be read in the medical press which, briefly, was that it constituted faulty growth and development of all tissues in and around the hip joint, and that it was not uncommon in Italian children and in a tribe of Canadian Indian children and, if not corrected in infancy, could lead to very painful, arthritic hips in man at middle age or beyond.

As experience with it in dogs increased, we learned that there was an "acute" phase during the period of rapid growth of the dog. During this phase the subject, usually one of a large breed of dogs, would have difficulty in rising, particularly on a slippery floor; would "flop" down instead of easing itself to the ground, and would in various ways demonstrate pain in the region of the hip joints.

As our knowledge of CHD further increased, we learned that dogs "recovered" from the acute phase and by the time they were mature, the hip joint symptoms not only lessened but very often disappeared entirely. The later phase of arthritis that occurred in man might or might not be evident in middle age or later in life depending upon breed, activity, life style, weight and temperament (sensitivity) of the individual. We learned that some dogs went through long lives (our Standard Poodle lived to 17) with only minimal discomfort or malfunction from CHD.

Two main factors account for the sharp difference between the course of HD in dogs and in man. First, man walks entirely on his "hind" legs and for many more years than do dogs. Second, and unfortunately, diagnoses of CHD were and often are being made upon the basis of joint laxity (looseness or subluxation) in the young dog. To the first axiom we reply that dogs with pain or dysfunction in both hind legs can and do shift a considerable part of their weight-bearing function to the forelegs. To the latter, we reply that hip joint laxity has been reported to exist in all large breeds of dogs, except racing Greyhounds, at some phase of their growth period. The same has been reported to exist in children. It is granted that hip joint laxity may be a precursor to CHD but it should be realized that is very often does not lead to the later-life arthritic changes that complete the cycle and define the disease.



The acute phase with common "recovery" after a lapse of time has great importance in 1973, in two situations in particular. First we still are being advised in many letters and by word-of-mouth tales that many, many young dogs are being put down after a diagnosis of HD and after the advice that the subject will be a "hopeless cripple" in time or that it will not be able to hunt, track, or do obedience work because of painful hips. Every young dog with HD has a good chance of leading a normal or near-normal life if nothing is done for the hips except to let time elapse until maturity is complete. This writer would not under any circumstances allow pectineal muscle or tendon surgery to be performed upon an immature canine member of his family or patients under his control.

There are no published statistics, worthwhile statistics, which show that young dogs subject to such surgery turn out better than those left alone, and the unoperated ones still are eligible to compete in dog shows and obedience or tracking trials. Not only does experience dispute the need or worth of surgery but severing the pectineus muscle or tendon in the young dog makes no scientific sense. Its effect is to let the "ball" slide out of the "socket" and this creates "hip dysplasia" artificially. Done later in life on a dog with persistent pain in the hips, the operation can, by altering the weight-bearing surface of the hip joint, effect immediate relief of discomfort but, again, no worthwhile statistics have been published to show either the percentage of adult dogs improved by surgery or the length of time that such relief will persist.

What have we learned about the cause of CHD in 40 years? Since HD was accepted to be genetically in man, early researchers concentrated on trying to establish whether it was a dominant, recessive or other characteristic in the canine. Sufficient statistics have accumulated to establish beyond doubt that CHD is genetically influenced but a Swedish study on 11,036 German Shepherds showed that ten years of selective breeding not only failed to reduce the number of CHD offspring but also did not reduce the number of grade 2 or 3 (moderate to severe) cases. The Swedish authors concluded that CHD was not as greatly genetically influenced as they formerly had thought. They found that other characteristics of the pelvic slope and the shape of the pelvic inlet were suggestive indications and that the rate of bone maturation of the breed or individual also were important. The racing Greyhound, the only breed of large dog not affected, has a very slow bone maturation. When the Greyhound was crossed with the German Shepherd, no CHD appeared in the first generation. Dr. George Lust, of the Veterinary Virus Research Institute at Cornell, found that a very restricted diet, contributing to slow growth, reduced CHD in affected breeds. The substance of the above is that we still do not fully understand all the complex causes of CHD but we have reason to suspect that a program of breeding based upon the x-ray diagnosis of CHD should be carefully scrutinized.

It is interesting, although admittedly inconclusive, that the writer speculated at a Gaines Dog Research Center Seminar for Dog Breeders (Chicago, 1968) that CHD has increased markedly since large breeds of dogs evolved into suburban or

urban companion dogs from the guard or hunting functions for which they were bred and kept prior to this century. It is patent that breeders had selectively bred aggressiveness out of down as a trait. This was strikingly evident in the German Shepherd from the time of its post World War I introduction into this country until its present position of popularity. A study of the CHD breed frequency figures published by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals shows a real relationship between placid disposition and CHD occurrence.

Another unexplained facet of CHD occurrence evolved at the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston. The first recorded diagnosed cases of the disease were in the early '30's, from a kennel of Pointers and Setters bred and kept solely for work in the field. "New England bird dogs," the breeder called them. Three English Setters, in all, had recognizable HD and the owner, being an intensely practical man, had them destroyed. In the 15 or so years that followed, we kept close track of this kennel and not another case of HD turned up. True, no x-ray diagnostic program was carried out but the owner started working his dogs at three to four months of age and would surely have noticed dogs that were incapacitated in any way. A similar, although not parallel circumstance was that by 1954 when we had recorded 80 x-ray diagnosed cases of CHD, Boxers led in frequency. Subsequent to this, although Boxers were very popular in the Boston area, the incidence of diagnosed CHD declined in this breed. There was no "breed effort" at CHD reduction comparable to that of the Swedish Kennel Club although there certainly was a change in the general type of the breed during those years. The "why" of these two developments makes for interesting speculation.

