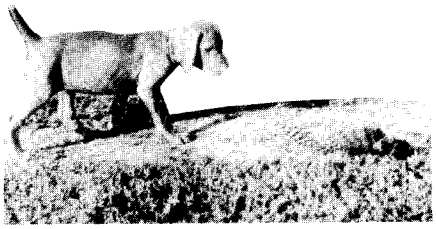
The Vizsla News

Official Voice of The Vizsla Club Of America.

VOLUME XI JULY-AUGUST 1964 Number 6



Another hot, weary day. The sun seems to radiate from all directions. The grass are dry and dormant except for the crab grass that apparently thrives on the dizzy sprinkler water. The sidewalks are hot under your feet.

There is no cheery greeting as you shuffle through the door... the kids are fighting over some fool toy and your wife reports that you need not look for your slippers... "..your pup ate them!"

"New" lifts his head from the rug...he knows he is being spoken about! How can he tell you that the dog food tastes like cardboard...and there was this tooth that was loose...

You look at that gangly, awkward pup...the one that was all hope and joy and promise ...the one that was so cute and cuddly. Now he seems to be all legs and mouth. The last of his baby hair is shedding out...revealing a sleek, slightly darker rust-gold coat below...but at the moment he looks like something the cat dragged home!

Where are those dreams about winning the Specialty and topping the Kennel Club Match? Is this the beginning of a new, [illegible] strain of Vizsla? If someone has to ask you who's dog that is, you just might respond with an evasive "I don't know..."

The evening air is hot and still. A nap in the hammock does little to revive your wilted spirits. New sleeps near by...he knows you are disappointed. How can he make up to you?

A mosquito buzzes 'round your ear...a reflex slap ends that menace. "New" bounds to your assistance, knocking down Junior's tinker-toy bridge, sending Mom's sewing basket tumbling to the floor and tipping your long, tall glass of lemonade over on the baby!

When the hubbub subsides you and "New" are quite alone on the porch...his sad eyes trying to say all that is in his heart. Maybe a walk would do you both good! There is not a cloud in the sky...the stars seem to dangle in the summer blackness. Then you see them... remember the old almanac, the one that grandma planted her garden by and grandad checked before harvesting grain or weaning a calf? There was something about July and August and "dog-days". That must be it...somewhere in the array of stars there must be the reason for this...all spelled out. If only you had learned to read their signs!

This old world, friend, still spins through time and space, and this, too, will pass and with it the long, hot summer.

In the glow of the moon, "New" looks different, somehow. There is a rustle in the tops of the trees as a breeze starts to push over the parched earth. "New" stands alert, sniffs the air... in that fleeting moment you can see that your first impressions of this pup were not wrong. When adolescence has passed, he will be quite a dog ... quite a dog, indeed!

A pat on the head, a kind word ... he responds like mercury and bounds across the lawn ahead of you. "Let's turn in, fella"... You start to walk around the lily pool. "New" cocks his head and gives you a quizical look.

The water looks cool... ... ... It is

"Tomorrow we'll take a drive out to the lake." A fellow looks silly wading in the lily pool with his dog! No use fighting it ... might as well enjoy what summer has to offer."

ejg

photo by Al Stevens

A PURPOSE FOR THE VIZSLA CLUB

Bernard C. Boggs

Where should the main emphasis be placed with the Vizsla Club of America?

> The people who belong must realize that it exists to present the Vizsla as the best possible dog to compete against all others in the sporting class... whether in the field, bench, or in the home.

Any other reason for the Vizsla Club of America is wrong.

In talking to, and visiting with, Vizsla owners the same basic impressions are formed of their feelings toward the Vizsla Club of America as are found in any organization. The people who are not in the club are real interested and eager to belong; some who do belong complain and express opinions of how things should be done... (these are usually the ones who do the least work, or none at all.)

Basic in this initial desire to belong to the Vizsla Club of America is the belief that it has something to offer them as an individual. Later on they realize that the main activity is somewhere else -- not at home. The cost of attending meetings and trials may be considerable. Many cannot afford it... others choose not to. This is an awakening period for the individual, and he wonders what he is getting for his money. Not all Vizsla owners have identical and unlimited financial means. Some can never participate in person.

This does not mean that their membership is of no value to them! Neither can the club survive very well without their membership. As a result of certain actions taken by the club, individual members are sometimes prone to accept them. They complain, feel left out, and just quit the club. (In order to justify their actions, they present their biased impression of the club to other Vizsla owners hoping to discredit it in their eyes as well.) Perhaps this is a normal pattern -- people will be people -- but no organization can be strong under these circumstances.

Many Vizsla owners are fiercely loyal. Some see the breed only so far as what they own. Little do they realize just where their possession originated, and the work and money others have put in the breed to establish its status, characteristics, recognition and AKC registration. (Most often the expressions of this minority are self-centered and revolve around the dollars used to purchase the dog.) This could be the extent of their interest in the breed. Few, if any, heard of the Vizsla 10 years ago!

We need outspoken members to keep the organization honest and alert to the needs, interest, and desires of the Vizsla owners. Too many sit back and are afraid to speak up. We definitely need these people IN the club, not outside of it!

It amazes me, but the most impressionistic thing that I have observed so far is that all Vizsla owners are distinctive individuals. They are a special group of people... sometimes it seems that most are the counterpart of the Vizsla.

The VCA should take note of what these people are criticizing, too. There is room to improve this organization and its operation. Each member feels the basic right to be consulted and also to have an individual voice in the club. Without this they do not have a true sense of "belonging."

In the constitution (Articles of Incorporation filed in June 1953) there is room for improvement along this line, and methods might be devised and agreed upon to satisfy this need.

How many members have seen the constitution? Not very many. Probably because of the lack of full time volunteer workers to prepare, approve, print, and distribute it.

As a national organization the Vizsla Club of America, Inc, must find better ways to discharge its obligations to each member who wants to have a distant voice in the business.

The VIZSLA NEWS serves as one medium to communicate ideas, experiences, and activities to the members. Who does this work? Not the Vizsla Club, because it has no paid personnel... no salaried Editor or staff. It must be done by a volunteer editor working full time. (We, as club members, can make this job easier by personal contributions of new items, articles of mutual interest, cartoons or comments on business at hand.)

The one subject that has caused a lot of discussion, some quite bitter, has been the revision in the Vizsla standard. There is no way to make every member happy over changing the standards of the breed, control of breeding, enforcement of the constitution, planning and holding of field trials and bench shows, or conducting other business of the club... BUT there must be a method found to give each member a more effective voice in the club business!

