"... WHERE THERE IS MUCH DESIRE TO LEARN, THERE -- OF NECESSITY -- WILL BE MUCH ARGUING, MUCH WRITING, AND MANY OPINIONS: FOR OPINION IN GOOD MEN IS KNOWLEDGE IN THE MAKING." -- John Milton

Much has been written on the subject of Canine Hip Dysplasia; differing opinions as to the understanding of the facts in the matter has been expressed by members; discussions on the club's responsibility to the Vizsla breed have lead us into policy of higher standards in this publication; and further opinions on these, also, discussed. Through all of this, perhaps there is some confusion on the basic facts. The January issue of POPULAR DOGS caries a complete interview on the subject with Dr. Wayne H. Riser,* School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. By permission of Alice W. Wagner, Editor of POPULAR DOGS, it is reprinted for the benefit of Vizsla owners in

The Vizsla News

VOLUME XIII JANUARY - FEBRUARY Number 1

On Canine Hip Dysplasia

Introduction and Definition of Terms

QUESTION: "What is congenital hip dysplasia?"

ANSWER: At the start, we should define our terms, to bring about a better understanding of this disease. The term *congenital* should be dropped; *congenital* means "present at birth."

In this disease, hip joints are normal at birth. The lack of pelvic muscle, which is thought to be a factor in this disease, may be evident at birth, but the bone and cartilage changes of the hip joints are not present and usually are not seen until eight to 20 weeks of age. To explain the term further, *dys* means bad, and *plasia* means shape, or form; so the condition is one in which a hip joint has bad shape or form. The preferred term for this disease, then, is *canine hip dysplasia.*

The Panel on Canine Hip Dysplasia of the American Veterinary Medical Association in describing the condition said, "Hip dysplasia is abnormal development of the hip joint. In general, in a dysplastic hip the *acetabulum* is less concave and more shallow than normal. The femoral head is flattened and does not fit closely into the acetabulum."

The Panel has also defined the normal hip joint: "Radiographically, a normal hip is one so constructed that it will function normally. There should be no evidence of abnormal wear, pathological remodeling or degenerative joint disease during a reasonable life span."

From the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. This investigation was supported by the USPHS Research Grant No. HD 00442, from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Acknowledgement is also made to veterinarians, dog breeders, and kennel clubs for their assistance and support.

Incidence of Hip Dysplasia

QUESTION: "How long has hip dysplasia been recognized, and is the condition on the increase?"

ANSWER: Although the condition, in both man and animal, has been known since the days of Hippocrates, it was not regularly recognized until the use of the radiograph was established. There is no evidence that the disease is on the increase. It is believed that better skills in radiology and diagnosis have

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*Doctor Wayne H. Riser, born and raised in Iowa received his veterinary degree from Iowa State in 1932, and his masters degree from that instutution in 1945. He spent 5 years in general practice and established a small animal practice and hospital in Des Moines, then in the suburb of Chicago until 1960 when he was awarded an N. I. H. research grant, to study hip dysplasia and from 1960 to 1963 he was a Research Fellow in orthopedic deseases at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington D. C. In 1963 he became a member of the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. The N. I. H. grant has been extended, and he is continuing work in this field. During 1963 he studied at Oxford University in England and the Royal Veterinary College at Stockholm, and visited other veterinary schools of Great Britain and most of Europe. Dr. Riser is the author of three books and a contributor to several others; a member of Phi Zeta, a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists; and the recipient of innumerable awards in this field.

made possible the discovery of many cases that would otherwise have gone unnoticed.

QUESTION: "Does canine hip dysplasia affect all breeds?"

ANSWER: It is a disease primarily of the large and giant breeds. Dogs maturing under 30 pounds show a low incidence of canine hip dysplasia. The larger breeds, which mature most rapidly, and the individual animals, which grow excessively quickly between birth and the first three or four months of life are the ones which have the higher incidence of hip dysplasia.

QUESTION: "Are all the large and giant breeds affected?"

ANSWER: Not all breeds have been investigated; every breed that we have examined, of the large and giant-sized dogs, has shown some incidence of hip dysplasia, with the notable exception of the Greyhound. We have examined a representative number of both "track-conditioned" and "pen-confined" Greyhounds and, so far, we have not found hip dysplasia in this breed.

QUESTION: "What is the incidence of hip dysplasia in large and giant breeds?"

ANSWER: Accurate surveys are not available, but spot checks of working dogs (those used for police or sentry work, and those trained for retrieving) indicate that more than half of the dogs working today have unsound hip joints. The best documented figures come from Sweden. Since 1959, the Swedish Kennel Club has had a campaign to eliminate hip dysplasia and, in one breed, at the beginning, over 50 percent of the breeding stock was found to be affected. Now, after six years of effort, the incidence has been reduced to 38 percent. Even though the incidence is still extremely high, the *degree* of abnormality of the affected dogs has lessened. The result of the effort toward improvement is remarkable and, of course, gives proof that the disease can be eliminated IF breeders have patience and take the necessary steps.

Cause and Predisposing Factors

QUESTION: "If the Greyhound has no hip dysplasia and all other large breeds do, what does the Greyhound have that other breeds lack?"

ANSWER: All the reasons for this are not known yet, but two consistent factors stand out in all our studies where the Greyhound has been compared with dysplastic dogs:

1. The Greyhound consistently has greater pelvic muscle mass than any of the other breeds.

2. The young Greyhound matures and takes on weight at a rather slow rate for the first few months of life.

QUESTION: "What is the significance of these two factors?"

ANSWER: Most affected puppies have too little pelvic muscle mass to do the job of holding hip bones tightly together. There is also a great tendency among breeders to stuff young puppies which results in overweight. The heavy body of the "butter ball" puppy aggravates the hip dysplasia problem because excessive body weight injures the soft skeletal tissue of the hip joints.