What about the Hip Dysplasia Registry of the OFA? No statistics at all comparable to the Swedish report on more than 11,000 German Shepherds have been published in this country to show that there has been a meaningful reduction in the occurrence of CHD in any breed in which its incidence is high. Such statistics cannot be based upon radiographs submitted for analysis since it seems obvious that breeders, becoming knowledgeable about the disease, might not spend the money either for x-ray or for OFA registration of dogs that were obviously affected. Then, too, just how accurate is the certification of an individual dog that is made on the basis of a marked radiograph sent to headquarters? Thorough-bred horses must be tattooed and the tattoo identified by an impartial judge before it is allowed to compete. Once a breeder has a dog or bitch with good hips it can easily acquire a different identity in several places where radiography is performed. It is significant to note that after the disappointing results of the ten year study became known in Sweden, the Swedish Kennel Club withdrew its support of the project.

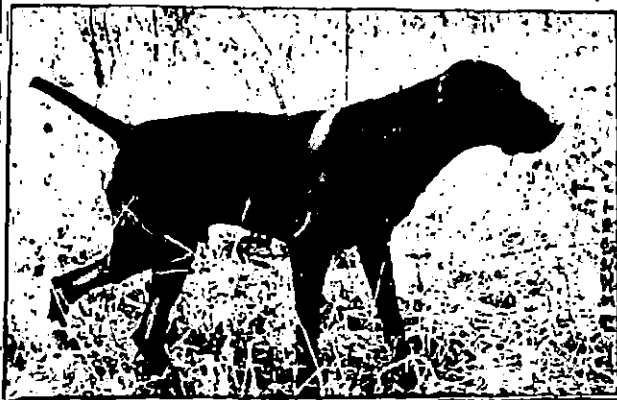
While X-ray examination is the only accepted method of accurate diagnosis of the lesser grade of CHD, the breeder must decide whether radiographic deviation from perfection of the hip joint is a characteristic so undesirable to the breed involved that, regardless of the other qualities of the individual, it should not be bred.

Canine hip dysplasia probably is here to stay unless and until we discover much more about its cause. It must not be swept under the rug. The writer believes that for now, breeders should select for propagation only those individuals who are entirely sound of body and mind when judged at maturity upon all aspects of their form, movement, temperament, and any qualities or characteristics that make them desirable companions for man. Apart from such evaluation, progeny performance seems to offer much more toward breed improvement in 1973 than anything else available to us. An extensive pelvic x-ray diagnostic program did not prove justifiable in Sweden and this veterinary radiologist has serious reservations about its worth in the United States. This is not meant to infer that a pelvic radiograph does not add to one's knowledge about an individual dog but that pelvic deviations from perfection should be kept in proper perspective.

(All of the above is an opinion by Gerry B. Schnelle, V. M.D., Vm.D.H.C.) Dr. Gerry B. Schnelle has specialized in veterinary radiology throughout his career and is a pioneer in the study of canine hip dysplasia. He was chief of staff of the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital, Boston, from 1950-1966; director of the Nantucket (Island) Animal Hospital from 1966-1971; and now lives in Sanibel, Florida, practicing veterinary medicine as a consultant on canine hip dysplasia. His alma mater, the University of Pennsylvania, recently dedicated The Gerry G. Schnelle Radiology Suite in the School of Veterinary Medicine.

\* \* \* \* \*

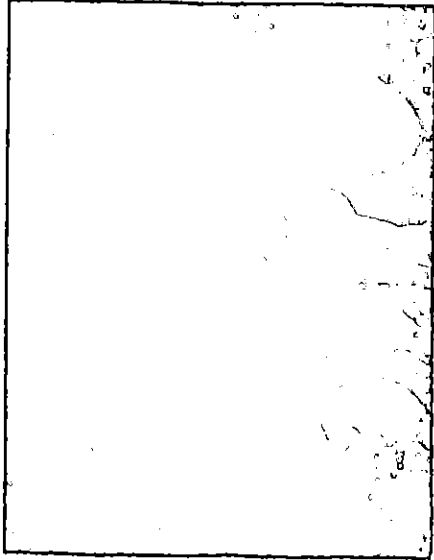
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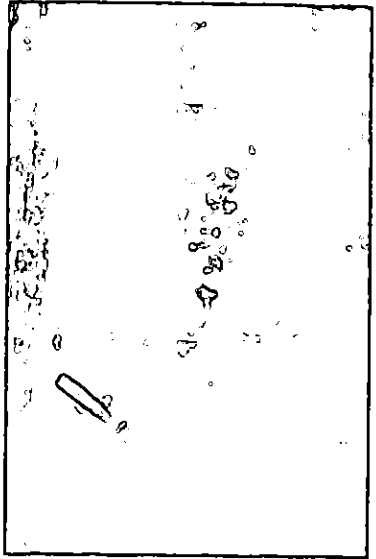
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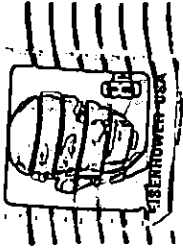
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