According to the present constitution the members are given an opportunity to vote for officers and board members of their choosing. Most members do not know them personally. (Perhaps this is why only about half the members exercize their vote by returning their ballot!) Then, this ruling body has absolute power and authority to conduct the business of the club, which includes changing of breed standards.

We should recognize that credit for the existence of the breed in the United States must go to a small group of individuals. Their brood stock was meager which resulted, necessarily, in line and inbreeding. For those who are unaware, there is presently very serious faults in the breed, and many should be disposed of, or prevented from further breeding. In a very short period since this started, we now have a lot of breeders. Each owner is now a potential breeder, and an amateur one at that!

This can be a very dangerous situation and bears watching. All the more reason for positive standard disqualifications.

I like the breed! I really don't think any of us will destroy their desire or ability to hunt for sometime yet. That needs improving, and it can be... all the more reason to concentrate on breeding the gun dog and field trial dog, whether a bench champion or not... But, the best goal is to breed and work for all these.

This should be the personal goal of every Vizsla owner. Not just for the sake of personal achievement and pride, but to give the Vizsla its proper position in the dog world.

Before there are too many Vizslas outside the standard, let each of us work to confirm and support a standard, and build the club for the maximum benefit of all who own a Vizsla.

THE VIZSLA CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

The 1964 Vizsla Club of America Fall Field Trial will be November 14-15, in New Sharon, Iowa.

Field Trial Chairman, Len Hartl, and F. T. Secretary, Dick Buhman, are lining up their committees, and will have a complete report in the next issue of the Vizsla NEWS...but circle the date on your calendar:

November 14 - 15

and the place on your map:

New Sharon, Iowa...

And, start making your plans to attend! Len and Dick are working very hard to have this be the finest Vizsla Club Field Trial to date.

Your attendance and participation will help to make it the largest and most representative of the breed!

FALL FIELD TRIAL CALENDAR

August 29-30 Pacific Coast Vizsla Club. FDSB (information in Regional Reports.)
August 30 GSHP Training Trial, Glenwood, Iowa Game Birds. (Loy Coutts)
September 6 Training Trial, Venice, Nebraska Omaha GSHP Club. Game Birds. (Loy Coutts)
September 12-13 AKC licensed Minneapolis, Minn. GSHP Club, (Fred Schulze)
September 19-20 AKC licensed Denver, Colorado. GSHP Club, (Bob Holcomb)
September 19-20 Texas Vizsla Club. FDSB Edmond, Oklahoma, (Jack Merrill, R. G.)
September 19-20 Field Trial, Wild Wings Shooting Preserve, Muscatine, Iowa. (Also some water retrieving) (Len Hartl)
September 26-27 AKC licensed Omaha, Nebraska GSHP Club, (Bud Graff)
September 26-27 Vizsla Club of Canada, Nanton, Alberta. (Dr. Phil Wright, R. G.)
October 3-4 AKC licensed Kansas City, Mo. GSHP Club, (Lee Summerlin, 5113 Lowell Ave. Merriam, Kansas)
October 10-11 AKC licensed Wichita, Kansas, GSHP Club.
October 17-18 National German Pointing Dog Association Inc, Field Trial. Green River Refuge, Ohio, Illinois. (James Dugan, Box 152, LongGrove, Ill.)

November 14-15 Vizsla Club of America National Fall Field Trial. AKC licensed. New Sharon, Iowa. (Dick Buhman, Box 804, Milan, Ill.)

THERE IS NO LIMIT to the amount of good one may do if he doesn't care who gets the credit.

TO: VIZSLA OWNERS

FROM: ANTON J. TINESZ
Vizsla owner, New Jersey

In the June issue of the VIZSLA NEWS there was an article on the Vizsla Standard from Mr. W. R. Campbell of the Vizsla Club of So. Cal. and an invitation for comments from other individuals. We have no organized club in this area as yet, but I would like to take the opportunity to express the ideas of the Vizsla owners in this area. (Experiences from this part of the country can add to the standard's requirements.)

We agree with the most of Mr. Campbell's statements, we do, however, differ on two points, which are:

(Under possible DISQUALIFICATIONS...point number 2.)

DEWCLAWS NOT REMOVED.

I think the first thing that we should take into consideration is that we should always be striving to improve our breed. Anyone who has seen a dog work in the heavy cover in the East and come out with a dewclaw torn half-way up its forearm will certainly agree that the removal of the dewclaw is a MUST! While I agree that normally the dewclaw does not affect the basic soundness of the dog, any breeder who will not spend the extra dollar or two for this important step in dog safety should be penalized as severely as possible.

BODY (as in the Vizsla Standard at present)

While the Standard states the Vizsla should be "strong and well proportioned" it seems that everyone has been so concerned with the height of the dog that the symmetrical balance and the appearance of "power" (which denotes a hunting dog of endurance...which our dogs are supposed to be above everything else) has been given the back seat!

I have seen some Vizslas that give the viewer a sense of power and endurance -- while others, still in proportion (and I presume strong) gave the impression of "lap dogs". I know this is NOT what we are looking for in the Vizsla.

We suggest that this section be made a little more definite on the points of bone, substance and the impression of power and strength. (Then perhaps try to educate AKC judges that hunting dogs in condition SHOULD appear "sinewy" rather than "soft".)

We are in general agreement with the rest of Mr. Campbell's suggestions on the Revised Standard and I hope that by sending this letter we have helped the Vizsla -- and maybe we have stirred some other brains...

I hope that we all keep one thought uppermost in our minds, which is, of course, improving the breed.

(ejg: Thank you very much for giving the VC of A the benefit of "thinking" in the east.

I extend the invitation, again, to groups and/or individuals who will expound on their thinking on this and other matters to send it to the VIZSLA NEWS.

Regional Governors' CORNER

The June Vizsla News carried the good news that the "volunteer staff" of the Vizsla Club of America was expanding by 31 . . . Regional Governors we call them! but, by any name they are called... they are the Vizsla Club of America within reach of every Vizsla owner!

As the summer weeks spun by I couldn't help but wonder just what these people were doing, how they were starting on their new "job". As the morning weatherman gives temperature readings from Maine to Hawaii, people and places flash in my thoughts! THEN, the letters bringing me news came from many corners of the map.

I am happy to set aside this special corner in your Vizsla News just for Regional Governors. . . to tell of activities, announce plans, extend ideas one to another!

The ingenuity and enthusiasm of some of these people is nothing short of phenomenal! Their individual success in their areas, most gratifying!!

From one who sits smack-dab in the middle of the map (and quite limited in traveling) I am just elated with additional "arms" from coast to coast and beyond!