QUESTION: "Does the Greyhound REALLY have so much more muscle; and grow at a much slower rate, than other breeds?"

ANSWER: Yes. Our dissections show that the pelvic muscle mass of the Greyhound averages over 50 percent more than affected breeds.

QUESTION: "Why does the Greyhound have more pelvic muscle than other breeds?"

ANSWER: The *purpose* for which this breed is maintained has influenced selection of the Greyhound. The value of the breed is determined by the ability to run fast. Speed is dependent upon muscle power and drive, generated by the hind legs; consequently, the fastest running dogs have been selected, and these are the ones with the greatest muscle mass. Breeders have also found that the slowest maturing Greyhounds have the stronger supporting tissue and the better-shaped hip joints.

Inheritance and Genetics

QUESTION: "Much has been said about the inheritance of hip dysplasia. What ratios, according to Mendelian law, can be expected in the offspring?"

ANSWER: This is not an easy question to answer. In breeds with a high incidence of the disease, individuals from all families are known to be affected. Geneticists who have studied the transmissibility of hip dysplasia speak of it as a *multigenetic* or *polygenetic* disease. This means that puppies are born with weaknesses that allow the disease to occur. The incidence can be increased or decreased by changing the environment; e.g. puppies which grow the fastest and weigh the most between birth and the first few months of life have a higher incidence than dogs which grow more slowly and are lighter in weight. Also, dogs, when confined to cages and not permitted to exercise, have less hip dysplasia than litter mates which are heavy and exercised extensively. Confining of dogs is not recommended as prevention, however, as confinement seriously retards the development of intelligence and personality.

QUESTION: "If all affected dogs were eliminated, would all offspring have sound hip joints?"

ANSWER: No. It has been reported in the literature from Sweden that mating a normal male with a normal female will produce 62 percent offspring with sound hip joints, and 38 percent with some degree of dysplasia. However, if normal-to-normal mating is continued, the degree of involvement in each generation will become less, and gradually the percentage of affected dogs will be lowered.

From present information, it can be hypothesized that normal-to-normal mating will continue to produce some affected offspring until, by selection, dogs have as much pelvic muscle mass as is seen in the Greyhound. Secondly, dogs should be selected which grow and mature at a slower pace, so that the muscular and bone development stays at all times within the normal limits of biomechanical balance.

QUESTION: "If hip dysplasia is prevented during the developmental or growth period by restricting exercise and weight gain, will the offspring of these dogs have hip dysplasia?

ANSWER: Yes, the same incidence and percentage of hip dysplasia will appear in the

offspring as would be expected from dogs with hip dysplasia, because the factors affecting the incidence have not changed the genetic pattern. Dysplasia will continue to appear until the dogs have sufficient pelvic muscle mass to hold the head of the femur snugly in the acetabulum. The control of weight and exercise are helpful, but the fundamental genetic fault must be corrected by proper selection before the incidence of hip dysplasia will be lowered. The control of environmental factors during growth masks the underlying deficiency that is still present.

Diagnosis and Signs of Involvement

QUESTION: "What is the best way to diagnose hip dysplasia?"

ANSWER: With few exceptions, the radiograph is the only method by which hip dysplasia can be recognized.

QUESTION: "Can hip dysplasia be diagnosed at any age?"

ANSWER: No, all puppies are born with normal hip joints, and a positive diagnosis, of course, cannot be made until subluxation or bone changes in the hip joint have occurred. These changes are rarely present before the 8th to 20th week of age. Even at this age, changes cannot be recognized if they are slight. A final decision about whether the dog has hip dysplasia often cannot be made until it is six months to one year old.

QUESTION: "Can canine hip dysplasia be confused with other diseases of the hip?"

ANSWER: Veterinarians who have had experience with bone disease have little trouble in diagnosing hip dysplasia. Those veterinarians whose experience is limited will suggest consultation in reading films which present problems in diagnosis. Furthermore, veterinarians approve the owner's asking for another opinion before a final decision is made.

QUESTION: "Should a breeder rely entirely on the opinion of one veterinarian in diagnosing canine hip dysplasia?"

ANSWER: Most veterinarians have had sufficient training in bone diseases to diagnose well-defined hip dysplasia. It is usually not difficult to recognize the perfect hip. The cases that are difficult to appraise, even for veterinarians with years of experience, are films in which the degree of changes from normal are minor. Films in which there is excellent detail and correct position of the animal are of great assistance. In order to give the dog every advantage, three of four films taken under ideal conditions are recommended. With dogs less than one year old, a diagnosis of "near normal" or "borderline" is sometimes made, with the final decision delayed for six to eight months so that additional radiographs taken at that time can be compared with previous ones.

QUESTION: "In cases where radiographs show the dog to be near normal, and where experienced veterinarians may differ in their diagnoses, do you think the dogs should be given the benefit of the doubt?"

ANSWER: A better plan is to re-radiograph the pelvis of the dog if the film is not diagnostic nor can be technically faulted. Then, if the diagnosis cannot be made with satisfactory films, the age should be taken into consideration.

If the dog is less than a year old, additional radiographs in six to eight months should be recommended, because if the hip joint is unstable, distinguishable bone changes will be present by the time the dog is 15 to 20 months of age. If the dog is over two years old, and there is no evidence of bone changes, it is likely that hip joints are not affected and will remain stable.

QUESTION: "There is a grading system used in the diagnosis of hip dysplasia. Is it of value?"

ANSWER: A system of values from I to IV has been set up for grading the degree of hip deformity. The system has little value as far as the disease is concerned; the dog either has or does not have hip dysplasia. It is just as bad to use for breeding a dog with a mild degree of hip dysplasia as one with complete subluxation. The grading system is of value among veterinarians as an aid in communicating when cases are discussed; the grading signifies the amount of subluxation that is there.

QUESTION: "What are the early signs of hip dysplasia?"

ANSWER: Weakness and awkwardness of the hind quarters may be signs of hip dysplasia, but the *only reliable* method of detecting the abnormality is with the radiograph.

QUESTION: "Is there any relationship between the degree of hip dysplasia and sound movement, as observed in the show ring or in the field?"

ANSWER: In dysplastic dogs, sound movement is dependent upon the degree of subluxation and how well the dog compensates for instability of the hip joints. Dogs with mild cases of hip dysplasia move soundly; only in those instances where femoral heads ride out of the acetabulums can the condition be diagnosed by watching the dog move. Many dogs that are now performing in championship classes, both in the field and on the bench, have some degree of hip dysplasia.

QUESTION: "Can radiographs be in error in diagnosing hip dysplasia?"

ANSWER: No, since the degree of hip dysplasia never changes. The only possible errors are caused by poor technical quality of the film or allowing the radiograph to be taken when the dog is in poor position.

QUESTION: "Can a dog outgrow hip dysplasia?"

ANSWER: No. Once a dog has hip dysplasia, the lesions will always be present. Also, once the disease is established and stabilized, the *degree* of dysplasia never changes; however, secondary changes, such as *osteoarthritis*, may develop and gradually grow worse.

Treatment

QUESTION: "Can hip dysplasia be successfully treated?"

ANSWER: No, there is no satisfactory treatment. The best chance of eliminating the disease is long-range planning to breed the defect out of the dog. This type of thinking calls for consideration of a better pelvic con-

formation. For a simple illustration, let me present two contractors, both of whom build houses. One builder consistently has trouble with sagging roofs in his houses, the other never has trouble. If I were the first builder, I would find out how the second braced his roofs, and change my methods of construction accordingly. To extrapolate from this example, if one breed had no trouble and other breeds had a high incidence of hip dysplasia, it would be foolish not to consider the pelvic construction of the non-affected breed.

QUESTION: "If a dog develops hip dysplasia, should it be destroyed?"

ANSWER: No. Most dogs with hip dysplasia lead happy, pain-free lives as pets. Osteoarthritis may develop and cause pain in older dogs that are required to do extensive work, but the nonworking pet usually can continue to live a comfortable existence.

QUESTION: "Should the activity of the dysplastic dog be curtailed?"

ANSWER: If the dysplasia is MILD, light work, obedience training, and hunting may be allowed, provided that the dog tolerates such activities well. The subluxation stabilizes early in life, and exercise will not further injure the dog if he shows no signs of pain. Strenuous and fatiguing exercise should, however, be avoided.

Hip Dysplasia and the Future of Dog Breeding

QUESTION: "Do you think that the importance of hip dysplasia has been overemphasized?"

ANSWER: Emphatically—no. This opinion extends to all other defects as well. Last March, 1965, the World Small Animal Veterinary Association unanimously passed a resolution condemning the breeding and sale of all dogs with congenital and acquired defects.

Plans for a meeting in 1967 to discuss this subject further are now underway. This is evidence that interest in raising sound dogs is increasing and that buyers of dogs are becoming more discriminating. The time is approaching when only dogs without defects will be considered desirable.

QUESTION: "You have answered the question from a scientific standpoint; now I will ask it again, and I would like you to answer from a practical standpoint."

ANSWER: My answer will now be based upon two points: (1) American pride; and (2) Commercial demand for our product.

(1) American pride: It means a great deal when either a person or an animal is declared a champion; it means that he is the best, that his performance is nearly flawless. A "champion" has defeated his competition for strength, quality and skill but is open to challenge by any new competitor. A dog suffering from any of the deforming weaknesses should not be considered for a championship. Since America was founded, we have never taken a back seat to anyone, in products produced, education, livestock, science, medicine or hard work. I am sure that none of us wants our dogs to be second rate.

(2) Commercial demand for a good product: At least two countries now have plans for certifying breeding stock which is free from all congenital and acquired defects. One country has had such a program in effect for six years, another for two; as a result, the quality of their dogs has increased tremendously! When it is discovered that dogs from these countries have better quality and can be bought for the same price as American dogs, there will naturally be discrimination against American dogs—as well as dogs from other countries that do not certify sound stock.

We may actually now be in more trouble than we realize; the plans developed by the two countries are showing results. Today, the people of these nations are looking for foreign trade, and word soon gets around when there is a better product for sale that is easy to obtain. The breeder must answer the question: *"Is it wise for the American breeder to continue to accept congenital and acquired defects in their dogs?"*

QUESTION: "Do you think the American Kennel Club should make regulations to help eliminate canine hip dysplasia?"

ANSWER: No system of eliminating defects in dogs will work until a majority of the breeders *demand* such regulations and agree to honor and support them. The individual breed clubs must take the first steps in this direction. When a breed club stands ready to develop and police a program for the elimination of defects in their dogs, it seems reasonable that the AKC would give them full support and stand behind anything they wish to do.

QUESTION: "What type of program would you suggest to control and eventually eliminate canine hip dysplasia from breeding stock?"

ANSWER: The Swedish Kennel Club started a voluntary program among breeders for certifying dogs that were free from hip dysplasia. Breeders can submit for examination any dog they choose. A panel of scrutinizers composed of veterinarians trained in bone disease was appointed to pass on pelvic radiographs of the dogs. If the dogs have normal hip joints, the pedigree is stamped "Certified Hip Dysplasia Free." If the hip joints are not within normal limits, no record is made of this finding and the dog is not discriminated against nor penalized in any way. The activities of the panel are confidential; it is up to the owner of each dog to report whether his dog has been certified. This system has proven satisfactory in Sweden for six years, and in Great Britain for two.