The Vizsla Club of America will grow in proportion to YOUR imagination!

Regional Governors reporting this month include:

NEW YORK -- NEW JERSEY, Genevieve Wolfe.

On September 14, Monday, all Vizsla owners in the area are invited to attend a meeting at the Friar Tuck Inn, Cedar Grove, New Jersey, for the purpose of getting acquainted and investigating the possibility of organizing a regional club. For further information contact me at 129 Llewellyn Rd, Montclair, N. J. (Please send the names and addresses of new Vizsla owners, too!)

A Field Trial and training session is being planned for the latter part of September or early October. "all amateurs running their dogs... " A flyer will go out shortly... more information available from Joe Cunningham, Route 2, Middletown, N. Y.

OHIO -- PENNSYLVANIA "Mrs." Dr. Meminger

All reports are completed on the A Match held in this area. I have compiled a "check list" for the next chairman to use in setting up the second Match for the Vizsla Club of America, plans should be started soon. By the way, the Lashers, owner of Erze de Dus winner of the A Match are the proud parents of a baby girl, whelped June 18th!

From OHIO -- B. Clif Boggs, reports much activities in the organization of a regional club! A fine questionaire covering a wide variety of interest was mailed to all known Vizsla owners in the area, when results are tabulated, plans will be made for a meeting. for more information write: 51 Cherry Drive, Springfield, Ohio.

IOWA -- ILLINOIS Len Hartl (new address: Route 5, Wild Wings Shooting Preserve, Muscatine, Iowa.)

This has been a busy summer for me, personally, as I have changed jobs, locations, become a Board Member, Field Trial Chairman and a Regional Governor! But, trying to work everything in. Plans for this area for a field trial on September 19-20. All people that would like to start sharpening up the dogs for the fall hunting and field trialing season are cordially invited. (for more information contact Len in Muscatine.)

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES Harvey W. Dauffenback

We have been trying to promote the Vizslas in our area very strong, have been attending quite a few shows in this area and will use the extra copies of the Vizsla News and membership applications. (send names of new Vizsla owners and your interest in specific activities to 8945 Pioneer Rd. R. I. Oshkosh, Wisconsin.)

VIZSLA CLUB OF ILLINOIS Betty Solberg

(This area club, located mainly in the Chicago area should fit in here somewhere... ejg)

We really have an enjoyable time at the meetings, and as we get to know one another better, the group is more relaxed and all members are beginning to let their voices be heard. No one has had much experience at this sort of thing... so we are all learning together! We have made arrangements for two fun trials to be held in October, and hope for more throughout the winter. (At present we are investigating the possibility of the VC of A Match in this area... more about this later.

TEXAS -- OKLAHOMA Jack Merrill

Have been busy collecting names of Vizsla owners in this area. . . have 55 so far, never dreamed that there were so many and know now that there are many more! I have written to them all asking for more names, and if they are interested in local activities and suggesting that they join the National Club. As a result, have the following announcement:

The Texas Vizsla Club is holding a field trial (FDSB) on September 19-20 in Edmond, Oklahoma (just out of Oklahoma City). We are planning two sets of stakes one set for Vizslas only (starting 7:30 Saturday morning) and one set for all pointing breeds, immediately following. Delmar Smith of Edmond is helping us get started by furnishing the facilities, horses and information (He has much field trial experience and helped the Brittany people get their start in that area. We are very lucky to have him as a source of leadership) The drawing will be Friday, Sept. 18th, 8:00 p.m. There will be trophies for the first 3 places in the two sets of events.

Order of Events:

Open All Age	$8.00	(These same
Open Puppy	3.00	stakes will be
Open Derby	5.00	run for all pointing
Amateur All Age	8.00	breeds, too.)

Judges: Lee Roy Pass, Edmond, Oklahoma
Joe McCrary, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Secretary: Shirley B. Welch, 2201 Chestnut, Pampa, Texas. We will need the help of all Vizsla owners within 500 miles or so. This will be an opportunity to warm up for the National. All Vizsla owners should come and run their dogs whether they have any experience of not. . . We don't. . . and never will if we sit back waiting! Everyone come and help us get field trials for Vizslas in this part of the country, and we will be better able to help you!

NEBRASKA -- KANSAS Wyman Stedman

Maybe I am going over-board with this job of Regional Governor and Nebraska VC Secretary... but everytime I see Vizsla puppies advertised in this area I send them a Vizsla News, and an application for membership in the VC of A and Nebraska!

Nebraska Vizsla Club members have been active through the summer in the various fun trials with other Dog Clubs, and turned out a whopping (for this area) number, 12, entries for a Match held in Lincoln July 19th. A fun trial held August 2nd brought 33 entries to the 3 land events held on the David City airport and a water retrieve at the lake. Donations of dog collars and retrieving dummies were made by local business men and added to the water fun. At the family picnic following plans were formed for our second AKC Sanctioned Field Trial to be held this fall. (Full announcement will be made when the application is approved.) There was a good brisk breeze blowing the most of the day, so we didn't notice the heat until it was time to start home...found that it was a record 108 degrees!

Nebraska's Field Trial will have to be held after our hunting season has opened, so will be looking for a good turn out of Vizsla owners for the week-end who will also want to include some good Nebraskaland hunting in their schedule. (write to Palmyra, Nebr. for details)

COLORADO -- Buck Rollins

Bob Holcomb notes in his letter..."Our Colorado Vizsla Club had a fun trial August 2nd and we had a big turn out. Used both pigeons and chuckers which worked out real well. I estimate that we had about fifty Vizsla owners out for this event and everyone showed a lot of enthusiasm. We received help and support from the Wymar and GSHP Clubs. We are planning another fun trial for August 16 and hope by then to get clearance from AKC for a Sanctioned Trial in September."

Pat MacKenzie, club secretary adds, "We have been receiving good interest in our club, and now have over 30 members. Our meetings are the 4th Wednesday in each month at the Englewood State Bank. All club members are working hard for the fall events."

UTAH -- NEVADA Allen Bennett

I put the following ad in the newspaper and got alot of interest from people in this area for the VC of A and the Vizsla News.

"ALL owners of Vizsla Pointers in Utah and Nevada contact Allen Bennett 298-5625 or 3030 West 3100 So. S. L. C. Utah"

I can make good use of some extra copies of the June Vizsla News and any help in the News along these lines.

(ejg: there is no end to the ways inwhich a person can "invent" to get started as Regional Governor or Board Member! Sincere efforts like these are most often very rewarding and greatly appreciated by this "fellow bush-beater".)