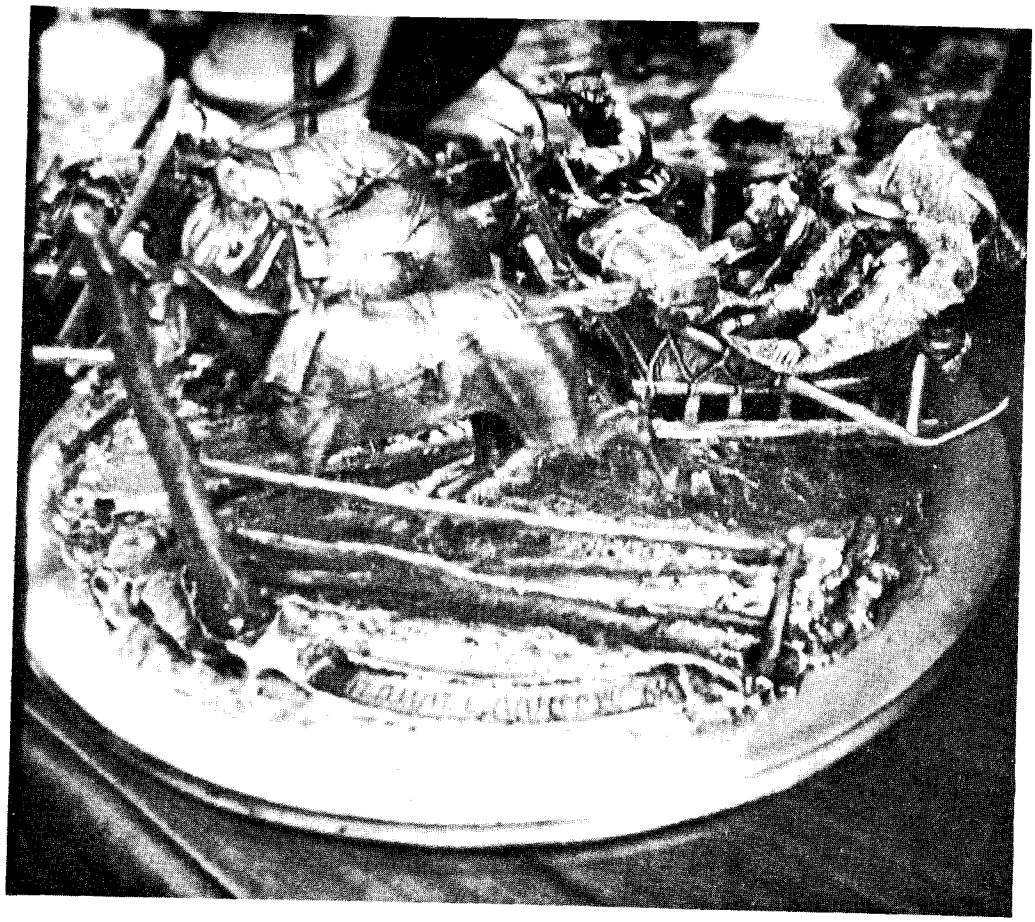
THE NEW "BLUE BOOK" FIELD TRIAL RULES IS OUT! Get it now, read up and be ready for the spring trials.

Individual copies free: AKC , 51 Madison Avenue, New York City, New York 10010.

By the dozen, 25¢ each.

IS IT A VIZSLA?

Erny Wolf (301 Tanglewood Drive, Ladue, Missouri, 63124) sent this picture and ask the question, "Does the dog look like a Vizsla to you?" He also wondered if anyone in the club might be able to figure out the inscription on the base. Mr. Wolf saw this unusual piece while browsing through the Flea Market in Paris in 1963 and has been unable to get back for a second look, but did snap this picture. This is an interesting question and perhaps a member can shed some light on it.



MORE ABOUT VIZSLAS FOR THE BLIND.....

In response to some correspondence from the club's secretary, Walter C. Doran, Director of Training for Pilot Dogs, Inc, 625 W. Town St, Columbus, Ohio, gives this additional information that may help in understanding their program a bit better. Apparently the response to the column last month was considerable. A misunderstanding on the policy for acceptance was apparent.

Mr. Doran comments," In trying any breed, we do like to try some from several different lines -- we have received inquiries from a number of points at this time, at present we have two more Vizslas being shipped in. We are happy of this and hope to keep experimenting with them... but when we received an offer of eight in one day, we are not able to handle that mount. For the present several a month will be our quota.

The importance of home raising should be especially noted: "It is my sincere hope that dogs within the age limits, height, weight requirements and having been home raised would make the grade. The final decision on the breed would be made according to the dog's ability to take the training, retain it over a period of time, the public's reaction and primarily the all-important final proof, the blind person's acceptance of the dog. "

Dogs given to this worthy cause should be the cream of the crop in the area of temperament and trainability especially.

NATIONAL SPRING FIELD TRIAL

VOLO, ILLINOIS, April 30 - May 1

Field Trial Committee Chairman, Richard Olsen reports fine progress in the arrangements for the spring field trial, Board meeting and Annual Meeting scheduled for the last of April and first of May just outside of Chicago.

A "Jump Off Dinner" will again be scheduled for the Friday evening before the trial, and be at the "Powder Horn" right at the Wing and Fin Shooting Preserve.

The Judges' Supper will also be held there, with the maximum placed on sociability and a minimum of time in travel to and from activities!

A fine list of Motels right on Route 12 has been turned in: Make your own reservations:

Skyline Motel (1 mile from grounds)
Route 3 Box 626A Ingelside, Illinois
Phone 815-385-4243
(7 units: rates $7 to 12)
Dogs Welcomed

Fox Lake Motel (5 miles from grounds)
258 Route 12, Fox Lake, Illinois
Ph. 312-JU-7-8282
(16 units, same as above on rates;
2 adjoining rooms to accommodate 6, also)
Dogs Welcomed

Bill's Motel (6 miles from grounds)
Bonner Road & Route 12, Waconda, Illinois
Ph. 312-526- 2656
(12 units, $5 to $10)
Dogs Welcomed

Arnold's Motel (4 miles from grounds)
Route 12 Fox Lake, Illinois
Ph. 312- JU-7-5011
(12 units: $7 to $10; Room for 6, $14)
Well behaved dogs welcomed, dogs are not to be left in the room unattended.

Lagoon Motel (6 miles from grounds)
Route 12, Fox Lake, Illinois
Ph. 312-JU-7-8895
(14 units: $12 to $14)
No Dogs in Rooms

Special note should be made that not all the motels within a radius of 10 miles was surveyed, and at this time of the year it should be possible to get a room even on the day of the trial.

The committee, including Dick Olsen, George Solberg, secretary, and O. E. Borst, Lewis Sinon and George Peter, on the other details: bird supply, bird planters, official gunners, horses, gifts, local advertising and cleanup committee.

These people know how to do it up right on hospitality, management and arrangements right down to the last dixie cup -- so set your sails for Volo. Don't miss this one!!

ONE PICTURE WORTH 1000 WORDS.....

"All 'round hunting-companion and sled dog!" says Carl Wolfe, Sutton, Nebraska, with this picture of his son, Jeff and friend "Robi" as they enjoy one of the after-season sports of the mid-west. "Robi really enjoys it and will run to get his harness when Nancy starts to bundle Jeff up. He also licks the snow from his face if he tumbles off -- then off they go down the street again," Carl added.

NOMINATIONS, PLEASE!

President, Dick Reinhardt, askes that the membership please submit their nominations for election to the Board of Directors of the Vizsla Club of America, Inc, to the chairman of the Nominating Committee, Len Hartl, Route 5, Muscatine, Iowa.

The new constitution now in force calls for the election of not less than 18 or more than 24, one-third of them elected each year for a 3 year term. Five members presently on the board have one more year to serve on their term so will hold over for this year. All others must be elected or re-elected at this time.

The board officers will be elected by the members of the new board at their meeting April 29, 1966, at Volo, Illinois. Officers will serve a 2 year term and retire (3 each) on alternating years. (Note: refer to your Constitution and By-Laws, as published in the July 1965 Vizsla News.)

The Board of Directors have a heavy responsibility: they serve as representatives of the Vizsla breed and owners and should reflect the thinking of their particular area; their interest should be that of the good of the breed, not their personal convience at the moment; they serve on the board, travel to meetings and work on a particular committee assignment all with no remuneration and often times at considerable personal expence (only the cost of printing, postage, stationery and equipment are absorbed by the club.)

In view of the lack of time, it would be most helpful if nominations were accompanied with an acceptance by the individual and a thumbnail sketch of their experience and qualifications.

BE A VIZSLA BOOSTER !!!!!

The Vizsla Club of America, Inc, continues to expand the club's program and events. The eager response of members to donate trophies for these events of National importance is most gratifying. Members who want to get in on the Spring Field Trial or Second National Specialty to be held this next spring and summer will have to get their names in to the trophy committee now.

In attempting to solicit to both these functions on a single form it is hoped that we can point out the individual differences, and not just hopelessly entangle the two for this committee.

FIRST: The National Spring Field Trials to be held at Volo, Illinois, April 30 - May 1, 1966, will be presenting representative trophies for ALL FOUR PLACINGS, in each of the 5 stakes. There will also be a field trial catalog printed, carrying the names of all individuals who are VIZSLA BOOSTERS as well as the trial particulars and order of the running. Members, Vizsla owners and friends and/or Vizsla Clubs are invited to support this event.

I AM A VIZSLA BOOSTER ! !! !!!

Enclosed is a check (or money order) for _____ for the field trial Trophy Fund.

(* $5; ** $10; *** $15 etc, etc, etc)

_____
(signed)

_____
(address)

Mail to: Mrs. Jack McHaney, Trophy Committee
6651 Sothern Vista Drive
Fairborn, Ohio

SECOND: The Second National Vizsla Specialty, (date and location yet to be announced) will again present appropriate mementos in each of the various classes in this show. There are a number of other special expenses to be met for this event. Donations to this event must be in many months ahead of the show and none can be accepted after the closing date. All names are printed in the show catalog of individuals supporting this event.

I AM A VIZSLA BOOSTER ! !!! !!!!

Enclosed is a check (or money order) for _____ for the Vizsla Specialty fund.

(* $5; ** $10; *** $15; and so forth)

_____
(signed)

_____
(address)

Mail to: Mrs. Jack McHaney
6651 Sothern Vista Drive
Fairborn, Ohio

Now, do be a sport! Please attach SEPARATE CHECKS to each blank, thank you! DO IT NOW.

POLICY of The Vizsla Club of America on Copy submitted for publication in national publications under its name.

R. C. Reinhardt, president

Since this topic is in no way covered in our present constitution, I feel that a policy should be adopted outlining a businesslike method of handling all material that is to be presented for publication under the name of the Vizsla Club of America. I have given this subject considerable thought and the following shall be the policy during my tenure of office: (this submitted and in practice since June 12, 1965, but somehow omitted from V. News until now.)

1. Articles pertaining to the Vizsla Breed will be welcomed from all sources.
2. These articles are to be submitted, typewritten, to the Secretary of the VC of A.
3. The Secretary will forward said articles, with his recommendations for changes (if any) to the president.
4. The President, after approving the material submitted will (1) advise the writer if there are any proposed changes and when permission is given for these changes, (2) forward the copy directly to the Editor of the publication for which the article was written.