WASHINGTON -- OREGON Victor Erdelyi

News from this area comes in the form of an entry blank for a field trial in late August! It reads as follows:

PACIFIC COAST VIZSLA CLUB FIELD TRIAL
AMERICAN FIELD RULES

Judges	
Charles Tibbets, Seattle	Joe Cook, Tacoma
Captain of Guns	**Field Marshal**
Ray Weaver, Jr.	Bob Workman Ken Nicodemus

August 29-30, 1964. Area 16, Fort Lewis

Running Order	Entry Fee
Open Puppy—7:01 A.M. Sat. 29th	$ 8.00
Open Derby—To follow, Sat. 29th	$10.00
Open All Age—To follow, Sat. 29th	$12.50
Amateur Gun Dog—7:01 A.M., Sun. 30th	$12.50

Above stakes open to all pointing dogs.

Vizsla Classic to follow Gun Dog Sun. $12.50
Open to Vizslas only.

Send all entries to: Taft Jones, 3431 Matthews Dr. W. Bremerton, Wash., ESsex 3-8546

Drawing

Entries close at time of drawing
August 24—8 P.M.—Bremerton Trap & Skeet Club
Phone OS 4-3503 — Belfair Highway

Committee

Robert Foster, chairman—Phone ES 3-7604, Bremerton
Taft Jones, secretary—Phone ES 3-8546, Bremerton
Marion Garland—Phone ES 7-3991, Bremerton
Mary O'Neal—Phone GR 4-2836, Tacoma

Prizes

Trophies to 3rd place, Ribbons to 4th place. Puppies will be shot over unless handler objects. Handlers must be on foot unless handicapped. Chuck wagon on grounds. Horses available. Cocktail hour 7 to 8 P.M. Dinner at 8 Sat. Pancake House, Tacoma, which is Field Trial Headquarters. Trophies will be awarded at banquet.

Vizsla owners everywhere are invited to join in this big event.

CANADA -- Dr. Phil Wright

The first national field trial will be held in Nanton (south of Calgary) on September 26-27. Field Trial Secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson, 1215 Riverdale Avenue, Calgary S. W. will be glad to answer any questions you might have, and can supply the necessary entry blanks. All Vizsla Club of America members are most cordially invited to attend this event across the border.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

Stephen Jeckovich, 118 Westchester Place, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Don Anderson, 895 S. High, Denver Colorado
K. Earnest Day, 10218 Heather Hills Road, Indianapolis, Indiana
Robert J. Kircher, 125 Douglas Street, Sterling, Colo.
Jack L. McHaney, 6651 Southern Vista Dr. Fairborn, Ohio
Jack E. Wynn, Route #1, W. Burlington, Iowa.
Alexander F. Tolgyessy, 236 Massachusetts Ave. N. E. Apt. 306, Washington D. C.
J. F. Barton, Box 187, Hamel, Illinois
Jas. R. Birdsall, 801 South 5th St. Douglas, Wyo.
David G. Marvin, Sleepy Hollow Rd, New Canaan, Conn. (Box 843)

The vizsla, a sporting dog from Hungary, combines all the qualities a hunter would want in a working dog—instincts to point and retrieve, trainability, and a fine nose

GUN DOGS

JOE STETSON
EDITOR

FROM the land of the Hungarian partridge comes a trim, short-haired pointing dog of medium size, the color of burnished gold. It is the vizsla—Hungary's only sporting dog—a hunting animal combining instinct to point with a well-developed desire to retrieve, an excellent nose, and a temperament receptive to training.

Versatility enables this dog to be of use on all types of game hunted in its native land. This includes the Hungarian partridge, of course, and the ring-necked pheasant, European hare, fox, ducks, geese, woodcock and certain other species of snipe.

In Hungary, hare are either walked up or driven by beaters working downwind. The dogs are held at heel as nonslip retrievers and are used to retrieve the hare after shooting. European hare often weigh up to 7 or 8 pounds, and if not killed outright they might travel a considerable distance before succumbing. Thus a good nose and ability to carry heavy game are requirements of the dogs used on the hunt.

Partridge, pheasant, and woodcock are often harvested by drives in areas where game is propagated. The guns establish a line and beaters put the birds into flight across the line; the dogs remain at heel until they are sent to retrieve. However, the birds are sometimes hunted as they are in America, and then the vizslas are used as typical pointing dogs, ranging to find, pointing, remaining steady to wing and shot, and retrieving upon command. Two differences from the standard American bird dog should be noted: "finished" dogs are trained to flush the game, remaining staunch until the command is given to retrieve; and the dogs are trained to go down at flush (for their own protection with a number of guns shooting over them), whereas American custom requires a dog to remain "lofty" on flush.

In duck and goose hunting the vizsla (pronounced vishla) is used as a nonslip retriever. Migrating ducks are usually found in ponds and potholes, but migrating geese are bagged from dry land. The geese, flying north or south in season, cross prairie-like plains so flat that if a hunter left his hole-in-the-ground blind to retrieve a goose, it might take him an hour to find his hiding place again. For this reason the dogs prove invaluable. Geese fly very low over this billiard-table terrain, and dirt removed from the blinds must be carried away, or the mounds of earth will scare off the birds. Leaving a gun and other equipment in a blind while retrieving a goose often means that more time is spent

in hunting the gun than the geese.

In addition to conventional snipe hunting, Hungarian sportsmen especially enjoy the thrill of shooting snipe during the moments just before dawn or in the afterglow of sunset when the snipe make their mating flights. This kind of pass shooting must be done against the light above the horizon, and the falls are difficult to mark. A retrieve must necessarily depend upon an excellent nose, or the game will be lost to foxes.

The vizsla resembles the English pointer more than any other sporting dog. The size of the breed is set at 25 inches at the shoulder with a weight of 70 to 75 pounds. It is less houndy, and closer knit than the Weimaraner with which it shares common ancestry. In temperament, the vizsla is not so intense or so hard-driving as the English pointer. To picture the difference, compare the application by an interested amateur with that of a serious pro.

Historically, the vizsla dates back to the 16th century. Its ranks suffered depletion during the First World War, but a few dedicated fanciers organized a show and field trial for a few of what they considered representative specimens and started a registry of individuals that proved themselves worthy. These enthusiasts were joined by an increasing number of appreciative vizsla fans, and the breed was preserved.

My personal experience with vizslas is limited, but includes spending a weekend with a pair that impressed me with their easy-to-live-with dispositions and their fundamental cleanness. This impression has been added to by subsequent contact with individuals.

I have judged vizslas in trials and, by the American field-trial standards, find them active, interested hunters with limited range—typical of what is desired by many of the vast army of bird shooters who hunt on foot.

I have noted one thing of interest about fanciers of this breed: they often dock only the outer end of the dog's tail. What they remove is the portion that, in dogs of active short-haired breeds, is liable to become permanently injured. But they leave sufficient tail to be interesting when the dog works game or stands point. It is hoped that the practice will not be modified by bench-show practices to the point where, as with other docked-tail breeds, nothing but a mere knob is left.

The vizsla is now being bred by a sufficient number of sound breeders to supply a reasonable demand. These breeders, too, are so dedicated that there is little chance that commercialism will enter the picture. Most important for the future of the breed is that the working qualities of the dogs be retained and not diluted by large numbers of breeders who show, rather than run or shoot over their dogs. There are altogether too few bench judges who have ever seen a dog actually work. The vizsla is now a very worthy animal. May it always be.

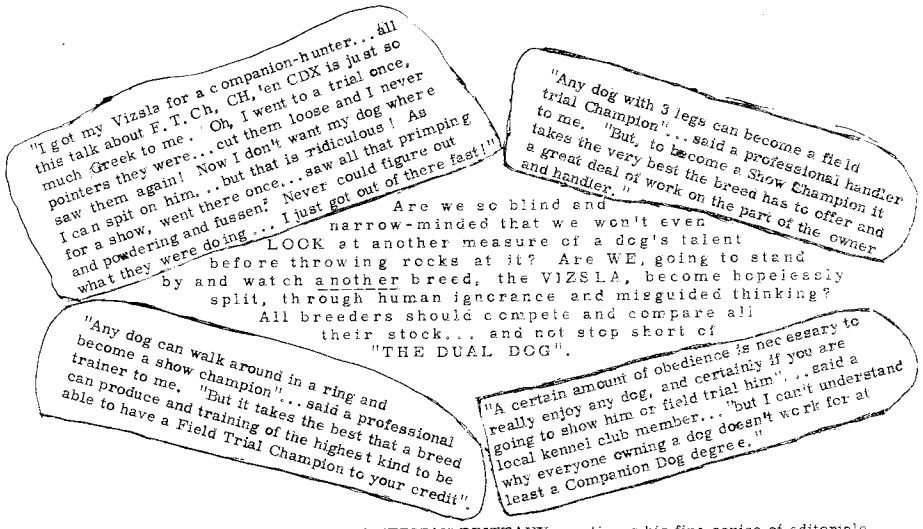
Field & Stream

AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE SPORTSMAN'S MAGAZINE

We graciously acknowledge credits for this article written for Field & Stream Magazine, Hugh Grey, editor, by Joe Stetson, Gun Dog editor. (June 1964) To the many Vizsla Club of America members who are exclusively associated with rust-gold dogs, it is interesting and reassuring to hear an objective, comprehensive article by a learned, unaffiliated dog man. It is also gratifying to know that these "Magyar Vizslas" are hunting and performing with the style and quality as to warrant the attention of many sports writers! "May it always be."

"He refused to come!" THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST



Dr. Fred Z. White, Editor of the AMERICAN BRITTANY, continues his fine series of editorials and gives us his years of experience with cousins of our Vizslas. The Vizsla Club of America can benefit from the deep thinking and quality program these dedicated men have done for their chosen breed...perhaps point a truer course for we who chart the future of the Magyar Vizsla.

(Lest we get carried away with our high calling...remember that while we are locked in mortal combat over the quality of these unknown tests and their value relative to the Vizsla, the opportunist who has never heard of the VC of A or a Vizsla Standard is busy shelling out rust-gold puppies from stock that has never seen the outside of a kennel run...)

REFLECTIONS—

"THE DUAL DOG"

" . . . to discourage the breed from becoming split into groups of 'field dogs' and 'bench dogs' and to strive to keep it forever a 'dual dog'."

This portion of the "creed" of the American Brittany Club seems to be the eye of a developing hurricane, and some "Reflection" on this "dual dog" concept may be of interest,—at least to some of the newer readers.

The **Purpose** of the American Brittany Club, from which the above quote is taken, has appeared on the Title page of THE AMERICAN BRITTANY for many years, and probably most of us have the feeling that this has been for ever so.

Historically however, the first "official" appearance of this purpose, and the "dual dog credo", was in the first revision of the A.B.C. Constitution approved at the 1949 annual meeting. Although the original A.B.C. constitution made no mention of this concept, the first issue of BRITTANY FIELD AND BENCH, October 1942, did contain an article by Maxwell Riddle, "Dual Purpose Dogs".

"The best minds of dogdom have puzzled over the problem of the dual dog for more generations than anyone can remember. Have puzzled over it, and, for the most part, failed to solve it."

So starts Mr. Riddle's article, — a prophetic offer of consolation, in the event that we too, fail in this solution!

Another quote, **"Bench breeders and judges inevitably tend toward excessive bone, heads too heavy for work, but beautiful, etc. And as in the boxing ring, good big dogs tend to beat good smaller dogs regardless of the standards."**

Could this have been an early day rebuttal to the claim that field trial dogs will get larger (if handled from horseback, for example) and so should be measured, etc. . .??

Mr. Riddle further outlined the classic and well known division of certain of the other breeds, pointers, and setters for example, into the classic show, field, and hunting divisions. This point, I'm sure is well understood and known by all, and so is an accomplished fact with out room for argument. More discussion followed, and in due time the purpose of A.B.C., as we now know it, was made "official".

Understanding this "dual dog" concept is not easy for the noviate. A recent question to the "Sporting Dogs" column by Henry P. Davis in SPORTS AFIELD typically illustrates the outside impression of a "dual dog".

Q. I hunt rabbits and pheasants and

want a dog that will work both. Which would be better, the Brittany Spaniel or the springer? . . ."

Typical, because it is exactly like many of the questions directed to this magazine, with the only variation being ducks and upland game, or pheasant and quail, or grouse and pheasant, etc.

So with understanding of the intent of the dual dog concept, consider the one or two of the other breeds that have split into "field dogs" and "bench dogs", perhaps the English Setter, Irish Setter and English Pointer.

It would be fair to say that over the years these breeds have been split into two varieties.

Of these, it appears to me, that, the bench variety is the larger, bigger boned, with bigger heads and prettier coats. It is further my understanding that most of these members of the bench variety, are only average or less, when considered for hunting ability, bird sense, etc.

If true, this would seem to follow Mr. Riddles earlier quoted statement, and again would open to question the position of "trials, horses, running, etc., will yield larger dogs." These are facts as I see them; any conclusions drawn must be your own.