The above shall be accomplished with the least possible delay and every effort will be made to do a minimum of editing, but it is imperative that the VC of A have control over writings that are to be used over the name of the club. This -- in no way -- is attempting to impose censorship on columnists (either VC of A members or non-members) who are writing for publications under their OWN names. It is, however, our hope that these columnists will abide by the principles of the VC of A and that their material will reflect due credit on an organization that has as its prime purpose, the betterment of the Vizsla breed.

This policy will not apply to material submitted to the VIZSLA NEWS (our personal media for ideas and opinions -- among other things) or to the report on National Field Trials made to the American Field Magazine by the judges of those trials. When reports are made by anyone other than the actual judges, this policy will apply.

Mr. Jones, Managing Editor for Pure-Bred Dogs -- American Kennel Gazette -- makes these suggestions to correspondents:

1) All copy should be typewritten, double spaced, using one side of opaque paper. Leave 2" before heading copy with name of breed club ONLY. Name and address of writer to appear at the end of copy (no column will be printed without the writer's address.)
2) Material should average 600 to 700 words -- about 2 sheets of letter size paper.
3) Deadline for copy is the 20th of the 2nd month before date of publication.
4) Policy: mention of litters just whelped, proposed matings and the like (all matters which, if published would be in effect free advertising for individuals) is NOT PERMITTED.
5) The breed column should not rely for its news items on show wins (this is covered in the Show Records Department of the AKC). Mention can be made of Group and Best in Show honors; also prevalence of good points or faults as they are noted at shows. One exception: the results of the annual Parent Club Specialty or Field Trial (this should not be just a summary of first, second, third and fourth, but an analysis of the results.) Names of dogs should not be placed in quotes or all-caps.
6) Experience shows that columns which evoke the most favorable comments are those that give "how to" advice; next comes interesting pieces of breed history. At the absolute bottom of the list are those used as personal publicity mediums for individual fanciers or groups of fanciers.
7) A club column should be devoted principally to the activities and breed of that club.

The Gazette also requires breed columns to come through its National board or officers. This has not always been observed (with the change of officers and the adjustment to the responsibility of duties). No amount of correcting misleading or ill-advised statements can make up for the initial harm done -- usually innocently -- when it appears over the club's name in a publication with such wide distribution as the Gazette. The double-check of all columns should guard against this in the future.

All members of the Vizsla Club of America and other interested persons are encouraged to participate in this area. Using the foregoing form, ready copy should fill these columns from many sources the year-round.

HUNGARIAN VIZSLAS IN GOLDEN GATE SHOW

Ch. Sandor v Debretsin owned by Mr. and Mrs. Art Carpenter of Carmel, California, won Best of Breed in the famed Cow Palace. From the entry of 9, Sandor's daughter, Ch. Besa v Debretsing took the Best of Opposite Sex award.

More joy for the Vizslas were noted as Gary Carpenter, 12 yearsold, won Best Sporting Brace title with his entry Sandor and Besa. And still more to come.

Christine O'Brien, just 13, entered the Junior Showmanship Competition with Boske v Debretsin, C. D. who her 15 year old sister, Cathy had taken clear to Best of Winners in the groups. In the Class A group she topped a large field of entries, and won the chance to compete in the Class B award the next day, (where all the contestants are past 1st prize winners in Junior Showmanship). Christie and "Bo" stole the show in a thrilling performance equal only to Best in Show for the local Vizsla enthusiasts... and won the title for the Best Junior Showman over an entry of 80.

reports sent by Mrs. Wm. Crawford

INFORMATION ON POSITIONING

The monogram being prepared by the University of Minnesota on the positioning of dogs for x-raying specifically for a reading of the hips is nearing completion, but no publication date is set as yet. Dr. Francis A. Spurrell, Radiologist selected by the VC of A for reading Vizsla x-rays in this department, has suggested that the following information should be adequate for your vet to use in the matter of positioning your dog for an x-ray.

"The x-ray should appear much like that of a person in a standing position. That is, legs downward. Femora should be parallel with each other and both limbs in maximum extention and abduction; the pelvis squarely placed, not tipped.

Identifying information should be on each x-ray and the quality of the print be such that the bone structure is clearly visible."

In answer to a question presented by one member, Dr. Spurrell said that when an x-ray of a dog has been taken by another university and is the property of that institution, a Kodak x-ray duplication copy can be made and the copy then sent to the club to be processed just as an original x-ray.

At present, the time required for the completing of a good quality x-ray; through reading, and a review of the report by the committee, is from 4 to 6 weeks. When the quality of the print is so that a reading cannot be made (extremely dark, too light, blurred, or faulty darkroom techinque), the time must include that of getting an acceptable x-ray. Most veterinarians with this type of equipment have enough experience in the mechanics of x-ray development so that good, readable plates can be obtained without repeated tries. The size of the plate can vary from 9 x 11 on up -- but a print of obvious poor quality should not be accepted by an owner to be sent in for reading.

IN A MEETING, held in McCook, Nebraska, on February 16, your president, committee chairman, finance committee member and editor found that the Vizsla Club of America's program, for obtaining approval of dogs using the pages of the Vizsla News for advertising, progressing most satisfactorily. There are a number of dogs already x-rayed and approved for advertising, and many more presently in the process of being processed for approval. X-rays from many parts of the country are coming in daily as well as correspondence asking about the positioning of dogs and clarification of individual questions so that a member can avail himself of this service.

Not only are most past advertisers anxious to get approval and back in the listings, but many members who have not had dogs listed previously or who are only planning a future mating are clearing x-rays first -- as by all means they should -- and getting approval on their stock.

This is a most gratifying response and worthy of the Vizsla owners of America -- and the officers and committee men who are giving their time in this behalf.