To be fair, one must admit that field pointers and English setters do vary in size, and are smaller then their bench counter parts. I can make no comment on Irish Setters, and have been told by many much wiser than I, that there are too few of this unfortunate breed in the field, since they achieved popularity on the bench, and so comment cannot be made.

Recently after watching a number of pointers in a trial, I commented (to a pointer owner) that most were sound, attractive, and varied no more in size than most of our Brittanies. He countered by asking if I would keep, feed, and display to the public at a trial, a dog that was not sound, and pleasing to the eye!

This then raised the final question in my own mind, and no answer will be supplied—unless by yourself.

The bench judge attempts through the use of the bench standards, to determine utility, ability, soundness, sense, etc., by what he sees in a few minutes of examination.

The field man **knows** whether his dog has these qualities because he has had the opportunity of months and years of observation, and there is no need to interpolate; deep chest means stamina, etc. He knows directly! Would not the breed be better with the greater emphasis on utility—field work, hunting, and then follow along with the bench as a secondary activity??

Certainly, the Brittany, as with all other dogs, is many things to many people, pet, hunter, trial companion, showman, etc., and in many areas and circumstances the show ring is all that is available to dog and owner. Of course there is a place for this, as there is for all activities, and an honored place.

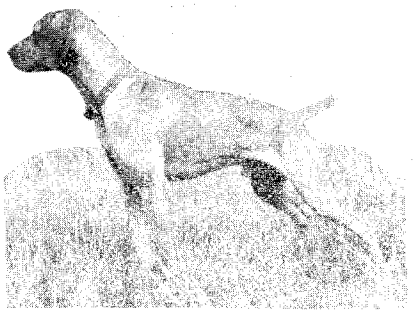
However, let us not get wrapped up in words, or carried along by slogans. Rather, we must decide what is of the most importance and maintain the proper perspective, remembering that our "creed" charges us with the responsibility of preventing the breed from becoming split, and also has something to say about cooperation, friends, and higher standards . . . and perhaps this will be the light to cause next month's reflection!!

• • •

Today's Chuckle

A man who can see both sides of a question doesn't have a chance in a good argument.

(Copr. Gen. Fea. Corp.)



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11 AKC Points

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DEAR EDITOR.....

One thing is for sure! The guy who wrote about "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" doesn't live on a farm in Nebraska! Its more like... "busy, dizzy, sizzly..." not very poetic, however!

Record temperatures from one end of the country to the other assure me that you have spent your share of July-August either: (1) sweltering; (2) hibernating, in air-conditioning; or (3) swimming! As for the Graffs, we try to get the most of our "projects" completed in the early morning hours, then head for the "swimming hole"...the time has not been wasted, Peter, my 6 year old, has now joined the ranks of the swimming...as a Beginner, so he will be able to go canoeing with the rest of us. (For those of you who were taking odds on whether or not the canoe that Bud has been building in the basement for the last 3 years would come out without major reconstruction...it did! and besides that...it floats!)

Even in this hot weather there are a few hours each day that are cool and quiet. (I suppose that is when I SHOULD be working on your V. News, but I steal a few minutes and take some spring pups for a walk.) The timithy and clover is knee deep, an occational cocklebur or musk thistle keep us alert, but the path along the creek is well trod. The springs that usually feed our Weedy Creek have ebbed away so now only big still pools that reflect the wild hyacinths and cat-tails greet the eager water babies. A moment's hesitation... then kerchug...kersplash...kerplop... and the morning stillness is no more. When the water is thoroughly stirred, they are up over the bank after a dragonfly or snipe, and another sultry day has officially begun!

Then, back to the typewriter (which is having trouble with its spacing apparatus, at the moment.) Do you have any idea how many interruptions there can be in one paragraph of your V. NEWS? Summer is racing to a close... 4-H projects, birds, cooking, sewing, gardening, etc, etc, etc, are scattered among the pages of copy... I check the "next step" on the dress Lecia is making for the fair; ask Tommy to read, again, his cooky recipe...I know they don't call for a half cup of salt!; admire Petie's beautiful picture (making sure I don't stand too close while he is explaining...both his front teeth are out and the spray is terrific.) Then, phone calls, and all the "normal" type housewife interruptions... multiplied by 3, and you will just about have it!

Then, the mailman drops a scattering of joy and work in the big box at the end of the lane. Summer has been busy for you, too!

I must say again, how wonderful it is to hear about the activities of the Regional Governors! These letters I get from you people out there working your crazy heads off make me feel much less like an "orphan child" in this squeeky chair in the corner of the dinning room. (Just about 4 years ago this little girl was appointed a Regional V. P. ...I certainly didn't think that it would evolve into a full time family project!) Letters from BOB HOLCOMB, R. G. coordinator tell me that he is helping to get things rolling. Little wonder that we say with great enthusiasm... THREE CHEERS for the REGIONAL GOVERNORS!

PAUL SABO, (Board Member at large) writes in a 3 page letter dated July 1..."as of today, Champaign, Illinois, is a good place to be FROM." He is in Canada (Box #5, Ardath, Saskatchewan) for his annual encampment, and, come Fall, there will be a new address in Waynesboro, Georgia, ..."away from the snow and ice on which to wile away my so-called Golden Years into safe, and sane senility with Vizslas and other bird dogs (pointers, that is.)" Paul discribes in his eminent fashion the "winter quarters" in Georgia ...26,000 acres of plantation available with quail seen in pairs at almost every quarter mile dusting in the backroads... He also suggests that the VC of A give some thought to holding a "Winter Field Trial" there in the not too distant future! (sounds like a marvelous way to get a winter vacation). The entire letter is being sent to all B of D members which contains several items of business being discussed by this group.

JACK MERRILL, Texas, includes with his R. G. report the comments..."we are making this a family affair now. Glenda (my wife) didn't have much to do with "Vickie" when she first came and thought the club was just another expense. Now it is a different story...she has played 'Mother Goose' while I was away for 6 weeks of summer school to Vickie and her seven wrecking crew, I only get 'seconds' on the Vizsla NEWS, and she keeps a list of names up to date in a card file as they come in...She loves Vizslas as much as I do...these dogs are great "salesmen". (ejg: Several years ago there was some discussion about the fact that at $10 a single membership and $12.50 for a family membership it was a "cheap" way of getting 2 votes instead of 1... in reality, it appears that for the extra $2.50 the VC of A gets some mighty good "secretaries" necessary to real progress that might not feel the calling if it were not a "family affair".)

CLIF & HILDA BOGGS, Ohio, another of the Vizsla "families", keep me posted on activities in that area. Their attentiveness to some problems experienced by Vizsla owners in that area point to the need for more discussion at the Board Meetings re: how and when to officially measure dogs, and possible steps to protect buyers from hip dysplastic puppy-factories.