The VC of A has set their x-ray program up on a confidential recording basis (as suggested in the article by Dr. Riser and strongly endorsed by Dr. Spurrell.) That is, the radiologist's report is given a number; Committee approval is for a number report (not name of dog or owner); only when the report has been approved for advertising by the committee is the card pulled and the name of the dog and owner forwarded to this office as acceptable for ads. No record of unaccepted x-rays is made. Dogs will not be penalized or discriminated against in write-ups, therefore. Members are participating in the program on a voluntary basis with the exact data of a reading available only from the owner.

Not only will the Vizsla breed and their owners benefit greatly by this nation-wide program, but all moneys collected for this service will go back into research in this field -- and in this breed.

The response from members on the subject has been almost unanimously behind this program, (the almost being all but 2). Endless voluble rebuttals would seem superfluous at this point. This is not to say discussion of the matter is closed... but we do have other subjects of interest to be covered.

The club's policy for advertising; forms for attaching to each individual x-ray, and forms for submitting copy for ads is now available from either the club's office (Route 3, Seward, Nebraska) or Bill Kline, 801 North 1st, Garden City, Kansas.

***** Time for a funny? The name of the committee that has undertaken this big project has met with some criticism. Admittedly the name Breeders Approval is not the best: it just does not mean the same thing to different people. Last week, a special delivery package of x-rays came to the Kline residence addressed "Breeder Approval Co, 801 N. 1st, Garden City, Kansas," and after Dottie signed the receipt, the mailman scratched his head and looked again at the tag, remarking, "Well now, I sure didn't know that we had one of those in town!"

ADVERTISE IN YOUR VIZSLA NEWS

Eighth page --- $4.00
Quarter page ---- $7.50
Half page ---- $12.50
Full page ---- $20.00

Clear, glossy prints...no extra cost

Listings...$6 for 6 months
$10 per year

2 February 1966
SECRETARY' LETTER

Club activities have kept me indoors several hours every night and oftentimes all my weekends. Needless to say that my home projects are being neglected.

A chronological rundown of my activities will be presented.

The trial activities and board meetings at Greenup were very demanding of every club officer and board member, but most did find time to run their dogs. The marathon board sessions left a lot of work for me to complete upon my return.

The first work was in preparing the board meeting minutes from my notes and the tape recorder. This work resulted in 7 typewritten pages and was sent to each board member about October 26, 1965.

Board approval was given for the Secretary to purchase a typewriter and wet copy machine, and I purchased those after my return from Greenup. The typewriter is a Smith Corona Electra 120 portable and cost $179. The copy machine is a Verifax Regent Copier with an Actimeter Model 1-K and cost $230. These are ideal for the Secretary's work. The copier will reproduce anything, copy can be made on both sides, and as many as 10 good copies can be obtained. For this a copy costs the club less than 2¢. Single copies are about 12¢, using the multiple copy matrix paper. The average cost so far has been 4¢. With this equipment anything is possible for the Secretary, but excuses are not acceptable. It now takes less than an hour to write, reproduce, and address mail to 21 board members.

I have been keeping up the Gazette articles until I wrote one on hip dysplasia. The circumstances irritated me enough when it was rejected that I have more free time and you readers will not enjoy this column unless someone else gets busy and write it. If any of you liked my past columns, you kept mighty quiet. My column material was not rejected by the AKC.

A great amount of board work has been done recently by mail, which has caused an awakening of the board to their duties. The last board mail vote was answered by all but one board member. This is encouraging progress.

A membership petition was circulated to all areas, but primarily to those who had attended the past two field trials asking that the board reconsider their action at Greenup relative to opening the spring trial to all other AKC pointing breeds for two stakes. The President asked me to re-submit this question to the board for a vote by mail. The alternative would have been calling a special club meeting. The board then voted in favor of an ALL VIZSLA SPRING TRIAL, and those interested in this question should plan to be at the Annual Meeting. Besides you should be there to run your Vizsla after all this! This was the first use of the New Constitution and By-Laws and represents good democratic process as intended by this Section.

I am sure that a closer look will be made of these and other words and provisions by the board in the near future. The subject of amendment of several Sections will and should be considered, and this is so because your officers are making an honest effort to abide by them. In order to do this they must be fair and workable. Just remember that you members have tools at your disposal such as this when you are not in agreement with your elected officials.

For some reason the results of balloting on the Proposed Constitution and By-Laws has not been reported to you. It PASSED. Only four votes of exception were made, and only to certain provisions. We have been operating under this New Constitution and By-Laws.

A total of 19 new board members are to be elected, and from the 24 board members that are provided for, the new officers will be elected at the Spring Board Meeting. The nominating committee has been sent all the information I had here, and their nominations are due in this office February 15.

Additional nominations can be made to the Chairman, Leonard Hart , Route 5, Wild Wings Preserve, Muscatine, Iowa by written petition including the written consent of the nominee. It is hoped that those nominated an have their names and sketches printed in the NEWS and still allow adequate time remaining for completion of balloting by March 31. Thirty days are allowed from notification date until official tally. It is my intention to have your ballots sent directly to a Certified Public Accountant. Newly elected board members shall take office when notified of their election, which can be as late as the day before the annual meeting, that is before they take office. In all cases they should be notified in time to attend the advertised board meeting. The President will normally handle this matter since he will have the problem of obtaining committee reports and making meeting preparations with a minimum of confusion.

The Show Committee has voted on the site of our next specialty, but more details are required before their recommendation can be submitted to the board. In the meantime get your donations in for trophies.

I have done some preliminary work on new incorporation for the club.

The spring trial will be run under the new AKC field trial rules, and I suggest that each of you write for a copy. A number of important changes have been made that will affect your chance for wins and placements.

After the fall trial the Amateur Shooting Dog Stake required some work with AKC to get it changed to Amateur Gun Dog before championship points could be awarded to the winning dog.