JAS. R. BIRDSALL, Wyoming, enclosed with his membership application a couple orders for Antelope and Deer licenses. It's been a long time since we have been to Douglas big game hunting... have a nice trophy rack (which Peter calls a 'Rooster-Cow") and will surely try to work it into the fall schedule!

PAT CARTER, New Hampshire, initiated her new electric typewriter with news from New England! They had a most exciting week-end at the Westboro Weimaraner F. T. June 12. The results tell the story pretty well:

Open Derby: 1st; Queen Inga (she won the Puppy Stake at the fall VC of A F. T. Bela Hadik got her just 6 days before and was very pleased)

Open Gun Dog: 1st Ch. Hunor, owned and handled by Bela Hadik
2nd; Futaki Daracz, owned and handled by Bela Hadik

Ladies Handling: 1st; Szekeres' Kazdet (Missy) owned and handled by Pat Carter
3rd; Piri, owned by Bela handled by a friend.

Pat continues... "to top it off, they had a raffle... and the winning ticket was held by Bela Hadik! Perhaps next time the Vizsla people won't be invited. This is Missy's first blue rosette at a Field Trial and I can tell you -- it has a place of honor on my trophy wall. She has many ribbons and trophies (all bench) to her credit... but I am more proud of this one blue rosette than all the others combined. The biggest thrill is the knowledge that her natural talents make her what she is. Except for a bit of hunting with John, her field training has been nil! They have a nose and the knowledge to go out and hunt!" (ejg: I think the F.T. BUG has bit! We'll be seeing you 'round the Field circuit real soon!)

JOHN RUSIN, JR. Ohio wrote the middle of July... "I have not received a Vizsla News since March, if no News has been printed, you are forgiven, but if I have been left off the mailing list thru some error ... that is no excuse. (Anyone that owns a Vizsla could not make that drastic a mistake!") So, I checked the new mailing list and found your name alright, but 23rd instead of 22nd street. John, better stop over in the next block and see if we have a new Vizsla fan... your copies were not returned, so SOMEBODY read them!!

DICK & SHIRLEY REINHARDT, Nebraska, asked for a copy of as many dates of Field Trials as I had. (I have included as many of the Field Trial dates as I have for others who will be wanting to include as many of the licensed trials as is physically and financially possible to take in!) It will be "that time" before we know it!

JOE CUNNINGHAM, New York, and I have a fine was of corresponding... we just number the items to be clarified or discussed... then answer them in the same order... Of course the letters look like a thesis, but it saves time and solves one of the problems of working at long-long range in this VC of A. Following the itemized business, he included local show briefs:

> Greenwich K.C. Show, June 6th. Pat Carter's lovely Szekeres' Kezdet went BOS to Ch. Glen Cottage Max Selle under Mrs. Imarie, judge. "Missy" has just a few points to capture for her bench Championship.
>
> Wallkill K.C. Show, July 5, Mr. Schuffman placed Ed Bennett's Arpad Aaron BOB (handled by Anne Hone Rogers). Madonna Joagun gave him a run for his money and Frank Thompson's Pat, a 6 year old bitch at her first show went BOS for a 3 point major.

If you happen to wander past Glen Cottage Kennels in Middletown, N.Y. and see a big rumpus in the swimming pool, don't think that the heat has gotten to you at last... yes, the running, jumping, swimming and... barking is really dogs! It is a great way to keep the dogs in shape, muscles toned and keep them cool -- besides, they love it! (ejg: I understand that the upswing in the sport was really instigated by that Arizona outlaw, Pete Barat, who took one look at the pool, remembered those irrigation ditches and led the pack in! Joe .. don't fight it... Join them!)

The man from IBM was by to check the typewriter... my, that does make it better!!!

MARY JOHNSON, Minnesota, asked, "Who is "New"? (the pup that appeared on the cover of the April News and has been with us on covers of succeeding issues.)

"New" is everybodies Vizsla! Perhaps the one graying and old... or maybe one not born yet... but you will recognize him, I am sure! That meadowlark on the fence post first told me of him... and he has appeared each month since, I never know from where! Sometimes a picture starts the adventure, other times the picture is found in the files after he has romped across the page. I assure you, I was just as surprised as I could be when "you" and "New" ended up in the lily pool! Perhaps, the mental telepathy that extends between the hunter and his dog in the fields works in reverse... and old Maggie curled up on the rug beside me has become a writer! What do you think?

Just to prove that the weatherman has a sense of humor... he turned his predictions up-side down and after a month of "too hot" threw in a couple of days of "too cool"... it was 40 degrees this morning and I have had a fire in the fireplace all day! Now, I am really in the mood to finish that canning! At the moment there is a race for "activity" ... between Bud's choke cherry wine and my sauerkraut! Will let you know who wins.

ejg

Vizsla Club of Canada

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY
DR. (BILL) KEMENES-KETTNER
BOX 16 - SITE 3, R.R. #4 - CALGARY, ALBERTA
TELEPHONE 288-6066

Mr. William T. Wallace
Corpus Christi, Texas, USA

Dear Mr. Wallace,

Your open letter in the April-May issue of the Vizsla News was brought to my attention and I was asked to answer it officially.

Everyone has his own opinion about which type of Vizsla hunts better in bush, muskeg or in water. I don't want to argue with you but the Canadian Kennel Club present standard, which is incorrect and out of date and under revision, heavily penalizes the over-sized and under-sized Vizsla.

Before me is the official Vizsla standard from 1933 and 1962 from Hungary and the official Vizsla standard of F.C.I. from 1939 and 1962. I go through and through these but I cannot find any hint in them of the three sizes you mentioned. Of course the Hungarian Kennel Club (M.E.O.E.) has a breed with three recognized sizes and this breed is the Puli. The Puli is a Hungarian breed too, but nobody uses it for hunting. I want to call to your attention in the Puli standard too (due to the fact that all sizes are recognized) the large and the small Puli in the open judging are penalized.

I would like to remind you again that the Canadian Vizsla standard is 24".

I hope that my short explanation gives you a realistic picture of the true Vizsla and that the Hungarian breed with three sizes is the Puli.

(signed) Bill Kemenes-Kettner, Ad. Secretary CVC

VIZSLAS IN THE NEWS

Not only in articles about the breed, but also in news items:

LIFE Magazine, June 26, tells a remarkable picture story of a Vizsla, "Amber" and his friend and playmate "Lolita" a 2 year old Leopard! Hurbert Will an animal trainer from Silver Springs, Florida, said that when Lolita was an 8 pound kitten, Amber taught her who was boss..."and she still thinks he could whip her!" He has taught them to do many tricks, but when it comes to duck hunting, leaves that strictly to Amber!

BREMERTON SUN, June 29, tells of a man severely burning his hands in a futile attempt to rescue his dog, a year old Vizsla, from his burning pick-up. Mr. and Mrs. Jay Simpson were on their way to Eastern Washington for some shooting. As they drove they detected some smoke, stopped and found the canopy in flames. Mr. Simpson's tried to reach his dog, "Augie of Shirbob" sustaining huge blisters from the intense heat. A faulty exhaust pipe was blamed for the fire. (Bob Foster said that he will replace the dog with a pup this fall.)

ST. PAUL SUNDAY PIONEER PRESS, June 28, reports that a Hungarian Vizsla owned by Jack Hatfield trained for "tracking" located an elderly man in just 25 minutes after being given the scent. The man had been missing for several days, and was hidden from view by overhanging boughs of a huge pine tree. The man had died just a few hours earlier.

On July 15, an elderly 'hiker' was found by Jack and his Vizsla. The 79 year old man had tracked some 15 miles in rugged country, including going down the side of a cliff, and back up again. Found in a semi-conscious condition he had had nothing to eat for 4 days but drank water from the streams. He still clung to the book he was reading.

Over the past 30 years, Jack has done a lot of tracking in that area, with many dogs. With one of Bill Olson's Weimaraners he found many people. For the past few years a Vizsla, "Copper" has been called on to assist the Minneapolis and St. Paul Police Department and State Crime Bureau. The Hatfields were the first to import a Vizsla with complete papers and were very active in the early days of the VC of A.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES "MIDWEST" magazine section, July 19, carried a 2 page picture story by Jack R. Griffin, all about "One Man's Best Friend", a magnificent Vizsla named "Sam" owned by one of our Vizsla Club of America members, Bill Kahler, Mendon, Missouri. Jack took the time to get to know "Sam" personally, and his pictures seem to capture that something about a Vizsla that few writers have been able to express... the special kind of rapport there is between a Vizsla and the man who owns one!

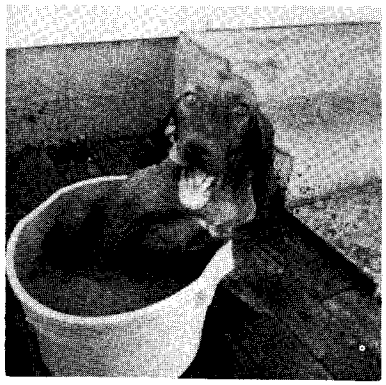
* * *

WISDOM, as compared to a lack of it, is usually an ability to see all aspects of a situation, rather than just portions of it.

* * *

THE hardest part of any job is getting at it.

ONE PICTURE WORTH 1000 WORDS



"When the dog-star, "Sirus" rises with the sun, there is only one place for a self-respecting dog to be! Ah - h - h, that feels good!" (owner of "Mikki" winning picture of the month, is Mr & Mrs. Bob Erber, 5023 W. Montrose, Chicago, Ill)

VIZSLA PEOPLE VISIT VIZSLA PEOPLE

Vacation time across the country brings the opportunity to meet and visit with other Vizsla owners...many you have "met" through the V. News...just stop by and say, "Howdy, friend!"...

Visits reported to this office include:

BELA HADIK with the DR. MEMINGERs the middle of June at the time of the Erie Kennel Club Show.

GEN & DR. WOLFE with JOE CUNNINGHAM and WALTER ANDERSENs

DICK BUHMAN with HANNIBAL deSCHMERTZINGs and in the line of duty (that of F. T. Secretary) with LEN HARTL, and MEURICE GRAFFs.

JACK MERRILL and family with the BOB HOLCOMBs and they comparied notes on Regional Club activities.

KELSEY JOHNSONs (on a trip with their 30' trailer) included the SMITHs in Saskatchewan, they missed visiting with PAUL SABO who was several days late in arriving at his annual encampment, met and enrolled as a new member JAMES BIRDSALL on their way through Wyoming, then on to Nebraska and the VIZSLA CLUB OFFICE. (Kelsey, Vice President of the VC of A when it was organized in 1952 gave some much-needed history and altogether a visit far too short.)

Other visitors to Weedy Creek valley include: BILL FISHERs, Lincoln; BOB ERBERs, Chicago; CHUCK THORIN, Columbus; JAMES DRURY, Missouri; E. S. GOSNEY, Ohio; CARL WOLFE, Sutton; RICHARD DAYEs, Omaha; DWAYNE BLEYHE, Lincoln, BUD ANDERSON, Holdrege, and many others.

I HAVE ALWAYS pitied the person who could not make a decision even after he had had an opportunity to weigh all the facts in the situation. He who makes decisions without any consideration of the facts deserves equal pity.

AT STUD
RIPP BARAT'S RIPPY
WHELPED JAN. 1962
A.K.C. NO. SA-132646
F.D.S.B. 684979
SIRE: RIPP BARAT
DAM: SISSY SELLE

Ripp Barat's Rippy

Field Trial Wins and Placements

Vizsla Club of America, Fall '63: 1st Open Derby, 2nd Open Limited All-Age, 3rd Open All Age, 4th Amateur Gun Dog Stakes.
Vizsla Club of America, Fall '62: 1st place Puppy, 2nd place Derby
Mississippi Valley GSHP, Spring '63: 2nd place Derby
Vizsla Club of America, Spring'63: 4th place Derby
Weimaraner Club, Alberta Canada, Fall 63': 2nd place Derby, 2nd place Shooting Dog Stakes.

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Waterloo, Nebraska
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Today's Chuckle

There are three kinds of people — those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who have no idea what happens.

(Copr. Gen. Fea. Corp.)

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AKC SA-126289 FDSB 656833
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Breeder: Bela Hadik
Owner: Hannibal de Schmertzing
Box 351 RFD 2
McLean, Virginia
Phone: 759-2471

Futaki Daracz
AKC AS-115838 FDSB 663173

AT STUD

Field Trial Winning
-- all purpose gun dogs --
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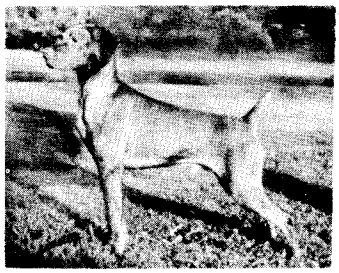
Chester, N. H.



AKC CH. Hunor SA-68871
FDSB Heniu of Gardenville 614397

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