Will see you perhaps at the International at Chicago in April, and if not at the Spring Field Trial.

A PARTY -- FOR GARDENERS!

You don't have to do much dog showing before you realize that the Dog Show at Madison Square Garden is the biggest social event in Dogdom. As a courtesy to exhibitors and other Vizsla owners attending the show, Genevieve Wolfe, Regional Governor for this area arranged a luncheon Tuesday, February 15 at the Cafe de France on west 46th Street, and reported a fine turn out.

Attending were The Sulesky's; John Strauz; Marge Sharp and her two youngsters, Herbert Clark elated over his B. O. S. win; Gloria Haff; Anton Tinnesz and his wife Ginny; Peggy Abrams; Carl and Tina Gewanus; Ralph Wilson; Carolyn Fraenkle and Mrs. Wolfe. "We all enjoyed discussing the judging the day before, the definate improvement of the Vizsla in general and the top quality of the dogs in the ring. A total of 16 dogs were accepted before the entries closed (earliest in their history) on December 8... many other people would have entered, but were too late. A brief look at the winners included Best American bred Dog -- Pumpkin Fun Galore: Al Sulesky, Ohio; Open Dog -- Csapi v Hunt, Irene Butler, Florida; Open Bitch -- Golden Rust Queen, Herbert Clark, N. Y. (going on to Best of Opposite Sex), and Best of Breed going to Ch. Gypsy Bronze Bomber, owned by Harriet Anderson of Chicago. He was an excellent representative of the breed in the groups -- perhaps you saw it on T. V. I hope for even a better number of entries next year -- we will be right up there with the other popular sporting breeds -- the Garden Show is the "glamour show! and a win there is something for us all to strive for --- Let's keep breeding carefully, sensibly and with an eye to placing in that much coveted spot "Sporting Group at Madison Square Garden."

In connection with this, the following letter was received from Ralph Wilson, member from N. Y.

" Everyone from this area has known that Ch. Wilson's Pal Joey would retire from the show ring at the 1966 Westminster K. C. Show. After three years of breed winning at the Garden, he was eclipsed by the brilliance of "Trigger", a truly magnificent Vizsla. Ch. Gypsy's Bronze Bomber is, in my personal opinion, a superior Vizsla -- a better specimen of the breed than Joey is. He is a credit to Betty Kenly, and an illustration that intelligent breeding can produce excellent field dogs that have near perfect conformation, soundness, balance and movement. I cannot, and will not believe that such perfection is accidental.

" As a gesture of my appreciation of a magnificent specimen of Vizsla, I have given Mrs. Anderson the rug which Joey has used on the show bench throughout his entire career. No dog that I know of is more deserving of Joey's bench rug. "

The American Brittany
December 1965

The Judge

by George Geisler

I asked a friend if he would judge
And waited long — he would not budge.

I begged and stated, it's your duty
And what you reap will not be booty.

You will ride 10 hours in rain or shine
And when you're starved, with me you'll dine.

I'll show my dog as best I can
And pray that you're an honest man.

I'll beam with all your words of praise
Then wonder why you are in a daze.

I'll butter you like whole wheat bread,
Of course there're some that wish you dead.

I'll promise you the regal best
Then dig a hole for you to rest.

I'll groan when from the horse you fall
Then rush to make that saddening call.

And, should you rise up off the ground
I'll smile and say, "So glad you're sound."

I'll patch you well for one more day
And don't forget — there is no pay.

I'll try to glance into your book
Then wonder why I dared to look.

I'll sweat and gripe through every brace
And none but mine did I see race.

I'll tell you, "Judge just what you saw",
Despite the fact your word is law.

And now's the time for your decision
I hope you've made just one revision.

My dog did try but failed to score
"Would someone help me OFF THE FLOOR?"

All ads and listings in the Vizsla News have met with the requirements for advertising by the Vizsla Club of America, Inc. Rules and advertising rates are available from the club office, Route 3, Seward, Nebraska.

DOGS AT STUD

(Approved bitches, only)

DUAL CH. FUTAKI DAROCZ
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AVAILABLE

from the VIZSLA CLUB OF AMERICA

PEDIGREE-FLYER : Pedigree tree overprint a beautiful picture of a representative pair of Vizsla as pointing and backing. There is a short history of the breed, the Vizsla Standard, information about The Vizsla Club of America, space for a personal record of the dog, AND an application for membership in the VC of A... especially designed to present to the new owners of Vizslas with their papers!

Order from: Vizsla News office, Route 3, Seward, Nebraska. 25¢ a single copy -- $1.00 per dozen.

RESERVATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Planned Breeding of Beauty and Brains

DUAL CH. FUTAKI DAROCZ
- Ch. Hunor
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CH. SZEKERES' KEZDET
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Detailed pedigree upon request!

This bloodline has produced multiple field trial and bench wins!

One "bench champion" at 1 year old (Ch. Hunor ex Ch. Szekeres' Kezdet)
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4th place puppy - Fall National Trial (Ch. Hunor ex Ch. Szekeres' Kezdet)

Radiology reports on file with Breeders Approval Committee.

Pat & John Carter
116 Hazelton Avenue
Manchester, N. H.

"BOOK" of back issues of THE VIZSLA NEWS of issues still in print from 1958 on can be obtained by writing to the Vizsla Club Office, Route 3, Seward, Nebraska. $3 per set.

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THE VIZSLA NEWS

Published by the Vizsla Club of America, Inc. Active members of the Club will receive the Vizsla News as part of their dues ($10 single, or $12.50 family). Subscriptions to non-members is $3 per year. The Vizsla News is a publication medium open to all Vizsla enthusiasts for the exchange of ideas and furthering of the breed.

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The Vizsla News
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